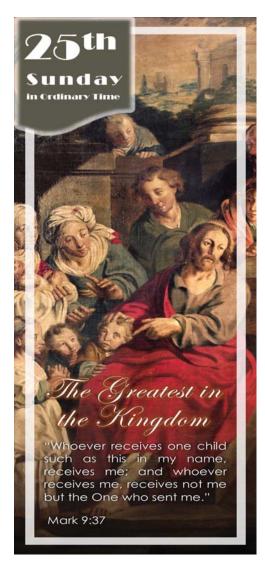


Saint Luke the Evangelist

A Roman Catholic Community
Serving the People of Westborough Since 1870

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 19, 2021



Years ago, people who came from humble ble homes would say, "It's not much, but it is home." When some of their sons became priests and would be assigned to parishes with large rectories and churches, the priests would joke, "It's not home, but it's much!"

The Apostles fell into the same trap, but their superlative was "the greatest." They were debating among themselves who was the most important--the first struggle for power in the Church! Jesus changes the focus. Being the greatest is about service, not power. When one can serve the needs of all, even a small, powerless child, then greatness is achieved. That greatness is measured by the standard of love and selflessness, not strength and domination.

Practicing our faith gives us a vision to see others as God sees them and act accordingly. We have the power to change the world, one life at a time. Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and consoling the sorrowful are not far off works of mercy. They are the stuff of everyday life, the practical ways in which we serve, heal, and pray. It is not played out on a world stage, nor will it make the news. It does, however, make a difference. It's not just something; it's much!

James Gaffney

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the Rectory for information

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45PM ~ also by personal request Reconciliation Room is handicapped accessible

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact a Priest at least six months in advance

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Our extraordinary ministers are always pleased to bring the Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to join us for weekly worship. If you or a family member would like to receive Communion, please call the Rectory. If you know of someone from the parish who is in the hospital, please let us know.

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday: 5 PM, in Spanish 7 PM Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:00AM, 11:00AM,

<u>Weekday Masses</u> Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM

RECTORY

70 West Main Street, Westborough, MA 01581 Telephone: 508-366-5502 www.stlukes-parish.org

> PARISH CENTER 1 Ruggles Street 508-366-8509



5:00pm Rita & Paul Smith
by their family
Sunday, September 19
7:30am Micheal Gillis

by Forever Young Senior Adults 9:00am Paul Dempsey (5th Anv)

by his family 11:00am **Stephen Sullivan**

1:00am **Stephen Sullivan** by his family

Monday, September 20

9:00am Gabriel Leblanc by St. Luke's

Tuesday, September 21

9:00am Nellie Fryer

by Forever Young Sr. Adults **Wednesday**, **September 22**

9:00am Souls in Purgatory
By Pat & Paul Horrigan
Thursday, September 23

9:00am Special Intention by Richelda Serrano

9:00am Friday, September 24
Paul Dempsey

9:00am Paul Dempsey

by his wife Jacqueline Dempsey Saturday, September 25

5:00pm **Joseph Huddy** by his brother

Sunday, September 26

7:30am Lilite Marcadieu

by her family

9:00am Paul Walcott

by Lonardo Family

11:00am Thomas H. Kieran

by John McCann

EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT & ADORATION
TUESDAY 9:30AM TO 1:00PM
BENEDICTION AT 1:00PM

Interested in becoming Catholic?



508-366-5502

We invite you to pray the Rosary everyday after the 9am weekday Mass Monday through Friday

Please pray for...

