

St. Luke Roman Catholic Church

1674 Old Freehold Road, Toms River, NJ 08755

Very Rev. Robert S. Grodnicki, Pastor

Parish Office: 732-286-2222 **Religious Education Office:** 732-505-0108

Website: stluketomsriver.org

DECEMBER 31, 2017

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ JANUARY 1 - 7, 2018

<u>Day</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Mon., New Year's Day ~ <i>Mary, Holy Mother of God:</i> 9:00 AM	Paul & Helen Lamb Florence Caccese	Nephew, Eddie Lagno Anne Tracy, Daughter
Tues. 7:30 AM	Wayne J. Duffy Paulina Galliquez	Kelly Zuzic Thelma & Rolando Villanueva
Wed. 7:30 AM	Eileen Olson Mary Comunale	Fr. Bob & Staff Chuck & Marlene Kern
11:00 AM	Anti D'Armiento	Amy Gao
Thurs. 7:30 AM	Kathleen M. Krone	John & Charlotte Murtha
Fri. 7:30 AM	For those who struggle with disbelief	
11:00 AM	John Murphy	Bob & Bonnie Fredericks
Sat. 8:30 AM	For those suffering with chronic food insecurity	
4:00 PM	Anthony Piejak Carol Mennella & Son, Edward	Daughter, Irene Piejak Anthony Mennella
5:30 PM	Stephanie Seibel Dora Gallipoli	Helen Donald The George Family
Sun. 7:00 AM	St. Luke Parishioners Gail Cook	Family
8:30 AM	Rosary Altar Society Members The Ruby & Ruggier Families	St. Luke Rosary Altar Society Martin & Barbara Ruby
10:00 AM	Gloria Rodriquez Jessie & Raymond Ismaelito	St. Vincent de Paul Society Members Daughter, Carmela Kaiser
12:00 PM	Deceased Members of the Sclafani Family Ida & Louis Pelaia	Catherine Gargiulo Family



Altar Flowers

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



Pray for the Recently Deceased

Bobby Leighton *Donald Brennan*
Theresa Grabowski

Please Pray for the Sick

Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter, Linda Greuter, John Kempton, Simon Amato, Jo Hardardt, Chuck Kraut, Pat Petzold, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Martha Olmstead, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Jenny Ralph, James Joseph White, Francis Lewis Jr., Richard Coburger, Pat La Rocca, Claire Hansen, Anthony Cuccaro, Vito Ottomano, Lillian Schneller, Bob Schneller, Bishop John M. Smith, Janet Hlavac, Carol Auletto, Arlene De Jura, Vivian Kircher, Rev. Joseph Hlubik, Chellesa Chorelus (child), Gregorio Alcid, Jean Stulich, Arlene Scala, Emily Mascola, Carol D'Oriano, Marion Valeri, Steven Haas, Peter Martino, Anna Martino, Felicia May, Michael Howard, Elizabeth Marino, Teodora Warner (child), Rosemarie Steurman, Marianne Mazzei, Tom Nardini, Meghan Stahl, Laura Higgins, Roger Foco, Larry Reagan, Carla De Jura Resetar, Clara Antoncich, James Rauh, Mary Aloia, Loretta Calcagni, Maryann Molner, Barbara Walsh, Teresa Medvetz, Daniel Carey, Patrick Maloney, Maria Markus, Rev. Gene Roberts, Catherine Mc Laughlin, Robert Mc Laughlin, John Curtin, Marie O'Connor, Barbara Marriotti, Phillip Di Bello, Josephine Mc Cabe, Patricia Duran, Jack Reuther, Beverly Nalducci, Joanne Demont, Kevin Hufford.

WE NEED YOU

The need for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to the Homebound and to those in our Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities is critical. Sharing the Eucharist with the least of our sisters and brothers is a wonderful honor and privilege!

If you can help, please call the
Ministry Hotline at 848-226-6218.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS *January 7, 2018*

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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



As we prepare to celebrate the 2018 New Year, and making resolutions, the Church still celebrating Christmastime, so we again wish you a Merry Christmas. Our Christmas celebrations during the month of December were a wonderful reminder of all the pomp and glorious praise of God that we, as Catholics, bring to the worship of our God.

We placed the new statue of the Blessed Mother and Child Jesus by the Madonna Room (back entrance to Church). The statue was donated by the Rosary Altar Society, and if you haven't gone back to see it, please do, it is worth the trip.

We welcomed catechumens and candidates as they begin/continue their journey into the Church at Easter—please continue to pray for them.

At our Church decorating, those present were privileged to hear our Choir practicing for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. To those who give their voices to assist us in raising our praise to God—thank you. (and those reading should consider lending your voice!)

To those youngsters, tweens, teens, millennials, genXers and boomers who came to decorate the Church, you did an absolutely magnificent job—the Church looks beautiful.

We have broken ground on our St. Hildegard Herb and Meditation Garden by the cooling tower in the back. This garden will be a community project for the benefit of our community, both young and old. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact the Parish Office at 732-286-2222.

We celebrated our babies baptized during this past year at the Blessing of the Bambinos. There is a tree in the Narthex with pictures of our newest members. Visit the tree and pray for our young ones.

To those who have given so generously through our Giving Tree program...there are no words that can adequately express the gratitude of those who were able to open a gift on Christmas because of YOU!
And so, looking forward....

