

Welcome to

The Church of Saint Luke

A Roman Catholic Community of Disciples



FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8-13

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry.

Reflection: Reflect upon/share about a time when you were tempted. What, in the desert of your life, opened you to that temptation? What can you do to help yourself resist such temptations? What can you do this Lent to help yourself be prepared before temptation comes?

Alternative: What kinds of things do you do, or what can you do, to help yourself be physically strong? What do you do, or can you do, to help yourself be spiritually strong? What one thing can you do this Lent to help yourself be spiritually stronger?

First Sunday of Lent
February 14, 2016



The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart. — Romans 10:8

Mission Statement

The Church of St. Luke is a joyful, welcoming, caring, active family of believers striving to grow in knowledge of and love for God and each other. Challenged by the Word, nurtured by the Eucharist, and enlivened by the Spirit, we seek to live the message of Jesus in serving the needs of others both within our Parish and in the larger community.

Masses

Tuesday: 5:00 pm
Wed., Thurs., Fri.: 7:30 am
Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 3:30 pm
(Also by appointment)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday
9:00 am—5:00 pm
Fax: (619) 442-2293



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Parish Pastoral Council normally meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Visitors/observers welcome. If you wish to have an item placed on the agenda, contact a Council member

to present it for you or contact the Parish Office.

Parish Council Members:

Fr. Ron Cochran

Mark Balmert

Amy Cannon

Bob Guarnotta

Linda Jacobson

Anita Leak

Sam Lupo

Don Mercurio

Dcn. Emeritus:

Dennie Nickell

Rick Roberts

Dave Sapper

Karen Sapper

Tom Selfani

Bryan Shull

Dcn. Jerry Stenovec

Dcn. Allan Williams

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The Parish Finance Council meets every other 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Parish Finance Council Members:

Fr. Ron Cochran

James Chitkowski

Jim Crockett

George Heidenreich

Jeanne Houghtby

John Krueger

Cathy March

Dave Sapper

Jim Stepovich

Richard Venancio

FROM: THE PASTOR

(PREVIOUS ARTICLE FROM: 3/22/15)

Dear Parishioners,

Last week I talked about why we should participate at Sunday Mass from the standpoint of duty. But aside from fulfilling the requirements of our duty as Christians, we should get something out of the Mass over and above the good feeling we have from fulfilling our duty. It's the benefit we get from our encounter with the Lord within the Mass, and it's called grace. This is one of the things which attracts those who have experienced it. It shouldn't be separated from the fulfillment of our duty and fulfilling our duty shouldn't be separated from the benefits of this encounter. I think this is what Jesus meant when he told the apostles that he had food they didn't know about; that he was nourished by doing the will of his father.

The story of the Woman at the Well told us the benefit which she got from her encounter with the Lord. She no longer needed her water jar to look for fulfilling her thirst from things outside of Him, from the quest for money, power, pleasure or honor or wherever else we are looking. Her encounter with the Lord fulfilled all her thirsts. She needed look no further.

But how do we encounter the Lord in the Mass. We know that He is truly present in the minister of the sacrament, in the community gathered, in the Word proclaimed and in the Blessed Sacrament. We can experience Him in each of these presences but how do we open ourselves to that experience.

It might be easiest to start with experiencing the presence of the Lord in His Word proclaimed. For me, I sit back and allow the words to wash over me as the readings are proclaimed. I try not to engage my mind in thinking about the reading as it is proclaimed but something always jumps out at me and it is always new. That's one of the beauties of Scripture for me. It is like a great orchestral movement or classic work of art. Even though the creator is the same the hearer or viewer experiences it within the context of their own life experience, personally.

When this happens, it leads me to reflecting on the word, phrase or idea and begins a journey toward deeper relationship with the Lord. Sometimes it leads me to understanding or insight concerning something with which I've been struggling. Sometimes it nourishes and strengthens me in an area where I need strength. It sometimes leads me to compassion for someone or a social group for whom I need compassion. It sometimes leads me to making a change in my thoughts or actions to be more perfectly what God created me to be. It always helps me grow as a human being.

Another way we can encounter the Lord at Mass is through His Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. I think the first requirement for experiencing the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is to believe in His Real Presence or want to believe in it. Secondly, I think it's important to understand that it is a two-way encounter. It is personal and intimate even though it happens in the midst of the community. Thirdly, I think it is important to understand, like the ancients, that spiritual realities are real, in and of themselves, and precede physical realities. Physical realities point to spiritual realities. Without spiritual realities, physical realities wouldn't exist.

