

WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF
SAINT LUKE

The Baptism of the Lord - January 10, 2021



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



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

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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

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

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Website www.churchofstlukes.com

PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

This weekend ends the Christmas Season in the Church. During Christmas we are celebrating the birth of Christ. This season comes to an end with the celebration of His baptism in the Jordan. We skip over the unknown years of the life of Jesus, and jump to the point that he comes to start His public ministry.

I have found this last month to be very busy with the prep for Christmas, celebrating Christmas, Holy Family, Mary Mother of God, The Epiphany, and now the Baptism of the Lord. I have reached a point where my memory is not always that good anymore. However, I would rather duplicate than forget. A special "Thank you!" to all who helped in any way with these Liturgies!! It takes many people to have good liturgies; trust me, it is not just me. During this time of COVID we have been under limitations and one of the effects has been a smaller group being called on more often to cover ministries. Sometimes we have had to go without music or a second Eucharistic minister, due to someone needing to self-quarantine because of exposure or testing positive for COVID-19. For all of those who have stepped up and helped in anyway, I wish to express my deepest gratitude. There is so much that happens behind the scenes to make everything run smoothly. Christmas was different with a sign-up for the first time. All went well with that also. Again I say, "Thank You!"

When we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, I invite you to consider your own baptism as a child, or as an adult. If you were baptized as an adult you may remember that day and you would have said your own 'yes' that many of us had our parents and Godparents say for us that day. I know I have an advantage of having my own baptism date of January 1st (easy to remember). If you do not know the date you were baptized, I invite you to do some research and find out. A dear friend of mine celebrates her children's baptism at the same level as their birthdays. And why not? It was a new birth into a relationship with Jesus Christ. The theology behind Jesus being baptized is not that He needed to be baptized, but that He chose to be. Jesus was not 'changed' by the waters of baptism like we are, Jesus changed the waters. So when we were baptized the waters of baptism washed away our stain of original sin and brought us into a relationship with him. We are baptized "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

At this time of year, with the new year, many of you may be doing some resolutions. You may be trying to improve your life, be it physical or spiritual. Remember making progress is key. You may break your resolution in the first few weeks, days, or hours. If it is something that is good for you, keep trying, get back at it. Do not allow one fall to cause you to write it off. It does not have to start at midnight on December 31st. We should always be looking to improve ourselves.

May 2021 bring a light to our world. May the Good Lord bless all of us this coming year.

Blessings to You and Yours,

Fr. Backer



KCs neighbors helping neighbors! "Leave No Neighbor Behind". During this pandemic 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.



Virtual Ascend Conference January 21-23, online This conference for young adults will take you on a deep dive into what it means to be "created for worship." It is our hope that these three nights of high-powered keynotes, convicting exhortation, live whole-hearted worship, and our very own "Ascend Show" will open your heart to a new and profound experience of your identity in Christ. Special Guests Father Mike Schmitz, Dr. Mary Healy, Dr. Dan Keating. Register at ascendspo.org.

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

In the story of Jesus' baptism, we hear the report of a significant moment in Jesus' life. By accepting baptism from John the Baptist, Jesus shows himself to accept solidarity with sinners. In the voice from heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit, we know that God received this offering from Jesus and found it pleasing. In the passages that follow in Mark's Gospel, we learn that Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry. Although many of us may have already taken down our Christmas decorations, liturgically speaking, the Christmas season hasn't ended yet; today is the last day. Holidays like Christmas are highlights of our year, moments of great grace. This grace renews us and prepares us for our return to the season of Ordinary Time, to the continuing work of discipleship. Gather as a family and discuss your feelings about the ending of the Christmas season. How does it feel to take down the Christmas decorations? Many of us experience a letdown after the excitement of Christmas; others may feel relieved that life is returning to normal. Liturgically, we end the Christmas season today by reflecting on the importance of Jesus' baptism. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 1:7-11. Jesus' baptism prepared him for his public ministry. What will we take from this Christmas season to carry us forward into Ordinary Time, to renew and strengthen our life of Christian discipleship? Conclude by praying together today's psalm response taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6, or pray the Prayer of the Holy Spirit. - *Sunday Connection*

Prayer of the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
 And kindle in them the fire of your love.
 Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
 And you will renew the face of the earth.
 Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit
 you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
 In the same Spirit
 help us to relish what is right
 and always rejoice in your consolation.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bible in a year? Have you ever desired to read through the bible in a year AND also understand it? Sign up for this **New Podcast** from Fr. Mike Schmitz: **The Bible in a Year**. Starting January of 2021, Father Mike Schmitz will be reading through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing insights, commentary, and reflection along the way. Learn more and get the reading plan at ascensionpress.com/bibleinayear or text CATHOLICBIBLE to 33-777.

