

ST IGNATIUS & ST LUKE'S

26 December 2021



CONFESSIONS

Saturday 9-9:45 am

in the chapel

(in the church on 1st Saturdays)

3:30-4:15 pm

in the church

Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm

in the church

MASSES

Saturday 4:30 pm [anticipated]

Sunday 8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am

Daily Mass *in the chapel*

Monday-Friday at 9 am

Saturday at 10 am

(First Saturdays in the church)

HOLY HOURS

*confessions &
eucharistic adoration
in the church*

Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm

First Saturday 9 am

(followed by Mass at 10 am)

LEONARD LARUE & ROOM IN THE INN

June 17, 2021: The USCCB just voted, minutes ago as I write this, to advance the cause for canonization of Leonard LaRue. He has one of the most amazing stories you've probably never heard.

LaRue was the captain of a ship during the Korean war, the SS Meredith Victory. In late December, the city of Hungnam was to serve as an evacuation point for the troops fighting for South Korea. Some 100,000. Tens of thousands of civilians turned up hoping to be evacuated as well.

Captain LaRue, in what I can only describe as both an act of heroism, and sheer faith in Divine Providence, unloaded practically *all* his weapons and supplies from the ship in order to make as much space as possible for the Korean refugees. They were in the middle of a war zone, and just scuttled their means of defense.

I wonder what went through the heads of the 47 crew members as they did this? And what must have been their thoughts as they considered the available space on their ship? They all would have known precisely how many passengers the ship was designed for: 12. A dozen souls. That was what the ship's designers had intended, anyway.

I'm not sure who named the ship SS Meredith Victory. I don't know if they knew the name "Meredith" is a traditional Welsh name that used to be given, normally, to boys. They may not have not known the name translates as "Mighty Lord."

"For a child is born to us, and a son is given to us, and the government is upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called, Wonderful, Counsellor, God the Mighty, the Father of the world to come, the Prince of Peace."

The ship's name then is "The Mighty Lord's Victory." The Prince of Peace, Our Mighty Lord, was born over 1900 years earlier. In a stable of course because there was no room in the inn.

Capt. LaRue, of course, knew the Christmas story well. He was a man of deep faith. So, on this Christmas, 1950, Capt. LaRue responded to those in need, "we do have room." That is how, on a ship designed for 12 passengers, Capt. LaRue found room for 14,000.

14,000 souls. They would need to travel nearly some 500 miles to safety without supplies, weapons, and barely any food or water. But this was meant to be the victory of the Mighty Lord. Against all odds, on December 26th, the ship arrived in port, safely, without a single injury or casualty. All 14,000 souls, safe and accounted for. Or rather, make that 14,0005. Five babies were born during the trip. It was Christmas.

The journey became known as "The Ship of Miracles." It is the largest humanitarian operation by a single ship in the history of the world. The United States government declared it "the greatest rescue in the history of mankind."

Capt. LaRue would later say "I think often of that voyage. I think of how such a small vessel was able to hold so many persons and surmount endless perils without harm to a soul. And, as I think, the clear, unmistakable message comes to me

that on that Christmastide, in the bleak and bitter waters off the shores of Korea, God's own hand was at the helm of my ship."

Capt. LaRue is to this day beloved by the Korean people. There are an estimated 1 million descendants from the Ship of Miracles. One of those descendants is Moon Jae-in, the president of South Korea; his parents were passengers.

Captain LaRue stayed in command of the Meredith Victory until 1952. In 1954, Captain LaRue, or, should we say Brother Marinus, became a Benedictine monk of St. Paul's Abbey in NJ. He would spend his life as a humble monk, until his death, almost 50 years later in 2001.

Today, if you go to St. Paul's Abbey, where Brother Marinus lived for so many decades, don't be surprised if you hear Korean being spoken. You see, many of the monks there are of Korean descent. In fact, it is actually run by the monks from Waegwan Abbey. Waegwan Abbey, Seoul, South Korea.

