

Welcome to

The Church of *Saint Luke*

A Roman Catholic Community of Disciples



FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 5:1-3
SECOND READING: Colossians 1:12-20
GOSPEL: Luke 23:35-43
REFLECTION ON TODAY'S GOSPEL

For as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In (those) days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be (also) at the coming of the Son of Man.
Mt 24:37-39

Reflection: Share about/Reflect upon the things in your life which distract you from your awareness that life on earth is lived to attain life in heaven? Why are those things so important in your life? How can you do them in a manner which will prepare you for heaven rather than distract you?

Alternative reflection: What is most important to you, in your life right now? How is that connected to your eventually meeting God in heaven? How can you make it better preparation for that meeting with God?

First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2016



"You . . . must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." -- Matthew 24:44

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.

Communion Service

Tuesday: 5:00 pm

Masses

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:



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
Jane Alfano
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

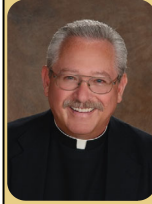
The Parish Finance Council meets every other 3rd Wednesday of the month.

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



Dear parishioners,
Last week we sponsored the *Bridges Out of Poverty* workshop entitled *Bridges to Sustainable Communities*. I'm personally very pleased with the outcome. We had good attendance which included decision makers in all sectors of our community. Some who could not be there have asked to be kept included in our efforts. We will be meeting separately with these individuals.

Our workshop presenter did an excellent job making a three-hour presentation effective without being laborious. He is one of the individuals involved in developing the *Bridges* model from its beginnings in the late 1990's. He shared how the model is being used in communities across the country, sharing their success stories, lessons learned and challenges. A brief report on the day is included as an insert into this bulletin for those interested.

The highlight of the day, for me, was the interest of the participants and the willingness of many of them to be part of a work group which will take responsibility for carrying on the process we've begun. St. Luke will sponsor another workshop in January to provide more depth on *Bridges* concepts. We are also prepared to have three individuals trained to facilitate the sixteen-week curriculum for people living in poverty and will eventually have someone trained to present *Bridges* workshops like the one we sponsored last week.

My prayer for this effort is that we will create a coordinated approach in the East County where faith communities are working hand-in-hand with businesses, government, social service agencies, the schools and people in poverty themselves to create more stable communities. I see this as a way of living our faith in the day-to-day. It is a way that our faith community can engage the broader community in which we live and make a significant difference. It is a way of bringing God's love and Gospel values to the world around us.

One of the challenges, for me, as we move forward is how to share the insights developed by *Bridges* with our own community. I know there are some who interested already; they shared their interest when I first wrote about our *Bridges* effort. But I'm concerned about the others, those who might not see this type of thing as a priority in their busy schedules. But it is a priority, for me.

It is a priority for me because I think people and poverty and people in the middle-class oftentimes misunderstand each other. These misunderstandings, I think, can lead to frustration, anger, judgement, etc. Familiarity with the insights developed through *Bridges* can lead to understanding, respect, solidarity, fruitfulness, etc. In our culture, which has become so divided, we need more understanding.

I have high hopes for our *Bridges* efforts. My hope is for people living in poverty to become self-sustaining, productive members of our communities, living in greater freedom. I pray that our faith community, here at St. Luke, will find ways to live the meaning of Matthew 25 in a manner which can really be embraced by our community and will be fruitful for those we help. I pray that we can build stronger communities in which people living in different situations can understand and embrace each other while together building stronger communities here in East County.