Ann Martin, Alyssa Bloom, Bob Grady, Neil Kenny Donna Rene', Carol Aloisi, Mickie Aylward, Kathleen Farrar Tuyen Tran, Mary Mahan, James Wright, Evelyn Croteau, Beth Lambert, Shirley DePalma, Cheri McGee, Agnes Limberger, Zachary Collins, Michelle Weil, Elise Renee, Ann Tisbert, Patrick, Christine, Robert Coutinho, Nancy Santory, Haron Beaulieu, Toby Claufon, Becky Rawson, Paul Fallon, Teresa Putnam, Carmelia Potenti, Elisa Korb, George Beecher, Leanne McCann, Ellie Carlson, Jane Burke, Hayleigh Scott, Kellan Keough, Dorothy Clinton, Sr. Pamela Philbin, Karen Mooney, Elizabeth Power, Luis Ferreria, Helen Galica, Erik Olsen, Vicki Foley, Richard Kane, Grace Roche, Jack Curtin, Jim Bennett, Kirolos Gergis, Carole & Pam Laino, Gregg Merloni, Tome Valadao, Maryann Bisco, Susan Garry, Melvin Boucher, T.J. Bautz, Joan Fallon, Marie Wilson, David Perry, Lucia Engdahl, John Durnan, Linda Darby, Beverly Taylor, Judy Melfa, Claire Kennedy, Maria Matejko, Debbie Giroux, Peter Rose, Kevin & Donna Brennan, Luz Chavez, Pamela Meehan, James Thomas, Christina Narensky, Lynn St. Jean, Michael Berthuime, Trisha Suzi, Norman Beland, Margaret Markert, Hailie McLatchey, Barbara Auger, Barbara Barnes, Doris Biedermann, Joan Bunnell, Joan Finnerty, Jeanne Amendola, Jack Walker, Daniel Baker Rebecca Coax, Robert Trant, Michael McAndless, Michael Del Pozzo, Susanne Ollman, Lucy Hamburger, David Carrera, Joel Rivera, Pat & John Lusek, Michael Zancewicz, John Lynch, Kristy Cautello, Joseph Malzone, Lois Kerbel, Carol Guarino, Michael Turpin, Elise Ollman-Kahle, Patricia Amorelli, Connor Blaney, Debbie Krikler, Kim Evans, Austin Tomalewski, Gary Shults, Erin Magrane

Let us remember to pray for all the men and women and their families who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan

We remember those who have died MaryLee Shaw

PARISH STAFF:

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e-mail financeoffice@stlukes-parish.org

Beth Salsman, Housekeeper

Lawrence Orlando, Building and Grounds

St. Luke's Adult Studies Fall 2021

Time to reconnect and grow in your faith!



Here are a the new Fall study group topics for both Adults and Young Adults. Find evening or daytime options as well as remote (Zoom) or in person meetings. Classes start mid-to late - September.

- Living in the Father's Love
 Women's small group bible study
- He Leadeth Me by Father Walter Czycek Book Discussion Group
- *The Mass* Bishop Barron video series
- *In the Beginning*A Practical Exploration of the Book of Genesis
- In the Beginning for YOUNG ADULTS (ages 18-30)
- Fellowship and Faith Faith-based playgroup for moms of young children
- Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues Bishop Barron video series
- The Book of Acts Spreading the Kingdom Jeff Cavens video teaching.

For details about programs, class schedules, and registration, visit the St. Luke Adult Studies web page or call the rectory at 508-366-5502.

TRAVELING HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Join us for the traveling holy hour for vocations on **Wednesday**, **Oct. 6 at 7:00 pm** at Saint Rose Parish in Northborough. All are welcome to attend and pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life in our diocese.

AMPLIFY - DIOCESAN YOUTH NIGHT

All high school youth are invited to join us for our first Amplify of the school year on **Saturday**, **Sept. 25** at St. Anthony of Padua in Dudley! The night will begin following the 4pm Mass with dinner and a cornhole tournament (with prizes!). We'll then conclude the night with praise & worship music, Eucharistic Adoration, and confessions. There is NO COST to attend! However, if you are attending please go to the sign-up link at neworcester.org/amplify-september-25th-st-anthony-of-padua. Deadline to register is Monday, September 20th!

HELP 'MISSING' CATHOLICS COME HOME TO JESUS & THE MASS

Discover how God wants to use us to open doors for Catholics to come home to Jesus and Sunday Mass through person-centered outreach and singular welcoming. How can we extend concrete, loving, and joyful invitations to our missing brothers and sisters to return especially with those who have been away for years? Our gathering will include prayer, reflection, talks, and small group sharing. TO be held on Tuesday, Nov. 9 from 6:45 to 9:00 pm via Zoom. Speaker: Allan F. Wright, MA. Allan is a husband, father, Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall University, Orange, NJ, Catholic academy principal, author of 15 books, TV commentator, and radio host. Find out more about him at http://www.allanwright.org. FREE REGISTRATION by Friday, Nov. 5 (limited spaces!). To receive the Zoom session link, send your name, email, and phone number to Esperanza Oliveras, prae 77 group@gmail.com. (Hosted by the Parish Renewal and Evangelization Committee [PRAE], Diocese of Worcester)

INFORMATION MEETING FOR TRIP TO POLAND



Fr. Riley will be holding an information meeting for his April-May 2022 trip to Poland. The meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We invite

anyone interested in the possibility of joining us for this wonderful pilgrimage/historical/cultural trip to the country of Pope St. John Paull II to attend this information session with the chance to ask questions. As an early awareness for this trip as connected to the pandemic, and as to one is able to go or not, having received a vaccination is required by the travel agency. Thank you.

