

CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

141 Maple Street, P.O. Box 246, Ellington, CT 06029

Phone: 860-875-8552 Fax: 860-872-6548

www.churchofstlukect.com

Parish Email: stluke_ellington@comcast.net

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023

WELCOME

Please pray with us, celebrate with us, and walk together with us in faith. We hope that you will share your special gifts within the community, your prayers, your presence, welcome to all! May God bless us all!

CLERGY

Rev. George Villamthanam, Administrator

Rev. Bijoy Joseph, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Frank Hann

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday 8:00 AM

First Friday Mass - 12:00 PM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM Winter

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM Spring, Summer, Fall

Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 6:00 PM

Holy Day Masses: 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:15 to 3:45

SECRETARY - Karen Luciano

Office Hours - M-T-TH 9-1

FAITH FORMATION

Kim Bocchino, Catechetical Leader

860-875-4951

stlukere@gmail.com

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Deacon Frank Hann

860-462-8032

NEW PARISHIONERS

Call the Parish Office, pick up a yellow registration form located at both entrances to the Church or register on our website.



BAPTISM

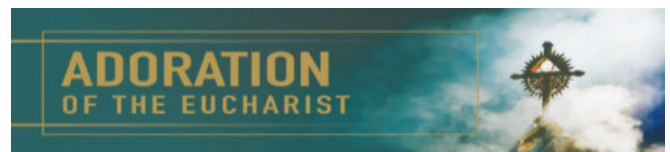
Please contact Deacon Hann at 860-462-8032 to register. Parents and Godparents should be practicing Catholics.

MARRIAGES

Couples are encouraged to make arrangements by Registering their marriage intentions at the rectory office 6 months in advance.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK OR HOMEBOUND

Please contact the Rectory Office if you or someone you know is ill or homebound and would like to receive Reconciliation, Eucharist, and/or Anointing of the Sick.



Join us every Tuesday at 8:30 am to 9:30 am and the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm with the Holy Hour and Divine Mercy Prayer for the sick and dying.

Church of Saint Luke

Lord, Hear our Prayer



Mass Intentions for the Week



IN LOVING MEMORY

Michael Nashwinter, Camella Fesco, Irene Tolisano

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK

Lord, Our God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our infirmities and to endure our sufferings. For your servants who are sick, especially from our Parish Family, we ask that your blessing will give them strength to overcome their weakness through the power of patience and the comfort of hope and that with your aid they will soon be restored to health. We ask this through Our Lord. Amen

Charlie Allen, Wanda Allen, Calista Bailey, Louise Barbero, Jody & Laura Behrendt, Emma Benavivich, Tina Chamberlin, William Coyne, Bob Cresenzi, Carol DiCioccio, Jeanne Ferruolo, Marge Griffin, Deacon Harry Grospitch, Sister Guytina, Penny Harrington, Tracy Kearcher, Joseph King, Kathy Larew, Ellen Lohnes, Richard Marcinek, Mark McPartland, Meg Morneau, Jeanne Parker, Beth Ann Phillips, Stanley Pienkowski, Troy Russell, Brian Scavone, Joan Smith, Melanie Smith, Cooper Somberg, Jane Thomas, Judy Veillette, Bill Vieweg, Sheila Waterhouse, Morris Webber, Edward Wysocki

Mission Declaration

In order to witness as a better Christian Community in this third millennium, we, the members of Saint Luke Parish solemnly resolve to provide a worship and prayerful environment that stimulates the spiritual growth to every individual, to sacrifice time, talent and treasure in gratitude for God's generous blessings to His greater glory and for the people in need.

-To promote Christian formation through religious instruction that foster/nurture the spiritual development of our children, our young people and adults.

-To encourage tolerance, openness, honesty and forgiveness to one another.

-To promote the virtues of Justice, Peace, and Human dignity that:

- address injustice experienced by all peoples, especially women and minorities;

- take action to counteract violence in our society and to foster the sacredness of human life from conception to the grave.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

4:00PM +HOLLY BAGNALL REEB

R/B PATRICIA GUILLERAULT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:30AM +JOSEPH F. GIRARDINI

R/B THE COHUN & GIRARDINI FAMILIES

10:30AM +EUGENE VEILLETTE

1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

R/B HIS WIFE JUDY

6:00PM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 8:00AM

+SISTER CORDILLA

R/B VINCENT & ANITA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 8:00AM

+LISA HEANEY

R/B TIM HEANEY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 8:00AM

+DECEASED FRIENDS & FAMILY OF

NOREEN SMEDY

R/B NOREEN SMEDY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 8:00AM

+DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE

HARRINGTON FAMILY

R/B PENNY HARRINGTON

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 8:00AM

+IDA & RICHARD CAPOBIANCO

R/B DAUGHTER DONNA LEE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

4:00PM +CAMELLA FESCO

R/B EDWARD SAMORAJCZYK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:30AM +FRED & MARION CAIRNS

R/B THEIR DAUGHTER JANE

10:30AM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

10:00PM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Church of Saint Luke

Faith Formation News

“LIFT - Living In Faith Together! As we lift each other up in prayer and grow together in our Catholic Faith.”

