

WELCOME TO  
THE CHURCH OF  
**SAINT LUKE**

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 1, 2021



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



## 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." - Jn 6:32-33

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 ..... Ext 1 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 stlukefaithandlife@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)

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# PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

We are moving into August; I am not sure I am ready. August for me starts the signs that summer is coming to an end and we will soon be moving into fall. Of course this summer has been full of heat and we have seen very little rain, so we are in a drought by no doubt. Just last week I walked down to the Mississippi River by the bridge. I was able to walk out on a dry river bed, almost 1/3 of the way across the river. My GPS showed me drowning or perhaps walking on water. I have been praying that we receive the rain we need to get out of this drought.

August also brings with it a wedding at my last parish for one of my former servers. I feel old that she is now getting married. Things went very well when I paid a visit this last month. But now comes the wedding itself. I really want to do a good job for her and make her wedding special. Over the next few weeks a few things still need to come together, so pray they do.

August brings the return of our parish festival. 2021 has brought a return to a lot of things that 2020 cancelled. Minnesota will be having a State Fair again this year. For so many the State Fair is a must-do for the end of summer. Clearwater Heritage Days and the Clearwater Rodeo are back as well. Some things may be scaled back a little, but back all the same. This includes our parish festival, and with it, all the preparations needed to put on this event. I will tell you, it is a bit stressful not knowing .... Will we have everything we need?... Are all areas covered with the volunteers needed?... Will people show up the day of the festival?? Please be bringing in those things needed. Be thinking of a good basket, getting ready for the cakes and pies, and helping out the day of the festival. OH, and invite family, friends, coworkers, neighbors, the random person at Coborn's - invite them all to come to the festival this year!

With the return of many of these events, it can be easy to think we are done with COVID. However, this is not yet the case. Now we have the DELTA variant. So know that there may still be some precautions in place. We have seen many things return to the liturgy over the last few months, but we are not still fully back.

With that, to answer the question I have gotten a few times. At this time the Holy Land Trip I am leading is going. There too, Israel has some restrictions to entering their country. These have been changing with the changes with COVID, so it is hard to say right now what things will be like for the trip in November. I have been in contact with Magi Travel and they are saying tours in Israel are close to business as usual. Things have settled down with the fighting that sprang up over there back in May of this year. But if you are looking at joining us, please get signed up with Magi so we know and can get you any updated information. I believe there are a couple of people, one male and one female, still looking for a roommate for the trip - so don't think you need to go as a couple - you can go alone and room with one of them. I recently ordered a DVD called 'Israel Revealed'. It has 36 (30 min) lectures on different subjects of the Holy Land. My thought is, if people are interested, to have times where we can get together and watch some of these, either as a way of prepping for those signed up, or as a help to making a decision to go for those on the fence.

This has been a long, hot, and dry summer, but there is still so much going on. I hope you find your August full of fun events to enjoy with family and friends.

Blessings,  
Fr. Backer

**Archbishop Hebda Needs Your Help! Join the Journey this Fall!** It's August and we are planning our Fall and Back to School activities. Plan to join us this fall to help shape the future of our local Church through the ongoing Archdiocesan Synod process. Archbishop Hebda needs your input in how to best form:

- Parishes that are in the service of evangelization;
- Missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call; and
- Youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young.

Join a small group to discuss and give feedback on priorities within each Synod focus area. There will be small group sessions at St. Luke's this fall offered at various times and over a 6-week period starting in September. We ask that you help Archbishop Hebda and take part in a small group. Watch for dates! See more at [archspm.org/synod](http://archspm.org/synod).

