



SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST
Catholic Community
Temple City, CA

August 22, 2021 • Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Master, to whom
shall we go?

***You have
the words of
eternal life.***

John 6:68

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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.

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5605 Cloverly Ave., Temple City, CA 91780 • (626) 291-5900 • www.stluketemplecity.org

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)

Bulletin Content Submission Deadline

August 29 Bulletin:
Due Monday, Aug. 23

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

Please submit information by the
Monday before the publication date;
printed as space allows.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Bereavement Sessions Beginning

St. Luke Parish will offer a seven-week Bereavement Support Program for those who have lost someone dear. The program is open to all faiths, non-threatening, caring and very loving toward those who have suffered a loss.

The two-hour sessions will begin on **Thursday, Sept. 23**, and continue weekly at 7:00 pm on Thursdays through Nov. 4. Sessions will be held in the Parish Resource Center (located in the Rectory). The only cost involved is \$12.00 for the workbook. Please call the Pastoral Office at (626) 291-5900 to sign up or for additional information.

Mass Ministry Volunteers Needed

Have you considered how you can contribute to your St. Luke parish community? Here's your chance. We are in need of volunteers for all our Mass Ministries: Eucharistic Ministers to the Altar, Lectors, Sacristans, Ushers, and Altar Servers.

These ministries offer a wonderful way to volunteer and be a part of the Eucharistic experience. There is no extra time commitment outside your usual Mass attendance. Please prayerfully consider volunteering and call Kerrin at the Pastoral Office if you feel called to serve St. Luke.

NOTE: *Volunteers are required to be fingerprinted and be up to date with VIRTUS training.*

Confessions Schedule Reminder

Starting Sept. 4, Confessions will return to being held inside the church, 4:00-4:45 pm. Drive-thru Confessions will be held outdoors on Saturdays at 10:00 am through the month of August. Drive into the South Church Parking Lot from Cloverly Avenue.

Perpetual Help Novena

The weekly Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion has resumed. All are welcome to participate in this unique Novena that will take place on Tuesdays in the church following the 9:00 am Mass (**Updated day/location**).

Upcoming VIRTUS Class

The Protecting God's Children VIRTUS class will be offered **Monday, Sept. 13**, 6:00-9:00 pm in the Parish Main Hall. Please call the Pastoral Office at (626) 291-5900 to register.

All clergy, paid parish/school personnel and volunteers (including Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Lectors, Sacristans and Music Ministry members) who work regularly in a supervisory role with children or youth must be fingerprinted and VIRTUS trained. **The class is only open to St. Luke parishioners and school families at this time.**

Youth Ministry Paper Drive Fundraiser

The next Paper Drive Bin for recycled items will be on campus **Friday, Sept. 24** (6:00-8:00 pm) and **Saturday, Sept. 25-Sunday, Sept. 26** (8:00 am-7:00 pm) in the North Parking Lot. Newspapers, books, magazines and cardboard boxes are welcome. Questions? Contact Ivonne Melendrez at (626) 291-5900 ext. 232.

PARISH REOPENING UPDATES

- Everyone is required to wear a mask indoors on parish and school property.
- The 10:30 am Sunday Mass will continue to be live streamed (can be replayed).

Subject to change at any time.

VISIT WWW.STLUKETEMPLECITY.ORG FOR FULL UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

Scripture Reflection



Let Us Pray for a Deeper *Faith & Love* for *Jesus* in the *Holy Eucharist*

Many disciples of Jesus left Him, returned to their former way of life, and no longer followed Him because they could not accept His teachings when He said that He would give them His Body and Blood as Spiritual Food and Drink. They were scandalized at the fact that Jesus made such a radical claim that unless they eat His flesh and drink His blood, they would not have life in them.

They thought that Jesus was promoting cannibalism, which was against their religion. But Peter and the other Apostles believed in the words of Jesus even though they did not understand completely what He was saying.

They placed all their faith and trust in Him as the Messiah, as their Savior and Lord when Peter said: *“Master, to whom shall we go?” You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of God.”*

This is the kind of humble and trusting faith that we need if we are to recognize the supreme importance of Holy Communion to all of us.

