



*April 11, 2021*

**St. Luke Roman Catholic Church**  
421 E. 38th Street  
Erie, PA 16504

*Catholic Caring Neighbors  
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**DIRECTORY**

Church Office ..... 825-6920  
Church Fax ..... 825-6905  
Church Email ..... stluke@slserie.org  
Faith Formation ..... faithformation@slserie.org  
Church Website ..... www.stlukeerie.org  
Facebook..... www.facebook.com/lukealive  
Prayer Chain ..... 866-1487  
School Office ..... 825-7105  
School Fax ..... 825-7169  
School Website ..... www.eriecatholic.org/sls  
K of C Website ..... www.koc11229.org

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

8:30 am-12:00 pm - 1:00 pm-5:00 pm (M - Th)  
8:30 am-12:00 pm-1:00 pm-3:30 pm (F)  
Closed Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Weekdays ..... \*8:00 am M-F  
..... 5:15 pm M-Th  
Saturday Vigil..... 4:30 pm  
Sunday ..... 9:00 & 11:30 am. & 6:00 pm  
*\*Except for school Masses usually on Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 am.*

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION  
MASS SCHEDULE**

The night before..... 5:15 pm  
The day of ..... \*8:30 am & 7:00 pm  
*\*8:00 am if no school*

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays ..... 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm

**FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins after morning Mass to 4:30 pm every first Friday.  
To sign-up, please contact Judy Krasnesky at 454-1634.

*St. Luke Parish is a Catholic Community of believers who strives to be welcoming, evangelistic, and of service so that all may experience the love of Jesus Christ.*

**PARISH STAFF**

*Pastor* Rev. John P. Malthaner  
*Senior Associate* Rev. John J. Murphy  
*Deacons* Rev. Dr. Richard Shewman  
Rev. Mr. Glenn Kuzma  
*Faith Formation Director* Sr. Carmen Maldonado, SSC  
*School Principal* Audrey Coletta  
*Advancement Director* JoAnn Scheppner  
*Music Ministers* Maggi Minick and Ted Fuhrman  
*Office Staff* Deidre Brown and Louanna Donajkowski  
*Maintenance Director* Bruce Honard

## PASTOR'S DESK

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (992 – 996) teaches that the Christian Creed - the profession of our faith in God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and in God's creative, saving, and sanctifying action, culminates in the proclamation of the resurrection of the dead on the last day and in life everlasting. We firmly believe, and hence we hope that, just as Christ is truly risen from the dead and lives forever, so after death the righteous will live forever with the risen Christ and he will raise them up on the last day.

"If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit who dwells in you."

The term "flesh" refers to man in his state of weakness and mortality. The "resurrection of the flesh" (the literal formulation of the Apostles' Creed) means not only that the immortal soul will live on after death, but that even our "mortal body" will come to life again.

*From the beginning, Christian faith in the resurrection has met with incomprehension and opposition. "On no point does the Christian faith encounter more opposition than on the resurrection of the body." It is very commonly accepted that the life of the human person continues in a spiritual fashion after death. But how can we believe that this body, so clearly mortal, could rise to everlasting life?*

As we celebrate the gift of Easter, I wanted to share the following article by Laura Sheahan entitled "The Resurrection of the Body."

"Please stop being Gnostic. Yes, you, the person reading these words. You are bringing me down...literally. You see, I had hoped after death to rise. Physically. I hope very much the church's constant teaching is true: that at the end of time, we will be raised bodily. The resurrection of the body has been nonnegotiable doctrine for all Christians for two millennia, but I've yet to meet one Christian who believes in it fervently. Reciting the Nicene Creed, the passage between the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting does not seem to make an impression. It is the red-headed stepchild of that creed, given lip service but not really embraced. I know one priest who slurs over the phrase in every Mass he says. When it comes to the afterlife, millions of faithful, Mass-going Catholics seem to think that their souls alone count. I have heard Miraculous-medal-wearing Catholics say they cannot wait to be in heaven with the Lord yet

dismiss the notion that our bodies might be part of that bliss. It is our souls that are important, they say confidently. Aided by a raft of Hallmark cards, the prevailing attitude seems to be that our bodies are just anchors temporarily weighing us down.

This idea that matter is bad and only our spirits are worthwhile is a heresy that church leaders have tried to hammer out of the Christian faith from its earliest days. It is Gnosticism, pure and simple.

