

## Third Sunday of Advent — December 13, 2020

### Gospel

*A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.*  
Jn 1:6-8

*Welcome to*

THE CHURCH OF

# Saint Luke

A ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES

1980 Hillside Road  
El Cajon, California 92019

(619) 442-1697  
[www.thechurchofstluke.org](http://www.thechurchofstluke.org)

### ✠ 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

*All Mass celebrations are held outdoors. Please bring a chair.*

- **Saturday 5:00 pm**  
*Outdoor*
- **Sunday 9:00am**  
*Outdoor-Livestreamed*
- **Sunday 11:30am**  
*Outdoor*



### Sacrament of Reconciliation

*Available by appointment*

### Parish Office Hours

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



## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11*

*SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

*GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28*

**Reflection:** Reflect upon/Share about people, in you life, who have testified to the light? What's your life like when you are connected to the light; when you are not connected to the light? What one thing can you do to help you stay connected to the light?

**Alternative:** Are you afraid of the dark? What is the difference between doing things in the dark and doing things in the light? Why is "light" symbolic of doing good? What can you do to become known as a child of the light?

**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
- Kay Krueger
- Kevin Lawrence
- Don Mercurio
- Tom Selfani
- Dcn. Dennie Nickell  
(Deacon Emeritus)
- Dcn. Jerry Stenovac
- 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

  
**Gospel Meditation**  
 ENCOURAGE DEEPER  
 UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

**Third Sunday of Advent  
December 13, 2020**

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.



  
**Everyday Stewardship**  
 RECOGNIZING GOD  
 IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

**A Constant Companion**

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



# Prayer Requests, Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

## Prayer REQUESTS

Laman Abdulahad, Reef Wasyliw, Chris Foraker, Mary Jean Avalos, Brian Hill, Connie Bowen, Ken Caley, 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 and Jacob Seilheimer, Michele Peterson, John Vugrin, Marckis Lee, Carlos Zarate, Gail Balga, Bill Washkevich, Juan Jiménez, Donna McWalter, Cindy McLaughlin, Christian Colon, Sofia Healy, Citali 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, 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, Chase Laird, 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**

### PARISH FINANCES

In order to fulfill our budget, we need to receive an average of \$12,722 in the collection basket each week. Additionally, we have budgeted for an average of \$12,802 to be contributed monthly through our Online Giving contribution program.

#### Week of December 6th:

<b>Weekly Mass offering:</b>	\$	<b>4,556.00</b>
<b>Weekly WeShare/Online Giving:</b>	\$	<b>12,021.00</b>

**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: <https://www.thechurchofstluke.org> (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 December Wedding Anniversaries

**Wally & Pat Riggs**..... 63 years  
**Marty & Lil Collins** ..... 53 years  
**Dale & Elaine Couch** ..... 51 years  
**John & Christine Weisickle** ..... 47 years  
**Martin & Adriana Holguin** ..... 19 years  
**John & Maribel Compagnone** ... 11 years  
**Joe & Pauline Doran**..... 9 years

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

### Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

**Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

**Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32

**Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

**Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17

**Friday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

**Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

**Next Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38



### Prayer Intentions

**Saturday, December 12**  
5:00pm.....Tommy Collet, RIP

**Sunday, December 13**  
9:00am .....Walt Wilcox, RIP  
11:30am .....Mansour Barbat, RIP

**Saturday, December 19**  
5:00pm.....Mary Alice Balmert, RIP

**Sunday, December 20**  
9:00am .....Carol Pyle, RIP  
11:30am .....Parishioners of St. Luke

## Live the Liturgy and Parish Information

# ECYA

## MONTHLY NIGHT OF WORSHIP

2020-2021



DECEMBER

16

Our Lady of Grace @ 6:00PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Advent Evening Prayer & Benediction

JANUARY

15

Saint Martin of Tours @ 7:00PM

Holy Hour with Liturgy of the Hours & Rosary

FEBRUARY

9

Saint Therese Parish @ 6:15 PM

Confession & 7 PM Mass

MARCH

12

Saint John of the Cross @ 8:00PM

Holy Hour with Stations of the Cross

APRIL

14

Santa Sophia @ 5:00-7:00PM

Adoration & Confession  
Join us as soon as you can!

