

## **The Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Children ages 3 through Level Three are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word. The children are brought to a separate location in the Church to hear the Word of God and a Homily geared to their age group. This takes place during the 9:00 a.m. Mass from September through June. During the summer months the dates will be limited and announced each month.

## **Family Masses**

On the first Sunday of each month, instead of Children's Liturgy of the Word, we celebrate the 9:00 a.m. Mass as a Liturgy with children. At this Mass, we use the Children's Lectionary, our Children's Choir leads us in song and we celebrate together the broad range of ages that make up the St. Luke's Family.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

This ministry strives to provide experiences that include social, community involvement and spiritual programs. The Youth Ministry Program strives to encourage leadership and to foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person. Information and updates on all items relating to Youth Ministry can be found on the website at : [www.stlukesyouthgroup.org](http://www.stlukesyouthgroup.org). Kathy McCann is our Youth Minister here at St. Luke's.

## **High School Youth Group:**

Anyone in grades 9-12 is invited to attend the weekly high school youth group. Held on Sunday evenings, this program offers a mix of social, spiritual, and community oriented events. Among these are the annual Little Kids Party which sponsors a birthday party for special needs children, the overnight Relay for Life which is a fundraiser for The American Cancer Society, a yearly retreat and many other great get-togethers.

## **Jr. High School Youth Group:**

For young people in both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, the Jr. Youth Group meets monthly and holds many fun, interesting and get-together opportunities.

## **Young Adult:**

The Young Adult Ministry provides information on opportunities for faith sharing and social interaction for young adults in and around the Archdiocese and Bergen County. Information can be obtained in regard to "Theology on Tap", and many other events involving those aged 21-35. Check out the Archdiocesan Website for more information on ministries to Young Adults.

## **LITURGY**

### **Altar Servers**

Altar Servers assist the Priests in celebration of the Mass, the center of our parish's worship of God. This ministry is open to all members of the parish in the fourth grade and older. The school age volunteers participate on weekends and the adult volunteers serve during the week. Training and support are available. After training, you would be asked to serve as few as two Masses a month. If you feel that you might be called to help the Priests to carry out Jesus' command to "Do this in remembrance of Me," call the Parish Office with any questions you might have.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

This group's members assist with the distribution of the Eucharist at all weekend Masses and on various Holy Days throughout the year, and some ministers distribute to the homebound. They also assist with the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. This ministry is open to any dedicated parishioner 18 years of age and older.

### **Hospitality Ministers – Greeters**

The Hospitality Ministers welcome parishioners at Mass, help with seating and take up the collection. They also provide general assistance and information to those attending Mass. When necessary they provide aid to anyone becoming ill during Mass, distribute weekly bulletins and special written messages and most importantly, help people feel welcome and comfortable. Members usually serve at Mass every weekend.

### **Ministers of the Word – Lectors**

The Lector's mission is to proclaim the Word of God at Mass and special liturgies. This ministry is open to any confirmed young adult or older. Assignments for weekend Masses and other liturgies are made about twice a month on a rotational basis.



## MUSIC MINISTRY

The Music Ministry enhances worship through song and is a vital component of our liturgical celebrations at St. Luke's. The choirs are dedicated to leading the congregation in songs and responses of many different styles. Singing or playing an instrument is a great way to praise the Lord and a wonderful opportunity to worship in a special way. In addition to leading the worship each weekend, the Music Ministry also sings for special liturgies such as Confirmation, First Eucharist, and Holy Week Services. The Music Ministry also performs an annual Christmas Concert. Our Music Director, Gary Sabak leads the following Choirs:

### Festival Choir

The Festival Choir is open to all enthusiastic singers in High School and older. The choir sings a variety of musical styles such as contemporary, gospel, traditional, and classical at the 10:30 a.m. Mass each weekend. Rehearsals are held each Wednesday from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Church. Various instrumentalists are always welcome.

### Contemporary Choir

The Contemporary Choir is open to anyone in High School or older who enjoys singing or playing exciting and upbeat music. The choir sings musical styles such as contemporary, folk, and gospel at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Rehearsals are held each Thursday from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Church. Various instrumentalists are always welcome.

### Teen Choir

The Teen Choir is open to all teenagers in middle school through college who wish to learn a variety of musical styles, lead the worship at Mass each weekend, and gain musical experience and training. Choir members can choose to sing at the 9:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. Mass each weekend and the choir rehearses from 7:30-9:00 p.m. on Thursdays in the Church. Various instrumentalists are always welcome.

