

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Catholic Community
Temple City, CA



Third Sunday of

Advent

December 12, 2021

I am baptizing you with water,
but one mightier than I is coming.
I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

Luke 3:16

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MISSION STATEMENT

St. Luke the Evangelist Parish is a Roman Catholic Community dedicated to carrying out the Gospel message of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our mission is to - welcome, evangelize and educate; provide spiritual nourishment; promote Christian values; foster peace and justice; encourage service to others.

PARISH INFORMATION

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

5605 Cloverly Ave.
Temple City, CA 91780

(626) 291-5900
(626) 287-2332 (FAX)
www.stluketemplecity.org

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Robert Victoria
(626) 291-5900 x233
Fr.Robert@stluketemplecity.org

SEMINARIAN

Joseph Morrell

PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am-5:00 pm
(Closed Noon-1:00 pm)

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Mass (In person)
5:30 pm

Sunday Mass (In person)
6:30 am • 8:30 am • 10:30 am
10:30 am Mass is live streamed.
Visit www.stluketemplecity.org.

WEEKDAY MASSES
9:00 am (In-person)

CONFessions SCHEDULE

Saturday (In the Church)
4:00-4:45 pm

Bulletin Content Submission Deadlines (Early for Holidays)

Jan. 2 Deadline: Wednesday, Dec. 15

Please deliver submissions
to the Pastoral Office or send to
bulletineditor@stluketemplecity.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Virgin of Guadalupe Mass - Today

All parishioners are invited to a special Mass **TODAY, Sunday, Dec. 12**, at 12:30 pm to celebrate the Mother of the Americas. *See p. 5 for details.*

Advent Penance Service

Prepare your hearts for Christ. The St. Luke Church Penance Service will be held on **Monday, Dec. 13**, at 7:00 pm in the church. Come and let the God of mercy and compassion prepare your hearts for the Savior's birth at Christmas. Additional priests are available.

Join Us for a Simbang Gabi Celebration!

All parishioners are invited to join us for St. Luke Parish's first Simbang Gabi on **Friday, Dec. 17**, at 6:30 pm. Traditional singing of carols with the choir will begin at 6:00 pm.

Simbang Gabi is a time-honored Philippine novena of Masses joyfully leading to the celebration of the birth of the child Jesus on Christmas Day. A traditional Filipino Christmas dinner will be served in the Parish Hall after the mass. All are invited!

New Bereavement Sessions Beginning

St. Luke Church will offer a daytime, eight-week Bereavement Support Program for those who have lost someone dear. The program is open to all faiths, non-threatening, caring and loving toward those who have suffered a loss. The two-hour sessions will begin on **Thursday, Jan. 6**, and continue weekly on Thursdays through Feb. 24.

Sessions will be held at 10:00 am. in the Parish Resource Center (located in the Rectory). The only cost involved is \$12.00 for the workbook. Reservations are required so that we will have the necessary supplies. Please call the Pastoral Office at (626) 291-5900.

Enthronement Weekend: Jan. 8-9, 2022

Parishioner are invited to participate in a Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Packets will be distributed on the weekend of **Jan. 8-9**. They will include a beautiful picture of Jesus and Mary to display, prayers, enthronement scroll, and instructions.

As a family, you are encouraged to say the prayers to enthrone the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your home and consecrate your family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. *See p. 6 for more details.*

Families Invited to Share Decorations for Church

Our parish families are invited to bring in a Christmas ornament or bulb that represents their family to include on our Christmas trees on the sanctuary.

Please bring the ornaments (include your family name) to Mass the weekend of **Dec. 18-19**. Participants will be invited to hang the ornaments after the Masses. We look forward to our families being a part of our Christmas environment.



The **LIVE STREAM** of the 10:30 am Sunday Mass has resumed. Visit the Parish Vimeo Channel at <https://vimeo.com/stluketemplecity> to view or www.stluketemplecity.org. *The Mass can be replayed and viewed at any time.*

Scripture Reflection

Prepare Your Hearts for the Coming of the Messiah

As we continue our journey in the season of Advent, St. John the Baptist was introduced to us last Sunday as the forerunner of Our Lord Jesus Christ. His mission was to prepare the hearts of the people for the coming of the Messiah by preaching the Baptism of Repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

This Sunday we hear that people took seriously his preaching that they asked him what they needed to do to repent of their sins. So, he gave each group of people specific instructions such as, “*whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has good should do likewise.*” He told the tax collectors to stop collecting more than what is prescribed. And he told the soldiers to be satisfied with their wages, to stop extortion and false accusations. He gave them simple and direct instructions how they could lead a better life by giving up their sinful ways.

