



ST. LUKE AND ST. BERNARDINE PARISH

NOVEMBER 26, 2023 • FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

“Come, you who are blessed by my Father.
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the
foundation of the world.” - Mt 25:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

St. Bernardine Church
801 S. Elgin Avenue, Forest Park

St. Luke Church
7600 Lake Street, River Forest



As we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, John tells us that Jesus does not proclaim himself a king when Pilate asks him if He is, but neither does He deny it. Instead, He responds, "My kingdom does not belong to this world...for this I was born and for this I came into this world to testify to the

truth." In these few words, Jesus defines for us an important pillar of our faith: Jesus is different from what was expected, and we who follow Him can be different, as well. That difference that distinguished the early Christians from the values of their time, was demonstrable caring and love for others. Love and caring were the evidence of their faith and the strongest way to communicate the Gospel even without words.

Sometimes faith is expressed most emphatically in what we do, not just in what we say and think. One of the most important ways we live our faith is by helping those who need us. Our parish has a long and generous history of helping those in greatest need. The circumstances of our world today make such help more important than ever. Last week through the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry and three other sites in North Lawndale, Austin and Little Village we distributed frozen turkeys and other foods that enabled many to have Thanksgiving dinner. A special thanks to all who made this possible through your work and financial support.

Right now in our own Vicariate IV the Migrant Ministry Program operating in St. Catherine and St. Lucy rectory, needs immediate help. Volunteers are desperately needed, as is monetary support to purchase critical items, most especially a new water tank so the ministry can continue to provide showers to homeless refugees. See the article on page four for details, and please help in any way you can. Additionally, our Parish Pastoral Council will be working to determine how the parish can implement ways to provide ongoing help to the homeless.

Finally, today's feast of Christ the King comes the week we completed our Pilot Alpha. Ask anyone who has participated over the past 11 weeks and they will tell you that the Alpha experience is about getting to know Jesus, building a personal

relationship with Him, and learning how we can courageously help others to encounter Him. This is an important idea for us to take into the weeks ahead as we begin our Advent journey. Advent provides opportunities for each of us to reflect on how can we be fully Catholic in a world that often rejects our fundamental values and beliefs. Being fully Catholic takes courage and resolve. I invite each of us to pray, beginning now and continuing throughout Advent, for the grace to be courageous and resolute in our faith, and for the wisdom to undertake meaningful actions through our parish as we honor Christ our King.

Fr. Stan

Save the Date for St. Luke and St. Bernardine Women's Club Christmas Party!

The St Luke and St Bernardine Women's Club is hosting their annual Christmas party at Fearon Hall on Thursday, November 30. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. with appetizers, wine and punch. After a brief business meeting, a catered dinner will be served. Entertainment, raffles, and desserts will finish off the night. Tickets are \$25.00.

Your reservation can be made by enclosing your payment in an envelope marked "Women's Club Christmas Party" and dropping it in the collection basket, at the St Luke rectory or at 544 Ferdinand in Forest Park. Reservations are due today **Sunday, November 26.**

As in previous years, we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys at the party that will be delivered to Catholic Charities for their annual Celebration of Giving campaign. This year you can also help restock the St Vincent de Paul food pantry by bringing cranberry or apple juice (32 oz plastic bottles) or jars of instant or ground coffee. Your generosity is always greatly appreciated.

Contact Janet Scodius at 708-651-2356 or email stlstbwomensclub@gmail.com with any questions.



Save the Date!

The Men's Club will host our annual Breakfast with Santa in Waldron Hall on **Sunday, December 10** at **10:30 a.m.**, following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Join fellow parishioners in celebrating the Christmas season while enjoying pancakes, sausages and other breakfast treats. Questions? Please reach out to Brian van Meurs at brainvanmeurs@gmail.com.



Giving Tree Returning in December

Mark your calendars for this year's Giving Tree — your opportunity to brighten the holidays for someone in need this Christmas.

The **weekends of December 2 and 3 and 9 and 10** will be for the St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish Giving Tree. On those weekends, you may select one or more ornament tags from the trees at either church, and place the item(s) under the tree the following weekends.

This year's Giving Tree will benefit Catholic Charities program for the asylum seekers.

