



Saturday December 6, 2014

5:00 PM +Mildred Kelly
r/b The Grospitch Family

Sunday December 7, 2014

7:30 AM +John A. DeCarli
r/b His Daughter

10:30 AM +Mary Okolo
r/b St. Luke Crafters

6:00 PM +Irene Smith
r/b The Family

Monday December 8, 2014 – HOLYDAY

8:00 AM +Adam Kurpat
r/b Mary Berzenski

7:00 PM +Father Tom
r/b St. Luke Parishioners

Tuesday December 9, 2014

8:00 AM For the sick

Wednesday December 10, 2014

8:00 AM +Fr. Martin; Fr. John;
Fr. Tom
r/b Sr. Guytina

Thursday December 11, 2014

8:00 AM For all Priests

Friday December 12, 2014

8:00 AM +Deceased Members of the
Maldonado Family
r/b Rose & Rick Meyer

Saturday December 13, 2014

5:00 PM +William & Lucille Beers
r/b Their Daughter

Sunday December 14, 2014

7:30 AM +Delbert Reynolds 18th Anniversary
r/b His Sons

10:30 AM +Carol Newton
r/b Barry Newton

6:00 PM +Adam Kurpat
r/b William & Maxine Shortman

2nd Sunday of Advent

“Prepare the way of the Lord...” MARK 1:3

We are called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, does just that – it puts us on the path to holiness and it invites others to be holy, too.

READINGS AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah emphasizes that from the desert to the mountains, all people must prepare for “the glory of the Lord to be revealed.” Rather than looking only at God’s power, Isaiah focuses on God’s kindness, comparing it to a shepherd who feeds and cares for his flock.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

For those who are impatient for the Second Coming, Peter explains that time is different to God than to people. He reminds them that they should be grateful for the extra time to prepare, and concentrate on striving to become all that God would want them to be.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

In this passage, John the Baptist stressed the importance of the coming of the Messiah. He acknowledged that he was only the messenger, and unfit to “stoop and untie his sandal straps.” John urged them to prepare for one far holier than he, who would walk among them.

PARISH SUPPORT
Regular Collection – November 23 - \$5,070
Regular Collection – November 30 - \$5,799

DECEMBER 8 – HOLY DAY
MASSES: DECEMBER 8 – MONDAY
8:00 AM AND 7 PM

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 2014- B – (Grade 10)- Mandatory Dates

Sunday, December 7 – Confirmation Rehearsal for Candidate and Sponsor – 3-4:30 pm.

Saturday, December 13 – Confirmation Mass at 1 p.m. Candidates and Sponsors arrive to Church Hall by 12:30 pm.

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.

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 – 2014 - 2015

The class schedule is as follows:

Sunday – December 7 & 14 - 9:00 – 10:15 No Class December 21 and 28.

Monday – December 8, 15 6:45 - 8:00
No Class December 22 and 29.

Tuesday - December 9, 16 4:15 – 5:30
No Class December 23 and 30

Tuesday- December 9 & 16 7:00 - 8:15
No class December 23 and 30.

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

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 Grospitch, 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, 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 and Scott Traska

Defending Our Religious Liberty

Religious freedom has never been red or blue, left or right, Catholic or non-Catholic. It is – and—has always been American.

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 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**

or Christian friend is welcome to attend these very informal and enjoyable discussions. A few of the men went to breakfast afterwards at the Chuck Wagon. A couple of the men also volunteered to usher a confirmation service to be held on December 13. Please consider participating in this exciting new group formed for your pleasure and convenience.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS FOR SALE

The St. Luke Crafters have Christmas wreaths for sale at the rear entrance to the Church. All proceeds will support the Fr. Tom Scholarship Fund.

