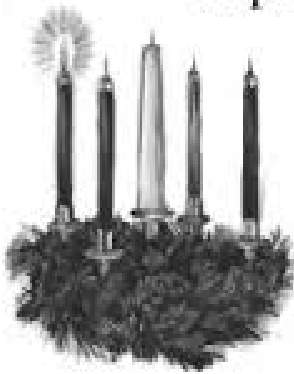


WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ NOV. 30 - DEC. 6, 2015

	<u>Day</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Mon.	7:30 AM	Harry Foti	Wife, Norma
Tues.	7:30 AM	Walter Fricke	Doris & Tom
Wed.	7:30 AM	Marian Dowling	Loving sister, Margaret Waterhouse
	11:00 AM	Jessica Bongiovanni	The Leppert & Bongiovanni Family
Thurs.	7:30 AM	Charlene Meyer	Susan Haas
Fri.	7:30 AM	Kenneth Ward	The Sheridans
	11:00 AM	Marjorie Grant	James & Sheila Cahill
Sat.	8:30 AM	Mary Ottrando	Loretta & Lou
	4:00 PM	Manny Mannarino	Wife, Laura
	5:30 PM	Edward Mennella	Parents, Carol & Anthony
Sun.	7:00 AM	St. Luke Parishioners	
	8:30 AM	Rosary Altar Society Members	St. Luke Rosary Altar Society
	10:00 AM	Julia Cammarota, John Apicella & The Testa Family	
	12:00 PM	Dorothy Cornacchio	Mr. & Mrs. Carmine Testa Husband, Sal Cornacchio

Hope



Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation. There will be a number of materials available to assist you during this Season of Advent. They will be available in the Narthex, the Bulletin, and the website (www.stlukesstomsriver.org) and you can follow us on Twitter: [@stlukeparish](https://twitter.com/stlukeparish)

***Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
December 8, 2015***
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Mass Times:

Monday, Dec. 7
4:00PM & 7:00PM
Tuesday, Dec. 8
7:00AM, 8:30AM & 11:00AM



DATES OF ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

St. Barnabas, Bayville ~ Mon., Dec. 14., at 7:00PM
St. Joseph, Toms River ~ Tues., Dec. 15, at 7:00 PM
St. Maximillian Kolbe, Toms River ~ Wed., Dec. 16,
at 12:00-1:30PM
St. Justin, Toms River ~ Fri., Dec. 18, at 7:00PM
St. Luke ~ Monday, Dec. 21, at 7:00PM

Pray for the Recently Deceased

Joseph A. Tomasulo Jr. Edward Mach
Doris Taylor Ed Bullock

Please Pray for the Sick



Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter, Linda Greuter, Cayden Napolitano, John Kempton, Simon Amato (child), Doris Taylor, Deacon Bob Puglisi, Jo Hardardt, Michael Agro, Chuck Kraut, Libertine Javelosa, Pat Petzold, Pat LaRocca, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Eugene Deehan, Martha Olmstead, Yolanda Salvatore, Anita Menafr, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Gurprit Chhatwal, Jenny Ralph, Claire Hansen, Marie Gentile, Steven Haas, Lil Schneller, Bob Schneller, Sofia Rott, Enes Holsten, Joseph Italiano, Vincent Brady, Larry Reagan, Virginia Heywood (child), Robert Harraden, Margaret Longenberger, Joann Salek, Laura Petrolino, Phil DiBello, Bill Smith, Joe Morriello, Maryanne Molner, Victoria Johnson, James Joseph White, Maureen Driscoll, Lisa Penna, Jacquelyn Lombardo, John Mc Manus, Pamela Mc Cabe, Tina Pilot, Phyllis Scarpello, Shirley Foco, John Higgins, Dolores Buck, Ralph Nolfi, Denise Schmitt, Jeannette Wolcott, Kathleen Langon, Helen Dudek, Paula O'Neill, Judy Savas-

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.'



NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS December 6, 2015

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9
2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

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

FROM THE PASTOR. . .

It is always a pleasure to recognize the good works of the youth of our parish. Our parish has a young man, Jeremy Grablauskas, who is earning the rank of Eagle Scout. For his project, Jeremy has constructed and arranged 20 birdhouses within the wooded area behind St. Luke and a meditation bench from which Pudge and I will enjoy God's natural beauty. Jeremy's dedication to this was not limited to providing a home for the wild birds and a place to enjoy them, he needed to go through a long process of thought, approvals, fundraising, construction and placement of the birdhouses and bench. It was hard work and it honors our Catholic love of nature and God's creatures! So to Jeremy: Well Done! Congratulations and THANK YOU!

Please keep me in your prayers

Happy Advent!

Fr. Bob

From a sermon by Saint Caesarius of Arles, bishop

After our baptism we merited the privilege of being temples of Christ. And if we think more carefully about the meaning of our salvation, we shall realize that we are indeed living and true temples of God. "God does not dwell only in structures fashioned by human hands", in homes of wood and stone, but rather he dwells principally in the soul made according to his own image and fashioned by his own hand. Therefore, the apostle Paul says: "The temple of God is holy, and you are that temple." [...]

