

Catholic Parishes of St. Luke, St. Joseph, and the Salve Regina Newman Center
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www.stsjlj.com

Diocese of Peoria

Bishop Daniel R. Jenky, CSC
Coadjutor Bishop Louis Tylka

Administrator
Father Ryan Mattingly

Confessions

St. Luke

Saturday before Mass 3:00 - 3:45 pm

St. Joseph

Sunday before Mass 9:15 - 9:45 am

Bulletin announcements and calendar changes should be typed and submitted by Tuesday to the parish office or emailed to
saintluke.eureka@gmail.com

Gaudete Sunday
December 12, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

A very happy Gaudete Sunday to you all! Gaudete is Latin for rejoice, and the Church celebrates the nearness of Christ's birth on the third Sunday of Advent. For two weeks, we have been watching and waiting and the moment is almost here. In anticipation of the joy of Christmas, the penitential color purple is lightened, like a glimmer of the feast to come. We have very little time left to prepare for the coming of our Lord.

St. John the Baptist gives us a good template for how to prepare. First, he tells the people to fulfill the duties of their various states in life and to live honorably. A key component of living honorably is to repent of our sins, recognizing that we have fallen short of the holiness God desires. While important, repentance is only the first step towards holiness. For it to be truly effective, it must be followed up by forgiveness, which only God can grant.

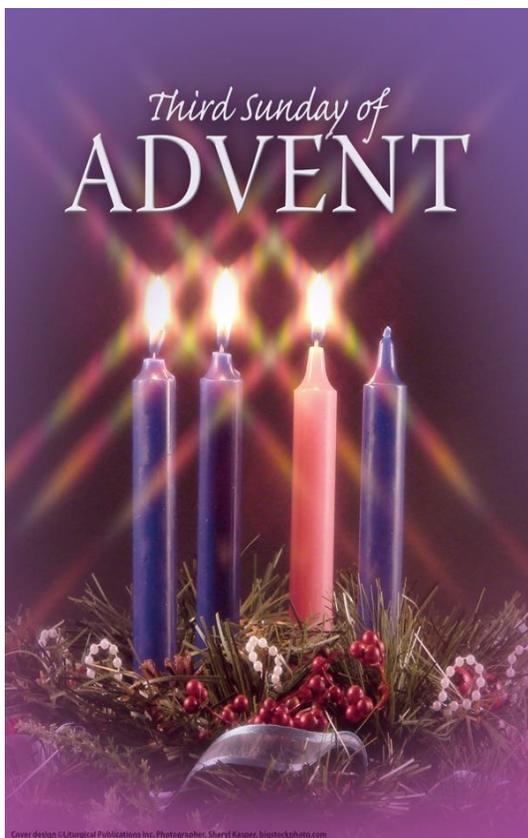
The baptism of John cannot bring this forgiveness. As he freely admits, "I am baptizing you with water." One is coming afterwards who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." When we were baptized in Christ, the Holy Spirit was poured into our souls, cleansing them entirely of sin and allowing us to live in relationship with God.

Unfortunately, we are unable to live this relationship out faithfully. Due to the effects of original sin, we are still attracted to evil. Despite our best efforts, there will be times when we give in to this desire and we sin, sometimes seriously. Without another outpouring of God's mercy, we would be lost after a single mortal sin; cut off from God and unable to return to Him.

Blessedly, our Lord made provision for our weakness. He gave us the sacrament of confession, one of the treasures of the Church. When we come to confession, we lay before Christ all of our failures, the parts of our lives we are most ashamed of and wish we could change. In an act of pure love, He forgives us and takes us back. Confession is the only place in the world where we can always find forgiveness, reconciliation, and acceptance, no matter what we have done.

Going to confession is one of the best ways to prepare for Christmas. The Church requires that all Catholics go to confession at least once per year, precisely because it is so necessary. We are having a penance service this Wednesday, December 15th at St. Joseph. Whether at the penance service or one of the regularly scheduled confession times, I hope that you take advantage of Christ's offer of mercy. We have nothing to fear and everything to gain when we come to our Lord with a humble, contrite heart.

In Christ,
Fr. Mattingly



Mass Schedule & Intentions

Sat, Dec. 11, 4:00 pm at St. Luke 5:30 pm at St. Joseph	Vigil for Sunday Pro Populo Donna Coffey by Stephen Coffey
Sunday, Dec. 12, 8:00 am at St. Luke 10:00 am at St. Joseph	3rd Sunday of Advent Gingie Tuthill by Gladys Simenc Intention of the Celebrant
Mon, Dec. 13, 8:00 am at St. Luke	St. Lucy Donna Coffey by Stephen Coffey
Tue, Dec. 14, 8:00 am at St. Luke	St. John of the Cross Gingie Tuthill by Marilyn Wagner
Wed., Dec. 15, 8:00 am at St. Luke	Weekday Mass Richard Doran by Marilyn Weidner
Thur. Dec. 16 8:00 am at St. Joseph	Weekday Mass Rosemary Heinger by Mark & Ruth Ann Martino
Fri, Dec. 17, 8:00 am at St. Joseph	Weekday Mass Donna Coffey by Stephen Coffey
Sat, Dec. 18, 4:00 pm at St. Luke 5:30 pm at St. Joseph	Vigil for Sunday Marty Eckert by Roger & Nancy Sales Pro Populo
Sunday, Dec. 19, 8:00 am at St. Luke 10:00 am at St. Joseph	4th Sunday of Advent Intention of the Celebrant Mary Ruth Rivere by Mark & Ruth Ann Martino