Time to pick up your Christmas wreaths

If you ordered a wreath from the St. Luke and St. Bernardine Respect Life Committee back in October, it is time to pick them up. You can pick up your wreath on **Saturday, December 2**, between **10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the St. Luke parking lot. Contact Mary Yerkes at slsbwreathssale@gmail.com or at 708-860-8509 with any questions.

Mark your Calendars

Please join our parish Youth Ministry as they present the photographic display of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World. Panels are displayed in an art gallery setting that allows for a virtual tour of more than 150 miracles from 22 countries.

ST. LUKE AND ST. BERNARDINE PARISH

International Exhibition
THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD
Designed and created by Blessed Carlo Acutis
"The Eucharist is the highway to heaven." - St. Carlo Acutis

Youth Ministry invites you to come and see **B. Carlos Acutis Exhibit**

St. Luke Church: Waldron Hall
7600 W. Lake St, River Forest, IL 60305

St. Bernardine Church: Fearon Hall
7246 Harrison St, Forest Park, IL, 60130

St. Luke Church Waldron Hall

12/16 ~ 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Open to all
12/16 ~ 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Open to all
12/17 ~ 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Open to all

St. Bernardine Church Fearon Hall

12/19 ~ 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Open to all
12/20 ~ 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Open to all
12/20 ~ 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Open to all
12/21 ~ 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Open to all
12/22 ~ 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Open to all
12/23 ~ 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Open to all
12/24 ~ 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Open to all

Welcome

Holiday bulletin deadlines

As we enter into the holiday season, our printer's schedules are tighter than usual. Please make submissions for the following bulletin issues by the end of the day on the deadline days listed. Questions? Email Emmanuel Flores, eflores@stlstbparish.org.

<u>Bulletin issue</u>	<u>Article deadline</u>
December 10	Thursday, November 30
December 17	Tuesday, December 5
December 24	Tuesday, December 12
December 31	Tuesday, December 19
January 7	Thursday, December 28

Migrant Ministry – Living Our Faith

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine you did it for me.”

Matthew 25: 46

The growing number of migrants in our community who have come seeking safety and, in some instances, survival, has inspired the creation of the St. Catherine, St. Lucy and St. Giles Migrant Ministry. Because migrants served by this ministry are homeless – mostly living in the Oak Park Police Station – the St. Catherine St. Lucy Parish rectory has become a place where they can shower on Tuesdays and Thursdays 8 to 11:30 a.m.

Right now the ministry needs volunteers for a variety of tasks including:

- Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for receiving and counting donations
- Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (shower days) for assisting in:
 - Welcoming and crowd control,
 - Shower set-up and breakfast set-up,
 - Staffing the clothes, coats and shoes rooms,
 - Clean-up.

With enough volunteers, the ministry would like to expand the shower days to Saturday as well as the current days. At this time no food or clothing items are needed but monetary donations are most appreciated to purchase other needed items and to enable purchase of a water tank that the program desperately needs.

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Matthew Brophy, operations director, St. Catherine, St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish, at 708-383-3430 x 102 or mbrophy@stgilesparish.org.

To make a contribution, please write a check to St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish, and place the words “Migrant Ministry” in the memo line, or if you wish to contribute cash, please place the donation in an envelope and write your name and address as well as “Migrant Ministry” on the face of the envelope. You can place these donations in the weekend collection baskets or drop them off at the rectory. Helping the Migrant Ministry at this time is a powerful way to put our faith into action by serving others who seriously need our help.

SVDP Pantry Marks Two Years of Change, Calls for Community Assistance

The St. Vincent DePaul Society (SVDP) has been operating the dry goods food pantry for many years. Nearly two years ago it began implementing changes to provide a grocery list for clients to fill out as they wait for their order to be filled. The clients are satisfied to receive what they select. Before, grocery bags were filled with staple items and given to the clients. Many items were returned as not being needed.

Our clientele has doubled over the last year, now serving 40-50 people per week. We count on the generosity of parishioners and benefactors to donate money or goods from the shopping list to stock the pantry. However, this has not been sustainable. The need has increased substantially and SVDP has been subsidizing a sizable amount of money each week to buy items to stock the pantry.

We appreciate your consideration in grabbing items from our pantry grocery list while you are shopping. The list is also available on the parish website.

