



SAINT LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2304 SALEM ROAD, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456

Office: 757-427-5776

E-mail: office@stlukevabeach.org

Facebook: [StLukeVaBeach](https://www.facebook.com/StLukeVaBeach)

Fax: 757-427-2260

Web Site: stlukevabeach.org

Texting: 757-483-4983

Liturgies:

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 AM

Wednesday: 6:00 PM (Spanish)

Saturday: 4:30PM

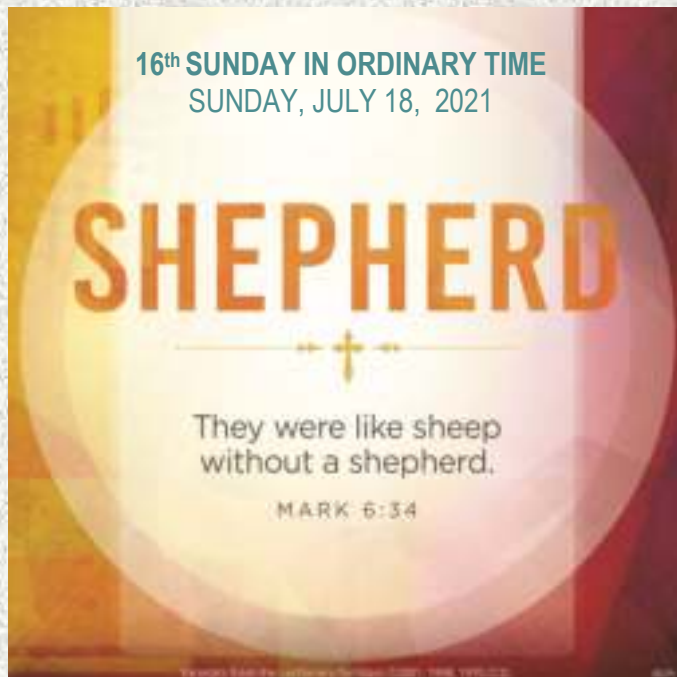
Sunday: 9:00 AM, 12:00 PM (Español)

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: : 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wednesday: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Spanish)

Friday- Office Closed



Parish Staff

Msgr. Raphael Peprah	Pastor
Rev. Mr. Lito Magsombol	Deacon/Business Manager
Rose Marie Rivera	Admin. Assistant
Patty Trail	Pastoral Care
Ginny James	Religious Education
Marie Weber	Music Coordinator
Jean Malbas	Bookkeeper

Finance Council

Suzanne Rufh - Chair

Regina Gomez	Flory Lizan
Bill Mackiewicz	Lina Valencia

Pastoral Council

Norman Wood - Chair

Michelle Holland	John Miller
Myrna Nario	Angel Rivera
Ferdinand Torres	Mavis Varella

Building Committee

Deacon Lito Magsombol	Chuck Eastman
Mark Libonate	Suzanne Rufh

Ministries

Altar Bread & Wine	Mary Marcelo	471-4736
Altar Servers	Suzanne Rufh	286-1512
Art & Environment	Fredilynn Lansangan	581-0794
Facility Coordinator	Chuck Eastman/	
	Mars Marcelo	471-4736
Eucharistic Ministers	Norman Wood	675-7504
Grounds Maintenance	Henry Kabigting	822-9693
Lectors	Francis Lansangan	348-6838
Linen Care	Myrna Nario	471-0628
Music	Marie Weber	479-9676
Offering Counters		427-5776
RCIA/ Rel. Education	Ginny James	406-0935
Social	Office	427-5776
Ushers/Greeters	Ryan Holland	427-5776
Youth Ministry	Jim Newsham	635-2582

Groups & Organizations

Alliance of the		
Two Hearts	Josie Dabu	420-3581
Eucharistic Adoration	Bene & Deacon Lito Magsombol	427-0606
Filipino Commission	Myrna Nario	471-0628
Grupo de Oracion	Julia Alcazar	822-4220
Knights of Columbus	Francis Lansangan	348-6838
Ladies Auxillary	Mavis Varella	271-8899
Women's Club	Lina Valencia	430-8298