In His service,

Fr. Ron



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Jacob Seilheimer, Joyce Kammer, Theresa Worcholik, Eddie Turner, Cheryl Berry, Natalie Enriquez, Candace Dayton, Harriet Ladel, Michael Ward, Nina Murphy, Noel Fisher, Mario Chavez, Jason Zdunich, Kimberly Abell, Frances Machado, Karen Bennett, Connie Elba, Blanche Duncan, Charles Brown, Jim Leachman, Christine Banuelos, Jose Orrantia, Dave Johnson, Mina Scannicchio, Jan Lindgren, Carol Petrich, Carey Moore, Jose Azarza, Parker Landis, Joan Smith, Anthony Potito, Kaylee Mikulsky, Arnie Mueller, Jackie, Jeff Rogers, Michelle Tello, Katherine Boomer, Chase Laird, Vera Navetta, Miriam Kaskorkis, Adelaide Fitzwater, Karen Marie Moscar, Candace Solorzano, Alice Zizzo, Luis Orrantia, Maggie Matthews, Sophia Christensen, Steven, Cindy Russell, Karen Walker, Mike Murphy, Ann Mussomeli, Jeanine DeSanti, Joe James Sowards, Vie Liddell, Olivia Dunn, Elda Iavelli, Jennifer Soares, Dorothea Wall, Tony Gonzales, Martina Chiappara Cahill, Antoinette Daquisto-Guidi, Matthew Chu, Bob Weisham, Teri Harrison, Danielle P. Joe Scannicchio, Maria Warcholik, Ruthie Condon, Marin Mejia, Mike Marcon, Theresa & Vito Siragusa, Tracy Weaver, Rick Gores, Corrine Meierbachtol, Sue Sullivan, Rose Camacho, Ray Camacho, Maria Oliver, Al Oliver, Tommy Collet Sr., John Lawton, Justin Hughes, Clara Morrison, Travis Butler, Jordan Garcia, Winston Quitiquit, Gregory S., Joan Hall, Joni Marco, Vern Hubka, Ricky Latorre, Camryn Mayer, Dolores Morrison, Aimee Gatus, Tommy Collet Jr., Thomas Baca, Chuck Moore, Gui Mei Guo, Audrianna Lococo, Karl Viederstein, Carey Moore, John Morrison, Maria Teresa Valquez, Nancy Samayoa, Tyler Parr, Karin Oravetz, Terry McMullin, Mary Morrison, Laura Allen & Family, Ryan Waters, Sam Attisha, Debra Burke, Andrew Mearm, Richard Perricone, John Agostini, Clara Morrison, Austin Gatus, Rosemary Lowe, The Hill Family, Russell Morrison, Frances Colombo, Christina Morrison, Megan Kruer Jones, Zaim Attisha, Laura Lee, Teresa Russo, Lillian Peregud; & all our relatives & friends who are sick.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR PRAYER LIST: If you would like to add a name to our prayer list please contact Nancy Adema. *Also please notify Nancy when a name can be removed.* We appreciate the prompt notification & your

PLEASE PRAY FOR

NOVEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

Tom & Nia Olinger	36-years
Greg & Sallie Saltzman	26-years
Dave & e dean Condit	30-years
Mike & Marie Hickey	5-years

If you would like to have your Wedding Anniversary placed in the bulletin please call 442-1697

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4; Ps 98:1-3ab, 7-9; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 -- 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

PARISH FINANCES

In order to fulfill our budget, we need to collect an average of \$12,722 in the collection basket each week. Some weeks may be higher and some lower but we need to maintain that average. Additionally, we have budgeted for an average of \$12,802 to be contributed monthly through our Online Giving contribution program. The total amount budgeted through these sources is \$660,095 this year. Our budget includes another \$106,384 expected income from other sources; (Annual Catholic Appeal rebates, Christmas & Easter collections, Sacramental Donations, Interest, One-time gifts & bequests, etc.).

LAST WEEK: **Totals for 11/20/16**
Not available at time of printing

Plate:	\$
Envelope:	\$
Total Collection Basket:	\$

Online Giving October 2016: \$ 19,279.78 (110 users)

SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH: *Once you've made a decision on how much you should be giving, decide how to give.*

WAYS TO GIVE: You can use envelopes, as many people do, you can set up automatic donations through your Bank, (forms available in the parish office), you can go to Online Giving on the St. Luke website and set up an online giving plan which you can personally manage or call the parish office to arrange an online giving plan administered by the parish Business Manger. <https://stlukeelcajon.weshareonline.org/> Online Giving Link: <http://thechurchofstluke.weconnect.com/> Click on: Online Giving in the center of subject bar. For more information please call the parish office at 442-1697.

THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: 5:00pm Dominic Mazzone RIP

Sunday: 9:00am Parishioners of St. Luke 11:30am Sr Jacinta Dooley, RIP

Tuesday: 5:00pm Communion Service

Wednesday: 7:30am Charles & Catherine Toy RIP

Thursday: 9:00am Harvey Marshall RIP

Friday: 7:30am Frank Asaro RIP

Saturday: 5:00pm Frances Ledwith RIP

Sunday: 9:00am Harvey Marshall RIP
11:30am Parishioners of St. Luke

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

TODAY: First Sunday of Advent

Monday: Weekday

Tuesday: Weekday

Wednesday: St. Andrew

Thursday: World AIDS Awareness Day

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: St. Francis Xavier; First Saturday

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading -- All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD'S house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm -- Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading -- It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel -- Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass (c) 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

BE PREPARED

Be prepared. It's that simple. As this Advent season opens before us, the Lord Jesus summons us to stand ready for his coming. At this time of year much of our attention is focused on being prepared for the details that accompany the holiday season. We purchase gifts; we decorate our homes, inside and out; we prepare foods that we eat only during the holidays; we write and send Christmas cards; we attend holiday concerts; we prepare either to welcome family and friends into our homes or arrange for visits to their homes. We really can't escape the details that make up the season. Perhaps this Advent is a time to attend to all those details with a different spin. As we prepare to celebrate the feast of Christmas, why not be deliberate about acknowledging the presence of the Lord as we go about these tasks? The Lord often comes to us in wonderfully surprising ways. Let us be prepared. Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Before the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Advent had a strong penitential tone, reminiscent of Lent. From as long ago as the fourth century, some Christians began a solemn fast on St. Martin's Day, November 11. This "Saint Martin's Lent" extended all the way to Christmas, and was widely followed in the dioceses of France and Germany, and in the Middle Ages in England. Fasting was required, and dancing and similar activities were banned for the duration. The fast had a social function, too, assuring that the winter food supplies would stretch into spring.

At the Second Vatican Council, some bishops argued that a revival of the long winter's fast would give the Church a chance to establish the message and themes of the Incarnation long before the holiday hubbub took hold. This proposal didn't pass, and Advent emerged as a four-week period of reflection, expectant waiting, and joyful preparation for the coming of the Lord. The season has two principal phases, with the first beginning this Sunday. The second phase commences on December 17, when the liturgy begins to unfold the story of the Savior's coming. Interestingly, the Eastern Church maintains a strongly penitential note in Advent, which is called "Winter Lent," "The Nativity Fast," or "Christmas Lent," and has laws forbidding people to absent themselves from liturgy from December 17 onward. --Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Stay with me, remain here with me,
watch and pray...

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration, Praise, Thanksgiving, Petition

THE REAL PRESENCE: *Jesus' Gift to the Church*

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him" (John 6:56)

Come meet Jesus at a "Happy Hour" of Eucharistic Adoration

The first Friday of each month, beginning at **8 am**, is set aside for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament ending, **at 5 pm**, with a *Closing Benediction and Prayer for Vocations*. Sign up to spend an hour in prayer with Jesus who is present on the altar in the Blessed Sacrament, or just come by. *Everyone is welcome!* The Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on **Friday, December 2**. For additional information call **Cindy Christmas** or

Mike Wasylw



**OUTREACH MINISTRY
REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**97.3FM & 92.1FM KSON
RADIOTHON FOR ST. JUDE'S
CHILDREN**

Thursday, December 1, 2016-1:30pm-7pm
KSON Studios 1615 Murray Canyon Road, Suite 710
San Diego CA 92108

This year, KSON will be hosting their 29th annual KSON Country Cares for St. Jude Kids Radiothon and we are very excited! We would love for you to come and volunteer if you are available.

We are in need of **nine volunteers** to answer the telephones from 1:30pm-7pm. There will be a short training period from 1:30pm-2pm. A light dinner and refreshments will be served during the shift. If you would like to carpool, please meet at the St. Luke parking lot at 12:50pm.

**Please RSVP by November 19 to
Patti or Carlos Cuellar**



It is time for
The Monthly Church Cleaning
and we need your help!

