

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

The Holy Family - December 26, 2021



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



THE HOLY FAMILY

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

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 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

This last month has been full of early bulletin deadlines, Covid concerns, Christmas preparations, etc, etc... I just realized I should have wished all of you a Merry and Blessed Christmas last week, since this bulletin will be the day after Christmas. I hope all of you had a safe and Blessed Christmas. I wish there was not so much division in our world today. Some of you may have stayed home for Christmas and others likely had large gatherings. Some taking precautions and some not. As a person in a leadership role, the one consistency in my life is that whatever I do, someone thinks its wrong. Please pray for an end to this pandemic and a healing in relationships.

I myself stayed home alone for Christmas. Mainly with the schedule of Masses for Christmas and the weekend. It was nice just to have a little down time. I am looking forward to a time when all family traditions will be able to start up again. I know as an adult I tried to return to some of my childhood traditions. However, I have lost some steam these last two years. My nativity set I picked up about 5 years ago, that I dearly love, has not been unpacked the last two years. Things have been busier than normal and as I live alone, it is only me who would enjoy it. It makes it harder to take the time to put it out and take it in. I had a Christmas tree a few years here with lights and all, I have since gotten rid of it. With my rescues, I also do not have room right now for a tree. I have dear friends that have the tradition of cutting down their own Christmas tree. I think I would enjoy that, growing up we always got our tree from the pop up tree lot at the local A&W.

As much as these traditions can mean to families, I find Advent to be such a busy time with penance services and planning, that I tend to enjoy the after Christmas slow down. Slow down until next weekend when we have a Holy Day right with another weekend Mass schedule. Such is the life of a priest.

I hope and pray that 2022 will be our year. I pray it will be the year we see an end to Covid-19. I pray it will be the year to end much of the division that is out there and that people will come together in love and compassion, that relationships with family and friends will heal. 2022 will bring with it my 15 year anniversary of my ordination. For many it will bring events like graduations and weddings. Each new year will bring new challenges and new joys. Here is hoping for more joys than challenges.

As we approach the New Year, many of you may be looking to make a New Years resolution. The most common ones are to get in shape or to lose weight. Some will be giving up smoking or some other bad habit. I sometimes get frustrated at how people tie it into the day so much. I can do this bad thing for another week, then I will give it up. Or how fast it ends up going by the wayside after the first set back. I tend to try and take the approach that if it is something we need to stop or start, why wait for Jan 1st. And again, not to tie into a magical date. If we have a setback, just get on track again right away, no need to wait until the next Jan 1st. How will you approach this new year?

Blessings,
Father Backer



March For Life at the State Capital is on January 22nd, the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade. There will be a bus coming to St. Luke's to bring anyone that is interested. There will be more details coming. Watch the bulletin for further announcements.

November Contributions

General Contributions	\$ 24,713.00
Building Fund	\$ 11,659.00
Building Debt Payment	\$ 6,014.00
Extra Principal Paid	\$ 10,600.00
Total Payment	\$ 16,614.00

MASS TIMES for January 1st Mary Mother of God: All are welcome to attend this celebration. **The Mass times are: 6:00pm December 31st and 9:00am January 1,2021.** May our Lord Bless your Christmas season with Love, peace and joy toward all.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



The Church of S. Luke would like to thank T & R Meat Processing for advertizing in our bulletin. When you utilize their services, tell them you saw their ad in our bulletin!

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

Every year the Sunday right after Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. God the incarnate, through Jesus united himself to human nature. God fully entered into the human experience and into the ups and downs, the peaks and valleys of family life. We do not hear much about Jesus, Mary and Joseph's life as family but contrary to the lovely images we see, it had to be very difficult to be nine months pregnant and to ride bareback on a donkey in rough terrain for some 70 miles and then to arrive to your home town to find it completely full of other traveler and not a private place available to give birth to your first child except among some smelly animals in a dirty stable and then shortly after Jesus' birth they had to quickly pick up and flee for their lives. Then we hear about the boy Jesus going missing for three days leaving his parents worried about where he might be. Mary was conceived with out sin, Joseph is a saint and Jesus is the Incarnate but there still were challenges, difficulties and opportunities for misunderstanding just like in family life today. We look to this family as our model of holiness. Their life was very ordinary just like the lives of most of our families today. The holy family struggled we struggle. Family life, its ordinariness and struggles is an opportunity of sanctification and growth in holiness for us. The secret to holiness is not to do extraordinary things, but to do ordinary things with extraordinary love and gratitude (Col 3:15-17). This is a tall order to always, within our families live with extraordinary love and gratitude. How can we possibly do this? While because of our humanness, we will fall but if we ask the Lord through prayer and scripture reading to give us the graces to live out our vocation of marriage and family, he will guide us and help us every step of the way to be the witness of a Holy and sacramental family to the world.