**Discernment Opportunity for Young Women September 24-26 at Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo** We are pleased to announce that Fiat Ministries Discernment Retreat is coming to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Single women age 18-28 who are seeking to do God's will are invited to attend. Religious sisters from various orders assist at the retreat by giving talks, leading small groups, giving their testimonies, and providing a joyful witness of what it means to be a consecrated Religious Sister. The Fiat Discernment Retreat seeks to foster prayer, self-knowledge, and authentic discernment in young women to re-center their focus back on God and the universal call to holiness. The cost of the retreat is \$100, which includes meals, lodging and materials. Registration and more information can be found at [fiatministries.org](http://fiatministries.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 today's Gospel, the crowd asks Jesus for a sign so that they can believe that he has come from God. This is a curious request, because Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people with just five barley loaves and two fish. How quickly they seem to have forgotten the wonderful thing that Jesus has done for them. Or, maybe they never recognized the miracle in the first place. Sometimes we don't recognize the wonderful things that God has done for us. And, sometimes, we simply forget and ask for further evidence of his love and care. We pray that God will remove our blindness so that we can receive with thanks and praise all the wonderful things that God accomplishes in our lives. Together as a family, name the wonderful gifts that God has given you and some of the remarkable deeds that God has accomplished in our world. Observe that it is important to stop to count our blessings because we can easily miss recognizing all of the wonderful things that God does for us. Read together today's Gospel, John 6:24-35. Ask: Why are the people seeking out Jesus? (because he has fed them) What do they want from Jesus? (a sign that he has come from God) What does Jesus tell them? (He says that he will give them something greater and more important than the bread that fed their physical hungers; he will give them bread that will give them eternal life.) Recall that we have this gift from Jesus in the Eucharist. Pray together, thanking God for all that he has given to us, especially for the gift of eternal life and the Eucharist. Pray together the Magnificat (see below). – Sunday Connection

### Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children forever.

**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 [archspm.org/family](http://archspm.org/family) or call 651.291.4489.

### 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.

**2021/2022 Faith Formation Registration** Registration for Faith Formation has been emailed to all those who have been in the program before. There is also an opportunity to register on the Church Website. All Registrations are due by September 5<sup>th</sup>. Also, We are in need of many volunteers to be Catechists, assistants, and clerical support. Please prayerfully consider joining in this great ministry to build the kingdom of Christ by educating the children and youth of the parish in the most important teachings of the Faith. If you are interested in finding out more information on the roles we are in need of please contact Marilyn at [stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com](mailto:stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com).

**Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute — Applications Available for Class of St. Joseph! Mondays, 7-9 p.m., Transfiguration, Oakdale or join the satellite site at St. Tim's in Maple Lake!** Ever wonder what God has planned for your life? This fall, the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute will offer the two-year Pillars Program in person at Transfiguration Catholic Church in Oakdale and at various CI Satellite Sites, where students will participate in the small group dynamic and gather together to watch the lectures via live stream. Taught by some of the best instructors in the Twin Cities, such as Bishop Andrew Cozzens, Jeff Cavins, Deacon Joe Michalak, Deacon Dan Gannon, Fr. John Klockeman, Dr. Todd Flanders, Christina Smith, Liz Kelly, and more, the CI: Pillars Program follows the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and will make sense of all things Catholic, deepen your faith, and layout the roadmap to heaven. Applications are now being accepted for the Class of St. Joseph. For more information, CI: Satellite Sites locations, and an application, visit [semssp/ci](http://semssp/ci) or call 651.962.5072.

**Rachel's Vineyard:** The Lord is Close to the Brokenhearted- Psalms 34:18. If you or someone you love is grieving the loss of a child to abortion, come and experience the healing mercy of Jesus Christ on our confidential weekend retreat. The next Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities' retreat is July 30-August 1, 2021. For more information contact Nancy at [rachels@rvineyardmn.org](mailto:rachels@rvineyardmn.org), call 763-250-9313, or see [www.rvineyardmn.org](http://www.rvineyardmn.org).

**Synod Prayer - Year of St. Joseph:** Heavenly Father, who gave St. Joseph to Jesus and Mary as protector and guide, grant that our Archdiocesan Synod, under his protection and guidance, may help us discern your direction for our Church. May we listen as he listened, trust as he trusted, obey as he obeyed, receive as he received, love as he loved, and share in his life of devotion to Jesus and Mary. Amen. St. Joseph, pray for us.