Why doesn't bodily resurrection interest, much less delight, people who are otherwise devout? What is not to like?

From the beginning, notes the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Christian faith in the resurrection [of the body] has met with incomprehension and opposition. "*On no point does the Christian faith encounter more opposition than on the resurrection of the body.*" (St. Augustine) It is very commonly accepted that the life of the human person continues in a spiritual fashion after death. But how can we believe that this body, so clearly mortal, could rise to everlasting life?

There are many reasons why Christians cannot easily accept the doctrine. Most obviously, it flies in the face of physics, biology and chemistry. How can something that has died be made to live again? How can cells that have disintegrated and scattered revivify? Yet lots of other things Catholics believe are similarly hard for science to explain, such as the real presence, the virgin birth and more.

Another aspect of the teaching challenges the imagination: how will the resurrection of the body happen? A boy born with no arm gets a transplant from a girl who died; whose arm is it once the last trumpet has sounded? A woman dies at the age of 88; is her resurrection body that of her 88-year-old self, her 29-year-old self or something completely different? A human body decays, feeds grass and mushrooms: at the second coming, will raised but incomplete bodies wander around, zapping the foliage to get their molecules back?

Just as we can't grasp the real presence with logic, we will never understand how our glorified bodies will be at the end of time. The how of our resurrection, says the catechism, exceeds our imagination and understanding; it is accessible only to faith. Many Catholics tutored in Aquinas can accept all aspects of the faith when it comes to Jesus. Yet most of us still have trouble with our own bodily resurrection.

*continued on the next page*

**ST. LUKE FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Sunday Collections as of April 4, 2021

Monthly Electronic Contributions .....	\$4,725.00
Sunday 03/07/2021 .....	\$8,703.00
Sunday 03/14/2021 .....	\$5,963.41
Sunday 03/21/2021 .....	\$6,518.00
Sunday 03/28/2021 .....	\$10,932.56
<b>Total Monthly Collection.....</b>	<b>\$36,841.97</b>
Sunday 04/04/2021 .....	\$6,269.18
Sunday 04/11/2021 .....	\$
Sunday 04/18/2021 .....	\$
Sunday 04/25/2021 .....	\$
<b>Total Monthly Collection to Date.....</b>	<b>\$10,994.18</b>
<b>Easter.....</b>	<b>\$4,434.00</b>

*Thank you to those who contribute to St. Luke Church and the special collections, including the Food Pantry, School, Flowers and the Diocesan special collections that help our neighbors both near and far.*

**PASTOR'S DESK** continued

Perhaps we shy away from the teaching because it is about the future, not the past. We have a record, however debatable, of Jesus' death and resurrection. With apologies to the authors of the *Left Behind* series of novels, no such document exists about our own bodies in the last days.

Or maybe, deep down, we resist the resurrection because this miracle is about us, not them: not Jesus, not Mary, not the saints. We are the ones who will be transfigured, in a way we cannot remotely understand now, and that is scary.

Maybe it is because it is so hard to love our bodies, fickle time bombs as they are, broken and failing and, yes, imprisoning. Old and ill people can be swiftly forgiven for looking toward an eternity without a body that has become a burden and a chore for them.

But anyone who remembers the best things about having a body shushing down a ski slope, learning the right way to kick a soccer ball, smelling a newborn baby's head, to say nothing of other delights can find great hope and relief in the promise of a glorified body. If the risen Jesus could walk through walls and show up when and where he chose, how could our own raised bodies possibly be a hindrance in the country of salvation? How could they do anything but enhance our experience of God?"

Peace,  
Fr. John

**THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH**



In the Temple, forty days after Jesus' birth, Joseph and Mary offered their child to the Lord and listened with amazement to Simeon's prophecy concerning Jesus and his Mother. To protect Jesus from Herod, Joseph dwelt as a foreigner in Egypt. After returning to his own country, he led a hidden life in the tiny and obscure village of Nazareth in Galilee, far from Bethlehem, his ancestral town, and from Jerusalem and the Temple. Of Nazareth it was said, "No prophet is to rise" and indeed, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" When, during a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Joseph and Mary lost track of the twelve-year-old Jesus, they anxiously sought him out and they found him in the Temple, in discussion with the doctors of the Law.

