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 p.m.
-Chapel open from 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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018
Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
— Luke 1:42

Come, Lord Jesus, come and make us pure vessels of Your splendor. Guide us by the light of Your divine Spirit, and cover us with the mantle of love of our Blessed Mother, as we tread this Advent path towards Your coming to the manger of our hearts. Amen.

Month of December
Dedicated 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 - Saturdays 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
MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord’s words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

Today’s Readings

**First Reading** — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

**Gospel** — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).


Adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday and on the First Friday of the month after the 8:30a.m. Holy Mass

**Benediction** is at 7:00p.m.

When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now. *(St. Mother Teresa)*

If we only knew how much Jesus loves us in the Blessed Sacrament we would never want to leave His Eucharistic presence. For nowhere on earth are we more welcomed than in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Nowhere can we find comfort and healing than in His Heart overflowing with love for us.

We need people who will commit as “Guardian of the Blessed Sacrament.” Sign-up sheets are located in the Community Center during weekends, and in the Chapel foyer during weekdays.

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**Saints and Special Observances**

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday of Advent
**Monday:** Vigil of Christmas
**Tuesday:** The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
**Wednesday:** St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa
**Thursday:** St. John
**Friday:** The Holy Innocents
**Saturday:** Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket
December 23, 2018

Please pray for our recently deceased, especially:

†Christa Shih, †Anthony Vecchio
†Arthur McNicholl and †Miguel Gil

Eternal rest grant unto the souls of the departed, O Lord.
And let Your perpetual light shine upon them.

Please pray for God’s healing upon our sick parishioners:

Keri Ables          Josephine Kozloski          Ronald Rea
Peter Allum       Derrick Lee                Jocelyn Reyes
Juris Arcilla        Andres Mendez           Rolando Reyes, Jr.
Patrick Banks      Leah Mercado              Kathy Sampson
Jennifer Barry      Craig Midghall           Priscilla Touchstone
Gian Bordallo      Angela Mihelcic           Charles Toves
Jacquelyn Conway    Bozidar Mihelcic         John Toves
Dolores Detruz      Jon Miller               Macrina Toves
Julia Ho           Sheila O’Neill            Jim Toves
Dennis B. Huang    Diana Pineda              Michael Veprin
JoAnn Kozloski     Josephine Rea

“For by His wounds you were healed.” (1 Peter 2:24)

If you have sick relatives whom you want us to include in our prayers, please call or email our Parish Office. Their names will be on our list for 4 weeks. If you want us to continue praying for them, please notify the office. Thank you.

December 16th & Retirement Fund for Religious Collection Report will be in the 12/30 Bulletin

Your generous contribution helps us fulfill Christ’s mission.
Thank you! God bless you!

“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” (Mt.6:21)

Religious give thanks. “This is pure gift,” writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. “It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters.” Your gift to last week’s collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you. God reward you for your generosity.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you for supporting the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal 2018. It is a great blessing to know that through your loving sacrifices, we were able to reach our goal ($59,277.00). Your inspiring gifts will help sustain the various ministries of our Archdiocese and our Universal Church. Thank you for being a vital part in carrying out Christ’s work and helping thousands of people experience the goodness of the Lord.

Pray for Pope Francis’s Intention

Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Women’s Bible Study Group:
The Women’s Bible Study and Discussion Group meets in Room 4 of the St. Luke Parish Center on Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., to discuss various books of the Bible, the scripture readings, and to provide prayer support for its members and the community.

Christmas Break: December 20, 2018 to January 3, 2019

Bible Study resumes: Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. (Patti Villano: 650-341-6913)

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows

When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.” Lk 1:41-42

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
December 23, 2018

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

December 2018

Religious Education Class Days
Grades One - Eight
December 5, 12 and 19
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 the Youth Mass
December 2, 9 and 16

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN
The Children’s Liturgy of the Word is offered at our 9:00AM Mass on Sundays. This is an opportunity for children to listen and interact with the Sunday morning Scripture Reading in their own level. There is no fee or registration and it is open to all children at Mass who are preschoolers (4 years old) through children in 2nd grade.