His advice to those people must have strongly affected them that they even thought he might be the Messiah whom they had been waiting for. But John the Baptist was faithful to his mission. He told them that “*One mightier than he is coming, that he is not even worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals.*” John the Baptist admitted that he is not the Messiah. As a precursor of the Lord, he even humbled himself much lower than the servants whose jobs were to untie their masters’ sandals. True to his identity as the forerunner he talked to them about Jesus as God and His mission.

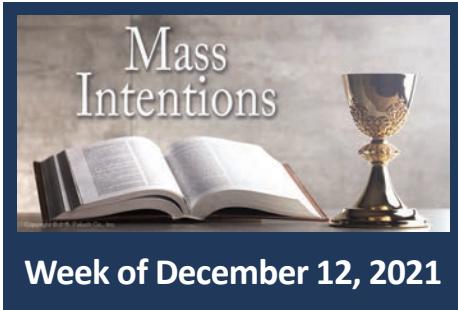
Teaching them to turn away from their sinful habits and lifestyle John the Baptist knew that he needed to direct them to the Lord so that their conversion would be deep and complete. Just like when we give up our bad habits, we need to replace them with good ones so that we do not fall back to the old bad habits. In the same way when we turn away from sin, we need to turn completely to God for only He has the power to help us live in the state of grace.

Turning to the Lord is not a one-time commitment. It is something that we have to do daily since we sin each day. It is the Paschal Mystery in our daily life – our dying to sin and rising to grace. And let us not be discouraged when we have fallen away from the faith nor get tired of daily conversion. We just need to realize that our daily humbling experience due to our weakness and sins can be used by the Lord to cloth us with His mercy as we return to Him wholeheartedly each day. As St. Paul wrote in his first letter to Timothy, “*This is good and pleasing to God our Savior, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth.* (1Tim. 2:3-4) **-Fr. Robert**

*The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.*

— Zephaniah 3:15b





Week of December 12, 2021

Saturday, December 11

5:30 pm Josie Basile, Edward Manley
Emilia & Modesto Torrijos

Sunday, December 12

6:30 am Barbara Cantu, John Kim
Natalie Washburn
St. Luke Parishioners

8:30 am Pedro F. Zuniga
Joseph Zenzola
Cleo Jaramillo

10:30 am Ma. Editha Seng Seng Dizon
Tony Loiacano
Theresa Mitchell

Monday, December 13

9:00 am Daniel Lepe, Sandra Harris
Jim Kress

Tuesday, December 14

9:00 am Wendell Cabot III
Jim Riherd -SI

Wednesday, December 15

9:00 am Peter Nguyen
Dominic Nguyen
All Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, December 16

9:00 am St. Luke Parishioners

Friday, December 17

9:00 am Aiden Cruz -SI

Saturday, December 18

5:30 pm Nin Chang

Sunday, December 19

6:30 am Barbara Cantu
Carol Kays, John Kim
St. Luke Parishioners

8:30 am Edward Manley
Betty Tauer-SI
Carlo Lasala-SI

10:30 am John Dau, Tony Loiacano
Leovigildo & Rosario Rubia

PARISH STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Religious Retirement Fund Collection

The Retirement Fund for Religious Collection will be held **THIS WEEKEND, Dec. 11-12**. Your tax-deductible donation supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Give thanks for religious sisters, brothers and priests. A parishioner writes, "We thank God today and every day for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's, but also to love God." Share your gratitude for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. Please give generously to this collection. *Donations may be deposited in the regular collection. Envelopes are at the church entrances. Please make checks payable to "St. Luke Church."*

YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Our thanks to the many individuals and families who generously support our parish!

These gifts benefit the parish in so many ways, including helping to meet everyday expenses for liturgy, faith formation, and operations. For your convenience, gifts may be made several ways:

ENVELOPE USERS: Offertory envelopes can be placed in collection baskets during weekend Masses, mailed to the Parish Office, or dropped in the office mailbox.

ONLINE DONATIONS: Click the Make a Donation button on the Homepage of the parish website to give electronically one-time or make a recurring gift.

BY PHONE: Call Vanco at 1-800-675-7430 Monday-Friday between 6:00 am and 4:00 pm to make your contribution as well (Our parish client ID is ES11182).

