

saint luke catholic church

westport ct



1 may 2022



Who we are and what we strive for...

In the spirit of our Patron, Saint Luke,
our Parish Mission is:

- ✧ To be a welcoming and hospitable community to all;
- ✧ To enrich the hearts, minds and lives of those who seek to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ in the Roman Catholic tradition;
- ✧ To be faithful in prayer, in spiritual renewal, in stewardship and in compassionate outreach.

VISIT US ON THE web AT
WWW.SAINTLUKEWESTPORT.ORG

Religious Formation Office

PHONE: 203-226-0729 • FAX: 203-226-5446

SAINT LUKE PARISH CENTER

49 N. TURKEY HILL ROAD, WESTPORT, CT 06880

Hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Mrs. Jacqueline Frusciante— Coordinator
e-mail: stluke-reo@optonline.net

Mrs. Jean Coleman — Office Assistant

Parish Office E-MAIL: stluke@optonline.net

PHONE: 203-227-7245 • FAX: 203-226-8063

SAINT LUKE RECTORY

84 LONG LOTS ROAD, WESTPORT, CT 06880

Office Hours: M to F, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Reverend Kumar Xavariapitchai
Administrator

e-mail: frudaya@gmail.com

Dr. Brian J. Kelly, Ph.D.— Deacon
e-mail: brian9887@att.net

Mr. Stephen J. Hodson — Deacon
e-mail: dnhodson@diobpt.org

Judy Torska — Parish Secretary

Mary Blake — Receptionist (M & W)

Lay Members of the Parish Corporation ("Trustees")

Mr. Edmund Bagnulo

Mrs. Joanne Landino

Pastoral Advisory Council Chair

Mr. Peter Anstett — peter@anstett.org

Parish Finance Council Chair

Youth Ministry Office PHONE: 203-222-0205

Ms. Debbie Toner, Youth Minister

e-mail: SLYGroup@optonline.net

Music Ministry Staff PHONE: 203-227-7245

Mr. Leon Bernard — Minister of Music

Mrs. Marguerite Hastings — Assistant Organist

Outreach Ministries

e-mail: stluke-outreach@optonline.net

Sr. Maureen Fleming, SSND PHONE: 203-222-0478
— Coordinator of Pastoral Outreach Activities

Pastoral Counseling Services

Dr. Brian J. Kelly, Ph.D. PHONE: 203-373-9753

◇ Individual, Family and Marriage

◇ Certified in Neuro-Feedback Therapy

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday, 5:30 pm

Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word at 9:00 am & 11:00 am Masses

WEEKDAY MASS: 8:00 am, Monday through Saturday 8:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday, 4:30 to 5:15 pm, or by appointment

BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS: Please call the Rectory Office; see our website for more information

Dear Saint Luke
Parish Family...



From Father's Desk

Dear Parish Family,

I hope you are enjoying these Spring days. It was good to see many people coming to receive the Sacrament of the Sick for healing and strength last weekend.

BTW, we had beautiful celebration of the Holy Week and Easter. I want to thank the special people who have shared their time and talents to make our Holy Week and Easter celebrations beautiful and wonderful. Let us acknowledge all these wonderful people according to their ministries:

Flower and Decoration Committee

Ushers and Greeters

Lectors

Eucharistic Ministers

Musicians and Cantors

Participants in the Living Stations of the Cross

Saint Luke Parish Staff

Thank you one and all for being so dedicated to serving the people of our parish in our prayer together. And I thank each and everyone of you who came to pray with us and participated in the liturgies of these Holy days. A special word of thanks to St. Matthew's youth group members who participated in the Living Stations of the Cross at our Parish.

Please know that I am praying for you and your families. I look forward to "doing more business with you" in the coming days.

May the **Peace**, **Love**, **Joy** and **Hope** of the Risen Lord continue to be with you now and always!