“The Church Cleaning Crew” Needs your help to clean the Church Sanctuary and Baptistry .

We need all available hands

Monday, November 28 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

For more information please
call Peggy Nelson



*Start Your
Holiday Shopping Now*

PRE-ORDER your gift cards now.

This will ensure that you get the cards that you want for your Christmas shopping. You'll have them in your wallet when you're ready to shop.

Order forms & Gift Cards will be available at the Scrip Table after each Mass beginning 11/26/27 thru 12/ 17/18.

The Feast of Saint Nicholas

will be celebrated

Sunday-December 4th

After the 9am and 11:30 Mass.



The Knights of Columbus presents
Jolly Saint Nick
who will have a gift for all children.

Children of all ages are invited to sit or stand by Santa and ask for a Special Christmas Wish and for a picture with him.

A Tree Ornament will be given and plenty of Christmas Cookies.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR 2016

*It's time to lift our voices in song to
celebrate Jesus' Birthday!*



All 1st through 8th grade Young People

**Rehearsal: Saturdays December 3rd, 10th, and 17th.
3:30-4:30PM.**

No preregistration.

**Registration and orientation December 3rd,
3-3:30PM**

**The Children's Choir will sing
Saturday, December 24, at the 4PM Liturgy.**

Come and be part of the fun! See you soon!!

**It is time to begin collecting books
for East county Christmas for Kids!**



**We are collecting Children's books
for *Babies to Middle School*.**

Please leave your donations in the Baptistry
(we will have a box) for Don or Vicky to collect.

**If you have questions please call
Vicky Cate or call Don Mercurio**

Contact Don or Vicky for Large book
donations.



Las Madrinhas

**Christmas Bake and Craft Sale
December 4th, 2016**

after the 9:00 am Mass
in the church hall.

**Bake your favorite Christmas
Cookies-Pies-Cakes**

Make Your favorite Craft Item

for this special event

For More Info Call:

Ann Murray

***All Proceeds to benefit Noah Homes
& The Giving Tree***

☞ 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@thechurchofstluke.org

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

☞ **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** ☞
Month of November/December

Sat
26th

First Sunday of Advent
2:00pm Quinceanera Mass: Alicia Diaz-Conti
3:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass (Scrip Speaker)

Sun
27th

First Sunday of Advent *Scrip Speaker*
8:15am Pro Life Rosary
9:00am Mass w/Children's Liturgy Word
10:15 am Confirmation Prep
10:30am Catechesis of Good Shepherd I/II
11:30am Mass w/Children's Liturgy Word

Mon
28th

9:00 am Church Cleaning
3:45pm Middle School Faith Formation
4:00 pm Catechesis of Good Shepherd I/II

Tue
29th

5:00pm Communion Service

Wed
30th

7:30am Mass
4:00pm Catechesis of Good Shepherd II
6:00pm Parish Finance Council
7:00pm RCIA Inquiry

Thur
1st

9:00am Mass
8:30am Centering Prayer
11:00 am SVDP Meeting
4:00pm Catechesis of Good Shepherd I/II

Fri
2nd

7:30am Mass
8am-5pm 1st Friday Adoration
5:00-5:30pm Closing Benediction
6:00pm Christmas Tree Decorating

Sat
3rd

Second Sunday of Advent
2:30pm Children's Christmas Choir Practice
3:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sun
4th

Second Sunday of Advent
8:15am Pro Life Rosary
9:00am Mass w/Children's Liturgy Word
9:00 am Feast of Saint Nicholas and Las Madrinas Bake Sale
10:15 am Confirmation Prep
10:30am No Catechesis of Good Shepherd I/II
11:30am Mass w/Children's Liturgy Word

Mon
5th

3:45pm No Middle School Faith Formation
4:00 pm NO Catechesis of Good Shepherd I/II

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☞ **PARISH DIRECTORY** ☞

Pastor: Rev. Ron Cochran (619) 442-1697
Deacon Emeritus: Dennie 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@thechurchofstluke.org
Secretary: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101
secretary@thechurchofstluke.org
Bulletin Editor: Joanie Maitilasso (619) 442-1697 x101
secretary@thechurchofstluke.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: Susan Smothers
Ushers: George Heidenrieck

