

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ SEPTEMBER 21 - 27

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Intention</u> | <u>Requested By</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mon. 7:30 AM | Thomas Reilly | Wife, Tina |
| Tues. 7:30 AM | Ronald Cohen | Parents, Roy & Fran Cohen |
| Wed. 7:30 AM | Patrick M. Hamada | The Lapid & Hamada Family |
| 11:00 AM | Dick Bodmer | John & Maggie Huetz |
| Thurs. 7:30 AM | Thomas Reilly | Yolanda Aiello |
| Fri. 7:30 AM | Rose Dalessio | Ann Dalessio |
| 11:00 AM | Filippo Russo & Edward F. Leppert | Fran & Ed Leppert |
| Sat. 8:30 AM | Angelo Juliano | St. Luke 10:00AM Ushers |
| 4:00 PM | Elaine Chifulini | The Clause Family |
| 5:30 PM | Joe Yozzo | Wife, Doris |
| Sun. 7:00 AM | St. Luke Parishioners | |
| 8:30 AM | St. Vincent de Paul | St. Vincent de Paul Society |
| 10:00 AM | Giaconda Cavallo & Antoinette Russo | Camille Russo |
| 12:00 PM | Patrick Hamada | The Lapid & Hamada Family |



St. Luke Altar Flowers
Sept. 19 - Sept. 25, 2015



Pray for the Recently Deceased
Lois B. Gorda

In Front of the Altar, the Blessed Mother & St. Joseph:

*In Loving Memory of Beloved Husband, Father & Friend
to all who knew him.*

Req. by Debbie & Christina Andriano

Candlerings:

In Memory of Anna & Frank Carnevale
Req. by Doris & Tom Biggins

To order flowers for the week for any occasion, contact
Kathleen Muzzio at 732-286-2222. Requests should be made
two weeks in advance.

SAVE THE DATE of OCTOBER 17th

Bishop O'Connell will be Dedicating the New Faith
Formation Center AND Consecrating our New Mar-
ble Altar.

We will release further details as we have them.

We hope that all of you can join in this joyous parish
celebration.

Please Pray for the Sick

Benjamin Aprea, Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter,
Linda Greuter, Cayden Napolitano, John Kempton, Simon
Amato (child), Doris Taylor, Deacon Bob Puglisi, Jo Hard-
ardt, Michael Agro, Chuck Kraut, Libertine Javelosa, Pat
Petzold, Pat LaRocca, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Eugene
Deehan, Martha Olmstead, Yolanda Salvatore, Bishop David
O'Connell, Anita Menafra, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child),
Gurprit Chhatwal, Jenny Ralph, Claire Hansen, JoAnn
Kronowski, Harry Mc Cord, Stephanie Mc Fadden, Donald
Gagne, Marjorie Jannelli, Gary Brennan, Helen Brennan,
Gloria Rafanelli, Marie Gentile, Steven Haas, Steve
Christiansen, Arlene Farawell, Arthur Muldoon, Roselle De-
requito, Edward (Junie) Scalla, Larry Gallo, Barbara Waters,
Lil Schneller, Bob Schneller, Dylan Anthony Hufford (infant),
Sofia Rott, Vivian Kircher, John Crowley, Enes Holsten, Jo-
seph Italiano, Vincent Brady, Rosanna D'Adamo, Catherine
Byrnes, Larry Reagan, Virginia Heywood (child), Robert Har-
raden, Margaret Graham, Margaret Longenberger, Joann
Salek, Laura Petrolino, Phil DiBello.



***Newly Baptized Member of
St. Luke Church***

*James Liam Stephens ~ Son of
Kristin and James Stephens*

"May the Lord give His angel charge over you, to guide you
in all your ways" ~Psalm 91:11

***NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS
September 27, 2015***

1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

2nd Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

FROM THE PASTOR. . .

There is Nothing Too Good for God!

"There is nothing too good for God, so there is nothing too rich or too precious for God's earthly homes." This philosophy has been followed throughout the history of the Church by generous parishioners, talented architects and artists, and visionary popes, cardinals, bishops, and priests. This thinking has made possible the great cathedrals of Europe, North and South America and the rest of the world. And along with these came the famous Catholic Schools and the Sisters who educated so many of us when we were the "new" immigrants in the country. Without these bold people we would not have these magnificent structures. Can you imagine: no St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, no Sistine Chapel with its magnificent ceiling hand-painted by Michelangelo, no works of art by other famed artists, no St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York and the countless beautiful churches and cathedrals in the United States? Many of the people who proposed these structures were openly criticized and mocked. It's hard to believe but not every Catholic Church we see was welcomed by all Catholics. Many Catholics complained that they were too expensive, a waste of money, unnecessary and did not want to contribute. They had no vision of what these great structures would mean to not only the Church but to the country.

Some people in the parish have asked me why we did not forgo the building of the new "Faith Formation Center" and the new altar and give that money to the poor. We have never neglected our responsibility to the poor in our community and the world. Every year we give \$96,000 to support Catholic Education. We also pay a yearly assessment to the Diocese of \$132,000 which goes to the various projects that the Bishop sponsors which includes but is not limited to Catholic Charities which includes helping the poor. We are also a proud sponsor for the Center in Asbury Park which provides care to homeless people infected with AIDS and is under the direction of Fr. Bob Kaeding. We also support our parishioner Mary Goss and her work to the people of Uganda. We also donate to Good Counsel Home which provides living arrangements for homeless pregnant women and helps them to get on their lives together after their child is born. Last year we donated the money (\$1000) that people left in the Christmas Manger to St. Mary of the Lake Catholic School in Chicago. St. Mary is an inner city Catholic School which caters to the poor and gives them a Catholic Education. It is a no nonsense school. Parents are told that if they don't like the rules of the school they are free to place their children in another school. Every student gets into one of the top tier high schools in Chicago many of them private.

