

September 10, 2017

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

For where two or three are gathered together  
in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Matthew 18:20

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### Parish Information

10144 42nd Avenue  
Georgetown Township, MI 49428  
616-895-2247  
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
[lukespot.com](http://lukespot.com)  
[GVSUcatholic.org](http://GVSUcatholic.org)

### Sacramental Emergency

Contact Number  
616-649-2518

### Mass Schedule

*Sunday*

8 a.m.  
10:30 a.m.  
5 p.m.

*Tuesday - Friday*

5 p.m.

*Saturday*

9:30 a.m.

### PARISH STAFF & CONTACT INFORMATION

**Rev. Bill Vander Werff, Pastor**  
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Saint Luke University Parish  
[GVSUCatholic](http://GVSUCatholic)

Dear friends in Christ,

This is the first Sunday with the students back at Masses in which all of them are celebrated here at St. Luke's. A couple of weeks ago we had the first Mass of the school year in the Cook-DeWitt Center on campus, and of course, last weekend many students were gone for the long holiday weekend, but now everyone is back. The vacations are over, and perhaps now a new "normal" can settle in at the parish – if of course there is such a thing.

So with that in mind, I thought now would be a good time to reiterate the special mission of St. Luke University Parish. From the parish's inception ten years ago, there have always been two missions here – one to the year-round residents of the Allendale area, and the other to the students at Grand Valley's Allendale campus. However, while there are two missions, they should not be thought of as mutually exclusive and distinct, but rather related. That is because these two missions here at the parish are really part of the same mission, which is to both grow in our own personal relationship with Jesus Christ, to be witnesses to our community of that relationship, and thereby to lead others to a relationship with him. So really it would be more accurate to say that our parish does not have two missions but rather two expressions of the same mission.

At the same time, the two "halves" of the parish – the students and the year-round residents – can and should both enrich and support each other. Each one of us should recognize that we can not only serve the other in some way but can also learn from the other, thus growing in our own faith.

So with that in mind, I want to encourage the students to see St. Luke's as your home parish – or your "home-away-from-home" parish – and become involved here just as you would back home. If you have not gotten involved much at your home parish, now is a wonderful time to do so. In doing so, you will not only serve others but also grow in your own faith. Likewise, I encourage permanent or year-round parishioners to welcome the students as you have done in years past. Now that we are right next to campus, it is very likely that students will more and more be at all of the Masses. There will be more opportunities to get to know them and to make them feel at home here.

The most important thing that we can do as a parish community and for one another is to pray. Prayer benefits us as individuals, but also the whole community. A healthy parish means a parish whose individual members are dedicated to prayer and is one in which everyone shows up for Sunday Mass. If we neglect our prayer life and regular attendance at Sunday Mass, not only does this have a negative impact on our own personal relationship with Christ, it also negatively affects the whole community. Remember, the Church is the Body of Christ – what affects one affects all, what benefits one benefits all.

Let us keep one another in prayer as we begin this new academic year, and seek ways to love and serve one another.

In Christ,  
Fr. Bill

**Upcoming Parish Events**

**September**

- 10 - Ministry Training
- 17 - Blessing of the church Ceremony
- 18 - Adult Faith Formation Begins
- 24 - Faith Formation, Youth Ministry and Young Disciples Begins
- 24 - New Parishioner Welcome Event
- 25 - 28 Diocesan Priests Convocation - No Daily Masses

**October**

- 1 & 8- St. Luke's Time & Talent Fair (Stewardship Fair)

**This Week's Scripture Readings**

Available online at [usccb.org/bible](http://usccb.org/bible)

**Ministries for Sept. 17**

**Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass.**

**Lectors**

- 8:00 a.m. Lillian Gray (1st), Yvonne Boon (2nd)
- 10:30 Robert Talbert (1st), Pat Mitchell (2nd)
- 5:00 p.m. Kali Steck (1st), Robert Talbert (2nd)

**Altar Servers**

- 8:00 a.m. Alaina Barksdale, Jacob Vantrepott
- 10:30 Garret Zimmerman, Adelle Maksymowski
- 5:00 p.m. **Servers Needed**