Please continue to remember your parish in your giving plans, especially if you are considering any charitable donations prior to the end of the year.

Coming Soon!

ST. LUKE GIFT SHOP

Beautiful religious items available to purchase after Weekend Masses in the Church Meeting Room.

Proceeds will go toward the formal opening of our Gift Shop on campus.

Selections subject to change; based on availability.

Rest in Peace

Sue Schiavone

Funeral Mass at St. Luke | Tuesday, Dec. 14 • 11:00 am

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve ~ Friday, Dec. 24

4:00 pm • 6:00 pm • 10:00 pm*

(Caroling at 9:30 pm)

*(*Live stream at <https://vimeo.com/stluketemplecity>)*

Christmas Day ~ Saturday, Dec. 25

6:30 am • 8:30 am • 10:30 am



• **SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN •**

DID YOU KNOW...

Ask your children, especially school-age children, concrete questions, like "Who did you sit next to at lunch?" or, "What was the most interesting thing you learned today?"

If your child is struggling with sharing his or her emotions, it might be helpful to ask about other emotions you see around you.

Find opportunities to get children talking about how they feel by focusing on other people: "Why do you think that girl and her dad are hugging? What made that boy on the playground mad earlier?"

For more tips, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Communicating with School-Age Children" at <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

Virgin of Guadalupe Mass

Sunday, December 12, 12:30 pm

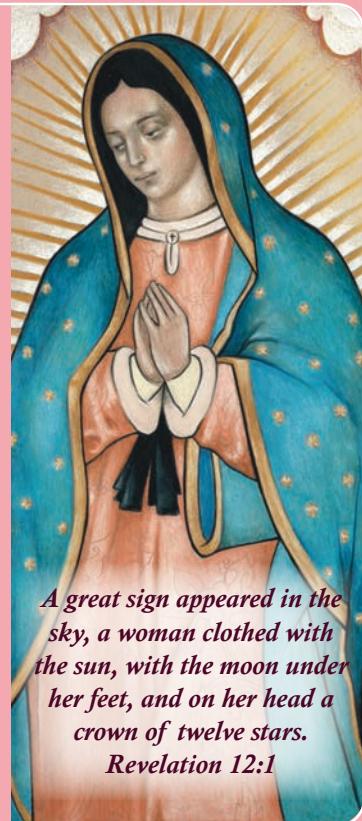
All parishioners are invited to a special mass to celebrate the Mother of the Americas.

Parishioners are encouraged to bring her flowers and are invited to bring images and statues of the Virgin of Guadalupe so they may get a special blessing from Father Robert following the Mass. The Mariachi will begin to play for Our Virgin at Noon.



Donations are greatly appreciated to fund the celebration, including a Mariachi. Contributions can be brought to the Pastoral Office or made online (www.stluketemplecity.org > Click on "Donate" button on Homepage, Select "Virgin of Guadalupe Mass Donation.").

Thank you for your support!



A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Revelation 12:1



Enthronement Weekend at St. Luke: January 8-9, 2022

The King and Queen are Coming

Parishioners are invited to enthronize the Sacred Heart of Jesus into their homes and consecrate themselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Devotion to the Heart of Jesus has existed throughout much of the history of the Church. However, in France in June 1675, Jesus instructed Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque that He wished devotion to His Sacred Heart be known to the world. He gave her Twelve Great Promises for those devoted to His Sacred Heart. One of those promises is, "I will bless the homes in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored." It is this promise that forms the basis of St. Luke's Enthronement Weekend.

The word "enthrone" means to put upon a throne. In effect, through enthroning Jesus into our homes, we are inviting Him to become the King and head of our homes and hearts. In this way we are asking Jesus to guide us in our efforts to live good lives and to lead us to our Father in heaven.

In consecrating our families to the Immaculate Heart of Mary we are asking Mary as our spiritual Mother to extend her mantle of love, comfort and protection over our families. She will watch over us and lead us to a deeper relationship with her Son, Jesus.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

It is a way to obtain special graces and blessings in our daily lives. Jesus said to Saint Margaret Mary, "I will bless the homes in which an image of My Heart shall be exposed and honored." To invite Jesus and Mary into our homes takes on an even greater meaning in these troubled times and is a source of great comfort and grace.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

An overview will be given at the end of Masses the weekend of Jan. 8-9. Parishioners will then be led in prayer to help spiritually prepare for the enthronement that you will complete in the home. Enthronement Packets will also be distributed. The packets include prayers, instructions, beautiful pictures of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and an Enthronement Scroll suitable for framing (on which the names of the living and deceased family members are written).