FAITH FORMATION

Catechetical Ministry
 Jane Cruz Alfano, Pastoral Associate (619) 442-1697
 x103 *passoc@thechurchofstluke.org*
Coordinator of RCIA: Dcn. Jerry Stenovec
Coordinator of PreK-5 Faith Formation:
 Debbie Stenovec (619) 442-2515 x 105
K-5reled@thechurchofstluke.org
Coordinator of Middle and High School Faith Formation & Youth a/Young Adult Ministry:
 Evelyn Beale (619) 442-2515 x 106
Youthreled@thechurchofstluke.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 Wasyliw
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 Wasyliw
St. Luke Business Network: Cathy March

ADs



AMERICAN QUEEN® STEAMBOAT COMPANY

Uniquely American River Cruises®

Join the Church of St. Luke

NEW ORLEANS TO MEMPHIS

October 22 – 29, 2017

9-DAY VOYAGE

DISCOVER THE ROMANTIC ATMOSPHERE OF THE ANTEBELLUM ERA AT EACH STOP ALONG THIS CAPTIVATING JOURNEY. ENCOUNTER AUTHENTIC SOUTHERN CULTURE AS YOU JOURNEY THROUGH LIVING HISTORY AND SOAK IN THE ESSENCE OF THE OLD SOUTH.

Day 1: New Orleans, LA
Your journey begins with a boutique hotel stay in New Orleans. The evening is yours to get acquainted with this culturally diverse city.

Day 2: New Orleans, LA
Depart 5:00 p.m.
Explore New Orleans at your leisure or consider a Pre-Cruise Premium Shore Excursion with afternoon transfer to the *American Duchess*.

Day 3: Nottoway, LA
Tour Nottoway Plantation, the South's largest, most glorious remaining Antebellum mansion with a rich history dating back to 1859.

Day 4: St. Francisville, LA
Tour iconic locations such as Old Market Hall and Royal Street or experience life inside Angola Prison on our award-winning Premium Shore Excursion: Redemption & Rehabilitation at Angola Penitentiary.

Day 5: Natchez, MS
First inhabited by Natchez Indians and French explorers, this oldest city on the Mississippi will captivate you with tours of lovingly restored mansions such as Rosalie, Magnolia Hall and Stanton Hall.

Day 6: Vicksburg, MS
Described as the "Key to the South" by Abraham Lincoln,

this Southern gem delivers a rich history unlike any other Civil War city.

Day 7: Greenville, MS
Discover the town's interesting history at the William Alexander Percy Memorial Library featuring an exhibit of books and manuscripts which honor the literary heritage of Greenville's renowned authors.

Day 8: River Cruising
Gain insight into our nation's history and cultural heritage through the stories, facts and fables conveyed by our onboard Riverlorian.

Day 9: Memphis, TN
Disembark 8:00 a.m.
Enjoy Memphis at your leisure or consider a Post-Cruise Premium Shore Excursion with airport transfer.

ADD A CITY STAY

3-day/2-night post-cruise package available in Memphis. Call for details.

2017 CRUISE DATE

DATE	THEME	SUITE CATEGORY				
		OS	LFS	DS	VS	IS
Oct 22	<i>Antebellum South</i>	\$9,499	\$7,499	\$6,999	\$4,999	\$2,999

*Itinerary varies slightly. Fares are listed in US dollars, per guest, double occupancy. Port Charges: \$169.

