

**Saturday January 3, 2015**

5:00 PM +Carl Ekroth
r/b John & Nancy Grish

Sunday January 4, 2015

7:30 AM For all Volunteers of St. Luke's

10:30 AM For all Religious Education
Students

6:00 PM For all visitors to St. Luke's

Monday January 5, 2015

8:00 AM For the unemployed

Tuesday January 6, 2015

8:00 AM For Sr. Guytina and Sr. Angie
r/b St. Luke's Friends

Wednesday January 7, 2015

8:00 AM For all those who need God's
Mercy

Thursday January 8, 2015

8:00 AM For all Parents & Grandparents

Friday January 9, 2015

8:00 AM +Vincent Malatesta
r/b His Family

Saturday January 10, 2015

5:00 PM +Father Tom 3rd Anniversary
r/b St. Luke's Parishioners

Sunday January 11, 2015

7:30 AM +Father Tom
r/b Jane Thomas

10:30 AM +William Chamberlin
r/b The Family

6:00 PM For those struggling to carry their
crosses

The Epiphany of the Lord

"...they fell down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh..."
Matthew 2:11

Notice the order of events in the Magi's visit. First, they knelt before Jesus and prayed to Him. Then they presented Him with their gifts. We, too, must take time to pray before we present our gifts to the Lord. We never know what God may be asking us to share!

READINGS AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN?**First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6**

Isaiah speaks poetically of the coming of the Lord. He describes how "darkness covers the earth" but light and glory appear over God's chosen people.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul tells the Ephesians that the Jews and Gentiles are now co-heirs of the promises God has made. He explains that both groups are now members of one body through Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus' birth, three astrologers from the east came to Jerusalem and inquired about the newborn king of the Jews. King Herod became greatly angered, and asked the astrologers to bring him more information about the child once they had found him, so that he too could pay homage to the infant. However, Herod's true plan was to kill Jesus. The wise men were warned in a dream not to return to him and they took a different route to return home.

PARISH SUPPORT

Regular Collection – December 21 - \$6,428

The Regular Collection amount and the Maintenance Collection amount for January 4 will be in the bulletin for January 11.

The Christmas Collection amount will also be in the bulletin for January 11.

Bulletins for December 28 and January 4 had to be submitted by December 19.

Confirmation Rehearsal: Thursday, April 23, 2015 – 6:30 PM

Confirmation Reconciliation: Monday, April 20 and Tuesday, April 21, 2015 during regular class time.

Grade 2 – Students and Families

First Reconciliation – Saturday, January 10 – 10 AM in the Church

Sunday, February 1 – Candle Mass for all Grade 2 students and families at the 10:30 Mass.

FAITH FORMATION

Religious Ed – 875-4951 or stlukere@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Monday/Tuesday 1-8 pm

Thursday 9-1pm

Also by Appointment

Hours are subject to change so please call ahead.

Religious Education Program – 2015

The class schedule is as follows:

Sunday – January 4, 11, 25 – 9-10:15 am

No Class January 18

Monday – January 5, 12, 26 – 6:45-8:00 pm

No Class January 19

Tuesday – January 6, 13, 27 – 4:15-5:30 pm

No Class January 20

Tuesday- January 6, 13, 27 – 7:00 – 8:15 pm

No Class January 20

CONFIRMATION – 2015 – Grade 9

All candidates MUST attend at least 1 Youth Ministry meeting January 25, February 22 or March 22. It is the student's responsibility to sign in at the meeting they attend.

January 11 – Sunday – 6 pm Mass – Confirmation Candle Mass for all Grade 9 Confirmation Candidates and their families. Please plan to arrive by 5:45 pm.

Confirmation Date: Saturday, April 25, 2015 1:00 PM

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word is held during the 10:30 Mass on Sundays for all children age 4 up to Grade 5. Join us on Sunday January 4, 11, 18 and 25 during Mass.

Volunteer Service Work

**Contact Tony Littizzio – 860-875-6791
or MRLSLYG @ aol.com**

R.C.I.A.: All Wednesdays 7-8:30 PM

Parish Center for adults who wish to be confirmed, or are interested in the Catholic Faith, or wish to become Catholic. Call Deacon Frank 860-875-6543.

