



TIDINGS

News & Notes from Saint Luke's Parish

Today's Services

8:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
5:00 PM	CAYA Eucharist

Coffee Hour

8:45 AM	AYCC
11:00 AM	Outdoor Cloister
6:00 PM	AYCC

For Children & Youth

7:45 –11 AM	Childcare <i>Education Building</i>
9:50 AM	Church School <i>Education Building</i>
11:15 AM	St. Gregory Choir Rehearsal <i>Music Room</i>

Crayons & coloring pages, pencils & activity pages, and Board Books are available at the Children's Kiosk located in the Narthex.

The Forum

"Saint Luke's and YASC— The Importance of Global Relationships"

Today at 9:00 AM, AYCC

Join us to hear Miranda Wilson, our Interim Director of Communications, speak about her upcoming service in Geneva, Switzerland through the Young Adult Service Corps of the Episcopal Church. Elizabeth Boe, Mission Personnel Officer, will explain more about the YASC program, and we will also hear from our Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Naomi Cunningham, about her time in Paris serving with YASC.

November 21, 2021

Christ The King

Dear Friends,

What might God be revealing to me this Christ the King Sunday, I wondered, as I sat to write this week's Tidings letter? What struck me immediately was God's extraordinary ability to meet each of us where we are. Barbara Crafton, a great priest of the church, sees God as magnet and people as iron filings. But as I age, I realize how different each of us is in how we see the world, in what touches us, what leaves us cold, what makes our hearts sing or ignites our ire. How can we all be simple filings drawn to a clunky magnet? Can't be.

Rather, God is so nimble that His invitation to each of us is tailored. No bulk mail for Him, rather hand-penned first-class letters written in the language of our hearts. This thought arrived with today's Feast of Christ the King. You see, I've never really cleaved to today's celebration because the monarchy, and kingship in general don't do too much for me. Maybe it's my Connecticut Yankee roots.

But I sure need God, and by His grace, He meets me where I am. At different times of my life, I lean on one of God's attributes or another. Sometimes I lean into Jesus' humanity; his own struggles ease mine. Other times it is His power that picks me up off the ground. Some days I rest in God's warm embrace, drawing strength from a few quick winks with Love itself. Other days, I hear the toppler of tables encouraging me to stand tall, to fight for what is right. Or the calmer of storms counseling peace. And soon, it will be the babe in the manger reminding me that God, the ruler of the Universe, trusted us enough to come as a helpless child. What a gift and responsibility.

In these days that hint at becoming certain but then retreat again, I am reminded that the only "certain" is God's presence among us. And He will come as each of us needs Him. As Savior, as friend, as teacher, as companion on the Way, as Bread, as Vine, as Gate, as Light, as Truth, as Resurrection, as King.

Ask God to come to you today. And then, listen to your life, as Frederick Buechner would say, and watch and see where and how God shows up. Because God will show up. Speaking your language and bringing what you need.

Peace,

Susan

Advent Wreath Pick Up | After 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 5:00 PM

The Parish Life Committee will be selling Advent Wreath kits for \$20 each, this week and next. Bring the warmth of candles into your home during Advent as we wait and prepare for the coming Christ. Included in the kit are the supplies needed to make the wreath, instructions for assembly, and a home worship packet so you can celebrate an Advent Evening Prayer Service as you light your wreath. The perfect worship at home tool kit for a festive Advent season!

Christmas Pageant Sign Ups | After 10:00 AM

There will be sign-ups for children ages 3 years old through 5th grade, which will include a lottery for the primary roles.

Dove Boxes

A \$50 donation will be used to purchase a gift card to ShopRite and passed out to families and seniors in our community who are in need. Each \$50 contribution will cover one family or senior. Donations can be made directly on the Saint Luke's square site (square.link/u/0jgS8rnR) or by check or cash and mailed to the church. Saint Luke's will collect the white dove donations but P2P will actually purchase and deliver the gift cards to the families and individuals.

This Week

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 24, 5:00 PM

Begin the Thanksgiving weekend in gratitude for life's blessings at this special Eucharist in the Chapel. Friends and family welcome!

Thanksgiving Tuesday Community Supper

Tuesday, November 23, 5:00 PM

Celebrate Thanksgiving early with your Community Supper friends and a genuine Thanksgiving supper. Take-out only from 5:00-6:00 PM. Limited indoor seating available.

Turkey Giveaway Volunteers

P2P will have a truck or van filled with turkeys, distributing them right from the truck along with bags of prepacked/assorted produce. P2P need volunteers to help distribute the turkeys and produce bags and direct traffic in the parking lot since this will be a drive thru event.