**SECOND COLLECTION** - In two weeks, we will have our annual **Good Shepherd Collection** in our parish to assist with the needs of caring for our retired diocesan priests. There is a special need to assist them with the escalating health care costs and long-



term care expenses. As more priests become eligible to retire from active ministry in the next few years, our Priest Retirement Plan must be adequately funded to cover their future needs. Please consider a gift to the annual Diocesan Good Shepherd Collection on the weekend of **April 24 & 25**. Use the special envelope provided in your packet or any envelope and mark on it, "Good Shepherd Collection."

**CRS RICE BOWLS** - Sixty percent of all Rice Bowl contributions support CRS' humanitarian and development programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to our sisters and brothers around the world. The remaining 40 percent stays in our diocese to support local hunger and poverty prevention programs. Please remember to return your Rice Bowl to the church office as soon as possible.

**DISPENSATION** from the obligation to attend Sunday and holy day Masses remains in place. Do not feel as if you must come to Mass if you are not ready to attend public worship. If you stay home, **please continue to join us as we celebrate with Fr. John Sunday Mass each week on our parish website, [www.stlukeerie.org](http://www.stlukeerie.org); our parish Facebook at [www.facebook.com/lukealive](https://www.facebook.com/lukealive) and our parish app. The Mass will be live-streamed on Facebook at 4:30 pm every Saturday and will be available throughout the week for your convenience.**

### NOMINEES AND THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF PASTORAL COUNCIL

Due to COVID-19, the parish will not vote on the nominees. Six positions needed to be filled and six parishioners have kindly said yes to being members of council for the next three years.



**KAREN HUND** and her son, Kyle Stevens, have been members of St. Luke Church for the last six years. Karen is a Eucharistic Minister, a middle school Faith Formation teacher, and assists with the Liturgy Committee. She also helps with the Sunday Suppers at the Church of the Covenant. Karen feels she has something to offer Pastoral Council. Her faith is central to her life and wants to help others grow in their faith. She has a genuine concern for people who have fallen away from the Church. Karen enjoys baking and cooking, planting and working in her garden, and caring for the needs of the poor and vulnerable.



**TERRI SCHNEPP** has been a member of St. Luke Church for 33 years. She is married to Fred Schnepf and has two adult children, Julie and Kristen. Terri is a retired systems analyst, child development specialist and preschool teacher. She is a member of the Care and Concerns Committee, was a member of the St. Luke School Board (1996-1998), and on the Capital Campaign for the school addition (1997-1998). Terri would like to be a member of Pastoral Council to assist in whatever way she can to keep our parish vibrant and moving forward. Terri enjoys spending time with her family, hiking, traveling, gardening and reading.



**MIKE BAILEY** is married to Lynnea and has four adult children, Mark, Ann-Marie, Stephen, and Gregory. He has been a member of St. Luke Church for 36 years. Mike is a health care retiree. He is a Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Health Ministry, and a previous Pastoral Council member. Mike would like to contribute to the success and growth of our parish.



**KATHY WATSON** has been married to Cornell for 34 years. They have three grown children, Tamiko, Justin and Leanne. Kathy is an office manager. She is actively involved in Faith Formation and has been for over 10 years. She is a team member of Mothers United and does volunteer work with children and senior citizens. Kathy enjoys being the hands of Christ to others. She would like to be on Pastoral Council to help people encounter God in today's world through acts of service.



**NICK KOSOBUCKI** is married to Christyn. They have three children, Alexandra, Aiden and Avery, attending St. Luke School. Nick works at Erie Insurance as an Executive Resolution Examiner. Nick has been a Eucharistic Minister for 4 years and is currently the Athletic Director at St. Luke School. He would like to be on council to assist in the growth of St. Luke Church and find new ways to make current members more active.



**BOB BRABENDER** and his wife, Janice (Jan), have been members of St. Luke Church for 38 years. They have four grown children, Kristen, Katren, Colin and Kyle. Bob has been an attorney in Erie for the last 38 years. He is currently the Vice Chairman of the Barber National Institute Board of Directors and a Times Old Newsies active member. Bob has previously served on St. Luke Pastoral Council, the PreCana team, and the St. Luke School Board.



**FLOWER FUND DONATIONS** were received in loving memory of **“Chubby” and Joan Kuhl** from the Kuhl Girls and the Klapsinos Family; and **Norman J. Cutri** from his wife, Margaret Cutri and family.