UP COMING EVENTS

Monday, Dec. 13 8:30 am	Rosary group (St. Luke)
Wednesday, Dec. 15 6:30 pm	Penance Service (St. Joseph)
Sunday, Dec. 19 9:00 am 9:00 am 2:00 pm	Faith Formation (St. Joseph) Christmas Program & Breakfast after Mass (St. Luke) Popcorn & Movie (St. Luke)
Monday, Dec. 20 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Blood Drive until 6:00 pm (St. Luke) Knights of Columbus (St. Joseph)
Friday, Dec. 24	Christmas Eve 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (St. Luke) 10:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass (St. Joseph)
Saturday, Dec. 25 9:00 am	Christmas Day Christmas Day Mass (St. Luke)
Sunday, Dec. 26 8:00 am 10:00 am	Sunday Mass (St. Luke) Sunday Mass (St. Joseph)



St. Joseph's received a memorial for Joseph Amigoni. May his soul rest in peace and perpetual light shine upon him.

STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of December 5
Week: 23

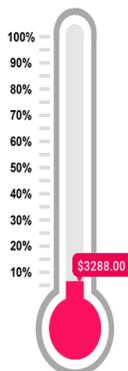
Weekly Offerings
Building Fund Offerings
Votive Candles Offerings
Total Weekly Collection
Budgeted Weekly Collection
CDOP Collection - Religious Retirement Fund
Year to Date Total
Budgeted INCOME YTD
Surplus or Deficit YTD

St. Luke	St. Joseph
\$ 2,963.00	\$ 1,321.00
<i>see Roof Fund</i>	\$ 515.00
\$ 2,963.00	\$ 1,836.00
\$ 1,855.38	\$ 1,156.15
\$ -	\$ -
\$ 40,167.50	\$ 32,732.00
\$ 42,673.85	\$ 26,591.54
\$ (2,506.35)	\$ 6,140.46

ST. LUKE'S ROOF FUND

(\$45,000 GOAL)

DONATIONS this week \$ 390.00
TOTAL -To-Date \$ 3,288.00
Percentage 7.3%



Thank YOU for your Generosity!



ADVENT

Penance Service

The Advent Penance Service will be Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 6:30 pm at St. Joseph's. After a brief service, Father Mattingly and visiting priests will be available to hear confessions.

MEMORY TREE



St. Joseph's Memory Tree is a place to remember those loved ones who are no longer with us. All are invited to place an angel or star on the tree with the name and a special memory of a loved one. A mass will be said for all names on the Memory Tree on December 26.

WOMEN'S DAY OF ADVENT REFLECTION

There will be a Women's Day of Advent Reflection with Sr. Diane at St. Joseph on Thursday, December 16, 2021 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The cost is \$10.00, which includes lunch. There is a sign up sheet at each parish. Please sign up by December 13.

ACT MEETING

ACT will meet Sunday, December 12 at 6:30. We will be talking about our gifts and preparing gifts to share with others.



Hallow

Through the generous gift from St. Luke and St. Joseph's Ladies Guilds, the parish is able to offer you the full Hallow App for **FREE!** On the parish website, you will find the link to sign up, printable instructions and an instructional video. Contact the office if you have any questions.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

Thank you to everyone that helped with the Hanging of the Greens. Your help was greatly appreciated! Church looks beautiful!

GIVING TREE

If you took a gift tag from the St. Joseph Giving Tree, please have your wrapped gifts under the trees in the vestibule by December 19.

If you are not able to take a gift tag but want to help the food pantry, there will be a box in the vestibule for canned food item donations.



Thank you for sharing God's love at this time of year!

LITERGY OPPORTUNITY

St. Luke's is looking for lectors to help on a regular basis on Saturday nights. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the back of church or contact the office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus will hold a meeting on December 20. There will be a meal served at 6:00 pm. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

"Be awake, guard your heart. Let's add an essential ingredient: the secret to being watchful is prayer. In fact, Jesus says: 'Keep awake at all times praying' (Luke 21:36). It is prayer that keeps the lamp of the heart burning. Especially when we feel that enthusiasm is cooling, prayer rekindles it, because it brings us back to God, to the center of things. Prayer awakens the soul from sleep and focuses it on what matters, on the end of existence. Even on the busiest days, let's not neglect prayer," An easy prayer to say during Advent: "Come, Lord Jesus, come." Let's repeat this prayer throughout the day, and the soul will remain alert."

Pope Francis in his message before the Angelus Nov. 28, 2021



The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever.

(Lk 1: 46-55)

THE CHOSEN

Every Sunday in Advent from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm, St. Luke's Faith Formation Program will be hosting "Popcorn and Movie in the Afternoon". They will be showing season one of The Chosen. Parishioners from both St. Luke's and St. Joseph's are invited to attend.



The beautiful flowers and church decorations are a special part of our celebration at St. Luke's and St. Joseph's. Parishioners invited to share in this through a special memorial gift which helps assist the Church with the cost of Christmas decorations. This special donation is a wonderful way to remember loved ones. Please fill out the form below and return in the collection basket before December 12. The names of those remembered will be listed in the bulletin.

Name: _____

Donation Amount: _____

In memory of: _____

Contact number: _____

Please circle: St. Joseph St. Luke

The "O Antiphons" of Advent

The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,
sign of God's love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

—From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/o-antiphons-advent>