Frame the pictures, put them in a place of honor in your home, and together as a family say prayers to enthronize the Sacred Heart of Jesus in your home and consecrate your family to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.. Members of the Legion of Mary will be available to assist with Enthronement in the home if desired.

LIFE, JUSTICE AND PEACE SPOTLIGHT

Forward in Hope - Eighth Annual OneLife LA is Saturday, January 22, 2022

OneLife LA is an annual event celebrating the beauty and dignity of all human life from conception to natural death. The goals of the event are to unite the community for life, shift the conversation to a positive message of life and act as a catalyst for change in the community.

OneLifeLA will take place live and in-person on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022. This free event will begin at La Placita on Olvera Street. Following a youth and young adult kick-off event, the one-mile OneLife LA walk begins, ending at Los Angeles State Historic Park, the main event location. The main event will feature inspiring speakers, musicians, resource booths, vendors, and food trucks. The day ends with the Requiem Mass for the Unborn. Here is the schedule for the entire event:

11:00 am - Youth and Young Adult Kick-Off Event with Francis Cabildo @ Olvera Street

12:00 pm - All Gates Open & Welcome by Archbishop Gomez

12:30 pm - OneLife LA Walk Begins!

1:00-4:00 pm - OneLife LA Program at LA Historic Park

5:00 pm - Requiem Mass for the Unborn at Our Lady of Angels Cathedral

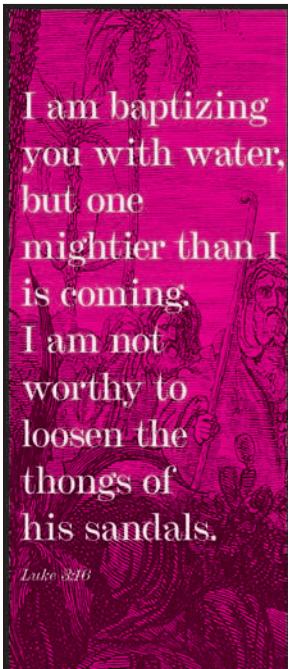


OneLife LA 2022 speakers include:

- Pro-life and whole-life, **Gloria Purvis** is a public speaker and radio host. She is the leading Catholic voice on racial justice and the pro-life movement, connecting our understanding of the dignity of the human person to the issues of racism and abortion. She is dedicated to promoting the dignity of human life, marriage, and creating a just society for all.
- **Francis Cabildo** is a singer-songwriter, worship leader and speaker from Southern California. He is passionate about loving God, family and the people of God. Francis has served the Church as a youth minister, music minister, high school campus minister and inspiring speaker.
- When he was born, **Christopher Duffley** weighed 1 lb. 12 oz., due to drug exposure. After five months in the NICU, he was placed in foster care. His biological aunt located him and adopted him into her family of six. A new life lay ahead, and his challenges of total blindness and severe delays would forever be a part his future.
- **Susan Burton** is an inspirational, transformational leader who founded A New Way of Life Reentry Project (ANWOL) in Los Angeles in 1998. ANWOL's approach to reentry is internationally recognized as an innovative model that creates welcoming, healing spaces for women to rejoin their communities after incarceration while developing as leaders to work toward liberation.
- **Sarah Kroger** is a worship leader and songwriter. She has been leading worship at a range of national and international events for the past ten years. Her passion is to create a safe, prayerful space through her music in which people can encounter the love of God.
- **Deacon Ed Shoener**, a permanent deacon at St. Peter's Cathedral in the Diocese of Scranton, PA, is a founding member of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers and the Catholic Institute of Mental Health Ministry at the University of San Diego. He serves on the Council on Mental Illness of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability and on the Board of Pathways to Promise, an interfaith cooperative that facilitates the faith community's work in reaching out to those with mental illnesses and their families. Deacon Ed, along with family and friends, founded "The Katie Foundation" after his daughter, Kathleen, died by suicide in 2016. Katie's obituary went viral because it spoke to the needs and concerns of people who live with mental illness.

Join us at OneLife LA on Jan. 22, 2022, in declaring a commitment to valuing and protecting all human life, particularly the most vulnerable in our community. Please consider being a part of our 2022 St. Luke Temple City team. Register for free (there is no registration fee) as an Individual at <https://onelifela.org/onelifela.org/register>, and select St. Luke Temple City as your church/school/organization group.

