

300 Clinton Avenue
North Plainfield, NJ 07063-1613
Phone: (908) 754-8812
Fax: (908) 754-0120

Email: stlukesinfo@gmail.com

Website: www.stlukenp.weconnect.com

<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

Saturdays 4:00-4:45 pm

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

Rectory 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

Parish 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.

16th Sunday In Ordinary Time
July 18, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Plans. All of us are familiar with plans. There are family plans, school plans, plans at work, travel plans, game plans and all sorts of other plans. Our days are lived out with plans in mind. Even our fun times are planned - sometimes over-planned.

In today's Gospel Lesson, we hear about the Apostles who had been out preaching and had come back to Jesus to report about all they had been doing. *The apostles rejoined Jesus, Saint Mark reports, and told him all they had done and taught.* Then he said to them, *"You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while"; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves.*" They obviously needed a break, so Jesus decided it was time to get away and get some rest. I am sure that we all can identify with that!

It must have been a lovely scene. They all get into a fishing boat and begin rowing out across the lake, the boat gliding along the smooth waters with only the sound of the oars dipping in the water and perhaps a screeching gull or two swooping overhead. Peace at last, along with the prospect of finding a quiet place on the other side where they could un-pack their food, sit and talk, and quietly have time to share stories and listen to what Jesus had to say.

But then as they approached the opposite shore, they saw a large crowd and heard the noisy voices of people. You can imagine how they felt. No doubt they were more than annoyed. Their plans were being disrupted. Life is like that, isn't it? Our best-laid plans, and our cherished moments, are too often stolen from us.

How do we react when our plans are either interrupted or completely disrupted? How do we react when people get in the way of our goals? Do we get resentful and make life miserable for those around us? Do we lash out at those around us?

When you stop and think about it, Jesus endured many setbacks in his earthly life, and turned these moments into blessings for all. He answered a lawyer's tricky question by giving us the wonderful story of the Prodigal Son. On the cross, dying in agony, he asked his Father to forgive those who had nailed him to that cross. Here, in today's Gospel account, he got out of the boat even though he was weary and needed a break, waded into the crowd, and then gave them beautiful lessons and teachings about life. Saint Mark reports:

So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length. He did not send them on their way. Instead he gave them his tender and caring love.

We must remember that God's plans and our plans might not be the same. God, after all, has his plans for us, and when they come to bear in our lives we might have to make some adjustments to our own plans. After all, where is it written that we are entitled to live an easier and more problem free life than Jesus? Where is it written that our plans are never to be changed?

God is a God of surprises, just as he is a God who gives us unplanned opportunities to show what we're made of and respond to him in patience and humility, and with love. We all have plans. At the same time we must remember that God has his, too. It's best to go along with his plans.

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 .

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.



Saturday	July 17
5:00 PM	Richard Schwarz r/o the Ptack Family
Sunday	July 18 16th Sunday In Ordinary Time
10:00 AM	People of the Parish
Monday	July 19
7:30 AM	No Intention
Tuesday	July 20 St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr
7:30 AM	No Intention
Wednesday	July 21
7:30 AM	No Intention
Thursday	July 22 St. Mary Magdalene
7:30 AM	No Intention
Friday	July 23 St. Bridget, Religious
7:30 AM	Kenneth Swain r/o Robert & June Diller
Saturday	July 24
5:00 PM	People of the Parish
Sunday	July 25 17th Sunday In Ordinary Time
10:0 AM	Robert Mayer r/o Fred & Ceil Santaniello



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in loving memory of Thomas Joannou r/o Susan Joannou.

O Lord, be present with all those who serve our country. Comfort their spirits with your divine presence. Keep them close to You & grant them strength, wisdom, & grace.

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: Jeremiah 23:1-6:

The Lord promises to shepherd his people Israel.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18: Christ has reconciled us with God and united us in peace.

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34: Jesus invites his disciples to rest after their ministry, and Jesus is moved with pity for the crowds who pursue them.

16th Sunday In Ordinary Time

“He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” MARK 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some “alone” time with God.

Pope's Intentions for July
Social Friendship

We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

LOOKING FOR A GREAT SCHOOL ?
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Offering a quality Catholic PreK-8th Grade, in-person education in a safe, caring environment for your child. Please call (908) 822-5890 or email info@holysavioracademy.com. We look forward to seeing you!

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP - As Catholics, we have an obligation to consider public policy issues in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church. As faithful citizens, we are called to respond in both prayer and action and consider how public policy can impact our communities, nation, and world in the context of Catholic teaching. To provide the faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen with information and resources about issues affecting public policy and to highlight our lifelong responsibility as Catholics to form our own consciences in accord with the Church’s teaching, the diocese has launched a new webpage: <https://diometuchen.org/issues-and-action>. There you can sign up to receive action alerts directly from the diocese or sign up to receive alerts directly from the New Jersey Catholic Conference and the USCCB. Visitors to the page can also act on current pending legislation and can see the latest news affecting public policy in our state, nation, and world.

READERS Our parish is in need of Readers for the weekend Masses. For more information, please call the Rectory Office or see Monsignor Michael after Mass.

*The Church is open for private prayer
Mon., Wed., & Friday 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, powdered & shelf-stable milk, & 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 Office.***

Reflections On Faith meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Sunday directly after the 10:00 AM Mass in the Parish Center’s large meeting room. Coffee and light refreshments will be served and all are welcome!

Please provide the Rectory Office with your current email address & phone number.

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.

Catholic Charities NJ Hope and Healing July 2021 Calendar

For more information or to receive crisis counseling services pertaining to COVID-19, call (732)204-6510 or email

hopeandhealing@ccdom.org

The confidential & anonymous **FREE** services are: *Stress Management - Emotional Support - Linkage To Resources - Daily Zoom Calls - Motivational Quotes - Drop In Zoom Sessions*

WEEKLY COLLECTION

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

**July 4 \$2,986.00
Online Giving \$700.66**

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/>

Bishop's Appeal status, as of 7/21/21: The Development Office has received pledges totaling \$40,808.00 & payments totaling \$29,708.00 from 78 parishioners This represents 120.0% of our \$34,000.00 goal.

Thank you!

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 & some events have been cancelled/postponed until further notice.



3571 Kennedy Road
South Plainfield, NJ

Joseph T. Penyak
908-753-4222
Fax: 908-753-4763

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St. Luke's, North Plainfield, NJ 04-1086