



April 14, 2024

Budgeted Sunday Support

\$3,780.77

<i>Regular Sunday Envelopes</i>	<i>\$2,942.00</i>
<i>Easter</i>	<i>\$275.00</i>
<i>Parish Projects</i>	<i>\$105.00</i>
<i>Candles & Votives</i>	<i>\$54.81</i>
Total	\$3,376.81

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of St. Luke Parish!



CMAA Pledge Report for St. Luke Parish

Monthly pledge payments for CMAA pledges should be made in the next few days. It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will reach our goal. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to the parish for our needs.

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>\$20,400.00</u>
<u>Amount Pledged</u>	<u>\$13,071.00</u>
<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>\$8,799.00</u>
<u>Remaining Balance</u>	<u>\$4,272.00</u>



"The country Parish in the Heart of DuPage"

ST. LUKE INFORMATION

401 COCHISE COURT
CAROL STREAM, IL 60188

Clergy:

Rev. Michael Pennock - *Administrator*
Rev. Marty Gabel - *Weekend Associate*

Parish Office:

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 3:00pm
Friday CLOSED
Phone: 630-668-1325

Anointing after hours: 630-866-6815

Email: parishofficestluke@gmail.com

Website: stlukecarolstream.org

Social Media: Find us on Facebook & Instagram

Religious Education:

Classes are on Sunday's, beginning with Mass

Joe & Mary Liptak - *Coordinators*

Email: religiousedstluke@gmail.com

Parish Staff:

Roxanne Sleszynski - *Administrative Assistant*

parishofficestluke@gmail.com

Nicolette Simonetta - *Administrative Assistant*

parishstluke@gmail.com

Melissa Rubino - *Bookkeeper*

bookstluke@gmail.com

Chris Colangelo - *Director of Buildings &*

Grounds

Welcome to St. Luke Parish

401 Cochise Court; Carol Stream, IL 60188



Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024

Confessions available on Friday at 9:30 am and Saturday at 4:15 pm
Masses celebrated: Friday at 10:00 am, Saturday at 5:00 pm, & Sunday at 10:00 am
Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Sunday Reflection - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Jesus, in today's Gospel, says that He is the good shepherd the prophets had promised to Israel. He is the shepherd-prince, the new David-who frees people from bondage to sin and gathers them into one flock, the Church, under a new covenant, made in His blood (see Ezekiel 34:10-13, 23-31). His flock includes other sheep, He says, far more than the dispersed children of Israel (see Isaiah 56:8, John 11:52). And He gave His Church the mission of shepherding all people to the Father. In today's First Reading, we see the beginnings of that mission in the testimony of Peter, whom the Lord appointed shepherd of His Church (see John 21:15-17). Peter tells Israel's leaders that the Psalm we sing today is a prophecy of their rejection and crucifixion of Christ. He tells the "builders" of Israel's temple that God has made the stone they rejected the cornerstone of a new spiritual temple, the Church (see Mark 12:10-13; 1 Peter 2:4-7). Through the ministry of the Church, the shepherd still speaks (see Luke 10:16), and forgives sins (see John 20:23), and makes His body and blood present, that all may know Him in the breaking of the bread (see Luke 24:35). It is a mission that will continue until all the world is one flock under the one shepherd. In laying down His life and taking it up again, Jesus made it possible for us to know God as He did-as sons and daughters of the Father who loves us. As we hear in today's Epistle, He calls us His children, as He called Israel His son when He led them out of Egypt and made His covenant with them (see Exodus 4:22-23; Revelation 21:7). Today, let us listen for His voice as He speaks to us in the Scriptures, and vow again to be more faithful followers. And let us give thanks for the blessings He bestows from His altar.