## 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, August 3rd

8:00 am †Mary Jane Thell

Wednesday, August 4th

8:00 am †Lori Youngdahl

Thursday, August 5th

8:00 am †James Kevin Walz

Friday, August 6th

8:00 am Doreen Lenk

Saturday, August 7th

9:00 am †Ed Corrigan

Saturday, August 7th

5:00 pm †Arlan Schlagel

Sunday, August 8th

8:00 am †Marvin Imholte

10:00 am Parishioners

## Minister's Schedule For August 7th & 8th

The Ministry Heads will be  
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.

King's House Upcoming Retreat Women's Silent Retreat August 6th - 8th. To register: go to [kingshouse.com](http://kingshouse.com), or call 763-682-1394. 621 First Avenue South, Buffalo MN.

**FORMED:** Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Check it out, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith this summer! Get signed up, it's free: [FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](http://FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP).

## Retrouvaille Marriage Weekend September 17, 2021

Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is peer ministries of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information contact the Central MN Retrouvaille Registration Team at 320-255-5314 or email [2016@retrouvaille.org](mailto:2016@retrouvaille.org) or visit our website: <https://www.helpourmarriage.org>.

St Patrick's Books & Gifts, LLC located in Maple Lake is looking for someone to take over the business to continue to provide Catholic books and religious articles in Maple Lake and the surrounding area. All shelving, display materials, and supplies will be donated to the new owner, a vendor list will be provided, and inventory on hand can be purchased at a discounted price. Please contact Debbie or Karrie at 320-963-5200 or [stpatricks-booksandgifts@gmail.com](mailto:stpatricks-booksandgifts@gmail.com) if interested.

The Church of St. Luke extends our sympathy to Jamie & Eva Powell and Family on the passing of Jamie's mother, Bunny.





STARTS TONIGHT! VBS 2021 Rocky Railway! *Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!* Climb aboard with Jesus, as he is by our side in life's wild ride! Get ready, get set, and mark your calendar August 1<sup>st</sup> through August 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:30 pm for a week of faith, fun and fellowship for youth in Preschool age 4 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade! Preregistration is required. Register TODAY to reserve your spot! Cost is FREE!! Come join in the fun!



**Parish Festival - August 22, 2021**

Please get those Quilt and Grand Raffle tickets sold and turned in!

**Family Assignment Cards:** You should have received your family assignment

card in the mail. Please call the chairperson listed on the card if this time needs to be changed. We need many volunteers to make the festival a success. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Funds go toward the building fund.

**Baskets from Heaven:** Baskets are available in the Gathering Space.

**Prizes for games:** When you are out shopping remember the festival! We need game prizes such as stuffed animals, suckers, or any fun stuff for kids.

**Bottle Bonanza** needs any kind of bottled item such as pop, shampoo, lotion—anything in a bottle that you would like to win if you were playing bottle bonanza.

**Outdoor Food Stand** needs bottled water and cans of pop.

*Your donations make St. Luke's Festival a success. Put your donations in the labeled rooms in the Parish Center.*

**Remember the Produce Booth.** People who attend the festival look forward to purchasing the fresh produce and baked goodies.

**Readings for the Week of August 1, 2021**

**Sunday:** Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 [24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

**Monday:** Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [2a]/Mt 14:13-21

**Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 [cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

**Wednesday:** Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Mt 15:21-28

**Thursday:** Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt 16:13-23

**Friday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/ Mk 9:2-10

**Saturday:** Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4. 47 and 51/Mk 17:14-20

**Next Sunday:** 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-5

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**St. Luke's Calendar**

Sunday, August 1st - Thursday, August 5th

6:00 pm VBS

Tuesday, August 3rd

8:00 am Quilting

Friday, August 6th

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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 Visit [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) or contact:  
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