

WELCOME TO  
THE CHURCH OF  
**SAINT LUKE**

The Ascension of the Lord - May 16, 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 Chairperson** .....Steve Duncan

**Pastoral Council Chairperson**.....Tony Leither

**Parish Staff**

**Parish Administrator** .....Sue Miller  
Ext 3 or admin@churchofstlukes.com

**Director of Faith Formation** ..... Marilyn Popp  
Ext 2 or stlukafaithandlife@gmail.com

**Music** .....Tammy 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](http://www.facebook.com/ChurchOfStLukes)**

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs. - Mk 16:19-20

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

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# PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

As I announced last weekend, it looks like we will be seeing a lot of changes in the Liturgy in the next few months. In all honesty, in the state as a whole. I have started hearing about events that had announced they were canceling, that are now stating they will be happening. The news will affect our own planning for the Church Festival.

However, what I would like to address today is respect and love for one another. As we make some of these moves to open up more, please know that some may not be ready to do so. They may want to still be cautious. And that is OK! A year ago when we were not able to say Mass publicly, I had a few people suggest I defy my Archbishop and say Mass. As we started live streaming Mass, there were a few showing up at the door. I have had to follow what the Archdiocese has directed, and at this writing, I have not yet received an update from the Archdiocesan Office of Worship.

There is one major difference. Last year, I needed to follow what we were being told we could *not* do. As we open up, it will be a little different. Case in point, masks! When the mask mandate went into effect, we 'Highly encouraged the wearing of a mask'. Some were resistant. I followed what the Archbishop had said, we encouraged, and we provided masks for those who may have forgotten. Now, as the mask mandate is soon to be lifted, it does not mean that you *cannot* wear a mask at church! That is anyone's right. This also goes for social distancing. If someone chooses to continue to social distance, that is ok. I plan to keep the two far sections of pews open so that we still have space to spread out if people would like to. As we bring back the sign of peace, or should I say as I bring back 'inviting people to give a sign of peace', if the people nearby are not yet comfortable shaking hands, that is ok, we can give many different signs of peace.

I guess what I am trying to stress is we need to be respectful of one another and that not everyone is in the same place. Some are vaccinated, some are not. Some are higher risk, some are very low risk. It is too easy to think whatever we think is what is TRUTH. Trust me, I have dealt with this approach too much in this last year. Please show love and respect as we continue to come out of these restrictions. Also be aware, that some things will be easy to change, however, others may take a little more time. Some things will just be me adding something back in, but if many ministers are involved, there may need to be some refresher training. So please be patient. We will get there.

Upcoming events to get on your calendar: the plant sale and the garage sale. Both are looking for donations also, before coming to purchase that day.

Also a reminder that this year is the Presbyteral Assembly. Every other year the priests of the Archdiocese gather with the Archbishop. Most years we were in Rochester for this, this year we will be gathering at St. Mary's in Winona. I would ask your prayers during the Assembly. This also means that there will not be a daily Mass Tuesday, June 22nd (8:00 am) – Saturday, June 26th (9:00 am). I will be back for the weekend Masses Saturday night at 5:00 pm.

Blessings,  
Fr. Backer

**Treasures of the Church** is a ministry of evangelization of the Catholic Church. Run by Fr. Carlos Martins of the [Companions of the Cross](#), its purpose is to give people an experience of the living God through an encounter with the relics of his saints in the form of an exposition. Each exposition begins with a multi-media presentation on the Church's use of relics that is scriptural, catechetical, and devotional, leading to a renewal of the Catholic faith for many people. After the teaching those in attendance have an opportunity to venerate the relics of some of their favorite saints. An exposition involves some 150 relics, including those of St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. The supreme highlight is one of the largest relics of the Church's claim to the True Cross in the world and a piece of the Veil that, according to sanctioned tradition, is believed to have belonged to Our Lady. The veneration of relics is a communion with the heroes of our Christian faith, asking for their powerful intercession. Many people have reported outstanding blessings and conversions through this ministry, and many have reported healings. The ministry travels throughout the world by invitation. To date, it has been hosted in almost 200 Catholic dioceses in various countries. For more information and an itinerary, visit <https://treasuresofthechurch.com>.