### Children's Choir

The Children's Choir is open to all children in grades 3-8 who enjoy music and singing. This choir is a wonderful chance for young people to experience the special kind of worship that music offers. The Choir sings once a month at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. They rehearse from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Church.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The main goal of St. Luke's Religious Education Programs is to support families in their faith development. St. Luke's offers the following programs to assist families in achieving this goal.

### Religious Education Classes

Classes are offered for children ages Kindergarten through Level Nine. This is a sequential program, which is designed to help our young people build on their understanding of our Faith and Church teaching. This program is mandatory from Level One through Level Eight for all children who are to be fully initiated into our Church. Full initiation in the Roman Catholic Church requires the preparation for and the reception of the Sacraments of: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Currently the reception of Eucharist takes place in the Spring of Level Two, the reception of Confirmation takes place during the Spring of Level Nine.

Presently there are three options for taking part in the sessions for children in grades 1-6.

Tuesday- 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. or

Sunday- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Sept.-Dec. or Jan.-Apr.

OR

Summer Sessions are held for a two week period. The children meet daily from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. There are 2 sessions available. During the year the children are also required to participate in four additional lessons, which are scheduled throughout the year.

Level 7 and 8 presently meet Tuesday Evening – 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. or for two weeks in the Summer

### Catechists

Catechists are those individuals who volunteer to share their faith with our young people enrolled in the Religious Education program, or the adults who are journeying through the RCIA process. To be a catechist, you must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic in good standing. All those who volunteer to share their faith with our young people will also participate in the Protecting God's Children workshop, prior to working with our young people. In addition catechists take part in a formation process leading to certification. This time commitment will vary, depending on the level of catechists and the session one is involved with. However it is a rule of thumb, that if you are facilitating a one hour session, it will take at least one hour to prepare for that session.

## **FAMILY MINISTRY**

The primary goals of our Parish Family Life Ministries are to help parents to pass along the rich legacy of our Catholic faith to their children, and to enrich family life in our homes and in our parish. In the past, our various programs have included Holiday celebrations, a Mother's Spiritual Journal program and Spiritual Reflection for Women, Marriage Enrichment, Parenting classes and other family events.

### **Catholic Story Hour**

Catholic Story Hour is a 1 hour session for young children and their caregiver. We meet from 10-11:00 a.m. on Fridays in the Parish Center. The hour includes a ½ hour of play, coloring and craft; and a ½ hour of circle time with singing, stories and prayer. Our mission is to introduce God and the Catholic Faith to young children at the simplest level, and in turn provide the parents with a starting point in developing their own faith, and the faith life of their families.

### **St. Luke's Men's Community Group**

Year round planned offerings including social/sports/recreational events and Community Action programs and spiritual retreats for men in the Parish. Also included in the Men's Community activities are inter parish Men's Cornerstone, Communion Breakfasts, Evening/Saturday morning Fellowship, Sports night, Annual Archdiocesan Conference.

### **Cornerstone**

Cornerstone provides a rich, thoughtful and comfortable opportunity to share faith experiences as we live our busy lives. This vibrant, 26 hour "weekend" is held periodically and fosters a deep sense of support, faith enrichment, and community among its participants.



## **GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS:**

### **Adult Faith Formation**

Focusing on a variety of spiritual topics, we provide a solid background of scriptural knowledge as well as time-pertinent theological issues. Meetings take place throughout the year as advertised. St. Luke's also participates in the GIFT program (Growing In Faith and Theology) with other parishes in northern Bergen County.

### **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus- Council 5257, is a fraternal organization, which was organized in 1962. Meetings are held once a month at their hall on the corner of Smith Street and West Prospect Street in Waldwick. Approximately 160 members are currently active in the organization. Members must be practicing Catholics, age 18 and above. There are minimal annual dues. Activities include fundraising for the developmentally disabled, college scholarships, monthly dinners and breakfasts which are open to the public, golf outings, etc.

### **Rosary Altar Society**

A service based, parish inspired organization dedicated to the Blessed Mother and open to all parishioners. Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at the Parish Center, preceded by recitation of the Rosary and Mass at 12:15 p.m. in the Church. Some of the services provided by this organization include visiting the sick, assisting in parish mailings, washing and ironing the altar linens, etc. Various activities include the Communion Breakfast, Christmas Party, St. Patrick's Party, guest speakers at meetings, etc.