Important dates /Mass Times for Holy Days

December 29 th	NO FAITH FORMATION
December 31 st	6:00pm Mass Solemnity of Mary Holy Day of Obligation
January 1 st	9:00am Mass Solemnity of Mary Holy Day of Obligation

Beginning Experience (B.E.) is a Catholic based weekend program for adults grieving the loss of a relationship due to separation, death or divorce. Call (888) 565-0178 for more information

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.

Serving at Mass: Serve the Lord by serving at Mass! We invite you to consider helping at Mass by serving in a ministry. We would love to have you serve as a greeter before Mass, an usher, or in the Hospitality area after Mass. We are in need of someone to head up the hospitality ministry so that we can have coffee and treats after Mass. You can also become a Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Altar Server for those in 4th grade and older, and be a part of the audio/visual team. This is a great way to serve the Lord and you can serve in some areas as a family! Consider it! Contact the office if you would like to be a part of serving in some way. Thank you for your "yes".

FORMED Our parish has a FORMED subscription, which means you can access all its great content for FREE. Check it out! There is so much - movies, bible studies, talks - for all ages to help us grow in our faith. It's especially helpful for encouraging our families to focus on the "Reason for the Season"! Get signed up! SIGN UP FREE AT: FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter "Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Feb 11-13, 2022 in Buffalo, MN and May 6-8, 2022 in Buffalo, MN. For more information, call Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-756-8720 or visit them at twincitieswwme.org.

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 or call 651-291-4489.

Stay in the Know Get The Catholic Spirit — for free! Be in-the-know with news from your Catholic community and the Church around the world. Get The Catholic Spirit, the award-winning newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, in your home. 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.

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, December 28th

8:00 am †Eugene Brinkman

Wednesday, December 29th

8:00 am Mary Lou Brinkman

Thursday, December 30th

8:00 am †Fr. Tom O'Brien

Friday, December 31st

8:00 am Bishop-elect Joseph Williams

6:00pm †Linus Thell

Saturday, January 1st

9:00 am †Dolores Popp

Saturday, January 1st

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, January 2nd

8:00 am †Nick Reinert

10:00 am †Mark Stein

Minister's Schedule For January 1st & 2nd

The Ministry Heads will be
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.

KC's Pork Chop Sale

KC's are having a fundraiser for the Holy Spirit Academy Essay Contest. Pre-seasoned, frozen pork chops come packaged -- 2 for \$10.00 or 5 for \$20.00. E-mail, text or call Ron Shatek at RDSHADRACK@gmail.com or 715-279-1844.



Winter Solstice

Prayer for the Coming of the Light
In a world so often filled with darkness
and sin,
Jesus, You are the rising Son!
When the night of our lives feels longer
than we can bear,
Jesus, You are the hope of a new dawn!
When we are anxious for what the
future holds,
Jesus, You are the morning star that
never sets!
In all our confusion and division,
Jesus, You are the light of the world!

Heavenly Father, in this Advent season,
we await Your Son's coming with
anticipation.
Send Your Spirit to sustain and carry us
through these final days of Advent
preparation,
as we await the dawning of the Light of
the World!
Amen.

Operation Andrew Dinner: Monday, January 17, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, Saint Paul. Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda and Father David Blume, Director of Vocations, invite men, ages 16 and older, who are discerning their vocations, to join them for dinner and conversation about priesthood and religious life. Typically, guests invite their pastor, youth minister or a religious brother to meet them at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center for the Operation Andrew Dinner. Online registration is required. For more information and to register, see 10000vocations.org.

Miriam Dinner: Tuesday, January 25, 6-8 p.m., Archdiocesan Catholic Center, Saint Paul. Archbishop Bernard Hebda invites women, ages 16-35, who are discerning consecrated life to join him for dinner and conversation. Sister Mary Joseph, a Handmaid of the Heart of Jesus. Sister, will help lead the dinner program that will include consecrated women sharing their vocation testimonies, stories of consecrated life and discernment tips. Online registration is required. For more information and to register, see 10000vocations.org.



Food Shelf: Please remember those within our community who are in need of food and personal hygiene items and bring an item and place it in the baskets that will be in the entry of the sanctuary. Our little ones will bring the food items up as they come back from children's liturgy. . *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."* Matt 25:35

St. Luke's Calendar

Monday, December 27th

6:30 pm Cavins Bible Study

Wednesday, December 29th

No Faith Formation

Friday, December 31st

Office Closed

9:00 am — 9:00 pm Adoration

6:00pm Mass Solemnity of Mary

Saturday, January 1st

9:00 am Mass Solemnity of Mary

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
 KofC meeting reminder:
 4th Thursday each month

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