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.

The Nativity of the Lord
December 25, 2016

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
—John 1:5

Prayer

All praise to You O Divine Messiah, born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Savior of all. By Your gracious Spirit, gather us all to bring homage to Your holy splendor and love. We long to honor You forever as King and Ruler of our hearts. We ask this in Your loving 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
THE GIFT OF GOD’S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God’s Word. Because it is creative, God’s Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God’s Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God’s Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God’s Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God’s Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

An old joke asks, “What time is Midnight Mass?” The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of “midnight” predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as “The Shepherds’ Mass,” and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus’ birth to focus on the key to the day’s celebration: John the Evangelist’s majestic theology of Christ’s identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you’re officially late!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

There is no prayer or good work so great, so pleasing to God, so useful to us as the Mass.”

~St. Lawrence Justinian

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — All the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God (Isaiah 52:7-10).
Psalm — All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God (Psalm 98).
Second Reading — God has spoken to us through the Son, the very imprint of God’s being (Hebrews 1:1-6).
Gospel — The Word became flesh; from his fullness we have all received grace (John 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]).


“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is My flesh.”

John 6:51
December 25, 2016  

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

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

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**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.**

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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.

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**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

**Sunday:**  The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
**Monday:**  St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins  
**Tuesday:**  St. John  
**Wednesday:**  The Holy Innocents  
**Thursday:**  St. Thomas Becket; Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord  
**Friday:**  The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
**Saturday:**  St. Sylvester I; New Year’s Eve Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:**  Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  
**Tuesday:**  1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
**Wednesday:**  1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18  
**Thursday:**  1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40  
**Friday:**  Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23  
**Saturday:**  1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18  
**Sunday:**  Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

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**The ADULT FAITH FORMATION program** is ongoing. We meet every **Tuesday at 7:00p.m.** here at the Church. This program addresses enhancement of your spiritual growth and increases your knowledge of the teachings of the Catholic Church. Refreshments are provided. Contact Kevin Lucia at 650-740-9071 for more information.
December 25, 2016

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Sister Maria Ruth Linaac, RVM
Director of Religious Education
st.lukereed@gmail.com
TELEPHONE NO. (650) 574-9191

ATTENTION: The Knights meet every 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the St. Luke community center. All Knights are invited to attend. Please contact Shane Ahern at: (650) 766-7592 shane@shaneahern.com

January 2017

➢ CLASSES RESUME
Confirmation 2 - Sunday, January 8th
Religious Education Classes - January 11

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE
Thank you for responding generously to the Christmas Giving Tree Drive.
May GOD reward you a hundredfold for your kindness and support.

From all of us,
the Catechists and
the Staff of St. Luke Catholic Church
A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS!!

LITURGY OF THE WORD
WITH CHILDREN (LWC)
Offered at our 9:00 am Mass, Liturgy of the Word with Children (LWC) is an opportunity for children to listen and interact with the Sunday morning Scripture. There is no fee or registration for LWC. It is open to all children at Mass who are preschoolers (4 yrs. old) through children in 2nd grade.

LWC begins when the presider at Mass invites the children to gather in front of the altar after the opening prayer. With a dismissal blessing, the children process out of the church and proceed to the Religious Education office for their own Scripture readings. The children return to their families at Mass in time for the Liturgy of the Word.

"Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration."
~St. Teresa of Calcutta

SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
DECEMBER 31, 2016 SATURDAY
5:00PM NEW YEAR’S EVE MASS

JANUARY 1, 2017 NEW YEAR’S DAY
(A Holy day of Obligation)
7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM & 5:00PM

OFFICES CLOSED on December 26th, Monday. Regular office services will resume the next day, December 27th.

The Holy Hour is the Roman Catholic devotional tradition of spending an hour in Eucharistic adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

The inspiration for the Holy Hour is Matthew 26:40. In the Gospel of Matthew, during the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before His crucifixion, Jesus spoke to His disciples saying, “My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with Me.” (Matthew 26:38)

Returning to the disciples after prayer, He found them asleep and in Matthew 26:40 He asked Peter: “So, could you men not keep watch with Me for an hour?”

Central to the Holy Hour is Jesus. Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because of His Infinite love for you! “Christ is reserved in our churches as the spiritual center of the heart of the community, the universal Church and all humanity, by Him all things are and of whom we exist.” (Pope Paul IV, Mysterium Fidei)

“The Blessed Sacrament is the ‘Living Heart’ of each of our churches and it is our very sweet duty to honor and adore the Blessed Host, which our eyes see, the Incarnate Word, whom they cannot see.” (Pope Paul VI, Credo of the People of God). Our focus is Jesus. When you look upon the Sacred Host, you look upon Jesus, the Son of God. “Indeed, this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day.”
**CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father. Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness and purity. Awaken in their hearts love and gratitude for your infinite goodness. Join them all together in your love and give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

_Pope John XXIII_

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

_This Week in Our Parish_
_December 26 – December 31, 2016_

**Monday**

_Offices Closed_

**Tuesday**

7:00 p.m. Faith Formation  
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Conference

**Wednesday**

1:00 p.m. Legion of Mary  
CCD Classes & Events—Refer to Page 4

**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  
7:00 p.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday**

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

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**Travelers Alert**

Mass Times and locations of Catholic Churches at  
(410) 676-6000  
or  
[www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org)

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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 Shane Ahern (650) 766-7592

**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

**Email:** saintlukefc@gmail.com

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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. __________________________