Father Kumar

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Robert Aurrichio, Margie Camina, Maria Casale, Karen Clarke, Carolyn Craig, Albert Devejian, Al DiLardi, Jay Francis, Debbie Greer, Matthew Kokoska, Christina Muller, Elaine Pignuolo, Barbara Pizarro, Eric Ratajczak, Matthew Raymond, Dr. Anthony Santomauro, Jean Schiavone, John Sexton, Ann Sposito, Marie Stapkowski, Jean Steinschneider, Caroline Trifoletti, John Watkins, Marie Veno, Aggie Veno, Dr. John Williams, Princess Williams, all those who suffer from the Corona Virus,

we pray for those who put their lives in jeopardy on our behalf, service men and women, police, fire fighters, EMTs, and first responders

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

GEORGE FRANCISOVICH

Husband of Linda Franciscovich

BRAD HAMMER

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the two men who became Catholics at the Easter Vigil here.

**JAMES DOAN
JOHN ZADROZNY**

We welcome you!!!!

FAMILY HOSPITALITY NOTES

- ✘ A **television monitor** is available in the hallway for families whose child might be having a restless day that would disturb other worshipers.
- ✘ A **baby-changing table** is located in the handicapped lavatory.

A Reminder and Invitation to parishioners and guests who may have limited mobility...

We want to make it as easy as possible for you to participate fully in the Mass, especially in receiving communion.

We suggest that the best way to facilitate this is that you choose a place in the front pew on either side or in the areas with the blue chairs to the right or left of the sanctuary. The side seating option seems to be the most convenient place for those of you who use wheelchairs, and serves as a visual reminder to our Eucharistic Ministers.

If it is difficult for you to make your way to these areas, please notify one of the ushers, who will then convey your request to one of the Eucharistic Ministers. We're so happy to have you with us in our prayer!

Also... please remember that gluten-free hosts can be available for you by request to the priest before Mass.



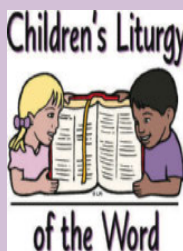
CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

We have resumed the Children's Liturgy at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses except for Sundays when they have the Family Mass.

Until all children can be vaccinated, we must make a couple of new rules and hopefully they will be temporary. First, all children coming to the Children's Liturgy **MUST** wear masks and all children 4 years old and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

For those new to the parish, for the Children's Liturgy we take children out of church before the readings so they can hear the Gospel and a homily on their own level. They return to the church after the Prayers of the Faithful, during the Preparation of the Gifts. All children are welcome, even non parishioners.

If you have any questions, you can call Judy at the parish office, 203-227-7245 or e-mail us at stluke@optonline.net.



***New to the area?
Just moved in?***

Get life in your new home off to a good start! Fr. Kumar would be happy to visit and bless your home and your family. Just call the office (227-7245) to arrange a convenient time.



NEW HORIZONS AWAKENING

On Tuesday, May 10, our Seniors' group here at Saint Luke Parish will hold our annual membership breakfast. We will begin with Mass at 8:00 am in the church and then convene in the Community Room for a delicious hot breakfast catered by Sr. Maureen.

All parishioners 55 and older are most cordially invited to join us. Our programs include the 4 phases of commitment that Msgr. Andy outlined for us: spiritual, intellectual, social and service. For these purposes we meet four times a year for friendship, lunch and programs.

Annual dues are \$15.00 and can be sent to our treasurer, Joe Boggio, 48 Westfair Drive, Westport, CT 06880.

In order to assist Sr. Maureen in planning for the breakfast kindly call or send your dues to Joe Boggio.



Candle Stand Attendants Needed

Because people's situations change, we are again in need of people to help with cleaning our candle stand. If you are interested please call the parish office, 203-227-7245 or email us at stluke@optonline.net
THANK YOU!!



GRAB AND GO MEALS

We have to share with you how grateful and enthusiastic the staff of both New Covenant Center and Thomas Merton Center (both organizations of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Bridgeport) are when we deliver 100 Grab and Go Meals five times a month. They know the need is great.

Join us. Make 25 sandwiches at home once a month, add a snack and water. Meet us at St Luke. (Easy)
contact: Jeannestewart423@gmail.com





Gospel Reading – Third Sunday of Easter

John 21:1-19 Jesus appears to the disciples for a third time after his Resurrection and shares a meal with them.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In Lectionary Cycle C, our Sunday Gospels are usually taken from the Gospel of Luke. The Gospels for the Easter Season, however, are taken from the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel is one of the post-Resurrection appearances reported by John. Recall that in John's Gospel, Jesus appears first to Mary of Magdala, second to all of the disciples except Thomas, and finally to Thomas and the disciples (which we heard last Sunday). After those appearances, John's Gospel seems to conclude with a reference to other signs that Jesus gave after his Resurrection, which have not been recorded.

