## The Fourth Sunday of Lent Saint Luke Church, Whitestone, New York

#### FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. TOSI ---

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. So that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

John 3:14-17



Are you afraid of the dark? I am - sometimes! I've gotten better but as a child I was afraid of the dark - it made me uncomfortable and at times even fearful. I was always turning on lights - which just as often prompted the question: Do you have stock in Con Ed?

In today's Gospel St. John speaks of darkness to symbolize the powers of sin and evil; Jesus is the light. Listen to John:

...this is the verdict, that the Light came into the world but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

Lent is a time to confront the darkness we often prefer to the light of Christ. It is not easy to struggle with the darkness of our lives. However, it is God's love that enables us to face this reality and conquer it. The power to overcome sin and evil (darkness) is not our own; it is the power of Christ crucified and risen in us through baptism that is stronger than any evil we experience in life.

Lent then is about choosing light over darkness. Again St. John writes:

"But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

Lent calls us to "live the truth" of who we are: We are children of the Light NOT children of the dark. Let our Lenten practices be about the light deepening its presence in our lives. Whatever we do or not do this Lent needs to answer these questions: How does it help me come to the light of Christ/ How does it help my works be clearly seen as "done in God."?

Together we journey in Lent trusting in God's love - a God who desires not our condemnation but that we might have eternal life.

God bless.

Let us pray for one another,

Msgr. Tori

#### THANK YOU ---

For all your prayers, cards, gifts and best wishes during my recent hospital stay. I am back at the rectory - four stents richer - and returning to a normal schedule. All is well - but keep up the prayers - I always need lots of them!

Again, thank you and God bless.

Love and Prayers, *Msgr. Tosi* 

#### **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.

#### SUNDAY COLLECTION

March 11 \$12,192 Amount Needed \$13,425

Envelopes Mailed 1,988 Envelopes Received 688

## THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION ---

Thank you for your generous support of The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your generosity will help reunite families, teach valuable life skills to those seeking a better life, and meet the vital humanitarian needs of many people. Please visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections to learn how your donations are making a difference.

Through your generosity a total of \$2,360 was donated to The Catholic Relief Services. Thank you and God bless.

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### A REMINDER ---

As in past years all parish meetings - including all organizations and prayer groups - are **cancelled** during Holy Week and Easter Week from Saturday, March 31st to Sunday, April 15th. All meetings resume the week of April 16th. Hopefully this change to our regular parish schedule will help focus us on the sacred events of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection taking place in Holy Week and provide a little rest after Easter.





A Special Mass in Honor of Saint Joseph will be held here at Saint Luke:

Saint Joseph, March 19th Mass will be celebrated at 7:00am and 12 noon. Refreshments will follow after the noon Mass in the School Hall. A Mass in Italian will be celebrated at 7:00pm with refreshments to follow in the School Hall.

## RECONCILIATION MONDAY --APRIL 2ND

On Monday of Holy Week, April 2, special opportunities will be made available to receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) in all the parishes of our diocese including here at Saint Luke. Known as Reconciliation Monday, this day will also be observed in our neighboring dioceses of Rockville Centre and the Archdiocese of New York.

The schedule for the day here at Saint Luke is as follows:

Confessions 1:00pm to 5:00pm 7:30pm Evening Prayer Confessions to follow.

Confessions will be available in English and Italian in the church. When was the last time you experienced God's mercy and forgiveness? Do not be afraid! The Lord waits to forgive. What joy we can make in heaven when one sinner repents.

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS ---

Monday Evenings at 7:30pm in Italian Wednesday Afternoons at 1:00pm Friday Evenings at 7:30pm

> Friday, March 23 - Family Friday, March 30 - Prayer Groups



#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ---

Every Tuesday during Lent beginning February 28th from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

#### PRE-JORDAN PROGRAM ---

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

**Baptism Sunday Baptism Class** 

March 19

\*April 14 (Sat.) & 29 April 16 May 20 & 27 May 21

June 10 & 24 June 18

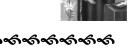
For more information, please call the rectory at 718-746-8102.



\*Due to Easter, an additional date has been added to April on a Saturday to make up for the second Sunday baptism date which usually occurs.

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The Saint Anthony novena will begin on **Tuesday, March 13** after the noon Mass. The novena continues for 13 Tuesdays with a Mass in honor of Saint Anthony on the feast day, Wednesday, June 13.



### ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL - BASILICA ---



Celebrating its 190th Anniversary, the Parish of St. James Cathedral-Basilica is presenting a lecture on Sunday, March 25, 2012 at 4pm called "The Village of Brooklyn, The Navy Yard and Vinegar Hill 1800-1900" by Dr. Patrick McNamara.

If you have any questions about this lecture, you may contact St. James Cathedral at 718-852-4002

#### HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

#### PALM SUNDAY – 1 April 2012

Saturday Evening – 31 March 2011 Mass – 5:00pm

Sunday Masses- 1 April 2012 7:30am, 9:00am (Italian), 10:30am, 11:45am (Family Mass), 1:00pm & 5:00pm

#### Monday - 2 April 2012

Reconciliation Monday
Mass at 7:00am & 12 Noon
1:00pm-5:00pm Confessions
7:30pm – Evening of Prayer
followed by Confessions

#### Tuesday - 3 April 2012

Mass at 8:30am & 12 Noon 7:30pm – Evening Prayer

### Wednesday – 4 April 2012

Mass – 7:00am & 12 Noon 7:30pm – Evening Prayer



#### **HOLY THURSDAY - 5 April 2012**

Church opens at 8:30am
10:00am – Sung Morning Prayer
7:30pm – Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
English/Italian

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Repository until Midnight.

### GOOD FRIDAY - 6 April 2012

Church opens at 8:30am 10:00am – Sung Morning Prayer Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 3:00pm, 6:00pm (Italian) & 8:00pm

#### **HOLY SATURDAY – 7 April 2012**

Church opens at 8:30am 10:00am – Sung Morning Prayer 3:30pm-4:30pm – Confessions

THERE IS NO 5:00PM MASS ON HOLY SATURDAY

8:00pm - EASTER VIGIL
English/Italian

### EASTER SUNDAY – 8 April 2012

Mass – 7:30am, 9:00am (Italian), 10:30am 11:45am, 1:00pm

THERE IS NO 5:00PM MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY



#### SPECIAL SAINT JOSEPH MASS IN ITALIAN ---

Monday, March 19th is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In addition to the regular parish Masses in English at 7:00am and 12:00 noon there will be a Mass in Italian in Honor of Saint Joseph at 7:00pm.

Before the Mass at 6:30pm there will be the blessing of a new statue of Saint Joseph and the child Jesus to be located in the parking lot across from the church. We wish to thank Luigi Romano for the donation of the statue in memory of his son Giuseppe and his loving wife Rosa.

Join us for both the blessing of the statue and the celebration of Mass in honor of Saint Joseph and start a new parish tradition. If you wish you may bring bread to be blessed at this Mass.

#### Speaking of Traditions ---

If any parishioner is setting up a Saint Joseph altar in their house and would like it blessed by one of the parish priests, please call the rectory.

#### MESSA SPECIALE DI SAN GIUSEPPE IN ITALIANO ---

Lunedi 19 Marzo e la ricorrenza della Solennita di San Giuseppe, Sposo della Beata Vergine Maria. Oltre alla Messa regolare delle 7:00 del mattino e di mexxogiorno ci sara anche una Messa in Italiano in onore di San Giuseppe alle 7:00 della sera.

Prima della Messa, alle 6:30, ci sara la Benedizione della statua di San Giuseppe e del Bambino Gesu che sara, dopo, posta nel parcheggio di fronte alla Chiesa.

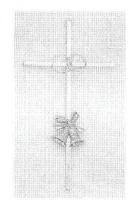
Vogliamo ringraziare Luigi Romano per la donazione della statua in memoria del figlio Giuseppe e della moglie Rosa.

Unitevi a noi per la Benedizione della statua ed a celebrare l'Eucarestia in Onore di San Giuseppe cominciando così una nuova tradizione della nostra parrocchia.

#### Parlando di Tradizione ---

Se qualche parrocchiano di San Luca prepara l'Altare di San Giuseppe in casa, e vorrebbe farlo Benedire da uno dei Sacerdoti, e pregato di chiamare la Rettoria.

Please Join us at the Annual



## Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Most Reverend Nicholas DiMarzio, PhD., D.D., Celebrant

Saturday, April 28, 2012 11:00 AM Our Lady of Angels Church 7320 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11209



All couples celebrating their Anniversary

25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and above

Are invited to attend with their families.

This is a beautiful celebration of love and commitment.

All couples will receive a personalized certificate
and will have their picture taken with the Bishop.

There will be light refreshments following Mass.



If you have any questions regarding this celebration, please contact the Office of Faith Formation at 718-281-9540.



