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<https://facebook.com.StLukesRCChurch/>

The Church of St. Luke

Roman Catholic Diocese of Metuchen

*We come together as a community of faith
to celebrate our life together in Christ.*

Rev. Msgr. Michael Corona
Deacon Glenn Robitaille

Mass Schedule - Church

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm
Sunday: 10:00am

Daily Mass

Monday to Friday
7:30am (Parish Center Chapel)

Holy Days of Obligation

(Check bulletin for time)

Reconciliation During Lent

Saturdays 4:00-4:45 pm
Sundays 9:00-9:30 am
or by calling the Rectory.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the Rectory if a family member or friend is in the hospital or ill.

Religious Education (Sunday)

Grades Kg.- 8.....8:45-9:50am

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00am - 12:30pm
Tuesday and Friday
10:00am - 1:30pm

Parish Trustees

Kenneth E. Phillips, Sr.
Elizabeth Rifino

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary

Jean Tietjen

Assistant Parish Secretary

Linda Smith
(908) 754-8812, ext. 3
stlukesinfo@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

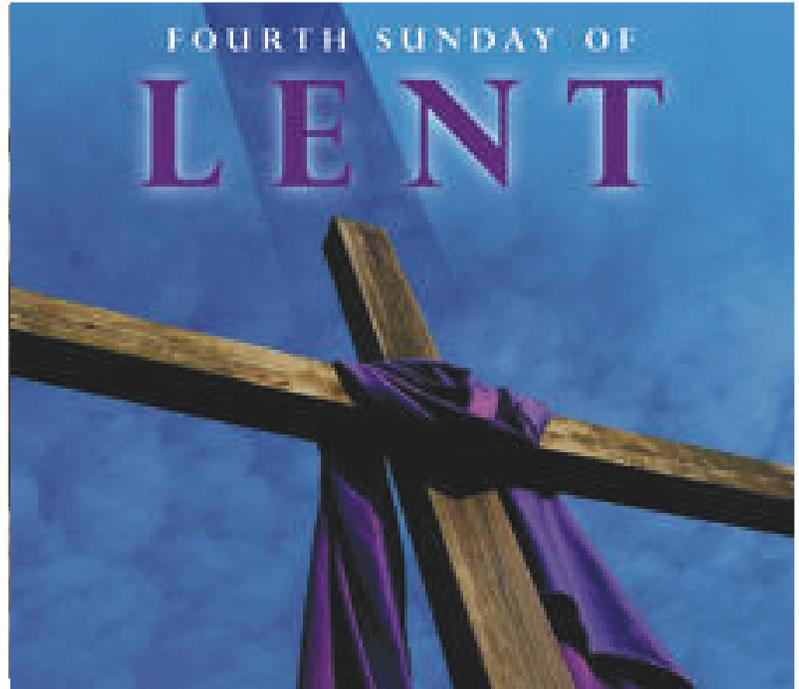
Jeanne Enteman (908) 754-8812, ext. 5
enteman@verizon.net

Youth Minister

Lidia D'Armiento (908) 591-8397
stlukesyouthnp@gmail.com

Bulletin Information

Rectory Office (908) 754-8812 ext.3
stlukesinfo@gmail.com



Sacrament of Baptism: Baptisms are celebrated after Sunday Mass by scheduled appointment. Parents are asked to call the Rectory Office at (908) 754-8812 to schedule a date and make arrangements to attend the Baptismal Instruction Program. Attendance at one session is required with both the parents and godparents.

Sacrament of Marriage: Diocesan policy requires that couples participate in a marriage preparation program prior to their wedding at least one year in advance. Call the Rectory Office to make an appointment with the Pastor.

Sacrament of Holy Orders and Consecrated Life: Anyone interested in learning more about a life of service to the People of God as a priest, deacon, a religious brother or sister, is encouraged to call the Rectory for further information.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): A small group process by which a person inquires into becoming a Catholic, and may receive the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, First Eucharist, and Confirmation, followed by continued growth in the faith. Anyone interested, may contact the Rectory.

Parish Membership: All new families and individuals are welcome to our Parish. We welcome you to our spiritual and social life. Call the Rectory to register and become involved in our spiritual and social life. Download a Registration form from our website, complete and mail to address indicated, or call the Rectory.



Fourth Sunday Of Lent
March 14, 2021



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

At the heart of our Catholic Faith the world over, are the cross (which is bare), and the crucifix (which is the cross with the body of Jesus affixed to it). Both symbolize and signify the redemptive action of Jesus Christ, each in its own particular way. A cross or crucifix hangs around the neck of countless people in our world who give no other outward sign of being religious. Teachers of young children report that when they offer the youngsters a selection of holy cards and ask them to choose one, time and again children choose the picture of Jesus on the cross.

Why are the cross and crucifix so important, and so central? Why, after two thousand years, has the cross---either bare or with the body of Jesus upon it---lost none of its fascination and power? The best answer is also the simplest: The cross and crucifix are a depiction of how much God loves us; they are a revelation of how much he has always loved us and desired relationship with us.

Our Old Testament and New Testament Lessons today, set the stage for this revelation. First, we hear about the constant transgressions of God's people, and yet God never stopped loving them, even in his discipline of a seventy-year-exile (tough love indeed!). St. Paul reaffirms this as he writes, *God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ.*

As we hear in today's Gospel Lesson, *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.* This is more than a catchphrase held up on poster board for TV cameras at sporting events. It is the sum and summary of our salvation history. Through Jesus Christ, all of our transgressions before God are washed away in God's mercy. Sin and death are overcome through his sacrifice of love on the cross.