Sadly, many Catholics, especially after the lockdown, have stayed away from the Eucharist. But even before the Pandemic many didn't think it is necessary for them to receive Jesus in Holy Communion regularly. Recent survey shows that only 25% of Americans who call themselves Catholic attend Mass regularly.

Worse, close to two-thirds of American Catholics say they don't believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist—and many of those are among the 25% who still attend Mass out of habit or because they still believe it is an obligation. They have lost faith

in eternal life. And they have lost faith in God. Because of that, they do not find hope, peace, and meaning in life.

Perhaps if we take Jesus' words and trust Him more like the Apostles, we will experience the manifold blessings that He gives us in Holy Communion. Then we will appreciate more the great privilege, honor, and blessing of receiving the Lord. The saints teach us how to approach Jesus in the Eucharist and in Holy Communion.

Saint Thomas Aquinas taught us that with the Holy Eucharist, all our five senses fail. Only faith can lift the veil and perceive the reality of Christ's real presence and His sacrifice. St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, with tears on his eyes would point to the Tabernacle during his many sermons and say to his congregation, “God is there. Jesus is there.”

When Padre Pio was asked how many blessings we receive when we go to Mass and Holy Communion, he responded by saying that we won't know until we die. Then we will see the superabundant blessings that we have missed because of our lack of proper disposition, respect, and reverence toward the Lord.

We would regret it for all eternity because we took many Masses for granted. That is why Padre Pio also said, “It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass.”

Let us pray for a deeper faith and love for Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. And just like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, may He make our hearts burn within us with deeper fervor and love for Him as we receive Him in Holy Communion.

-Fr. Robert

WATCH MASS FROM HOME

Sunday Mass from St. Luke

Visit www.stluketemplecity.org

Masses from the Cathedral

www.lacatholics.org/emergency

Daily: 8:00 am | Sunday: 10:00 am

9:00 am Sunday Mass

EWTN Catholic Network

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AT&T U-Verse - Channel 562

Time Warner Cable - Channel 167

KDOC Public Channel 50

PARISH HAPPENINGS



Marian EXHIBIT



Thank you to everyone, including Fr. Robert, who shared images of Mary and participated in the Living Rosary at the Marian Exhibit held in the Parish Hall last Sunday.



We Pray...

We continue to pray for the victims of Covid-19 who are healing and those who have passed. St. Luke held a Healing Service last Sunday, on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to honor those who have suffered during the pandemic. Parishioners had the opportunity to place a ribbon with the name of their loved ones who have passed on an image of Mary, Undoer of Knots.



PARISH STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Weekly Offering

As we navigate through these unprecedented times we appreciate your continued support with your weekly offering for our parish operations. Please know your contribution is vital to our mission as a church. We have a small budget and need to continue paying our bills. Contributions can be mailed to the Pastoral Office, dropped in the office mailbox, or contributed through our online giving program. Visit www.stluketemplecity.org for details. You can 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). *Thank you for your support!*

Collection to Support Those Affected by Haiti Earthquake

A special Second Collection will be taken up **NEXT WEEKEND, Aug. 28-29**, to support those who have been affected by the recent earthquake in Haiti. Last weekend the people of Haiti experienced a catastrophic earthquake, causing immense damage and substantial loss of life. The earthquake was followed by a major tropical storm, which added even further devastation.

The bishops of the United States, through the USCCB Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund, are asking for your financial support, so that we can respond as a unified Church and help those most in need. Please consider how you can help. *Checks can be made payable to "MISSION OFFICE."* Thank you for your generosity.



Religious Education

NEWS and NOTES

Registration for our 2021-2022 Religious Education Program is now open. Our programs include Preschool, Family Catechesis, and Youth/Adult Confirmation. The 2021-2022 Program Packet is available at www.stluketemplecity.org (under the Faith Formation tab).

Registration forms and the deposit are due to the Pastoral Office by **September 10, 2021**. A member of the Religious Education Office will contact you once the registration materials and deposit are received. God bless you and your family. Questions? Please contact Barbara Hansen, Director of Religious Education, at (626) 291-5900 Ext. 227 or (213) 948-3307, or Barbara@stluketemplecity.org.