CHRISTMAS MASSES/Confessions

Confessions: December 24 – 3:00

Christmas Eve:

4:00 PM - Children’s Mass
Children’s Choir/ Youth Grp
6:00 PM – Regular Mass
Cantor and Organist

Christmas – December 25:

Midnight Mass – 12:00 AM – with Adult
Choir & Organist
7:30 AM – Cantor and Organist
10:30 AM –Cantor and Organist

NO 6 PM MASS

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

From 1992 to 2006 the Annual tradition of placing wreaths to honor the fallen was conducted at Arlington National Cemetery, largely unknown by the general public except for visitors to those hallowed grounds.

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.”

MITTEN TREE IS HERE!

Trees are waiting! This is the last weekend December 6/7. The trees are at the front and rear entrances to the church. Last year many people were cold! Let’s help them be warm with mittens, gloves, hats and scarves.

MEN’S GATHERING

The next St. Luke’s Men’s Gathering will be held on **Saturday, December 13, from 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM** in the Parish Center. The men chose this time hoping it would not interfere with family responsibilities. The topic “Signs from God” was chosen for the last gathering and some men shared things that happened to them that were fascinating, unexplainable, and assumed to be interventions from God. A sheet was passed out that will allow men to pick their topic for the next gathering. Any interested parishioner

In honor to continue and support this effort, in 2007 a Worcester family, along with veterans and friends, formed Wreaths Across America to continue and expand this effort, and support other groups who wanted to honor veterans. This non-profit organization continues the Arlington tradition as part of its mission to **Remember, Honor and Teach.**

In 2013 Wreaths Across America placed over 350,000 wreaths at more than 775 participating locations across the country and beyond. This was accomplished with the help from 1200 fund raising groups across the country and beyond.

For 2014 the goal is to make it personal by reaching out to local communities to help place wreaths on the graves of local veterans. There are more than 450 veterans buried at Ellington Center Cemetery, and we are looking for local organizations that can help honor these veterans, as each \$15 donation places a wreath.

If you wish to honor a fallen service member by purchasing a \$15 wreath, contact **Wreaths Across America at 877-385-9504** or email www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org using sponsor ID MEHQMOI and local ID CTECCE and your order will be delivered with the town order. The wreaths will be presented during the Ellington Center Cemetery Ceremony.

The Ellington Patriotic Committee would like to welcome all to join us at our Wreaths Across America ceremony on Saturday, December 13, 12 Noon at the Ellington Center Cemetery. If you would like to participate or help sponsor a wreath please contact Wilson Flynn wdfpf45@sbcglobal.net/ 860-896-9053.

Natural Family Planning for Married and Engaged Couples – For information call the Collisons at 860-399-8265 or go to www.ccli.org.

Advent Penance Service – December 14, 2014, St. Bernard's Church, Rockville – 3:00 PM.

Grieving Retreat – A 2- day Retreat with Sr. Eugenia Brady, SJC –St. Edmund's Enters Island at Mystic - December 19-21. Call 860-536-0565 for reservations or email www.endersisland.com. "COME TO ME ALL WHO LABOR AND ARE HEAVILY BURDENED AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST..." Welcome to a weekend of prayer, support, information and sharing in a safe and holy setting. Together we will seek the insights and graces God wants for each one of us as we mourn the losses in our lives.

Double Room Occupancy: \$200 p/p
Single Room Occupancy: \$250 p/p
Commuter Rate: \$150 p/p
Deposit: \$100 per person

Community Carol Sing – Everyone in Somers and surrounding communities who enjoys singing Christmas carols is invited to the community Carol Sing at Somers Congregational Church on Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 pm.

Position Available: Catholic Charities Diocese of Norwich is currently seeking to fill the newly created position of Director of Business Practices. Ideal candidates will have the following experience and attributes – CPA or an MBA with at least two years in financial management, or a Bachelor's degree in accounting and at least 5 years in financial management, including experience with third-party payments including Medicaid billing in a not-for-profit environment. Interested Candidates should submit a cover letter and resume by mail to Catholic Charities DBP Search committee, 331 Main Street. Norwich, CT 06360 or email searchcommittee@ccfsn.org.