A case of an item is also acceptable. Donations can be dropped off at the baskets located at the main entrance at St. Luke and by the south side entrance at St. Bernardine or on Saturday morning. To donate monetarily, please make a check out to the St. Vincent De Paul Society, St. Bernardine Conference and put in the Sunday collection basket or bring/send to the parish office. Any donations of clothing can be given to the SVDP drop off box at the St. Mary of Celle parking lot in Berwyn.

Starting December 1, 2023, SVDP's plan is to limit service to clients living in Forest Park, River Forest, Oak Park and Berwyn.

The pantry is open Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. at the St. Bernardine campus rectory, 7246 Harrison St., Forest Park. It stays open all year, unless inclement weather. Ellen Carr coordinates a designated number of volunteers to work on Saturday mornings and would call or text to confirm with the assigned individuals beforehand.

If interested, please contact Donna Gawlas at (708) 771-8098 or dgawlas@yahoo.com.



Stewardship of Treasure

"...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.



Our Weekly Offerings

For November 13 – November 20, 2023:

Envelopes	\$ 3749
Loose Cash & Checks	\$ 7761
Electronic	<u>\$ 7769</u>
Total This Week	\$ 19,279
Total Year-to-Date	\$ 307,836
End of Nov. Budget	\$ 354,166.60
Variance	\$ -46,330.60

For Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Yearly Budget: \$850,000

Altar Server training this Tuesday

Altar Server training will be offered on **Tuesday, November 28**. The session will start at **3:15 p.m.** at **St. Luke Church** and is open to all, third grade and up, who would like to help out with this important ministry at Mass. For more information, please talk with Colleen Ortega (708-435-8926) or with Fr. Stan.

Giving Tuesday Update

As we approach this Giving Tuesday, we reflect on the incredible generosity that defines our community. Your support has enabled us to make a meaningful impact, and we are immensely grateful for your continued dedication.

This Giving Tuesday, we invite you to consider making a special contribution to our mission. Your generosity fuels the work we do, allowing us to create a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.

How to Give:

- Sunday Offerings: Join us in person this Sunday to contribute during our offerings.
- Pushpay: For a convenient and secure online giving option, visit pushpay.com/g/stlstbparish to make your donation.

Your contributions, whether big or small, play a vital role in our ability to carry out our mission. Every dollar given is an investment in the well-being of our community and the greater impact we can achieve together.

Thank you for being a crucial part of our journey. Together, let's make this Giving Tuesday a celebration of generosity and unity.

Altar Servers Needed, All Ages

Altar Server Training

Tuesday, November 28

(ABOUT 1 HOUR)

Entrance St. Luke Church Ramp/Alley Side

MEET AFTER SCHOOL 3:15/3:30 @

ENTRANCE 630.484.5093 / 708.704.1924

Entrance St. Luke Church Ramp/Alley Side

SEEKING SERVERS AGED 4TH GR - HIGH SCHOOL



#GIVINGTUESDAY

Beware of Phishing Attempts

Be cautious of phishing attempts claiming to be from Father Stan. He will never solicit anything from you, including monetary gifts. Stay vigilant against fraudulent requests.



Remembering Our Loved Ones

During the entire month of November, there will be a space at both churches to place photos of loved ones that have passed. They will be displayed on the Marian altar at St. Bernardine and in a special spot in the back of St. Luke Church. All are welcome to place a photo. Even if you haven't lost a loved one this year, keep the memory of your loved ones alive with this tribute to them.



Baptized in Christ

We joyfully welcome the following children who were recently baptized or will be baptized into our Church and St. Luke and St. Bernardine community:

Alice Drew Auffenberg, child of George Bourke and Carolyn Elaine Kron Auffenberg

Audry Patricia Hurley, child of John Powers and Patricia Maureen Liston Hurley

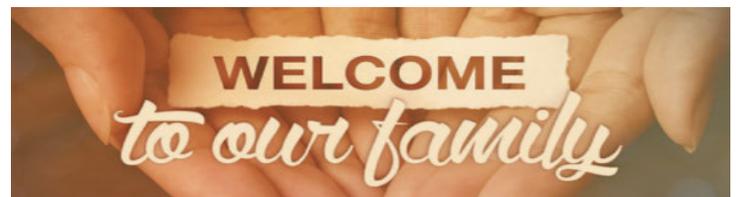
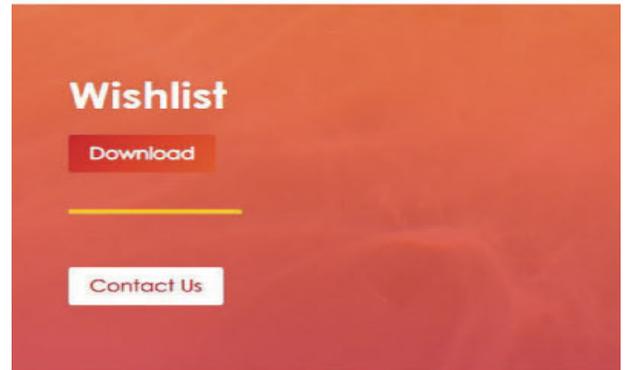
Rory Michael Lemar, child of Michael Francis and Clare Ellen Liston Lemar

