

SAINT LUKE AND SAINT BERNARDINE PARISH

November 28, 2021 • First Sunday of Advent



Be vigilant at
all times and pray
that you have the
strength to escape
the tribulations
that are imminent
and to stand
before the
Son of Man.

~Luke 21:36

we come to Advent with modest hopes this year
shaken by public lies wars and insurrection
local cynicism private despair
we come pandemic edgy, mask weary
helpless yet feeling responsible
to keep church state and earth itself
glued together
we come to Advent disunited, shrill
our complaints tedious
even to ourselves
Advent arrives, not a moment too soon
a chance to slow and simplify
extinguish noise, listen more attentively
focus on essentials, reassert priorities
engage in quiet conversation
open our hearts to the poor
we fix the wreath
light one candle
remembering the promise
made in centuries past
and yesterday
of divine presence love and care
just one candle, but enough
if we are vigilant
to discover signs of something new
something holy
in the darkness

E.M. Jeep

Saint Bernardine Campus

7246 W. Harrison Street, Forest Park, IL 60130

708-366-0839

st.bernardinechurch@gmail.com

Website: stbernardineforestpark.org

Facebook and Twitter #IAMSaintBernardine

St. Luke Campus

528 Lathrop, River Forest, IL 60305

708-435-8912

stlukeparish@stlukeparish.org

Website: stlukeparish.org

Parish Organizations

Please join one of your organizations:

ALTAR SERVERS: Kelly Carlson, (708) 435-8922
 BAPTISM CLASS: Helen Kreidermacher, (708) 771-3567
 BOOK CLUB: Lin Beribak, (312) 882-3386
 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Kevin Hibbitts, (708) 488-1075
 EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Julie Doloszycki
 (708) 366-4382
 FIL-AM PARISHIONERS: Lenny Acosta-Fiad,
 (708) 771-6327
 FINANCE COUNCIL: Michael O'Brien, (708) 366-2898
 HOSPITALITY: Kathy Capron Jankun, (773) 882-1605
 ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION: Al Cimino,
 (708) 345-4173
 KINGDOM RETREAT: Jim Murray, (708) 366-8427
 LECTORS: Mary Beth Beal, (708) 366-7567
 LITURGY COMMITTEE: Fr. Stan, (708) 366-0839
 MUSIC MINISTRY: Jurate Lukminas, (708) 257-0645
 PARISH COUNCIL: Julie Doloszycki, (708) 366-4382
 PRAY & PLAY: Kathy Capron Jankun, (773) 882-1605
 PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:
 Helen Kreidermacher, (708) 771-3567
 R.C.I.A.: Donna Gawlas, (708) 373-1172;
 Bob Slobig (312) 804-0513
 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
 RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE: Leslie Huzyk,
 (708) 366-7441
 ST. VINCENT DePAUL: Jim Murray, (708) 366-8427
 SPRED:
 USHER:
 WOMEN'S CLUB: Lisa Gill, (708) 243-1065
 YOUTH GROUP: Kathy Capron Jankun, (773) 882-1605

Staff Directory

Rev. Stanislaw Kuca, Pastor
 skucastbern@gmail.com435-8912
 Rev. Edward Fialkowski, Associate Pastor
 efialkowski@stlukeparish.org435-8919
 Rev. Krzysztof Swierczynski (Resident)
 Rev. Leroy Wickowski (Retired)
 lwickowski@stlukeparish.org 435-8917
 Rev. Mr. John Baier
 johnarthurbaier@gmail.com 630-655-0088
 Rev. Mr. Terry Norton
 reneeterrynorton@gmail.com771-6635
 Rev. Mr. Lendell Richardson
 Rev. Mr. Bob Slobig
 bobslobig@comcast.net312-804-0513

Parish Staff

Director of Operations (vacant)
 stlukeparish@stlukeparish.org 435-8912
 Della DeSonia, Bookkeeper
 ddesonia@gmail.com 435-8921
 Carol Karlowski, Office Assistant
 ckarlowski@stlukeparish.org 435-8912
 Sheila Price, Director of Stewardship & Development
 sprice@stlukeparish.org 435-8927
 Kelly Carlson, Coordinator of Ministries
 kcarlson@stlukeparish.org 435-8922
 Colleen Ortega, Director of Music
 cortega@stlukeparish.org 435-8914
 Jurate Lukminas, Music Coordinator
 Bradley Collins, Communications Coordinator
 bcollins@stlukeparish.org 435-8910

