18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what fails to satisfy?” Isaiah 55:2

Of all the ways we are asked to be generous, giving our money can be the most challenging. God understands this. Remember though that we are called to be generous with all our gifts, including our money. We are called to give from our “first fruits” and not from what is “leftover.”

READINGS AND WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-3
With great enthusiasm and fervor, God urges his people to come to him and to accept the gifts he extends to them.

Second Reading: Romans 8:35, 37-39
In words that are both stirring and courageous, Paul exclaims that nothing will separate him and his followers from the love of Christ --- neither trial---nor persecution---nor death.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21
Matthew gives us a straightforward and convincing account of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Because the crowds following Jesus were hungry, he took five loaves and two fish, blessed them, and gave them to the crowds. Although the people numbered about five thousand, there was still food remaining.

PARISH SUPPORT

Regular Collection – July 20 - $4,052
FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Religious Ed – 875-4951

Office Hours:
Monday/Tuesday 9-4 pm
Wednesday/Thursday 9-1pm
Also by Appointment
Hours are subject to change so please call ahead.

Confirmation 2014- B – (Grade 10)- Mandatory Dates
Please note change in date for Confirmation Candle Mass, the Mass is **Sunday, October 5 at 6 pm.** This is for all Confirmation Candidates and their families. Please mark the date on your calendar now.

All candidates **MUST** attend at least **one Youth Group** Meeting September 28, October 26 or November 23. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in at the meeting they attend.

**November 17-18** – Gown Measurement prior to the start of class.

**Monday, December 1** – From 5-9 pm.

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

**Saturday, December 6** – Confirmation Reconciliation 9:30 AM

**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)**

Confirmation candidates - your Confirmation Packet #2 was due into the Faith Formation Office by July 29. Please contact the office immediately if you have not dropped off packet #2 and picked up packet #3. Any questions call the office at 860-875-4951.

**Teachers Needed for 2014-2015 School Year**

Please prayerfully consider teaching and sharing your Faith with our Youth!

No teaching experience required. Training available. We are in need of the following teachers for the Fall. Contact Nancy Rudek 860-875-4951 for more information.

**Monday** – 6:45- 8:00 - Grades 6 and 7
**Tuesday** - 4:15-5:30 - Grade 4
**7:00-8:15** - Grade 6

Registration for 2014-2015 Religious Education Program

Registration letters were mailed out the week of July 21. Please follow instructions in the letter. **Registration begins August 10.**

Registration is ONLINE this year. We hope this helps you in registering your children. Visit our website at [www.stlukeellington.com](http://www.stlukeellington.com). Click on the Register button and fill out all required fields. When registering online you will be prompted to pay online using Paypal (you can pay by check, debit/credit card or Paypal balance.) For anyone without online access, you may pick up registration forms at the Faith Formation office or the Rectory to register your children. We encourage all to please use the online registration. Register early as classes fill up quickly. Any questions contact Kim at 860-875-4951. AUGUST 3,2014.doc

All classes for all grades will run for an hour and 15 minutes this year. The class schedule is as follows:

- **Sunday** – 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. – Grades 1-5
- **Monday** – 6:45 - 8:00 p.m. - Grades 5-10
- **Tuesday** – 4:15 -5:30 P.M. – Grades 3-6
- **Tuesday** – 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. – Grades 6-10

**Registration of Grade 1 students and New Families**

If you have a child entering Grade 1 in the Fall or you are a new family to St. Luke with school age children, please contact the Faith Formation Office to start the process of registering your child for Religious Education in the Fall. If you email or leave a message, please tell us your name, your child’s name, grade in school in the Fall, where child was baptized (date of baptism if you know it), your address and a phone number to reach you. Contact Nancy or Kim at 860-875-4951 or stlukere@gmail.com. Remember you **MUST be a registered member of St. Luke’s Church** in order for your child to register for classes. Yellow Registration cards are at both entrances to the church.

**Teacher Meetings** – We will begin Teacher Training meetings soon. If you are interested in helping us out to teach or to be an aide, please call the Faith Formation Office and ask for Nancy. There are presently classes that
do not have a teacher. Please refer to the Bulletin for the specific classes. Parents, remember if we don’t have a teacher for your child’s grade, regretfully we will not be able to hold that class.

**Youth Ministry:** 4TH Sunday of the Month Grades 8-12, after the 6 p.m. Mass, Church Hall. For information contact Joan Robinson at joan.ym.slp@gmail.com.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP**
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 6:30 PM**

This workshop is for those who work with children – Teachers, Aides, Children’s Choir, Altar Servers, as well as any parent who wants to know how to keep their children safe. We will meet in the parish center and Registration IS NECESSARY. Please call Nancy at the Faith Formation Office – 860-875-4951 to register.