- Mon. 11/22 11am to 3pm
- Tues. 11/23 11am to 3pm

Sign up to help at linktr.ee/saintlukesdarien.

Monday, November 22

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Community Supper Thanksgiving Prep, 8:00 AM

Evening Knitters, 7:30 PM

Tuesday, November 23

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Community Supper Thanksgiving Prep, 10:00 AM

Community Supper, 5:00 PM

Wednesday, November 24

Morning Prayer, 8:00 AM

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 AM

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service, 5:00 PM

Meditation Group, 6:00 PM

Thursday, November 25

Church and Parish Office closed.

Friday, November 26

Church and Parish Office closed.

Next Sunday

First Sunday of Advent

November 28

Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-9, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36.

The Forum: The Gospel of Mark— The Rev. Ryan Fleenor | 9:00 AM, AYCC

Think you know the Christmas story? Come find out with our clergy and staff led Advent series! Each Sunday of Advent, we will explore a different Gospel's account. We often forget that there is not a single Christmas story, but rather, each Gospel provides us with important and unique insights. By the time Christmas itself arrives, you will have grown in your faith and understanding, with a newfound appreciation for the beauty and mystery that is the Incarnation and Nativity of Jesus Christ.

Bethlehem Artworks visits Saint Luke's | 8:00, 10:00 AM, 5:00 PM

Need a Christmas present for family and friends? Beautiful hand-made olive wood religious articles made by Christian families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem will be on sale the weekend of November 28th after all the services. Bethlehem Artworks is an organization that produces hand-made statues, crosses and nativities as a means of providing livelihoods for over 100 Christian families in the Holy Land. Learn more at www.bethlehemartworks.com.

Advent Wreath Pick Up | After 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 5:00 PM

Last chance! The Parish Life Committee will be selling Advent Wreath kits for \$20 each, November 21 and 28. (More information on the front cover.)

Christmas Pageant Sign Ups | After 10:00 AM

Sign-ups for children ages 3 years old through 5th grade continue next Sunday as well.

News & Upcoming Events

Worship

Advent Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 5, 5:00 PM in the Church & Livestream
Experience a glorious evening of Advent carols with Susan Knapp Thomas, Harp, the Saint Luke's Parish Choir and Choristers, the CAYA Band, and a series of special readings that will usher us by candlelight into the season of love's expectation. This service will be in person and livestreamed on our Facebook page, followed by a festive reception in the Anderson Youth & Community Center.

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 19, 11:45 AM in the Church
This joyous family service tells the Christmas story with the full complement of angels, shepherds and sheep. All are welcome to attend, children of all ages are welcome to participate; costumes are provided.

Advent Foundations: The Good Book

Our Tuesday evening adult education series, "The Foundations" returns in Advent with a four-week course entitled "The Good Book: A (re)introduction to the Bible." What is the Bible? How do we understand it? How does it shape our faith? How do we pray with it? Explore these questions and more alongside fellow parishioners. Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:15 PM, beginning November 30. Email Ryan Fleenor to register or learn more.

Advent Quiet Day

Saturday, December 11, 8:30 AM-2:00 PM
Savor a morning of quiet and stillness in the middle of the busy holiday season. The Rev. Dawn Stegelmann will lead our annual Advent Quiet Day based on our parish-wide theme: "Love is on the Way". Please R.S.V.P. to the church office, 203-655-1456. \$20, lunch provided.

Acolyte Training

Sunday, December 5, 11:15 AM
Anyone interested in being an acolyte is welcome to join us for acolyte training. We will learn about all acolyte duties and run through a typical service. All ages are welcome

Connect

A Close Harmony Christmas

Saturday, December 11, 2:00 PM in the Church
The New Consort, presented by Friends of Music
We are delighted to host New York City's The New Consort for its first-ever holiday concert in Connecticut! Join this world-class vocal ensemble as we ring in the season with A Close Harmony Christmas. Free admission. Donations accepted.

Moving Forward Holiday Tea

December 13, 4:00-5:30 PM in the Taylor Room.
All are welcome, bring friends and family. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts welcome but not required. Come share a cup of tea and conversation with Saint Luke's clergy.

Carol Sing & Holiday Dinner

Tuesday, December 14, 5:30 PM in the Church
All are welcome for an evening of singing our favorite Christmas carols in the church, followed by a catered dinner in the AYCC, including a "special visitor" who may surprise the children with a visit!

