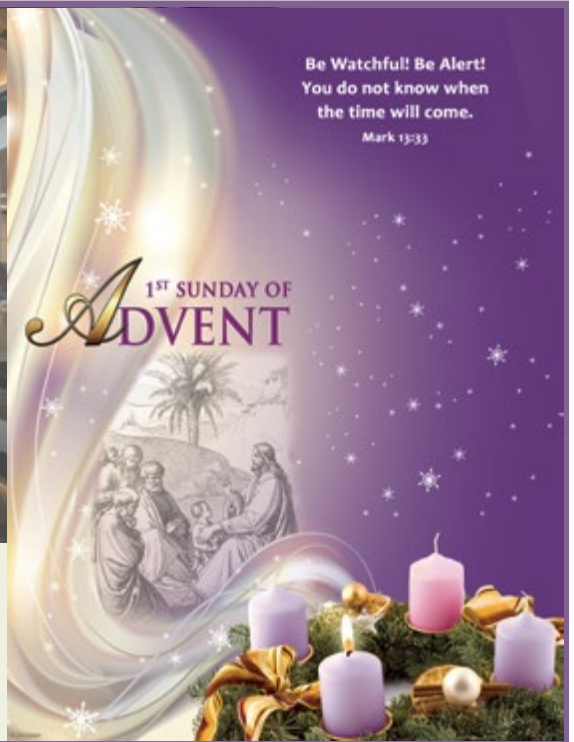




ST. LUKE
UNIVERSITY PARISH
GVSU CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY



Mass Schedule

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

Tuesday - Friday
5 p.m.

Saturday
9:30 a.m.
5 p.m.

December 2 & 3, 2017 **1st Sunday of Advent**

Parish Information

10144 42nd Avenue
Georgetown Township, MI 49428
616-895-2247
Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
lukespot.com
GVSUCatholic.org

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Dear friends in Christ,

This weekend begins the new liturgical year as well as the season of Advent. Advent is, as you know, a period of four weeks leading up to Christmas, when we celebrate the birth of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The tradition of Advent goes back at least 1500 years, although its exact origins remain unknown. The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, which itself comes from two Latin words: *ad* (towards) + *venire* (come), "coming towards", or simply "coming". This meaning indicates what the season of Advent is for: a period of preparation and anticipation of the approaching Solemnity of the Birth of Jesus who is "coming towards" us. However, in addition to preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus, we also anticipate the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time, when "everything is subjected to him" and "the last enemy to be destroyed is death" (1 Cor. 15:26-27).

As such, Advent should be a time of prayerful reflection, a time to slow down and take stock of our lives and where we are going. It is a time to ask ourselves the question: how am I preparing for the coming of the Lord into my own life? Yet, for how many of us are these weeks leading up to Christmas a time to "slow down"? Instead, they are often a very busy and stressful time – shopping for presents, decorating, parties, in addition to our regular, everyday activities. All of these things are fine in and of themselves, but when they start to diminish the whole purpose of this season, and when they create imbalance and anxiety in our lives, they become harmful to us and even detrimental to living out our Christian faith.

Let's be honest – much of what goes on this time of year no longer has anything to do with the original purpose of this beautiful season. The traditions associated with Christmas – especially buying gifts – have become ends in themselves. But the stress and anxiety that keeping up with all of this come from expectations that we choose to accept, from a consumer culture that is only too willing to impose them.

I encourage all of you to make the conscious, deliberate choice this Advent season to put things in their proper place: remember what this season of Advent and Christmas are all about. We are remembering how Jesus was born into this world so that He could live and then die for us and our salvation. Moreover, Jesus came into this world in utter simplicity – born in a cave where animals sheltered for the night.

