Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday - April 19, 2020

GOSPEL

As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit.

Jn 20:21-22

Mission Statement

The Church of St. Luke is joyful, welcoming, caring, active family of believers striving to grow in knowledge of and love for God and each other. Challenged by the Word, nurtured by the Eucharist, and enlivened by the Spirit, we seek to live the message of Jesus in serving the needs of others both within our Parish and in the larger community.

Masses

Available online anytime, and streaming live Sundays @ 9am

www.stluke-ec.org Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 7:30am Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 9:00am & 11:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Postponed until further notice Saturday: 3:30pm (also by appointment)

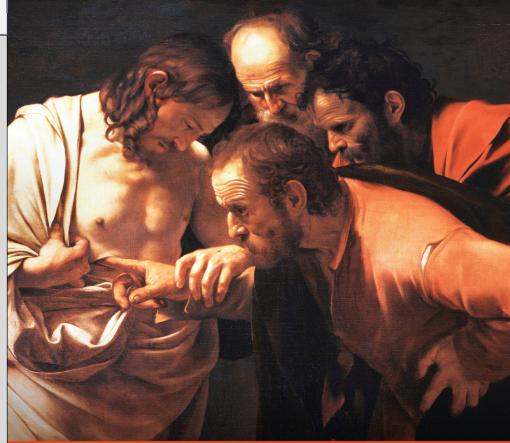
Parish Office Hours

Closed until further notice

Monday-Friday 9:00am—5:00pm Phone: (619) 442-1697 Fax: (619) 442-2293



1980 Hillsdale Road El Cajon, California 92019 (619) 442-1697 www.thechurchofstluke.org



2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47 Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Gospel: John 20:19-31

Reflection: What words or phrases jumped out at you during the Liturgy of the Word on Sunday? What connection do those words or phrases have to your day-to-day life? (Why do you think they jumped out at you?) What might God be trying to say to you through these words or phrases? What response should you make? What action should you take?

Alternative: Share about/reflect upon what you think is the primary message of the Gospel. How do you live your life in a manner that shows you believe this? What to you need to let go of, in your life, to life what you believe more perfectly? How can you proclaim this Gospel by the manner in which you live your life?

Parish Council, Finance Council and From the Pastor

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Parish Pastoral Council normally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Visitors/ observers are welcome. If you wish to have an item placed on the agenda, contact a Council Member to present it for you, or contact the Parish Office.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Fr. Ron Cochran, Pastor Mark Balmert, Chairperson Amy Cannon Tony Camara Julia Caputo Theresa Dodd-Butera Chuck Duncan Linda Jacobson Kay Krueger Kevin Lawrence Don Mercurio Tom Selfani Jim Sheehan Dcn. Dennie Nickell (Deacon Emeritus) Dcn. Jerry Stenovec Dcn. Allan Williams Jane Cruz Alfano (Staff)

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The Parish Finance Council meets every other 4th Wednesday of the month.

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Fr. Ron Cochran, Pastor Jim Crockett George Heidenreich John Krueger Cathy March Dave Sapper Jim Stepovich



FROM THE PASTOR Gospel: John 20:19-31 As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the holy Spirit. Jn 20:21-22

This is the commissioning in John's Gospel account. It has the same elements of the "Great Commission" of Matthew's Gospel, the disciples are sent to do a job, and they are given the power to do it by the giving of the Holy Spirit.

In Matthew they are given the task of making disciples and he empowers them by telling them that He will continue to be with them (Mt 28:19-20). In Mark's Gospel they are simply told to go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel (good news) to every creature (Mk 16:15). Mark doesn't relate here that the Holy Spirit will guide their proclamation, but he already told them that the Spirit will give them the words to say (Mk 13:11). In the Gospel of Luke, the disciples are told that they are witnesses of how Jesus fulfilled the promises of the Hebrew Scriptures and were told to wait in Jerusalem for the power from on high, the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Luke 24:48-49).