Taken from <http://stpaulcenter.com/>

Readings for the Weekend:

Acts 4:8-12 Psalm 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 29
1 John 3:1-2 John 10:11-18

Mass Readings for the week and beyond:

Can be found at
<https://bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar>



Please pray for the sick in our parish:

*Karen Belmonte, Mike Bryant, Nestor Cruz,
Harold Ellingsworth, Angel Faulkner,
Carole Hible, Cyndi Holich, Tiffany Jacobelli,
Angie Ortiz, Abby Peck, Bernadine Savage,
Marge Zilinsky*

Please remember our beloved dead and the men and women who have given their lives for our country.

Mass Intentions for April 20 - April 26

Saturday, April 20

† Amelberga Rienton
† Salvation Pal

Sunday, April 21

† Bernie Gura
† Alexis Sanoshy

Monday, April 22

People of the Parish

Tuesday, April 23

Intentions for St. Mary's Parish

Wednesday, April 24

Intentions for St. Mary's Parish

Thursday, April 25

People of the Parish

Friday, April 26

Intentions for St. Anne's Parish

Stop Assisted Suicide

A Better Way Forward – A Message from the Catholic Bishops of Illinois

Legislation has been introduced to legalize assisted suicide in Illinois. SB 3499 makes it legal for a physician to prescribe an array of lethal drugs to a person diagnosed with a terminal disease who requests to end his or her life. The Catholic Bishops of Illinois oppose this legislation; there is a better way forward for our state.

Assisted suicide disregards the Hippocratic Oath, "Do No Harm," and sends the wrong message about the role of medical professionals. We cannot say it any better than the American Medical Association: "Physician assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer, would be difficult or impossible to control, and would provide serious societal risks."

This legislation brings a range of possible abuses. It should alarm us that in states with legalized assisted suicide there are documented cases of people being offered inexpensive lethal drugs to end their life rather than being provided more costly treatment. The poor and those with disabilities are particularly in jeopardy because they are the most vulnerable to abuses. Every major national organization that represents people with disabilities is opposed to assisted suicide.

In Oregon, where assisted suicide has been legal since 1997, data show that pain is not among the top five reasons why a person wants to end their life. Loss of autonomy, feelings of being a burden and being less able to engage in activities that make life enjoyable are most often cited as reasons for choosing assisted suicide. A better way forward is to expand mental health coverage and strengthen social supports such as community programs to help those dealing with depression and feelings of hopelessness.

No one wants to suffer or experience a loved one's suffering. Fortunately, there are effective ways to alleviate suffering or make a person more comfortable at the end of life through palliative care. This relatively new specialty area of medicine cares for the whole person — physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually — to relieve symptoms and stress that often accompany serious illness or side effects of treatment. A better way forward is to expand the number of palliative care locations and services in all areas of Illinois.

RESOURCES FROM THE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF ILLINOIS

Assisted suicide is not a compassionate solution for those who suffer. There is a better way forward that offers compassionate care and compassionate choices.

Visit ilcatholic.org to find out how to contact your local elected officials to tell them to vote NO on SB 3499.

There you will also find:

- Information on assisted suicide
- Frequently asked questions
- Prayers and novenas to combat suicide
- Webinar on assisted suicide

ilcatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide



A Prayer for Help

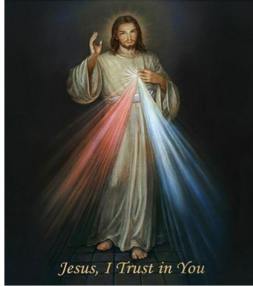
Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to share our human nature and redeem all people. We ask your help for our brothers and sisters who are ill. Support them with your power and shelter them from sadness. Keep them firm in faith and serene in hope. Also help those who assist the sick and care for them in their time of illness. Inspire our society to resist the temptation of assisted suicide for the elderly, the sick, the vulnerable and all your people. May life's beauty and sanctity be respected among all our brothers and sisters. All this we ask in your holy name.
Amen



Bishop Hicks' Column

April 2024

FAITH-INSPIRED MOVIES



CONTEMPORARY MOVIES are challenging to watch and often dubious to recommend. It seems so many contain agenda-laden themes, disturbing violence, immorality, and obscene language. I keep hoping to uncover that diamond in the rough that is worth watching—either in the theater or streaming live in the comfort of my home.