Because it follows this apparent conclusion, most scholars believe today's Gospel passage (and all of John 21) to have been an addition to John's original text. Because there are significant differences between this report and the other appearances described in John's Gospel, it is quite likely that this story is from a different source. There are details in the story that recall Jesus' call to Simon Peter and the other fishermen as well as the miraculous catch of fish (found in the Gospel of Luke, with parallels in the other Synoptic Gospels). The end of the chapter, where Jesus asks Peter three times whether he loves him, most likely is meant to represent the reconciliation that occurred between the community represented by John's Gospel with the larger Christian community represented by Peter. This Gospel reading is a rich and textured story that speaks of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and our commission to serve others as Jesus did. Last week we heard that Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room, probably in Jerusalem. In today's Gospel, the disciples are no longer in Jerusalem; they are in Galilee, returning to their work of fishing. Simon Peter is still presented in the role of leader: when

he announces that he is going fishing, the other disciples follow. They spend the night fishing but are unsuccessful. Jesus calls to them from the shore, but just as when Jesus first appeared to Mary of Magdala, the disciples do not recognize him immediately. Still, they follow the stranger's instructions and bring in a large haul of fish. It is at this point that one of the disciples (the "disciple whom Jesus loved") realizes that Jesus is appearing to them. Upon hearing this news, Simon Peter leads the way again, jumping from the boat and swimming to shore. The other disciples follow in the boat, dragging the fish. The disciples have brought to shore a tremendous catch of fish that Jesus has directed them to find. But once on the shore, they see that Jesus has already prepared fish and bread on a charcoal fire. Jesus directs the disciples to bring their catch of fish as well. Jesus is host at the meal that follows, feeding the disciples the bread and fish. In this detail we see allusions to the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes told in John 6.

There are also allusions in the Gospel to our gathering for the celebration of the Mass. In the Eucharist, we too are fed by Jesus in the bread and wine that have become his very Body and Blood. We also find in this story insight about the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass. The gifts we bring to the altar, bread and wine, are made from gifts that God gave first to us: grain and grapes, the fruit of the earth. God has no need of anything further. Yet God accepts the offering we bring—bread and wine, "the work of human hands"—and transforms our offering into the gift of his very presence.

After the meal, Jesus directs himself to Simon Peter. The community of John's Gospel probably looked down on Peter because of his denial of Jesus. This dialogue with Simon Peter is a reversal of Peter's three denials. Peter is forgiven. Having been restored to friendship with Jesus, Simon Peter is sent on a mission. "Feed my lambs . . . Tend my sheep . . . Feed my sheep." These commands indicate that Peter is to be as Jesus, even unto sacrificing for the flock. As Jesus has fed Peter in this meal and as Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, so he also sends us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice.

(Sunday Connection – Loyola Press)

Upcoming:

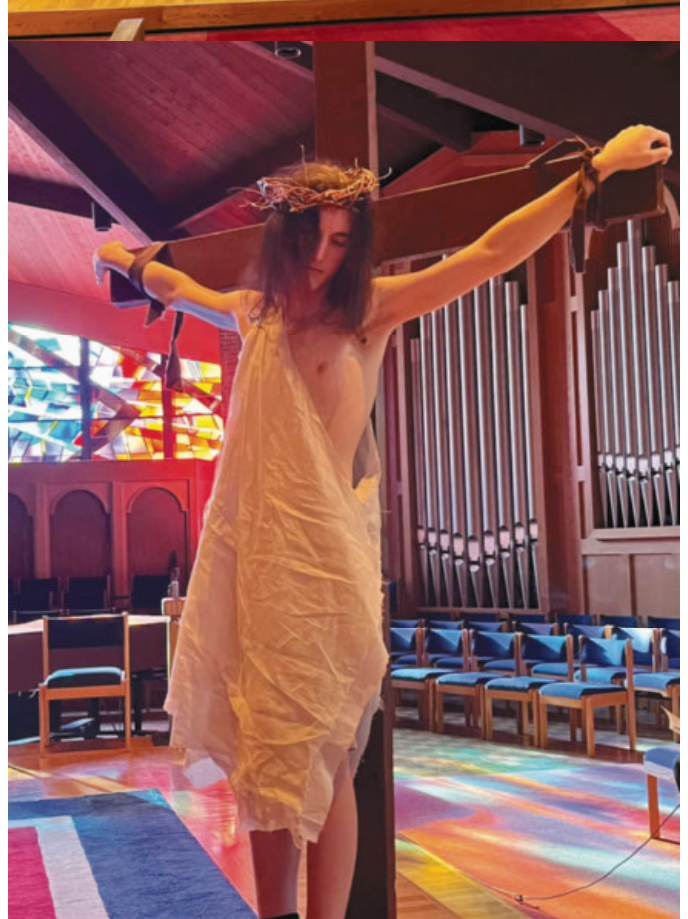
Grade 2 **First Eucharist**
Saturday, May 7th - 10:00 am