In John's Gospel, the job we are given is to bring God's forgiveness to the world. I know, it also says that we can retain sins, but what do you think God wants. It seems to me that people retain their own sins and our job is to show them the way out of that.

The Gospels, all four, are clear: we have a job to do and God will give us the tools to do it.

Why is the story of Thomas interwoven into the story of the commissioning? I think it is to demonstrate that God will give us whatever we need to empower us to be his missionaries. He is not a God who sits back an expects us to come to him. He seeks us out and relates to us wherever we are. And, God's power is found in the community, the community we call Church.

I'm on the side of the Scripture scholars who say this story is an indication that the early Church gathered every Sunday. And, I believe the elements found in this story are found in our Sunday gatherings. We come to gather in support of each other, Jesus comes and makes himself present to us, he relates to us as individuals in the community; and, his interaction with us empowers us to carry out the commission he has given us.

Oh, an for those searching for purpose in life, this is the ultimate purpose. We were created for relationship and we were created for meaningful, fruitful, relationship. If, in our relationships, we carry out the mission Jesus gave us, our own lives are enriched and we experience the fullness of life, as much as we can on earth. The mission, by-the-way, can be stated in several different way but the way that is most meaningful to me is to say our job is to bring God's love to the small moments or our day-to-day lives. This fulfills the commission as it is stated in each of the Gospels; God's love for us is the good news.

In His Service,

Fr. Ron

Remember in Your Prayers, Weekly Readings, Mass Intentions



Laman Abdulahad, Ken Caley, Marie Silva, Bob Irons, Ben Floridi, Cherokee Eddy, Eileen Milnick, Jose Luis, Bobbie Allen, Frank Wilusz, Thomas Dennison, Charli David, Michael Sanchez, Joanne Silva, Thomas & Charlie Frechette, Irene Sowada, Janice Jones, Meg & Jacob Seilheimer, Michele Peterson, Donna & John Vugrin, Marckis Lee, Carlos Zarate, Gail Balga, Bill Washkevich, David

Sanderlin, Juan Jiménez, Donna McWalter, Cindy McLaughlin, Christian Colon, Sofia Healy, Citiali Chavez, Rosalie Cline, Sandie Tessier, Logan Bedsole, Jeanette Craig, David Ashbaugh, Chris Martin, Mavi Ghio, Ryan Smith, Matthew Chu, Rose Falls, Richard Frechette, Ann Hansell, Reilly Phipps, Mike McFaul, Richard Spurling, Dean Mellos, Eric Matus, Sally Williams, Gabe Eddy, Harriet B, Nora Toscano, Eugenio Cesena, Jeanne Brunner, Patty Hayes and Family, Glen Stewart, Corrine Warcholik, Colleen London, Laurie Lindow, Joey Enderwood, Bob Cole, Paul Folsom, John Stevenson, Zoey Thomas, La Mice Denton, Brian Hill, Gary Corwin, Lorraine Flint, Bill Phillips, Isaac Armas, Mary Botte, Lara Pasi, Nancy Usrey, Ryan Cochran, Emmanuel Hallak, Dylan Coughlin, Selena Chum, Jimmie Davis, Rachel Chavez, Michele Chavez, Helen Chu, Al Bowen, Joyce Kammer, Theresa Warcholik, Cheryl Berry, Natalie Enriquez, Candace Dayton, Ladel, Michael Ward, Nina Murphy, Noel Fisher, Karen Bennett, Connie Elba, Charles Brown, Jim Leachman, Christine Banuelos, Jose Orrantia, Mina Scannicchio, Carol Petrich, Carey Moore, Jose Azarza, Parker Landis, Joan Smith, Jackie, Jeff Rogers, Michelle Tello, Chase Laird, Vera Navetta, Miriam Kaskorkis, Adelaide Fitzwater, Alice Zizzo, Sophia Christensen, Cindy Russell, Karen Walker, Mike Murphy, Ann Mussomeli, Jeanine DeSanti, Joe James Sowards, Vie Liddell, Jennifer Soares, Dorothea Wall, Antoinette Daquisto-Guidi, Bob Weisham, Teri Harrison, Danielle P., Maria Warcholik, Ruthie Condon, Marin Mejia, Mike Marcon, Theresa & Vito Siragusa, Tracy Weaver, Rick Gores, Sue Sullivan, Tommy Collet Sr., Richard Perricone, John Agostini, Austin Gatus, The Hill Family, The Morrison Family, Frances Colombo, Zaim Attisha, Teresa Russo; and all our relatives and friends who are sick or need prayers.

