

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ APRIL 16 - 22, 2018

	<u>Day</u>	<u>Intention</u>	<u>Requested By</u>
Mon.	7:30 AM	Frank Paul Stabile	Wife, Anne
Tues.	7:30 AM	Ana Santos Sardo & Frank Santos	Daughter & Niece, Maria Sardo Lopez
Wed.	7:30 AM	Joseph Barchi Sr.	Wife, Fran
		Soledad Tolentino (Living)	Alice Fereno
	11:00 AM	John Novellino	The Castiglione Family
		Mary & Patrick Flynn	Richard Duignan
Thurs.	7:30 AM	Betty Jane Mc Clellan	Fran Barchi
Fri.	7:30 AM	For those persecuted for the Faith	
	11:00 AM	Mary Patricia Love	The Card Girls
		Craig Malecki	Peter & MaryAnn Ciccone
Sat.	8:30 AM	For all Believers	
	4:00 PM	Cira Marie Patti	Parents, Fran & Mike Patti
	5:30 PM	That all may heed the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow	
Sun.	7:00 AM	St. Luke Parishioners	
	8:30 AM	Michelle Medvetz	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Tomaszewski
	10:00 AM	Deceased Members of the Barra & Vezzetti Families	Ron & Amelita Berardi
		Rose Marie Tomburo	Husband, Anthony Tomburo
	12:00 PM	Mary P. Love	Husband, John & Family
		George A. Bilaitis	Val Smela

### *Ascension of The Lord ~ May 10, 2018* (Holy Day of Obligation)



### **Pray for the Recently Deceased** *Rose A. Sinacori*

#### **Mass Times:**

**Vigil ~ Wed., May 9 - 4:00PM & 7:00PM**

**Thurs., May 10 - 7:00AM, 8:30AM & 11:00AM**

Holy Days of Obligation are days on which we are privileged to attend Mass.

The Feast of the Ascension occurs 40 days after the Resurrection celebrated on that glorious Easter morning when the women found the tomb empty. This Holy day marks Jesus' return to His Father, thereby giving us all hope in His promise:

"And if I go and prepare a place for you [in my Father's House], I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be." (John 14:3)

**Note:** The Parish & CCD Offices will be closed on the Holy Day, Thursday, May 10.

### *Women's Annual Retreat Day*

**Thursday, May 3, 2018 ~ 9:00AM-3:00PM**

**St. Joseph by the Sea  
So. Mantaloking, NJ**

Sponsored by the St. Luke Rosary Altar Society

**Open to all women of St. Luke Parish.** There will be a Mass, Rosary, speaker and some free time throughout the day. Light breakfast & lunch provided. **Cost is \$45.00; checks made out to "St. Luke Rosary Altar Society" along with your name and telephone number,** may be mailed or dropped off at the Parish Office **no later than April 23.** Call Noreen, 732-278-3478, with any questions. Thank you.

**Please Pray for the Sick**

Myn Greuter, Joan Greuter, Elisa Greuter, Linda Greuter, John Kempton, Simon Amato, Jo Hardardt, Pat Petzold, Nina Parisi, Margaret Boland, Martha Olmstead, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Jenny Ralph, Francis Lewis Jr., Richard Coburger, Pat La Rocca, Claire Hansen, Vito Ottomano, Lillian Schneller, Bob Schneller, Bishop John M. Smith, Janet Hlavac, Carol Auletto, Arlene De Jura, Vivian Kircher, Rev. Joseph Hlubik, Chellesa Choremus (child), Carol D'Oriano, Steven Haas, Teodora Warner (child), Tom Nardini, Carla De Jura Resetar, Loretta Calcagni, Maryann Molner, Patrick Maloney, Maria Markus, Phillip Di Bello, Jack Reuther, Joanne Demont, Daniel Washington, Bernard Grillo, Dominick Bongiorno, Brother Robert Martineau, Christopher Cirone, Paul Azotea, Joanne Kronowski, Helen Donald, Ron Jobin, Jonathan Gonzalez, Marie Wisnieski, John Cirignano, John Hohmann, Mary Camarota, Isabella Borzumato, Charles Gagliano, Jolanta Tylanda, John Mc Carthy, Catherine Mc Carthy, Ben Cala, Thomas Aversa, Christine Luccarelli, Larry Reagan, Mr. Virgilio, James Rauh, Maria Plinio, Paul Weinland, Nancy Szczepan, Jose "Tony" Torres.

### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS** *April 22, 2018*

1st Reading: Acts 4:8-12

2nd Reading: I John 3:1-2

Gospel: John 10:11-18

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

Prior to Palm Sunday and Holy Week, we have been sharing Pope Francis' catechesis on the Mass. Below you will find Part 2 to "Catechesis on the Mass - 'The Gospel'". Part 1 was contained in the March 18th Bulletin. This past Monday, Pope Francis released his 3rd Apostolic Exhortation "Gaudete et Exsultate" or "Rejoice and Be Glad". We encourage you to read it for yourself! It and all of our bulletins are contained on our website: [www.stlukesrivers.org](http://www.stlukesrivers.org).

### Catechesis on the Mass—Part 2 - "The Gospel and the Homily"

In order to get his message across, Christ also makes use of the words of the priest who, after the Gospel, gives the homily.[6] Strongly recommended by the Second Vatican Council as part of the liturgy itself,[7] the homily is not a trite discourse — nor a catechesis like the one I am giving now —, nor is it a conference nor a lesson. The homily is something else. What is the homily? It is taking up "once more the dialogue which the Lord has already established with his people",[8] so it may find fulfilment in life. The authentic exegesis of the Gospel is our holy life! The Word of the Lord concludes its journey by becoming flesh in us, being translated into works, as happened in Mary and in the Saints. Remember what I told you last time: the Word of the Lord enters through the ears, goes to the heart and passes to the hands, to good deeds. And the homily also follows the Word of the Lord and also follows this path in order to help us so that the Word of the Lord may go to the hands, by passing through the heart.

