

FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. TOSI ---

*“Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to those
on whom his favor rests.”
(Luke 2:1-14)*



On this Christmas Day we rejoice once again with the multitude of the heavenly host proclaiming the Good News that is the cause of our Christmas Joy and Hope: a savior has been for us who is Christ and Lord!

In my own name and that of the entire Pastoral Staff I want to wish all of you - dear parishioners, visitors and guests, neighbors and friends - a holy and happy Christmas and a New Year of blessing especially of peace and good health.

Each year we journey with the shepherds to Bethlehem to visit the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. We go with profound joy for this infant is savior; the wood of the manger shortly to become the wood of the cross on which this infant would be nailed for our salvation. The true meaning of Christmas can only be understood in the mystery of the Cross and Resurrection.

Each year Christmas proclaims the love of God for us. For we who were once in darkness recognize in Christ the true light which destroys darkness and death and proclaims that all who are in Christ are a new creation. We have been re-created in Christ and our dignity as God's children restored. Let us rejoice and be glad for a God that loves us so much!

May this Christmas Day be celebrated with family and friends. May the love of God that sent us His son born of the Virgin fill our hearts - and homes.

Let us pray for peace in our hearts, families, city and country and among all nations and people. For today is born the Prince of Peace.

I can not help but conclude this Christmas with a Profound thank you to God and to you: to God for His many blessings to me in my life and priesthood especially of being pastor of Saint Luke; and to you for your constant support and encouragement; for your love and understanding since I first came to live and minister among you. God bless.

Merry Christmas!

Let us pray for one another,

Msgr. Tosi

The Campaign Prayer

Memorare

Remember, O most compassionate Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your assistance, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we fly unto you, O Virgin of Virgins, our Mother; to you we come; before you we kneel sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in your clemency hear and answer them. Amen.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a community of believers in Jesus Christ and in Communion with the universal church, we strive to follow the Lord's command to love God and one another. Rooted in word and sacrament, we grow together as a Eucharistic community inviting all to the Good News of Jesus.

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING



May the God of infinite goodness,
who by the Incarnation of his Son has driven darkness from the world
and by that glorious Birth has illumined this most holy night (day),
drive far from you the darkness of vice and illumine your hearts with
the light of virtue
Amen

May God, who willed that the great joy of his Son's saving Birth
be announced to shepherds by the Angel, fill your minds with the gladness he gives
and make you heralds of his Gospel.
Amen

And may God, who by the Incarnation
brought together the earthly and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his
peace and favor and make you sharers with the Church in heaven.
Amen

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.
Amen

(Roman Missal Third Typical Edition)

Merry Christmas
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. John C. Tosi
& the Pastoral Staff
Rev. David J. Dettmer
Rev. Vincent G. Chirichella
Deacon Harry Svebel (Retired)
Sister Catherine T. Reilly, O.P.
Sister Katherine Burke, C.S.J.
Barbara Reiter
Jessica Tranzillo-Smith



***SOLEMNITY OF MARY,
MOTHER OF GOD
Sunday, January 1, 2012***

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

*New Year's Eve
Saturday, December 31, 2011
Mass at 5:00pm*

*New Year's Day
Sunday, January 1, 2012
7:30am
9:00am (Italian)
10:30am
11:45am
1:00pm*

There is NO 5:00pm Mass on New Year's Day.

SERVING THE PRESENT; BUILDING THE FUTURE
THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. LUKE CHURCH

*I came that you may have and enjoy life and have it in abundance,
until it overflows.*

- John 10:10

December 24th & 25th 2011

Everyone working on the committee for the restoration of St. Luke's wish you all warm and wonderful Merry Christmas. We are truly thankful for your love and support of our efforts and of the parish campaign.

The campaign continues to grow and we get closer to our goal every day so we will be able to restore our beautiful church.

Campaign Statistics

Goal: \$3,000,000

Percent Reached: 81%

Current Amount Raised: \$2,435,852

We sincerely thank those who have made their pledge and hope that those who have not pledged yet will continue to pray over their decision and join us in this exciting endeavor. As a parish, please continue to pray for our success.

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas.

*Tell the heavens and earth to celebrate and sing! Command
every mountain to join in song!*

- Isaiah 49:13

SUNDAY COLLECTION

<i>December 18</i>	<i>\$13,385</i>
<i>Amount Needed</i>	<i>\$13,425</i>
<i>Envelopes Mailed</i>	<i>1883</i>
<i>Envelopes Received</i>	<i>738</i>



**To All Organizations,
Groups & Societies ---**

Please remember that there will be no meetings taking place in the parish from Friday, December 23rd until Tuesday, January 3rd. The only exception will be for the A.A. meetings held on Friday, December 23 & Friday, December 30.

Thank you for your cooperation.

CONGRATULATIONS ---

Please keep this couple in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Marriage here in our parish.

