saínt lake catholíc charch westport ct



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.

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

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

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...



HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY "God created mothers because He could not

be everywhere" Jewish proverb

Our special love and gratitude go out to all our Moms, Grandmoms, Great-Grandmoms (and all those who play the role of Mothers) on this Mother's Day.

By God's special calling and choosing, you (together with Dad, of course!) have given us the gift of life and taught us what selfless love is. As mothers, you especially teach us what nurture and compassion mean. May God bless you abundantly for all your goodness, give you wisdom and good health, and bless you with long life and every happiness.

May all our Mothers who have returned home to the Lord now find the everlasting reward of their many labors in Heaven's rest and peace!

A prayer for Mothers

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Peace, Love Joy and Hope of the Risen Lord continue to be with you and with your families 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 Pignuola, Barbara Pisarro, Eric Ratajczak, Matthew Raymond, Dr. Anthony Santomauro, Jean Schiavone, John Sexton, Ann Sposito, Marie Stapkowski, Jean Steinschneider, Caroline Trifoletti, 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

PRISCILLA MULLEN Mother of Jack Mullen

BILL HUSTON Brother-in-law of Louis Pietig

> LARRY AIKEN Former Parishioner

BAPTISMAL CONGRATULATIONS

MCKENNA SHEA LYNCH SOLANA GAYLE LYNCH Children of Timothy & Kaitlyn Lynch

NOELLE DAVINA HYATT Daughter of Andrew & Tracy Hyatt



The 2023 Mass Book Has Arrived!

The 2023 Mass Book is

now available. Please stop by at the Parish Office and book your Masses for 2023. There is only one name or family per Mass and they are booked on a first come first serve basis. Please note also that there are still many Masses open for 2022.



READERS, USHERS, DONATION COUNTERS, CHILDRENS' LITURGY OF THE WORD CATE-CHISTS, HELP WITH PARISH EVENTS, COM-MITTEES, and many other positions.

Please call the Parish office, 203-227-7245 or email us at stluke@optonline.net.

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.

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.

NEW HORIZONS AWAKENING

This Tuesday, May 10, our Seniors' group here at Saint Luke Parish will hold our an-



nual 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 Bog-

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



GRAB AND GO MEALS

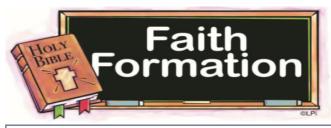
We have to share with you how grateful and enthusiastic the staff of both New



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

RELIGIOUS FORMATION





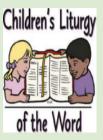
Gospel Reading – Fourth Sunday of Easter John 10:27-30 Jesus describes his care for his sheep. Background on the Gospel Reading The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel is taken from the tenth chapter of the Gospel of John. This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge to his authority by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders. Already, the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angered that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31 and 10:39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

Set in a moment of tension and conflict in John's Gospel, today's Gospel reading is Jesus' answer to the question, "Are you the Messiah?" Jesus responds by saying, in essence, "If you have to ask, then you are not one of my sheep." Then Jesus asserts his unity with the Father. At the conclusion of these words, John reports that the Jews intend to stone Jesus for blasphemy, but he escapes arrest. We may be less familiar with the metaphors of sheep and shepherd than those to whom Jesus spoke. The image of Jesus as Good Shepherd and the community of followers as his sheep has endured over the centuries as a primary image in our faith tradition. Its power to describe the relationship between Jesus and his followers transcends direct experience with sheep. The image speaks to us about the protection, security, and care that shepherds represent for their sheep. Today's Gospel speaks powerfully about the familiarity and intimacy between Jesus and his disciples, expressed as recognizing and knowing another's voice. Today's Gospel also speaks to the relationship between Jesus and the Father. In the Gospel of John. Jesus identifies so closely with the Father that he tells us that they are one—not just close, but actually one. To know Jesus is to know the Father. Jesus doesn't just bring us closer to the Father, Jesus puts us directly into contact with God the Father, removing all distance between us. Our relationship with Jesus is an invitation to share in the life of God.