Masses for the Week

Saturday, July 17	4:30 PM	St. Luke Parishioners
Sunday, July 18	9:00 AM LS	Isaiah Varella (b'day)
		+Danny, +Ron and +Cary Nicol,
		+Filomina Javier (40thday)
	12:00 PM LS	Victoria Rivas (b'day)
		+Jose Ulises Rodriguez, +Eduardo
		Fritz, +Irma Fernandez Solis,
		+Juan Carlos Chaves
Tuesday, July 20	9:00 AM	+Benjamin Gozar, +Adela Lindsay
Wednesday, July 21	9:00 AM	Msgr. Raphael's Intentions
	6:00 PM	Fr. Edwin's Intentions
Thursday July 22	9:00 AM	+Margarita Vasquez
Friday, July 23	9:00 AM	+Estelito Perez Sr.

Sacrament of Baptism - Parents must be members of the parish and attend a preparation class required prior to the Sacrament of Baptism. Call the office to register for Classes Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics. Baptisms are held on the 3rd Saturday of the month in English, and the 4th Saturday of the month, except during Advent and Lent.

Sponsor Letters - A letter to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation can be issued only to registered members of St. Luke Parish who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, attend Mass and receive Holy Communion regularly. If they have children, their children must attend Religious Education classes or a Catholic School. If Married, the marriage must be in conformity with the regulations of the Catholic Church.

Sacrament of Marriage - Couples planning to be married in the Catholic Church are asked to notify the Pastor at least six months prior to the anticipated celebration and before setting a date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation - by appointment by calling the office, and Wednesday evening at 4-5:30PM.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick - If you or a family members are ill or facing surgery and would like to be anointed, please contact the Parish Office prior to the day of the procedure or surgery or when they are in the hospital for an illness.

Pastoral Care Ministers visit community members who are unable to attend Liturgy due to illness or advanced age. Taking the Eucharist to those hospitalized or homebound is a key part of this ministry. Contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

Rosary - The rosary is prayed Tuesday thru Thursday after the 8AM Communion Service or Mass on Wednesdays

Contact Info

Phone: 757-427-5776

Website: stlukevabeach.org

Facebook: St Luke Va Beach

Parish App: inourparish (23456-St Luke)

Email: office@stlukevabeach.org

Text only: (757) 383-4983

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

I myself will gather the remnant of my flock
from all the lands to which I have driven them
and bring them back to their meadow;
there they shall increase and multiply. (Jer 23:3)

PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
(Ps 23)

SECOND READING:

In Christ Jesus you who once were far off
have become near by the blood of Christ. (Eph 2:13)

GOSPEL:

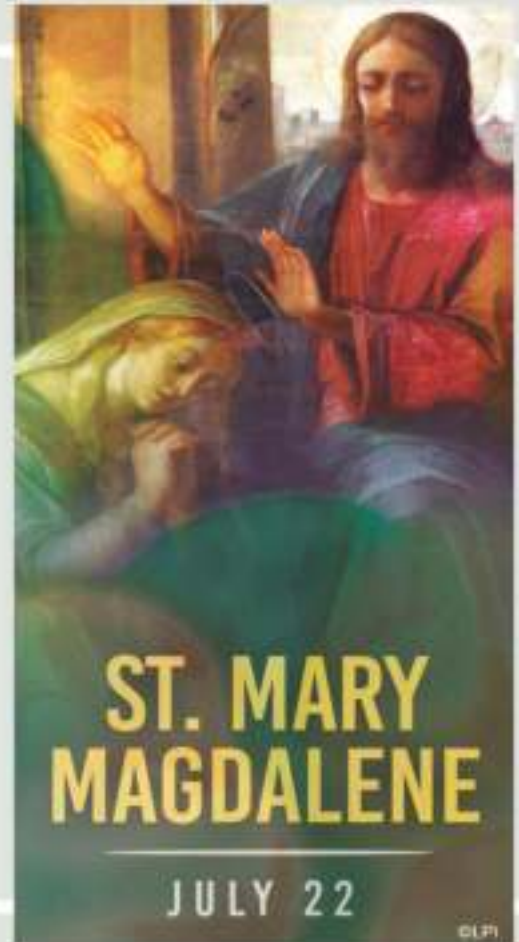
When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd,
his heart was moved with pity for them,
for they were like sheep without a shepherd;
and he began to teach them many things. (Mk 6:34)