St. Luke School

519 Ashland Avenue, River Forest 60305366-8587
 Andrew DiMarco, Principal..... adimarco@stlukeparish.org
 Sue Connolly, Administrative Assistant
 sconolly@stlukeparish.org

Religious Education

519 Ashland Avenue, River Forest 60305-1824
 Michelle Dal Pino, Religious Education Coordinator
 mdalpino@stlukeparish.org 435-8960

Hospitality House

533 Ashland Avenue, River Forest

Emergency Calls after office hours: 708-771-8250

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point when Lent doesn't have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent

calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to think of those things with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — “advent” — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, “so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and [the coming of the Lord] catches you unexpectedly, like a trap.”

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger to receive him?

Traditionally we have ordered an Advent and Christmas booklet titled “The Little Blue Book.” It invites us to offer six minutes a day to reflect on the Scripture during the Advent and Christmas seasons. It is an “easy to do” challenge. Let us take a chance and try this challenge. Please feel free to take one booklet per family.

St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish is blessed to have three RCIA participants. This year we have one catechumen to be baptized, Denise Iturbide. We also have Kara Lappe and Johanna Montoya, who are baptized and seeking to complete their initiation. At the beginning of the 11:00 am Mass

next weekend, we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance for them. Please keep our RCIA program and our catechumens in your prayers.

Last weekend was our Game Day event and everyone who came had a great time! Though we cannot always guarantee a Bears win, it is still fun to watch the game on large-screen televisions while enjoying good food and libations with family and friends. Thank you to the Game Day committee who devoted their time and talents to this day possible.

Turkey Sunday was another great success! While all of the numbers are not in, I am grateful for all those who donated to make this day possible for the benefit of many individuals and families who otherwise would have had a very impoverished Thanksgiving.

Next weekend we will enter into the next phase of unification for our Sunday bulletin with one publication for both worship sites. This is just an interim change resulting from our parish's move from two publishing companies to one, which is more efficient for us. Parishioners attending Mass at St. Bernardine will be especially delighted to see the full color throughout the entire

bulletin. The bulletin design is temporary as we are working on a whole new look that we will see before the end of 2021.

The Advent wreath has been blessed and we have started the journey towards Christmas. May God bless all of us in this holy season.

Fr. Stan



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FIRST Sunday OF *Advent*

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars.
When these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.

Luke 21:25, 28

A NEW BEGINNING

Today, whether at evening, morning, or midday, in many communities of different churches around the world, the first candle lighted in each Advent wreath silently but beautifully announces the beginning of a new liturgical year. This new beginning presents a grace-filled opportunity for us to resolve to live not simply according to the secular calendar of our commercialized society, but according to the spirit of the liturgy. There's nothing wrong—indeed there can be something quite holy—about planning to celebrate God's surprising gift of the Son by surprising our loved ones with thoughtful gifts at Christmas. But how important, amid the rush of holiday preparations, to take the time and to make the effort to appreciate Advent's early twilights and later sunrises, awash in the purples, deep blues, and even the dusky rose colors we associate with Advent. Thus we let nature's own "Advent" prompt reflections on the "Advent" that Jeremiah saw coming.

IMAGES OF THE END-TIMES

How forcefully today's scriptures challenge us to attend to the ominous nature of the Kingdom's definitive in-breaking! The call echoes through Jeremiah's prophecy: "In those days, in that time" and in Paul's letter: "at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen." The theme intensifies toward a crescendo in Luke: "there will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth . . . dismay and perplexity." People will be scared to death—literally—"in anticipation of what is coming upon the world," as "seas and waves roar" and "the powers of heaven will be shaken." And all of this will be just a prelude to "the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." In the face of this "awful" (that is, filled-with-awe) ending, Jesus warns his disciples to guard against two equally debilitating extremes, both of which seem to be trademarks of our contemporary culture: deadening diversion on one hand, and frantic anxiety on the other.

PREPARATION FOR THE END-TIMES

In light of these predictions of frightening end-times, Jesus advises us to embrace his three-fold "Preparation for the End Program": (1) "Beware!" that is, be aware of what really matters, life's true priorities. (2) "Be vigilant at all times," that is, watchful for Christ's coming not only at the end but in the meantime, in family and neighbor, friend and stranger. (3) Above all, "pray." Prayer, communion with God, will help us to remember that for faithful disciples, The End of this world—or our own lives, whichever comes first—will be The Beginning of a joy no one can take from us, fullness of life that will never end. How lovely if this Advent's renewal prepared us to look forward to the moment of Jesus' coming—in his glory or our death—not as a cataclysmic disaster, but as a reason for which to "stand erect and raise (our) heads (in joyful expectation) because (our) redemption is at hand."

TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 33:14–16
Psalm 25:4–5, 8–9, 10, 14
1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2
Luke 21:25–28, 34–36

Be a secret Santa with our Giving Tree

This year the parish will be doing a unified Giving Tree to benefit Afghan refugees being resettled in Chicago by Catholic Charities.

On the weekend of December 4-5, trees at both worship sites will be adorned with ornament tags labeled with suggested gifts. Please take an ornament off the tree and purchase the item you have chosen and bring it to any Mass on the weekend of December 11-12 so we can deliver the gifts to Catholic Charities in time for Christmas.

Catholic Charities currently has 38 Afghan refugee families, and more are expected to be resettled in Chicago in the near future. Catholic Charities already has apartments and household goods for the refugees but needs certain additional items to help these families begin a new life for themselves here in Chicago.

The families will need to shop for personal items and take public transportation to anywhere where they need to go, such as job interviews. Thus, Catholic Charities is asking for gift cards for stores like Target, Walmart, Marshalls, Jewel Osco, and Aldi, which are all located in the

neighborhoods where these newcomers will live.

Please purchase cards in the amount of \$25, \$50, or \$100, and know that a Catholic Charities representative will accompany the refugees to these stores to help them shop.

Ventra cards are needed so they can use public transportation. Ventra cards can be obtained at Jewel for a minimum \$5 amount. The cards can also be purchased from vending machines at the CTA's Harlem or Des Plaines stations by using a credit card or cash.

Rolls of quarters are also needed for the refugees to do their laundry in laundromats or in their apartment buildings, most of which require quarters to use the washers and dryers.

Finally, Catholic Charities has requested underwear for adults, men and women, and for children ages 3 and up. A variety of sizes and types are appreciated. There is no need, at this time, for school supplies or diapers.

Thank you in advance for your always tremendous generosity.

~The Giving Tree
Planning Committee



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Volunteers needed to light our churches' Advent Candles

We hope everyone has an Advent Wreath at home since they make a wonderful tool to help guide our prayers through this new liturgical season. It's also a wonderful way to start our Sunday Mass each weekend, so we are again inviting families — or individuals who would like to do this together — to take a turn lighting the candles on the Advent Wreath at the start of Mass at both worship sites.

Use this short link to the SignUpGenius page to sign up for a time at either church.

<https://tinyurl.com/2021adventsignup>

You will find more details and directions are on the SignUpGenius page.

Advent guide for your spiritual life

The Little Blue Book of Advent reflections is back by popular acclaim this year. It's the perfect size to keep handy in your purse or briefcase so you can take advantage of "down times" when you're waiting at the doctor's office or riding on the train. It only takes a few minutes to read the meditation for each feast day and to reflect on its meaning for your life. Or share it with your family at dinnertime during Advent and the 15 days of Christmas season.

Also be sure to take a look at our parish website for links to additional resources ranging from online Advent calendars and seasonal prayers to videos and instructional articles for you and any children you may have at home.

Sewing group to meet this Friday

The SL/SB Stitches Group will meet this Friday, December 3, at 12:30 pm at St. Bernardine's rectory. The group is open to anyone interested in any kind of needlework, although this month's meeting will feature a tour of St. Bernardine Church and school building/parish hall.

If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Maloney at elizabethwmaloney@gmail.com or call her at 630-795-9088.

Women's Club Christmas party

RSVPs are due today (Sunday) for the Women's Club Christmas Party that will be held on Thursday, December 2, at 6:30 pm in Fearon Hall. All women in St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish are invited to attend.

This festive evening will feature raffles for fun prizes, a wine and cheese happy hour, and a buffet-style dinner catered by Salerno's. The OPRF High School Show Choir will perform Christmas classics to get everyone in the holiday spirit.

The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations can be made by dropping payment in an envelope with your name in the collection basket. For more information, please contact Kathy Rush at 708-404-8481.

Learn about pivotal abortion case

The U.S. Supreme Court has the opportunity to overturn *Roe v. Wade* on December 1 when the court hears oral arguments for the *Dobbs v. Jackson* case.

