

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

First Sunday of Lent - February 21, 2021



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

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

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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

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 is your first week of Lent going? Have you been able to keep up with your Lenten disciplines you chose to take on?? Just a reminder that there are a few really good links on the parish website that will take you to videos that will help you with your Lenten experience this year. I also would like to encourage you that if you falter with your Lenten practice early on, just recommit to it and start again. It can be too easy to simply give up when this happens and stop trying. If it is something we really should give up or has a strong hold on us, it is not likely going to be easy.

Lent very often has a tie-in to the desert. This weekend we see Jesus driven out into the desert and after 40 days, He is tired and weak. It is then that the devil comes and tempts Him. The devil knows when to attack all of us. If we turn away from God and to sin, we are going to become weak and it will be more likely that the devil will come with an even greater attack. It is always best to keep our defenses up. If we know we are heading into a desert in our life, then we need to be prepared with what we need. If we are walking into a physical desert, we are likely to bring things like water and maybe an umbrella to keep the sun off our bald head. So what do we bring if we are walking into a spiritual desert, like Lent?? Well, that can be a little different for each one of us, but if we are not thinking about it, we are likely not doing anything about it either.

I have friends that have their "Standard" - they always give up the same things and pick up the same resource to help their prayer. I have a few friends that seem to be constantly trying something new each year. Sometimes it goes well and other times it does not. With this first group of friends, whatever they may have given up for Lent, they go right back to at Easter. Most times this is not something bad, but rather something that is good and they enjoy, but have given up as a sacrifice. With the second group, it seems more likely that what they are giving up is something they do not want to go back to, or at least not to the level they were at before. Again, Lent can often show us what we are most attached to. This can sometimes surprise us; others we are not surprised by.

Last year it was during Lent that we shut down the Churches for COVID. This was very hard and my first thought was it would not be for that long. We all know COVID has stayed with us this last year. However, we are now seeing some 'HOPE' and I pray this Lent leads us to an 'Easter' for our COVID-affected lives. Not that I believe we will be done with COVID by Easter, but that we see even more signs of 'coming out of the tomb'. Yet, please remember, we are not there yet.

Fr. Backer

Lent Fasting and Abstinence

As Catholics we adhere to the Church regulations of fasting and abstinence:

Abstaining from meat: Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. Abstaining from eating meat is in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday.

Fasting Ash Wednesday & Good Friday: Every person between the ages of 18 and 59 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. What this means is that a person is permitted to eat one full meal on these days. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but together they

INVITATION TO DAILY LENTEN REFLECTIONS: This Lent, we invite you to journey with Dr. Tim Gray of the Augustine Institute by signing up for FORMED Daily Lenten Reflections at formed.org/lent. Each day you will receive in your inbox a short video which features Dr. Gray commenting on the daily Mass readings, explaining the Scriptures, and providing you with concrete ideas on how to apply them to your Christian life. Sign up today for free by visiting formed.org/lent!

LENTEN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FAMILY: Synod at Home: Tips and Tools for Growing in Faith! Taking time to listen to one another, pray, and discuss in order to determine priorities are synod steps that are also important for every household that wants to thrive. The Synod at Home series takes helpful videos, tips and tools for growing in faith, and pairs them with family-friendly activities based on four pillars: Prayer & Sacraments, Lifelong Learning, Generosity & Service, and Traditions & Fun. **New sessions posted weekly February 18 – March 18.** Find weekly videos and materials at archspm.org/synod, sign up for emails (archspm.org/synod/updates), or access through the Synod app: text APP to 88202, then in the app search for Archdiocesan Synod.



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

Today we read in the gospel that Jesus had been baptized by John the Baptist. Here is a reflection taken from a Lenten guide “40 days to Peace and Union with God.” *Reflect:* Jesus did not need to be baptized. He had not sinned, and baptism was a sign of repenting from sin. Yet he chose to be baptized anyway. It is the recurring theme of his life. He didn’t have to come to earth at all; he didn’t have to suffer and die on the Cross. He didn’t have to leave us his real presence in the Eucharist, his Holy Spirit, and the Church to be our guide. In fact, he didn’t have to create us in the first place. But he chose to do all these things, simply out of love. Everything God does is motivated by love - everything. He even willingly goes into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil for forty days, not because he needed to be purified (he was without sin), but because he wanted to share our lot as wholly as possible. He is the Friend without compare, because he is completely unselfish, and therefore totally trustworthy. *Respond:* Thank you for not overpowering me. You are meek and humble of heart. You are close to me, guiding me, entering into my daily life so calmly, so unexpectedly. Keep me tuned in to your action in my life, so I can always welcome and obey you, just as John the Baptist did.... If you had refused to come and save me, I would never have discovered the meaning of life. But because of you I know it: I was created to love God and experience his love for me. All I need to do in life is seek and heed your will for me, in big things and little things. Thank you, Lord, for coming to enlighten and strengthen me. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done!

It is not too late to begin this prayer meditation for Lent or any of the others listed here in the bulletin. Call another parishioner or two and set up time to meet in person or over the phone to do your study together. If you enjoyed this meditation you can access the entire booklet free at rcspirituality.org.

