



**5th Sunday of Lent**

“I will be their God and they shall be my people.” JEREMIAH 31:33

What does it mean to be God’s people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our neighbors and the world, just as God cares for us.

**READINGS AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN?**

**First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The Lord comforted his people, who were exiled to Babylon, by telling them of the new covenant he planned to make with them. The Lord declared he would write his law upon their hearts, and that he would forgive their evil and forget the sins they had committed in the past.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9**

Though God could have heeded his Son’s prayers and spared him suffering, Jesus accepted his Father’s will. Through his suffering, he learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all people.

**Gospel: John 12:20-33**

Jesus was afraid of the suffering he knew he must face. Yet he explained just as a grain of wheat must die to be harvested, he had to face his hour of suffering to glorify his Father’s name. Jesus explained that once he was lifted from earth, he could draw all people to himself, lifting them to eternal life.

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Regular Collection - March 22 - \$5,916

**Saturday March 21, 2015**

5:00 PM +Luciano Campisi  
r/b Sr. Guytina & Brothers

**Sunday March 22, 2015**

7:30 AM For all priests & religious

10:30 AM +Frank Gerard Macri  
r/b His Mother

6:00 PM For all our Religious Education  
Teacher/Aides

**Monday March 23, 2015**

8:00 AM +Jean Rabe  
r/b Father George

**Tuesday March 24, 2015**

8:00 AM For the sick of the parish

**Wednesday March 25, 2015**

8:00 AM +Ralph Halbach 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
r/b Marilyn & Paul Gilbert

**Thursday March 26, 2015**

8:00 AM For Pope Francis

**Friday March 27, 2015**

8:00 AM For all missing children

**Saturday March 28, 2015**

5:00 PM +Jeanette Scibek – Anniversary Mass  
r/b The Family

**Sunday March 29, 2015**

7:30 AM For all our Deanery Priests

10:30 AM For the unemployed

6:00 PM For the sick & those near death

**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.**

**CONFIRMATION – 2015 – Grade 9**

**Make up Class for the Monday Confirmation Class Sunday, March 22 4-6:45 pm (students will attend 6 pm Mass) or Wednesday March 25 6:45-8:15 pm**

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

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

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

**Religious Education Program – 2015**

The class schedule is as follows:  
**PLEASE note new time of Monday Evening Classes:**

**Sunday – March 22, 29, April 19, 26, May 3 – No class April 5 and 12) 9-10:15 am**

**Monday Classes - March 23, 30, April 6, 20, 27 – No Class April 13 6:45-8:15 PM – NEW TIME**

**Tuesday – March 24,31, April 7, 21, 28 (No class April 14) 4:15-5:30 pm**

**Tuesday- March 24, 31, April 7, 21, 28 (No class April 14) -7:00 –8:15pm**

**GRADE 2 – STUDENTS & FAMILIES**

**ATTENDANCE AT BOTH PRACTICES IS MANDATORY**

Saturday May 2 – First Communion Practice for both students and parents 9-10:30 am.

Thursday, May 7 – First Communion Practice for both students and parents – 6:15 – 7:30 PM

Saturday, May 9 – First Communion Mass 11:00 AM

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 March 22 and 29th during the 10:30 Mass.

**FACEBOOK: ‘Visit us on Facebook: St. Luke Catholic Church**

**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, 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, Rita Connelly,  
Cecile Clavette and Adele Willette

**Defending Our Religious Liberty**

Recently the state of California started forcing all health insurers in the state to include elective abortions in the health plans they sell. Other states will be putting the pressure on their health insurers, as well. This problem is addressed by the Health Care Conscience Rights Act (H.R. 940). This measure adds a long-overdue conscience clause to the Affordable Care Act, and strengthens the Weldon amendment that forbids governmental bodies receiving federal Health and Human Services funds from discriminating against those who decline to take part in abortion or abortion coverage. Please support the Health Care conscience Rights Act (H.R. 940) by writing to your congressman or woman.

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.

**World Message of the Blessed Virgin Mary****Message of February 25, 2014**

"Dear Children! In this time of grace I call all of you: pray more and speak less. In prayer seek the will of God and live it according to the commandments to which God calls you. I am with you and am praying with you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

The St. Luke's Music Ministry invites parish members of all ages to participate in music for Easter. The following special rehearsal schedule is offered so that all members of families may participate:

**Children's Choir (Grades 3+):** Immediately following the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass for 20 minutes.

**Youth Group:** Immediately following the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass for 20 minutes beginning March 1.

**Adults:** Wednesdays at 7:30 PM.

For more information please contact Music Director John Nisbet at 860-272-6210.

**ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!**

The Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale is coming up on March 28/29. **ALL KINDS OF BAKED GOODS ARE NEEDED.** You can drop off your baked goods on Saturday March 28 from 2-5 or Sunday March 29 prior to Mass.



**YOUTH GROUP NIGHT  
SUNDAY, MARCH 22  
FOLLOWING 6:00 pm MASS**

**2015 Annual Catholic Appeal  
“Strength through the Holy Spirit”**

This month we'll be hanging out in the year 47 BC. Wear sandals and bring a pillow/cushion to sit on. The team will bring pizza from the 21<sup>st</sup> century to share with our friends. Don't forget B.Y.O.P.

Each year our parish and every parish in our Diocese is responsible for a portion of the financial obligation it takes to meet the ministry, programs and services of our Catholic Church. Together, with other parishes in our Diocese, we are able to reach so many more in need than our parish could ever reach alone. The 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal, “Strength through the Holy Spirit,” is a call to each of us to help keep the mission of our over 25 ministries and programs strong. Missions that reach out to our Diocesan communities...helping those in need to find strength to overcome their hardships. Sometimes it's hard to envision how your one gift could make a difference in an organization the size of our Diocese, but it does! Please help the future of our ministries and programs. Please call upon the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Fortitude, Piety, and Fear of the Lord, and ask the Lord to make you a good steward, opening your heart to help make a difference in the lives of your neighbors. Visit [www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org](http://www.norwichdiocesedevelopment.org) to make your pledge.

**SOUP/SANDWICH NIGHT MENU**

Please join us for soup and sandwich every Friday evening from 5-7 pm during Lent.

March 27: Barley Vegetable Soup  
Tomato Rotini Soup  
Veggie Wrap  
Egg Salad on Rye

April 3: Vegetable Rice Soup  
Tomato Basil  
Grilled Cheese  
Bagel with veggie spread

**BAZAAR CRAFTING**

Bazaar Crafters invite you to join us on March 28 any time between 10 am-1 pm. We will be making card table playhouses and jam gift bags. The crafters are looking for parishioners who sew and could donate a few hours to help with some projects - supplies are available.

If anyone wishes to craft items for the Bazaar at home, we have a variety of supplies available. Contact Elaine Waudby at 860-872-4057.

**CHRISM MASS**

This year, Bishop Michael R. Cote, D.D., invites you to the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

The Chrism Mass is the celebration during which the sacred Chrism is consecrated and the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens are blessed. These oils are sanctified for use at the Cathedral and in all parishes for Baptism, Confirmation, the Anointing of the Sick and for the Ordination of Priests. Together the three oils symbolize the sacramental life of the Church. Three of our parishioners, Deacon Harry Grospitch, Jeanne Grospitch and Alice Wysocki will be sent to represent our parish at this Mass and to receive the holy oils for the parish. Since the Chrism Mass is truly a Diocesan event ALL parishioners are invited.