To add or remove a name, please contact Nancy Adema

G PARISH FINANCES №

In order to fulfill our budget, we need to receive an average of \$12,722 in the collection each week. Some weeks may be higher and some lower, but we need to maintain

that average. Additionally, we have budgeted for an average of \$12,802 to be contributed monthly through our Online Giving contribution program. The total amount budgeted through these sources is \$660,095 this year. Our budget includes another \$106,384 expected income from other sources; (Annual Catholic Appeal rebates, Christmas & Easter collections, Sacramental donations, interest, one-time gifts and bequests, etc.).

Week of April 12th online giving: \$ 8,133.00

SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH: Once you've made a decision on how much you should be giving, decide how to give.

WAYS TO GIVE: You can use envelopes as many people do, or set up automatic donations through your bank (forms available in the parish office); you can go to *Online Giving* on the St. Luke website and set up an online giving plan. You may personally manage online giving or call the parish office to arrange a plan administered by the parish Business Manager. Online Giving Link: <u>www.thechurchofstluke.org</u> (click on *Online Giving*, on the right side of the menu bar). For additional information, please call the parish office at 619-442-1697.

Please pray for April Wedding Anniversaries

Joe and Frances Colombo 58 years
Albert and Carmelita Austria 52 years
Pete and Rose Ann Vaiasuso 48 years
Tom and Ann Kelly 48 years
Glenn and Carmen Hiebing 43 years
Carlos and Patti Cuellar 42 years
Dan and Marty Molden 40 years
Al and Connie Bowen 35 years
Tony and Kerri Holzer 25 years
John and Candy Weir 22 years
Matthew and Veronica Soares 19 years
Jim and Marilyn Sheehan 3 years



If you would like to have your Wedding Anniversary placed in the bulletin, please call 619-442-1697.

Readings for the week of <u>April 19, 2020</u>

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]/Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [11a]/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

Prayer Intentions



LIVE THE LITURGY: INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Have you ever experienced awe? Awe is commonly defined as a feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear or wonder. A moment of awe has the ability to lift us up out of ourselves and immerse us into something that causes us to wonder

about ourselves, the meaning of life, and truth. Awe is an experience of connection that links us to something that is beyond the normal happenings of life. For us who believe that the resurrected Christ is present in all of life and the totality of the universe, being touched by awe can lead us to exclaim, "My Lord and my God!"

Pondering the vastness of God's presence also brings us to a profound sense of God's mercy, which is the showering of His unconditional love on each of His daughters and sons. When we internalize this mystery, we may find ourselves standing in awe once again and feeling an intense sense of peace.



Celebration of Mass: Online and TV

The Diocese of San Diego will provide weekly Masses, via video stream, in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. http://sdcatholic.org/

Daily Mass is celebrated on the **EWTN** channel, and also on Sundays (9:00am & 9:00pm)



The Church of St. Luke will provide weekly Masses, via video stream, Sundays @ 9:00am, or available anytime on our website. www.stluke-ec.org (scroll down on the home page to see the Mass section)

<u>Coming soon</u>! Please check your email for information about joining, via Zoom, the St. Luke **Pro-Life Rosary on Sundays** @ 8:15am





Second Sunday of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday April 19, 2020

A person was going through a very dark time, questioning the meaning of life, not feeling very purposeful or worthwhile, and feeling disconnected and unappreciated. Suddenly, they gazed up at the night sky, found themselves in awe of all the stars and constellations, and exclaimed, "I am here on purpose and I am loved!" Having been brought by God to this moment of intense connection and awareness, his life changed from that moment on.