The cross *means* something. The crosses and crucifixes that adorn our necks, our church, and our homes, depict how much God loves us. So as we continue in this Lenten season, perhaps we can spend some time thinking about that. In doing so, we might also reflect on what, in our own lives, demonstrates how much we love God in return.

In your charity, please pray for the sick and lonely—visit them if you can. Also, please remember to pray for all who have wandered from the Faith and all who have died, especially the babies who have been killed through abortion this past week and their parents.

May God always be pleased with us!
Monsignor Michael

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	March 13
5:00 PM	People of the Parish
Sunday	March 14 4th Sunday In Lent
10:00 AM	Jean Mullen r/o The Mullen Family
Monday	March 15
7:30 AM	No Intention
Tuesday	March 16
7:30 AM	No Intention
Wednesday	March 17....St. Patrick, Bishop
7:30 AM	No Intention
Thursday	March 18
7:30 AM	No Intention
Friday	March 19 St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary
7:30 AM	No Intention
Saturday	March 20
5:00 PM	Christopher Carson r/o Ed & Carol Chasse
Sunday	March 21 5th Sunday In Lent
10:00AM	People of the Parish

O Lord, be present with all those who serve our country. Comfort their spirits with your divine presence. Keep them close to You and grant them strength, wisdom and grace. In your kindness we ask you to remember the sick members of our parish, those who reside in nursing homes & senior care facilities and those in need of our prayer.

Stations of the Cross
Fridays at 7 pm in the chapel.



Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph” In making his declaration, Pope Francis noted that this year marks the 150th anniversary of the saint’s proclamation as patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on Dec. 8, 1870. Pope Francis said he was establishing the year so that “every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God’s will.” Pope Francis said the coronavirus pandemic has heightened his desire to reflect on St. Joseph, as so many people during the pandemic have made hidden sacrifices to protect others, just as St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus. “Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence -- an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble,” the pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph’s role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, “Our world today needs fathers.” The year began with the Immaculate Conception 2020 & extends to the same feast in 2021.



March 17th
HAVE A BLESSED
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Candles are arranged through the **Rectory Office** by calling (908) 754-8812, or by sending an email message to stlukesinfo@gmail.com. Personal visits to arrange intentions are always welcomed.

READINGS THIS WEEKEND

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23:

The causes for the Israelites' captivity in Babylon are described.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10: In grace we have been saved, so that we may do the work of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: John 3:14-21: Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

Fourth Sunday Of Lent

"I will be their God and they shall be my people."-
Jeremiah 31:33 What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

Pope's Intentions for March

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

The church is open for private prayer
Mon., Wed., & Friday from 10 am to 12 pm.



St. Luke Family Ministry

**Remember to please
continue supporting our
Heart to Heart contribution basket.**

Parishioners!! The Heart-to-Heart Ministry is accepting non-perishable food items (soups, tuna, canned vegetables, fruits, mac & cheese, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, dried beans, cereal, cookies, juices), diapers, & personal care products, as well as food gift cards for local victims of the COVID-19 pandemic. We wish to continue to support our local Fish and other community food banks. We anticipate local food needs will accelerate in the wake of unemployment due to the crisis. Please try to be generous as possible. Thank you.

**If you know of individuals/families in need,
please call the rectory.**

Reflections On Faith meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday at **11:30 am** on ZOOM. If you wish to participate in the ZOOM meeting, please contact Jerry Mckenna at gerard1938@verizon.net or Maria D'Antuono at mdantuono23@msn.com for the meeting invitation.

**Please provide the rectory office with your current
email address & phone number.**

2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal

The global pandemic has challenged us to evolve in how we share and communicate the Gospel message, but the message remains the same and it is worth sharing. So, we must continue to journey with others, even if we are physically apart, to make the Good News and His love known to all because that is what will see us through. While our discipleship is to always find new ways to bring His love and the Good News of Jesus Christ we are now called to do more for the Lord and each other. This year, we have seen a large increase in the use of virtual means to connect and engage with one another. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal supports essential role of the **Vicariate for Evangelization and Communication** as we expand our efforts to share the Gospel message and make His love known to all.

Life-Giving Wounds Retreat (virtual) for adult children of divorce or separation on April 17th and 24th at 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM. In person Mass at 1 pm. For more information and registration, please visit: <https://www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce> or contact Cristina D'Averso-Collins cdaverso@diometuchen.org RSVP by 3/17/21

Life Choices Resource Center's "Hope Changes Everything"
Sunday, March 14, 2021 "Virtual Banquet"
Our pre-recorded video can also be viewed any time after March 14th.
Go to: LifeChoicesRC.com.
Join us for an inspirational virtual experience highlighting God's love in action. Please consider donating online @ LifeChoicesRC.com.
For more information call (732) 516-0911.

GROCERY CARDS are available to purchase before & after each weekend Mass. *Volunteers needed to sell the cards, especially on Saturdays. If you are interested, please call the rectory.*

COVID VACCINE: Individuals can register for the vaccine by going to the following website: <https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/>

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic Please call to reserve your seat. Social distancing (6 feet) must be adhered to at all times. The pews marked with red tape & a sign are not available for seating. There is a limit of 57 people in the church.

A special thank you to all the Medical Personnel and First Responders who continue to sacrifice for others on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic. Please continue to keep them all in your prayers.



WEEKLY COLLECTION

*Thank you and may God bless you for your continued
generosity to our Parish.*

**February 28 \$2,943.00
Online Giving \$378.52**

ST LUKE OFFERS ONLINE GIVING for parishioners, who prefer to donate through the convenience of automatic payments. Sign up for Online Giving at our parish website <https://stlukenp.weshareonline.org/>

HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hrs./7days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our Diocesan website: <https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse>



Bingo & all events have been cancelled/postponed until further notice due to the Covid-19



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