



CHURCH OF SAINT LUKE LENDING LIBRARY

MARCH 2023 - NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

To provide Christian resources that will spark spiritual growth and development for every St. Luke parishioner.



Our Community Library Policies

Our Lending Library works on the honor system. Choose a book that you are interested in reading, log it out on the sign-out sheet and once read, return the book in the BOOK RETURN basket.

- Books can be signed out for up to a month, but we ask that you return them once read (extended time frame allowed for Lent and Advent book selections).
- Because we are a small library with a limited number of books, we ask that you only take one book out at a time.
- Each book contains a Lending Library bookmark. There is a space at the top of the bookmark where you can write the date that the book should be returned by.
- Please do not underline, highlight or write in the books.

We honor you by providing the best of Catholic reading. Please honor us by returning the books promptly so that they can be shared among all parishioners.

Lent 2023

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins with Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday (April 6th). Please make a point of choosing a Lenten book from the **Lending Library**. We have both classic and contemporary authors to choose from. There are NEW and popular titles to choose from:

Confession

- ❑ *Frequent Confession-It's Place in the Spiritual Life* by Fr. Benedict Baur
- ❑ *Go in Peace-Purpose and Power of Confession* by Fr. Mitch Pacwa/Sean Brown
- ❑ *Overcoming Sinful Thoughts-How to Realign Your Thinking and Defeat Harmful Ideas* by Rev. T.G. Morrow
- ❑ *Pocket Guide to the Sacrament of Reconciliation* by Fr. Josh Johnson/Fr Mike Schmitz
- ❑ *Reimagining the Ignatian Examen* by Mark E. Thibodeaux
- ❑ *Rooting Out Hidden Faults* by James F. McElhone
- ❑ *The Sacrament of Confession-What It Is and How to Receive it Well* by Rev. Hector R. G. Perez

Lent

- ❑ *Aquinas's Lenten Meditations* by St. Thomas Aquinas
- ❑ *Consoling the Heart of Jesus* by Fr. Michael Gaitley
- ❑ *The Cries of Jesus from the Cross* by Fulton Sheen
- ❑ *The Four Last Things* by Fr. Wade Menezes
- ❑ *The Lenten Cookbook* by David Geisser
- ❑ *Making a Holy Lent* by Fr. William Casey
- ❑ *Pieta Prayer Book* (Regular & Large Print)
- ❑ *Pocket Guide to the Stations of the Cross* by Edward Sri
- ❑ *The Seven Last Words* by Fulton Sheen
- ❑ *Show Me the Way* by Henri Nouwen
- ❑ *Voices from the Upper Room* by Fr. Dominic Lenk
- ❑ *What Jesus Saw from the Cross* by A.G. Sertillanges

Divine Mercy

- ❑ *Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalski*
- ❑ *Divine Mercy in a Woman's Life* by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle
- ❑ *Understanding Divine Mercy* by Fr. Chris Alar

More Lenten titles are available at the Lending Library so stop by before or after mass and check them out!

Devotion of the Month

Saint Joseph

The Church traditionally dedicates the month of March to the special veneration of **Saint Joseph**, whose feast day is March 20th. Due to **Saint Joseph's** leadership of the Holy Family, he has been declared the protector and patron of the universal Catholic Church.

The Pope's Intention for March

For Victims of Abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

Dates to Remember

- 02/22/23: Ash Wednesday-Day of Fast and Abstinence**
- 03/04/23: St. Casimir-Patron of Poland and Lithuania
- 03/07/23: Sts. Perpetua & Felicity-Patron of Mothers
- 03/08/23: St. John of God-Patron of Sick, Nurses
- 03/09/23: St. Frances of Rome-Patron of Widows
- 03/04/23: St. Matilda-Patron of Large Families
- 03/17/23: St. Patrick-Patron of Ireland, Engineers
- 03/18/23: St. Cyril of Jerusalem-Patron of Catechists
- 03/20/23: Solemnity of St. Joseph**
- 03/24/23: St. Catherine of Sweden-Patron of Prevention of Miscarriage, Unborn Children
- 03/25/23: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**
- 03/26/23: St. Margaret Clitherow-Patron of Business Woman
- 03/31/23: Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Reconciliation 101

Whether you go regularly or haven't visited in a while, it's good to review the steps for receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below is a 101 primer to get you started:

How to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation

1. Examine your conscience.

The first step is to examine your conscience. You can do this at home by looking at the Ten Commandments, the Seven Deadly Sins and the Beatitudes. Thinking about what you have done or failed to do to keep God's commandments. If it's hard to remember our precise sins, we can use the examination of conscience (also the Examen). If you feel nervous that you won't recall them, write out a list of sins in advance and take the list into the confessional with you. It's important to be prepared to receive this sacrament.