If we are always preoccupied with the challenges, obligations, and stuff of daily life, we can easily miss the wonderful opportunities when the resurrected Christ is knocking at our door. If we open ourselves to the fullness of experience, we will find ourselves listening and embracing all that is around us, being caught up in the magnificence of creation's grandeur and knowing in our heart and soul that God is and I am.

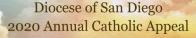
While that sounds like a simple, tell-me-something-Idon't-know kind of revelation, it is life-changing when it takes root in the depth of a person's soul. Stumbling upon this awesome truth and internalizing it doesn't require an assent of the mind. It beckons for a claim on our soul. We find ourselves knowing something profound that cannot be explained or reasoned, but purely is. When we are caught up in an experience and encounter the truth, it doesn't matter how all of the pieces got put together. Truth is simply truth. The "my Lord and my God" responses we utter are not evoked because all of the pieces of faith and life make reasonable sense. The "my Lord and my God" affirmations come when we are lifted up out of our preoccupations and silliness and are in the presence of mystery and mercy.

God is mystery, one who is beyond our grasp but at the same time within our reach, knowable yet unknowable. And when in the presence of mystery, there comes an intense experience of mercy. We know deep within the essence of ourselves — and in the very life of creation this beating, unconditionally accepting, life-sustaining, profound, mysterious yet familiar presence of love. We have found our peace. "Peace be with you." Breathe in and breathe out. Peace.



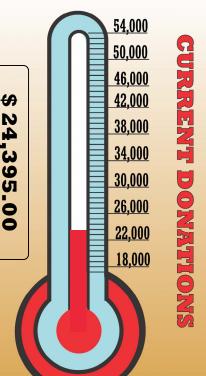
Parish Information

Gratitude in Action



Annual Catholic Appeal San Diego Diocese Goal for St. Luke \$54,000

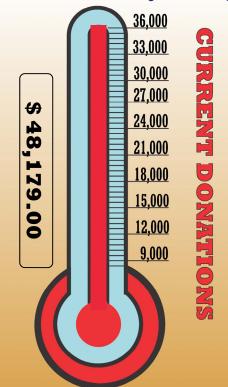
Annual Catholic Appeal Online Giving go to: https://giving.sdcatholic.org







Online Giving go to: http://thechurchofstluke.org Click on the On Line Giving Box on the right



G PARISH DIRECTORY №

Pastor: Rev. Ron Cochran (619) 442-1697 Deacon Emeritus: Dennie Nickell (619) 442-1697 Deacon: Jerry Stenovec (619) 442-1697 Deacon: Allan Williams (619) 442-1697 Pastoral Associate: Jane Cruz Alfano (619) 442-1697 x103 Business Manager: Jim Crockett (619) 442-1697 x110 busmgr@thechurchofstluke.org Secretary: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101 secretary@thechurchofstluke.org Bulletin Editor: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101 secretary@thechurchofstluke.org Facility Manager: Robert Stevenson (619)442-1697 x109 facman@thechurchofstluke.org Web Master: Lance Attig webmaster@thechurchofstluke.org Altar Servers: Dcn. Alan Williams (619) 442-1697 Choir Director: Colin McColl Organist: Susan Paul

FAITH FORMATION

Catechetical Ministry: Jane Cruz Alfano, Pastoral Associate (619) 442-1697 x103 passoc@thechurchofstluke.org *Coordinator of RCIA:* Dcn. Jerry Stenovec (619) 442-1697