If you are interested in listening to the oral arguments live, join the Illinois Right to Life organization and a group of experts for a morning listening session at the Chicago Union League Club. The session and panel discussion is being held in conjunction with The Thomas More Society and Notre Dame University's de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture.

The organization also is hosting an evening reception to recap the day in court with food, drinks, and an informative presentation on the *Dobbs v. Jackson* hearing.

Tickets are available now, and space is limited! Reserve a place now for \$25 per session at illinoisrighttolife.org/dobbs-event/.

Wreath Sale pickup day on Saturday

All those who pre-ordered a Christmas Wreath from our parish Respect Life Committee are reminded to pick up your greenery next Saturday, December 4, between 10:00 am and Noon in the St. Luke parking lot, which is just north of the church/school (enter from Ashland Avenue).

The committee members thank all those who contributed to this year's fund-raiser for pro-life activities in our community.



Save the Date for our Annual Breakfast with Santa!

Sunday, December 12

St. Luke's Waldron Hall - After the 9:30 Mass

Pancakes & Sausage, Coffee, Juice and Breakfast Treats will be served.

Direct any questions regarding the event or volunteer opportunities to Ben Keith at lukesmensclub@gmail.com.

Advent prayer service in Oak Park

"The people who were sitting in darkness saw a great Light, and those who were sitting in the land and shadow of death, upon them a Light dawned."

~Matthew 4:16

Everyone is invited to a four-week Advent prayer series which will start this week at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church, 38 N. Austin Boulevard in Oak Park. Shelby Boblick will lead the series entitled "Looking for Light in the Darkness" on Mondays, November 29 through December 20.

Shelby will offer a daytime series at 1:00 pm and then a repeat at 7:30 pm in the church. Please enter through the doors on Austin Boulevard.



Can you assist a hopeful student in need?

Dear Parishioners,

We share with you the following message that is a touching testimonial of the power we have to enrich the lives of each other in our community and the deep gratitude felt by those who benefit:

“As COVID continues to put a strain on our financial stability, we are so thankful for The Tuition Assistance Fund which has allowed us to continue to educate our children at St. Luke School. It was hard to expect that we needed a help up but when we thought of the excellent education our children would not receive, we decided to reach out for help. We are so grateful for your generosity that will have a lasting impact in the lives of our children. Thank You for your Help and God Bless You.”

Last year, generous donations to the **Tuition Assistance Fund** helped 48 students to attend St. Luke School. This year, more students are in need, including the students mentioned above. Your gift to this fund makes a life-long impact in the lives of our students, just as the time, talent, and treasure that you share with our parish enrich the lives of many more individuals and families in our community.

Each year the need for tuition assistance is even greater. **Through the generosity of people like you, St. Luke School is able to offer about 18% of our present student body some form of tuition assistance, amounting to over \$162,000 each year.**

We are writing to you asking for your generous support again of the St. Luke School Tuition Assistance Fund which benefits families who need it, are worthy to receive it and deeply desire the kind of education we offer. These families value the fine Catholic education offered at St. Luke. **If you or anyone you know has the means to support this fund, can you assist us?**

If you can help, please send your tax-deductible check to our business office at the rectory and be sure to include ‘**St. Luke Tuition Assistance Fund**’ on the memo line. If you would like to show your support by making an online donation, please use this link:

<https://slsrf.ejoinme.org/tuitionassistancefund>

Thank you so much! Let us keep in our prayers all who are experiencing financial hardship at this time and be assured of our prayers for you.

In gratitude,

Rev. Stan Kuca, Pastor, and Andrew DiMarco, Principal



**St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish
St. Luke School**

MASSSES for the WEEK

November 28-December 5

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St. Bernardine Church

Sunday, November 28

- 8:00 am † Celeste Arnold
 † Carolyn Brown
 † Maria Viude De Aedo
 † Rosendo Aedo Casaverde
 † Rosa Elena Aedo
 † Roseando Antonia Aedo

Monday, November 29

- 8:30 am The People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish

Tuesday, November 30

- 8:30 am † Ernest Dost

Wednesday, December 1

- 6:30 am Open intention

Thursday, December 2

- 6:30 am Open intention

Saturday, December 4

- 5:00 pm Open intention

Sunday, December 5

- 8:00 am † Carolyn Brown
 † Joseph G. Pierette
 † Adriana Olivares Aparicio
 † Alex Thomas
 † Ashley Thomas Aedo
 † Doris Thomas

St. Luke Church

Sunday, November 28

- 9:30 am The People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish
 11:00 am † William Francis Jacobs