Dear Lord,

**We pray that this New Year will bring us closer to You.
May we take the time to get to know You.
Help us to truly celebrate the gifts You have graciously given us
And use them to serve You and spread Your word,**

**May we also see and love you in all the people we meet,
so that in turn, they can see You in us.**

**We know that all human relations take time
if they are to grow and deepen.
This is also true of our relations with You,
the Father and the Holy Spirit,
which must grow over the course of our lives.**

**In this new year,
let us realize that every action of ours
no matter how great or small
enables us to be in touch with You.
Let us accept You in our lives,
in the way it pleases You,
as Truth, to be spoken,
as Life, to be lived,
as Light, to be lighted,
as Love, to be followed,
as Joy, to be given,
as Peace, to be spread about,
as Sacrifice, to be offered among our
relatives, friends, neighbors and all people.
Amen.**

***From Fr. Bob, the priests, deacons and staff of St. Luke,
We wish you with love,
friendship, health and every blessing in 2018!***

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, January 8,
2018**



The First Sunday of every month, the Rosarians pray the Rosary after the 10:00 Mass in the chapel. All are invited to join us on January 7, 2018.

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, January 16, 2018**

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:
Wed., January 17,
2018**

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, March 13, 2018
(No Meetings in Jan. & Feb.)**

SERVICE MEETINGS:

Adler Aphasia Community Group, 10:00am-12:00pm, 1st & 3rd Fridays, in Madonna Room. For info or to register, call Wendy Greenspan at 973-530-3981.

Alcoholics Anonymous for Women, 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 more 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.

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

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

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

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

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

Compassionate Friends, 7:00PM, 1st Tuesday each month in Augustine Room; support for those grieving death of a child.

Parish Religious Education Program

This is a Level 1 Mass Weekend. Please remember to put your name on the front of the bulletin before you get it signed by someone in Church ministry. Turn in this signed bulletin at your next class.

LEVEL 8 CONFIRMATION RETREAT to be held FRI - JAN 5, 2018, 7-10 pm in the Parish Center.

LEVEL 2 RECONCILIATION FUN DAY to be held SAT - JAN 6, 2018 in the Faith Formation Center. Group A - 9:30 am Group B - 1:00 pm

Something to think and pray about...

If you cannot commit to teaching every week, the Religious Education program is in GREAT NEED of substitute catechists!

Can we call on YOU when a catechist is unable to come to class? If you could help us, please call the PREP office at 732 505-0108.

This program cannot meet the spiritual needs of our children without YOU, our dedicated volunteers!

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, January 5, 2018,
at 7:00-9:00PM** in the Parish Center.

This Week's Senior Moment

"We wish our entire St. Luke Parish community a very Happy New Year, with a special promise to all our maturing adults. In 2018, we will again offer relevant programs to help you enrich your physical, emotional and spiritual well-being as you continue your journey through the aging process."

St. Luke Parish Outreach for Maturing Adults



Social Sunday

The next Social Sunday will be held on **January 21, 2018**. 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.

Support Group Forming for Newly Bereaved

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted Mt 5:4

When someone we love has been taken from us, we often find ourselves dealing with change and transition. Many offer their help, but do not always understand the loss we are feeling. Bereavement support groups are one way to find support from others who are going through the same process. We cannot go around, over or under the grief process. We need to go through it; we need to be good to ourselves, putting balance into our lives through prayer, reading, resting, relaxation and work. Grief takes time. Unrealistic expectations undermine the healing process.

The Parish of St. Luke Church is sponsoring a Bereavement Support Group for the newly bereaved. You need not be a parishioner to attend. The group will meet on Thursday afternoons from 2:00 - 3:30 P.M. in the Parish Conference Room for nine consecutive weeks, beginning on Thursday, January 11 and continuing through March 8, 2018. Pre-registration is required. **To register, please call the Bereavement Office at 848-226-6220 and leave a message.** We will call you back.

Save the Date!

Fraud Prevention Seminar

Wednesday, January 19, 2018

(After 11:00am chapel Mass)

St. Luke Parish Center

12:00pm to 1:30pm

Snacks will be available

Seminar Presenters from
The Ocean County Department of
Consumer Affairs

- Stephen Scaturro, Director
- Edward Mc Bride, Deputy Director

Come learn how to avoid being scammed, and what to do about it if your are!

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.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Our need for volunteers for ministry is ongoing.

- Extraordinary Ministers
- Lector
- AV Ministry
- Usher
- SVdP Society
- RCIA
- Children's Choir
- Children's Liturgy
- Choir
- Altar Server
- Catechist
- Social Sunday

And more!

Please call the Ministry Hotline at 848-226-6218.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

stlukeconference.org

Since 1833, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has offered charitable works to those in need. Each conference is sponsored by their local church. St. Luke Conference, in Toms River, has been helping those in need in our local community for the last 9 years. We are 100% volunteer staffed and we assist with food, rent, utilities and a vast array of resource referrals to hundreds of families a year. Many of these families would not be able to meet their basic needs without our help. Many of the people who come to us for assistance are elderly, disabled or single parents trying to raise children on limited resources. We are proud to be their strength and support when there seems to be no other hope.

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

You shop – Amazon donates.

Visit <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-1482577>.

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:

COFFEE, TEA
LAUNDRY DETERGENT, PAPER TOWELS

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



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 848-226-6217.**