

# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

October 3, 2021 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



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

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?"  
They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce  
and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of  
your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning  
of creation, God made them male and female." - Mk 10:3-6

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

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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 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)

Website [www.churchofstlukes.com](http://www.churchofstlukes.com)

# PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

I want to thank all of you that came to the first Synod Small Group session last Sunday. Please know all are welcome tonight for the second session this Sunday night. You do not need to have been at last week's group to take part in the next groups. Please plan to attend as many as you can.

This week there is a clear focus on marriage and the permanence of marriage. Genesis speaks about the "two becoming one". This reading is used very often at weddings; maybe you had it read at yours? It is a nice reminder of the bond that takes place at a sacramental wedding. But still, the bride and groom are still getting to know each other (how much is based on how long they have been together). I try and remind couples that that bond takes place and means whatever happens from here on out we will face together. The message our world sometimes gives is that we are together as long as things are great -when things go bad - we part ways. Marriage can be work! Ongoing work, work that is not done at the wedding. At the last wedding I had (for one of my former altar servers), I preached about each of us being a piece of string. I had a piece of string in my hand and I broke it, and said, "We all can have something that comes into our lives that breaks us." I then took 2 pieces of string together (the bride and groom), but was still able to break them. Even a couple together can have things that will break them. I then added a piece of wire, this is the Lord. I stressed that the 2 strings were not connected to the wire, but simply were remaining close to the wire, wound around the wire. I was no longer able to break the 2 pieces of string, as long as they remained close to the wire. My point was that it can't just be "You and I babe". Yes bride and groom are very important parts of that bond. But having the Lord involved is just as important to the success of that marriage.

This is a hard weekend to preach, simply because I know some of you have been divorced. I also know that for some of you it was for a very good reason. I know for some it is hard to hear this weekend's Gospel. We can't change the Gospels, even when they may say something that is hard for us to hear. The main focus of both the first reading and the Gospel is the permanence of marriage. One should not enter into it lightly thinking, "If it does not work out..." or "If things change...". One should enter marriage knowing that there are challenges ahead, but that you will face them together. I had visitors here last weekend, she was my DRE at my last parish. This next year they will be celebrating 70 years of marriage. That is not a typo, SEVENTY years of marriage. What a wonderful witness to our young people today. I remember asking a couple I was preparing for marriage, "Will I be invited to your 50th wedding anniversary?" I asked this to read their body language at the idea of being together for the next 50 years. I don't always ask that anymore. Not after one of my brides answered with, "IF you are still around."

Lastly, this coming weekend, Oct. 10th, I am expecting about 25 members of my family to come up and visit Clearwater. If all eight of my siblings and I are together, it will be the first time in about nine years that we have been. I have a sister in Alaska and a brother in South Carolina. They are not often in town at the same time. Please pray that I will be a good host and the weather will let us be outside and in my garden (what is left of it). I am also praying that it will just be a wonderful, fruitful time together as a family. As is the case, a few of my siblings have started having more medical issues come up (I also am getting older). I am hoping we will get a family photo after Mass with the 9 of us together. I ask you for your prayers.

Blessings,  
Fr. Backer



## 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.

**SYNOD SMALL GROUPS** The Synod Small Groups take the place of some of our fall studies for the first 6 weeks of Fall. You are invited to join this group on Sunday evenings at 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. We had our first session last week and it was really good. I am sure if you talked to anyone who attended they would encourage you to join us. You don't have to speak if you don't want to.

- **Pray. Learn. Discuss. Respond:** Small groups of approximately 8 people will gather to **Pray:** Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. **Learn:** Experience the compelling truth of the Catholic faith in today's cultural context. **Discuss:** Examine questions under each focus area, sharing perspectives among a small group of sisters and brothers in Christ. **Respond:** Weigh in on how we as a Church might respond to these questions to help Archbishop determine priorities.
- **Facilitation:** A trained facilitator will promote a meaningful and charitable dialogue between group members.
- **Feedback:** Participants will complete an Individual Feedback Form. A trained scribe will submit the information, which will then be provided to your parish and Archbishop Hebda.
- **Who should attend?:** Ages 15 through 100 plus!
- **Location/Dates:** All here at the Church of St. Luke Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm., Oct 3, Oct 10, Oct 17, Oct 24, Nov 7.

## 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 we hear about marriage and God's intent for marriage. Jesus' teaching about divorce and remarriage can be a challenging one for many people. The Church continues to uphold the strong and positive teaching of Jesus that God intends for a man and woman to make a lifelong commitment to one another in the Sacrament of Marriage. Many of us, however, know people whose marriage has not been a lifelong commitment. The example of Jesus teaches us that we are called to act with compassion and love in our relationships with all, and especially when people are hurting because of difficulties in their relationships. Most importantly, we remember that when marriages thrive, it is a sign of God's grace at work. As you gather as a family, talk about what it means to make a promise or a commitment to someone. Offer examples of promises that are fairly easy to keep. Read today's Gospel, Mark 10:2-16. Talk about examples of promises and commitments that might be more difficult to honor, like the marriage commitment that Jesus is asked about in this Gospel. Talk about how we need God to help us honor our commitment to love and care for each other. Jesus teaches that we should be like children before God, trusting God's promise to care for us and asking for his help to keep our commitments to love and care for others. Conclude by praying together that God will give his grace to us that we may honor our commitments to one another. Pray together Saint Ignatius of Loyola's prayer, below.