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WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday: Jer 23:1-6/Ps 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 2:13-18/Mk 6:30-34
Monday: Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc,-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Ex 14:21—15:1/Ex 15:8-9, 10 and 12, 17 [1b]/Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28 [24b]/Mt 13:1-9
Thursday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Friday: Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [cf. Jn 6:68c]/Mt 13:18-23
Saturday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 13:24-30
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15

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REFLECT

FIRST READING

The prophet Jeremiah spoke of God's negative reaction to "the shepherds" (false rulers) who neglected and mislead his "sheep" (the people of Israel and Judah). What characteristics make for an ideal leader?

SECOND READING

Paul taught the Ephesians that through his cross and resurrection, Jesus established unity and peace for all believers. When have you experienced harmony in your faith community?

GOSPEL READING

Jesus encouraged the apostles to retreat and rest after their successful missionary work, but the crowds made that difficult. What gets in your way from resting and retreating?



We have a new fundraiser to help us realize our goal of completing the building project here at St. Luke. [GiveSendGo.com](http://GivesendGo.com) is a place for everyone to fund hope. A place to pray and connect with the body of Christ around the world. A place not only to raise money but a place for givers, senders and goers to work together to be the light of the world. This is a site that crowds could come together and support others in their endeavors. This is a way to encourage our family, friends, coworkers, Facebook friends, twitter followers, acquaintances and more to help us. They don't need to give a large sum of money, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 or what ever they can afford.

You can email the link <https://www.givesendgo.com/helpstlukebuild> to anyone and everyone you have on your email list, post it on Facebook for all your Facebook friends to see and then ask them to share it to their friends. If you have any questions you can contact Norman Wood.

Tenemos una nueva recaudación de fondos para ayudarnos a realizar nuestro objetivo de completar el proyecto de construcción aquí en San Lucas. GiveSendGo.com es un lugar para que todos financien la esperanza. Un lugar para orar y conectarse con el cuerpo de Cristo en todo el mundo. Un lugar no solo para recaudar dinero, sino un lugar para que los donantes, los remitentes y los asistentes trabajen juntos para ser la luz del mundo. Este es un sitio en el que las multitudes podrían unirse y apoyar a otros en sus esfuerzos. Esta es una forma de animar a nuestra familia, amigos, compañeros de trabajo, amigos de Facebook, seguidores de Twitter, conocidos y más a que nos ayuden. No necesitan dar una gran suma de dinero, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 o lo que puedan pagar.

Puede enviar por correo electrónico al enlace <https://www.givesendgo.com/helpstlukebuild> a cualquier persona que tenga en su lista de correo electrónico, publicarlo en Facebook para que lo vean todos sus amigos de Facebook y luego pedirles que lo compartan con sus amigos. Si tiene alguna pregunta, puede comunicarse con Norman Wood.

Norman (Woody) Wood
757-675-7504 or wnzmmrw@gmail.com

RAFFLE

"On July 10th through October 10th, St. Luke will be selling Raffle Tickets for a cash prize drawing. The tickets will be \$20.00 each, with 3 cash prizes of \$2,500; \$1,000; and \$500.

There will also be a \$250 prize for the parishioner that sells the most tickets. Tickets will be sold during each Mass throughout the 3-month period.

If you are interested in selling tickets, please see Norm Wood (Woody) after Mass."



BE ON
THE LOOK OUT!

Adults and children sizes available. Royal Blue shirt with white logo and White shirt with blue logo.

The Women's Club will be taking orders this weekend and the order form will be available on the

website. Please turn in your order with your payment. All proceeds will go to the Building Fund.



Vacation Bible School

**Note the Change of Date **

**Tenga en cuenta el cambio de fecha **

August 1 – 5
Sunday – Thursday
6:30 – 8:30

Cost \$25.00 for 1 child; \$15.00 for additional child and \$50 for family of 3 or more.

Costo \$25.00 para 1 niño; \$15.00 para niños adicionales y \$50 para familias de 3 o más.

