

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ (March 28-April 3)

<u>Day</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Mon. 7:30 AM	Pearl Dougherty	Daughters, Kathy & Barbara
Tues. 7:30 AM	Dr. Luzminda Anama-In Thanksgiving	Peter Serednicki
Wed. 7:30 AM	Gerard & John Cleary	Anne Donoghue
11:00 AM	Margaret McLaughlin	Daughter, Alice Cariello
Thurs. 7:30 AM	Mary Fett	Evelyn & Robert Macho
Fri. 7:30 AM	The Speigel & Flayter Family	Jodi & Ron Heitmann
11:00 AM	Anthony Scollante	The Palmieri Family
Sat. 8:30 AM	Peggy Walter	Husband, Al
4:00 PM	Roseanna D'Adamo	Gussie & Roger Thorn
5:30 PM	Arthur O'Connell	Anita & Kenneth Melman
Sun. 7:00 AM	St. Luke Parishioners	
8:30 AM	Kathleen Whelan	St. Luke Rosary Altar Society
10:00 AM	Jennifer Furda	Mom, Dad, Mike & Sandy
12:00 PM	Gail & Bill Cook~ 50th Wedding Anniversary	Family

*Easter is a lovely day, a joyous time of year  
for thinking of family who are very close  
and dear~so naturally at Easter, our  
thoughts turn to each of you.  
Wishing You A Blessed Easter  
Fr. Bob, the Priests, Deacons & Staff*

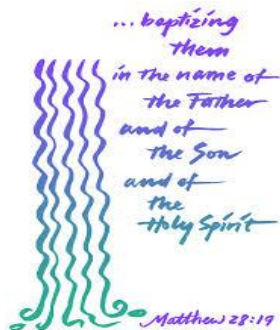


### **Pray for the Recently Deceased**

Doris C. Towle      Eugene Deehan,  
Genevieve "Jane" Dwyer,  
Joseph Szilagyi      Patrick Hennelly

### **Pray for Our Sick**

Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter, Linda Greuter, Cayden Napolitano, John Kempton, Simon Amato (child), Bob Puglisi, Jo Hardardt, Chuck Kraut, Libertine Javelosa, Pat Petzold, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Martha Olmstead, Yolanda Salvatore, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Gurprit Chhatwal, Jenny Ralph, Claire Hansen, Joseph Italiano, Virginia Heywood (child), Victoria Johnson, James Joseph White, Maureen Driscoll, Lisa Penna, Sister Marion Hicks, Samantha Mahoney, Maryanne Molner, Linda Schillari, Renee Sa-har, Rosemarie Testa, Francis Lewis Jr., Antonia Nigro, Tom Gosnell, Barbara Walsh, Joanne Kronowski, Helen Borrmann, Ryan Kurtz (child), Danielle Caravello, Larry Reagan, Genevieve Schillaci, Margaret Longenberger, Joann Salek, Rose Bonito, Aldo Di Domenico Sr., Chuck Nazzaro, Audrey Farr, John Higgins, Robert P., Marie Alfano, Enes Holsten, Dave Nelms, Jean Smallwood, Theresa Salvatore, Richard Coburger.



**We Welcome into  
Our Family:**  
**Jackson Marc Plank**  
**Gianna Rose Rush**  
**Audriana Elena Schuster**



### **Holy Year of Mercy**

Pope Francis has proclaimed "A Holy Year of Mercy" which commenced on December 8, 2015 through November 20, 2016. The Motto for this Holy Year is "Merciful like the Father" and it is intended to 'serve as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure."

### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS Divine Mercy Sunday~April 3rd**

1st Reading: Acts 5:12-16  
2nd Reading: Revelations 1:9-11A, 12-13, 17-19  
Gospel: John 20:19-31

Readings may be found at:  
<http://www.usccb.org/nab/>

## ***Easter Joy for Everyday Life***

More than just a day, the Church gives us a seven-week Easter season to celebrate. Yet sometimes our everyday lives feel so heavy that celebration is not a part of them. Critical illness in the family, loss of a job, disappointment in a relationship and the burdens of everyday life can make it a challenge to feel particularly joyful – even in the Easter season.

But the joy we are being invited into this season is beyond what we see in our everyday lives. It's true that Jesus says "Come to me and bring me your burdens" but we usually can't believe it. Maybe we don't want to believe it. If I really allow Jesus to come into my heart the way he wants to, will he ask me to change my life in ways that are too hard? How do I share the chaos of my life with Jesus? If I keep him at arm's length, my life might be difficult, but at least my problems are familiar. What would it cost me to let go and change my life?