Grades K-8 Family Mass hosted by Grade 2 and
Crowning of the Blessed Mother
Sunday, May 8th – 9:00 am

YOUTH GROUP

Behind the Scenes on Good Friday

23 teens spent Good Friday at the church to rehearse and perform Living Stations. This year Saint Matthews in Norwalk sent five teens to participate and be ambassadors with the hope of offering Living Stations to their parish next year. We were so blessed to be able to work side by side and it meant so much to have their youth minister and pastor come. Such a beautiful show of support knowing it was our first year without Monsignor. I would like to thank all of the teens who were involved in Living Stations and my love and gratitude to Laura Reid. Laura brought this beautiful version to our parish when she was youth minister; she returns each year to prepare and direct the students on Good Friday.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEP-ER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

May 1, 2022, 3rd Sunday of Easter

Could it be that God's image has become so soiled and distorted that it is hard for us to see it? Our self-serving agendas have done a great job twisting God's image into what profits us. We want our agenda to be God's agenda and use prayer as the convincing leverage we need. Worse still, our success and egocentric agenda often erases God's image completely, replacing it with our own. St. Oscar Romero instructs us that the Son of Man "dies on the cross to cleanse God's image, which is soiled in today's humanity, a humanity so enslaved, so selfish, so sinful." Striving to preserve control of our destinies at all costs, we fail to see the risen suffering servant, the Christ, standing right beside us. Jesus, who suffered and died on a cross and was raised from the dead, corrects our soiled image of God. He shows us God as God is, not who we want to make God to be. God is the God of the poor, the weak, and the marginalized. He is the God who tenderly caresses us when we are suffering and hurting, assuring us that all will be safe and well. He is the God of equity, peace, justice, and compassion who wants happiness for each of His children, desiring their wellbeing and success. God goes where men and women are afraid to go, sitting with the lost, the broken, and the sorrowing. St. Oscar Romero challenges us to illuminate with "Christ's light ... even the most hideous caverns of the human person: torture, jail, plunder, want, chronic illness. The oppressed must be saved." The resurrection calls us to be God's microphone, a messenger, and a prophet (St. Oscar Romero). Using eyes that see beyond the limited constructs and desires of our world, we can see the true and real Jesus standing before us, calling us to transformation and change. Asking us more than once, "do you love me?" We are beckoned to give an answer. Answering in the affirmative, it is now our task to feed the sheep and the lambs who belong to God. In short, equipped with the power of the resurrection and a corrected image of God our task is to make things better, brighter, holier, more life-giving, and just for all of God's children. Considering our choices, our interactions, our philosophies, and aspirations, how can we do this?

©LPi



Notre Dame High School, Fairfield, CT, is proud to announce the return of the "Garlic Fest" on Friday, May 13 (5pm-10pm), Saturday, May 14 (Noon - 10 pm) and Sunday, May 15 (Noon - 5 pm).

Join us for an array of food trucks, beverages, craft and food vendors, the Garlic Bites children's entertainment area with games and amusement rides, bingo and live music for adults and children.

For more information please visit NDgarlicfest.com or contact Karen Guastelle at kguastelle@notredame.org.

VIRTUS TRAINING

All volunteers serving in the Diocese of Bridgeport - that have not yet been trained - are required to attend a VIRTUS training program and clear a criminal background check. These safeguards are required for all volunteers, even those who DO NOT have scheduled contact with children. It is everyone's responsibility to help keep the children and our parish safe. Included in these requirements are Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, members of the Choir, Religious Education Teachers, and volunteers at all various Parish Events. Everyone plays a role in protecting the children in our parish.