This accommodates the August 6, First Friday Liturgy

Esto acomoda la liturgia del primer viernes del 6 de agosto



PARISH COOKBOOK

St. Luke's fundraising team is looking to create a "St. Luke Parish Cookbook" using recipes you provide. We are looking for family recipes, not from the Internet or other cookbooks as we don't want to violate copyright laws. The size will be 8.5x11 inch and will contain your recipe(s) as well as pictures, if you have them. Before we can start, we need to know if you are interested in providing one or more recipe. The book will be separated by appetizers, soups, meats, desserts, salads, etc., and we will provide recipes in English, Filipino, and Spanish, if received that way. If you are interested, please send Norm Wood an email at wanzmmrw@gmail.com, and he will send the specifics.



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Attention: Amazon Shoppers
You can now support St. Luke by shopping on Amazon
Sign up for AmazonSmile then select: St. Luke Catholic Church, Virginia Beach

July 18, 2021

16th Sunday of Ordinary time



Please pray for: John Miller, Lily Murray, Katherine L. Maderos, Jordan Pfohl, Denise Diver, Amy Kabigting, Jude Luke, Wanda Corley, Ace Flores, Mike Zueger, George Daria, Roger Carranza, Chris Kohan, Fr. Brian Rafferty, John Richardson, Gayle Coxford, Robert Trail, Bret Schonecker, John Viola, Rodolfo Sevilla, Daisy Richardson, Nancy Hugland, Shirley Ehrstein, Filomenia Germentia, Gary Gabor, Patricia Martin, Paula Krug, Jack Rolo, Jess Dabu, Angie Haddock, Paul Hipolito, Maria Torres, Nicanor Parocha Jr., Rey Lizan, Jessica Raymond, Marcelina Callanta, Tito Torres, Rosario Rogando, Ligia Chacon, GT Trentini, Jeanne Morris, Michael Lynn, Ann Miller, Christina Loftis, Cora Magbanua, Vivian Rodriguez, Anthony Martinez, Lucas Thorpe, Wilfredo Rodriguez Segovia, Cathy Molton, Erwin Arellano, Bill Elings, Joel Rivera, Irving Ferguson, Rick Carmazino, Karen Schachtner, Mary Ann Lee, Kellyn Schachtner, Ricky Muiño, Angelito Valencia, Karen Christensen, Richard Wengle, Sharon Costa, Devon Calwell, Marilou DeLeon, Cynthia Long, David Rose, Teresita L. Sevilla, Irene Gonzalez,

If you would like to have someone remembered in prayer, please call the office

Financial Report Data from July 11 (rounded to the nearest dollar)

Regular Offertory

Regular Collection	\$ 3,878	
E-Giving	\$ 2011	
Total		\$ 5,889

Building Fund

Regular Collection	\$ 220	
E-Giving	\$ 859	
Total		\$ 1,079

Building Fund Fundraising

Tiles & Bricks (Regular & e-giving)	\$ 651
Donation	\$ 50
Angel Tree	\$ 10,446
Pen Sales	\$ 56
Raffle Tickets	\$ 520

St. Luke Sanctuary Lamp **July 18 - July 24**

**For all the graces and blessings
received by
Isaiah Varella on his birthday**



BUILDING FUND SECOND COLLECTION

We will be having a monthly second collection
for the Building Fund
on the **first weekend** of each month

Upcoming Second Collections

August 1, 2021	Monthly Building Fund
Sept 5, 2021	Monthly Building Fund
Sept 26, 2021	Retired Religious
October 3, 2021	Monthly Building Fund



We will LIVE-STREAM our
Sunday Masses at 9AM & 12PM
St Luke Va Beach
Live on FB / En Vivo en FB



Thank you to everyone who signed up so far for Parish Giving. Your donations are greatly appreciated as always. We would like to ask those who have not signed up to please consider doing so, otherwise we appreciate your regular donations either by envelope or mail.