In the midst of the busy-ness of this season, be sure to take some time every day in prayer to welcome Jesus into your own heart, and to reflect on the question I asked above: how am I preparing for the coming of the Lord into my own life? My prayer is that you will all have a very prayerful, peaceful, and blessed Advent season.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Bill

Upcoming Parish Events
December

- 3: Rites of Acceptance and Welcome - 5 p.m. Mass
- 8: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day Masses Noon, 5 p.m. & 7 p.m.
- 8-9: Meijer Simply Give Double Days at Standale Meijer
- 10: Second Collection-Retirement for the Religious Fund Christmas Flower Sale
- 24: 4th Sunday of Advent Masses 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve- Children's Mass 4 p.m.
- 25: Christmas Day- Midnight Mass 12 a.m., 10:30 a.m. Mass
- 25-28: No Daily Mass or Confessions
- 25-29: Parish Office Closed

January

- 1: Mary, Mother of God Mass 9 a.m.
- 2-5: No Daily Mass or Confessions

This Week's Scripture Readings

Available online at usccb.org/bible

Food Pantry Needs

St. Luke's Food Pantry appreciates your help!

- Our current food pantry needs:**
- Canned Fruit & Vegetables**
- Box Meals**

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

Next pantry date: Dec. 7

'Simply Give' Double Days are this week Friday & Saturday (Dec. 8 & 9) at the Standale Meijer!

Help us earn double for our Food Pantry.

Ministries for Dec. 10

Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass.

Lectors

- 8:00 a.m. Gayle Johnson (1st), Sue Schipper (2nd)
- 10:30 Kali Steck (1st), Deb Morello (2nd)
- 5:00 p.m. John Graveline (1st), Alanna Gerber (2nd)

Altar Servers

- 8:00 a.m. Ethan Thomas, Alaina Barksdale
- 10:30 Brandon Van Wyk, Sammi Steck
- 5:00 p.m. Ethan Ruffing, Allison Volk

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

- 8:00 a.m. Tim Alt, Jeanne Benedict, Kim Thomas
- 10:30 Sabrina Van Wyk, Linda Mitchell, Rod Morgan, Pam & Larry Van Wyk

5:00 p.m. Ana M Garcia, Katie Foy, Caolon Keenan,
Ministers Needed

Ushers

Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to Mass.

- 8:00 a.m. Dwayne Thomas (lead), David Boon, Jason Horton, William Norton
- 10:30 Isaiah Van Wyk (lead), Paul Steck, Joe Morello, Kevin Devos
- 5:00 p.m. John Fordney, Hector Garcia, Hector G Garcia,
Usher Needed

Happening this Week in Our Parish

Sunday (12/3) 1st Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 a.m. Mass + Anna Britton Chapel
- 9:15 Faith Formation (K-2) Conference Rm 2 & Nursery
- 10:30 Mass + Howard Lehti Chapel

First Communion of Clare Morgan

- 3:00 p.m. Youth Ministry Multi-purpose Area
- 3:15 Young Disciples (3-5) Conference Rm 2
- 3:30 Choir Rehearsal Chapel
- 5:00 Rites of Acceptance & Welcome Church
- 5:00 Mass For Our People Chapel
- 6:15 YM Leadership Meeting Multi-purpose Rm 1A

Monday (12/4) St. John Damascene

Tuesday (12/5)

- 4:30 p.m. Reconciliation Confessional
- 5:00 Mass Students Chapel
- 5:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 7:00 Eucharistic Adoration Chapel
- 7:00 Reconciliation Confessional
- 8:00 RCIA/Catechumenate Church

Wednesday (12/6) St. Nicholas

- 4:30 p.m. Reconciliation Confessional
- 5:00 Mass Children Chapel
- 5:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal Chapel

Thursday (12/7) St. Ambrose

- 3:30 p.m. Food Pantry McConnon Rm
- 4:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 5:00 Mass Vocations Chapel
- 5:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 7:00 Encountering & Proclaiming the Word Conf. Rm 2