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

- 8:00 a.m. Deb Buursta, Tim Alt, Jeanne Benedict
- 10:30 Jeanne Staub, Donna Roehr, Larry Van Wyk  
Jon Noworyta
- 5:00 p.m. Visiting Priest, Amy Wolf, Gene Smith, Linda Mitchell,  
Cathy Talbert, Visiting Priest, **Minister Needed**

**Ushers Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to Mass.**

- 8:00 a.m. David Boon (lead), Max Ainslie, Tim Rowland,  
Jason Horton
- 10:30 Tom Garvelink (lead), Jeff Staub, Jason Staub,  
**Usher Needed**
- 5:00 p.m. Larry Flagg (lead), Mark Schoenborn, Dan Gaiser,  
**Ushers Needed**

**CSA Update**

With your generous response to date, we have reached 98% of our parish CSA goal. 48% of our households have responded. Congratulations and thank you for your stewardship! Our goal is 100% participation, which means a completed pledge card from every household.

| Finances for September      | Envelope  | Online  | Combined  | Budgeted  | Over/Behind |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Total for August            | \$ 17,330 | \$6,615 | \$ 23,945 | \$ 24,000 | \$ (55)     |
| Sept. Month to Date         | \$ 2,891  | \$1,785 | \$ 4,676  | \$ 6,000  | \$ (1,324)  |
| Hurricane Relief Collection | \$ 1,622  |         |           |           |             |

**Happening this Week in Our Parish**

**Sunday (9/10) 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 8:00 a.m. Mass For Our People Church
- 10:30 Mass + Carole Martin Church
- 12:00 p.m. Altar Server Training Church
- 2:00 Baptism Preparation Church
- 3:00 Lector Training Church
- 4:00 Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training Church
- 4:00 RCIA/Catechumenate Church
- 5:00 Mass All Parishes Church
- 6:15 Usher Training Church

**Tuesday (9/12) The Most Holy Name of Mary**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass + Jack Trudgeon Church
- 5:30 Reconciliation Church
- 5:45 Yard Clean-Up Church
- 7:00 Eucharistic Adoration Church
- 7:30 K of C Council Meeting Church

**Wednesday (9/13) St. John Chrysostom**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass Victims of the Wildfires out West Church
- 5:30 Reconciliation Church
- 8:00 RCIA Inquiry Church

**Thursday (9/14) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass Victims of Hurricane Harvey Church
- 5:30 Reconciliation Church
- 7:00 Adult Prayer Church
- 8:00 Corpus Christi

**Friday (9/15) Our Lady of Sorrows**

- 5:00 p.m. Mass Victims of Hurricane Irma Church
- 5:30 Reconciliation Church

**Saturday (9/16) Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian**

- 9:00 a.m. Reconciliation Church
- 9:30 Mass Safety of Relief & Rescue Workers Church

**Sunday (9/17) 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 8:00 a.m. Mass Church
- 10:30 Mass Church
- 5:00 p.m. Mass of Blessing Church
- 6:00 Reception Church

**Food Pantry Needs**

St. Luke's Food Pantry appreciates your help!

**Our current food pantry needs:**

**Canned Fruit & Vegetables**

To donate, please drop items off in the shopping cart outside the pantry/McConnon Room at the church.

**Next pantry date: Sept. 21**

**Food Pantry is still collecting Family Fare Receipts.** For the receipts to count we **must have the full receipt**, not just the bottom part.

**Saint Luke University Parish**

September 10, 2017  
 Twenty-Third Sunday in  
 Ordinary Time  
 Volume 11, Number 42

***Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays***

Beginning this Tuesday, Sept. 12, Eucharistic Adoration will be held every Tuesday, 7-10 p.m. in the Church. Confession will be available during this time on most Tuesdays. Concluding with Benediction at 9:50. Please come and spend some time in silent prayer before the Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament.

***Taking Donations for Advent Wreath***

I will be at the table at the back after All Masses if you would like to make a donation. We are 3/4 of the way to reach our goal. Hopefully, we will get there soon. Thank you for all your generosity.  
-Elaine Briar, Environment

***Stewardship Fair***

On Oct. 1 & 8, we celebrate stewardship weekends at St. Luke's. Tables and sign-up sheets for many of our ministries will be in the vestibule after all liturgies. There are many talented parishioners in our parish, and we encourage you to participate in the life of the parish. A representative from each ministry will be available to answer your questions.