When I worked as the vicar general in the Archdiocese of Chicago, I had a colleague who would thoughtfully alert me to the latest Catholic, faith-inspired movie. In 2019, he recommended *Love and Mercy: Faustina*. A few days later, I invited a group of seminarians and priests to join me at a movie theater in downtown Chicago to enjoy this movie together. We were all inspired by the life of Sister Maria Faustina, an uneducated nun in Poland who allowed God to do extraordinary things through her.

Here's what was so inspiring: Helena Kowalska entered the convent in 1925 and took the name of Sister Maria Faustina. She toiled at menial tasks to fill her day in the kitchen or garden but was not always treated kindly by others. Yet throughout her humble existence and faithfulness, she experienced mystical encounters with Jesus that clearly revealed God's forgiveness, mercy, and boundless love for humanity. These experiences prompted her to pen her now-famous diary, *Divine Mercy In My Soul*.

She also was gifted with a beautiful vision of Jesus, that most of us now recognize as the Divine Mercy image (above). It touchingly portrays Jesus with His right hand raised in a gesture of blessing. His left hand is touching His chest, emanating rays of red and white light. These rays symbolize the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' side, which signify the graces of mercy and forgiveness. Of course, the rays also represent the sacraments of Eucharist and Baptism. The bottom of the image is inscribed with the spiritual words of surrender: *Jesus, I Trust in You*.

Saint John Paul II canonized Sister Faustina in 2000—the first saint of the new millennium. He affectionately named her “the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time.”

Every year on the second Sunday of Easter we, as the Catholic Church, celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. It is a good reminder to focus our attention on God's sacrificial love. On this particular Sunday, we especially pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a powerful prayer invoking God's mercy. Most of us would agree our world, our society, and our very souls are in such need of God's grace these days.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, we pray to turn away from division, hate, and vindictiveness, so we can refocus our gaze and actions on God's mercy, forgiveness, and love.

I love the collect prayed at the beginning of Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday, which boldly proclaims:

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast, kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose blood they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Recently, my “movie whisperer” colleague from the Archdiocese of Chicago emailed and encouraged me to see the movie, *Cabrini*. He informed me that it is about an Italian immigrant, Francesca Cabrini, who fights the odds to help the poor and orphans, and ultimately becomes the first American saint. I immediately told him, “Based on your recommendation, I am determined to see it soon!”

When you see a good, faith-based movie which you enthusiastically give two thumbs up, I encourage you to recommend it to your family and friends. Your endorsement may be a simple way for you to evangelize and help spread the good news of our faith.

Saints Frances Xavier Cabrini and Maria Faustina Kowalska, pray for us, and may the Divine Mercy of God bless you today and always.

DIOCESE OF JOLIET



Fr. Mike shares a quote from Pope St. John Paul II: “Faith and reason are like two wings on which human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth in a word, to know himself so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves.”



Prayers Needed for First Eucharist & Confirmation Students

Please pray for the children preparing for First Eucharist and Confirmation. We have 3 First Communicants and 9 Confirmation candidates. We look forward to celebrating their special days in early May.



Pivotal Players presents ... St. Ignatius of Loyola

Thursday, April 25 at 7:00pm in Jericho



St. Ignatius of Loyola was born in 1491 and died in July 1556. He was canonized in Rome on March 12, 1622. St. Ignatius of Loyola was a Spanish theologian and mystic, as well as one of the most influential figures in the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation in the 16th century. To learn more about this saint, join us in Jericho on April 25th.



Quo Vadis

Mundelein Seminary
1000 E. Maple Avenue
Mundelein, Illinois

Sun., July 28 - Wed., July 31, 2024

Open to middle school graduates (13-18 yrs. old) who want to grow in their relationship with the Lord and learn more about the priesthood.