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross on all Friday evenings in Lent beginning at 7:00pm and on Good Friday at 3:00pm. All are invited to attend and walk the passion with our Lord.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK: Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Call your neighbor or ask a friend or family member to watch “The Search” with you this Lent and then discuss it. There are lots of other Lenten opportunities on Formed. Check it out, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith this Lenten season. Get signed up. SIGN UP FREE AT: FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP.

40 days to Peace and Union with God: Daily mental prayer through “The Better Part” What does God have in store for you this Lent? Is he asking you to go deeper in prayer? Perhaps to commit to daily meditation? Or maybe He is asking you to grow closer even in the midst of ever-changing circumstances around you. This year, you can receive a daily email with a reflection from Fr. John Bartunek’s best seller “The Better Part” to help you grow closer to Him and discover peace in your life. Go to: <https://rcspirituality.org/lent> to sign up. You will receive daily emails along with a free printable download.

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.

THE SEARCH: You’re invited to join Chris Stefanick and Bishops from around the country for a seven-week Lenten retreat using *The Search*. We will be exploring the major questions of life, like: **Why am I here? What is the life I was made for? Is there a God? Does He even care about me?** No need to purchase *The Search* because you have access to it through our parish’s Formed subscription. Join us each week during Lent for a live show on ReallifeCatholic.com, where Chris will be discussing how to successfully utilize *The Search* to IGNITE RENEWAL in the Church through small groups. Go to the link below to get notified each week when the show is live and join us for what could be your **most meaningful Lent ever!** Sign up today at <https://reallifecatholic.com/live/>.

Catholic Services Appeal 2021: Together in Hope The CSAF’s “Together in Hope” 2021 began last weekend! *What better time to share the love of Christ with neighbors in need?* To learn more about all 20 Designated Ministries of the CSAF, visit csafspm.org and check out the “Whom You Help” pages. With Lent beginning this week, please consider committing to help those most in need via a donation to GiveCSAF.org as part of your Lenten almsgiving. Thank you from the hundreds of thousands of ministry recipients of the Catholic Services Appeal Foundation!

FREE STORE Annandale Can you help? The Free Store in Annandale is in need of gently used or new blankets, sheets, and towels. All sizes are needed. A box for these items will be in St. Luke’s entryway, next to the food shelf container. Thank you for your help. God bless, Marlene Imholte, Free Store Manager

KC’s Food Drive Our local council will again be collecting food for the Local Food Shelf starting February 14th, through March 21st. The theme this year is “A Can a Day for 40 Days”. Cash donations will also be accepted; just put them in plain envelopes marked “KC Food Shelf” and put them in the collection basket. There will be a collection box in the Church entryway for the food. Thank you for your support!

KC’s Neighbors Helping Neighbors Our local KC Council wants to ensure our parish community is healthy, safe and cared for. Do you need a ride to an appointment, something picked up or delivered, small tasks done around the home or yard? Any small deeds are welcome requests. Our program of Knights helping Neighbors has a support team ready to help in whatever way we can. We are up to the challenge. Just contact Ron Shatek, 715-279-1844, or Brad at 612-221-0932.

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, February 23rd

8:00 am †Dennis Hilsgen

Wednesday, February 24th

8:00 am †Fr. Stanley Maslowski

Thursday, February 25th

8:00 am †Fr. George Thoomkuzhy

Friday, February 26th

8:00 am †Fr. William Gamber

Saturday, February 27th

9:00 am †Verlin Hinkemeyer

Saturday, February 27th

5:00 pm †Terry Herron

Sunday, February 28th

8:00 am Parishioners

10:00 am †Pat Klocker

Minister's Schedule For February 27th & 28th

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.”

Especially for Moms of Young Children



Cana Self-Guided Lenten Morning of Reflection: Living Merciful Love this Lent Saturday, February 27, 8-11 a.m., Online. Mothers of young children, a special time for reflection just for you! Do you want to grow in your acceptance of Christ's merciful love poured out on the cross? Discover how to help your family respond to suffering with peace. Take time away to focus on God's mercy as a way to enhance your marriage and family life. Invite your friends to join you for the free Cana self-guided Lenten reflection "Living Merciful Love" using a flexible format. Questions, contact cathy@canafamilyinstitute.com. Brought to you by Cana Family Institute as part of The Cana Experience. Register by February 23 and find details at canafamilyinstitute.com/events.

Together in Hope



The Catholic Services Appeal Foundation is an independent foundation partnering with fellow Catholics to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith.

Your gift brings hope.



GIVECSAF.ORG



Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10 ©Liturgical Publications Inc

St. Luke's Calendar

Wednesday, February 24th
6:45 pm Faith Formation

Thursday, February 25th
7:00 pm KC's Monthly Meeting

Friday, February 26th
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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Knights of Columbus St. Luke's Council #14013
Visit www.kofc.org or contact:
Ron Shatek, Grand Knight
rdshadrack@gmail.com
715-279-1844
KofC meeting reminder:
4th Thursday each month



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