***St. Luke University Parish Knights of Columbus to host Youth Soccer Challenge Competition***

All boys and girls ages 9-14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2017 K of C Soccer Challenge. It will take place on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9-3 p.m. near the entrance to the AYSO soccer fields in front of Oakwood Intermediate school (10505 Learning Ln). Those younger than the 9-14 age group will be able to get in on the fun as well, but are not eligible for any advancement to the regional or state level. Questions? Please contact Joel Dykstra at [jdykstra101@gmail.com](mailto:jdykstra101@gmail.com).

***Wedding Anniversary Mass***

Together with your families, the Church in the Diocese of Grand Rapids honors the faithful witness to your vocation of marriage and wishes to celebrate with you. Bishop Walkowiak is inviting all couples celebrating milestone anniversaries to join him on Sunday, Oct. 22 at the 10 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. A simple reception will immediately follow. Please RSVP by calling the parish office with your names, number attending and number of years married.

**SCRIP**

***We miss you and need you back!***

As the summer winds down and we begin our busy fall schedules, I encourage those who have taken a summer break from scrip to begin your purchasing again; and those who haven't used the program to give it a try by purchasing a gas or grocery card every week for a month. You will see how easy and convenient it is! Every card earns a rebate (free money!) for the parish.

**Faith Formation for Children and Youth**

Faith Formation Sessions for children and youth begin Sunday, Sept. 24. Please contact John Graveline if you still need to register. If you have been preparing for Confirmation over the past year, you must be registered this fall for Youth Ministry to finish your preparations for Confirmation at the Cathedral on Nov. 7.

**Adult and College Student Bible Study**

What do Catholics believe about the Bible? How can you have a living relationship with the Word of God? St. Luke's will host a 7-week *Introduction to the Bible* course for adults and young adults 16+ beginning Monday, Sept. 18. We will meet every other Monday, 6:30-8:15 p.m. A suggested donation of \$25 is requested to cover materials cost, but no one will be turned away. Participants must be pre-registered by Sept. 16. Please contact John Graveline, [j.graveline@lukespot.com](mailto:j.graveline@lukespot.com), for more information or to register.

**Lord, Teach us to Pray**

Is prayer a struggle for you? Would you like to pray more, but don't know where to start? Would you like to deepen your spirituality? St. Luke's is hosting a one-night session for adults 16+, Adult Prayer: Moving Beyond Memorized Prayers, on Thursday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m. Learn the principles of a mature, deep spirituality, and also learn about the new opportunities for spiritual growth being offered at St. Luke University Parish.

**Sessions for Non-Catholics who Want to Learn More About Catholicism**

If you are not Catholic but would like to learn more about Catholic beliefs and practices, St. Luke's is hosting two Inquiry Series this fall. The first will be on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. This series will continue weekly until Nov. 15. The second series will be on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m., immediately following the 5 p.m. Mass beginning on Sept. 24. This series will continue weekly until Nov. 26. Pick either series as your schedule allows. Please contact John Graveline, [j.graveline@lukespot.com](mailto:j.graveline@lukespot.com), for more information.

**Child Protection Training**

At St. Luke's, we are committed to providing a safe space for our young people to grow in wisdom and grace. One way we do this is through hosting safe environment training. We have a Protecting God's Children training scheduled on Saturday, Nov. 18, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. If you have contact with young people under 18 in our parish ministries, you must take this training to volunteer. We encourage all adults to take this training. You must pre-register for the training. You may do that by visiting [www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org](http://www.dioceseofgrandrapids.org). Click the link at the lower right-hand corner of the home page labeled, "Protecting God's Children." Under Safe Environment Training, click the link, "Upcoming Sessions." Select "Grand Rapids, MI (Diocese)" as the organization on the drop down menu. You may then register for our session or any other time and location that work best for you. Please contact John Graveline with any questions or if help is needed registering.



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