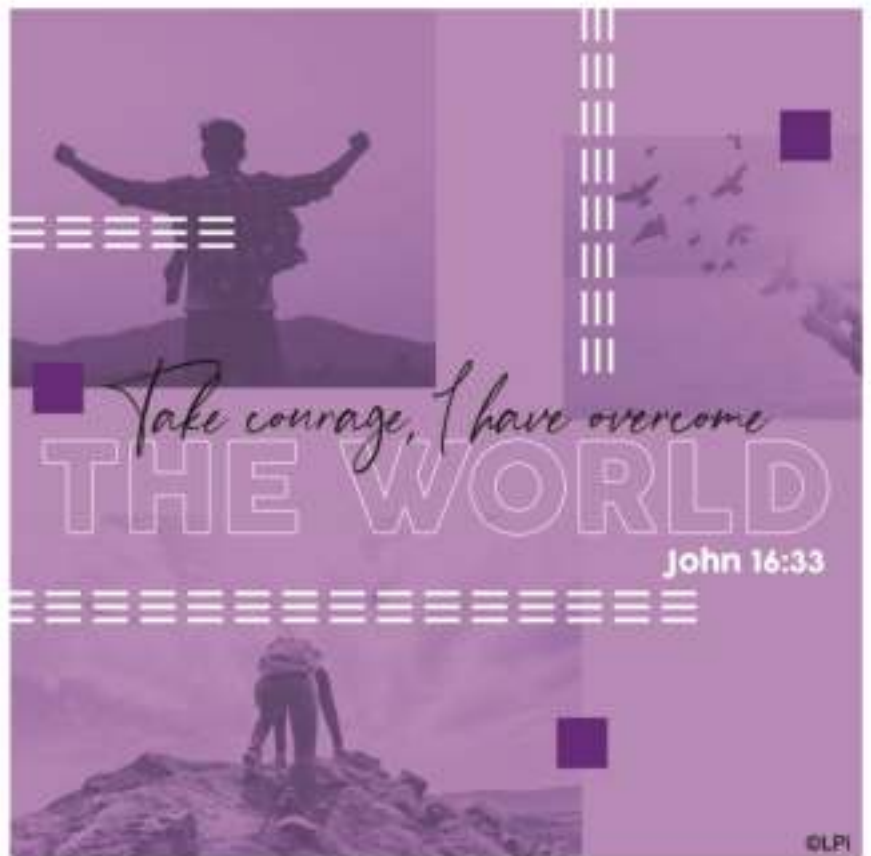
Saturday Morning Church Cleaning

Join us on Saturday Morning at 9:00 AM as we
join together and Clean the Church for the
Weekend Liturgies

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

We only have so much psychological and spiritual energy. We easily get tired. Responding to life's demands and people's needs can really zap us of all of our energy. Anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and even apathy can run wild. We can find ourselves bitter and irritated by the fact that we have to do it all again. We need to rest, connect, and focus. Deserted places, free of unnecessary distractions and demands, are great places of refreshment and we all need them. Desiring to be alone for a bit and rest does not indicate selfishness. Rather, it radiates wisdom. God is the source of all we do and the satisfaction of every human heart. If we are going to use the gifts God gave us well, then we have to make sure our batteries are recharged and replenished. Jesus invites us to go to a desert place to rest and pray. Where is yours?



PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE STEWARD'S WORK IS NEVER DONE

Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the flock! When you hear these strong words from the Old Testament, you're probably thinking, thank goodness I don't have any sheep — dodged that bullet. Nobody misled here! No flock scattered on my watch! However, we are all shepherds of a kind, called to tend our own sheep: our families, our parishes, our communities.

But it's exhausting. Don't we all sometimes just want to take a break from being a steward? The excuses are so familiar: we're tired, we've done enough, we've given all we can, what more does the parish (or my spouse, or my kids, or my boss, or my friends, or my community) want? We give ourselves permission to be selfish. So, what if the flock scatters just a little?

Jesus gets that. We can just imagine him weary with exhaustion, can't we? We see him on his boat, attempting to sneak away for a quick break — maybe just a chance to eat a bite of food in peace. He is God, but he was still human, after all. Even the most dedicated shepherds need to sleep. But people couldn't leave him alone. They were hungry for him. They needed what he could offer, and they needed it now.