I have already addressed the subject of the homily in the Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, where I recalled that the liturgical context "demands that preaching should guide the assembly, and the preacher, to a life-changing communion with Christ in the Eucharist".[9]

The homilist — the one who preaches, the priest or the deacon or the bishop — must carry out his ministry well, by offering a real service to all those who participate in the Mass, but those who listen to it must also do their part. Firstly by paying proper attention, that is, assuming the right interior disposition, without subjective pretexts, knowing that every preacher has merits and limitations. If at times there is reason for boredom because a homily is long or unfocused or unintelligible, at other times, however, prejudice creates the obstacle. And the homilist must be aware that he is not doing something of his own, but is preaching, giving voice to Jesus; he is preaching the Word of Jesus. And the homily must be prepared well; it must be brief, short! A priest told me that once he had gone to another city where his parents lived, and his father told him: "You know, I am pleased, because my friends and I have found a church where they say Mass without a homily!". And how often do we see that during the homily some fall asleep, others chat or go outside to smoke a cigarette.... For this reason, please, make the homily brief, but prepare it well. And how do we prepare a homily, dear priests, deacons, bishops? How should it be prepared? With prayer, by studying the Word of God and by making a clear and brief summary; it should not last more than 10 minutes, please.

In conclusion we could say that in the Liturgy of the Word, through the Gospel and the homily, God dialogues with his people, who listen to him with attention and veneration and, at the same time, recognize he is present and acting. Hence, if we listen to the "Good News", we will be converted and transformed by it, and therefore capable of changing ourselves and the world. Why? Because the Good News, the Word of God enters through the ears, goes to the heart and passes to the hands in order to do good deeds.



### 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, May 7**

**The Sisters of Mercy will be in the Narthex selling 50/50 Chances at \$25 each this weekend to benefit the infirmed & retired Sisters. 10 Prizes will be awarded from \$25,000 to \$1,000. Drawing date is May 20, 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, April 17**

### Parish Religious Education Program

This is a Level 2 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.

#### *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!

### 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., April 18**

### 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, May 8**

### 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 20**  
**at 7:00-9:00PM** in the Parish Center.

### 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 Tuesday** of each month.

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

### Bereavement - Continuing Support Group Thursday Evenings

This support group offers a safe place to those who have experienced bereavement and feel the need for further support. This support can continue with our group as we help each other on our path to healing and friendship. Registration is required. Please call to register or for additional meeting details: **848-226-6220**.

### Mother's Day Mass Cards

Mass Cards for Mother's Day are available in the St. Luke Narthex and Parish Office for your Mass intention requests for Mothers (living and deceased.) Please return your Mass request forms in the collection basket or to the Parish Office. Mass Intentions will be remembered during the month of May in honor of Mother's Day.

### Collections for :

<b>Holy Thursday:</b>	<b>\$ 3,076.00 *</b>
<b>Good Friday:</b>	<b>2,346.00 *</b>
<b>Easter, 1st collection:</b>	<b>43,978.00 *</b>
<b>2nd collection:</b>	<b>6,420.00 *</b>
<b>April 7 &amp; 8:</b>	<b>18,254.00 *</b>

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.

### ***Support Group 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 evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm** in the Conference Room for nine consecutive weeks, **beginning on Thursday, April 19 and ending on June 14, 2018**. Pre-registration is required. Please call the Bereavement office at 848-226-6220 and leave your name and number. We will call you back.

### **Ministers of Care to Nursing Homes & Institutions Volunteers Needed**

St. Luke Parish Ministers of Care bring Communion to Catholics in our community who are in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Our volunteers lead Communion Services, share their faith, and bring the love and support of our parish community to those who cannot come to Mass. The commitment we ask for is one visit per month.

**An orientation meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, April 18, 2018 @ 2:00 pm**

Pre-registration is required. If you feel called to become part of this rewarding ministry, please leave your name on **the Ministry Hotline, 848-226-6218**, and we will call you back.

### **This Week's Senior Moment**

*"It can really be beneficial to look deeply into our inner selves and honestly assess our current level of happiness. If change seems necessary to be happier, identify what you may need to change, and ask God to give you the courage and wisdom to make the changes necessary for a happier retirement."*

Creating a Successful Retirement ...  
Finding Peace and Purpose  
Richard P. Johnson, PhD

### **Save the Date!**

St. Luke Rosary Altar Society is sponsoring "Dining to Donate" at Perkins Restaurant, Rt. 37 E, Toms River on Wednesday, April 25, from 7:00am-9:00pm. Perkins will donate 15% of all sales to the Rosary Altar Society. **Flyers required to receive the donation will be available in the bulletin carts next weekend.**

### **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**

**Food Pantry Vegetable Garden**—You may have noticed some soil being turned in the land behind the church. Work has started on our vegetable garden. Although we receive contributions of vegetables throughout the summer, they are sporadic and not dependable. With our own garden we will be able to provide a continuous supply of fresh vegetables throughout the growing season. More importantly, we will be able to provide our guest families with more wholesome and healthy foods. We have been working with two Master Gardeners to plan the layout and the crops to be planted. Even now we are raising seedlings indoors for our first crop. Gardeners needed!

**Save The Date – June 19, 2018** -- Bus Trip to Sands Casino Resort, Bethlehem, PA. Sponsored by the St. Luke Conference SVdP.

### **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, PAPER TOWELS,**  
**LAUNDRY DETERGENT, VANILLA ESSENCE**

*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.**