

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

The Baptism of the Lord - January 09, 2022



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

Father Dennis Backer, Pastor



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

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 stlukafaithandlife@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 weekend we are celebrating the Baptism of the Lord. From time to time someone will ask me about why Jesus needed to be Baptized? When we are Baptized, we are changed, we are cleansed from origin sin. Jesus did not have the stain of origin sin, when He was Baptized, He changed the waters of Baptism. In our Gospel today, John again talks about the "one mightier than I is coming." John never pointed to himself, he always pointed to Christ. Our own Baptism permanently connects us to Christ.

I have always felt strongly about Baptism. One, that it should not be taken lightly. Parents and God Parents stand up before God and His Church stating that they are willing to raise the child in the faith. This is no small statement. I wonder sometimes how true the "We are!" is. I remember Baptizing one of my niece's babies. My nephew was standing up as God Father. We got up to the house following for the lunch/party. He said to me, "So how did I do?" I looked right at him and said, "Your job has just begun. What we did today was the ceremony, your role of God Father just started today." I love the ceremony for Baptism, but fear too many see it as beginning and end, it is just a beginning.

Some of you know that I keep a book in my office that holds the names of all of those I have Baptized into a relationship with Jesus Christ. I say a prayer every day for those I have baptized. My first Baptism was as a transitional Deacon on July 2, 2006 at the parish where I was placed for my summer deacon program. Her name was Madeline Ann, and I still hear from this young couple and hope after Covid to get together with them. By the way, Madeline was recently confirmed. Madeline may have been my first, but Flora Lynn was my most recent and #233 in my book. I will forever feel connected to those children and adults I have baptized.

On the other side it is special too. The priest who baptized me and who I am named after, had moved over to the Green Bay Diocese in the 80's. As I was entering seminary I reached out to try and let him know I was studying to become a priest. I received a nice ordination card from him at my first parish. Just a few years ago I was at a seminar at King's House and one of the speakers was from the Green Bay Diocese, so I asked if he knew him. He said, "Yes, he just died." I so wish I would have made a stronger effort to get over and see him. I contacted the parish he had been serving in his retirement. Expressing my condolences. A few months later I was contacted by them stating that since He was an only child, the Diocese and the closest living relatives, wished to pass on to me his ordination chalice. I was and still am deeply touched to be able to have and use this chalice that he received from his parents when he was ordained (a year before I was born).

Do you remember your baptism? Unless you were an adult when you were baptized, you likely do not remember. Parents, share stories with your children about what you remember about their baptism. Celebrate the date of baptism, it was a second birthday of sorts. I always remember my baptism date, January 1st, when I was young I thought people were staying up until midnight to wish me a Happy Baptism date. I know better now. I think we need to make an effort to see Baptism as important as it really is.

Lastly, this last month has been full of early bulletin deadlines. It is so hard to write weeks in advance. So, I would like to take this chance to thank all of you for the Christmas Greetings, cards, or gifts. I try my best to get Thank You cards written and sent, but know sometimes it gets missed. This year one of my Thank-you's is for someone who wished to remain anonymous.

Blessings to all of you as we start this new year.
Father Backer



[Pope Francis' monthly prayer intention](#) –Month of January 2022
-For true human fraternity-We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

Prayer Service for Life Saturday, January 22, 10:30 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul This prayer service commemorates the millions of lives lost to abortion and the many women and men wounded by abortion's aftermath. All are invited and welcome. Saint John Paul II Champions for Life Awardees will be recognized during the prayer service. This event is sponsored by the Office of Marriage, Family and Life. For more information visit archspm.org/prayer-service-life or call 651.291.4488.

Here are the details for the January 22nd bus:
Diocesan buses are being coordinated in several locations. A free-will offering will be accepted on several of the buses to help defer the cost of the bus. The bus from St. Luke's will be leaving promptly at 9:05 am. Please arrive at 8:50 am. Please sign up in the gathering area to assure your seat as space is limited. ***Be sure to dress warmly and bring a bag lunch.***

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

The feast of the Baptism of the Lord celebrates the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. We know that, because Jesus was born without sin, he did not really need to be baptized. And yet, Jesus has John the Baptist baptize him as an example for all of us and as a sign of his true identity. He is God's son, the living presence of God on earth. He is true God and true man. The Gospels tell us that Jesus was a human man whose goal was to discern and do God's will and to bring others along with him to grow in Faith and Love for his Father. Jesus had lived an ordinary life and worked with his hands as a carpenter. Then one day, he joined the tax collectors, soldiers and throngs of ordinary people going to John. He identified himself with their hopes and needs. Jesus loved all the people whom he served and journeyed with the people who desired a radical return to God for themselves and their world. When we renew our baptismal promises, we proclaim our belief in the waters of baptism and our new and ongoing life in Christ. Baptism is so important, and it's a great thing to make sure that our children truly understand. One thing we can do to get across the importance of Baptism to our kids is to celebrate their Baptism anniversary. Look up their Baptism date, put it on the calendar, and make them a cake. Also, light their Baptism candle at dinner. Provide some holy water for everyone to bless themselves, and renew their Baptismal promises. Teach them what we are taught in the Catechism of the Catholic church "Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

Thank You! Thank you! The 7th grade youth served in various ministries today! It is always such a joy to see our young people serve the Lord. Thank you 7th grade Class!