Youth Candle Fundraiser

Let Saint Luke's help you get your holiday gifts, hassle free! We're selling Thistle Farms candles. Proceeds will go towards our children and youth outreach projects and partnerships. The candles cost \$30 and you have your choice of scent: Cinnamon Cedar or Three Trees. Learn more at linktr.ee/saintlukesdarien.

Save the Dates, January 7-9 2022

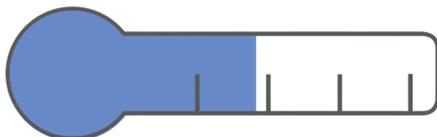
"Feed My Starving Children," a town-wide food packing event returns to Middlesex Middle School! Sign-ups for participation (a family activity!) will begin later this month. Groups of 10 people encouraged (form a team!). Covid protocol being followed. No fee to participate, donations welcome. Contact Fred Elliott (elliottfc.07@gmail.com) or Jessica Schmidt (jessicaschmidt967@gmail.com)

Grow

Serve

2022 Annual Appeal

Give



42.4% Participation
212 out of 500 givers



63.1% of Goal
\$1,024,750
out of \$1,625,000

Prayer List

For the Church

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

In our Diocese, we pray for St. Paul's, Woodbury; St. John the Evangelist, Yalesville; and Grace Church, Yantice .

In our parish cycle of prayer, we pray for Youth Confirmation program, its teachers and students in 6th - 8th grade.

Thanksgiving & Celebrations

We give thanks for the children who helped decorate P2P Toy Bags and tie baptism blankets last week.

We give thanks for the marriage of Maggie Drake and Teddy Bennett last week.

We give thanks for those who have made financial contributions to our 2022 campaign.

On this National Donor Sabbath Sunday, **we give thanks for all those who have given the gift of life through organ donation.**

We give thanks for all who made last week's Remembrance Sunday offering of the Faure Requiem possible, including David Pulliam, Will Roslak, the Parish Choir, guest musicians, and donors to Saint Luke's Friends of Music.

Those who have requested our prayers

For members and friends of the parish who are sick, sorrowful, or in any kind of trouble: Aldin, Allison, Bari, Basil, Betsy, Bridgette, Caroline, Charlie, Chris, Darlene, Eliza, Frank & Rita, Gill, Jack, Jessica, Joan, Joe & Ginny, John, Jonny, Kelsey, Lee, Lynne, Mary Shaw, Nancy, Nanette & Joel, Pam, Pat, Patience, Patricia, Peter, Reynolds, Robert & Patti, Sharon, Sheila, Stephanie, Sue, and Tony.

For our outreach partner, Future 5.

We pray for God's wisdom and grace to be with the Bishop Transition Committee as they prepare a slate of candidates for election as the next Bishop of Connecticut in May 2022.

Those who have died

We commend to God's care and keeping all those whom we love but see no more.

All who have died from COVID-19.

About these Prayers

Saint Luke's is a community committed to prayer. Holding one another's joys, sorrows, and concerns before God in prayer is a spiritual practice at the heart of our life together. We encourage you to pray throughout the week for these members of our parish family.

We invite you to add yourself or others to the Saint Luke's prayer list by submitting a prayer request card, notifying Candy Wheelock at candy.wheelock@saintlukesdarien.org (203-655-1456) or visiting our website.

Hospitalization or Pastoral Issues

Please notify us if you or a family member is hospitalized and/or in need of a pastoral call or visit. We often have no other way of knowing a visit is needed. Please email a member of the clergy or call the Parish Office (203-655-1456) to reach the priest-on-call.

Sharing Holy Communion

If illness prevents you or a loved one from joining us for regularly scheduled services, a priest or a lay eucharistic visitor can share Holy Communion with you at home or in a health care facility. Please contact the Rev. Susan Wyper at 203-655-1456 or susan.wyper@saintlukesdarien.org to schedule a visit.

Celebrations

If you would like to ask for prayers for the celebrations in your life or in the life of a loved one, please contact Cindy Scam at 203-655-1456 or cindy.scam@saintlukesdarien.org.

Flowers

The Flower Guild adorns the church with flowers and greens thanks to donations given in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for special occasions. The names are listed in the service bulletins. If you would like to make a gift of flowers, please contact Lynn Biggart at 203-655-3343 or sevenbiggs@aol.com.

12 Step Groups

Saint Luke's hosts multiple 12 Step Recovery and Support groups, including AA, AlAnon, Alateen, and Fabulous Women of Wednesday. Call the Parish Office at 203-655-1456 for meeting times, or see our online calendar.