We know our own faults and failings so well. Too well. We begin to believe that Jesus loves the way we love – with all of our human limits. How could Jesus love us and accept us the way we are right now? Maybe when we fix a few things about our lives, love our spouse a little better, stop being so critical of family members, stop drinking, stop nagging, love a little more... when we are perfect, then Jesus will love us.

If we can overcome our fears, the real power of letting Jesus into our hearts is how free our hearts will become. Suddenly, we are not afraid, not burdened and simply ready to serve with Jesus.

Jesus loves us - right now. At this moment, Jesus holds each one of us in his warm and loving gaze and loves us so freely at a depth that our human minds can't take in. Whether we comprehend this or not, Jesus loves us endlessly and waits for us with his arms open, ready to hold and support us.

As we receive his embrace and feel the peace and joy of Easter wash over us, we can look over his shoulder, and see beyond to those in need who now wait for us. That's when we realize that the real joy in our lives is putting aside our own faults, challenges and difficulties for a while and entering into the lives of others.

Pope Francis said at Easter, we leave ourselves behind and encounter others by "being close to those crushed by life's troubles, sharing with the needy, standing at the side of the sick, elderly and the outcast."

We are being missioned as Easter People. We find peace in Jesus' love for us and now we share it with others. We find ourselves standing side by side with Jesus, looking together at those we are being sent to love.

That is where the real joy of Easter waits for us.

### St. Luke Pre-Baptism Classes...

for expectant and new parents are held in the church on the first Monday of each month at **7:30PM**. Please call the Parish Office to register, 732-286-2222.

**The next class:  
Monday, April 4th**

### St. Luke Rosary Altar Society

Meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the Parish Center. **The Rosary will be recited at 1:00** followed by a meeting and social. All ladies of the parish are invited to join us.

**Next meeting:  
Tuesday, April 12th**

## Religious Education News

### STUDENTS IN ALL GRADE LEVELS:

Please write your name on the front of the bulletin, have it signed by someone in church ministry and then turn in this signed bulletin at your next class.



As per the 2015-2016 PREP Schedule, there are **NO CLASSES** during Easter Week: Monday, **March 28-Thursday, March 31**. PREP classes will resume on Monday, April 4th.

The Diocesan mandated program "Protecting God's Children-Teaching Touching Safety" Lessons 3 & 4 will be presented to Levels 1. 3. 4. 5 and 6 during the week of April 4th-7th.

### Rosary Makers

Meet on the 3rd Tuesday monthly, at **1:30pm** to make Rosaries for the missions and local nursing homes. Instructions and materials provided.

**Next meeting:  
Tuesday, April 19th**

### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday monthly, **10:00am-12:00pm** to create shawls and lap throws to give to the bereaved, the infirmed and the lonely.

**Next meeting:  
Wednesday, April 20th**

### SERVICE MEETINGS:

**Women's Alcoholics Anonymous, Sundays, 10:00AM** in Madonna Room

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Sundays, 7:00PM** in the Parish Center. (Closed Meeting)

**Alcoholics Anonymous for Men, Sundays, 8:30AM-9:30AM;** for more information call Mort Levy 732-600-6783.

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Mondays, 7:00PM**, "Sacrifice Group", in Parish Center.

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Tuesdays, 8:00PM**, in the Parish Center. (Open Meeting) For additional info call Jim at 732-552-8865.

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Wednesdays, 6:00PM**, in Parish Center.

**Al-Anon Meeting, Mondays, 11:00AM**, in Madonna Room

**Al-Anon Meeting, Thursdays, 7:30PM**, in Madonna Room. For info, call Peggy Ell at 732-240-3316.

**Parent Al-Anon Meeting, Fridays, 7:00PM**, in Madonna Room. For more information, call Jeanie at 732-966-1382.

**Nar-Anon, Mondays, 7:30PM-9:00PM**, in Madonna Room

**Nar-Anon Meeting, Tuesdays, 7:30PM**, in Madonna Room

**Gamblers Anonymous, Saturdays, 9:30AM-11:30AM** in Madonna Room

**Gamblers Anonymous, Sundays, 5:45PM**, in Madonna Room. (Open Meeting)

**Parents of Disabled Children Support, 7:00PM, 3rd Thursday** of each month.

### Pax Youth Group

7th & 8th Graders are invited to join; games, activities, hang out & pizza while getting closer to God! Check out our web site: [www.paxteens.com](http://www.paxteens.com)

**The next meeting: Friday, April 8th  
at 7:00-9:00PM** in the Parish Center.

### Social Sunday

The next Social Sunday will be held on **April 17th** After Mass all are invited to gather in the Parish Center for refreshments and fellowship. Please join us to meet new friends or renew old acquaintances.