## "Fashion in Bloom"

Saint Luke School Fashion Show Committee Cordially invites you to attend our 6th Annual Ladies Fashion Show

> Friday, April 20, 2012 7:00 P.M. – Midnight

Terrace on the Park
Grand Ballroom

52-11 111<sup>th</sup> Street Flushing Meadows Park, New York

Enjoy an evening of Good Company, Great Food, Music, Dancing, Fabulous Raffle Prizes and Beautiful Fashions Provided by Dress Barn & Carina Boutique

Cocktail Hour, Full Buffet Dinner, Open Bar, Coffee & Desserts

\$70 Admission per Person

"Fashion in Bloom" St. Luke 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Fashion Show A Response is Requested before March 27, 2012

A Response is Requested before March 27, 2012  Return this slip and money to St. Luke School Attn: Fashion Show Committee or call 718 746-3833 to arrange for pick up.						
(Make all effort to arrange tables of 10 people) Note: If your party is smaller than 10 persons, you will be seated with other guests. If needed, arrangements can be made for larger tables — kindly call or email Adriana 718 309-4778; email stlukecommittee@aol.com						
Number of Persons Attending, Enclosed is \$, Tel #:						
** No Tickets will be issued. Check in at door is required. Make check payable to St. Luke School. Thank you for your support. **						

#### YOUTH GROUP NEWS ---

Our Youth Group sponsored our Lenten Soup & Supper. We had about twenty five members of the group serving seven kinds of soups! Afterward we prayed the Family Stations of the Cross with fourteen of our families including members of the Youth Group.



Our next meeting is on Saturday, March 24th. We will make Care Kits for the troops and collect money for "Operation Smile".

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#### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY --- APRIL 15TH**

The church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday on the Second Sunday of Easter, April 15th.

Special Devine Mercy Devotions will be prayed at 3:00pm in the church to mark this special day rejoicing in God's divine love and mercy.

All are invited to honor the Divine Mercy of Christ.

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### PARKING LOT REQUEST ---

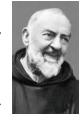
A parishioner has brought to my attention that a flyer of a political nature was recently placed on the windshield of cars parked in the lot across from the church. Let me make it clear that NO permission was given - or requested - for this to be done. Such activity is NOT acceptable and people are asked NOT to distribute flyers of any kind without prior approval of the pastor.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

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#### PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP ---

The next meeting of the Padre Pio Prayer Group will take place on Tuesday, March 27th at 7:30pm in the church. All are welcome.



#### DANCE-TWIRL TEAM REGISTRATION FOR AGES 4-16+

Includes Baton Twirling, Jazz, Ballet, Hip-Hop, Gymnastics and much more. Registration dates are every Monday through the month of March between 4-5pm at St. Luke School. For more info call Ms. Lisa at 718-932-3926 or Ldancingdiamonds@aol.com.

## CAMPAIGN

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As our Capital Campaign continues I am pleased to announce a new Campaign Pledge Total as of March 14, 2012 of:

## \$3,014,996

Thank you to all who have so generously supported this much needed effort to repair and maintain our parish buildings and hopefully construct a Parish Center for use by all parishioners.

As we look to the future of the campaign, three major initiatives are being planned:

- 1. An outreach to the parents of our Catholic School students who would benefit directly from repair of the school building and the proposed Parish Center which would provide both an auditorium and gym for use by the school.
- 2. An appeal to the registered envelope using members of the parish who as of yet have not made a campaign pledge. We are confident of their concern for the parish and support of the campaign.

#### AND

3. A request for support from the local business community who are such an important part of the Whitestone community and who benefit by the patronage of so many of our parishioners.

Of course the campaign constantly looks for support from the entire parish community. So - make your pledge now. Every pledge is important so act now.

Please call the Rectory for additional information and help in making your pledge.

### When will work begin?

Having reached our initial goal, many have inquired as to when work will start. Let me bring you up to date:

- I A request for permission to begin two projects have been sent to the Bishop. One permission is for the demolition of the convent; the other to begin work on the exterior of the church to be followed by the necessary interior repairs and renovation.
- II It is our hope to begin the demolition of the convent in late June once the school year has ended. Hopefully, the major work would take place during the summer months of July and August.
- III Church exterior repair would begin as soon as possible. This exterior work would not interfere with the use of the church interior. Some exterior scaffolding will be needed but precise placement and time are not yet available.

Interior church work would begin after the exterior work is complete with the renovation of what was the lower church. Once the basement work is complete the interior upstairs of the church will begin.