### NOTES: THIS INITIATIVE CAME FROM THE SYNOD ON YOUNG ADULTS

- All Young Adults are invited to join our Monthly Night of Worship!
- Social Distancing and Masks are required.
- Follow East County Young Adults on Instagram @SD.ECYA
- Follow the Diocese of San Diego Office of Young Adult Ministry @SDCatholic

## Live the Liturgy

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response to the experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

*Choose Joy*

## Retirement Fund for Religious



Share in the Care



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Please give at Mass, Dec. 12-13, to assist our brothers and sisters in Christ.

✠ Thank you and God Bless You!



# Celebrate the Mass!

## •Diocese of San Diego

Online Sunday Mass (English, Spanish, Vietnamese): <https://www.sdcatholic.org/find-a-parish/on-line-sunday-mass/>

## •EWTN Channel

Daily and Sunday Masses are celebrated at 9:00am and 9:00pm; check your broadcast provider's schedule for channel

## •Heart of the Nation

Sunday Mass is celebrated at 8:30am on channel 6 (for most broadcast providers). Also available online: <https://www.heartofthenation.org/online-mass/sunday-mass>

## •Church of St. Luke

All Mass celebrations are outdoors; no reservation required. Please bring a chair.

- ❖ 5:00pm Saturday Outdoor
- ❖ 9:00am Sunday Outdoor (Livestreamed)
- ❖ 11:30am Sunday Outdoor

Please visit the St. Luke website for more information: [www.thechurchofstluke.org](http://www.thechurchofstluke.org)



## Poinsettia Memoriams and Christmas Decoration Expenses

Poinsettias beautifully decorate our church space on Christmas, and are a special way to remember loved ones, both living and deceased.

Your donation of any amount also helps with our Christmas decoration expenses.

### Poinsettia Donations

Small : \$25.00

Medium \$50.00

Large \$150.00

(donations of any amount are appreciated and accepted)

Thank You!

Envelopes will be handed out at Masses by the ushers.

To donate online go to:

<https://stlukeelcajon.weshareonline.org/>

and click on **Christmas Flowers.**

List your loved ones names in the comments section.

**For more information, please call the parish office:**

**619-442-1697**



Pray the Rosary with us!

Sundays at **8:00am**, via Zoom

Details at: [www.thechurchofstluke.org](http://www.thechurchofstluke.org)  
(scroll down to *Sunday Community Rosary*)

**The Church of St. Luke** welcomes all who seek to enrich their faith life and explore the possibility of becoming a Catholic Christian. Our community joyfully shares and celebrates this journey with them through "The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults" - RCIA.

This journey includes both a discernment process where we spend prayerful time contemplating the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives and our response to that calling, as well as learning about the Catholic faith.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about what the Catholic faith - or perhaps you are an adult already baptized in the Catholic Church and are now wanting to become fully initiated - you are cordially invited to enter the RCIA process.

For more information, please contact **Deacon Jerry Stenovec**



## Parish Directory, Observances and Giving

### 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:** Madeline Flores  
madeline@stluke-ec.org  
**Altar Servers:** Jane Fuzak (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 Wasyliv  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Maria Giddens  
**Friends of the Poor:** Martha Evans  
**Greeters:** Maria Oliver  
**Knights of Columbus:** Lance Attiq, GK  
**Lectors:** Susan Smothers  
**Marriage Preparation:** Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697  
**Ministry to the Sick and Homebound:**  
Dcn. Jerry Stenovec  
**Outreach Ministry:** Ken Stempien (619) 442-1697  
**Prayer Chain:** Nancy Adema  
**Culture of Life:** Pat Riggs  
**Scrip:** Ed Broadhurst  
**Small Church Communities:**  
Jane Cruz Alfano (619) 442-1697 x103  
**Society of St. Vincent de Paul:**  
Mike Wasyliv  
**St. Luke Business Network:** Cathy March  
**Ushers:** Susan Smothers

### 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**

Please call the church office for any inquiries.  
Thank you!