Faith Formation 2023-2024

We are looking forward to a year of *Living In Faith Together (Lift!)* as we lift each other up in prayer and grow together in our Catholic Faith! Our Faith Formation program runs Kindergarten through Confirmation in Grade 10. **For more information, contact Kim Bocchino in the Faith Formation office at 860-875-4951 or stlukere@gmail.com.**

Faith Formation Classes and Events:

Sunday December 17th – class from 9-10:15 am – Grades K-5

No Classes December 19th, 20th, 24, 26th, 27th, 31st, January 2nd and 3rd.

Sunday January 7th, 21st, 28th – class from 9-10:15 am – Grades K-5

Sunday January 7th – Grade 2 Family Mass at 10:30

No Class Sunday January 14th

Tuesday January 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th – class from 6:45-8 pm – Grades 5-10

Wednesday January 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st – class from 6:45-8 pm – Grades 6-10

Sunday January 28th – Grade 9 Confirmation

Commitment Mass at 10:30

Sunday January 28th – Grade 9 Parent & student retreat 10:30-2:30pm

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) during the 10:30 am Mass

Join us each Sunday for (CLOW) Children's Liturgy of the Word during the 10:30 Mass. CLOW will be held in the Parish Center on December 17th. All children ages 4 years old through the 5th grade are welcome!

Grade 2 First Reconciliation and Grade 3 First Eucharist Important Dates

Sunday January 7th - Grade 2 Family Mass

Sunday February 4th - Grade 3 Candle Family Mass

Sunday March 3rd - Grade 3 First Communion

Workshop

Sunday March 3rd - Grade 2 and 3 Pin Family Mass

Saturday March 23rd - Grade 2 First Reconciliation 9:30am

Confirmation 2024 - Grade 10

Confirmation Reconciliation in class March 5th and 6th.

Confirmation Rehearsal TBD at 6:30 pm

Sunday March 10th, 2024 Confirmation Mass at 1 pm

Confirmation Retreat - Grade 9

Sunday January 28th - Grade 9 Confirmation

Commitment Mass at 10:30 Mass

Sunday January 28th - Grade 9 Parent & Student

Confirmation Retreat until 2:30pm

Service to Others & Youth Group - Grades 8, 9 and 10

All 8th, 9th grade students are to complete 10 hours of community service, answer a few reflection questions and turn in their completed Service to Others Logs **no later than April 30, 2024.** We encourage all 8th, 9th and 10th grade students to make Youth Group part of their life by attending the monthly meetings. We do require them to attend at least 3 youth Group meetings each year between September and May.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Third Sunday of Advent: Rejoice Always!

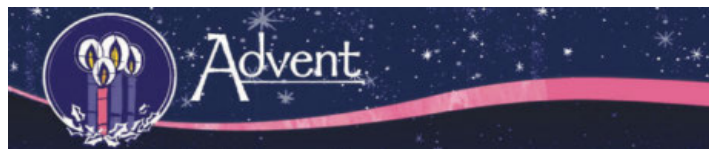
Issiah 61:1: "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24: "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it." Let the Lord transform your marriage. Give your spouse a gift. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

January 26-28, 2024 in Derby Line, VT

February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY

March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Frank & Margie Pearson at 860-337-2447 or <https://wwmectw.org/>.



Church of Saint Luke Community News



DECEMBER 10, 2023

REGULAR COLLECTION - \$4,744.28

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - \$1,163

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

Third Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."— 1 thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God

If you are seeking to find hope, strength and comfort from a loss, burden or sorrow, join us for *A Journey with Mary Through Her Seven Sorrows*, a virtual seven-week program that will explore each of the seven sorrows of Mary's life and the message of strength and encouragement each one contains. The program will meet online Monday nights from 7-8:15 P.M. January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5, 12, and 19, 2024.

Each week will include a reflection on one of Mary's sorrows, guided prayer imagery and discussion. The program is free, but registration is required. To do so, or, for more information, contact the Catholic Family Services Office, 860-848-2237, Ext. 312, or email mmclaughlin@norwichdiocese.net

The December 17 Healing Mass at Church of the Holy Family in Hebron with Fr. Ray Introvigne and Fr. Michael Philippino is CANCELLED. Please join us again in the New Year on January 21 at Church of the Holy Family, 185 Church St., Hebron at 2 PM



ST. LUKE MARIAN DIVINE MERCY

Come visit our church to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3 PM, Monday through Friday. If you find yourself alone, you never are. JESUS is with you! Pray for our parish family, our church and our world. Please use the side entrance close to the rectory.