ATTENTION:
The Knights meet every 1st Monday of the month at 7:30PM in the St. Luke community center. All Knights are invited to attend. Please contact Tom Consunji at: Tel. No.: 650.892.3312 or email: tconsunji@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE
Our heartfelt thanks to all of you. The Giving Tree has produced fruits because of you. Your generous and charitable gifts will help and support the Catholic Worker House charity drive, the poor & homeless families (Queen of Peace Shelter) and hospice men (Gift of Love Home). You are bringing the hope and love of the Christ Child to our brothers and sisters in need this blessed season of our Lord’s birth. A million thanks and God be your reward!

A Blessed & Spirit-filled Feast of the Christ Child’s Birth!
Greetings from Fr. Jonathan and the Saint Luke Pastoral Staff

Advent Resources on Archdiocesan Website
sfarchdiocese.org/adornt

Next Weekend is a “Fifth” Sunday Special 2nd Collection...
December 30 is a “fifth” Sunday. Whenever a fifth Sunday occurs in a month, the parish of St. Luke sets aside a second collection to benefit the works of our own local St. Vincent de Paul Conference. Their outreach extends to families in need in Foster City. The conference asks you to help them to help others. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you. “To serve the poor is to go to God. You must see God in the faces of the poor.” —St. Vincent de Paul

Rosary Program
To help bring the St. Luke parishioners together in a spiritual activity, the St. Luke Knights of Columbus is spearheading "The 5th Sunday Rosary Program". The Knights, their families and our parishioners will be meeting every time a 5th Sunday occurs during a month, to pray the rosary. The next 5th Sunday schedule is on December 30 and the rosary meet will be conducted after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the St. Luke Chapel. Parishioners are advised to bring their rosaries. We request all parishioners to participate in this rosary program & help our parish grow in a more spiritual way.

Save the Date: CRAB FEED 2019
St. Luke’s Annual Crab Feed Fundraising Event will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2019 in the Parish Center. Please continue to check our future Sunday bulletins for details. Plan on purchasing your tickets early — we are expecting a sell out!
PARISH EVENTS

December 24 – December 28, 2018

Monday
3:15 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Children & Youth Choir Concert
4:00 p.m. Nativity Christmas Pageant & Mass
6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass
10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Day (Holy Day of Obligation)
Holy Masses: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Offices are closed on Christmas Day.
A blessed and meaningful Christmas to all.

Wednesday
Offices are closed

Thursday
9:00 a.m. All-Day Eucharistic Adoration
9:00 a.m. Legion of Mary
7:00 p.m. Benediction/Chapel

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

Priesthood Discernment Retreat and Monthly Dinner Meetings
The Archdiocesan Office of Vocations offers a weekend vocation discernment retreat for men who wish to explore a possible call to the priesthood. January 18 to January 20, 2019 at St. Patrick Seminary & University, 320 Middlefield Rd., Menlo Park. Contact Fr. Patrick Summerhays, Vocation Director, 415-614-5684 or summerhays.patrick@sfarch.org. There are also monthly meetings for men who are interested in discovering more about the priesthood. The program starts with Eucharistic Adoration in the church, followed by dinner and discussion in the rectory. Upcoming dates: Mondays: January 7, February 4, March 4, from 6:15pm – 8:30pm, St. Pius X Church, 1100 Woodside Rd. in Redwood City. For information or to RSVP: Fr. Tom Martin, martin.thomas@sfarch.org

Contact People
Altar Linens: Mary True (650) 571-8783
Altar Servers: Tony Belo (650) 345-6660
Anointing of the Sick: If you know of 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 the 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
Filipino Cursillo: Deacon Mar Tano (650) 867-5542
Finance Council: John Bernat (650) 678-5840
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 parish office at least 8-12 months before the desired date.
Music Ministry: Contact Elysabeth Allen (650) 578-0123
Pastoral Council: Dan Linkhorn (415) 533-8797
Religious Education: Sister Maria Ruth (650) 574-9191
Sandwiches on Sunday: Peg Culver (650) 349-1408
SVdP Conference: Peggy Simkins (650) 573-5370
Women’s Bible Study: Patti Villano (650) 341-6913
Youth Ministry: Amabel Goell (650) 740-7751

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. ______________________

St. John the Beloved
Gospel writer and beloved disciple of Christ who remained with Christ to the foot of the cross
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...and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.