Welcome!

Our warmest welcome to all who worship with our faith Community here at St. Luke Parish. Whether you are a long time resident or have newly arrived in the parish, we thank God for you. If you are not registered, please stop by, or call the parish office.

Mission Statement

The Mission of St. Luke’s Catholic Faith Community is to provide the environment where the community joins together to fulfill the spiritual and social needs of all by living and sharing the message of Christ.

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. —4:00 p.m.

CHAPEL: Open from 7:00AM to 7:00PM everyday

Pastoral Staff

Pastor
Rev. Jonathan G. Paala

Special Associate
Rev. Kieran McCormick

Deacons
Deacon Paul Lucia
Deacon Mar Tano

Parish Manager
Deacon Paul Lucia

Director of Religious Education
Sister Maria Ruth Linaac, RVM

Secretaries
Maria Teresa Alvarez
Maryvee Estacio
Sheila O’Neill

Bulletin Deadline: All announcements must be approved by Father Jonathan and must be submitted two weeks prior to the desired bulletin of your choice. Thank you.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

They shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”

— Matthew 1:23

Prayer

Come, O Christ Jesus, Emmanuel—come and dwell in our hearts. Help us to heed Your call each day and live in Your loving presence. Make our lives a pleasing offering to You, our King and Savior, until You come again. This we ask in Your Name. Amen.

~ Month of December ~

Devotion to the Immaculate Conception

Schedule of Sacraments

Eucharistic Celebrations
Monday through Saturday - 8:30 a.m.
Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Anticipated Mass
Sunday - 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism (Infants)
Baptismal Preparation Class - by appointment
Sacrament of Baptism - every Saturday; and every Sunday (after the 10:30 a.m. Mass)

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturday - 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by appointment

Sacrament of Marriage
Please call the Parish Office at least six (6) months before the desired wedding date.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Please call the parish office at (650) 345-6660
SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent’s scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today’s Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph’s courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God’s holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a “carol” anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. “Carol” comes from the Old French carula, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren’t for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn’t make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn’t admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn’t make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol “Silent Night” comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church’s organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the “Silent Night Memorial Chapel” at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 25TH-SUNDAY
NO 5:00PM MASS

Holy Mass Celebrants
Saturday, December 24, 2016
4:00pm Fr. Jonathan
6:00pm Fr. Maria Joseph
10:30pm Fr. Jonathan

Christmas, December 25, 2016
7:30am Fr. Jonathan; 9:00am Fr. Maria Joseph;
10:30am Fr. Maria Joseph

Mass Intentions for December 19 — December 25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
<th>Pray for your Priests</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON 19</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Antonio Lopez</td>
<td>Fr. Kieran McCormick</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUE 20</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Antonio Lopez</td>
<td>Fr. Anthony Chung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 21</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Antonio Lopez</td>
<td>Fr. Joe Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU 22</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Antonio Lopez</td>
<td>Fr. Larry D’Souza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 23</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Flor Mendoza</td>
<td>Fr. Joseph Cardoza</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAT 24</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Susana Chua</td>
<td>Fr. Joseph Kengah Mumba</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>John, Justin &amp; Jaleigh Schneider</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Maria Espinal &amp; Family (SI)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 p.m.</td>
<td>† Anne &amp; Tom Bortak</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SUN 25</td>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Missa Pro Populo</td>
<td>Fr. Jonathan Paala</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>John, Justin &amp; Jaleigh Schneider</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Jackie &amp; Tony Kuo (SI)</td>
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Legend: † - Deceased, SI-Special Intention, BD-Birthday
Missa Pro Populo-General Intentions/Mass for the People

"The Eucharist is the Sacrament of God’s love.
It signifies love. It produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life."
~ St. Thomas Aquinas

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).
Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).
Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).
Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, “God is with us” (Matthew 1:18-24).

December 18, 2016

Please pray for the recently deceased of St. Luke parish, **Susan Chua & Dorothy Harrison** that they may rest in peace and be brought to the final resurrection where God will be all in all.

May they be strengthened and comforted by their trust in the Lord.


**ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

*Update as of December 1, 2016*

Thanks to your generous response, our 2016 Annual Appeal has reached **95%** of our **$ 59,393.00** goal or **$ 56,423.35** total payments received.

We need your help to reach our goal. If you have not filled out your pledge form or have not yet submitted your contributions, please do so. We need everyone’s support to meet our goal. Forms are available on the table in our community center.

Your loving sacrifices and commitment to the AAA allows the Archdiocese of San Francisco to continue serving the Universal Church and the local community. God reward you a hundredfold.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Observance</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday of Advent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>St. John of Kanty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>The Vigil of Christmas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)</td>
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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]</td>
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**Pray for Pope Francis’s Intentions**

**General:** That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated the world over.

**Mission:** That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.
DECEMBER 2016

- Confirmation Class 2
  December 18th 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

- Religious Education
  Note: NO CLASSES on December 21st & 28th
  CLASSES RESUME ON JANUARY 11, 2017

- Christmas Pageant  4:00PM

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Let’s bring Hope and Joy to those in need! As we approach Christmas, we invite everyone to once again share with the needy the blessings which God showered upon you, through our “CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE.”

This year our Giving Tree supports the Catholic Worker House charity drive, the poor & homeless families (Queen of Peace Shelter) and hospice men (Gift of Love Home).

Simply take an ornament (or more if you are able) to help grant a wish for a needy person. The Giving Tree will be in place throughout the Advent Season. Please put your UNWRAPPED GIFT ALONG WITH the ORNAMENT TAG under the Giving Tree on or before DEC. 18, SUNDAY.