When you experience the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, it is a life-giving experience which makes the unreality of all physical existence recede into the background. It puts human life in proper perspective and makes it doable. And, it is not an intellectual understanding but an experiential understanding. It's an experience of being with the Lord which assures me that He is always with me even during the week when I am deeply embroiled in the physical realities of life.

And, we can experience the Lord through His Real Presence in the gathered community. I think this places a lot of responsibility on each of us to become community at Mass. When we process forward to say amen and receive the Body of Christ we are saying yes to becoming the Body of Christ as community. Guess what; we can't become the Body of Christ if we have not begun the movement toward communion long before that!

That's why the Church believes in the importance of full, active, conscious participation and I think we do some of that pretty well at St. Luke. I don't know about you but oftentimes I can feel us at prayer during Mass. We are the Body of Christ offering sacrifice to the Father and, when I feel us as a community at prayer, I feel the presence of the Lord in us. If you have trouble feeling that, try entering more deeply into the Mass through full, active, conscious participation.

It's important for us to participate at Mass weekly because that is where we encounter the Lord and it is through those encounters that we grow as disciples through the mechanism which He set up. It is through those encounters that we are nourished by our relationship with Him and from which we are impelled to service for the Kingdom. How can we claim to be His disciples if we absent ourselves from the Mass.

In His service,

Fr. Ron

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The Israelites show their faith by offering the LORD first fruits of the products of their new land (Deuteronomy 26:4-10).

Psalm — Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble (Psalm 91).

Second Reading — All who express faith in the risen Christ and confess that he is Lord will be saved (Romans 10:8-13).

Gospel — Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and was tempted (Luke 4:1-13).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

JESUS AND THE DEVIL

The devil tempted Jesus by quoting scripture, as today's Gospel reminds us. Try a self-serving miracle. Try selling out. Try dazzling the audience; people are gullible, after all. Try all these easy ways. The tempter tries to urge Jesus onto the slippery slope, attempts the old soft-soap, the snake-oil solutions that are always readily at hand. The devil knows better, but is powerless to do better, much less be better. The devil is evil personified, who senses in Jesus the stronger, truly attractive presence of holiness.

Evil is exposed and engaged, we are reminded in this Sunday's Gospel. Evil knows the jig is up. The undoing of lies begins with Jesus, who takes up the work of soul-healing and world-healing. This Lent, the Church invites us to enter into this renewing, re-creative work and be made whole again. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today Lent begins. Ash Wednesday initiates the forty days of the Lenten fast, but since Sundays are not tallied in the days of fasting, today is the solemn opening of the forty days of Lent. The Church has work to do today, principally the calling forward of those chosen (the proper word is elected) for the Easter sacraments. Some of those who have been catechumens may now make a transition to a new way of life as the "elect." For them, this Lent will be a time of "purification" and "enlightenment." For us who accompany them, it is a time of helping them discern God's call and prepare for new life.

This year, while the readings from the third year of the Lectionary cycle are usually read, they are set aside on certain Sundays for the benefit of the elect. We turn then to the readings from Year A, and we give those who journey to the font of baptism three extraordinary companions. In the Gospels for those days, we meet the woman of Samaria and the man born blind, and we come to the tomb of Lazarus three days after his death. Many bishops celebrate the Rite of Election on or near today, affirming God's choice for these new faithful, and also offering them the solidarity of many companions. In 2013, over 38,000 adults entered the baptismal waters in the United States, a remarkable testimony to the vigor of our tradition of receiving and nurturing adult faith. —Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Santa Sophia Thrift Store Sale

Friday & Saturday

February 19 & 20th 9am-1pm

**Santa Sophia Catholic Church
9800 San Juan Ave. Spring Valley, the Prendergast Hall.**

Many new items at bargain prices! Everything from designer labels and birthday invitations to knick-knacks and jewelry.

All proceeds benefit the Santa Sophia St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

Don't Forget to Order or Pick-up Scrip!

Gift cards are available the last weekend of the month & first weekend of the month.

Please turn in your order form on the last weekend and you will receive the cards the following weekend.

Order Forms are in the Baptistry.



THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Thank you, for purchasing tickets supporting the Taste of Saint Luke International Cuisine dinner, it was a huge success an example of a joyful, welcoming and caring family.

Thank you, to all of the parishioners who donated, cooked and served the food for the Italian, Chaldean, American, Korean, Polish and delicious Dessert table, you were fantastic and the food was exotic.

Thank you, Kitchen Crew who directed all the cooks, kept the coffee and drinks flowing and made sure everyone participating had everything they needed.

Thank you, Knights of Columbus who donated wine and drinks and Groundswell Brewing Company for donating and delivering the delicious craft beer to the BAR and of course the handsome bartenders.