### **Rosary Hill Home Sewing Group**

The group meets the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Office meeting room to sew pads for use by patients at the Rosary Hill Home in Hawthorne, NY. Used sheets, donated by parishioners are cut to a size specified by the Sisters at the home.

The Rosary Hill Home is operated by the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, Servants of Relief for Incurable Cancer. Their apostolate is to provide care for patients who are too poor to afford nursing care. This care is given without charge to the patients and without government assistance.

## **Senior Lucans**

St. Luke's Senior Lucans provide a ministry of sociability, concern and mutual assistance to the senior members of St. Luke's Parish. Membership is open to all men and women fifty-five years of age and older and their spouses. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Center. A coffee social, guest speakers and/or entertainment is offered at each monthly meeting. Day trips, overnight excursions and extended trips are scheduled during the year. Members also participate in bridge, bowling, crafts, golf and quilting.

## **GRACE Communities (Small Christian Communities)**

The GRACE (Groups Reaching for Advanced Catholic Enlightenment) Communities program provides a primary source for spiritual nourishment and a new way of participating in the parish. It consists of small groups of parishioners who meet to discuss and enhance their spiritual growth. Many of the groups meet during Lent and the Fall, although there are several groups that meet all year round. Some groups meet in the Rectory Living Room and others meet in homes.

This ministry's goal is to involve parishioners and others from outside the parish community in prayer, reflection and support, following the example set forth by Jesus. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in St. Luke's Small Christian Communities.

## **St. Luke's Basketball**

St. Luke's Basketball is dedicated to teaching the youth of St. Luke's Parish and the surrounding community the fundamentals of basketball in conjunction with an emphasis on sportsmanship and working with a team concept. This program is open to boys and girls in grades 3-8. The St. Luke's Basketball Program is an inter-parish team and there is no traveling involved. All games and practices take place in the St. Luke's Gym with tournaments at the end of each season. Registration forms are mailed to those interested in the Fall for a season that begins in December. Additional forms are available in the Parish Office.

## **SACRAMENTS**

### **Anointing of the Sick**

Urgent calls will be attended any time of the day or night. Please call the Parish Office to notify a priest. A communal celebration of Anointing of the Sick is also scheduled periodically at a Sunday mass followed with a reception.

### **Baptism**

Baptisms are celebrated communally once a month on Sunday afternoon during the year except for Lent and Holiday weekends. Registration should be made in advance by calling the Parish Office.

### **Baptismal Preparation for Parents**

Baptismal Preparation is held once every month. Sessions are conducted by Parish married couples. Attendance prior to the Baptism is required for both parents of a first child. (Baptisms are not held during Lent.)

### **Marriage/Marriage Preparation**

Arrangements should be made with one of the Priests or Deacon one year in advance of the proposed marriage. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

### **Immediate Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation**

After a young person has expressed a desire to receive Confirmation, they will participate in a series of sessions designed to bring them to a deeper understanding of full Initiation into the Catholic Church.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

1 p.m. on Saturdays except on Holy Saturday Also celebrated communally during Advent and Lent (or anytime by request, call the Parish Office)

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

This is a process aimed at welcoming others to join our Catholic community. Adults are prepared to celebrate Confirmation as Catholics (and also Baptism and First Communion if needed). This process is carried out by reflecting upon the experiences of the individual's lives and the experiences of the Scriptures and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Those desiring to participate in RCIA interview with the RCIA Coordinator, and then meet on a weekly basis as a small faith sharing community.

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Evening** – 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday Morning** – 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

Our 10:30 a.m. Mass is Sign Interpreted Mass

**Weekdays** -- 7:00, 8:30 a.m. (and 12:15 noon on most 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays)

**Saturday** – 8:30 a.m.

(The Rosary is recited after the 8:30 a.m. Mass every day)

**Holy Days** -- Please consult the Bulletin for the Holy Day Mass Schedule

**Holidays** – MLK Day, President’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,  
Labor Day, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day – 9 AM

(The Parish Offices are closed on Holidays)



### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday – 1:00 p.m.

Or anytime upon request.

### NOVENA

Miraculous Medal – Monday after the 8:30 a.m. Mass

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

On most second Mondays of most months, the Blessed Sacrament is solemnly exposed in the Monstrance following the 12:15 p.m. Mass, and remains on the altar throughout the day. The devotion concludes with a Holy Hour which begins at 7:00 p.m. and includes liturgy of the word, homily, time for silent prayer, devotional common prayer and benediction, after which the Blessed Sacrament is reposed. Consult the weekly bulletin for more information.