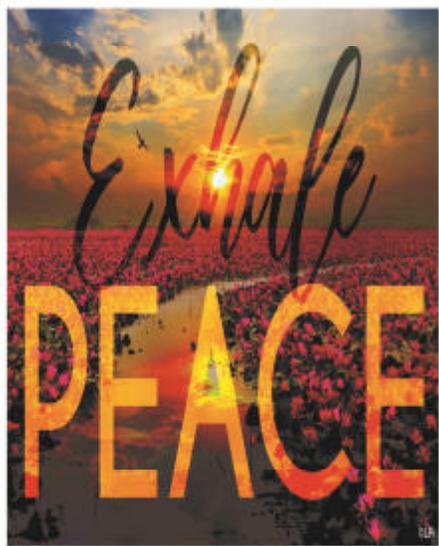
**CHILD PROTECTION & CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS - Child Abuse Prevention Month:** Be Vigilant - It is vitally important that we are constantly vigilant concerning the behaviors of those who interact with children. And we must always communicate our concerns to the appropriate parties. Sometimes this means communicating our safety concerns to our children. And sometimes this means communicating our concerns about seemingly inappropriate behavior to those who are in a position to intervene. Parents must also listen carefully to their children and observe both their children’s activities and the behavior of older children and adults who interact with them. When children exhibit dramatic behavioral changes, adults must find out what caused the changes. Being aware of what’s happening with our children means talking to, listening to, and observing them - at every opportunity. *For particular questions you may call: Cindy Zemcik, Coordinator for the Office for the Protection of Children and Youth in the Diocese of Erie at 814-824-1195.*

**THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA - ERIE** is planning an expansion of the Home Enthronement Ministry to each geographical region of the Diocese of Erie beginning in June. Thirteen Sacred Heart statues and 13 Our Lady of Fatima statues will be needed to provide one set for each of the priests/spiritual directors/lay coordinators who offer home enthronements in their respective areas. The purchase price for each statue is estimated at \$160. Monetary donations may be made to the World Apostolate of Fatima-Erie, c/o John Kostrubanic, president, P.O. Box 311, Fairview, PA 16415. All donors will be recognized by name and city in an upcoming World Apostolate of Fatima-Erie newsletter and will be invited to a special Mass at Erie’s Sacred Heart Church on June 11 at 5:30 pm.




**FOUND** - A pair of men’s black, leather gloves were found in the church Sunday, March 21. They are in the church office, if they belong to you.

## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



**Exhale PEACE**

**FIRST READING:**  
With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all. (Acts 4:33)

**PSALM:**  
Give thanks to the Lord, for his is good, his love is everlasting. (Ps 118)  
Or Alleluia.

**SECOND READING:**  
Everyone who believe that Jesus is the Christ is begotten by God, and everyone who loves the Father loves also the one begotten by him. (1 Jn 1:14)

**GOSPEL:**  
Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2007, 1998, 1970 CCC. The English translation of Psalms Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1963, 1981, 1987, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**  
**Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture**

What a wonderful joy fills us today as we ponder the inexhaustible mercy of God. "Mercy is the heart of God," Pope Francis tells us. The image of a heart has been used to point to the very life source of a person as it is the organ that allows life to flow through our veins and sustain us. Mercy is the heart of God. Imagine this dynamic, powerful, compassionate, piercing, embracing, loving, propelling, penetrating, absorbing, and enveloping, transforming presence of God flowing into the very depth of our souls. It is God's mercy that allows blood to flow through our veins. It is God's mercy that forms every atom of our being and leads us to what is true. God's mercy reveals all superficiality and falsehood, and lays bare all distortions, empty promises, weakness, and sin.

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope," Pope Francis continues. God's all-forgiving, compassionate love is with us. When we finally believe and accept that Christ's resurrected transfigured presence resides with us, we then find within us a strong confidence to accept life's imperfections and disappointments and move on. Every day is a new adventure in new life. God leaves the past behind and opens doors to the future. It doesn't matter how many mistakes we made yesterday. All that matters is what we do tomorrow and what we learn along the way. It is so easy to remain tethered and mired in the past, but there is no need to do so. God is all about tomorrow and the work God has yet to do in our lives.