Formed Pick of the Week: Our parish has a FORMED subscription. This week, as we contemplate Jesus' baptism, dive into the mystery of the sacrament of Baptism! Through the Reborn series, you will come to understand the deeper meaning behind your baptism. Check out Formed, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith. Check it out. Sign up for FREE at formed.org/signup.

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.



Retrouvaille Weekend for couples struggling in their marriage. For more information call 320-255-5314 or go to <https://www.helpourmarriage.org/> to find the next weekend retreat.

Marriage Encounter: A weekend get away to help great marriages get even better. For more information call Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-756-8720 or go to <http://www.wvme.org/>.

Beginning Experience (B.E.) is a Catholic based weekend program for adults grieving the loss of a relationship due to separation, death or divorce. Call (888) 565-0178 for more information.



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.

March for Life Youth & Family Conference Friday, January 22. High school and college students are invited to this day of prayer, inspiration, pro-life education and advocacy for the pre-born. Families are welcome and may register as a group at archspm.org/marchforlife. Cost is \$10 per person; please bring your own bagged lunch. Watch for more details to come!

Prayer Service for Life Friday, January 22, 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul and via live stream. Please join us for this prayer service to commemorate the millions of lives lost to abortion and the many women and men wounded by abortion's aftermath. Limited seating will be available, and COVID-19 protocols will be followed. The prayer service will also be livestreamed on the Cathedral's Facebook page: facebook.com/cathedralsaintpaul.

Archdiocesan Synod: Faith and Culture Series January 21 – February 9, Four sessions 7-8:30 p.m., Virtual Event; Link Sent to Registrants. Inspired by the thousands of participants at the Prayer and Listening Events, this series connects their stories to the story of the Church. Each virtual event includes a talk, testimonials, and a live panel discussion. Registration is required to participate live. Find topics, dates and registration at archspm.org/synod.

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, January 12th

8:00 am Terry Kantor

Wednesday, January 13th

8:00 am †Paul Robertson

Thursday, January 14th

8:00 am †Fr. John C. Clay

Friday, January 15th

8:00 am †Dennis Hilsgen

Saturday, January 16th

9:00 am Robertson Family

Saturday, January 16th

5:00 pm †Terry Herron

Sunday, January 17th

8:00 am Mabel Vieau

10:00 am Parishioners

Minister's Schedule For Jan. 16th & Jan. 17th

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

EWTN 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.”

Sacraments for Seniors Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recognizes that residents of long-term care have spiritual and emotional needs, not just physical. Even if there is a case of COVID-19 in the facility, clergy and pastoral caregivers may be admitted under the title of “healthcare worker” or “compassionate care,” provided that they have not been recently exposed to COVID-19 and abide by stringent safety requirements. The patient or the patient’s advocate, however, must request the visit. If a facility will not allow such access, you may wish to contact the Minnesota ombudsman’s office, (651) 431-2553. It has doubled its staff and is available to help advocate.



The Church of St. Luke's expresses sympathy to the family of **Rita Heaton**, whose funeral was last week.

We offer condolences to Jane and Doc Gohman on the passing of Jane's brother **Richard Clement**.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Anthony & Christine Kenning and family for the loss of Anthony's father, **Elmer Kennig**. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them.



St. Luke's welcomes to our parish new members **Bill and Kathy Nelson**. We're glad to have you among us!



From the Clearwater Food Shelf: We truly appreciate your generous gift of 50 lbs. of food items. As our world continues to struggle with social distancing, closings, distance learning and masks, it is your generosity that strengthens our friends and neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. It also reflects your commitment to the community. Thanks again, and we wish you a blessed New Year!

Receive **The Catholic Spirit** newspaper — for free! Be in-the-know with news from your Catholic community and the Church around the world. Get **The Catholic Spirit**, the award-winning newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, in your home. Free subscriptions for parishioners are available via each parish. Contact your parish office to be added to the mailing list.

Readings for the week of January 10, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/
Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1
Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42 ©LPi

St. Luke's Calendar

Wednesday, January 13
6:45 pm—Faith Formation

Friday, January 15
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:
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