

# ST. LUKE

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1674 OLD FREEHOLD ROAD • TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08755

**Parish Office:** 732-286-2222   **Religious Education Office:** 732-505-0108   **Parish Fax:** 732-914-1080   **Web:** [stlukestomsriver.org](http://stlukestomsriver.org)

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Fridays, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (*Religious Ed. office closed Fridays*)



**Rev. Michael Kennedy**  
PASTOR

**Deacon**  
Joseph DeMaria, Jr.

### PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS | PEACE PRAYER

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy;*

*O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much  
seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.*

*For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

# Welcome



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 28, 2024 -

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil**-----4:00 pm  
**Sunday** ----- 7:30, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**-----7:30 am  
**Wednesday & Friday** ----- 7:30 & 11:00 am  
**Holy Days & Holidays**-----As announced

### SACRAMENTS

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Baptisms are held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 1:30 pm. Please contact the Parish Office for requirements and scheduling.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Couples must contact the Pastor at least one year prior to the desired date and before making other arrangements. Either the bride or groom must be a registered member of St. Luke.

**Anointing of the Sick & Communion to the Homebound:** Can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office. Please do not wait until the last moment.

### PARISH MEMBERSHIP

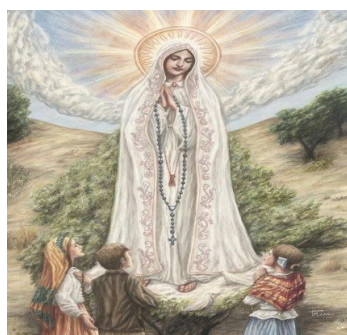
Welcome! Every Catholic should be registered in the Parish, become active in the life of St. Luke Parish by sharing time, talent and treasure, and be known to one of the parish priests. Letters of testimony for godparents and sponsors will not be given unless one is registered. When moving, please notify the Parish Office.

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE ~ January 29th-February 4th

| <u>Day</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Intention</u>   | <u>Requested By</u>          |
|------------|-------------|--|------------------------------|
| Mon.       | 7:30 AM     | Gloria Abate   | Larry Abate                  |
| Tue.       | 7:30 AM     | Joan F. Arcieri~Birthday   | Arcieri Family               |
| Wed.       | 7:30 AM     | Parents whose children suffer from any kind of illness                           |                              |
|            | 11:00 AM    | Laura & Al Denaro~65th Wedding Anniversary                                       | Family                       |
|            |             | Pascuala, Victor & Vicente   | Julie                        |
| Thu.       | 7:30AM      | Adoracion Cruz-40 day Anniversary  | Victoria San Augustin        |
| Fri.       | 7:30 AM     | To so deeply receive Jesus as our light that we become light to those around us. |                              |
|            | 11:00 AM    | Nicholas & Lydia Cutillo   | Son, Nick                    |
| Sat.       | 4:00 PM     | Mary & William Radecky   | The Radecky & Bogucki Family |
|            |             | Deceased Members of the Reis Family  | Maria & Alice Rodrigues      |
| Sun.       | 7:30 AM     | Bill Pallito   | Wife, Kaye Pallito           |
|            |             | St. Luke Family  |                              |
|            | 10:00 AM    | Walter McInerney   | Family                       |
|            |             | Baio & Castina Family  | Grace Baio                   |
|            | 12:00 PM    | Lois James   | LoAnn & Raymond Mayer        |
|            |             | Janina Basich  | The Basich family            |



**The Sacrament of  
Reconciliation/Confession  
is celebrated each Saturday  
from 11:00 am-12:00 pm**



### **FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

**February 4th  
12:30 pm**

**The Rosary with  
Adoration and  
Benediction**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

**February 14, 2024**

**Mass with Ashes:  
7:30 am & 11:00 am**

**Service with Ashes:  
4:15 pm & 6:00 pm**

**Evening Prayer with Adoration at 7:00 pm**

### **PRAY FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED** **Margaret Giordano      Margaret Wagner** **Audrey Gaeta**