RESERVE BY DECEMBER 15 FOR BEST CABIN AVAILABILITY
PLEASE CONTACT:

David Holt of Holt Travel and Tours
(619) 445-9193 | dholt@holttravel.com

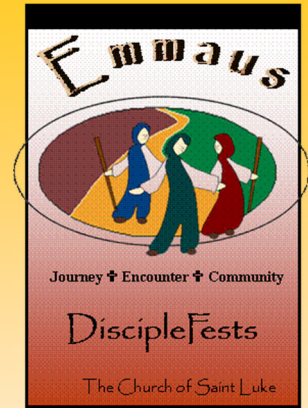
Fares quoted are in U.S. dollars, are per person and do not include government taxes and fees, port charges, gratuities, airfare, insurance, personal expenditures, and transportation costs incurred while traveling to and from embarkation ports. Promotional fares and amenities are capacity controlled, may vary by sailing and category of accommodations and may be withdrawn without notice. The *American Queen*® and *American Empress*® are owned and operated by the American Queen Steamboat Company LLC, Inc.; is regularly inspected by the U.S. Coast Guard; is of American registry; and employs American officers, crew and staff.

Mark Your Calendar!

Our journey continues on Wednesday,
December 7, 2016 from 5:30 - 8 PM

“Praying Through Advent and Christmas”

(Kitchen closes at 6 PM)



We always begin with a shared meal and then break out into smaller learning sessions by age groups: Pre-school through Kindergarten, 1st through 5th Grades, Middle School, High School, and Adults.

***During this EMMAUS Whole Community Assembly on
“Praying Through Advent and Christmas”***

We will learn more about what it means to:

- * Focus on the Lord's presence in our relationships with others**
- * Prepare for our celebration of the first coming of Christ**
- * Reflect on the meaning of the second coming of Christ**

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Join us as we feast on Italian sausage sandwiches, sautéed onions and bell peppers, Caesar salad, and a delicious dessert.

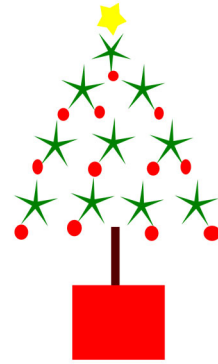
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We also invite you to celebrate with us at our future EMMAUS gatherings in 2017:

**Wednesday, January 4, 2017 5:30-8 PM Wednesday, February 1, 2017 5:30-8 PM
Wednesday, March 8, 2017 5:30-8 PM Wednesday, April 5, 2017 5:30-8 PM
Wednesday, May 3, 2017 5:30-8 PM**

The Giving Tree

One of our parish traditions in preparing for Christmas is our community of disciples helping to bring comfort and joy to our brothers and sisters in need. Our annual Giving Tree effort primarily serves families in our local community as well as families across the border in Tijuana.



As many of you know, The Church St. Luke also sponsors the East County Christmas for Kids outreach effort that serves thousands of children attending Cajon Valley schools. This endeavor has grown over the past few years and continues to be a much needed source of joy to the families we serve. We are blessed to have many St. Luke disciples commit



Administering the Giving Tree project over the past twenty-five plus years has proven to be fruitful as well, but becomes more challenging in that our volunteer resources and the time demands placed on our parish families can be overwhelming. We seem to struggle more each year in getting the gifts purchased, wrapped, and delivered into the hands of the families by Christmas Day. To discontinue this particular effort is not something we would even consider because we know there is a tremendous need, not just at Christmastime, but throughout the year.

So here is our new plan:

We will continue to provide designated schools, organizations with the assistance they need. This year we are partnering with a select number of Cajon Valley schools, Crisis House, EJE Academies, El Nido (a project of the Interfaith Shelter Network) and Friends of the Poor.

In the baptistery, you will find gift tags with labels identifying the following specific needs:

- \$25 gift cards - **Anywhere** (variety of Marshalls, Payless Shoe Source, Ross Dress for Less, and TJ Maxx). These are the preferred retailers, but are not limited to these stores.
- \$25 gift cards - **Target Stores**
- \$25 gift cards - **Walmart**
- \$25 gift cards - **Grocery Stores** (variety of Albertsons, Smart & Final, and Vons). These are the preferred retailers, but are not limited to these stores.
- **Knit gloves/hats/scarves** (DO NOT WRAP). These gifts are for the "Friends of the Poor" ministry.

Our Giving Tree will be displayed in the baptistery from the weekends of November 19th-20th through December 10th-11th. Please be sure to take a gift tag. As a timesaver, just stop at our scrip table after Mass to purchase your gift card. **Please return the requested items by December 11th will ensure deliveries to the recipients in time for Christmas.**

...Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver... 2 Cor 9:7





Summary Report Bridges to Sustainable Communities Workshop

The full-day workshop entitled *Bridges to Sustainable Communities* was hosted by The Church of St. Luke on Thursday, November 10, 2016.

