

WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF
SAINT LUKE

The Holy Family-December 27, 2020



17545 Huber Avenue N.W. • Clearwater, Minnesota 55320

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



THE HOLY FAMILY



The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

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

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Pastoral Emergencies 320-291-5678

Parish Office

Hours Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 am-3:00 pm
Fri. 8:30 am-12:00 pm

Phone 320-558-2124

Email office@churchofstlukes.com

Father Backer Ext1 or fatherbacker@churchofstlukes.com

Website www.churchofstlukes.com

Prayer Line 320-558-6169

Trustees..... Judy Lashinski & Steve LaFond

Finance Council ChairpersonSteve Duncan

Pastoral Council Chairperson.....Tony Leither

Parish Staff

Parish AdministratorSue Miller

Ext 3 or admin@churchofstlukes.com

Director of Faith Formation Marilyn Popp

Ext 2 or stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com

MusicTammy Reinert

Mass Schedule

Weekend

Sat. 5:00 pm; Sun. 8:00 & 10:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday—Friday 8:00 am

Saturday—9:00am

Chapel Hours

Sun.—Sat. 5:00 am to 9:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri 9:00 am—9:00 pm

Hospitality after Mass

Join us in the gathering area for coffee

Sacraments

Reconciliation

1/2 hour before Daily Mass Tues-Sat

Before weekend Masses:

Sat.- 4:15 PM; Sun.- 7:15 & 9:15 AM

And by appointment

Baptisms/Baptism Prep Classes

Prep class required before each baptism, please call parish office to make arrangements.

Weddings

Contact the parish office one year prior to your requested wedding date.

RCIA

Contact: Bruce Fladebo—320-260-3303
brucefladebo@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChurchOfStLukes

Website www.churchofstlukes.com

PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

How many of us are ready for 2020 to be done? Any 'Year in Review' will have to have the Corona Virus in the top spot. Yet, we also know that on January 1st, it will not all be gone. But we have started to see some positive signs of hope. The numbers in MN have started to go down. Sure we are not out of this, but there are some good signs we did not have even a month or two ago.

We all had a hard year, let's be honest, likely one of the hardest for all of us. Still there were some wonderful moments for many (even if it looked different than they had hoped). Many experienced weddings or big anniversaries in 2020, along with births and birthdays. I am sure some of these occasions were not what they hoped. I was able to take part in a few 'Drive-by celebrations'. Many brides and grooms found other ways to celebrate. Others knew the party could happen later, and that the true importance of the day was that they were sacramentally married. So much depended on our own approach to things.

I know I had a rough year. I lost my nephew in March just as everything was shutting down. We were not able to do a funeral until a few months later. In one week in August I lost my mother's last sibling and my father's last sibling. I was only able to make one of the funerals. That same week I also went up to Duluth and baptized one of my nephew's newest child. Both in August and September I had some major car issues that caused me to make the move to a new car. This year also came with a list of decisions, many of which people are very divided on. Some of those decisions were given me from the Archbishop, like when the public masses were shut down. This was the first time in my priesthood and hopefully the last.

I have many hopes and dreams for 2021. I hope you do too. I pray we will continue to see this virus going away. I am looking forward to the day I can start having lunch with my lunch buddy on my day off again. We all have people in our lives that we have not gotten to visit (by choice or by situation). I have started a list of people I want to have dinner with in 2021. I am praying we reach a point of some of our restrictions to the Mass being lifted. I pray those come before the wedding of one of my former servers, who has asked me to be there and preside.

Good days are coming, but I also keep in my prayers all those who lost someone this past year, COVID related or not. They still had to deal with restrictions. For a time the only thing that was allowed was a graveside service for 10 people or less. Others ended up getting a funeral, but did not do a wake and could not have a lunch. It was a very hard year to grieve. If you know someone who has lost someone, please reach out to them in the coming months.

We have been lucky to have not gotten a lot of snow yet this year. I am sure we will be getting some. But, because of this, I can look forward to the spring when it will melt away and I can get into my garden again. It is my prayer and hope that as this spring brings new life to the earth, we all may come out of the darkness we have been going through. May numbers keep dropping and go away altogether.

One of the things I learned this past year is how much to value friendships. Some come and go in your life, I know some did this last year. Others will always be with us, even if it had to be from a distance for most of this past year. May we all have a Blessed 2021!!!