Monday, November 29

- 6:30 am † Michael O'Rourke

Tuesday, November 30

- 6:30 am † Marie Nickels
 † Joann Moles

Wednesday, December 1

- 8:30 am † Mary Kurr
 † The Williams, Karasis and Kurr Families

Thursday, December 2

- 8:30 am Private intention

Thursday, December 3

- 8:30 am † Robert Atkinson

Saturday, December 4

- 8:30 am † Kathleen Kennedy
 5:00 pm † Mary "Tris" Meyer

Sunday, December 5

- 9:30 am † Joseph Giustino
 † Victor Giustino
 11:00 am The People of St. Luke and St. Bernardine Parish

Liturgical Roles

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The Weekend of December 4-5

St. Bernardine Church

Celebrants

- 5:00 pm Fr. Kris
 8:00 am Fr. Leroy

Cantors

- 5:00 pm Peg Baumann
 8:00 am Carol Hopkins

Lectors

- 5:00 pm Jerry Schuch
 8:00 am Xochitl Pantaleon

Eucharistic Ministers

- 5:00 pm Nancy Isdale
 8:00 am Dawn Leninger

St. Luke Church

Celebrants

- 5:00 pm Fr. Stan
 9:30 am Fr. Stan
 11:00 am Fr. Kris

Are You Registered?

All Catholics who join us for our parish services are invited to become a full member of the parish by completing this form and giving it to one of the Church Ministers of Hospitality (ushers), priests, or put it in the collection basket. A registration packet will be mailed to you. You can also call 708-435-8912.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email _____

How long have you been coming to St. Bernardine or St. Luke Church? _____

Please check here if you would like to receive our parish newsletter via email each week.



Pray For Our Sick

Georgine Mullen, Bev Markvart, Michael Cobleigh, Joe Burgio, James Froelich, Matthew Swan, Grace Martini, Carlotta Martini, Paul Johnson, Fr. Stan Kuca, Donald Rice, Frank Kurr, Adam Tiagonce, Brittany Billington, Virgilio Bungubung, Julie Doloszycki, Fran Darley, Betty Cunningham, Sr. Colleen Nolan, OP, Al Ronan, Stephanie Salerno, Gary Gould, Jelyn Vargas, Eugene Scheuring, Dr. Patricia O'Brien, Dan O'Brien, Patty Marino, Pat McKinley, Janet Berka, Christine Jumaos, Paula Coonen, Claire Coonen, Doris Keating, Manza Fiori, Isaac Beal, Martin and Eileen Hudik, Ann Stauffer, Frank Martone, Ann Messerschmidt, Rita Daniello, Vince Pusateri, Mary Sladek, Rich Murphy Sr., Teresa Meyer, Shirley Hamilton, Helen Kreidermacher, Dan Martone and Betty Maslauskas.

Please call the parish office (708-435-8912) to add or delete names on the list. Names will automatically be removed after three months unless renewed.

Holiday Bulletin Deadlines

Our printer's holiday schedule requires us to transmit our bulletins earlier each week in December. Please send any submissions by 9:00 am on the deadline days below:

<u>Bulletin Date</u>	<u>Article Deadline</u>
December 5	Monday, November 29
December 12	Friday, December 3
December 19	Thursday, December 9

HOLY SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 9:30 am. at St. Luke Church
 Saturday: 4:00 pm at St. Bernardine Church

WEDDINGS:

Please call 708-435-8912 to make arrangements with a priest at least six months in advance.

BAPTISM:

Baptisms are held on the second Sunday of each month during or after the 8:00 am. Mass. A mandatory meeting for parents and godparents is offered the first Wednesday of the month in the Convent Dining Room at 7:30 p.m. Call 708-435-8912 to sign up.

CARE OF THE SICK:

Please inform the Parish Office of anyone confined at home or hospitalized.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Wednesdays at St. Luke School
 Grades 1-4 meet 3:30-4:30 pm
 Grades 5-8, 6:30-8 pm.
 For more information, contact Michelle at mdalpino@stlukeparish.org.



Weekly Readings

- Monday:** Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
- Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Next Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



Letters from Heaven

Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said to his disciples, "They will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power ...

A	T	G	
E	D	G	L
N	R	R	O
A	Y		

A _ _ _ _ _ ."

Answer: *and great glory*

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Excerpt from the NAB © 2010, 1991, 1970, CCD

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End of the Year Sale!
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