If you have GIFT CERTIFICATE, drop them off at the Office of Religious Education or at the Parish Office, or put them in the Sunday collection basket ALONG WITH THE ORNAMENT TAG.

God’s generosity can never be outdone… Thank you and may GOD be your reward!

“IT’S FLU SEASON”

When partaking of Holy Communion, please refrain from receiving the “Precious Blood” if you have the flu, cough or a cold.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated.

ATTENTION: The Knights meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the St. Luke community center. Exception: January 10th. All Knights are invited to attend. Please contact Tom Miller at: tommiller@sonic.net or @tom_miller_1

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD

SAINT LUKE CHRISTMAS 2016

DECEMBER 24th, SATURDAY
4:00PM NATIVITY MASS/PAGEANT
6:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
10:30PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

DECEMBER 25th, CHRISTMAS DAY
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM HOLY MASS

DECEMBER 31st, SATURDAY
5:00PM NEW YEAR’S EVE MASS

JANUARY 1st, NEW YEAR’S DAY
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
(A Holy Day of Obligation)
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM & 5:00PM
REGULAR SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 25TH
NO 5:00PM MASS

POINSETTIA PLANTS NEEDED

Once again we would like to ask you to help us decorate our altar for our Christmas liturgical celebration. Your gift of poinsettia plants will be most appreciated. The plants can be delivered to the Parish Office on Friday, December 23rd. Thank you.

Handling the Holidays

For those who have lost a loved one, celebrating the Christmas season can be difficult. There are care notes in the community center for you to pick up and to give you encouragement.

LECTORS AND CAPTAINS

JAN. /FEB. - LECTOR/CAPTAIN SCHEDULE

Peggy Simkins will be preparing the Lector and Captain schedules for the next two months. If you know of dates that you will be unable to read or captain in Jan/Feb., please call her by December 20th. Contact number (650) 573-5370. Leave a message if you do not speak to Peggy directly.
**PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

LORD, watch over Your people who come to You in confidence. Strengthen the hearts of those who hope in You. Give courage to us who falter because of our failures. Lead us along in this Holy Season of Advent closer to You in hope by the power of Your Holy Spirit. May we one day proclaim Your saving acts of kindness in Your Eternal Kingdom. Amen.

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**CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 25TH**
**NO 5:00PM MASS**

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**This Week in Our Parish**
**December 19 – December 24, 2016**

**Monday**
5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

**Tuesday**
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Adult Rosary Making
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation

**Wednesday**
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Men’s Prayer Group (Chapel)
7:00 p.m. St. Luke Sponsor Night
Simbang Gabi at St. Gregory
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Additional Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday**
9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Adult Rosary Making
7:30 p.m. Benediction

**Friday**
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Adult Rosary Making
4:30 p.m. Legion of Mary
5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Pageant Dress Rehearsal
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal and Christmas Party

**Saturday**
10:30 a.m. Jr. Legion of Mary

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**Welcome in Jesus’ Name!!**

If you wish to join the parish, or if you want to update your information, please fill out this form and either return it to the parish office, or drop it in the collection basket.

**Register**

Name: (First) ____________________________
(Last) _______________________________

Address: _________________________________________

City: ______________________ Zip: _________________

Telephone No. ______________________

**Update Member Information**

Name:(First) __________________ (Last) _______________

Address: _________________________________________

City: ______________________ Zip: _________________

Telephone No. ______________________

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**~ Advent ~**

The Christ Child is coming…let us prepare a manger in our hearts for Him...

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**Contact People**

**Adult Rosary Making:** Kevin and Sally Lucia (650) 740-9071

**Altar Linens:** Mary True (650) 571-8783

**Altar Servers:** Tony Belo (650) 345-6660

**Anointing of the Sick:** If you know of any parishioners who are sick or hospitalized or are unable to attend Mass due to illness or age, please call the office.

**Archdiocesan Pastoral Assistance Coordinator:**
For persons who have suffered sexual abuse from members of the Catholic clergy. Call (415) 614-5506.

**Baptism:**
Saturdays and Sundays. Contact office for preparation class information – prior registration required.

**Christian Burial:**
Kindly call the parish office before meeting with the funeral director.

**Cursillo:**
Duncan Fife: (650) 345-3345

**Faith Formation:**
Kevin Lucia (650) 740-9071

**Filipino Cursillo:**
Deacon Mar Tano (650) 867-5542

**Finance Council:**
John Bernat (650) 341-4045

**Grief Support Ministry:**
Ellen Six (650) 341-0683

**Jr. Legion of Mary:**
Saturdays, 10:30 am, Sally (650) 349-3090

**Junior Rosary Making:**
Sally Lucia (650) 349-3090

**Knights of Columbus:**
Call Tom Miller (650) 631-1341

**Legion of Mary:**
Fri. at 4:30p.m. Georgie Unson (650)345-2613

**Lectors & Ministers of Holy Eucharist Captain:**
Peggy Simkins (650) 573-5370

**Marriages:**
Contact the office at least 6 months before the desired date.

**Music Groups:**
Children’s Choir, Kevin’s Flock—Kevin Lucia (650)740-9071
Emmaus Choir Elysabeth Allen (650) 578-0123

**Pastoral Council:**
Tom Consunji (650) 345-1441

**Sandwiches on Sunday:**
Peg Culver (650) 349-1408

**SVdP Conference:**
Peggy Simkins (650) 573-5370

**St. Luke Church Email:**
saintlukefc@gmail.com