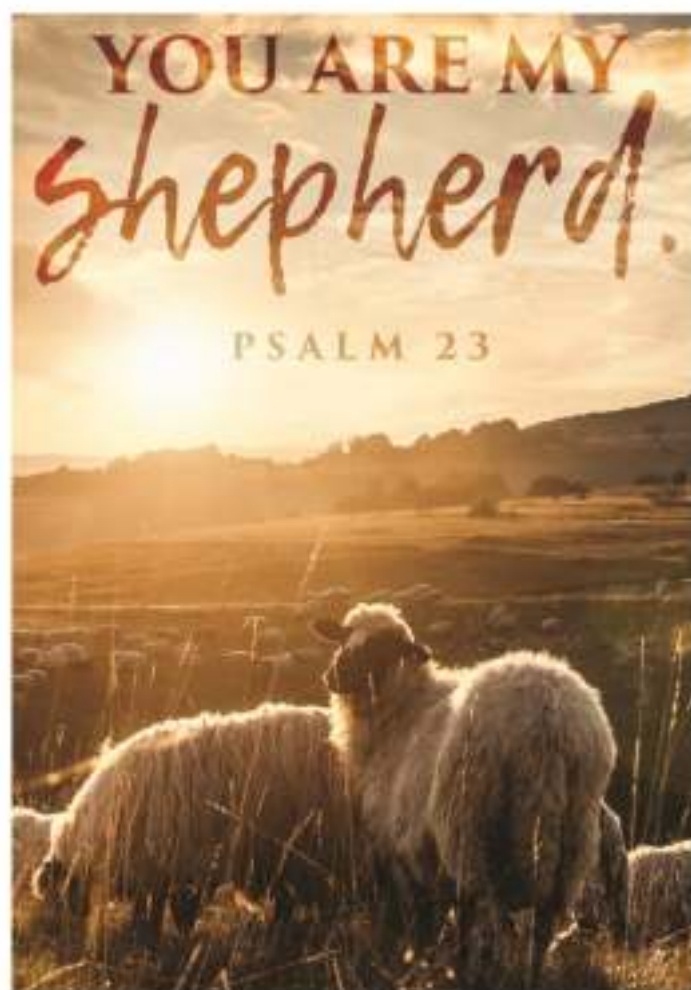
As tough as it is, that's the example we are tasked with imitating. Everyday Stewardship demands accountability. It demands our showing up even when we are tired. It demands that we look at our lives, our time, our energies, our talents, our hearts, our bank accounts and think: where do I still have more to give?

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

I'VE HEARD THAT WE BECOME ANGELS WHEN WE DIE. IS THIS WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES?

As human beings, we are both spiritual and corporeal. We are body and soul. This makes us unique in all creation. No other physical creature — plant or animal — possesses an immortal soul made in God's image and likeness. Like the distinction with plants and animals, angels have an entirely different sort of existence. Angels are pure immortal spirit, and they have been so since the moment of their creation. While they may take on an appearance of a body in Biblical history, they are not a body like we are. Angels are neither male nor female, despite the art we often see.

As the result of the Fall, human beings experience death. Our souls are temporarily separated from our bodies. However, we do not become something other than human. Every Sunday in the Creed we profess "I believe in the resurrection of the body." As Jesus was united with his body on the third day, so too will we be united with our bodies at the end of time.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

There's an ordinary pine grove located on a tree farm not too far from town where life's stresses and demands seem to melt away. It is here that all that seemed so important out there no longer is and one can get lost in the rows of trees and majestic beauty. God is here and all is good. We need to connect with the Divine Source of all that is in order to understand what it is we are doing and why we are doing it. Otherwise, things stop making sense and bitterness can overcome one's spirit. It's okay to play once in a while and to discover that place of profound life and peace. People always have needs and there is constantly something to do. And while all of that is necessary and we are needed, there is also that inner solitude within that needs to be celebrated and released.

We all need a pine grove. It's that little place we can go and leave all that consumes us behind. It's a place where technology can be set aside and wonder, and awe given some time. We don't have to text, calculate, or orchestrate anything in the pine grove. It is a somewhat deserted place where



all of that can be set aside and we can just be. The anger, frustration, exhaustion, discouragement, helplessness, and occasional apathy, all can fall to the ground like all of those pine needles that once held their place on the branch of a Fraser Fir. The needles can let go. We can let go. We are beings connected with Being and we all need to remember what really matters, who really matters and what life is truly all about. We need to find that place where we can rest and let go of all of the barnacles we accumulate. Rest, breathe, seek, and love.