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. 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.

We are looking for people to help with this wonderful ministry. If you are interested please call the parish office, 203-227-7245 or email us at stluke@optonline.net. Training and resources are provided.

CELEBRATE Mothen's Day

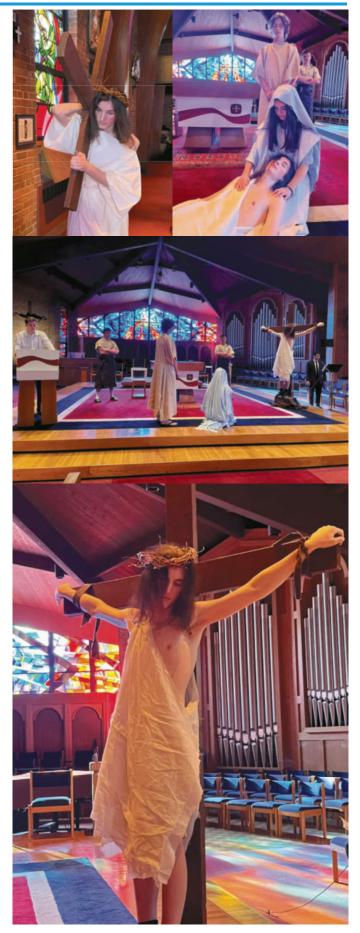
PAGE 4



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.





Page 5

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

MARY IS THE MOTHER WHO WATCHES OVER US, HER CHILDREN, ON OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE, OFTEN WEARY AND IN NEED, ANXIOUS THAT THE LIGHT OF HOPE NOT FAIL.



CHRISTUS VIVIT, NO. 48

Blessing of Mothers

God our heavenly Father,

you give to each the ability to share your generative love.

Bless those women in our lives who mirror your love

and bring forth life through their willingness to risk bringing new life into this world.

Help us to show them our gratitude

for the gift of life and the gift of a mother's love. May our life-giving God continue to bless them and show them his unfailing love.

We ask this through Jesus, God's Son and our brother.

Amen.

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.



BIRTHRIGHT

Birthright Needs Volunteers! Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, caring and practical support. Our guiding principle: It is the RIGHT of every pregnant woman to give birth and the

RIGHT of every child to be born. Birthright has served in Connecticut since thousands of expectant mothers have received the help they need to bring their babies into the world. Please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright near you. Training is provided. Spanish speaking volunteers are especially needed. Birthright **needs gently worn** maternity and baby clothing. Please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright nearest you for drop off.

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.

VIRTUS TRAINING

All volunteers serving in the Diocese of Bridgeport - that have not yet been trained - are required to attend a VIR-TUS 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 preregister. 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.

PAGE 6

IGNATION PRAYER GROUP

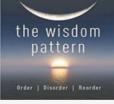
Deacon Brian Kelly will be hosting an Ignation Prayer Group on Wednesdays at 7PM on Zoom. To access look up Zoom and the meeting number is: 881 4394 4880. All are welcome to share in this wonderful experience. For



further information please contact Deacon Brian Kelly at <u>bjk111640@gmail.com</u>.

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.



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

PASTA SAUCE INSTANT POTATOES CEREAL L CANNED HAM BISQUICK CANNED GREEN BEANS FRUIT JUICES

PARMALAT MILK CANNED TUNA LOW SODIUM SOUPS PEANUT BUTTER CANNED FRUITS CANNED CORN

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.

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 Tuesdays. 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 <u>bjk111640@gmail.com</u> if you wish to participate.



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 <u>bjk111640@gmail.com</u>.

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



ADVERTISING AD SPONSORS ARE <u>NEEDED FOR OUR BULLETIN!</u> <u>ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS, REALTORS, PRO-FESSIONALS...</u>

Advertising shows that you are a local community sponsor, and you are helping to support your church! It is through the generosity of the advertisers that allows the church to get their bulletins at no charge- **Please help by placing YOUR ad** & together we can fill the directory for the church & parishioners who in turn will help support your business. Ads can be from your business, a membership organization, a charity or in memory of a loved one. Additionally, your ad will be listed with the online bulletin at <u>parishesonline.com</u> and linked to your website.