The Christmas story is often thought of as an event that once happened long ago, but which we do not participate as players. But I think the Christmas story goes on. Many times in our lives we will have the opportunity to see the Christ Child looking for shelter. One Christmas, in 1950, one man saw the Christ Child and said to Him, "we have room."

From the blog *Between the Paws* by Tim Clark [17 June 2021]

When Brother Marinus was asked what influenced his entering religious life, he summarized it: "To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances. To seek Him the greatest adventure. To find Him, the greatest human achievement."

Brother Marinus also expressed his deep love for the Church and the mission of evangelization. In his correspondence with Bob Lunney,

his friend and shipmate, one reads that "he has accepted recent publicity about that Christmas voyage only because there is such a tremendous need for vocations throughout the world." And in the same letter he stated, "Our Lord has recommended the single life to those who can stand it but it takes the assistance of the sacraments for an individual to live a virtuous life [...] the more we attend Mass, the more we receive Holy Communion, the more Christ like we become and the more Masses will speak for us on our judgment day. Our Lord wants us to be daily communicants and if you have never done so, I would urge you to do so... you do not know what you are missing until you do. It will completely change your whole life and put things in their proper perspective."



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS *All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick:*

Barbara Jo Russell, Marie Norment, Andy Luther, Paula Luther, Marian Luther, Harold Joyce, Levi Harris, Gary Schenk, Joanne Newsom, Anne Marie Whitaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Domingo G., Adrian and Barbara.; D.K.C.,M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list. Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

If you would like to support the parish ministry of hospitality by cooking dinner or donating a takeout meal to new mothers, by preparing finger foods for after-service receptions, or by making food for funeral repasts, please contact the parish office at stlukesdordinariate@gmail.com or office@saint-ig.org; we will give your contact information to our hospitality organizers.

SATURDAY, THE 1ST OF JANUARY, is the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God. Because it falls on a Saturday in 2022, it is *not* a holyday of obligation this year. We will observe the usual Saturday Mass schedule, with Masses at 10 am and 4:30 pm. Because it is a first Saturday there will be the 9 am holy hour before the 10 am Mass. All of these liturgies are in the church.

SCHEDULE ADDITIONS

We have added a Holy Hour of confessions and eucharistic adoration in the church every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm and every 1st Saturday at 9 am. Come spend some time with the Lord.

PARISH CALENDARS

The parish calendars for 2022 are here. Pick one up in the narthex on your way out of Mass.

MONTHLY PARISH MEETING

We will be resuming [after a lengthy pandemic hiatus] our monthly parish meetings on the second Saturday of the month.

So join us on Saturday January 8th at 10 am in the school auditorium for coffee, doughnuts, and a discussion of what we can do to grow as a parish.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, 26 December

The Feast of the Holy Family

8 am pro populo

9:30 am Bernice Newman + [anniversary commemoration]

11 am Carmen Delaney + [St. John Fisher Council KOC]

Monday, 27 December

John, Apostle and Evangelist

9 am Emily Guinivan

Tuesday, 28 December

Holy Innocents, Martyrs

9 am special intention [S. White]

Wednesday, 29 December

Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

9 am Jose Manlapaz + [Susie Martinez]

Thursday, 30 December

Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

9 am Rev. Paul Herbert +

Friday, 31 December

Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas

Sylvester I, Pope

9 am special intention [Rafael A. Madan]

Saturday, 1 January

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

10 am Rev. Arthur Woolley + [Jane and Steve Lawrence]

Mary, Holy Mother of God and Anticipated Mass for Sunday

4:30 pm Yolande Caron +

Sunday, 2 January

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD *[observed]*

8 am Rev. Michael Birch +

9:30 am Rev. Lowell Andrews +

11 am pro populo

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Jackie Chancio ♦ Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville ♦ Clifford Woods

office@saint-ig.org

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Rev. Jason Catania, parochial vicar

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Ada Okafor ♦ Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford ♦ Dave Hoppe

David Lewis ♦ Franco Madan

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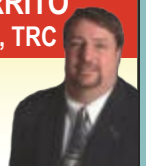


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