Forever Young

SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY, SEPT. 27

Join us at the Parish Center at 9:45 a.m. (after 9 o'clock Mass), when Forever Young will begin a new year featuring spiritual, social, charitable, and recreational activities. We will enjoy a selection of refreshments, have a short business meeting, and "meet and greet" our new pastor, Fr. Walter Riley. We look forward to seeing all our old friends and welcoming many new ones. (Please remember to wear your mask.)

LEGACY OF HOPE CAMPAIGN

The Diocesan capital campaign, Legacy of Hope, will be taking place in our Parish beginning in September and ending by the end of the year. More information will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

(From the Pastor...Continued from page 6)

His wife, who is also a good friend, has since departed Maine for Massachusetts to begin her teaching job in the Charlton area school system. He remains at the lake house outside Lincoln, Maine putting the finishing touches on an expansion for their northern home, staying there by himself for a handful of weeks, pretending like he's on his dream show Mountain Men. But, the quiet, peace, and gentleness of the area where he is, the wisdom from above, is a daily spiritual experience for him until he returns soon to his local home.

We're blessed to be where we are in terms of geography, especially at this time of year. There are countless areas in this section of the U.S.A. where the wisdom from above, the peaceable, gentle, compliant place of good fruits can be breathed in and consumed for our better spiritual place, even if only for an afternoon. It may take a little effort at times on our part to make room for the wisdom from above in our lives. Or, we may have to find someone who will "take up the collection" for us so that we can scoot out earlier than expected. There are plenty of nice people around, especially in Church. The Lord's House is a great place to meet nice people. I happen to know a few of them myself.

If able and willing, make sure you take note of the words in St. James' Epistle this week and move forth to a place where the wisdom from above can be experienced and enjoyed through the great beauty that God has created for our benefit. Even if only for an afternoon. The spiritual benefits are worth the trek.

Fr. Riley

Congratulations to the following parishioners who have joined the St. Luke's Lector Ministry: Jen Gorak Finnerty

> And students: Leah Colaco **Corrine Levesque Andrew Nadar** Natasha Nadar Nick Nadar

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Bishop Robert J. McManus will celebrate the Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, October 31 at **3:00 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Worcester. This liturgy of thanksgiving to God for many years of faithful witness to the sacredness of Christian marriage honors couples who are marking significant anniversaries (25th, 40th, 50th, etc.) this year. A light reception will follow downstairs in the Cenacle. Family and friends are welcome! Couples wishing to attend should pre-register no later than October 18 so that commemorative certificates may be issued. To register, complete the registration form at www.worcesterdiocese.org/wedding-anniversary-mass, or contact the Office of Marriage and Family at 508-929-4311 or email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org to request that a copy of the registration form be sent to you.

PROPOGATION OF THE FAITH COLLECTION THIS MONTH

The once a year Propagation of the Faith collection will take place this year in our parish the weekend of September 26. Under normal conditions, a priest or lay person would come to speak at all Masses on that Sunday. Because of the continuing concerns of the virus this year, that will not be the case. Fr. Riley has been in contact with Fr. Celestine Byekwaso from the Diocese of Kasana-Luweero in Uganda, who would have been the representative speaker at all Masses for the Mission Weekend. From information passed on from Fr. Celestine, his Diocese is the youngest in the nation of Uganda, celebrating soon 25 years since it was formed in 1997. He passed on the information that one of the major projects the diocese is working on in view of its silver jubilee is to build a seminarian's dormitory. This building is the major focus of this year's Propagation of the Faith mission appeal. A second purpose is the continuous need to provide clean water for people in their diocese. Many people have no access to clean water, nor running water. The lack of clean water, Fr. Celestine said, has claimed many lives of children. Their hope is to drill wells around the diocese so many more people may have clean water, which will save many lives. Fr. Celestine has sent our Parish envelopes that may be used for this Mission Appeal. For any parishioner who chooses to use an envelope placed in the back of our Church, we ask that you please place it in the collection basket. Please do not mail it in, for all donations need to go through our Diocese for the Propagation of the Faith. Thank you for your consideration and generosity for this important annual appeal that addresses major needs of other Catholic Churches and ministries both in our nation and throughout the universal Church.