#### **Pray for the Sick**

Greuter Family, John Kempton, Simon Amato, Joseph Alphonse Weikel (child), Pat La Rocca, Claire Hansen, Carol D'Oriano, Kathy Maddox, Daniel Jones, John Scilla, Dolores Torre, Den. Lou Cartnick, Diana Santangelo (infant), George Sullivan, Anthony Aubain, Lou La Rocca, Hope Smith, Meg Smith, Mark Mc Afee, Linda Pysniak, Meghan Stahl, Danielle Bolcato, Carolyn Scalia, Jacqueline Henderson, Elizabeth Boyett, Pat Napolitano, Jaxson Zollo (infant), Doug Campbell, Maryann Molner, Michelle Urso, Marge Fusco, Elizabeth Yabroudy, John Mauro, Frank Ferraiuolo, Gene Hermansen, Maureen Keelen, Lisa Colavito (child), David Mazzei, Marianne Mazzei, Walter Johnson, Christine Halstead, Robert Beach, John Sublett, John Barnes, Sophia (infant), Diane Caprio, Matthew Mizeur, Gary Brennan, Anthony Somma, Norbert Bozek, Elizabeth Turtle, Leonila Dionisio, Kenneth O'Brien, Catherine Garon, Hannah McAbee, Antoinette Pirro, Jean Kenny, Irene Nolan, Maryanna Pontorelli, Christopher Bender, Garrett Michael Cotgreave (infant), Anthony Mazzeo, Evon Sardaros, Bishop David M. O'Connell, Lori Mancini, Kelly Amato, Rita La Vallee, Jeremy Lofreddo, Lauren, Darlene Andersen, Lynda Petereit, Mr. Pace, Joseph Salvatore, Michelina Giuliano, Andy Mattox, Kathy Hogan, Mary, Terry Georgaros, Brian Redmond, David Schroth, Molly Gill, David Santangelo, Emelina Sergentakis, Richard Hennessy, Carissa Kuhl, Lillian Vonderosten, Emily, Karen, Denise Homsany, Sandy Wotanowski, Anna, David Truex, Mary Blackford, Rose Capizzi, Connor Montgomery, Frank Garon, Helen McDonough, Matthew Howell, Jennifer Rosenblum, Harry Graham, Margaret Graham, Elizabeth Kenul, Justine, Claire Warren, John O'Leary, Millie Reo, Bill Coles, Helen Donald, Carl Galanti, Brian Francis Neece, Rita DiCanio, John Galioto, Rosemarie, Jennifer Cicero, Kathleen La Pointe, Helen Miller, Alice Belanger, Anthony Pietrangelo, Sofia Garcia (Infant), Christopher Kinlon, Paul, Nick, John Jr., Marilyn, Melissa, Jaime, Giovanni Stephen Barone (infant), John O'Gden, Anne Donahue, Mark DeBoe, JoAnn Nahirmy, Shannon Keaby, Willie Torres, Bill Goble, Bonnie Napolitano, Pope Francis, Carlos Pina, Julia Petruzzi, Maryann Christian, Sr. Margaret Nulty, Jerry Santangelo, Kevin Sloan, Consuelo Chaustre Smith, Jim Sorenson, Dee Marszalek, Helen Norris, Kevin Parker, Linda Schillari, John McLoughlin, Karen MacCarrick, Michelle Maher, Anne Latona, Carol King, Gianna Grace-newborn and her Mom Julianne, Louis Fasan, Kay Donnelly and her unborn child, Donald Boe, Ginny Yehle, Kevin Hamilton, Lorraine Farrugia, Evelyn Macho, Patrick McCarthy, Joanne Hall, Andrew Padulano, Richard Pante, Ida Donnelly, Chris Tiburion, Patricia Sheehan, Frank Jasinski, Laura Mannarino, Daniel White, Judith Lopez, Dr. Julio Rivera, and John MaryRose Palladino & Joe Quartararo, all in need of prayer-especially our society.

### The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time **February 4, 2024**

**1st Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7**

**2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23**

**Gospel: Mark 1:29-39**

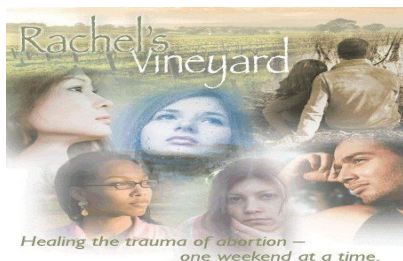
Readings may be found at: <http://www.usccb.org/nab/>

## FROM FR. MICHAEL...

Since the pandemic, people have become very concerned about cleanliness. Although Americans have long been germaphobes, it seems a more pronounced concern than it was years ago. With all the fear surrounding contagions, to some extent this concern is understandable and in certain circumstances commendable. However, it is interesting that among Catholics— as we have witnessed a steep rise in the virus of secularism even within our ranks— there hasn't been a similar concern with interior, spiritual cleanliness. At least not as obvious and on as large a scale.