This 4-day/3-night camp is filled with dynamic talks, small group discussions, prayer, sports, board games, fires/s'mores and so much more.

Questions?

Email: vocations@dioceseofjoliet.org



Morning Mass Schedule for April 22 - April 30

Please note the following changes for the morning Mass schedule:

NO MORNING MASSES ON:

Mon. April 22 - Thurs. April 25
Mon. April 29 & Tues. April 30

MORNING MASSES WILL ONLY BE CELEBRATED ON:

Friday, April 26
Confessions at 9:30 am
Mass at 10:00 am



"The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life — only to take it up again. ... I lay it down of my own accord. ... This command I received from my Father."
John 10:17-18, NIV



THANK YOU!

The CCW and the School Sisters of St. Francis would like to thank all of you who donated so generously to the Lenten Collection for the Santa Ana Mission in La Libertad. All of those pennies, nickels, dimes and "quiet" money added up to a \$7,500.00 contribution for this worthy community. In the words of Sister Enelly, "We express our gratitude for the support we received, with your efforts, we have been able to meet the needs of our mission."



Into the Desert

UNDERSTANDING OUR
PSYCHOLOGICAL & SPIRITUAL NEEDS

Thursdays at 6:00pm
3040 Finley Rd., Suite 200, Downers Grove



Join us for a new co-ed counseling group for young adults (ages 18-30).
Questions? Email counselingreferrals@cc-doj.org



Scan to Register!

We are a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.



WELCOME

Join us for a day of golfing fun and support a good cause!

The Director's Classic is the perfect opportunity to enjoy a round of golf with friends and family. Proceeds benefit the Saint Stephen Fund, which provides financial assistance for deacons in need. All are welcome!

JOIN US

- **10:30 AM** REGISTRATION & DRIVING RANGE OPEN AT PRAIRIE BLUFF
- **11:15 AM** LUNCH DISTRIBUTION, HEAD TO HOLES
- **11:30 AM** SHOTGUN START
- **5 PM** OPEN BAR, WINE PULL & RAFFLE AT BLANCHETTE CATHOLIC CENTER
- **6 PM** DINNER & AWARDS CEREMONY
- **8 PM** EVENT ENDS

Prairie Bluff Public Golf Course
19433 Renwick Road
Crest Hill, IL 60403

Blanchette Catholic Center
16555 Weber Road
Crest Hill, IL 60403

DIOCESE OF JOLIET
Office of the Diaconate



June 19 2024

DIRECTOR'S CLASSIC

A day on the links

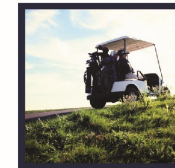
Our golf event will begin at Prairie Bluff Public Golf Course in Crest Hill and will include a box lunch, a swag bag at registration, and a special gift for each golfer. The day of fellowship will continue into the evening with a reception, raffle, dinner, and awards presentation at the Blanchette Catholic Center in Crest Hill.



GOLFERS & GUESTS

GOLFERS \$150/person, \$500/foursome
GUESTS \$30/person for dinner only

Mulligans are available for purchase during registration (see below). Awards will be given for lowest foursome score, hole-in-one, closest to the pin, and longest drive.



SPONSORSHIP & UNDERWRITING

Thank you for your generous support of the Director's Classic! See the event website for descriptions of sponsorship benefits.

\$2,500 Presenting Sponsor
\$1,250 Director's Tournament Sponsor
\$1,000 St. Stephen Sponsor
\$500 Hole Sponsor
\$250 Putting Green Sponsor

\$1,500 Dinner Underwriter
\$1,000 Lunch Underwriter
\$1,000 Open Bar Underwriter
\$750 Gift Bag Underwriter
\$550 T-Shirt Underwriter

REGISTRATION

Scan the QR code or visit vocations.diojoliet.org for details and registration. Golf, dinner and sponsorships can be purchased online.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