Mercy gives birth to hope. Hope for the greatest of sinners and hope for the worst of disasters. There is nothing God cannot do and nothing God cannot fashion. After all, everything we know and treasure was once nothing, and look what God did with the nothing God had! The resurrected Christ stands before us with nail marks in his wrists and wounds on his body as a testament that not even injustice, suffering and death can trample over and destroy God's mercy. What have we to fear? Why do we keep ourselves from peace? Our lack of faith prevents us from going forward and fully receiving the holiness God desires to breathe upon us. Breathe in God's mercy, allow the wind of God's presence to kiss all of your sins and caress all of your fears. Exhale peace.



Wedding Banns

*Valerie Fuhrman and Duane Miller III*

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** - In today's gospel Jesus teaches, "Blessed are those who have not seen and believe." Accepting someone as they are, without demanding they prove themselves or meet our expectations, creates a rich relationship. Real mercy begins here.

**MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS** to St. Luke Church were received, in loving memory of **Bernie Pauly**, from Linda and Dale Leach, family members and friends; in loving memory of **James Metzler**, from Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hart, Jackie Tarr, Janet Hedges, James and Mary Cavicchio, Jeff and Barbara Skonieczki, Beth (Andrews) and Kevin O'Leary, Melissa Brasco, the Andrews and Stark Families.

**A MEMORIAL DONATION** to the St. Luke Education Fund was received, in loving memory of **James Metzler**, from the Ventrello Family - Charles, Elizabeth, David, Stephen, Philip and Diane.

**PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH**

Hail,  
 Guardian of the Redeemer,  
 Spouse of the  
 Blessed Virgin Mary.  
 To you God entrusted  
 his only Son;  
 In you Mary placed her trust;  
 With you Christ became man.  
 Blessed Joseph, to us too,  
 Show yourself a father  
 And guide us in  
 the path of life.  
 Obtain for us grace,  
 mercy and courage,  
 And defend us from every evil.  
 Amen

**MASS SCHEDULE**



**SATURDAY, APRIL 10**

4:30 †Kathy Masolotte (Husband, Mark)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11 (Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

9:00 †John Patrick Winston, Jr. (The Schiller Family)

11:30 †Jason Wehrle (Jerry & Sue Verga)

6:00 Mass for the People

**MONDAY, APRIL 12**

8:00 †(Anniv) Larry Canella (George & Mary Bartko)

5:15 †Joan Kuhl (Barb Guariono)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13 (St. Martin I)**

8:00 †Mary & Edward Wojtkielewski (Estate)

5:15 †Fred Sipple (Beverly Kimet)

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14**

8:30 †Ann "Antoinette" Carlin (Therese Marie Donofrio, Anne Marie, Abbie, & Andrew Harrington)

5:15 †Joe Nies (Paul & Frances Kuzma)

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15**

8:00 †(Anniv) Esther Canella (George & Mary Bartko)

5:15 †The Deceased Relatives & Friends  
 of Carole Petrungar

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**

8:30 †Dennis Rozumalski (David & Darleen Wilkinson)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

1:30 Wedding of Valerie Fuhrman and Duane Miller

4:30 †Mabel Muck (The Stormer Family)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18 (The Third Sunday of Easter)**

9:00 †Mark Jaskiewicz II (Mark & Ann Jaskiewicz)

11:30 †Dianne D'Annibale (Husband & Family)

6:00 Mass for the People



*The sanctuary candle is burning this week in honor of the Blessed Sacrament and in loving memory of Arch and Mike Messer from Barbara Berdis.*

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

(You are RESPONSIBLE to find your own sub)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10**

4:30 Christian Hoke

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11**

9:00 Ty Hulick

11:30 Nate Firman

6:00 Lola Lubomski



**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

4:30 Elizabeth Northern

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18**

9:00 Caitlin Dugan

11:30 Kaydence Weitzel

6:00 Joseph Agnello

*(Thank you for your time and effort in helping with this important ministry.)*

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YOUR AD  
HERE.

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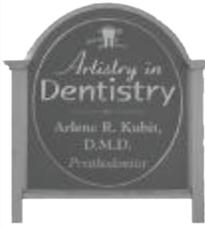
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## ST. LUKE'S CHURCH REQUEST FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### CHECK ONE:

- New Registration
- Change of Address
- Moving out of Parish
- Want Envelopes

*Please drop Request Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory.*