*Saturday, December 31, 2011
3:00pm*

**ROBERT ZUSTOVICH
&
LESLIE MAROVIC**



**Welcome to
Our Family**

PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM ---

If you are planning a Baptism, please note the following dates:

Baptism Sunday

**Jan. 8 & 22
Feb. 12 & 26
March 11 & 25**

Baptism Class

**Jan. 9
Feb. 13
March 19**

For more information, please call the rectory at 718-746-8102.



The Golden Age Club will have their first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 12 at 1pm in the school hall. Please remember there will be NO meetings for the month of December.



We look forward to seeing you on January 12th and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!





A Christmas Prayer

God of love and mercy,
in this season of Christmas
we offer you our thanks and praise.

We want to spread the word of peace
you give us through Jesus Christ.

May the birth of your Son overcome
human suffering, calm our fears,
and bring peace to our homes,
our families and the world.

Amen.

*Sisters of the Visitation
Visitation Monastery
www.BrooklynVisitationMonastery.org
Printed by The Printery House*



A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ---

There will be no Religious Education classes during the week of December 26. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



In observance of Christmas Day which is celebrated on Sunday, December 25th, the Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, December 26th. The office will reopen on Tuesday, December 27th at 9:00am.

For any pastoral emergencies, please call (718) 746-8103.

The living Nativity at our Family Mass on Sunday, December 18, 2011.



The Blessing of Expectant Mothers (and Fathers) at the Family Mass.



THE GIVING TREE --- A THANK YOU



32-34 Beekman Avenue
Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591
914-366-9710 • Fax: 914-366-9713
www.rshmlifecenter.org

Please share this note of gratitude with those who contributed to our Center

The RSHM Life Center staff wish to thank you for your generous donations. The gifts are so beautiful and will certainly bring much joy to many families this Christmas.

It is in giving that we express love for our neighbor, and through your kindness many children will have a brighter Christmas

May the Christmas season fill each one with joy, and we pray that the New Year be filled with a deep peace for all those who suffer at this time.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sr. Susan'.

Sr. Susan Gardella, RSHM

THE GIVING TREE --- A THANK YOU



"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because HE has CHOSEN ME
to BRING GOOD NEWS to the POOR" - Luke 4:18

A Catholic Service sharing in the Mission of Jesus

December 16, 2011

Msgr. John Tosi
St. Luke's Church
16-34 Clintonville St.
Whitestone, NY 11357

Dear Msgr. Tosi,

Warmest greetings in the Lord Jesus during this very holy and expectant time.

We, and the poor that LAMP Ministries serves, are so very grateful for the wonderful warm clothing that the parishioners at St. Luke's so lovingly recently provided. We wish that all those who contributed could see the smile on the faces of those who receive the clothing. They are truly doing God's work in helping cloth the poor. Most of the clothing that St. Luke's provides is handed out through our LAMPcafé, a canteen truck we take to the S. Bronx four days a week to give food, the light clothing, and spiritual nourishment. May we share a recent story from that ministry?

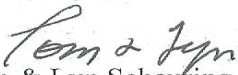
"Look at my head! Do you see my head?", stated the homeless man as he took off his cap. Fred is usually under the influence, as he regularly comes to the LAMPcafé. Eva, a LAMP Missionary, didn't quite know how to respond other than say: "Yes, I see your head". Fred continued with firmness: "I need shampoo to wash my hair! Do you have some shampoo?" On rare occasions we receive donations of various toiletries to give out to those in need, but this day Eva explained to him that she was sorry but there weren't any containers of shampoo or other toiletries on the truck. She said she would try to help him in coming days.

Two days later, when Eva was helping prepare the canteen truck to go out again, she went into the small room where various items are stored that are used in that ministry. There it was! On the corner of a shelf, that was otherwise empty, stood one container of men's shampoo! Eva had no idea where it came from, hadn't seen it before, and it was the only toiletry item in the room. She was so happy to give it to that man when he came to the LAMPcafé that day! Every day we pray to St. Joseph to provide what LAMP needs. He is concerned about the big things as well as what we may think is a little thing!

As it turns out, some months ago, one of our daughters gave me two rather large bottles of men's shampoo. The other day I was looking at the two of them, and realized that I wouldn't need the second bottle for a long time, and maybe someone else could use it. I put it on the shelf to be given to someone in need at the LAMPcafé. So the mystery is solved, but another wonderful manifestation of God's very personal and merciful care!

God also shows his very personal and merciful care through the warm clothing provided by the parishioners of St. Luke's. Please extend LAMP Ministries' deepest gratitude to them. We wish you and the parishioners of St. Luke's a most Blessed Christmas and New Year through which each will experience God's very personal love.

One with you in His service,


Tom & Lyn Scheuring, Ph.D.s
Co-Directors

cc. Ms. Anna Sterlini

2704 Schurz Avenue · Bronx, New York 10465-3173 • 718-409-5062 • Fax: 718-904-0048 • www.lampministries.org

SAVE THE DATE!!