## service MINISTRIES

### Altar Linens

Each week the small white altar linens and hand towels that are used during Masses by the priests are washed and ironed by St. Luke’s parishioners. The linens are picked up at the Parish Office at the beginning of the week and returned for the following weekend. This ministry requires no meetings and it is an excellent way for people with busy schedules to be a part of parish life.

### Baptismal Robes Sewing Group

This ministry creates the baptismal robes worn by all babies who are baptized at St. Luke’s Parish. If you enjoy sewing and have the desire to help, this is the ministry for you. Materials and instructions are provided.

### Bereavement Meals

When a family member of a parishioner dies and the wake is held in the local area, a group of St. Luke parishioners prepare a meal for the family and deliver it to the home on the day of the wake service. Based upon the number of individuals currently in the group, it is anticipated that a member may be called upon for a four-hour period once a year. There are no dues but members are asked to pay for the cost of the meal they prepare when they are called upon.

### Bereavement Support

This ministry helps anyone dealing with the loss of a loved one by offering an opportunity to speak to someone on a one-to-one basis.

### Covenant House Trip

We prepare all year long for the Covenant House Christmas Party trip in December. We are always looking for those who can knit and/or crochet to make hats and scarves for the residents of Covenant House. There are many ways you can help from donating gifts to helping with the preparation or attending the party itself. It is always a warm way to give back during the Christmas season. Covenant House, in New York City, is a shelter for homeless teens and young adults and unwed mothers. Covenant House not only provides shelter, but also offers job and life strategy training.

## Feeding the Needy

The Mission of “Feeding the Needy” is to coordinate food collections following events at St. Luke’s. Feeding the Needy is a pick up of left-over food following either a private or St. Luke’s event. The food is collected and distributed to a local shelter which feeds the needy, such as Eva’s Kitchen.

**Giving Tree** – The “Giving Tree” is placed in the Church during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Gifts are donated to several needy organizations. Volunteers are always needed to help sort and package gifts. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

## Harrison House Feeders

This organization, which is under the auspices of the Bergen County AIDS Ministry (part of CANAN), provides a dinner once a month for people residing at Harrison House, a home for AIDS patients on the grounds of Bergen Regional Medical Center. Members prepare a meal which is delivered on the second Wednesday of the month by one of the coordinators. Depending on the numbers of volunteers, a member is called on once or twice a year.

## Knitters

The Knitters Group of St. Luke’s, a sub-group of the Covenant House Ministry, has a goal each year of creating hand-made hats and scarves for the residents of Covenant House. Crocheters and knitters are welcome to use their own yard stash or yarn donated by our parishioners to make these welcome gifts. Meetings are posted in the bulletin.

## Martha’s Group

Martha’s Group is comprised of men and women who volunteer their time to clean the church every Wednesday after 8:30 a.m. mass. Usually they clean for about 2 hours. The work consists of polishing, vacuuming, dusting, and other general cleaning jobs.

## Monthly Food Drive

On the first Sunday of each month, food is brought to Church by our parishioners. All the non-perishable food that is collected is brought to our sister parish – Blessed Sacrament in Newark. This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone to be an active part of a service ministry.

## PARISH PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office.....201-444-0272  
St. Luke’s FAX Number.....201-652-7044  
Religious Education/ Catechetical Center.....201-447-2779  
Youth Ministry Office.....201-444-0272, X 20

Parish website: [www.churchofstluke.org](http://www.churchofstluke.org)

## Staff Email Addresses

Fr. Jim Weiner - Pastor [admin@churchofstluke.org](mailto:admin@churchofstluke.org)  
Fr. White – Parochial Vicar [frwhite@churchofstluke.org](mailto:frwhite@churchofstluke.org)  
John McKeon – Deacon [deaconmckeon@churchofstluke.org](mailto:deaconmckeon@churchofstluke.org)  
Debbie McTiernan --Administration [admin@churchofstluke.org](mailto:admin@churchofstluke.org)  
Kathy McCann -Youth Minister [cvo@churchofstluke.org](mailto:cvo@churchofstluke.org)  
Bridget Sarkowicz – Rel. Education [ccd@churchofstluke.org](mailto:ccd@churchofstluke.org)  
Gary Sabak - Music Director [music@churchofstluke.org](mailto:music@churchofstluke.org)  
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Michele Fullmer - Bulletin Editor [bulletin@churchofstluke.org](mailto:bulletin@churchofstluke.org)  
Ann McClelland – Business Manager [businessmgr@churchofstluke.org](mailto:businessmgr@churchofstluke.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