Friday (12/8) Immaculate Conception of the Blessed

Virgin Mary - Holy Day

- 9:30 a.m. Parish Breakfast Murphy's
- 12:00 p.m. Mass Expectant Mothers Chapel
- 4:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 5:00 Mass Unborn Children Chapel
- 5:30 Reconciliation Confessional
- 7:00 Mass Families Chapel

Saturday (12/9) St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

- 9:00 a.m. Reconciliation Confessional
- 9:30 Mass Fall Graduates Chapel
- 9:30 Paulist Associates Meeting Church
- 5:00 Mass GVSU Students Chapel

Sunday (12/10) 2nd Sunday of Advent

Christmas Flower Sale after Morning Masses

- 8:00 a.m. Mass Chapel
- 9:15 Faith Formation (K-2) Conference Rm 2 & Nursery
- 9:15 The EVENT Planning Meeting Church
- 10:30 Mass Chapel
- 12:00 p.m. Baptism of Liam Slogar Chapel
- 1:00 Baptism Preparation Church
- 3:15 Young Disciples (3-5) Conference Rm 2
- 3:30 Choir Rehearsal Chapel
- 5:00 Mass Chapel
- 6:15 GVSU Student Dinner Multi-purpose Area



Altar Flowers for This Week

**For Angie Grzegorzczuk by
Bruce & Barb Grzegorzczuk**

And For Oliver Treece by Bryce Treece

Financial Update

| Finances for November | Envelope | Online | Combined | Budgeted | Over/Behind |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Total for October | \$ 20,315 | \$ 8,353 | \$ 28,668 | \$ 30,000 | \$ (1,332) |
| November Month to Date | \$ 16,463 | \$ 7,286 | \$ 23,749 | \$ 24,000 | \$ (251) |
| Fiscal Year to Date | \$ 88,422 | \$ 38,399 | \$ 126,821 | \$ 132,000 | \$ (5,179) |

Saint Luke University Parish

December 2 & 3, 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

Volume 12, Number 01

Confessions During Advent

Confessions will be held at special times during this Advent season. They will be held before and after Daily Mass Tuesday through Friday, 4:30-5 p.m. and 5:30-6 p.m.; Saturday before the morning Mass at 9 a.m.; and Tuesday evenings during Eucharistic Adoration from 7-10 p.m.

Christmas Choir

Will you be joining us for Christmas at Saint Luke's? Did you know that preludes will begin a half hour before the start of each Mass?! The children's choirs of Saint Luke's will be singing at the Christmas Eve 4 p.m. Vigil, the parish choir and special guest instrumentalists are preparing music for Midnight Mass, and St. Luke's musicians and special guests are preparing music for the 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass. Join us before Mass as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of the Lord!

Student Dinner Thank You

The November GVSU student meal was a success! The students expressed their thanks to all those who donated food, money, and/or time to make the meal possible.

Flower Sale Thank You

Thank you to all who purchased Thanksgiving flowers. Total proceeds exceeded \$600 and will go towards funding the flowers for Christmas. I would like to give a special thank you to Diane Emelander, Sheryl and Jason Horton, Sue Schipper, and Donna Roehr for helping with floral arrangements. Thank you, Elaine Briar

Gifting Tree Collection

St. Luke's is teaming with Social Services to provide gifts for children in Foster Care. We have a tree with tags that list suggested gifts for the different age groups. This is a terrific opportunity for children to help pick out a gift for someone in their age group. Gifts should be returned UNWRAPPED. Gift Bags are also needed. Please return gifts by Dec. 18. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Grzegorzcyk.

Prison and Jail Ministry Christmas Drive

This is the last week to donate to the Prison and Jail Ministry Christmas Drive. We are collecting the following:

- New White Tube Socks
- New Plastic Reading Glasses strengths: +1.0 +1.25 +3.0
- Travel Size Hygiene Items: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, moisturizing lotion, lip balm, and deodorant

Donations can be dropped off at the collection box in the church vestibule. Last day for donations will be Dec. 10.

