

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

Sundays 9-9:30 am
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

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.

The Baptism Of The Lord
January 9, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

For centuries, Scripture Scholars and theologians have been asking: when did Jesus know who he really was? We can assume that he grew into that knowledge. As he grew from being a little boy to a man, he came to understand who he was and the saving mission that his Father had sent him to accomplish.

This is confirmed in the signs that occurred after Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove and a voice from the heavens was heard saying: *You are my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.* After his baptism and the forty days he spent fasting and praying in the desert, Jesus began his public ministry. He began teaching and doing the things necessary to reveal the depths of the Father's love for us, to reveal the Father's plan of salvation, to teach us how to live in order to enter eternal life. Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection would win our salvation and open the way to eternal life. When Jesus began this mission, he did so in firm resolve, with one hundred percent commitment, and in perfect fidelity to the will of the Father.

Similarly, for us to be successful in any endeavor, commitment is essential. Nothing of lasting value happens without it. And commitment is not easy. Our culture sends us many messages that work against keeping our commitments. Thankfully we do, from time to time, come upon stories of heroic men and women who honor their commitments no matter the cost. We hear of mothers and fathers who stay with their children through horrible sicknesses and misfortunes, giving them their message of faithful and steadfast caring love.

Commitment is the key element of all noble adventures, wonderful discoveries, and heroic deeds. Jesus started with it. So did Mary, his mother. Likewise, Saint Joseph remained faithful to his commitments. Jesus, Mary and Joseph were able to do all that God asked them to do because faith and love for God go hand-in-hand with commitment. Faith and love for God build commitment to living out one's faith, and vice versa.

As you read this letter, are you perhaps thinking of becoming a husband or a wife or a stepfather or a stepmother? Are you thinking of becoming a priest? If you are, then begin with commitment.

That's why we have the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, and why Marriage and

Ordination also are sacraments. They are really, in a sense, Sacraments of commitment. They are holy moments that fill us with the same Spirit which anointed Jesus Christ in his commitment to begin his saving mission.

Think back to your baptism. For most of us it occurred as infants. Imagine open your ears. Hopefully, you will hear the voice of God saying: *You are my beloved son. On you my favor rests. You are my beloved daughter and I will love you no matter what.* God's love and mercy enable us to commit ourselves to living as a disciple of Jesus, and give us the grace and strength we need to live out this call.

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



The Church is open for prayer
Mon., Wed., & Friday 10 AM to 12 PM

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	January 8
5:00 PM	Thomas & Ellen Barry r/o Maureen Barry
Sunday	January 9 The Baptism of the Lord
10:00 AM	People of the Parish
Monday	January 10
7:30 AM	Vince Carrino –living intention– r/o Rosalie Hebert
Tuesday	January 11
7:30 AM	Charles Nappa r/o Lena Eder & Maureen Barry
Wednesday	January 12
7:30 AM	No Intention
Thursday	January 13
7:30:00 AM	No Intention
Friday	January 14
7:30 AM	No Intention
Saturday	January 15 Vigil
5:00 PM	George Eder r/o Lena, Children & Grandchildren
Sunday	January 16 2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time
10:00 AM	People of the Parish

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.

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.

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: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11:

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7:

Jesus Christ saved us and renewed us with his Holy Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16,21-22:

Jesus is baptized by John.

The Baptism of Our Lord

“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...’” (LUKE 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that *“Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.”* In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

Pope's Intentions for January

For true human fraternity—We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.



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 & light refreshments will be served and all are welcome!

Please continue to assist with sanitizing the pews after Mass. Wipes can be found at the entrance of the church, and on the left & right sides, and on the windowsills in the back. Thank you!

Special Thanks to the people of the Parish for their generous donations to the annual Giving Tree! Our donations have helped provide many families with a little something this Christmas! Nice to keep the tradition of sharing with those in need! Thank you!

TOGETHER IN CHARITY SECOND COLLECTION

This collection funds our Catholic Charities' Emergency Assistance Program, which aids parishes when individuals and families are faced with urgent financial, housing, or medical needs beyond a parish's capacity to meet. Please give generously to this collection and contribute to making this a blessed new year for a family or individual in crisis.

2022 PARISH CALENDARS are available in Church after all Masses. We are most grateful for the generosity of Sheenan’s Funeral Home who provided the wall calendars for our parish families.

SCAM Don't fall for it! Msgr. will never contact a parishioner directly with an emergency request for cash or gift cards. Messages asking parishioners to help fulfill a need would come through the parish's or the diocese's official communication channels or be accomplished through a collection approved by the diocese. If you're not sure about a text or email you've received, do not engage, or respond and call the rectory office right away. In addition, please note that neither your parish nor the diocese will ever sell or give away parishioners' personal information. Often times with text messages, a scam can be identified by looking at the phone number. If you are contacted by a scammer, report it to the rectory office. If you can, capture screen shots of the correspondence on your phone or laptop and email those to stlukesinfo@gmail.com. File a report through the Federal Trade Commission's Complaint Assistant which helps the FTC detect patterns of fraud and abuse.

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 office

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MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER- celebrate your marriage and its many blessings by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held February 4-6. Please apply ASAP as space is limited. Phone Tom or Ruth DeFalco 1-732-904-9636 for an application & information or visit: www.wwme.org.



WEEKLY COLLECTION

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

Christmas \$13,264.00 December 26..\$1,805.00

Online \$285.61

January 1 \$460.00 January 2 \$2,868.00

We thank our bulletin advertisers who make this weekly publication possible. When you shop or use their services, let them know that you saw their ad hear in your parish bulletin.

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/>

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>.



3571 Kennedy Road
South Plainfield, NJ

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Fax: 908-753-4763

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