ST LUKES WOMEN'S GUILD

New members, Welcome! Please join us on the first and third Friday of every month at 10:30AM in the Parish Center, as we come together to pray and reflect on the Sunday Gospel. For additional information or to join, please call Kim at 860-875-4951

ST. LUKE'S CONFRATERNITY OF ST JOSEPH GROUP

This group consists of a group of men that meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Parish Center at 6:30 pm to study and discuss aspects of our Church and faith. Meetings typically last an hour (occasionally a little longer). We are currently using Matthew Kelly's "**Rediscover the Saints**" as our discussion guide. All men of the Parish are welcome to join. Questions or for more information, please contact Jack Schirra at (860) 830-7853

ST. ANNE GRANDMOTHER'S GUILD

Please join us for a time of prayer, sharing and learning! Save the date for our next meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, Dec 19th**, at 10:30am In the Parish Center. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information, please contact:

Louise at hearttau@aol.com or Laraine at

laraineknndy@yahoo.com

CENACLE GROUP

The St Luke Cenacle Group is a prayer group that meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the Month at 6:30 - 7:30 PM in the parish center. We pray for the Catholics who have left the faith or lost the belief of The Real Presence in the Eucharist. We reflect on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. We end the meeting with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the sick and dying in our families and our parish especially for those who died unexpectedly. All are welcomed. For more information, please see Sue Beers or Laraine Kennedy

RCIA

Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of every Month at 6:30 pm. Please see Deacon Hann for more information

Church of Saint Luke

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 23rd - 4:00 pm

Confessions - 3:15pm to 3:45pm

Sunday, December 24th - 7:30 am &
10:30 am

Sunday, December 24th - Christmas Eve

Children's Mass - 4:00pm

Evening Mass - 10:00 pm

NO 6:00 pm MASS

Monday, December 25th - Christmas Day

Masses - 7:30am and 10:30am



Prayer for Advent Week 3:

Lord Jesus, thank you for coming into the world to pay the price for our sins. We do not always appreciate how high a cost you paid, and how your birth made good on promises that God the Father had made. Thank you for your great love, for your sacrifice and victory against evil. As we begin the Third Week of Advent, we anticipate Christmas, and so we ask Christ to grant us His grace that we might be prepared for welcoming His Birth

ACA UPDATE

2023 ACA update: As of November 28, 2023, Saint Luke Parish, Ellington has donated \$34,207.00 or 78.40% of its goal, and 30.50% of your parishioners have donated. We are striving for as close to 100% participation as possible. URGENT – PLEASE HELP US REACH GOAL - THERE IS STILL TIME TO DONATE! Our campaign year ends December 31, 2023. With your donation, our ACA supported ministries do the work of Christ every day. If you have not made your contribution to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal, “One Faith, One Family”, or would like to make an additional gift, donation envelopes are still available within the church or you can contact the Development Office at (860) 886-1928 or www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org. Thank you to everyone for your support

UPCOMING EVENTS

All events are held in the Parish Center unless other wise noted

Dec 16 and Dec 17 - Giving Tree

Dec 19 - St. Anne Grandmother's Guild - 10:30 am

Dec 20 - Confraternity of St. Joseph meeting - 6:30 pm

Dec 24 - Masses will be 7:30 am and 10:30 am (Reg Sunday)

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve - Children's Mass at 4:00pm, and Mass at 10:00 pm

Dec 25 - The Nativity of the Lord - Christmas Day - Masses at 7:30 am and 10:30 am

Dec 31 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
2024

Jan 1 - Happy New Year

Jan 4 - Adoration of the Eucharist - 7pm

Jan 5 - First Friday Mass - 12:00 pm

Jan 5 - Women's Guild - 10:30 am

Jan 7 - The Epiphany of the Lord

Jan 7 - Coffee and Donuts after 10:30 Mass - Church Hall

Jan 8 - Cenacle Group - 6:30 pm

Jan 16 - St. Anne Grandmother's Guild - 10:30 am

Jan 17 - Confraternity of St. Joseph meeting - 6:30 pm

Jan 19 - Women's Guild - 10:30 am

Jan 22 - Cenacle Group - 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS 2023

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ASKS YOU TO HELP OUR FAMILIES CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Catholic Charities will be providing “A Very Merry Christmas” to our families and we are asking the parishioners to join in this special celebration of gifts and prayers for our many families and individual in financial need. Your gift of an unwrapped children's toy, for a child up to the age of 12 or a gift card to Walmart or Target for a teenager will be greatly appreciated. Grocery store gift cards are also enjoyed by the families. Our Food Pantry is busy throughout the year as food assistance is the single largest service provided and it is often the entry point for people to receive additional necessary services, utility, rental assistance, Financial Empowerment classes for self-sufficiency to identify a few services. Please bring your unwrapped toy to Catholic Charities 331 Main Street Norwich CT, 06360 or send the gift cards or checks with Christmas 2023 written in the memo line to the same address. Our kids, parents and grandparents look forward to Christmas as much as your family and our staff, as we all prepare for the true meaning of Christmas, the Birth of our Lord and the Holy Family. Thank you from the staff at Catholic Charities and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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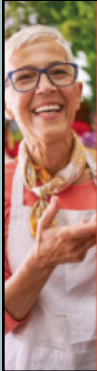
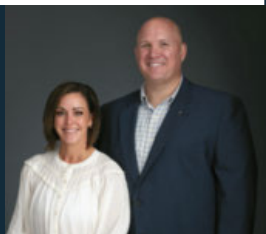
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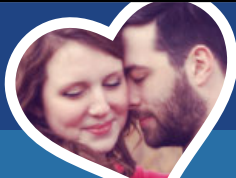
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