**Deepening Our Catholic Faith:**

**Do We Still Have Purgatory?**
**Wednesday, August 6, 7 P.M. Parish Center**

**R.C.I.A.:** All Saturdays 8-9:30 AM 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.

**World Message Of The Blessed Virgin Mary**
**Message of July 25, 2014**

“Dear Children
You are not aware of the graces that you are living at this time in which the Most High is giving you signs for you to open and convert. Return to God and to prayer, and may prayer begin to reign in your hearts, families and communities, so that the Holy Spirit may lead and inspire you to every day be more open to God’s will and to His plan for each of you. I am with you and with the saints and angels intercede for you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

---

**Defending Our Religious Liberty**
The Connecticut Catholic Conference notes that, since 1919, the Catholic Church has been a longstanding advocate of universal, accessible and life-affirming healthcare. However, the HHS mandate of the Affordable Care Act harshly penalizes those employers who do not provide abortions and other contraception coverage for their employees. In its decision the Supreme Court clearly reaffirms that freedom of religion is a basic fundamental right under our Constitution. 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.

---

**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, Wendy Tarbox, Morris Webber, and Kathy White.
Lydia Augliera, Alfio Bonanno, Rhoda Burr, Carolyn Coyne, George Croft, John Curley, Jr., Helen DeCarli, Angelina DeFeo, Frank DelloIacono, Irene Dowd, Margery Dungan, Carl Ekroth, Bertha Rosa Ficocelli, Joanne Gagnon, Robert Gagnon, Judith Gan, Frank C. Graziani, John Mahon, Sr., Mary Miffitt, Mary Okolo, Jeannine Salone, Jeannette Scibek, Raymond Smachetti, Jr., Pearl Tetreault, Paul Vachon, Rachel Wheeler-Rossow.

**AUGUST PARISH MEETINGS/CLASSES**

**ALL SATURDAYS:**  R.C.I.A. – 8-9:30 am  
PARISH CENTER
AUGUST 5:  Hall Not Available – In Use
AUGUST 6:  VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 9-3
AUGUST 6:  Deepening our Catholic Faith 
7:00 pm Parish Center
AUGUST 9: 11:00 AM Memorial Mass for Jeannine Salone
AUGUST 12: NO ADORATION After Mass
AUGUST 14: VIGIL MASS – HOLYDAY
AUGUST 15: HOLYDAY ASSUMPTION 
MASSSES: 8 AM & 7 PM
AUGUST 18: SOCIAL COMMITTEE SPEC. 
MEETING – 6:30 PM
AUGUST 24: Youth Ministry Meeting after 
10:30 Mass – Brookside Park

**BAZAAR RAFFLE**

The Raffle Committee has begun to plan for the 2014 St. Luke Christmas Bazaar Raffle!

This year the committee discussed having one of the prizes be a “Gift Card Grab Bag.” We are looking for parishioners who are interested in donating a gift card from a favorite store, restaurant, gas station, garden shop, hardware store etc. Gift cards can be dropped off at the Rectory or placed in the collection basket (mark envelope “Raffle Committee.”) All gift cards will be combined to create one of the prizes for our Annual Bazaar Raffle.

The Committee is also soliciting NEW Items, in addition to the gift cards listed above, for the Main raffle prizes. (Please bring to the Rectory). The last day we can accept Gift Card donations and the New Items is AUGUST 10 because a list of raffle prizes must be sent to and approved by the State of Ct. prior to printing tickets. Thank you for considering these requests.

Parishioners who make jams, jellies, pickles, etc.; please consider donating some jars to the Country Store. Homemade items always are in demand.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2014**

St. Luke Social Committee presents “Misgivings: A ‘Divine’ presentation of stories and one liners about growing up Catholic. A comedy filled with belly laughs, blessings, blarney and bingo!” Dave Kane as Father Patrick Aloysius, Misgivings tells stories and relates his views about the idiosyncrasies of growing up and living life as a Roman Catholic. Dave is a performer, comedian, published author and 40+ year radio talk host from Rhode Island. The show will be preceded by a pasta supper. Tickets will go on sale in August.

**ST LUKE SERVICE WORK UPDATE**

We have secured the 4th Tuesday of every month as St. Luke’s day at the Cornerstone Soup Kitchen. Three to four servers will be needed once a month from 4-6 pm.

Recently Parish and Youth Ministry members Sean Jamieson, Hayley and Logan McDonald served at the soup kitchen on behalf of our parish. Logan was also involved in building the coat racks that were needed at the homeless shelter.

High School parish members Jay Skoruski and William Broding put two days of hard effort into scraping, caulking, and painting the doors and windows at the Cornerstone Clothing Bank. They, as well as all service workers, are to be commended for their efforts (Matthew 25:40).

This past week the Youth Ministry has begun work on “revitalizing” the rectory back porch. Any Parishioners, Youth Ministry members, High School students or families interested in getting involved in fulfilling service work, even for a couple of hours at a time, should contact Mr. Littizzio at 860-875-6791.