All volunteers need to attend so that together we can all "Protect God's Children." Materials will be provided. Please, if you have not yet attended a VIRTUS course, please sign up by visiting www.Virtusonline.com to pre-register. Select FIRST TIME REGISTRANT, BEGIN REGISTRATION and be sure to select BRIDGEPORT DIOCESE as your organization.

Thank you for your willingness to help us Protect God's Children.



IGNATION PRAYER GROUP

Deacon Brian Kelly will be hosting an Ignation Prayer Group on Wednesdays at 7PM on Zoom. To access look up Zoom and the meeting number is: 881 4394 4880. All are welcome to share in this wonderful experience. For further information please contact Deacon Brian Kelly at bjk111640@gmail.com.

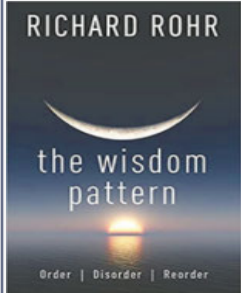


RICHARD ROHR

SAINT LUKE BOOK STUDY GROUP

Our Saint Luke Book Study Group is discussing the book "The Wisdom Pattern" by Richard Rohr this year. The sessions are held every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Kindly contact Fr. Kumar at 203-227-7245 or email: frudaya@gmail.com.



Interested in the Catholic Faith?

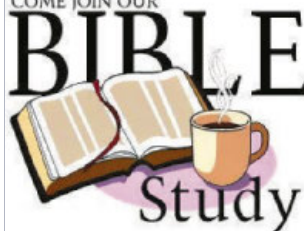
Do you have questions about what Catholics believe and how Catholics practice their faith? Do you or a relative, neighbor or friend have an interest in the Catholic Church? Saint Luke Parish provides an ongoing process for those interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church. Please know that you or they can contact Sister Maureen Fleming at 222-0478 for more information. We are happy to welcome inquirers at any time of the year.

FAITH FORUM

Faith Forum is in its 28th year. It meets on Zoom at 9:30 am. Beginning April 5, Faith Forum will be having a 4 or 5 week session on the Sacraments on zoom. Please contact Deacon Brian Kelly at 203-373-9753 or bjk111640@gmail.com if you wish to participate.



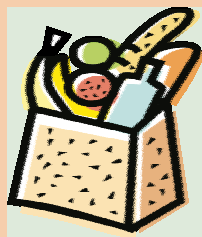
COME JOIN OUR



Bible Study

Bible Study on Zoom Monday evenings at 7:30 pm via Zoom. Meeting code: 846 6638 1270, Admission Code: 348 744

Last year we had about 20 people participate. Some from places like Texas, Maryland, Virginia, and Massachusetts. We are studying the Prophets. All are welcome so if you have friends or relatives who might be interested just ask them to let me know by email at bjk111640@gmail.com.



Hunger doesn't take a vacation...

PARISH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

"When I was hungry, you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me; sick and you visited me; in prison and you came to see me."

— Matthew 25:35-37

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CANNED GREEN BEANS	CANNED CORN
FRUIT JUICES	

Gift Certificates are always welcome!

Please bring one of these items to church with you on ANY WEEKEND. Please watch the expiration dates on items. Board of Health regulations forbid the use of expired items.

People of Hope

The Institute for Catholic Formation will host a 31-day formation event in May. More than 70 workshops will be offered throughout the week (day and evening) in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. The Rosary will be recited each night.

More information can be found at:

Formationreimagined.org

WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS

a part of our Flock!



Keep in touch with us via email and text!

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Call Today! Reach out to Robin Ungaro at 203-747-5671.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Gifts in Disguise

Have you ever opened a gift and wondered what the giver was thinking?

I won't call out any of my family or friends here, but suffice to say, I think we have all been the confused recipient of a sweater that wasn't our size or a gift card to a store where we don't shop. But we smiled all the same and said how much it meant to us, because we know that when it comes to gifts, it's all about the gesture.

Suffering is a lot like that — the gift you never asked for, and don't really want to receive. Sometimes we look at suffering and, like the apostles who see Jesus as a stranger on the shore, we don't recognize it for what it can be. We don't appreciate the catalyst suffering can be for change, for growth, for grace.

