# MAY 31, 2015

# WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ JUNE 1 - 7

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St. Luke Altar Flowers May 30 - June 5, 2015

In Front of Altar:

In Memory of Robert Owen Req. by Wife, Jean Owen

To order flowers for the week for <u>any</u> occasion, contact Kathleen Muzzio of the Rosary Altar Society at 732-286-2222. Requests should be made two weeks in advance.

St. Luke Church will be hosting a new seminar based upon the book:

# "Redefining Retirement as A Spiritual Journey"

6 Wednesdays during July and August 7:00-8:15PM

If you are going to be retiring or newly retired, this will be of interest to you. Presenter: Barry Burke

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS June 7, 2015

1st Reading: Exodus 24:3-8
2nd Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15
Gospel: Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

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



# **Pray for the Recently Deceased**

Louis C. Lombardi Mary Ottrando Maryann Lentini Tracey Crapser Donald Fey Diane Lee Teresa Eleanor M. Palmer Peter Mc Gaughran

#### Please Pray for the Sick

Benjamin Aprea, Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter, Linda Greuter, Cayden Napolitano, John Kempton, Simon Amato (child), Doris Taylor, Rev. George Macho, Deacon Bob Puglisi, Jo Hardardt, Michael Agro, Chuck Kraut, Libertine Javelosa, Pat Petzold, Pat LaRocca, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Kathleen Mc Fadden, Anthony Mazzeo, Eugene Deehan, Martha Olmstead, Yolanda Salvatore, Arthur Muldoon, Edna Dima, Connie Banares, Bishop David O'Connell, Arlene De Jura, JoAnn Maione, Ryan Snyder (child), Anita Menafra, Louise Svarczkopf, Phil DiBello, Pat Alfano, Fr. Peter Funesti, Joann Salek, Frank Corbally, Marguerite Dorney, Lillian Schneller, Bob Schneller, Matty Turner (infant), Joan Terranova, Steven Kasper, Theresa Kasper, Kenneth Foerstein, Mary Ann Napatano, Steven Haas, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Connie Plaino, Gurprit Chhatwal, Jenny Ralph, Patricia Sevos, Gloria Rafanelli, Gina Pelillo, Kathy Kelly, Katherine Brady, Guy Buck, Gail Cook, Natalie Biller, Evelyn Dowling, Jean Burke, Joseph in Uganda, Margaret Kohnenkamp.

# FROM THE PASTOR. . .

### Pope Francis and Children

Addressing the parents whose children had been baptized in the last year, Pope Francis said, "...children cry, they are noisy, they don't stop moving. But it really irritates me when I see a child crying in church and someone says they must go out. God's voice is in a child 's tears: they must never be kicked out of church." Every Advent we recognize our newly baptized infants who were baptized during the past twelve months. I send a special invitation to all the families who had their baby baptized during the past twelve months in our parish, and I invited them to a special Mass, blessing, and celebration. This special blessing commemorates the blessing that the Pope gives on the Third Sunday of Advent when he blesses the figures of the Infant Jesus that the families will place in their home managers during the Christmas Season.

In the invitation I always tell the families that I realize that many of them are reluctant to bring their new babies and young children to church on Sunday for fear that they may cry, make noise, misbehave, talk, etc., and disturb others. I asked them to please not to let that stop them, and that if it reached a point that even they could not stand it, just to go to the narthex as many of our young families already do and let the children get to know each other. They can also run around there and they will not be disturbing anyone. For all of us in the pews we need to be aware that some of our baby parishioners may be "special needs children" and we need to remember that and develop patience. We also have to remember that it is also difficult for the parents and that they are doing their best. I assured these parents that we are a Pro-life parish and we want to hear and see our children! We don't want to hide them. We welcome them!!

#### A New Altar

I requested that if people were going to send flowers for my Mother's funeral that they instead make a donation to the new altar fund. Some people have asked what this project is. The project for this summer which is separate from the building project that is in progress is to rebuild the sanctuary, i.e., the platform where the altar is. It will be totally reconstructed and redesigned and in the process will be constructed so that it can support a marble altar. The marble for the new altar was cut from the same lot as the marble for the new Baptismal Font. It was designed by Mr. Lawrence Hoy. Mr. Hoy is the same person who designed our Crucifix which hangs over the altar and our new Baptismal Font. Pilings will need to be installed in order to support the weight of the marble altar. The new altar is already here and is being stored in a warehouse. The floor of the new sanctuary and the steps leading up to it will be marble tile. Some people have asked if during the deconstruction and construction periods if we will still be able to use the Church. The builder told me that we will be able to use the Church but we will need to make a few adjustments such as moving the present altar to the floor. The estimated time needed is short--3 weeks.

If anyone in your family is looking to fund a memorial for a loved one, the new altar and Baptismal Font are ideal projects for this.

Again thank you for your support at the loss of my Mother.

Please keep me in your prayers.

Fr. Bob

# Upcoming Parish Meetings

Monday, June 1 - St. Luke Pre-Baptism Class for expectant and new parents, 7:30PM, in the Church. Please call the Parish Office to register, 732-286-2222.

Thursday, June 4 - St. Luke Bereavement Support Group~ Any Loss, 7:30PM in the Parish Center. (Meetings are every other Thursday for 9 sessions ending June 4.) For information call Ann Ascione-Hardman, 732-244-8557.

**Sunday, June 7 - Rosary Altar Society Mass at 8:30AM.** Recitation of the Rosary **at 8:10AM before** Mass. All members are encouraged to attend. All parishioners are invited to join us in honoring our Blessed Mother.

**Tuesday, June 16 - Rosary Makers, 1:30PM** in the Parish Center, meets 3rd Tuesday monthly to make Rosaries for the missions and local nursing homes. Instructions and materials provided. (**No Meetings in July & August.**)

Wednesday, June 17 - Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00AM -12:00 noon, meets once a month in the Parish Center. Create shawls and lap throws to give to the bereaved, the infirmed and the lonely.