**To reach out in love to all God’s people  
By living the healing ministry of  
Jesus Christ and St. Luke as a caring, faith  
community fed by the Eucharist and led by the  
Holy Spirit.**

## SERVED BY

Rev. James J. Weiner, *Pastor*  
Rev. Jim White, *Parochial Vicar*  
Rev. Paschal Tsiquaye, *In Residence*  
Msgr. Thomas J. McDade, *Weekend Assistant*  
John McKeon, *Permanent Deacon*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Kathy McCann, *Director of Youth Ministry*  
Ann McClelland, *Business Manager*  
Debbie McTiernan, *Pastoral Associate for Administration*  
Gary Sabak, *Director of Music*  
Bridget Sarkowicz, *Director of Religious Education*  
Vicki Peluse, *Pastoral Associate for Liturgy, RCIA & Small Christian Communities*

### TRUSTEES

Mary Ann Thomas  
Richard Dunn

St. Luke's Parish has a long and rich tradition in New Jersey. It was founded in 1864, when Reverend William McNulty asked the first Bishop of Newark, the Most Reverend James Roosevelt Bayley, for permission to build a church in Ho-Ho-Kus to meet the needs of Catholic residents. The original St. Luke's Church was lost in a fire in 1948, but was replaced with the impressive present structure, which was completed in 1950. St. Luke's has a worshipping community of over 1,900 families from Ho-Ho-Kus, Waldwick and surrounding areas.

The parish property includes the Church building, a Rectory residence for priests with the Parish Offices, a courtyard between the Church and Rectory, a Parish Center, the John Griffin Memorial Field, a cemetery, and a school building which houses both the parish Religious Education Center and a school – not affiliated with St. Luke's.



### Parish Office Support

The Parish Office Support Group is responsible for assisting the laity of the parish and supporting the parish's administrative responsibilities. They provide information and coordinate various programs within the parish. Volunteers are always welcome.

### Parish Picnic Team

This group meets regularly to plan St. Luke's Annual Parish Picnic held on the John Griffin Memorial Field each September. New members on the picnic team are always welcome.

### Social Activities Planning Committees

Include Monthly Breakfast Socials, an October Parish Celebration, Fish & Chips Dinner for Lent and our St. Patrick's Day Party. Anyone interested in serving on a planning committee for Parish Socials is invited to call the Parish Office for more information.



## advisory Ministries

The following groups act in advisory and overseeing capacities to the pastor and the parish.

### **Finance Council**

The Finance Council is comprised of finance and accounting professionals who offer their expertise in advising the Pastor on financial matters concerning the Parish. They are consultative in nature and meet every few months to review plans and reports. They make suggestions and recommendations on financial matters to the Pastor.

### **Liturgy Committee**

The Liturgy Committee prepares the Liturgy for Masses, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. The Committee coordinates with the worship ministries in preparing our liturgical celebrations. They also plan and carry out the decoration of the worship environment in accordance with the liturgical seasons through the work of the Art and Environment Committee.

### **New Energies Parish Transition Project Team**

All parishes within the Archdiocese of Newark have been asked by the Archbishop to merge, link or partner with one or more parishes in their surrounding community. St. Luke's, Guardian Angel in Allendale and the Church of the Presentation in Upper Saddle River are currently working together on a number of activities in a partnership model.

### **Pastoral Council of Ministries**

The Pastoral Council is a ministerial community that reflects the mission of Jesus. The Council meets periodically to discern a vision of Parish life in the areas of the Word, Worship, Service and Community building. They submit recommendations to the Pastor for evaluation.

## ALL ARE WELCOME

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.  
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions.  
Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end all divisions.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak and  
words are strong and true.  
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat.  
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone.  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach  
and love the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,  
Their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
As words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter  
Prayers of faith and songs of grace  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter  
All are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Welcome to the St. Luke's Family!

Text by Marty Haugen copyright 1994



# St. Luke's Church

## Ministry Guidebook



340 North Franklin Turnpike  
Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423

R.3-2010