St. Luke School

6th Annual Ladies Fashion Show

"Fashion in Bloom"



Friday, April 20th, 2012

Terrace on the Park

Grand Ballroom

Tickets will go on sale
in February.

More info to follow...

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. - Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Tues.- 1Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a,2-8

Wed. - 1Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18

Thurs. - 1Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

Fri. - Sir 3:2-6; Lk 2:22-40

Sat. - 1Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:

JOSETTE TANZOLA

JENNIE ROMANO

MARYANN (IZZO) GERMINO

SUSANNA WINSHIP

LENNY KALLU

BARBARA SATALINO

ARTOURAS JAOUTAKAS

FRANCES MANGIARACINA

ANTHONY TROTTA

AND FOR THE DECEASED:

GERALDINE DiFRANCO

ALBERTO SUAREZ

MEMORIALS

The Altar Breads are given in memory of **MARION & CHARLES SAFFER** requested by The Colombo & Sheridan Families.

The Altar Wine is given in memory of **LOUIS JOHN & LOUIS ANTHONY NICOLOSI & ANTONIO CARINGELLA** requested by Antoinette Nicolosi.

The Sanctuary Lamp is given in memory of **JOSEPH PELOSO** requested by his parents.

The Altar Candles are burning in memory of **MARION & CHARLES SAFFER** requested by the Colombo & Sheridan Families.

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26, 2011

Monday, December 26

7:00 Joseph Tomasso

12:00 Maria Scardamaglia

Tuesday, December 27

8:30 Lula Nicovic

12:00 Marion & Charles Saffer

Wednesday, December 28

7:00 Rev. George C. McCauley, S.J.

12:00 Cosmo DiTucci

Thursday, December 29

8:30 Ed Pompa & Rose Marchetti

12:00 Jaso Lopez

Friday, December 30

7:00 Virginia Lee &

Deceased Family Members

12:00 Rose & Paul DiNovo

Saturday, December 31

8:30 Gerianne Santonas

Collective Intentions Mass ---

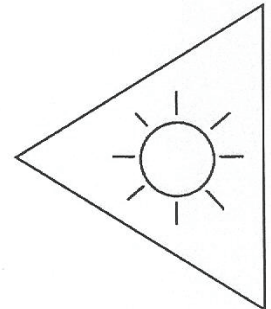
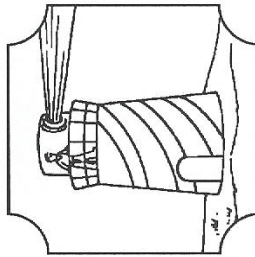
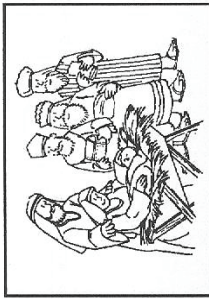
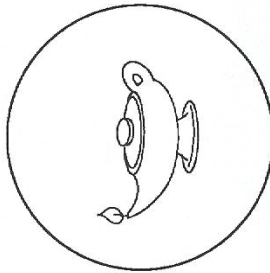
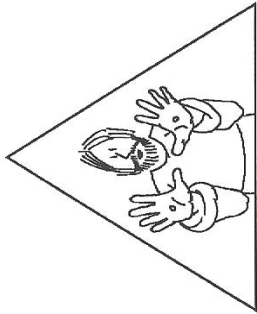
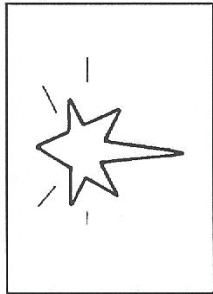
The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, January 22nd at 11:45am.

At this Mass we pray for

ALFONSO GELO

Jesus is the true light.

Match the shapes.



Children's Worship Bulletin



Ages 3-6

December 25, 2011 • John 1:1-18



The Word Became Flesh

In the beginning was the Word of God.

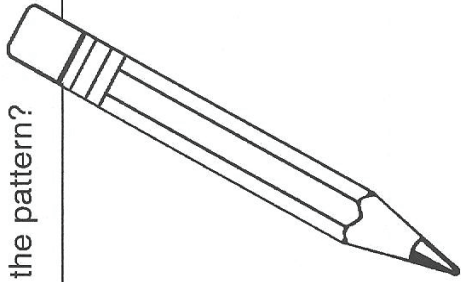
Find the letters in the picture below.






W O R D O F G O D



The Word of God gives life and light.

Which picture comes next in the pattern?

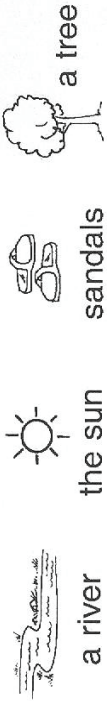


- | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. | 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. | 5. |
|  |  |  |  |  | | | | | |



God sent John to be a witness to the light.

Finish the drawing by adding these items.



a river

the sun

sandals

a tree