SCRIP

Stuff those Stockings with gift cards from St. Luke's Scrip Store! Three weeks to Christmas! Looking to make your shopping easier. We have the answer...gift cards from the St. Luke's Scrip Program. Stop by and pick up our vendor list (over 700 to choose from), place your order, and we will have the prepaid cards ready the following Sunday. Did you know you can send a gift card anywhere? All you need is an email address. The scrip store will be open Dec. 10 & 17, but special orders must be placed no later than Dec. 10.

Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass Schedule

This Friday we celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Holy Day Masses will be held on Friday, Dec. 8 at noon, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The EVENT Committee Meetings

The planning committee is looking for your input. All EVENT planning meetings will be from 9:15-10:15 a.m. on the following dates: Dec. 10, Jan. 7, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25, Mar. 11, Mar. 25, Apr. 1, Apr. 8. Looking forward to seeing some new faces and making new friends.

Corpus Christi Truck Raffle Fundraiser

The drawing is two weeks away! Stop by the Scrip table to purchase your \$50 ticket. Last day to purchase tickets is Sunday, Dec. 10. Good Luck!

March for Life

March for Life is a peaceful demonstration that is currently the largest pro-life event in the world. This peaceful march happens in Washington D.C. at the Washington Monument. We hope each of you will consider joining our GVSU Students for Life group going to Washington in January. We travel as a group that is part of Students for Life of Michigan. There are usually at least three charter buses, and we stay in a hotel together for the weekend. The cost for the trip (including transportation, lodging, snacks and a tee-shirt) is \$185. We will be leaving Thursday night Jan. 18 and returning Sunday, Jan. 21. (You will miss only Friday classes, and Sister Lucia will send a note to excuse from class.) If you are interested but feel you cannot afford it, please do not worry. Students for Life members will be doing fundraising leading up to the event, and we will find a way for you to get on the bus!

To join the March for Life group going to D.C., first sign up for Students for Life on orgsync. You will be invited to the next planning meeting. Then register for this incredible event at sflmichigan.regfox.com/mfl2018.

Save the Date: "Living Every Day with Passion & Purpose" by Matthew Kelly.

Don't miss Dynamic Catholic and Matthew Kelly's largest event yet, presented on May 19 at the DeltaPlex in Grand Rapids. We are a host parish and have a limited number of tickets for this event available for only \$20 a ticket the weekend of Jan. 20. Make sure to purchase your tickets after Mass to take advantage of this exclusive one time offer. For more event details, visit DynamicCatholic.com or call 859-980-7900.

Fill The Fountain Gifts for Kids

We at Matthyse-Kuiper-DeGraaf Funeral Homes are partnering with the Jason Kinzler Family First Foundation to bless 50+ children in our community who have experienced the recent loss of a parent with a special gift. Join us in this effort by dropping off a new, unwrapped gift for a child (age 9 months to 18 years). We hope to "Fill The Fountain" at our 4145 Chicago Drive location with gifts to show care and compassion to those grieving families. We will accept gifts at our Kentwood and Wyoming locations as well during business hours from Dec. 1-Dec. 20.



DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

November 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

Soon, our parishes will be conducting the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious, an annual collection that benefits more than 32,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Our senior religious are a treasure. Their dedication and hard work laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and numerous social service organizations. Many continue in volunteer ministry today. Their ongoing prayer and witness enrich our faith in countless ways. I am grateful for the service of religious, past and present. I hope you, too, recall a sister or brother who made a positive difference in your life.

Most elder religious worked for years for small stipends, leaving a substantial gap in retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the challenge to meet such day-to-day needs as medications and nursing assistance. The Retirement Fund for Religious offers financial support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for God's continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured they are praying for you!

+ *David J. Walkowiak*

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids

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See you in December.

Campus View



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MATT BERRIOS
Paulist Student and graduate of GVSU

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