All sectors of the East County communities were represented, with thirty-nine individuals in attendance, including: America's Job Center/East County Career Center/SD Workforce Partnership, Cajon Valley Union School District, City of El Cajon Police Department, City of El Cajon Recreation Department, EJE Academies, El Cajon Collaborative/Little House Family Services, Communities Against Substance Abuse, Crisis House, Harmonium Inc., Institute for Public Strategies, Journey Community Church, La Maestra Community Health Services, McAllister Institute, Meridian Baptist Church, St. Michael Chaldean Catholic Church, Newcomers Support and Development - NSD Tatweer, Rady Children's Hospital, San Diego & Imperial Counties Community Colleges Workforce Development Regional Consortium, SD County Health & Human Services Department, SD County Sheriff's Department, Viejas Tribal Government, and The Church of St. Luke.

Our consultant, Phil DeVol, from aha! Process, Inc. began the morning session by relating the development of the constructs and principles comprising the *Bridges Out of Poverty* model. He shared how *Bridges* is being used in a variety of communities, and in numerous sectors which make up those communities in forty states across the nation and in four foreign countries. He shared how the use of *Bridges* concepts has decreased employee costs for private sector businesses, reduced costs for government entities, increased positive outcomes for social service agencies and government programs, and, assisted people in poverty to stabilize and improve their lives and the lives of their families.

Phil discussed how individuals in poverty oftentimes use an informal register of language which is not understood by the middle-class individuals who typically work in government, agency and business sector positions where people in poverty interact. He also shared how even the physical arrangement of offices, for example, can make communication difficult and create an atmosphere of distrust.

He shared how people in poverty operate from a set of hidden rules which are necessary for them to negotiate the lives they lead. He showed the hidden rules used by the middle-class and people in wealth and how we misunderstand each other because of them.

He shared mental models, developed by those in poverty, that demonstrate what living in poverty is like. Phil also shared mental models of middle-class and wealth. These visual representations made it evident that using the lens of economic class helps us work together to build more stable communities. He further pointed out the need to using the "triple lens" thinking tool (individual, institution, and community way of thinking), for instance, when designing a new community program.

Summary Report

Bridges to Sustainable Communities Workshop Continued

Phil described the sixteen-week curriculum which offers people in poverty a way to assess their own situations, investigate the resources available to them in the community and look at what they need and want to do to increase their own resources. This process looks at poverty as being more than being financially under-resourced. It addresses financial resources, of course. It is part of a larger spectrum of eleven areas which make up a whole and prosperous life.

Those in the sixteen-week curriculum do their own investigations, create their own mental models of their situation, and learn about the use of different registers of language and the hidden rules used by each class. By the time they graduate, they have decided on their own that they want to move out of their poverty situation. They have created a mental model of what that would look like and a personal plan for making it a reality.

One important element of success for graduates of the sixteen-week curriculum is being connected to allies who can companion them along the way as they work their plans. Phil said that many groups wish to continue meeting together after the curriculum is finished to share with each other and their allies about their progress.

Another important element of success involves ensuring that those with whom the graduates will interact as they work their plans are grounded in *Bridges* concepts, and an understanding that people in poverty are problem solvers. To accomplish this, offering *Bridges* workshops for government employees, social service workers, first responders, educators, human resource professionals, and management would be a priority. It would also be helpful for the general population to understand *Bridges* ideas.

In the afternoon, the participants shared what they heard in the morning session and what they could use in their own areas of work. It was a robust discussion and brought out a strong desire of the participants to continue working together to bring *Bridges* concepts to East County San Diego. Many individuals volunteered to be members of a working group to keep the process going.

The Church of St. Luke will sponsor a two-day workshop in January to provide a more in-depth understanding of *Bridges* concepts. The invitation list includes those who attended this first workshop, representatives of organizations who were not able to attend the workshop, as well as managers and employees of the organizations represented.