RCIA Classes to Begin in September

For New Members of the Catholic Faith

St. Luke Parish welcomes new members into the Catholic Church as well as those who need to complete their Initiation Sacraments. This is done through a process of education, faith sharing, and rituals known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). This process includes several Rites that take place within the context of the Mass. Gatherings are provided to encourage conversion and an awakening of faith as we study the Gospel in light of Catholic tradition and dogma.

If you or anyone you know is interested in taking this journey with us to the Easter sacraments, please call the Pastoral Office at (626) 291-5900 for more information. These classes will begin **Wednesday, Sept. 29**, possibly virtually if restrictions are still in place due to the pandemic. Either through electronic means or in person, we look forward to meeting with you and taking this faith walk together.



Week of August 22, 2021

Saturday, August 21

5:30 pm Lorenzo Gilardi
Emilia & Modesto Torrijos

Sunday, August 22

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

8:30 am Rosa Losorelli
Julie Hynes

10:30 am Chito Sansano, Jr.-SI

Monday, August 23

9:00 am Jovita Ymson Rimando
Peter Nguyen
Dominic Nguyen

Tuesday, August 24

9:00 am Gisela Hernandez
Donald Mc Coppin

Wednesday, August 25

9:00 am Rudolph Rodriguez
Alex Hernandez

Thursday, August 26

9:00 am Ofelia A. Cruz

Friday, August 27

9:00 am Connie Fuller-SI

Saturday, August 28

5:30 pm Emile Masbrata

Sunday, August 29

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

8:30 am John Miali
Lou Cambiaso
Joseph Zenzola

10:30 am Barbara Cantu
John Dau-SI

LIFE, JUSTICE AND PEACE SPOTLIGHT

The Cross of Infertility

Lauren Allen and her husband had been married for a year and they struggled with infertility. Lauren's prayer to God was always to get pregnant and have a baby. However, God had something else in mind. "I was driving down the back roads, like I do sometimes when I'm upset or to think or pray. And I just heard God say to me, 'you're called to carry your cross, not pray that it goes away from you'. He was asking for me to create a resource that would put out valid Church teachings on different parts of infertility, and lead people towards holiness, and not towards anger."

As a result, in January 2021, Lauren Allen, a Catholic from Texas, launched The Fruitful Hollow, <https://www.thefruitfultollow.com/>, an online ministry for women with infertility.

The Fruitful Hollow is a place where women can connect, share their struggles and find comfort. The ministry runs a weekly blog post or an article on its website about topics related to infertility and spirituality, from a Catholic perspective, to help women on their journey. The Fruitful Hollow team has a particular devotion to St. Gianna Beretta Molla, the patron saint of infertility, and they look to scripture for stories of infertility. The website offers resources, including guides for journaling and information about patron saints of infertility. Another feature of the website is the Sisters of Hannah Ministry. The Sisters of Hannah are women who mentor other women with infertility. They are a listening ear, and they emotionally support and pray for women on their journey.

The website provides information about Church teaching on modern medical responses to infertility, such as in vitro fertilization. The site includes information about Creighton Model System (a particular method of Natural Family Planning) that can be used in conjunction with NaProTechnology (restorative reproductive healthcare) to treat fertility problems in a way that is completely natural and pro-life. "When you start to realize that you have a problem getting pregnant...a lot of the mainstream OB-GYNs, that's what they know, so it's unfortunately what they push," Lauren Allen said. "You have to really be educated in your Church teachings to know what's okay to do, and what's not. There's not a lot of education in the Catholic Church. Where would you find that unless you were searching for it? I don't think it's a well-known teaching."

Katie is editor of the Fruitful Hollow. She and her husband have been married for five years, and they have not been able to conceive. Katie said, "I think on such an isolating journey, community is key. I think that's one of the best things to have come out of The Fruitful Hollow, is just finding such a community of like-minded Catholic women and men who are struggling with the same questions, and this rollercoaster of an infertility journey, and how different it can look."

Lauren Allen said, "I want people to know...that the plan that we have for our lives is never the plan that God has. You are still called to be fruitful, even if it's not in the way that we think of when we often think of fruitfulness. We're called to be open to life, but even if you...never conceive, there's still a call to be fruitful and work towards holiness."

St. Gianna Beretta Molla, pray for us!

~St. Luke Life, Justice and Peace Ministry

• SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN • DID YOU KNOW...

