

CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE

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

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Parish Email: stluke_ellington@comcast.net

FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 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

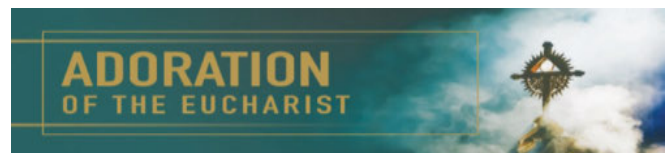
Please contact Deacon Hann at 860-462-8032 to register. Parents and Godparents should be practicing Catholics.

MARRIAGES

Couples are encouraged to make arrangements by Registering their marriage intentions at the rectory of-fice 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, Carmella Fecso, Irene Tolisano

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23
4:00PM +CARMELLA FEC SO
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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, THE NAVITY OF THE
LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY)
7:30AM+HENRY THOMAS
R/B JANE, CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN
10:30AM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 8:00AM
+STEPHANIE MOORE
R/B THE MOORE FAMILY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 8:00AM
+DECEASED FRIENDS & FAMILY OF
THE MCWILLIAMS FAMILY
R/B ANNE MCWILLIAMS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 8:00AM
+DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE
LESURE FAMILY
R/B ELLEN LESURE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 8:00AM
+ED WY SOCKI, JR & SUSAN GIZA
R/B ALICE & ED WY SOCKI

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
4:00PM +CARMELLA FEC SO
R/B GLEN & DENISE PRIDY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
7:30AM JOAN PLONSKI
R/B JOHN
10:30AM +THERESA ROBERTS
6:00PM FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

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.

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:

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 January 7th, 21st, and 28th. 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.

Christmas Prayer



Heavenly Father, We give thanks for the birth of Your son Jesus Christ, who embodies the love and light of the world.

On this festive day, may we be reminded of the joy and hope we can experience through our faith in Your divine grace.

Help us to focus on the true meaning of Christmas and to share the warmth and kindness of Your many blessings with those around us.

Help us to open our hearts and accept the gifts of peace, love, and joy that come through You.

We ask for Your mercy and guidance as we continue on our journey of faith.

Loving Father, in this holy period of prayer and song, and laughter, we thank you for the great wonders you have sent us. Lord, for the shining star and the angel's song, for the infant's cry in a lowly manger.

We thank you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We accept his glory and are showered in its radiance.

God, be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible understood, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who brings the world asunder.

We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, and wise men. Help us to rise higher than we are. Amen

Church of Saint Luke Community News



DECEMBER 17, 2023

REGULAR COLLECTION - EARLY SUBMISSION OF
THE BULLETIN

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" – Luke
1:28*

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

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



**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR
PARISHIONERS AND YOUR
FAMILIES**

**FROM
FATHER GEORGE
FATHER BIJOY
THE ST. LUKE STAFF**



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, Jan 16th**, 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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

As we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Christ, I pray that the joy and peace of our new born Savior will fill your hearts and flourish in your families. This Christmas, may Christ find hearts ready to receive Him and families eager to welcome Him into their homes.

What does Christ's birth mean to us? To answer this question, we must look at the Scriptures,, the stories of the shepherds, the encounter of Simeon and Anna, the Holy Family in the Temple or the arrival of the wise men. All explain, one way or the other, the meaning of Christ's birth.

I extend a warm welcome to all of you - those who celebrate with us on weekends and weekdays, and those who have been away for a while. Please come and celebrate the warmth of your faith and fellowship whenever possible.

The meaning of Christmas is always important, but it's especially important through tough times like the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East. We feel for the suffering people of these places and pray that there is an end to wars and conflicts the world over. May the King of Peace be born again in many hearts.

As we sing "O Holy Night" – His Law is Love and His Gospel is Peace: may we wish that our communities experience the peace and joy of Christmas.

Thank you to each one of you for the kindness, support, encouragement and generosity you have shown during the year. My sincere thanks to all the Parish Committees, their dedicated members, and the many volunteers who have given their time, talent and treasures to the Parish.

Merry Christmas, to all! May your New Year be filled with the choicest Blessings of the New Born Savior.

God Bless us.
Father George

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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 1 - Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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



Join us for
First Thursday Adoration
January 4th from 7-8pm

We will be showing Hostia: The Power and Presence of the Eucharist – to learn more of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the value of Adoration in our Catholic Life.

The movie will be followed by 15 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.

What a wonderful way to start off the New Year. All are welcome! We hope to see you on January 4th, 2024.

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

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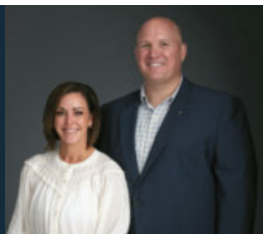
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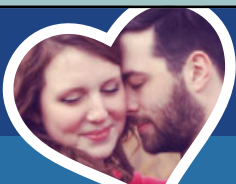
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