**Stay in-the-know: Get the Catholic Spirit - for free!** Get The Catholic Spirit, the award-winning newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, in your home, with news from your Catholic community and the Church around the world. Free subscriptions for parishioners are available via each parish. Contact your parish office to be added to the mailing list. Or purchase an annual subscription for yourself or a friend at [TheCatholicSpirit.com](http://TheCatholicSpirit.com).

**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, visit [archspm.org/family](http://archspm.org/family) or call 651-291-4489.

## 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 celebrate the Solemnity of The Ascension of Our Lord, which occurred 40 days after Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Morning. This is a moveable Holy Day for us as Catholics; the Ascension of our Lord usually falls on the Thursday of the 6<sup>th</sup> week of Easter. On this day, the risen Christ, right before his apostles, ascended bodily up into heaven. The Ascension is so important that the creed of Christianity, the Apostles' Creed, affirms "He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead." Christ's bodily ascension foreshadows our own entrance into Heaven after our death not simply as souls but, after the resurrection of the dead at the Final Judgment, as glorified bodies. The novena in honor of the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas since it was first made at the direction of Our Lord Himself when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost. It is still the only novena officially prescribed by the Church. The day after the Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord marks the beginning of the Novena. This year it started Friday May 14<sup>th</sup> and concludes with the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost; the Novena ends on Saturday, May 22. Take time to pray the Novena to the Holy Spirit asking for the gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord, as well as the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. You can find the Novena, and pray along with beautiful pictures, at [mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/novena-to-the-holy-spirit](http://mycatholic.life/catholic-prayers/novena-to-the-holy-spirit).

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*

### Important dates to Remember

May 31<sup>st</sup> 9:00 a.m.: Memorial Day Mass with memorial service at the cemetery to follow.

May 30<sup>th</sup>- June 9<sup>th</sup> : Drop off for St. Luke's Garage Sale which will be June 10 - 13<sup>th</sup>.

Upper Room Women's Retreat at St. Henry's Monticello - May 22<sup>nd</sup> Registration is now open for the upcoming Women's Retreat led by Gina Bauer with the theme of the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is always calling us deeper and deeper into the love of the Father and Jesus Christ. Come to the Upper Room to prepare for a beautiful encounter with the God who loves you unconditionally. This will be an all day retreat to be held at St. Henry's on Sat., May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9AM - 4PM, tickets are \$30 and include a boxed lunch. Register online at <https://sthenrycatholic.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/UpperRoom> or call the parish office.

## 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.

**Archdiocesan Marriage Day Honoring those married 25 or 50 years in 2021!** Saturday, June 5, 10 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul. This celebration includes Mass, renewal of vows, and a short reception. Couples celebrating their silver and golden anniversaries will be honored in a special way. Families and friends of all couples are welcome! In-Person Registration is required by contacting 651.291.4488. Social distancing will be observed. Couples married one year or more may request a commemorative certificate signed by Archbishop Hebda. To request a certificate, please contact the Office of Marriage, Family & Life by May 30 at 651.291.4488 or [mfl@archspm.org](mailto:mfl@archspm.org).

**CEMETERY NEWS** – The Annual Cemetery Collection is today, **May 16<sup>th</sup>**! Please be generous in your support of the Cemetery Fund. This money is used for maintenance and repairs of the cemetery grounds. The lawn mowing and trimming is done by parish volunteers, who charge for gas cost only. For persons who are looking for family and friends' graves, there is a stainless steel stand near the entrance which contains records of burials as well as information regarding grave sites which are available for purchase. Please contact the parish office for information about the cemetery.

**Bethany House Summer Program** June 12 – August 7, 2021 – currently accepting applications! Bethany House is a place, set apart, with an environment of support and encouragement for Catholic women as they intentionally discern consecrated life. The women live in community, pray together, have meals together, host Religious Sisters, and participate in a discernment book study during the program. For more information and to request an application, see [10000vocations.org](http://10000vocations.org).

**Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute - School of Discipleship** June 22 - June 25, 2021 at St. Vincent de Paul, Brooklyn Park or Livestream. Taught by Jeff Cavins, this course is open to all adults and teaches the basics of discipleship, how to share your faith with confidence, and how to cultivate a deeper life of prayer. In this 7-week course, students become "activated disciples" and embark on a guided 40-day discipleship challenge to help put what they learn into practice. The course culminates with an interactive seminar with Dr. Mary Healy. The cost for the course, materials, and seminar is \$125. Sign up with a friend and get a discount! For more information visit [semssp/ci](http://semssp/ci).

**FORMED** Our parish has a Formed subscription. Check it out! There is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith in our beautiful Savior, Jesus Christ! SIGN UP FREE at [Formed.org/signup](http://Formed.org/signup).

## 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, May 18th

8:00 am †Sr. Modesta Arceneau

Wednesday, May 19th

8:00 am Peace in Israel

Thursday, May 20th

8:00 am Archbishop Hebda

Friday, May 21st

8:00 am Rita McCooley

Saturday, May 22nd

9:00 am †Logan Ganfield

Saturday, May 22nd

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, May 23rd

8:00 am †Ed Corrigan

10:00 am Graduating Seniors

## Minister's Schedule For May 22nd & 23rd

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,

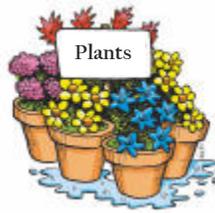
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.

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”.

Holy Spirit Academy is seeking a full-time Administrative Director for the 2021-22 school year. This position is the main front office and professional support to the Headmaster, helping manage hospitality, recruitment, clerical work, and school events to ensure a safe and professionally managed learning environment. The ideal candidate will be a friendly, organized, and energetic team-player with a deep commitment to the mission of Catholic education. Clerical experience and competency with Microsoft Office are necessary. This is a salaried, yearly, full-time position opening in the Spring of 2021. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Please contact Headmaster Andrew M. Lang with inquiries at [alang@holyspiritacademy.org](mailto:alang@holyspiritacademy.org) or 763-220-2402.



**Pro-Life Perennial Plant Sale** will be on Friday, May 28th and Saturday, May 29th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. both days. Any plants you wish to donate are welcome, but please label and pot them. Bring them to St. Luke's the day before the sale. We will be selling varieties of Hostas, Peonies, Lily of the Valley, Yellow Buttercup, Black-eyed

Susans, Daylilies, Ferns, Spirea bush, Tiger Lilies, and a few others. Come and take a look! Any questions, call Kathy Ganfield, 612-986-8596 or Betty Eiden, 320-293-4232.

The Church Family of St. Luke's expresses our condolences to Carol Mason and family on the passing of Frank.



**ADULT and YOUTH Volunteers Needed:** VBS *Rocky Railway* will be held on August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 5<sup>th</sup> ! We need adults, both men and women, to help get this off the ground, as we will need to be creative in planning an outdoor VBS!

Please sign up to help create this fun and wonderful opportunity for our youth to walk closer with our Lord. Please email [stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com](mailto:stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com) or call 763-262-5649 to help.

**St. Luke's Garage Sale** – Our parish garage sale is fast approaching. Please keep this major fundraiser (and fun event!) in mind as you do your spring cleaning. The sale will be held June 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>. Drop off dates are May 30<sup>th</sup> - June 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity!

**Parish Festival** - Summer is coming, and so is our Parish Festival! August 22, 2021. Cash donations, gift certificates, & prize items are being accepted now!



#### Readings for the Week of May 16, 2021

**Sunday:** Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-33

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19

**Saturday:** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

**Next Sunday:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

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### St. Luke's Calendar

**Tuesday, May 18th**

8:00 am Quilting

7:00 pm Festival Chairpersons Meeting

**Friday, May 21st**

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  
 715-279-1844  
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