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.
Saturdays
9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon
CHAPEL OPEN: 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. EVERYDAY

Pastoral Staff

Pastor
Rev. Jonathan G. Paala

Special Associate
Rev. Kieran McCormick

Deacons
Deacon Paul Lucia
Deacon Mar Tano

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.

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

— Mark 1:3

Come, Lord Jesus, come to us poor sinners—pour forth Your life-giving font of love and forgiveness. Infuse in our hearts true repentance and by the power of Your Holy Spirit, lead us to newness of life with You. In Your powerful Name we pray. 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 - call the Parish Office
Sacrament of Baptism - Saturday only at 11:00 a.m.

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 8 - 12 months before the desired wedding date.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick
Please call the parish office at (650) 345-6660
NEWS OF COMFORT
In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, “Comfort, give comfort to my people. / says your God” (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION
Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus’ birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figures of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you’ve ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is presepio, from the Latin word for “surround” or “hedge.”

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the presepio, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a Where’s Waldo? children’s book. The oldest surviving presepio is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living presepio. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find presepios with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!
—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Come Let Us Adore our Lord Jesus
in the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday, after the 8:30AM Holy Mass and on the First Friday of the month.
Benediction is at 7:30PM.

Prayer wherever the Lord is present changes the lives of those who pray and changes the lives for whom we pray...

Holy Mass Celebrants
Saturday, December 16, 2017
5:00 pm Fr. Jonathan
Sunday, December 17, 2017
7:30 am Fr. Kengah
9:00 am Fr. Larry
10:30 am Fr. Jonathan
5:00 pm Fr. Maria Joseph

Mass Intentions for December 11 — December 17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
<th>Pray for your Priests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MON 11</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Thom Bui</td>
<td>Fr. Kieran McCormick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUE 12</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Lope Gayla BD</td>
<td>Fr. Anthony Chung</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED 13</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Ana Pham</td>
<td>Fr. Joe Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU 14</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Natividad Palanca</td>
<td>Fr. Larry D’Souza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRI 15</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Conception Evans</td>
<td>Fr. Joseph Cardoza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT 16</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>† Rita &amp; Phil</td>
<td>Fr. Joseph Kengah Mumba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN 17</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Christopher Jones SI</td>
<td>Fr. Jonathan Paala</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Legend: † - Deceased, SI-Special Intention, BD-Birthday
Missa Pro Populo-General Intentions/Mass for the People

“The effect of our sharing in the body and blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive.”
— Pope Saint Leo the Great

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).
Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).
Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).
Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).
December 10, 2017

The ADULT FAITH FORMATION program is ongoing. We meet every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. here at the Church. This program addresses enhancement of your spiritual growth and increases your knowledge of the teachings of the Catholic Church.

May they be strengthened and comforted by their trust in the Lord...
Keri Ables, Elysabeth Allen, Juris Arcilla, Rori Arcilla, Patrick Banks, Jose Barcelona Jr., Michael Carmody, Alma Castellanos, Gail Castro, John Copeland, Cynthia Connor, Marge Cowart, Marvin Crockett, Duncan Fife, Elizabeth Fong, Marie Ghiozzi, Craig Gockley, Cora B. Huang, Dennis B. Huang, Mary Lou Kafer, Eva Latham, Veronica Maguire, Arturo & Natividad Martin, Katie McNamara, Angela & Bozidar Mihelicic, Bridgette Negar, Kathy Raymor, Josephine Rea, Antonio & Ernesto Reyes, Margaret F. Reyes, Connie Rojas, Jason Sahayaraj, Kathy Sampson, Rosa Santos, Jameson Sham, Sally Stevens, Sue Techlin, Priscilla Touchstone, Vallery Washington and George Zughbaba.

**Our Weekly Offering**

Sunday, December 3                      $ 4,542.50
Church Maintenance & Repair      $ 2,143.00

Your generous contribution helps to make our ministries possible. Thank you! God bless you!

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.”
Matthew 25: 40

**ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

Update as of November 20, 2017

Thanks to your generous response, our 2017 Annual Appeal has reached 92% of our $ 60,768.00 goal or $ 56,122.00 total payments received.