Remember in Prayer Those Who Are Sick

Lord, our God, you sent your Son into the world to bear our infirmities and to endure our sufferings. For your servants who are sick, especially from our Parish family, we ask that your blessing will give them strength to overcome their weakness through the power of patience and the comfort of hope and that with your aid they will soon be restored to health. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Please pray for Laura Behrendt, Judy Cardoni, Fern Chmielecki, Connor Dabate, Alex Dinh, Deacon Rod Gayner, Harry Gropitch, Ronald Guay, Raymond Hanson, Raymond Hayes, Kathy Larew, Michael Marquis, Anna Martocchio, Rocco Montano, Beth Ann Phillips, Jean Rabe, Troy Russell, Brian Scavone, Don Sierakowski, Jim Smith, Wendy Tarbox, Dan Tarbox, Joseph Teixeira, Morris Webber, Richard Wood and Kathy White.

++PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED++

God of loving kindness and mercy we pray for those who have been called from this life, and for the consolation of their loved ones especially:

**Myrna Bouchard, Scott Traska and
Rita Connelly**

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The Catholic Church's stand against the federal health care mandate isn't about access to contraception, which is widely available. It is about a government regulation that is forcing the Church to act against its moral principles, thereby, violating religious freedom.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FACEBOOK

"Visit us on Facebook: St. Luke Catholic Church

World Message of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Message of November 25, 2014

"Dear Children! In a special way, today I am calling you to prayer. Pray, little children, so that you may comprehend who you are and where you need to go. Be carriers of the good news and be people of hope. Be love for all those who are without love. Little children, you will be everything and will achieve everything only if you pray and are open to God's will – to God who desires to lead you towards eternal life. I am with you and intercede for you from day to day before my Son Jesus. Thank you for having responded to my call."

Deepening Our Catholic Faith

**“Private Revelation and Devotions”
First Tuesday, January 6, 2015
7:00 PM Parish Center**

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

There will be an Altar Server Training on **This Sunday, January 4** after the 10:30 Mass. All current Altar Servers are requested to attend the training because of new tasks that will be implemented. This training is also open to any boy or girl who is interested in becoming a new Altar Server. The only requirement is that the child has made his or her First Eucharist.

YOUTH MINISTRY – Hygiene Kits for the Homeless Men at Cornerstone

The Youth Ministry teenagers will once again collect items for Hygiene Kits for the homeless men via the Cornerstone in Vernon. Please donate the following items: floss, toothpaste, toothbrushes, facecloth, soap, shampoo, dry hair shampoo, hairbrushes, combs, and/or hair ties. Items can be left in the Youth Ministry box at the entrances of the church. Please bring your donated items any time. The collection will end on the weekend of January 10/11, 2015. Thank you.

Marriage Preparation Class for Engaged Couples – January 31, February 7, 21, 2015 9:30 – 12:00 Noon. St. Joseph Church Hall, RT 97, Occum. Call The Office of Family Life at 860-889-8346 ext. 283 to register for the 3 session class.

Retrouvaille - Is your marriage tearing you apart, little or no communication, considering separation or divorce? For serious marriage building and repair: Retrouvaille is a lifeline. At a Retrouvaille weekend couples are given tools to re-establish communication, work on their issues, gain new insights and heal. A series of 6 post sessions follows the weekend phase. For information or to sign up for the next weekend on January 16-18 in Hartford area call 413-525-1634. Website www.retrouvaille.org.

MARCH FOR LIFE BUSES

January 22, 2015 marks the 42nd anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous abortion-on-demand ruling. Because of that decision, millions of pre-born babies have been denied their most basic right – their right to life. On Thursday, January 22, 2015, people from across the nation will assemble in Washington, D.C. to visibly express their opposition to abortion.

On Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 9 PM, buses sponsored by the Southeast Chapter of Connecticut Right to Life will leave from the Norwich Municipal Parking Lot (Exit 80, I-395) and travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the March For Life on January 22, 2015. Bus fare is \$65 per person. (Reduced rate available for students \$42). Please reply by January 7 to Margaret Becotte at 860-822-1362. You can also contact her for further information and/or to reserve a seat or sponsor a seat.