

WELCOME TO
THE CHURCH OF
SAINT LUKE

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - August 15, 2021



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE
Blessed Virgin Mary

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

So much to talk about this weekend. We are celebrating The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We believe that Mary, preserved at birth from original sin, was also preserved from corruption of the body in the grave. Her uncorrupt body and soul were taken into heaven. Pope Pius XII defined this doctrine on November 1, 1950 in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*. This belief was not new, however, Pope Pius XII formally made it a doctrine of the Church.

Next weekend is our Parish Festival. I remember last year when I had to make the call to cancel the festival for last year, as many other events were canceled as well. This spring we have seen a reopening of events and a lifting of restrictions, both in our society and in the Church. Some of these were huge - the lifting of the mask mandate, the blue tape departure, and the return of our holy water. The loss of the festival last year was something we felt financially. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year. For me, another huge part of this spring was being able to start getting together with friends again. This is a part of the festival I greatly missed.

One of the things about not having the festival last year is getting back into the swing of it this year. Again, I want to thank all who have been working hard to get things ready. Please help out if you can. One way that everyone can help is coming to the festival and inviting many others to come too. I have fond memories of festivals in the past. Like when I bid up a quilt I wanted, fighting against someone right behind me, only to find out he was trying to buy it for me and give it to me. But I would not let go. :) I remember watching how high some of my jamming baskets went, the Jello-eating contest, and pulling for the Grand Raffle. The Grand Raffle should be a lot of fun this year, as we have more cash prizes than ever before.

Lately we have seen a rise in the Covid numbers again, and some masking requirements have returned in some areas. Recently Israel added the United States to its list of countries that it is requiring quarantine for 2 weeks upon entering the country. It goes without saying that my November trip I was leading is not going this year. The trip, for the second time due to COVID, will be rescheduled for Nov 7 - 18, 2022. So if you were thinking about going to the Holy Land with me, but were concerned about restrictions currently in place, we'll see what changes we see this coming year. Pray by this time next year we will have killed COVID.

There have been so many things to pray for lately. We are in so much need of rain. I have struggled to keep some of my flowers going. With a rise in COVID numbers, we are seeing some restrictions returning. This is not what I like to see. I'm praying for the success of our Festival, and any number of people I know who are ill at this time or dealing with health issues. I sometimes think my list has gotten so long, I do not cover it very well. What is on your prayer list?? I am hoping many of these same things. Your list of people may be different from mine. That is something I will always remember about my mother, she was always praying for others. Sometimes she knew them, other times she only knew of their need for prayer. I have a daily prayer list, it changes regularly. You should know I am an Excel junkie. I have an Excel file set up for my daily prayers. I can see how long a prayer has been on my list - one week, one month, etc. I also sometimes will set up a goal of having an intention on my list for a set time or until the event is over. I have been praying for a couple whose wedding I did this weekend; that prayer now changes from the being prepared to the new marriage. This list can help me keep on-going prayers in the forefront of my mind. It can also remind me if it has been awhile, to check in with someone. Technology can be good or bad, depending on how you use it. Here, it really does help my prayer.

Blessings,
Fr. Backer

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.



SYNOD 2022

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.

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's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. It is one of three feasts of Mary that are Holy Days of Obligation for Catholics in the United States. January 1 is the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, and December 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven. The Gospel for this holy day recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the Angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel. Mary's Magnificat, in particular, echoes the song of praise offered by Hannah, the mother of Samuel. The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. This is called the Immaculate Conception. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all. Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation.

—Sunday Connection

Faith Formation It is hard to believe that Fall is just around the corner. Our Faith Formation program will begin in September for youth going into **first grade this fall through 10th grade**. We ask that 11 - 12th grade youth attend free of charge to study the Word of God or to help in areas needed. The registration form and letter outlining the program will be sent home via email and is also on the website.

Looking for a ministry in which you can serve the Lord by serving others? Consider volunteering to be a Catechist and help our young people come to know our Lord and their Catholic Faith. Any adult of any age is welcome. The best gift we can give our youth is Jesus. Email stlukefaithandlife@gmail.com or call the Formation office.

FORMED: Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Check it out, there is so much for all ages to help us grow in our faith! Get signed up, it's free: 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.



Newly Baptized The Church of St. Luke welcomes our newest member, Damian Ray Grajeda, who was baptized last weekend. Congratulations, David and Cortney!

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 or visit our website: <https://www.helpourmarriage.org>.

Marriage Encounter Weekend: Awesome Marriages Don't Just Happen - Couples Create Them! Plan to attend the August 21-22 Marriage Encounter and we will begin creating the marriage of your dreams. Weekends held at Mt. Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington. For more information, see www.marriages.org or call 651-454-3238.

Natural Family Planning: NFP offers a scientific and marriage building opportunity by learning about one's fertility. Are you a couple interested in learning more about natural family planning? Are you wanting to follow the church's teaching but unsure exactly how to use NFP effectively? My name is Emily Kirkwold and I am a pharmacist and a natural family planning educator. I teach the Marquette model of NFP. Contact information: www.nfppharmacist.com, Email: emily@nfppharmacist.com, or Phone: 612-547-6659.



The Parish Festival is Next Weekend
Invite Your Family and Friends!

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 17th

8:00 am Nicole Hartnell

Wednesday, August 18th

8:00 am †Donald Popp

Thursday, August 19th

8:00 am †Mildred Shatek

Friday, August 20th

8:00 am †Arlan Schlagel

Saturday, August 21st

9:00 am †Roger Larry Kantor

Saturday, August 21st

5:00 pm †Bunny Powell

Sunday, August 22nd

8:00 am †Al & Mary Imholte

10:00 am Parishioners

Minister's Schedule For August 21st & 22nd

The Ministry Heads will be
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.

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' 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.

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! 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, visit semssp/ci or call 651.962.5072.



The Parish Festival is Next Weekend! August 22, 2021
 Please get those **Quilt and Grand Raffle** tickets sold and turned in! We need everyone's help to make the festival a success. This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Funds go toward the building fund.

Cakes and Pies: Tins are available in the Gathering Space.
Baskets from Heaven: Baskets are available in the Gathering Space. Have fun! Be Creative.
 Please bring in your fun **Prizes for Kids' Games**, any kind of bottled item for **Bottle Bonanza**, and bottled water and cans of pop for the **Outdoor Food Stand**.
Your donations make St. Luke's Festival a success. Put your donations in the labeled rooms in the Parish Center.
Remember the Produce Booth and Baked Goods the day of the festival!

Thank you to our sponsors. The Church of St. Luke wishes to thank David K. Nelson, State Farm Insurance Agent, for advertising in our bulletin. Please support our sponsors with your business. Tell them you saw their ad in the bulletin!

Readings for the Week of August 15, 2021

Sunday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/ 1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 [4a]/ Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [4]/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

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St. Luke's Calendar

Tuesday, August 17th
 8:00 am Quilting
Friday, August 20th
 9:00 am — 9:00 pm Adoration
Sunday, August 22nd
 11:00 am — 4:00 pm Parish Festival

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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