### Suscipe

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
my memory, my understanding,  
and my entire will,

All I have and call my own.

You have given all to me.

To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will.

Give me only your love and your grace,  
that is enough for me.

**Faith Formation Prayer People Needed:** We had our first night of Faith Formation on Wednesday night. We are off to a good start. Families and youth today face many challenges in our society and are in need of prayer. One thing that we need is for people to intercede for us in prayer on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-8:00 p.m. You can pray from your home during this time or come in to the adoration chapel. This is a wonderful way to help our youth. Please contact the Faith Formation office if you are interested and can dedicate some time to prayer. If we can get 4 people to sign up then we can make a schedule to cover our youth and families in prayer during Faith Formation.

**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! SIGN UP FREE AT: [FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP](https://www.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.

**Fall Adult Studies to begin later this fall/early winter:** This fall at the Church of St. Luke we will have numerous opportunities for everyone to participate in a small group for the Archdiocesan Synod. This will take roughly 6 weeks. When this part of the Synod Process is over, we will begin our fall studies. Watch for more details in the up-coming weeks.

## Are you a Junior or Senior in High School or Young Adult?

Let's get together for some fellowship! This is a great opportunity to unwind and share with one another about life and it's ups and downs. We will also be doing an informal bible study for young adults. We will meet beginning October 6<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:00pm. Bring your friends. All are welcome.

## Discernment Day Retreat with Bishop Andrew Cozzens

Saturday, Oct. 30, 8:30 a.m. – 7 p.m., at the Aspirancy House at The Saint Paul Seminary, 1976 Dayton Avenue, St. Paul. Bishop Andrew Cozzens will lead a one-day discernment retreat for men discerning Catholic priesthood, who already have or are currently pursuing a college degree. The day will include talks by Bishop Cozzens, Mass, prayer, seminary campus tour, testimonies, meals and social time. Discernment tips will be shared and there will be an opportunity to get your questions answered about vocational and seminary life. For further information and to register, see [10000vocations.org](https://www.10000vocations.org).

## Rachel's Vineyard Retreat (Catholic Version)

"I will never leave you or forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5). 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 Citites' retreat is November 5 - 7, 2021. For more information contact Nancy at [rachels@rvineyardmn.org](mailto:rachels@rvineyardmn.org), call 763-250-9313, or see [www.rvineyardmn.org](https://www.rvineyardmn.org).



## 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, October 5th

8:00 am Father Backer

Wednesday, October 6th

8:00 am Sonja Langlie & Family

Thursday, October 7th

8:00 am †Nora Post

Friday, October 8th

8:00 am †Fr. Tim Nolan

Saturday, October 9th

9:00 am †Vera Schwartz

Saturday, October 9th

5:00 pm †Frank Mason

Sunday, October 10th

8:00 am †Alma Mergan

10:00 am Parishioners

## Minister's Schedule For October 9th & 10th

The Ministry Heads will be  
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.



**Reminder:** If you have changed your phone number or address please be sure to let the office at St. Luke's know so we have your current information in our system. You can call or email that change to the office.

## Readings for the Week of October 3, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/  
Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

**Monday:** Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37

**Tuesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/Lk 10:38-42

**Wednesday:** Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/Lk 11:1-4

**Thursday:** Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/Lk 11:5-13

**Friday:** Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/Lk 11:15-26

**Saturday:** Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/Lk 11:27-28

**Next Sunday:** Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-2

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**October is Respect Life Month** As we begin October, Respect Life Month, please consider taking a 40-Days-for-Life Daily Devotional book and saying the prayers to end legalized abortion in our country. Also know we plan to do the baby bottle fundraiser for the two Pregnancy Resource Centers in St. Cloud the weekend of October 16/17, as well as a bake sale for the Pro-Life Committee here at St. Luke's the weekend of October 23/24 .

**St. Luke's Feast Day - Parish Family Fun Day!** All are welcome to attend on Sunday, October 17th after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. There will be a free dinner, games, and prizes. Please sign up in the gathering area. Come and celebrate!



**Church of St. Luke's Holiday Sale** Thursday - Sunday, October 21st - October 24th: Thursday thru Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sunday 9 - noon. **Drop off** new or gently used , Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, or any other holiday decorations in the Parish Center Thursday, October 14th thru Wednesday, October 20th, during office hours and weekend Mass times.



The Church of St. Luke wants to thank the Knights of Columbus, St. Luke's Council #14013 for supporting our parish in so many ways, including their advertisement in our Church Bulletin. We'd also like to express our appreciation to Lake Central Bank. We're thankful for the support!



The next KCs Breakfast is Sunday, October 10! Plan to take advantage of someone else doing the cooking, and come to the Parish Center after either Mass for a delicious meal.

**Festival Wrap-Up Meeting** Tuesday, October 12, 7:00 p.m. All festival chairpersons are asked to attend this meeting.

### St. Luke's Calendar

**Tuesday, October 5th**

- 8:00 am Quilting
- 6:30 - 8:00 pm "God Bless America" Prayer Time

**Wednesday, October 6th**

- 6:45 - 8:00 pm Faith Formation

**Friday, October 8th**

- 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Adoration

**Sunday, October 10th**

- After Masses KCs Breakfast
- 6:00 - 8:00 pm Synod Small Group

**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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