### Collections for (DATE), 2016

**Total: \$21,085.00 \***

Please **do not** tape or staple your weekly collection envelopes.

If you would like to contribute by credit card or auto-debit, **FaithDirect**, forms are available in the Narthex or by signing up at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net).

**Thank you for your generous support.**

\* Weekly total does not reflect contributions through FaithDirect.

## WE NEED YOU . . .

As Extraordinary Ministers to serve at the  
Nursing Homes, the Homebound and at Mass.

"You are God's hands and feet. You have been called."

### Orientation for NEW Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass

#### Evening Session -

Thursday, April 21  
7:00-8:30 PM

#### Afternoon Session

Thursday, April 28  
1:00-2:30 PM

Pre-registration is required  
Please call Ministry Hotline 848-226-6218 to register. All attendees should meet in the Narthex.

**Ministry Hotline: 848-226-6218**

## Our Funeral Planning Ministry

is seeking caring men and women to become part of this rewarding ministry which helps families to plan a funeral here at St. Luke.

Are you will to take a symbolic walk of faith with a grieving family?

Call Kathleen Muzzio at 732-286-2222

## Sisters of Mercy 50/50 Raffle

The Sisters of Mercy hold a raffle each year to benefit the retired and infirmed Sisters of Mercy. The chances are \$25.00; the 10 prizes range from \$31,250.00 to \$1,250.00. Chances **will be on sale after all St. Luke Masses on March 19 & 20** and will be available in the St. Luke Parish Office, Monday through Friday, and the Religious Ed Office, Monday through Thursday, 9:00AM to 4:00PM. The drawing date is May 15, 2016.

### "No Greater Love"

A vibrant musical drama celebrating the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, will be performed in the sanctuary of St. Justin the Martyr Parish, 975 Fischer Blvd, Toms River on Sunday, April 3 at 4:00PM. Presented by the Xavier Company, a unique group of Christian actors, singers and dancers who perform original works focused on themes of faith and social justice. No admission fee, but there will be a freewill offering after the performance followed by refreshments in the St. Justin Parish Hall.



## St. Vincent de Paul Society

Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador once lamented, "A church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed—what gospel is that?" This Easter, let us celebrate the ultimate act of love carried out by this controversial, radical trouble-maker who challenged the status quo and the religious establishment. *Easter is truly Good News for our poor neighbors. It is the high point of the story of Jesus, who embodied God's wild and untameable love for the vulnerable and the broken. And ultimately laid down his life to overcome the death and violence that enslaves us all.*

### We Are Here To Help

For those in need of financial assistance, please contact us at (732) 244-3916. Calls will be returned promptly. The **Food Pantry** distributes food to those in need, within our parish boundaries regardless of religious affiliation, on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10AM to 12:45PM**. Please bring current identification and proof of residence.

### How You Can Help

Use the envelopes available in the Church pews and in the Narthex to make financial contributions. Contributions of food for the pantry may be placed in the large wooden box in the Narthex.

**OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:**  
**Mac & Cheese, Laundry Detergent,**  
**Tea and Coffee.**

*Thank You For Helping Us To Help The Needy*  
*God Bless!*

<http://www.stlukeconference.org/>



## RCIA

Have you or someone you know not been baptized but would like to explore the desire to become Catholic? Have you or someone you know been baptized but have not completed one or both of the remaining Sacraments of Initiation (First Eucharist and/or Confirmation) but desires to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church? **Contact us at 732- 286-2222**

## St. Luke Church has joined Investors Bank's Care2Share Affinity Program.

For every account you link to the Church of St. Luke, Investors Bank will donate monies based upon the average balance of the linked deposits. Additional Information can be obtained at any Investors Bank branch, at [www.myinvestorsbank.com/Care2Share](http://www.myinvestorsbank.com/Care2Share) or by speaking with Kathleen Muzzio at 732-286-2222 x 6200.