Coordinators of PreK-5 Faith Formation: Debbie Stenovec; Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 619) 442-1697 x 105 · CGS@thechurchofstluke.org Jennifer Kroeger; Sacramental Preparation (619) 442-1697 x 104 · K-5reled@thechurchofstluke.org Coordinator of Middle & High School Faith Formation, Youth & Young Adult Ministry: Evelyn Beale (619) 442-2515 x106 · youthreled@thechurchofstluke.org MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Baptism Class: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 Church Cleaning Crew: Peggy Nelson Catholics in Recovery: Jean Goulding Cub/Boy Scout Religious Emblems: Shannon Vint Eucharistic Adoration: Mike Wasyliw Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Jacobson Friends of the Poor: Martha Evans Greeters: Maria Oliver Knights of Columbus: Eddie Vandiver, GK Lectors: Susan Smothers Marriage Preparation: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 Ministry to the Sick and Homebound: Dcn. lerry Stenovec Outreach Ministry: Ken Stempien (619) 442-1697 **Prayer Chain:** Nancy Adema Culture of Life: Pat Riggs Scrip: Ed Broadhurst Small Church Communities: lane Cruz Alfano (619) 442-1697 x103 Society of St. Vincent de Paul: Mike Wasyliw St. Luke Business Network: Cathy March Ushers: George Heidenreich

JOANIE MAITILASSO, Bulletin Editor Office Phone: (619) 442-1697 • Fax (619) 442-2293 Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm secretary@thechurchofstluke.org DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: MONDAY AT NOON

This Week at St. Luke

All Calendar Events have been cancelled until further notice.

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of **Divine Mercy** has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and



love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young women, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, "a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come."



Please keep giving so we can keep giving!

https://stlukeelcajon.weshareonline.org • or text StLuke to 555888 • or send to: The Church of St. Luke 1980 Hillsdale Rd. El Cajon, CA 92020

www.thechurchofstluke.org

Parish Information



Question: *What does it mean to discern a vocation?*

Answer: The word vocation comes from the Latin word vocare, meaning "to call." A vocation is a calling or invitation from God to serve in a particular way. For Catholics, that calling might be as a priest, sister, or married person. Vocation is the way we respond to the invitation to share in God's grace and witness to God's love in the world.

Discerning a vocation is the process in which we pray for God's quidance. We listen for God's message that is often quiet and unassuming in a world filled with noise and distractions. We look at our gifts and talents, seek the advice of others, examine our motives, and listen to see what God is asking of us. The goal of discernment is to follow what the Lord wills, not what we think is the best idea. Many men enter a seminary to discern if that is their vocation, only to discover that their calling is to marriage. Others have resisted the idea for long periods of time, until finally they could resist no more. Some areat saints have described that dilemma. Vocation is a human process of divine origin, and each of us must strive constantly to hear the call of God in our lives.



in your prayers

We offer our blessings and prayers to our parish RCIA candidates as they affirm their intent to join the church. Lord, we ask you to bless your sons and daughters. **Amen**.



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF April 19, 2020

Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday Monday: Weekday Tuesday: St. Anselm

Wednesday: Earth Day Thursday: St. George: St. Adalbert

Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen; Arbor Day

Saturday: St. Mark, Evangelist

Next Sunday: Third Sunday of Easter

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP— RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Give Yourself Completely

The early days of the first Christian community were not easy by any measurement. Jesus had been executed, and his disciples had to be discreet so as not to meet a similar fate. Jesus was now risen, but the truth of his resurrection was not accepted by all. However, the depiction of that early community in Acts 2:42-47 would lead someone to believe it was the opposite situation. We are told of community life where people lean on each other and share great joy. They ate and prayed together, and many wonders and signs were occurring to lift the community and bear witness to the power of Jesus Christ. They were disciples living out their faith, and it was their strong sense of stewardship that made all this possible in the face of threatening Roman and Jewish powers.

Today, we find the Church in a new turmoil. Increasing secularism. abuse scandals, and a lack of true fidelity place us once again in a time that is not easy. A friend of mine likes to say that any challenge of sin we encounter in the Church has its origin in a lack or misunderstanding of the stewardship way of life. We create our burdens by not using our gifts wisely and by turning inward selfishly. Could we use the story in Acts of the early Church to help us today? If we begin with the decision to give of ourselves completely to God and His people, will we become agents of change? There is only one way to find out.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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to complete all of your shopping in support of the parish outreach program.

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St. Luke Church, El Cajon, CA

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