**Saturday, June 20 - Pax Youth Group, Annual Lock-in**, in the Parish Center, 8:00PM-8:00AM overnight, 7th & 8th graders. Visit our web site: www.paxteens.com.

# "Lighting the Path"

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Pledges are still being accepted for the St. Luke "Lighting the Path" Capital Campaign. Our construction is on target for completion in late summer/ early fall. Your generosity, support, prayers and patience is very much appreciated. Pledge cards are available in the bulletin carts and in the Narthex.

#### **SERVICE MEETINGS:**

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous, Sundays, 10:00AM in Parish Center.

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

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

Al-Anon Meeting, Mondays, 11:00AM, in the Parish Center.

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

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

Nar-Anon Meeting, Tuesdays, 7:30PM, in the Parish Center.

**Gamblers Anonymous**, **Sundays**, **5:45PM**, in the Narthex. (Open Meeting)

# **Religious Education News**

#### Is God calling YOU to teach?

The St. Luke <u>Parish Religious Education Program</u> (PREP) is in need of 10 catechists for the 2015-2016 school year. Our new learning facility will be ready for September and we can't wait! Come join our young people on a faith journey and work together to build up God's kingdom! Please think about it, pray about it and consider becoming a CCD teacher for the following:

Mon 6:15 - 7:30 PM Grade Levels 1, 4, and 5 Tues 4:30 - 5:45 PM Grade Level 1 Tues 6:15 - 7:30 PM Grade Level 7 (2 needed) Wed 4:30 - 5:45 PM Grade Level 2 (4 needed)

The PREP Office is located in the Parish Center and open Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. For more information, call the office. 732-505-0108

#### **Registration for School Year 2015-2016:**

Please tell your family, friends, and neighbors: Packets were mailed out to the families currently enrolled in St. Luke PREP. Children entering first grade should also begin Religious Education class. You may register your child(ren) for PREP classes either by mail or in person from May 4 through August 3, 2015.

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# Winners of Sisters of Mercy 50/50 Raffle

1st Prize from Roanoke, VA.	\$22,500
2nd Prize from Metuchen, NJ	9,000
3rd Prize from Plainfield, NJ	4,500
4th Prize from Harrisonville, NJ	1,800
5th Prize from Toms River, NJ	1,800
6th Prize from Toms River, NJ	1,800
7th Prize from Titusville, NJ	900
8th Prize from Toms River, NJ	900
9th Prize from Piscataway, NJ	900
10th Prize from Plainfield, NJ	900

The Sisters of Mercy thank you for your support of their Raffle

# Collections for May 23 & 24, 2015

Total:

\$19,114.00 \*

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.

Thank you for your generous support.

\* Weekly total does not reflect contributions through FaithDirect.

# The Rosary Altar Society Year End Luncheon Tuesday, June 9

All Rosarians and those wishing to join the Rosary Altar Society are encouraged to attend. Recitation of the rosary will be at 12 noon in the church with a luncheon to follow in the Narthex. A hot buffet will be catered by Mulberry Street. Tickets are \$15 payable to St. Luke Rosary Altar Society. Please have checks in to the parish office by June 2.

# IN 2014 YOU DID TAKE A BABY BOTTLE...



#### AND...

will you do it again to continue to give the homeless, pregnant mothers of Good Counsel a safe and secure home? The weekend of June 13th and 14th, Good Counsel Homes will not only be sharing the story of Good Counsel at our parish but is happy to tell you what your past support has enabled us to do! The Riverside home, open for 4 years now, has given birth to 44 babies!! You will be asked to take a baby bottle home with you, and fill it with change, dollars, checks - whatever your means allow and return it within 2 weeks! Thank you for your support and pravers for our mothers who have chosen to give their life. Contact JoAnn DiNoia joann dinoia@goodcounselhomes.org.

# The 2015 Diocese of Trenton Annual Catholic Appeal "Act of Faith, Works of Love"

Each year at this time, we reach out to you and ask you to partner with us through the Annual Catholic Appeal. A gift to the Appeal helps fund the vital ministries, programs and services of 107 parishes in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties. We ask that everyone prayerfully consider a gift to the Appeal to help support youth and family ministries, Catholic education, vocations to the Priesthood and religious life, and the charitable works of our Diocese and Parishes. Pledge cards are available in the Bulletin Carts in the Narthex of St. Luke Church. To date we have \$68,067 pledged towards our goal of \$89,000. We thank you for your continuing generosity in reaching our goal and in all that you do for our parish. God Bless You!



#### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Just as the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have

to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills. How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion. Can we continue to stand by when food is thrown away while people are starving? This is a case of inequality. - *Pope Francis* 

#### 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: LAUNDRY DETERGENT, COFFEE, CANNED TUNA, MAC & CHEESE. PLEASE - NO OUT OF DATE FOOD!

Thank You For Helping Us To Help The Needy. God Bless! https://tinyurl.com/lh54ntf

#### Fathers' Day Mass Cards

Fathers' Day Mass Cards are available in the Narthex and Parish Office for your Mass Intention requests for fathers (living & deceased). Please return your Intention Request forms in the collection basket or to the parish office. Mass Intentions will be remembered at all Masses during the month of June.

#### Quote of the Week:

"The solidarity which binds all people together as members of a common family makes it impossible for wealthy nations to look with indifference upon the hunger, misery and poverty of other nations whose citizens are unable to enjoy even elementary human rights. The nations of the world are becoming more and more dependent on one another and it will not be possible to preserve a lasting peace so long as glaring economic and social imbalances persist."

- St. John XXIII, Mater et Magistra, 157