Thank you, charming Youth Group for selling raffle tickets, raffle MC and of course to everyone who purchased raffle tickets, Candy Weir who won the Grand \$100 prize and the seven mystery gift card winners.

Thank you, to everyone who designed and printed all the information for the dinner, helped sell tickets, setup, decorate, takedown, cleanup and mop the kitchen floor, you are a blessing.

The event netted \$4,332, which will be used by the Outreach Ministry to develop and maintain a procedure for providing financial assistance to needy individuals and organizations within our parish, local and extended area faith communities

God bless all of you,
Outreach Ministry



**St. Vincent de Paul Society-
Church of St. Luke Conference**

**Lenten Stone Soups
Every Friday 5pm-7pm
in the Parish Hall**



(just before our Stations of the Cross)

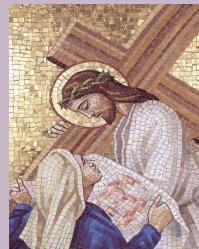
during Lent **February 12th through March 18, 2016**

**Bring a can of soup or vegetables
to create a unique Lenten Stone Soup.....**

**A Good Will Offering Appreciated~~
with proceeds benefitting our Church of St. Luke St.
Vincent de Paul Society that serves the poor & needy
in our El Cajon & East County Community**

For info & contact: Mike Wasyliv, SVdP

Stations of the Cross



**Every Friday Evening
(during Lent)
7:00 pm
In the Church**



**It's time for
The Monthly Church Cleaning**

**Monday, February 22
from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon**

For more information please call Peggy Nelson
619-440-8910 or pnelson5@cox.net

CRS RICE BOWL **Option for the Poor:** Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Option for the Poor, Jesus tells us to care for those who are most in need. He reminds us of our Christian duty to give a voice to those who are unheard and to help those who are most vulnerable.

Hungering for Opportunity in Columbia
A Story of Hope: Read Maria's story of becoming a leader in the coffee industry.
<http://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-1>
There is a new story each week of Lent.

Did you know : 75% of every donation goes to help the poor overseas, 25% stays in our diocese to support local hunger and homelessness alleviation projects.

Pickup Rice Bowl & Lenten Calendar after Mass.



Volunteer Choir Director Needed!!!

Noah Homes is looking for a talented individual who would like to share their love of singing with our residents who participate in Choir.

The Noah Choir performs on several different occasions throughout the year, & would love for you, or someone you know, to help them rehearse and be at the events!

Contact Brittany Furlong
bfurlong@noahhomes.org



or (619) 660-6200 x 18

12526 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, CA 91978

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

at The Church of Saint Luke
Morning and Afternoon Shifts
(or occasional substitute)
are available.

Experience is required in the following tasks:

- Fundamental computer skills
- Phone skills
- Data Entry

**Please Call Business Manager:
Jim Crockett at 619-442-1697, ext. 110**

FROM THE BULLETIN EDITOR
Office Phone: (619) 442-1697 Fax (619) 442-2293
Joanie Maitilasso and Carole Morales
OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
THE DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS IS MONDAY AT 12 NOON.
secretary@thechurchofsluke.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
For additional calendar and event information.
www.thechurchofsluke.weconnect.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Month of February

Sat 13th	First Sunday in Lent Rice Bowl Speaker & Rediscover Jesus Book Table 3:30pm Reconciliation 4:00 Rosary for Peace 5:00pm Mass
Sun 14th	St. Valentine's Day Rice Bowl Speaker & Rediscover Jesus Book Table First Sunday in Lent 8:15am Pro Life Rosary 9:00 am Mass w/ Children's Liturgy of Word & Rite of Sending 10:15 am High School Youth Retreat Meeting No High School Confirmation Session No Scripture Club, or Catechesis of Good Shepherd level 1&2 11:30am Mass w/Children's Liturgy of the Word 6:00pm Rite of Election Dinner
Mon 15th	Office Closed Washington Birthday 10:00 am High School Youth Retreat Team Meeting
Tue 16th	5:00 pm Mass 5:45 Parish Pastoral Council Meeting
Wed 17th	7:30 Mass 8:30am Centering Prayer 4:00 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 7:00pm RCIA
Thur 18th	7:30 am Mass 4:00 pm Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 & 2
Fri 19th	7:30am Mass 10:00am Funeral Mass for Eugene Davidson 3:45 Middle School Faith Formation 5:00pm Lenten Stone Soup 7:00pm Stations of the Cross
Sat 20th	Second Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Parish Retreat 3:30pm Reconciliation 5:00pm Mass
Sun 21st	Second Sunday of Lent 8:15am Pro Life Rosary 9:00 am Mass w/ Children's Liturgy of Word with Penitential Rite 10:15am High School Confirmation Session 10:30am Scripture Club & Catechesis of Good Shepherd Level 1&2 11:30am Mass w/Children's Liturgy of the Word 12:00pm HSY Retreat Meeting 1:00pm Group Baptism
Mon 22nd	9:00am Church Cleaning

PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastor: Rev. Ron Cochran (619) 442-1697
Deacon Emeritus: Dennis Nickell (619) 442-1697
Deacon: Jerry Stenovec
Deacon: Allan Williams
Pastoral Associate: Jane Cruz Alfano (619) 442-1697 x103
Business Manager: Jim Crockett (619) 442-1697 x110
busmgr@thechurchofsluke.org
Secretary: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101
secretary@thechurchofsluke.org
Bulletin Editor: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101
secretary@thechurchofsluke.org
Facility Manager: Robert Stevenson (619) 442-1697
x109 Altar Servers: Dcn. Alan Williams
Choir Director: Colin McColl
Organist: Susan Paul
Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Jacobson
Greeters: Maria Oliver
Lectors: Julie Carlin
Ushers: George Heidenreich

FAITH FORMATION

Catechetical Ministry
Jane Cruz Alfano, Pastoral Associate (619) 442-1697 x103
passoc@thechurchofsluke.org
Coordinator of RCIA: Dcn. Jerry Stenovec
Coordinator of PreK-5 Faith Formation:
Debbie Stenovec (619) 442-2515 x 105
K-5reled@thechurchofsluke.org
Coordinator of Middle and High School Faith Formation & Youth a/Young Adult Ministry:
Evelyn Beale (619) 442-2515 x 106
[Youthreled@thechurchofsluke.org](mailto>Youthreled@thechurchofsluke.org)

MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

Baptism Class: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697
Centering Prayer: Rosemarie Murphy
Church Cleaning Crew: Peggy Nelson
Cub/Boy Scout Religious Emblems:
Shannon Vint
Eucharistic Adoration: Cindy Christmas & Mike Wasyliv
Friends of the Poor: Martha Evans
Knights of Columbus: Don Mercurio, G.K.
Marriage Preparation: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697
Ministry to Sick and Homebound:

Dcn. Jerry Stenovec
Outreach Ministry: Ken Stempien
Prayer Chain: Nancy Adema
Respect Life: Don Mercurio
Scrip: Tom Stone
Small Church Communities:
Jane Cruz Alfano, (619) 442-1697 x 103,
Society of St. Vincent de Paul:
Mike Wasyliv
St. Luke Business Network: Cathy March

ADS

The Year of Mercy



“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”
-Matthew 5:7

2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO Our Response as Stewards

Participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal accomplishes something simple but profound: it opens the door of faith for others and for yourself. Because of your gift, someone will meet Jesus Christ, have the opportunity to experience His loving grace, know His Mercy, and rest in His peace. Please make a pledge today.

There are many ways to respond to the Annual Catholic Appeal:

- a monthly or quarterly pledge
- one-time cash gift
- a credit card or electronic funds transfer, which may now be processed by the Diocese, or you may visit www.sdcatholic.org/giving/annualcatholicappeal.aspx
- gift of stocks and bonds

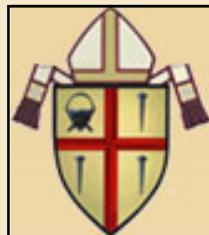
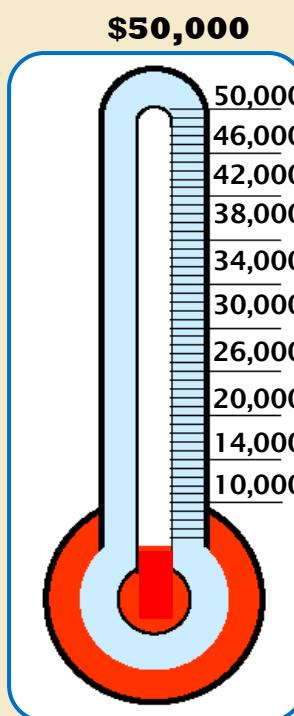
Note that the Annual Catholic Appeal qualifies for many company matching gift programs.

**Annual Catholic Appeal Online
Giving go to:**
[www.sdcatholic.org/giving/
annualcatholicappeal.aspx](http://www.sdcatholic.org/giving/annualcatholicappeal.aspx)

**Annual Parish Appeal Saint Luke
Online Giving go to:**
<http://thechurchofsluke.org>
Click on The Online Giving Link

We Need Your Help to Meet Our Goal!!!

**Annual
Catholic Appeal
San Diego Diocese
Goal for Saint Luke**



**Budgeted
Parish Appeal
Goal for Saint Luke**