In today's gospel, Jesus performs an exorcism. With a mere sentence, the demon is compelled to leave the man. One detail that always stands out in my mind is that the demon isn't called a demon. It's called an "unclean spirit." The note in the NABRE Bible says, "so called because of the spirit's resistance to the holiness of God." To be spiritually unclean is to resist the holiness of God. But one look at our popular culture and we can see that this resistance is celebrated.

At the end of the book of Revelation, we see the New Jerusalem where God will make His dwelling with humanity (Rev. 21:3). It is one of the most beautiful passages in Scripture. But as we see the nations entering in through the doors that are never closed, there is a chilling note. St. John tells us, "but nothing unclean will ever enter it [the New Jerusalem] (21:27). How could it, if to be unclean means to resist God? Only those whose names are in the book of the Lamb, who have been washed in the Lamb's blood and made clean, will enter. In these weeks approaching Lent, it might do us some good to examine our lives. Perhaps we should ask ourselves, "In what ways, small or large, do I resist God?" We can then bring that to confession and ask God to remove it from us, make us clean, and begin anew.




### Healing the Wounds of Abortion

If you have suffered through an abortion and have isolated yourself from healing and forgiveness, you might consider attending one of our retreat weekends. For more information, contact Judy Warren-Kiewicz at 732-536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

2024 Weekend Retreats

February 16-18, 2024

November 15-17, 2024

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SK Ray Gabbia, PGK  
Chairperson, God's Special People Program  
@732-604-3962

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### St. Patrick's/St. Joseph Celebration

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

**2 pm- 6 pm**

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**\$30.00-Adults Ages: 13-17 \$15.00 Ages: 12 & Under Free**

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Carrots, Penne Vodka, House Salad w/Dressing

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*Tickets available at the parish office call ahead: 732-270-3980,  
and after all Masses during the month of February.*





## To Become an Altar Server

Please speak with

**Fr. Michael after Mass**  
or call

**Kathleen**  
in the Parish Office  
at 732-286-2222

### SERVICE MEETINGS:

Adler Aphasia Community Groups, 9:30am-11:30pm and 12:00pm-2:00pm, 1st & 3rd Fridays, in Augustine Room.  
A.A. Saturdays, 10:00 am-2nd Floor.  
A.A. for Women, Sundays, 10:00AM in Parish Center. For more info Call Linda at 732-824-8021.  
A.A. Sundays, 7:00PM in the Parish Center.  
A.A. for Men, Sundays, 8:30AM-9:30AM-2nd Floor.  
A.A. Mondays 7:00PM, "Sacrifice Group", in Parish Center.  
A.A. Tuesdays, 7:00PM, 2nd Floor  
A.A. Tuesdays, 8:00PM, in the Parish Center. (Open Mtg) For more info call Jim at 732-552-8865.  
A.A. Wednesdays, 6:00PM, in Parish Center.  
A.A. Sunrise, Everyday, 7:00 am in Parish Center.  
A.A. Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 12:00 pm, 2nd Floor  
Al-Anon Mondays, 11:00AM regular & beginners meeting, in Parish Center, Info, call Pat M. 732-657-8022.  
Al-Anon Thursdays, 7:30PM, in Parish Center. For info, call Peggy Ell at 732-240-3316.  
Al-Anon Sundays, 7:00 pm in Madonna Room.  
Parent Al-Anon Fridays, 7:00PM, in Parish Center. For more information, call Sue at 848-448-4348.  
Al-Anon Saturdays, 9:30 am in Augustine Room  
Al Anon Sundays, 7:00 pm in the Madonna Room  
G.A. Saturdays, 9:30AM-11:30AM in Parish Center  
G.A. Sundays, 5:45PM, in Madonna Room. (Open Mtg)  
G.A. Tuesdays, 12:30 PM, in Augustine Room  
Compassionate Friends, 7:00PM, 1st Tuesday each month in Augustine Room; support for those grieving death of a child.