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

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Reluctant Sheep

Sheep get an awfully bad rap, linguistically. Some are quick to label people as "sheep" if we think they haven't sufficiently questioned authority or if they're too willing to go along with someone else's plan. We say someone has "the wool over their eyes" if they aren't willing to see what we think is very obvious. "A wolf in sheep's clothing" is what we call someone looking to take advantage of those too gullible to identify a real threat. Taking all this into account and considering how often we are referred to as sheep in Scripture, you've really got to wonder if God is trying to tell

you've really got to wonder if God is trying to tell us something about ourselves.

If you look at the phraseology associated with sheep, it's no wonder that nobody *wants* to be one. Sheep are innocent. Sheep can't protect themselves. They're vulnerable and easily misled.

We want to see ourselves as the opposite of all that. We like to think we're shrewd, with plenty of common sense. We want to believe that we don't have to rely on anybody for anything. We would sooner identify with the wolf than with the sheep — at least the wolf can take care of himself.

We do this because we often resist the need to rest in the greatness of God. Like a child walking to school alone for the first time (forgetting his mom is following watchfully in the car), we want to think we can handle it all by ourselves.

The truth is that God *is* trying to tell us something by comparing us to sheep: *You don't have to do this on your own*.

Every time I look at an obstacle and think that there is no way around it, I am forgetting that I have a shepherd who knows the location of the gate.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

AROUND THE DIOCESE



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 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 <u>stlukesynod@gmail.com</u> or drop your input in writing on paper in the drop box available in the gathering space by **TODAY**, **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 <u>anupam.martins@gmail.com</u> Bob Clair <u>bobclair@kpmg.com</u> Jeanne Stewart jeannestewart423@gmail.com Josh Auxier jauxierjd@gmail.com Maria O'Kelly <u>mokelly@optonline.net</u>

SAINT JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

Learn Catholic Theology This Summer With Saint Joseph's Seminary! -Take classes in-person or online -Expand your understanding of the Catholic Faith -Affordable tuition -Faithful to the Magisterium -Conveniently scheduled classes More information: <u>www.dunwoodie.edu/</u> <u>summercourses</u> Email: sjsacademics@dunwoodie.edu

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Saturday, May 7 5:30 pm Virginia Hopper

4th Sunday of Easter

St. Matthias

Sunday, May 8 7:30 am For All our Parishioners 9:00 am Yolanda & Antonio Cipollone 11:00 am Teresa Fariello 5:30 pm Lawrence McMahon

Monday, May 9 8:00 am Cynthia Dugas

Tuesday, May 10 8:00 am All Souls

Wednesday, May 11 8:00 am Intentions of Caitlin and Owen

Thursday, May 12 8:00 am Barbara O'Connell

Friday, May 13 8:00 am Msgr. Andy Varga

Saturday, May 14 8:00 am Richard Colucci 5:30 pm Charles Carvalconte

Sunday, May 15 **5th Sunday of Easter** 7:30 am Joseph A Vogt 9:00 am For All our Parishioners 11:00 am James O'Donoghue 5:30 pm Maria Maiorano



Parish Budget Report

AVERAGE WEEKLY NEED 14,327
Weekend of May 1, 2022
Church Collection
Allowance for Credit Cards 2,797 Mail-Ins
PayPal

Please remember Saint Luke Parish in your estate planning.

SAFE, SECURE, AUTOMATIC

Please consider making your offerings by credit card... We do all the work: You get the mileage-points and the convenience. Please call Judy in the parish office for more information: 203-227-7245

Readings for the Week of May 8

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 [3c]/Rv 7:9, 14b-17/Jn 10:27-30 Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10 Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Jn 10:22-30 Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50 Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20 Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6 Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17 Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