Fr. Backer



Prayer to St. Joseph after the Rosary

To you, O blessed Joseph,
do we come in our tribulation,
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,
we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God
and through the paternal love
with which you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance
which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,
and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

Oh most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
O most loving father, ward off from us
every contagion of error and corrupting influence;
O our most mighty protector, be kind to us
and from heaven assist us in our struggle
with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril,
so now protect God's Holy Church
from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity;
shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection,
so that, supported by your example and your aid,
we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness,
and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
Amen.

V I S I O N S T A T E M E N T

*The Church of St. Luke is a Catholic Community, centered in Christ through baptism and formed by the Eucharist.
We strive to always be a community where every heart is touched by our Christian fellowship.*

Faith and Family

Every year the Sunday right after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. God the Incarnate, through Jesus, united himself to human nature. God fully entered into the human experience and into the ups and downs, the peaks and valleys of family life. We do not hear much about Jesus, Mary and Joseph's life as a family but the reality was surely contrary to the lovely images we see! It had to be very difficult to be nine months pregnant and to ride bareback on a donkey in rough terrain for some 70 miles, and then to arrive to your home town to find it completely full of other travelers and not a private place available to give birth to your first child except among some smelly animals in a dirty stable, and then shortly after Jesus' birth they had to quickly pick up and flee for their lives. Then we hear about the boy Jesus going missing for three days leaving his parents worried about where he might be. Mary was conceived without sin, Joseph is a Saint and Jesus is the Incarnate but there still were challenges, difficulties and opportunities for misunderstanding just like in family life today. We look to this family as our model of holiness. Their life was very ordinary just like the lives of most of our families today. The holy family struggled as we struggle. Family life, its ordinariness and struggles, is an opportunity for sanctification and growth in holiness for us. The secret to holiness is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and gratitude (Col 3:15-17). This is a tall order, to always live within our families live with extraordinary love and gratitude. How can we possibly do this? While because of our humanness we will fall, if we ask the Lord through prayer and scripture reading to give us the graces to live out our vocation of marriage and family, he will guide us and help us every step of the way to be the witness of a holy and sacramental family to the world.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK: Our parish has a FORMED subscription. To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup. **LISTEN - "MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: LOVE UNVEILED BY DR. SCOTT HAHN"**. The feast of the Holy Family reminds us to help our own families grow in holiness. With this in mind, join Scott Hahn as he shares his advice on how to bring sanctity into the home. **LEARN - "FORMED NOW! WHO IS SAINT STEPHEN?"** This past week, we celebrated the life of St. Stephen, heroic leader of the early Church. Join Dr. Gray and Dr. Barber as they discuss the first Christian martyr. **"FORGIVEN SESSION! WHERE ARE YOU?"** As we make resolutions for 2021, don't forget about your spiritual wellbeing! Through our Forgiven series, you can help guide friends and family to new spiritual beginnings! Watch, learn or listen and then share and discuss. There is something for everyone. Check it out!



Baptism

Attendance at a one hour Baptismal Preparation Program is **required** and parish registration is expected. Please call the parish office a minimum of 2 months prior to your desired date for baptism to register for the Baptismal Preparation classes.

Weddings

Contact the parish office *one year prior* to your requested wedding date and set up an appointment with Father Backer Marriage Preparation classes and a retreat are required.

Consecration to St. Joseph: The Archdiocese is observing a Year of Saint Joseph from December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021. Archbishop Hebda opened the year with a Consecration Mass and prayer service to Saint Joseph on December 8, 2020. Archbishop Hebda said, "On this December 8th date, the Church Universal will be marking the 150th anniversary of Pope Pius IX's proclamation of Saint Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. Our hope is that the Year of Saint Joseph will be a source of renewal in our local Church, most especially as we continue our preparations for the Synod of 2022." The lay faithful are invited to participate through individual consecration to Saint Joseph. Learn more at <https://www.archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/>.

Synod Year 2: Winter 2020 Watch for updates to come on activities in winter 2021. Faith and Culture Series: January and February 2021. Synod at Home, Growing in Faith Together. Learn more about these offerings, and find all materials from the Synod Fall 2020 Series at [archspm.org/synod](https://www.archspm.org/synod). May God bless you!