NOTE: *If you want to know more, the **Lending Library** has books on the Examen, in addition to FREE handouts of the **Examination of Conscience** by **The Fathers of Mercy**.*

2. Have contrition.

After you have examined your conscience, make a firm resolution not to return to the sins that were committed. You will renew this resolve during confession when you make my act of contrition and promise "to avoid the near occasion of sin." You are now ready to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. See the list of churches, above right, for available times.

3. Enter the confessional. Say "Bless me Father, for I have sinned," and tell the priest how long it has been since your last confession.

When you enter into St. Luke's confessional, you will see a kneeler with Father seated behind a screen. There is also a chair to the left, if you are unable to kneel. You start confession by saying "Bless me Father, for I have sinned," and let Father know when you received your last confession. If you don't remember, just say you are unsure.

4. Name your sins and give the number of times. (Include all mortal sins.)

We need to bring our hearts to confession, which includes every sin. Don't be nervous, just be humble and honest. Jesus already knows your sins...big and small. You will not surprise Him. Just be sure to confess all mortal sins. Remember this is a Holy Sacrament!

5. Receive your penance.

The priest will then provide you with counsel. Pay close attention! From the *Diary of St. Faustina* (1602), "When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest..."

6. Pray an act of contrition.

Once you have received your penance, you will say the **Act of Contrition**. At St. Luke's, this prayer is printed out by the kneeler, in case you are nervous and forget the words. It can also be found online at:

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/act-contrition>

7. Receive absolution.

The priest will then absolve you from all your sins by saying the absolution prayer. Make the sign of the cross and you can then exit the confessional. Take a few moments in church to complete your penance and give thanks for God's mercy. Reconciliation "is usually followed by peace and serenity of conscience." (CCC 1468)

Opportunities for Confession

Please take advantage of the following opportunities in our Diocese for confession during this season of Lent:

DAY OF RECONCILIATION

March 17th at St. Bernards from 7:00 am. to 7:00 p.m.

St Luke's Church

Every Saturday from 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

After the Retreat on March 6th, 7th, 8th

Confessions with Fr. Wade Menezes

St. Joseph's Church

Every Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and

3:00 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Every Thursday during Adoration from

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

St. Bernard's Church

Every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

St. Matthew's Church

Every Saturday 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

NOTE: *EDT time change might affect hours noted above.*

"What?" As they walked into the Chapel, Sister tried her best to explain Jesus' presence in the Eucharist, hidden in the Tabernacle. With eyes wide open and jaw dropped, little Daniel was stunned. "He just waits in there?"

"Yes," she responded. "But why would anyone do that?" He wouldn't believe it. "**SERIOUSLY**, why would anyone just wait?" He couldn't reconcile why Jesus would be willing to wait for people who might *possibly* stop by and spend time with Him.

With deep concern, Daniel looked up once more, "But doesn't He get lonely in there?"

Taken in part by: Mother Agnes Mary, SV. *Superior General of the Sisters of Life*

Please join us in keeping Jesus company for an hour during Eucharistic Adoration at:

St. Luke's Church:

• Eucharistic Adoration every Tuesday after 8:00 a.m. Mass.

• Eucharistic Adoration every First Thursday of the month at 7:00-8:00 p.m., where we recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the sick and the dying.

NOTE: *Next Adoration scheduled for March 9th.*

St. Joseph's Church:

• Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

• Eucharistic Adoration after every Saturday 7:30 a.m. morning Mass until 9:00 a.m.

St. Bernard/St. Matthew's Church

• First Friday Adoration held at St. Matthew's on **March 3rd** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. (Adoration on odd month's at St. Matthews and on even months at St. Bernards.)