Brendan O'Brian Walsh, child of Bary Joseph and Brigid Marie Liston Walsh



Fueling Faith by Empowering our Youth

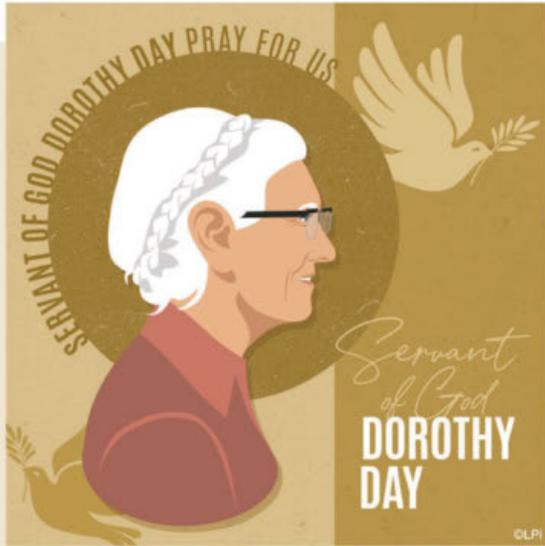
The wish list is conveniently accessible on our website. Contribute to empowering the spiritual growth of our youth. Thank you for your generosity! Use this link to find the wish list: <https://stlstbparish.org/youth-learning/5036-2/>



New to Our Parish? We'd Like to Say Hello!

We're happy to have you join our community of faith. You can learn more about our parish and organizations and how you can get involved on our website at www.stlstbparish.org.

You will also find a link to our registration page so we can welcome you as a full member of our growing parish. If you have any questions, call our parish office at 708-771-8250 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.



Saint of the week

Servant of God Dorothy Day was an American journalist, social activist, and Catholic convert who co-founded the Catholic Worker Movement. Her work inspired countless others and earned her recognition as one of the most influential Catholic figures of the 20th century.

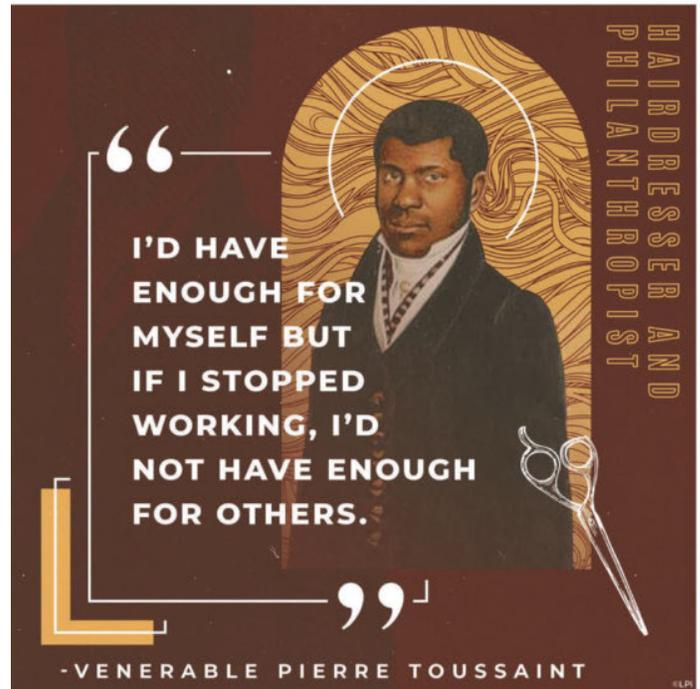
Prayer

Merciful God, You called your servant Dorothy Day to show us the face of Jesus in the poor and forsaken. By constant practice of the works of mercy, she embraced poverty and witnessed steadfastly to justice and peace. Count her among your saints and lead us all to become friends of the poor ones of the earth, and to recognize you in them.