We still need your help of $4,646.00 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**

**Weekly Readings for the Week**

- **Sunday:** Second Sunday of Advent; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
- **Monday:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcd, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- **Tuesday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe; Hanukkah begins at sunset
- **Wednesday:** St. Lucy
- **Thursday:** St. John of the Cross
- **Saturday:** Las Posadas begins

Pray for Pope Francis’s Intention

**General: The Elderly**

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.
December 2017

Religious Education Class Days
Grades One - Eight
First Three Wednesdays
December 6th, 13th and 20th
5:30PM to 6:30PM, Grades 1 - 4
6:45PM to 7:45PM, Grades 5 - 8

Confirmation Two Class
First Three Sundays
3:30PM - 6:00PM including Youth Mass
December 3rd, 10th and 17th

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Let's bring Hope and Joy to those in need!
As we approach Christmas, we invite everyone to once again share your God's blessings with the needy 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. 17, SUNDAY.

If you have GIFT CERTIFICATE, drop them off at the Office of Religious Ed. 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!

Youth Ministry Announcements:

Christmas Cookie Jar Sale: Beautifully decorated Christmas Cookie Jars make delicious gifts for neighbors, teachers, friends — ANYONE! Limited quantities available for purchase in the Community Center after the Sunday Masses starting December 3rd.

ST. LUKE PENITENTIAL SERVICE
Prepare for the coming of the Lord... Receive God's peace and forgiveness...

CONFESSIONS: 6:00PM, Thursday, Dec. 14th

On behalf of Fr. Jonathan and St. Luke Parish, the Knights of Columbus are organizing a Christmas Potluck Dinner on Dec. 16th, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Bring your favorite seasonal dish, some Christmas cheer, and a healthy appetite for a festive evening. We will be having Christmas Caroling. There is a sign-up sheet outside the community center after all Masses. Please sign-up with your name, number of members attending and a choice of your dish (appetizer/entrée/dessert).

St. Luke Pastoral Parish Council
All parishioners are welcome to attend the parish council meetings held on the 3rd Monday of most months in the Church community center at 7:00PM. Parishioners wishing to speak or make a presentation to the council must register to do so at least one (1) week prior to the meeting. Please fill out the request form available at the parish office, indicating the topic you are wanting to discuss. Your presentation will be the first order of business under our “open forum” session.

Poinsettia Plants

Once again, we are counting on your kind donation to help us decorate our altar for the Christmas Liturgy. Your gift of poinsettia plants will be most appreciated. The plants can be delivered to the Parish Office on Wednesday, December 20th. Thank you. God bless you a hundredfold.

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 Dec. 21st. Contact number (650) 573-5370. Leave a message if you do not speak to Peggy directly. Thank you.
Prayer to the Immaculate Conception
Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of our Lord Jesus and our Mother!
Filled with the most lively confidence in your all powerful and never failing intercession, I, your loving and trusting child, implore you to obtain for me the favor I earnestly ask if it is beneficial to my immortal soul and the souls for whom I pray (name your intention).
Obtain for me a deep hatred of sin, and that purity of heart which will unite me to God alone, so that my every thought, word and deed may tend to His greater Glory.
Amen.

Parish Events
December 12 – December 16, 2017
Tuesday
7:00 p.m. Faith Formation
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Conference

Wednesday
Religious Ed Classes (Refer to Page 4)

Thursday
9:00 a.m. All Day Adoration
9:00 a.m. Legion of Mary
6:00 p.m. Penitential Service
7:30 p.m. Solemn Benediction

Friday
6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m. Youth Movie Night
(Parish Center)
7:00 p.m. Start of Simbang Gabi (St. Catherine)
7:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal

Saturday
6:00 p.m. St. Luke Christmas Potluck Dinner
7:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi (St. Catherine)

Travel Plans
Go to www.masstimes.org to find local Mass times at Catholic churches wherever your travels may take you. Simply enter the city and country and nearby Mass times will be displayed.

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. ______________________

Contact People
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 only, at 11:00AM. Contact office for preparation class information – prior registration required.
Christian Burial: Kindly call the parish office before meeting with the funeral director.
Cursillo: Kevin & Jo Moran: (650) 477-0493
Faith Formation: Bosco Ho (650) 759-7050
Filipino Cursillo: Deacon Mar Tano (650) 867-5542
Finance Council: John Bernat (650) 341-4045
Grief Support Ministry: Ellen Six (650) 341-0683
Knights of Columbus: Call Tom Consunji (650) 892-3312
Legion of Mary: Thurs. 9:00 am Georgie Unson (650) 345-2613
Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Eucharist
Peggy Simkins (650) 573-5370
Marriages: Contact the office at least 8-12 months before the desired date.
Music Ministry: Contact Elysabeth Allen (650) 578-0123
Pastoral Council: Dan Linkhorn ~ dlinkhorn@comcast.net
Sandwiches on Sunday: Peg Culver (650) 349-1408
SVdP Conference: Peggy Simkins (650) 573-5370
Youth Ministry: Amabel Goell (650) 740-7751