Also we have been good stewards and have maintained our present campus. Over the past two years we have completely refurbished our heating and air conditioning systems. We keep our surroundings clean and landscaped to the point that people have commented to me about how beautiful our Church and land are kept! And of course we have our wonderful St. Vincent de Paul Conference which provides countless assistance to the poor of our community. The St. Vincent de Paul Society has over 70 active members who serve as Home Visitors, Food Pantry Workers, and Board Members. These members have totaled over 4,288 hours of service and logged 11,622 miles in the past ten months. They run a Food Pantry which has grown tremendously over the past five years averaging 100 families per month and providing over 600 bags of food. During the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter Holidays additional food baskets are given to families to ensure that they have traditional meals during those times. And of course during the Christmas Holidays we have our parish "Giving Trees" which provide Christmas gifts for the needy and the animal shelter.

Over the past few years we have opened our hearts and doors to our community no matter what their religion they are. Do you know that we now have ten Twelve Step Meetings in our church buildings and we do not charge rent. We look at this as being a good community member and being there for people in need. Our expansion has allowed us to do all of this. If you did not know any of this about your parish isn't it time to get involved so you do know what exactly your church does?

Sincerely,
Fr. Bob

ST. LUKE ANNUAL PARISH RETREAT

October 19th, 20th & 21st

11:00 am Mass each day with Retreat Session
7:00 pm Retreat Session
(same topic for morning & evening session)

Retreat directed by Fr. Bill Reackowicz, SJ
Further details to follow.

**Attention Extraordinary Ministers
of Holy Communion**

Training for those interested in serving Communion at Mass will be in October. You must register by calling the Parish Office, 732-286-2222 x 310:

**Tuesday, October 6 at 1:00-2:30pm or
Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00-8:30pm**

St. Luke Bereavement Support Group

The bereavement support group for any loss meets at **7:30pm every other Thursday** for 7 sessions, ending December 3rd.

The next meeting:

September 24th

For more information call
Anna Ascione-Hardman,
732-244-8557.

Thank You!

The Ladies of the Rosary Altar Society would like to thank our parishioners for their generous support of the Carnation Sale last weekend. We raised over \$1,800 for Birthright. May God bless you abundantly for your kindness.

Pax Youth Group

7th & 8th Graders are invited to join. The first meeting for the 2015-2016 year is on **Friday, September 25th at 7:00-9:00PM**, in the Parish Center. Check out our web site: www.paxteens.com

St. Luke Pre-Baptism Classes...

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

**The next class will be on
Monday, October 5th.**

The Annual Blessing of Animals...

in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, will be held **Sunday, October 4, 2015, at 2:00PM**, by the St. Luke Parish Center. Donations of old **clean** blankets, sheets and towels, dog and cat toys, and unopened dog and cat food will be accepted for the Animal Shelter in Jackson. Bring your pets for this special blessing!

Ministry of Greeters

**"I was a stranger, and you welcomed me."
Mt 25:35**

A greeter is often the first person we meet on the way into church. Greeters welcome newcomers and enable them to find their way; they are there to greet regular parishioners and help them feel at home and to be Christ's welcoming embrace to all who come to worship with us.

The St. Luke Parish is looking for volunteers for the ministry of Greeter at all weekend Masses. It's easy and enjoyable. Greeters arrive 20 minutes before Mass, don their badges, smile, help with the doors and greet friends, fellow parishioners and newcomers. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office, 732-286-2222, to sign up for the orientation session to be held on:

Saturday, September 26th, from 10:00-11:15am

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 , Mondays, 7:30PM-9:00PM

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

Gamblers Anonymous, Saturdays , 9:30AM-11:30AM

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

Collections for September 12 & 13, 2015

Total: \$18,397.00*
Faith Direct for September \$ 9,083.00

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.

Religious Education News

On this Catechetical Sunday, we wish to thank those who give of themselves, their time and their talents, to share their faith every week with our young people. May God bless you in this ministry and keep you healthy throughout this upcoming year!

We are happy to announce that **PREP classes will begin the week of September 21 – 24, 2015** for all grade levels. Classes will be held in the Church until we can move upstairs into our new facility.



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 x 311.**

Quote of the Week:

"[Fundamentalism] is a transversal darkness which robs us of an horizon, which closes us in convictions. No religion is immune from its own fundamentalisms. In any confession there will be a small group of fundamentalists, whose work is to destroy in the interests of an idea, not of a reality. God, whether in Judaism, in Christianity, or in Islam, in the faith of those three peoples, accompanies God's people with His presence. ...Our God is a God of nearness, which accompanies. Fundamentalists push God away from the companionship of His people; they dis-Incarnate Him, they transform Him into an ideology. Therefore, in the name of this ideological God, they kill, attack, destroy and calumniate."

~Pope Francis

St. Vincent de Paul Society



In all places and circumstances, Christians, with the help of their pastors, are called to hear the cry of the poor.... Seeing their poverty, hearing their cries and knowing their sufferings, we are scandalized because we know that there is enough food for everyone and that hunger is the result of a poor distribution of goods and income. - *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:
PAPER TOWELS & COFFEE**

Thank You For Helping Us To Help The Needy. God Bless!
<https://tinyurl.com/lh54ntf0>

White Mass

Sunday, October 18th, 3:00pm

In Honor of the Feast of St. Luke, we will be celebrating a White Mass for those in the health and healing arts. Please extend the invitation to any healthcare professional you may know.



Holy Year of Mercy

Pope Francis has proclaimed "A Holy Year of Mercy" to commence 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."

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 or by speaking with Kathleen Muzzio at 732-286-2222 x 306.