Let us not destroy the living temples of God in ourselves by works of evil. I shall speak clearly, so that all can understand. Whenever we come to church, we must prepare our hearts to be as beautiful as we expect this church to be. Do you wish to find this basilica immaculately clean? Then do not soil your soul with the filth of sins. Do you wish this basilica to be full of light? God too wishes that your soul be not in darkness, but that the light of good works shine in us, so that he who dwells in the heavens will be glorified. Just as you enter this church building, so God wishes to enter into your soul, for he promised: "I shall live in them, and I shall walk the corridors of their hearts." (Leviticus 26:11,12).

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:
Monday, December 7**

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

**The next meeting:
Friday, December 18
at 7:00-9:00PM
in the Parish Center.**

St. Luke Bereavement Support Group

The bereavement support group for any loss meets at **7:30pm** For more information call Anna Ascione-Hardman, 732-244-8557.

The next meeting: December 3, 2015 (final meeting)

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, 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 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.



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.**

Religious Education News

This is Level 2 Mass Weekend. Please **write your name on the front of the bulletin**, have it signed by someone in church ministry and turn in this signed bulletin at your next class.

Happy Advent! One of the strongest symbols of Advent is an evergreen wreath holding four candles. This circular wreath is a sign of God's love, which has no end. The evergreen branches suggest the faithfulness of God, which is always alive and fresh. Each day, we will begin PREP class with the lighting of our Advent wreath, as we wait in joyful anticipation for the birth of our Lord Jesus.

WE NEED

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

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

To answer:
732-286-2222 x310

Yoga & Spirituality Class

The Yoga & Spirituality Class is offering an evening program for Advent on **December 9th at 6:00PM** in the St. Luke Parish Center. This is a make up class for a missed session in November and is open to all

St. Luke Rosary Altar Society

ATTENTION ROSARIANS:

**Our Annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on:
December 8, 2015 at 12:00noon**

If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$15.00, checks made payable to St. Luke Rosary Altar Society, **due on or before December 1, 2015**. You may drop off your checks to the Parish Office. For more

GIVING TREE & PUDGE'S TREE



Our Giving Tree and Pudge's Tree are in the Narthex! We ask that if you take a tag, you honor the Gift Request that is on that tag. We ask you to return the **UNWRAPPED gift** with the tag (it is our only way of getting gifts where they belong) **BY DECEMBER 6th** (so we can get gifts ready for distribution). But most of all **THANK YOU** for your continuing generosity and the smiles and love you bring to young and not as young and all God's creation through it.

Wrapping of gifts will take place on December 13th at 2:30PM in the Parish Center.

"Poinsettia Angels" ...



will be available for dedication at the weekend Masses only through **Sunday, December 6th**. Donations are \$15 and \$25.

Quote of the Week:

"Today Jesus weeps as well: because we have chosen the way of war, the way of hatred, the way of enmities. We are close to Christmas: there will be parties, bright trees, even Nativity scenes-all decked out while the world continues to wage war. The world has not understood the way of peace. Everywhere there is war today, there is hatred. What shall remain in the wake of this war, in the midst of which we are living now? What shall remain? Ruins, thousands of children without education, so many innocent victims: and lots of money in the pockets of arms dealers. Jesus once said: 'You can not serve two masters: either God or riches.' War is the right choice for him, who would serve wealth: 'Let us build weapons, so that the economy will right itself somewhat, and let us go forward in pursuit of our interests. There is an ugly word the Lord spoke: 'Cursed!' Because He said: 'Blessed are the peacemakers!' The men who work war, who make war, are cursed, they are criminals. A war can be justified -so to speak- with many, many, many reasons, but when all the world as it is today, at war-piecemeal though that war may be-a little here, a little there, and everywhere-there is no justification-and God weeps. Jesus weeps. It will do us well to ask the grace of tears for ourselves, for this world that does not recognize the path of peace, this world that lives for war, and cynically says not to make it. Let us pray for conversion of heart. Here before the door of this Jubilee of Mercy, let us ask that our joy, our jubilation, be this grace: that the world discover the ability to weep for its crimes, for what the world does with war."

Pope Francis, Homily 11/19/2015

MINISTRY HOTLINE

~
If you are interested in serving

Call
732-286-2222 x 310



St. Vincent de Paul Society

I encourage financial experts and political leaders to ponder the words of [Saint John Chrysostom], one of the sages of antiquity: "Not to share one's wealth with the poor is to steal from them and to take away their livelihood. It is not our own goods which we hold, but theirs. - *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. ***Please do not leave refrigerated/frozen food donations in the wooden box in the narthex – deliver them to the pantry during their normal hours.***

OUR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

COFFEE, PAPER TOWELS & LAUNDRY DETERGENT

Thank You For Helping Us To Help The Needy.

God Bless!

<https://tinyurl.com/lh54ntf0>

Save The Date!



Yamba Uganda's Bead and Craft Sale

On the weekend of **December 5th and 6th** after all the Masses, there will be a bead and craft sale to benefit **Yamba Uganda** and their projects with the women in Uganda. The women make beads, bracelets, baskets and other crafts. The beads are made from colorful, recycled paper and glue. Because this jewelry is made by hand, each piece is uniquely different. They make wonderful gifts especially for Christmas. It is the gift that keeps on giving. These beads are part of an income generating, micro-financing project, which then turns into medication, food, income and school fees. More importantly it gives the women and their children

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.