The world will need us again when we leave the pine grove. It will all be waiting for us, beckoning for our attention. But we will have prayed and will have marveled at the silence and the beauty of goodness. We can go back, ready, and eager to listen, to help, to heal, to cry, to embrace, and attend to all that is asked of us. But, having let go of the distractions in that deserted place we will have a renewed sense of purpose. We will know better Who it is we serve and what we are meant to do. It will all be clearer now that we have been Divinely touched and refreshed.

When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. - Mk 6:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCI

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

Puzzle

What letter begins each picture name? Circle the capital and lowercase letters. Then color the pictures.



Bb

Oo

Bb

Tt



Cc

Rr

Ss



Hh

Aa

Hh

Kids Corner

READ THE
GOSPEL &
COLOR



People heard how Jesus and his disciples had healed their family and friends. They followed Jesus around like people hurry to see movie stars today. Jesus felt sorry for these people. They were like sheep without a shepherd. He said, "Love God more than anything or anyone. Love your neighbor as yourself." His words were joy to their ears. They followed him because he filled their hearts with hope and peace.

PRAYER

Lord, help me give joy to others by sharing your words.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

Pray that children hear God's voice saying, "I love you. Say NO to evil."

Contactos del Ministerio Hispano

Pastor:	Msgr. Raphael Peprah
Capellán:	Rev. Edwin Montañez
Diácono:	Rev. Mr. Lito Magsombol
Coordinador:	
Vice-Coordinador:	Angel Rivera
Lectores:	Ángel Rivera
Ministros de Eucaristía:	Mike Rivera
Visita a los Enfermos:	Ángel y Marta Rivera
Coro:	Marta Rivera
RICA:	Regina Gómez
Ujieres:	Edwin Burgos
Bautizos:	Irene y José Gonzalez y Carmen Alicea
Ministerio de Arte y medioambiente:	Julia Alcázar
Ministerio de los Jardines:	Marcial Meza
Servidores del Altar	Salvador Guardado
Ministerio de Familias :	
Grupos de Oración:	Julia Alcazar
Ministerio Social:	Alicia Guardado, Mirna Arevalo e Irene Gonzalez

Bautizos para infantes: Los requisitos para bautizar niños menores de 7 años son: que los padres estén inscritos en la Iglesia, asistan a la misa dominical, completen la solicitud de bautismo y que asistan a la clase requerida, un (1) mes antes del bautizo. También es necesario que los padrinos sean católicos. Para más información comunicarse con la oficina ó vea el formulario.

Unción de los enfermos: Si usted o un miembro de su familia está enfermo o va a tener una operación quirúrgica y desea ser ungido, por favor contáctarse con la oficina. Si no es una emergencia, por favor hágalo antes de ir al hospital. El sacerdote hará la unción en la capilla, después de la misa.

Matrimonios: Se requiere que las parejas que planean contraer matrimonio notifiquen al párroco por lo menos 6 meses antes de la celebración del sacramento y antes de haber decidido la fecha de la celebración.

Horario de clases de formación religiosa:

Grados de Kinder a 8vo, lunes de 6:30 pm a 7:30 pm. (San Lorenzo)
Grados de 9 al 12, domingos de 6:30 pm a 8:00 pm. (San Lucas)

Confesiones: Se puede confesar el primer viernes de cada mes después de la misa de la 7:00 p.m. ó por cita. Los miércoles de 4:30pm 6:00pm con Pd. Edwin.

Inscribase en nuestra parroquia: Si asiste a misa en San Lucas es muy importante que se haga miembro oficial de nuestra iglesia. Los formularios están disponibles a la entrada de la Iglesia.

BAUTIZOS en Español son los cuartos (4) sábados del

mes a las 11:30am. Por favor llegue a mas tardar a las 11:15am.

Las clases serán lunes 12 y 19 de Julio a las 6pm. Necesita completar la aplicación de bautismo. Inscribirse para las clases por lo menos seis (6) semanas antes del bautizo. EL PROXIMO BAPTIZO será el 07 o 28 de agosto , para las personas que ya han tomado las clases.

Para mas información llame a la oficina ó contactarse con Carmen Alicea Providencia Acevedo.

El grupo de recaudación de fondos de St. Luke está buscando crear un "St. Luke Parish Cookbook" usando las recetas que usted proporcione. **Buscamos recetas familiares, no de Internet u otros libros de cocina**, ya que no queremos infringir las leyes de derechos de autor. Si está interesado, envíe un correo electrónico a Norm Wood a wzmrmw@gmail.com, y él enviará los detalles.

Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo: Jr 23, 1-6/Sal 22, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6 [1]/Ef 2, 13-18/Mc 6, 30-34

Lunes: Ex 14, 5-18/Ex 15, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6 [1]/Mt 12, 38-42

Martes: Ex 14, 21-15, 1/Ex 15, 8-9. 10 y 12. 17 [1]/Mt 12, 46-50

Miércoles: Ex 16, 1-5. 9-15/Sal 77, 18-19. 23-24. 25-26. 27-28 [24]/Mt 13, 1-9

Jueves: Cant 3, 1-4 o 2 Cor 5, 14-17/Sal 62, 2. 3-4. 5-6. 8-9 [2]/Jn 20, 1-2. 11-18

Viernes: Ex 20, 1-17/Sal 18, 8. 9. 10. 11 [cfr. Jn 6, 68]/Mt 13, 18-23

Sábado: Ex 24, 3-8/Sal 49, 1-2. 5-6. 14-15 [14]/Mt 13, 24-30

Domingo siguiente: 2 Re 4, 42-44/Sal 144, 10-11. 15-16. 17-18;Ef 4, 1-6/Jn 6, 1-15

MEDITACIÓN EVANGÉLICO -

ALENTAR ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

18 de julio de 2021 / 16º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

La Liturgia de hoy evoca la figura del pastor. Figura muy fuerte en tiempos de Jesús. Un pastor cuida, protege y da la vida por sus ovejas. También existen los malos pastores y se distingue su mal proceder. Este Evangelio, también es recordado el IV domingo de Pascua. Jesús es el Pastor de Pastores, basta el mirar su proceder para ver lo mucho que nos ama y busca nuestro bien en todo momento. La primera lectura nos describe los rasgos de los malos pastores. Así, que, si los invertimos veremos claramente las características de los buenos pastores.

¿Actualmente a quienes se les dice pastores? Bueno, no es solamente los pastores en la iglesia. Pastores son las personas que cuidan y protegen y guían a otros. Se les puede llamar pastores a los padres de familia, a los maestros, a los abuelitos y a toda persona que tiene bajo su cuidado, de alguna forma, el hogar, la escuela o la oficina. El Evangelio nos dice que Jesús dijo a sus discípulos: "Vámonos aparte, a un lugar retirado, y descansarán un poco. Porque eran tantos los que iban y venían que no les quedaba tiempo ni para comer" (Marcos 6:31-32). Lo que paso a los apóstoles, les pasa a los padres de familia responsables del cuidado de sus hijos. Son tantas las idas y venidas que no hay tiempo ni para comer. ¡Señor Jesús, deseo que tú seas mi Pastor y mi Maestro en todo lo que hago! Guíanos a todos y cúranos de nuestras heridas por esta pandemia. El mundo entero te necesita, no nos abandones. Oremos juntos: "El Señor es mi Pastor nada me falta; en verdes pastos él me hace reposar. A las aguas de descanso me conduce, y reconforta mi alma" (Salmo 23: 1-3).

VIVIR LA LITURGIA - INSPIRACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Solo tenemos una cantidad limitada de energía psicológica y espiritual. Nos cansamos fácilmente. Responder a las demandas de la vida y las necesidades de las personas realmente puede quitarnos toda nuestra energía. La ira, la frustración, el cansancio, el desánimo, la impotencia e incluso la apatía pueden desatarse. Podemos encontrarnos amargados e irritados por el hecho de que tenemos que hacerlo todo de nuevo. Necesitamos descansar, conectarnos y concentrarnos. Los lugares desiertos, libres de distracciones y demandas innecesarias, son excelentes lugares para refrescarse y todos los necesitamos. Desear estar solo un rato y descansar no indica egoísmo. Más bien, irradia sabiduría. Dios es la fuente de todo lo que hacemos y la satisfacción de todo corazón humano. Si vamos a usar bien los dones que Dios nos dio, entonces tenemos que asegurarnos de que nuestras baterías estén recargadas y repuestas. Jesús nos invita a ir a un lugar desierto para descansar y orar. ¿Donde esta el tuyo?



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