2nd grade parents: On January 22nd from 10:00am-12:00pm we will have a work shop and then our 2nd graders will make their first reconciliation. Parents are to attend with their child. This is truly a day to celebrate as you and your child receive the mercy of God through the sacrament of Reconciliation

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.

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.

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.

Wednesday Women's study group: Jeff Cavin's Study on the Book of James. Looking for an anchor to hold you steady through the storms of life? Want the secret to finding joy in the midst of trials? Interested in learning to recognize the source of discord and the way to peace? James, one of the most practical books of the Bible, is a collection of teachings on issues faced by ordinary Christians in everyday life. This is an 11 week study beginning January 19th from 8:45-10:15 am. The cost is \$30. Please see information and sign up in gathering area.

Wednesday evening adult Bible Study: Study on the Book of James. Looking for an anchor to hold you steady through the storms of life? Want the secret to finding joy in the midst of trials? Interested in learning to recognize the source of discord and the way to peace? James, one of the most practical books of the Bible, is a collection of teachings on issues faced by ordinary Christians in everyday life. This is an 11 week study beginning January 19th from 6:45-8:00pm. Bring your kids to Faith formation and take part in this study. Enjoy fellowship and grow in the Faith. The cost is \$30. Please see information and sign up in gathering area

2022 WINE: Catholic Women's Conference Saturday, February 26, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Holy Family Catholic Church, Saint Louis Park The WINE: Catholic Women's Conference with emcee Alyssa Bormes begins with Mass, followed with music by Caroline Metzinger and inspirational talks by Kelly Wahlquist (WINE founder); Liz Kelly (Catholic author & retreat leader); Leah Jacobson (the Wholistic Feminist); and Alicia Donovan (Biblical beekeeper). The day includes prayer with prayer teams, confession, adoration, laughter, lunch, shopping, CHOCOLATE, and a fun raffle! Register at wineconference.org by February 1 for \$55 for the Saturday conference or \$100 for the Saturday conference plus a special Friday Gathering (open to 200 women.)

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, January 4th

8:00 am †Delores Hinkemeyer

Wednesday, January 5th

8:00 am †Pam Boardman

Thursday, January 6th

8:00 am †Douglas A. White

Friday, January 7th

8:00 am †Fr. Ralph Haur

Saturday, January 8th

9:00 am †Lenny Schill

Saturday, January 8th

5:00 pm †Arlan Schlagel

Sunday, January 9th

8:00 am †Clarence Klnkner

10:00 am Parishioners

Minister's Schedule For January 15th & 16th

The Ministry Heads will be
Contacting Volunteers to Minister.

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.

What to do with those old Christmas and all occasion cards...

A parishioner has offered to collect the cards and mail them to St. Jude Hospital. The patients use the face of the cards to make placemats. A basket will be on the table in the gathering space the weekends of January 9th, 16th, and 23rd. Please drop your cards in the basket at your convenience. Thank you for your support of this wonderful cause!

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



The Food Shelf Coordinator wishes to thank the parishioners of St. Luke for donating 119 lbs. of food during the month of December. We truly appreciate your gifts.

Please Join in Welcoming Bishop-elect Joseph Williams On December 10, Pope Francis named Father Joseph Williams, a priest of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, as Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. The ordination of Joseph Williams to the Episcopacy will take place Tuesday, January 25, the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. The ordination will be livestreamed on the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis' Facebook page. Time to be announced. Learn more about Bishop-elect Williams, watch video interviews, and find details on the ordination at archspm.org/newbishop. Please join us in praying for our new auxiliary bishop!

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Readings for the week of January 09, 2022

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk
2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/
1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

St. Luke's Calendar

Monday, January 10th
6:30 pm Cavins Bible Study
Tuesday, January 11th
8:30 am Quilting
7:00 pm KC Planning Meeting
Wednesday, January 12th
6:45 pm Faith Formation
Thursday, January 13th
7:00 pm Liturgy Meeting

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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 Ron Shatek, Grand Knight
 rdshadrack@gmail.com
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 KofC meeting reminder:
 4th Thursday each month

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