We ask this through your Son Jesus Christ, bringer of good news to the poor.

Amen.

(Prayer Source: <https://catholicworker.org/prayers-for-the-canonization-of-dorothy-day/>)



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Prayer

God, help me to share what you have given to me.

Mission for the Week

Read Matthew chapter 25, verses 31 through 46 with your family. Decide how you will make a difference. Share as Jesus asks.

Sharing the Gospel

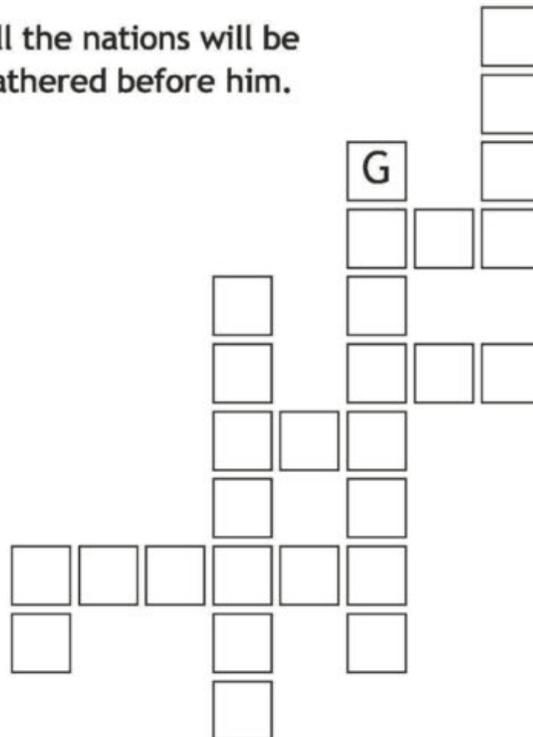
Share food with the hungry. Give clothes to the poor. Visit people who are sick. Share the good news about Jesus with people who have made bad choices. Jesus came to forgive them. God will see the loving things you do. He will reward you one day in heaven.

Now color the picture!



Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares

All the nations will be gathered before him.



THE WEEK AHEAD



MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 27

6:30 a.m. (SBC) Special Intention
8:30 a.m. (SLC) †Michael O'Rourke

Tuesday, November 28

6:30 a.m. (SBC) Special Intention
8:30 a.m. (SLC) † William Francis Jacobs

Wednesday, November 29

6:30 a.m. (SBC) Special Intention
8:30 a.m. (SLC) Parishioner Intention

Thursday, November 30

6:30 a.m. (SBC) People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish

8:30 a.m. (SLC) †Lauretta A. Froelich

Friday, December 1

6:30 a.m. (SBC) Special Intention
8:30 a.m. (SLC) † Mary Kurr and Williams, Karasis, Kurr Families
†Lauretta A. Froelich

Saturday, December 2

8:30 a.m. (SLC) †Carolina N. Ubal
5:00 p.m. (STB) Special Intention
5:00 p.m. (STL) †Mr. and Mrs. James T. Finlen

Sunday, December 3

8:00 am (SBC) †Carolyn Brown
†Francisco Flores and Pepe Flores
O'Brien Family
Tonitte Jumaos (living)
†Shirley Hamilton
9:30am (SLC) †Marilyn Meade
11:00am (SLC) †Crowley and Cusack Families
†Shirley Hamilton

(SBC = St. Bernardine Church / SLC = St. Luke Church)



Do you have a deceased relative or friend you wish to remember in a special way? An anniversary or special occasion? Someone who is ill or recovering from surgery, or some other special intention you would like our community to pray for?

Submit your 2024 requests for Mass intentions now by filling out the form available on our website,

<https://tinyurl.com/mass2024>

or at both church locations.

You can send your requests by email to ckarlowski@stlstbparish.org, place them in the Sunday collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office at 528 Lathrop Avenue in River Forest, 60305.



DAILY READINGS

Mon: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4

Tue: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11

Wed: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19

Thu: Rom 10:9-18/PS 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Fri: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Sat: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: IS 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7/PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/1 COR 1:3-9/MK 13:33-37

Reconciliation Times

Time for Reconciliation is after the Saturday 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Luke Church and Saturdays at 4 p.m. at St. Bernardine Church.



PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Everyone is invited to join us in prayer throughout the week, starting with the morning Rosary after the 6:30 Mass at St. Bernardine and the 8:30 Mass at St. Luke.

On Tuesday evenings, our weekly Adoration Holy Hour is open for everyone for quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 5-6:30 pm in St. Luke Church.

If you have a loved one who is injured or preparing for surgery or you have a job interview or are awaiting an important decision in your life, send your intention to us and we will ask our home prayer ministry members to add it to their prayers. You can email your request to kosga@stlstbparish.org. No names are needed; God will know who we are praying for and so will you!



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Bill Keller, Arnie Goodman,
George Martini, Lois Santarelli, Bob Gerger,
Linda Dziubala, George Lane, Barbara Crawford,
Gary Hopkins, Isaac Beal, Ann Stauffer,
Helen Kreidermacher, Stafania Sewruk,
Marianne O'Donoughue, Frank Kurr,
Zachary Fernandez, and Fr. Paul Reicher

PARISH INFORMATION



CONNECT WITH US

St. Bernardine Church, 801 S. Elgin Avenue Forest Park

St. Luke Church, 7600 Lake Street River Forest

Parish Business Office/Mailing Address

528 Lathrop Avenue River Forest, IL 60305

708-771-8250 • stlstboffice@stlstbparish.org

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
and 1:00 – 4:00 pm

St. Luke School, 519 Ashland Avenue River Forest

708-366-8587 • stlukeschoolrf.org

Religious Ed/Faith Formation Office

Now inside of Parish Office at 528 Lathrop Ave

708-771-5959 • mdalpino@stlstbparish.org

Fearon Hall, 815 Elgin Ave. Forest Park (lower level)

Waldron Hall, 519 Ashland Ave. River Forest (lower level)

Hospitality House, 533 Ashland Ave. River Forest

Sacrament questions or sacramental records needed?

Call 708-771-8250

Staff Directory – area code is 708 unless otherwise listed

Rev. Stanislaw Kuca, Pastor

stkuca@stlstbparish.org 771-8250

Rev. Edward Fialkowski (Weekend Priest)

efialkowski@stlstbparish.org

Rev. Leroy Wickowski (Retired)

lwickowski@stlstbparish.org 435-8917

Rev. Krzysztof Swierczynski (Resident)

Deacon John Baier 630-655-0088

Deacon Robert Slobig 312-804-0513

Della DeSonia, Operations Director

dellamdesonia@stlstbparish.org 435-8921

Carol Karlowski, Office Assistant

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Colleen Ortega, Director of Music

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Katie Osga, Administrative Assistant ... kosga@stlstbparish.org

Olga Green, Youth Ministry Coordinator 435-8914

olgagreen@stlstbparish.org

Sheila Price, Director of Stewardship & Development

sprice@stlstbparish.org 435-8927

Dave Hodge, Maintenance Engineer

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Emmanuel Flores, Communications Coordinator 435-8910

eflores@stlstbparish.org

Andrew DiMarco, School Principal....adimarco@stlukeschoolrf.org

Danielle Coduti, Assistant Principal....dcoduti@stlukeschoolrf.org



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Saturday, December 2

5:00 pm - SBC Celebrant Fr. Kris
Cantor G Donatille
Lector 1 needed
Euch Min L Beribak
Ushers 4 needed

5:00 pm - SLC Celebrant Fr. Ed
Cantor B Toupin
Lector 1 needed
Euch Min 1 needed
Ushers 4 needed

Sunday, December 3

8:00 am - SBC Celebrant Fr. Leroy
Cantor D Celeschi
Lector 1 needed
Euch Min E Cramer
Ushers 4 needed

9:30 am - SLC Celebrant Fr. Ed
Cantor M Willoughby
Lector 1 needed
Euch Min 1 needed
Ushers 4 needed

11:00 am - SLC Celebrant Fr. Stan
Cantor G Ragalie
Lector 1 needed
Euch Min 1 needed
Ushers 4 needed

SBC = St. Bernardine Church / SLC = St. Luke Church

For one-time gifts or your weekly Sunday contribution, you can make a fast and convenient gift to support our parish with payments from your bank or credit card account on your computer or smartphone. Try it today at pushpay.com/g/stlstbparish.



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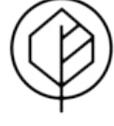
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