In order to complete the upstairs interior work as quickly as possible it will be necessary to close the church from after Christmas 2012 until Easter 2013 (December 26, 2012 to March 22, 2013). During this time it is planned to use the lower church space for all Masses and other services and sacraments including weddings and funerals.

- IV Of course if a parishioner wishes to have a wedding or funeral in another church we will do all we can to assist them in this regard. In addition one of the parish priests will be available to celebrate the wedding or funeral in another church. Please call the rectory with any questions.
- V We are sorry for whatever inconvenience and/or disappointment this may cause. However, we are left with no other option. As always we count on your cooperation and understanding which is greatly appreciated.

Please remember to pray for the success of both the campaign and the required repair and maintenance work. Both projects have been placed under the care of our Blessed Mother Mary.

## St. Luke Church

# COMMITMENT WEEKEND PLEDGE CARD

Name:	I am/We are pleased to make a gift to		
	Serving the Present; Building the Future		
Address:	☐Yes! I/We agree to pledge today or increase my/our pledge.		
	☐Amen! I/We have already made a pledge.		
City: State: Zip:	□ Praying! I am/We are thinking about my/our decision.		
Phone:	Please call me/us at on		
1 none.			
[ ] Not registered, but would like to be!	Phone # Date		
[ ] Not registered, but would like to be!  Total Pledge Amount □ \$25,000 □ \$18,000 □ \$12,000	Phone # Date		

To help determine your sacrificial pledge, gift amounts can be structured as follows:

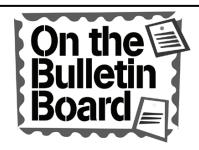
Total Pledge	Annually	Semi- Annually	Quarterly	Monthly	Daily
\$25,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$417	\$13.70
\$18,000	\$3,600	\$1,800	\$900	\$300	\$9.86
\$12,000	\$2,400	\$1,200	\$600	\$200	\$6.57
\$6,000	\$1,200	\$600	\$300	\$100	\$3.29
\$2,500	\$500	\$250	\$125	\$42	\$1.48
\$1,200	\$240	\$120	\$60	\$20	\$0.66

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## Saint Luke Church Whitestone, New York Presents



An evening of prayer and song on God's Mercy
With Fr. Charles and Laurie
Thursday May 24th, 2012 7:30-9:30 pm
At Saint Luke Church
1634 Clintonville St.
Whitestone, NY 11357



#### ST. FIDELIS SCHOOL FUNDRAISER ---

114-04 Fourteenth Road, College Point, N.Y. 11356

#### RACHEL'S HELPERS

A Post-Abortion Healing Ministry ---

**20th Anniversary Celebration - Sunday, October 7, 2012 - Gargiulo's Restaurant** Please join us to commemorate twenty years of advocating and praying for the sanctity of all human life. For additional information, please contact Louis Pepe, Chairperson, at 646-773-4028 or Rosary for Life Headquarters (718) 377-6920.

Friday, April 27 from 7pm to midnight at Il Baco Ristorante Italiano, Little Neck. Tickets are \$100 per person. For more info please call 718-639-9020, Ext. 1 or email AntonieteBalzano@aol.com.

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mon. - 2Sm 7:4-5a,12-14a,16; Rom 4:13,16-18,22; Lk 2:41-51a

Tues.- Ez 47:1-9,12; Jn 5:1-16 Wed. - Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

Thurs. - Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

Fri. - Wis 2:1a,12-22; Jn 7:1-2,10,25-30

Sat. - Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

## **WE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH:**

JOSETTE TANZOLA
JENNIE ROMANO
ARTOURAS JAOUTAKAS
ANTHONY TROTTA
LOUIS FIAMMA
ANNA IVERSON
EDWARD MORLEY
BABY OLIVIA GRACE BREEN

#### AND FOR THE DECEASED:

GIUSEPPE DILLUVIO VINCENT BROWN

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### **MEMORIALS**

The Altar Bread is given in memory of *RICHARD LUCA* at the request of his niece.

The Altar Wine is given in memory of *MARIE PARKER* at the request of Pat & Peggy Kelly.



## ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 19, 2012

Monday, March 19 7:00 Joseph Tomasso (4th Anniversary) 12:00 In Honor of St. Joseph

Tuesday, March 20 8:30 Thomas, Ellen & Francis McNicholas 12:00 Anna & Hugh Heaney

Wednesday, March 21 7:00 Vincenza & Rosalie Zaino 12:00 Patrick Damato (10th Anniversary)

Thursday, March 22 8:30 Felicetta & Beniamino Colalillo 12:00 Antonino & Antonina Cacioppo

Friday, March 23 7:00 Marie Parker (1st Anniversary) 12:00 Luigi & Isabella Tempesta

Saturday, March 24 8:30 Marie Carcone Genovese

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## Collective Intentions Mass ---

The next Collective Intentions Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, March 25 at 11:45am. At this Mass we pray for:

CALOGERO LOGIUDICE



### "The Journey, Cross and Crucifixion"

On Monday, April 2nd, St. John's University is hosting a live dramatic presentation of the Stations of the Cross performed by Creative Ministries. Experience the trial of Jesus, His Journey through the streets of Jerusalem, and His final moments on the cross.

Monday, April 2nd at 8:00pm St. Thomas More Church St. John's University 8000 Utopia Parkway

Information on St. John's University and directions can be found at www.stjohns.edu.

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30th ANNUAL PAX CHRISTI METRO NEW YORK

## Way of the Cross

The Way to Peace



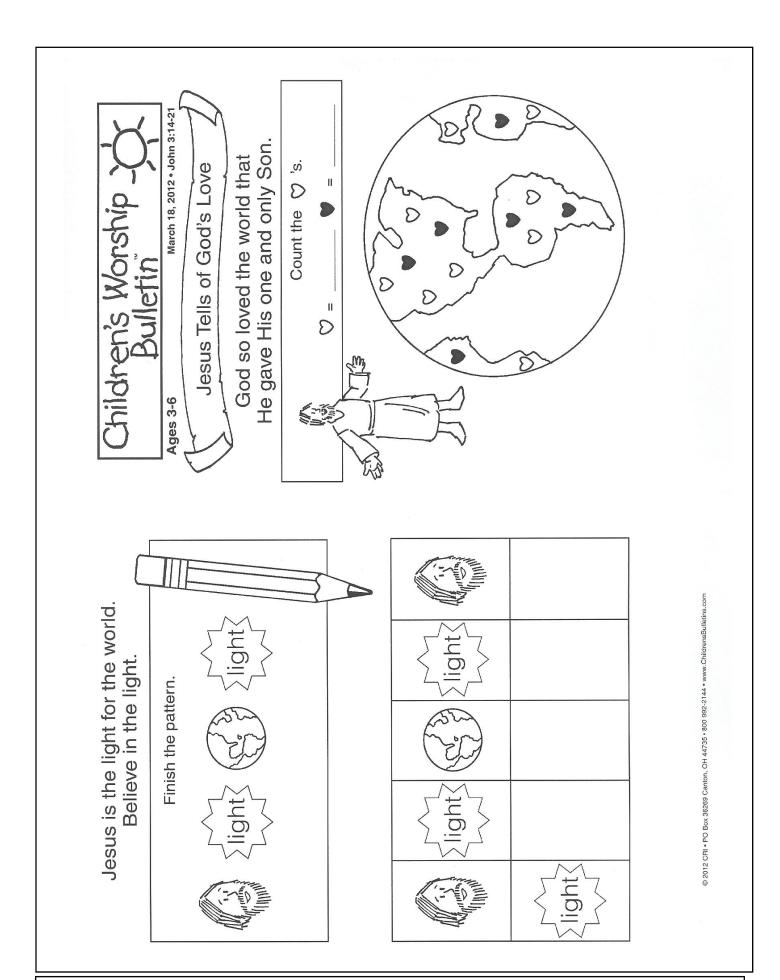
April 6th, 2012 47<sup>th</sup> Street at First Ave. 8:30 AM

Join with over 5 00 people in the largest public Christian peace witness in New York City. The Good Friday Way of the Cross is a modern-day enactment of the Stations of the Cross, praying for peace and justice on the streets of our city. Reflect with us 'How do I do for others what Jesus is doing

for me? How am I called to live in this world?' The Walk will take place from 8:30 AM to 12:00 noon on Good Friday, April 6th. We begin at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza (47th Street at First Avenue) and proceed along 42nd Street to between Eighth and Ninth Avenues.

## PLEASE WEAR OR CARRY A CROSS

The Good Friday Way of the Cross is organized each year by Pax Christi Metro New York, a regional section of Pax Christi, the international Catholic movement for peace. For further information about our work, please contact us at 371 Sixth Ave., New York, NY, 10014; 212-420-0250; nypaxchristi@igc.org; or www.nypaxchristi.org.



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