If you or your loved one become hospitalized and would like prayer, please let us know by calling or emailing Julie Basque, our pastoral associate (508-366-8509, ext 4 or email pastoral-

associate@stlukes-parish.org.) Thank you



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last Stewardshy of all and the servant of all." (MARK 9:35) Jesus teaches us that we are called to

love one another. Love involves sacrifice. Sacrifice is a word that many of us don't like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is "to make holy," from the words "sacer" = sacred and "facere" = to make. In other words, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God.

September 19, 2021 4



FRESHMAN RETREAT 2021

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

"The theology of the church often underscores two aspects of ecclesial life: *communio* ("communion") and *missio* ("mission"). *Communio* centers on the relational life within the Church itself, the embodiment of what the Gospel of John calls for when indicating that Christ's own will be known by the love they have for one anoth-

er. That love is celebrated and expressed at the Eucharistic meal. The other aspect of Church life, its mission, points to the service given to others. Clothing the naked, giving food and drink to those who need nourishment, caring for widows and orphans – these are indicators that the Church is active in mission. Both *communio* and missio are essential features of Church life. The theological roots for this duality of life lie in the life of God and God's activity of creating ad extra. God's Trinitarian life is, in that sense, God's communio, while God's missio life is God's creation of the universe. Taking this paradigm one step further, Christian marriage contains its own *communio* (the love between the spouses) and its missio (the life between them results in new life from them). Obviously, this refers to biological children resulting from the love expressed in the sexual union of the couple, but there are other referents worth mentioning, such as adoption, foster care, and the care of children with special needs and of the disabled and the elderly. The primary point is that marriage is not simply a relationship between two persons, but it is also a relationship of creativity and service for others. In other words, Christian marriage itself is essentially altruistic. The so-called unitive and procreative aspect of marriage, which is the cornerstone for Vatican II's description of marriage in its Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, can be seen in light of this distinction between communion and mission as essential aspects of the life of the Church. Marriage, as a sacrament of the Church, participates in this communion and mission in a specific and concrete manner."

From *The New Dictionary of Catholic Spirituality*

RCIA Inquiry Sessions

Although we welcome and meet with inquirers all year, we will be starting weekly Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) inquiry sessions on Tuesday September 28 at 7:30 PM in room 23 of the Parish Center. This is an opportunity for people to learn about the Catholic faith tradition, and if one feels so called, to start a path that will lead to becoming a Christian in the Catholic faith tradition. All are welcomed, and folks are invited to attend as many sessions as they like without any obligation to "become Catholic."

RCIA was designed as a means for people to become Christians (through the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation), if they feel called to do so. It is also a path for Christians from other faith traditions to learn about the Catholic faith tradition and enter into full communion with the Catholic Church, if so choose. We have also had people participate who were baptized Catholic but for one reason or another never received First Communion and Confirmation. Regardless of your background, we welcome you to attend our Tuesday September 28 session, when we will talk about what the RCIA faith formation process is about. Or if you are a confirmed Catholic, please consider referring anyone you know that may be interested in learning about RCIA.

The pandemic limited us to virtual sessions for a number of months. We are cautiously optimistic that September 28 will be the start of safe inperson sessions for us. Nevertheless, we try to be responsive to any special needs and are amenable to a virtual option as necessary or upon request.

There is no need to register – just go to the parish center and walk into room 23! We will look forward to meeting you! For more information on RCIA in general or the September 28 inquiry session in particular, please contact Bob Thompson via phone at 508-341-7677 or via email at bob thomps@hotmail.com.

ARE YOU GRIEVING?

St Luke's offers a bereavement series for those who have lost a loved one. It begins Wednesday October 6th and runs every other week and ends in early December. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact our pastoral associate Julie Basque at 508-366-8509, Ext 4.

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If you are unable to attend Mass and would like a home communion visitor, please contact Julie Basque our pastoral associate at 508-366-8509, ext 4.

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST CHURCH

From the Pastor:

It's a nice time of the year in this area of our country. The weather begins to cool, just enough to wear a sweatshirt before the heavy coat comes out of the closet. The colors begin to change in the trees, passing from green to red, orange, yellow, while maintaining a touch of green. Football has arrived, officially. Although some folks have not much regard for watching one guy tackle another, be it high school, college, or professional, many of us enjoy this fast-moving sport that comes with yelling at the television and upending a bag or Doritos on your lap. If your lucky, the dip won't end up in the same place. I'm somewhat of a holdout when it comes to the football scene though. I have a friend I say to every year after he asks when I'm coming by to watch the Patriots on a Sunday afternoon, "I'll see you in November when baseball season is over." He just says "C'mon. for real?" "Yup, for real." No apologies for loving baseball more than any other sport. Even if the Red Sox are not in the playoff picture, I still enjoy watching the Major League playoffs to see who the new heroes will be in 2021. Every year produces new heroes in this greatest of sports. Although Fr. Enoch may have an issue with me calling baseball the greatest of sports with the passion he has for "football," better known as soccer around these parts.