What was the gift that you received in disguise? Was it a relationship that confounded and frustrated you? Was it a job that tested your spirit? An obstacle that stopped you dead in your tracks? A rejection that threatened to break your spirit?

If I go back and look at the worst gifts I've ever gotten, chances are that I didn't like them because I didn't know what to do with them — they were more fitted for someone else's interests, someone else's life. It's the same with suffering. We're tempted to cast suffering aside when it comes our way because it doesn't fit the person we are. Suffering is made to fit the person God knows we have the ability, with His grace, to become.

Hang onto that suffering. Unlike the misshapen sweater, it really will come in handy.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MT

DO YOU KNOW?

We have a group of needle workers who meet here at Saint Luke Church. The Fairfield County chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild meet on the fourth Monday of the month.

If you are interested in joining them to learn new needlework skills, practice old ones and have camaraderie with like-minded needle workers call the parish office. Or if you would like more information about this group or becoming a member please email us at: mlette_97@yahoo.com.





Dear Parish Family,

The 2022 Bishop's Appeal provides the funds for the pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Bridgeport. This year's theme, **A Bridge Home**, highlights hope, renewal and evangelization in our Diocese and invests in services that continue to engage those in their faith and build a strong bridge to so many who are struggling. I am sure you have received your appeal mailing. Please take time to read the information and prayerfully consider giving a sacrificial gift to the campaign.

This weekend April 30/May 1, we will watch a short video of the bishop's appeal and fill out the pledge envelopes for the in-pew appeal.

This year our parish goal is 185,500.00. Your gifts big and small will go a long way in supporting the different ministries of our diocese. So, please consider supporting the bishop's appeal 2022 and help achieve our goal. **Every dollar contributed above our goal comes back to help fund the operational and maintenance needs of OUR PARISH, of which there are many.**

May the Peace of the Lord be with you and your families!

Father Kumar



LAST CALL!!! We thank our parishioners who have shared their thoughts via email, through one-on-one sessions and at the group listening sessions for the Synod on Synodality. It has been enlightening and encouraging to hear the experiences of our parishioners on their faith journey, as well as their hopes and vision for the future of the Church. A draft summary of your collected input in these sessions has been shared with the St. Luke community via Flocknote. If you would like to offer any additional input to our draft summary, kindly email your thoughts on your journey with the church or any questions you may have

to stlukesynod@gmail.com or drop your input in writing on paper in the drop box available in the gathering space by **Sunday, May 8th**. We will submit our final summary to the diocese the following week. Thanks again for your time and for sharing your thoughts with us!

St. Luke Synod Delegates

Anupam Martins anupam.martins@gmail.com

Bob Clair bobclair@kpmg.com

Jeanne Stewart jeannestewart423@gmail.com

Josh Auxier jauxierjd@gmail.com

Maria O'Kelly mokelly@optonline.net

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Saturday, April 30

5:30 pm Catherine Feane

Sunday, May 1

3rd Sunday of Easter

7:30 am Venerina Mioli

9:00 am Christiano Family

11:00 am Ann Kos

5:30 pm For All our Parishioners

Monday, May 2

St Athanasius

8:00 am All Souls

Tuesday, May 3

Sts Philip & James

8:00 am Msgr. Andy Varga

Wednesday, May 4

8:00 am Mary & Anthony D'Elia & Family

Thursday, May 5

8:00 am Peter Vilenski

Friday, May 6

8:00 am Peter Vilensji

Saturday, May 7

8:00 am Intentions of Kathy Vogt

5:30 pm Virginia Hopper

Sunday, May 1

4th Sunday of Easter

7:30 am For All our Parishioners

9:00 am Yolanda & Antonio Cipollone

11:00 am Teresa Fariello

5:30 pm Lawrence McMahon

Parish Budget Report

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED 14,327

Weekend of April 24 2022

Church Collection 2,000

Allowance for Credit Cards 2,747

Mail-Ins 2,505

PayPal 1,980

TOTAL 9,232

Catholic Home Missions 876

*Please remember Saint Luke Parish
in your estate planning.*

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for more information: 203-227-7245

Readings for the Week of May 1

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Rv 5:11-14/

Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Jn 6:60-69

Next Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 [3c]/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30

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