For more information about OneLife LA, visit <https://onelifela.org/>. If you have questions about our St. Luke team, please send an e-mail to the Life, Justice and Peace Ministry at stlukesjc@gmail.com, or leave a message for Wendy McGrail at (626) 233-0786.



John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness

Gustav Doré (French, 1832-1883), 1867

nickolae/Adobe Stock

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today is known as Gaudete—Rejoice—Sunday, the day's Latin nickname is taken from today's ancient official Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." The optional rose vestments—reminiscent of winter's early morning skies as the solstice draws near, the festive organ music, the floral arrangements, all these ancient traditions together with the antiphon are meant to anticipate, in sight and sound, the soon-to-break-upon-us Christmas joy. How well today's scriptures illustrate the struggle between Advent's contrasting moods: "joyful expectation" in light of Christ's nativity, and "serious repentance" inspired by John the Baptist's preaching, reminding us that Christ's next coming—at death or at the end of time—will be for judgment as well as redemption.

JOY AND EXULTATION

Joy and exultation ring through the first reading, as Zephaniah's ancient messianic prophecy pictures God "rejoicing over (us) with gladness, renewing (us) in his love, singing joyfully because of (us) as one sings at festivals." This joyful God is not distant: the prophet declares twice that God "is in your midst." Zephaniah so trusts this joyful God's love for us that he declares our deliverance "a done deal": both from inward fear and guilt—"the Lord has removed the judgment against you"—and from external threats: "he has turned away your enemies." The Responsorial Psalm, from Advent's principal prophet, Isaiah, echoes an exultant joy that should prompt us to be "confident and unafraid," "for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel." Paul likewise exhorts the Philippians—and us—to joy, to a kindness that should be evident to all, to prayer free from anxiety, serene and thankful.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

But then John the Baptist cries out on Jordan's bank: Repent! Prepare for a Messiah whose baptism "with the Holy Spirit and fire," unlike John's water baptism, will utterly transform its recipients. His winnowing fan will clear away the dead wood, bundling wheat and burning chaff in unquenchable fire. If this is going to be "good news" for us, then well might we, like the crowds, tax collectors, and soldiers who first heard John, ask "What should we do?" When John responds to the people then, and to us today, the answer, while supremely challenging, is almost surprisingly simple. Nobody is ordered to abandon the place in which their personal life's journey or the realities of a history beyond their control have put them. God saves us not despite or apart from our real-life circumstances but in them and through them. Our call now is to practical, generous charity: we are to share clothing and food; practice justice and professional and personal integrity; and be honest toward others and with ourselves. Such is the teaching of the Messiah that John heralded. © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

TODAY'S READINGS

Zep 3:14–18a | Is 12:2–3, 4, 5–6

Phil 4:4–7 | Lk 3:10–18

Readings also available on the
USCCB Website, www.usccb.org.

Or, visit www.stluketemplecity.org and click on
"Today's Readings" on the Homepage.

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Yvette Jefferys, Principal,
ext. 239, principal@stluketemplecity.org

MASS MINISTRIES

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Eucharistic Ministers to the Altar - *Nate Miranda, gunnername@yahoo.com*

Lectors - *Ella Andrews, Elle912@yahoo.com*

RCIA/Adult Sacrament Preparation -

Mary Lee Saporito (Please call the Pastoral Office)

Sacristans - *Sandy Munoz, sandymunoz@charter.net*

Ushers - *Robert Urquidi, muscat@prodigy.net*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - *Maria Garcia, (626) 684-2914*

Call 1-800-974-3571 for pick up of large/heavy donations.

VIRTUS REMINDER: If you have taken a VIRTUS class, a copy of the certificate needs to be turned in to the Pastoral Office so that your attendance is recorded. Classes are only good for four years. You must take a recertification class before the four years expire. *If you know that you are not current in VIRTUS, the Pastoral Office has a list of classes being held in the area.*



Subscribe: Parish E-bulletin!

Check Your Inbox! The Parish E-bulletin is a communications supplement to the Parish Bulletin and is sent to the e-mail address(s) in parishioners' registration records. To be added or removed from the list or to update your e-mail address on file, contact the Pastoral Office or e-mail bulletineditor@stluketemplecity.org.

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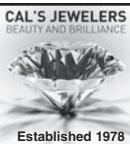
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