There's so much to love about being alive at this time of the year in New England. The weather, nature, sports playoffs, new sports beginning their season, putting on a colorful hooded sweatshirt, cooler nights that signal "get the fireplace ready," and much more. Minus all the politics that around these parts that cause more problems than they solve, New England is a wonderful place to enjoy the changing of the seasons. There's plenty of people around, if that's what you want. There are also many spaces and places to get away from people besides your basement if you want. There are parks galore, no shortage of mountains with trails. There's St. Luke's Cemetery with a large hayfield where you can go lie down at the end of the day (watch out for the ticks) and take in dusk turning into evening twilight. Just don't sleep there, although the residents won't bother you. We're incredibly blessed to be near the ocean in New England. A short trip north or south, traveling slightly east, will get us there. And there are countless beaches from Maine to Connecticut to make the ocean dream come true. This doesn't even include the many lakes throughout these parts which bring to a person the same level of relaxation and peace we can come to know at the ocean. I'm sure Nebraska and Kansas are nice places in their own right. But, I feel blessed that my place of growth was not in the middle of the country where some folks never see an ocean until they retire. There's nothing like what the Irish band *The* Saw Doctors sang about the coast, it's "Where the water kisses the sand." So true.

Where did this all come from? Where did all these places get their beauty and formation from? Where and how did such places grow into the incredible, majestic places they've become. Well, we all know the answer to these questions. They've all been forming, shaping, and growing from the moment God said, "Let there be light." They are all signs of what St. James calls

in this week's second reading, "The wisdom from above." We can form and shape certain areas, like creating public parks in a town or city. Or building a large tower/skyscraper that is impressive to look at from a distance, or directly below it looking up. Human ingenuity shows itself in such projects. For myself, near the top of my list is a well-maintained golf course. Where the grass is cut to precision, most every blade is in place, and where the golf ball is not hard to find if it's hit offline just a little ways. For the most part, I'm not allowed on such golf courses because 99% of the time they are private. I'd have to sneak on at night and play with a flashlight, which makes it difficult to swing a golf club.

The wisdom from above. St. James follows up these scriptural words with these other words; pure, peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, without inconstancy or insincerity. It sounds like St. James is searching for a place of perfect repose. Or, at least as much as we can know in this world. We do know, I pray, that perfect repose is not possible in this fast-moving life. But there are places and hideouts, if you will, where our vehicles and feet can carry us so that we may gather up some of the world's gentleness and good fruit. There's lots of possibilities around these parts where they can be had, at least to some degree. Even a quick Sunday afternoon, spending a few hours in a place that relaxes our souls, bodies, and minds is a useful benefit to embracing the wisdom from above.

I remember two dear friends from my home Parish of St. Bernard's in Worcester, John and Betty Dunn, husband and wife, who knew how to spend an afternoon of soul renewal. John used to be the main usher for the three Masses each Sunday morning. Whereas other ushers would be present for one or two Masses, John would stay for all of them helping to collect the money at Offertory. He would then bring the bag of goods over to the rectory for lockup. John and Betty loved Hampton Beach. I guess they never got over being teenagers. Anyway, on some summer Sundays when the weather was picture perfect, John wanted to escape the last Mass and get an "early" start to Hampton for the rest of the day. Of course, by the time they left Worcester, the traffic heading to Happy Hampton was much less congested for them than for those who left at 7:00 am. I remember thinking, "That's a long way to drive for a few hours of presence at the ocean." But those few hours for John and Betty Dunn meant the world to them. John would ask me on those days if I would take charge of the collection with another guy, Ed Early, so he and Betty could scoot north to the beach of their place of relaxation, to their wisdom from above. Ed and I were always happy to assist in the matter so happy Hampton could welcome two folks who really enjoyed its geographical beauty. They taught me how to take in just a few hours of nature's goodness and allow it to touch the human soul for the better. A good lesson was learned.

I have another friend – believe it or not – who is still at this time in the somewhat upper reaches of Maine (about halfway up, approximately 325 miles from here) that began as a summer vacation in June.

(Continued on page 4)



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"God is Love" - 1 John 4:8

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