Practice empathy at home to prevent bullying

No parent sets out to raise a bully, but children grow and develop into their own people as they go out into the world — and it starts at home. One way to help your child foster healthy, kind relationships is to work on building good habits at home. Reward kindness and empathy when you see it.

Comment on instances of sharing, of kindness, of pride. Help your child understand what it means to empathize with someone else, or to be kind in

different situations. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS® article "Parents: how not to raise a bully, the ten things you must know. Part Two," at <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

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AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSEHOLD, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD. JOSHUA 24:15

WHOM SHOULD WE FOLLOW?

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse in John. After Jesus' continued insistence that he is the Bread of Life come down from heaven, and that his words are "Spirit and life," most of his disciples drift away. The Twelve, however, affirm their faith in Jesus, whom Simon Peter professes to "have the words of eternal life." In the first reading, Joshua and the Israelites are preparing to enter the Promised Land, and Joshua asks the people to decide which god they will follow, the LORD their God, or the gods of neighboring peoples. The Responsorial Psalm features Psalm 34, the "taste and see" psalm, that reflects the kinds of struggles the Israelites faced during their sojourn in the wilderness. In the second reading, Paul gives counsel for maintaining domestic peace and happiness.

CROSSROADS IN LIFE, THEN AND NOW

Sometimes in life we find ourselves at a crossroads, faced with an existential choice that will alter the course of our life. We are aware, at these moments, just how significant our choice will be and that there will be no going back.

In both the first reading and the Gospel we see such moments calling people to make such choices. Which god will the Israelites follow? Joshua, their leader after Moses, knows that the area around the Promised Land is occupied by other peoples, with other gods. Perhaps remembering how, after Moses had gone up Mount Sinai, the Israelites set up a golden calf to worship, Joshua worries that they may again be susceptible to such attractions. He is asking them for a commitment, and proclaims, "As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

CAN WE STAY WITH JESUS?

The people who were frenetically following Jesus, crossing the lake twice to pursue him, eating the bread he miraculously provided, are now puzzled by Jesus proclaiming himself as "the bread of life," and they are incredulous. They can go with him no farther, so they gradually drift away. The Twelve, however, stay with Jesus. What else could they do? Who else offers such a profound vision of human life? Peter expresses it well: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Not all of our life's crossroads involve our faith, but some do. Perhaps there is someone in your parish who chose to become Catholic and is now alienated from their family; someone who is unhappy with a new pastor and wondering about looking for a different parish; someone who was especially distressed by the clergy sex abuse and prayed long and hard before deciding that she needed her parish to get through it. There may be many in your parish facing such choices, and they need our support and our prayers. In the meantime, we can hope that someday they will again experience Jesus as the Holy One of God, offering them words of eternal life.

TODAY'S READINGS

Joshua 24:1–2a, 15–17, 18b
Psalm 34:2–3, 16–17, 18–19, 20–21
Ephesians 5:21–32 [2a, 25–32]
John 6:60–69

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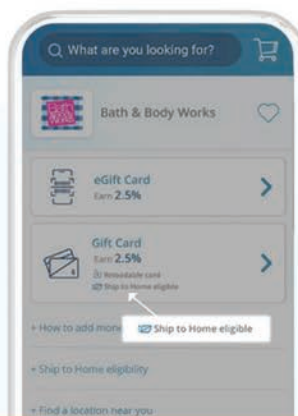
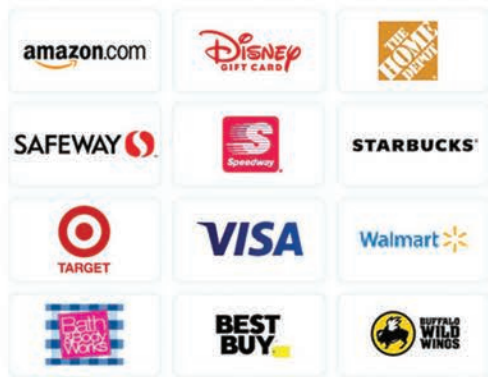
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MASS MINISTRIES

Altar Server Committee - *Tiffany Carmona*, miss.desy.4@gmail.com

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

Lectors - *Please call the Pastoral Office*

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.

Visit the Parish Website (www.stluketemplecity.org) for information about all parish ministries and organizations.

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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