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for Weekend Liturgies, Homebound Nursing Homes Needed

We are asking you to prayerfully consider sharing your love of Jesus in the Eucharist, with your parish family, at Mass or in visiting those unable to attend Mass but hungering for the Eucharist. We can only do this with your help and support.

Call 848-226-6218

Training sessions are being formed.



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Bless!*

**Interested in joining?**

**Please call**

**732-244-3916**

**or email:**

**[gemmabrennan2016@gmail.com](mailto:gemmabrennan2016@gmail.com)**

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ONE, LIVING OR DECEASED, WITH A PAVER IN THE  
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**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A  
LECTOR AT OUR WEEKEND OR  
WEEKDAY MASSES?**

**CONTACT 848-226-6218  
Training Sessions are forming**

### IF YOU CAN CLICK A MOUSE....

Our AV Ministry (the folks who make our worship screens run with the click of a mouse!) is seeking additional members for our ministry.

We will train you.

If interested please call the Ministry hotline at  
848-226-6218  
or stop by the AV table by the Choir.





# Religious Education News



## QUESTIONS?

Miss Lisa Ann Limongello

Email: [lalimongello@stlukestromsriver.org](mailto:lalimongello@stlukestromsriver.org)

Rel. Ed. classes begin week of 9/25

### Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

On the Jewish Sabbath (which lasts from sunset on Friday until the stars appear the following evening) the Torah is read to the people from scrolls made from animal skins stitched together to form a long, continuous writing surface (an average scroll is about 60 meters long!). The Hebrew word 'Torah' means something like 'teaching' or 'guide for living'. Amongst other things the Torah scrolls are the holiest objects in the synagogue, and are treated like the living presence of God among his people.

**What was the name of the town where Jesus was staying?** Capernaum is a village on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus spent much of his time preaching there, and it is believed to have been the home of many of his disciples, notably Simon Peter.

**Where did Jesus go on the Sabbath?** The synagogue is the name given to a Jewish house of worship where Jewish people gather to worship God and celebrate various events together.

**What did Jesus do there?** The Jewish service (which takes place three times a day) includes a reading of the Law from the Torah, followed by a sermon. Any believer was allowed to preach, but usually it was the scribes and Pharisees who did this. The people there were more than a little surprised when Jesus of Nazareth, a simple carpenter's son, began to preach.

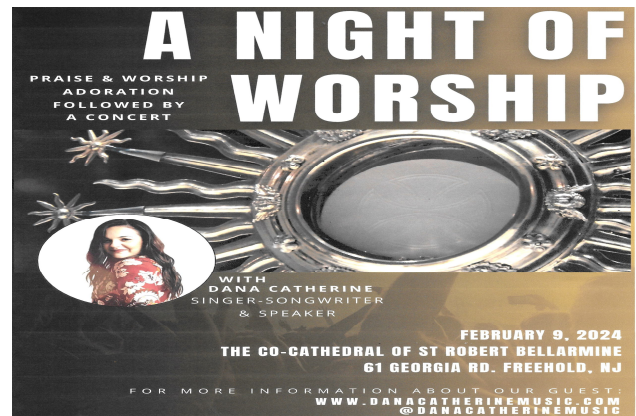
**Compared to the scribes and Pharisees, what was so different about the way Jesus preached?** As God's beloved Son, Jesus could speak about his heavenly Father in a way that no one else could. No one can know the Father except through the Son, and Jesus had come into the world so that people could know and love God more. The people in the synagogue that day were amazed when they heard Jesus talk about the Scriptures and explain them in a way that was so very different to anything they had heard before.

**Who interrupted Jesus as he was preaching?** A man began shouting at Jesus. If you imagine someone jumping up and shouting at the priest as he is preaching his sermon during Mass, then you can picture the scene and how frightened people must have felt.

**What did Jesus do?** Jesus was not angry and did not panic. In a firm voice he ordered the spirit troubling the man to be quiet and leave him in peace, and that's just what it did!

**How did the other people in the synagogue react?** They had been surprised to hear Jesus preaching, but they must have been even more amazed when they caught a glimpse of his power. Without being sure exactly who Jesus was, the people worshipping in the synagogue couldn't wait to tell others what they had seen.

**Loving Father,  
unite us in love and fill us with your life  
to share with the world today and every day.  
We ask this through Jesus your Son.  
Amen.**



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