KCs neighbors helping neighbors! "Leave No Neighbor Behind". During this crisis our local KC Council wants to ensure our parish community is healthy, safe, and cared for. If you or anybody you know can use a helping hand with small projects please contact us. We have a support team of Knights prepared to act, support or help whatever way we can. Contact Ron Shatek at 715-279-1844 or Brad at 612-221-0932.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) Classes teach couples the Church approved methods on how to achieve or postpone pregnancy while embracing the beauty of God's gift of sexuality. For a complete list of classes offered throughout the Archdiocese, visit www.archspm.org/family or call 651-291-4489.

Are You Hurting? If you or someone you love is grieving the loss of a child to abortion, come and experience the compassionate mercy of Jesus Christ on our confidential weekend retreat. Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities' retreats are open to anyone impacted by abortion - women, men, grandparents, siblings, and health care professionals. The next retreat is January 8-10, 2021 in the Twin Cities area. For more information contact Nancy at rachels@rvineyardmn.org, call 763-250-9313 or see www.rvineyardmn.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

"We, the community of St. Luke, come together to worship with joy and unity, to guide our children in faith, to show compassion and love towards others, and to work together as a parish family, so that we may be instrumental in building a meaningful and everlasting community to God by sharing our time and talents and following our Lord Jesus Christ."

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Tuesday, December 29th

8:00 am † Fr. Patrick Griffen

Wednesday, December 30th

8:00 am † Fr. John C. Clay

Thursday, December 31st

8:00 am Trevor Johnson

6:00 pm Parishioners

Friday, January 1st

9:00 am † Fr. Peter Wittman

Saturday, January 2nd

9:00 am Magdalen Krupa

Saturday, January 2nd

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, January 3rd

8:00 am † Nick Reinert

10:00 am † Ed Corrigan

Minister's Schedule For Jan. 2nd & Jan. 3rd

The Ministry Heads will be contacting volunteers to minister.

Mass Options

If You are Staying Home During the Pandemic

Church of St Luke FaceBook Page 10:00am Sundays

EWTVN at 11:00am Sundays. 7:00am Daily Mass

Check website for other Mass times too.

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv>

Catholic TV catholicTV.org

<http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass>

Televised Mass: Diocese of St. Cloud: Sundays, 11 a.m. on KSTC-TV/45

Our Lady of Grace, Edina: Sunday, Noon on Fox 9+

Spiritual Communion

“My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things
and I desire you with all my heart.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there
and unite myself to you completely.

Please do not let me ever be separated from you.”

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Family Christmas Season Ideas The Christmas season - which begins on December 25th with Christmas and ends with the Baptism of the Lord, January 10th - offers many opportunities to celebrate Jesus' Incarnation. Here are a few ways to celebrate Christmas that will bring you closer to Jesus and to the ones you love:



Celebrate Mary on New Year's Day. Mark the beginning of the New Year by celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. Remember Mary's role as the Mother of God, the Mother of the Church, and our mother. Go to Mass to celebrate this Holy Day and take some time to pray the rosary.

Take down decorations with family or friends. Many Catholic families keep their Christmas decorations up through the celebration of the Epiphany, when the 3 wise men come. This is twelve days after Christmas, January 3rd. As you "un-decorate" your home, play Christmas music and serve hot chocolate as you take down Christmas decorations and put them away. Make sure everyone has a job, even the youngest. Enjoy a simple meal afterwards. Christmas is not a single day; it is a treasured season of the Church year. Enjoy your favorite traditions - and make some new ones - as you celebrate Christmas. These lasting memories might just be the most important gift you can give your loved ones this season.



The Church of St. Luke's expresses sympathy to Mary Lenk and her family on the passing of her brother Albert. Eternal rest grant unto him, Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.

Readings for the week of December 27, 2020

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
 Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
 Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

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St. Luke's Calendar

Thursday, December 31 New Year's Eve
 6:00 pm—Vigil Mass - Mary, the Mother of God

Friday, January 1st New Year's Day
 9:00 am — Mass - Mary, the Mother of God
 Holy Day of Obligation
 9:00 am — 9:00 pm Adoration

Registration

Welcome to the Church of St. Luke. Please call the parish office to become a registered member.

Prayer Line 558-6169



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rdshadrack@gmail.com
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KofC meeting reminder:
4th Thursday each month

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