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

**Sunday:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Monday:** St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

**Next Sunday:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

A great way to celebrate Christmas is by giving our gifts to Jesus – gifts of love and gratitude. It's a time we can stop and remember those who are often forgotten. We can help those in need. We can show our gratitude by reaching out to whose need it much greater than ours. We can convey our love to those who are lonely and abandoned.



**How You May Help: Go to our parish website**  
<https://stlukeelcajon.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/TheGivingTree/donate>

Select and click on the monetary amount you would like to donate.

Choose from the list of vendors: Amazon.com, CVS, Rite Aid, Smart & Final, Target, Vons, Albertsons, Safeway, Walgreen's, or Walmart. Indicate your vendors in the "Comment" section.

You may also choose an organization to donate to from this list: Crisis House, Interfaith Shelter Network (El Nido), San Diego Youth Services, and El Cajon Collaborative Member agencies in the "Comment" section.

**NOTE:** These nonprofit agencies have been vetted and have proven to be trustworthy throughout our partnership over the years. Their missions are in line with the Catholic Church's social justice and service values.



## Catholic Life, Parish Information

THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A SPECIAL OFFERING!

### Virtual Christmas Caroling

"THE BEST WAY TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER IS SINGING LOUD FOR ALL TO HEAR" -BUDDY THE ELF

Christmas looks different for all of us this year, and one of the things we'll miss the most as a Parish are our Christmas Chorus. So, we have a plan to continue to bring joyful Christmas music to our community this year, with a virtual compilation event! The final Caroling extravaganza video will be released on Christmas Eve to our STL families!

PLEASE SUBMIT A VIDEO OF YOU OR YOUR FAMILY SINGING YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONG TO BE FEATURED IN OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROLING VIDEO. HERE ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS:

- VIDEOS SHOULD BE SHOT IN LANDSCAPE ORIENTATION
- TRY TO KEEP VIDEOS ONLY 20-30 SECONDS LONG
- ALL AGES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE-THE MORE THE MERRIER!
- TRY RECORDING ON ZOOM TO INCLUDE EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBERS
- VIDEOS ARE DUE DECEMBER 20TH BY MIDNIGHT
- INCLUDE YOUR/YOUR FAMILY'S NAME IN THE EMAIL SUBMISSION
- EMAIL YOUR SUBMISSION TO [EVELYN@STLUKE-EC.ORG](mailto:EVELYN@STLUKE-EC.ORG)

Don't Forget Your Videos are due December 20th

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR FAVORITE SONGS TO CONSIDER SINGING:

- SILENT NIGHT
- HARK! THE HAROLD ANGELS SING
- AWAY IN A MANGER
- O HOLY NIGHT
- THE FIRST NOEL
- O COME O COME EMMANUEL
- JOY TO THE WORLD
- ETC!



*The desire for God is written in the human heart.*

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called **Gaudete Sunday**. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.



### Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24—3:30pm

In-person, outdoors, streaming

Thursday, December 24—7:00pm

In-person, outdoors

Thursday, December 24—10:00pm

In-person, outdoors

Friday, December 25—9:00am

In-person, outdoors

Please remember to bring a chair and wear a face mask.



This schedule may change as COVID-19 Health Orders prescribe.

**GOD IS  
THE JOY OF  
MY SOUL**



**Andy Yono**  
CA Lic # 0B00801  
3855 Avocado Blvd #220  
La Mesa



**Brian Yono**  
CA Lic # 1990253  
619-660-2600  
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