

The FLAME



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Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9:15 a.m.,

11:15 a.m.

Misa en Español 1:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Mass 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday

Prayer Service 9:00 a.m.

Mass 7:00 p.m.

A Letter From Pastor Guthrie

Dear Neighbors,

I want to thank you for looking over our newsletter. I hope you find information in here that sparks your interest and piques your imagination. I just arrived at St. Luke as pastor on 1 July, so I'm still trying to figure out what's where and how to get there. One thing that helps is that I was raised in this end of town, growing up in old and new Meadowbrook. Of course, there have been a lot of changes since I was a child here. Do any of you remember the Chuc Wagon on Broadway or the 5 & 10 store in Park Place (I think it was called Paulsen's). One of the things I have learned is that the old French saying is true: *the more things change, the more they remain the same.*

This year the parish of St. Luke the Evangelist is 39 years old and the people here have packed a lot of living into that time. To this day we are a group of people honestly seeking the truth, and we make no apologies for asking questions every day. We not only want to understand what it is God asks of us in general, but also what He wants us to do today. To help us better co-operate with God's will, we at St. Luke attend Scripture studies, gather for communal prayer every day of the week, take part in all kinds of continuing education, serve as lectors (readers) at weekday and Sunday Mass, work with and for the needy and those in distress, offer support to expectant mothers and their babies and involve ourselves in all kinds of educational programs for our youngsters, preschool through high school. We have a Young Adults group, an organization for widows and widowers and a landscaping group — we have something for everyone. We try our best to be an inclusive parish; we want everyone here to have the chance to feel like they belong.

If you are a parishioner attending Mass here every Sunday, thank you for your public witness to the faith and for helping keep this parish alive and vibrant. If you don't make it every Sunday then try to make it next Sunday and give us a chance to welcome you. If you've fallen away from the practice of your faith and want to see what we are like and perhaps find out more about what's going on here, then stop by the Welcome Center in the vestibule after Mass and give us a chance to get to know you. If you believe that God doesn't care and that church doesn't matter — then visit us on Sunday and see a lot of people who very respectfully disagree with you.

Hope to see y'all.

Faithfully yours,
Douglas J. Guthrie,
Pastor



Queridos Vecinos:

Les quiero dar las gracias por haber leído nuestro boletín de noticias. Yo espero que encontraran alguna información en este boletín que le haya encendido su interés y despertado su imaginación. Yo justamente llegué a San Lucas como pastor el 1 de julio, así que estoy tratando de entender qué, dónde y cómo para conocerle mejor. Una cosa que me ayuda es que yo fui creado en esta parte de la ciudad, creciendo en el viejo y nuevo Meadowbrook. Desde luego, ha habido muchos cambios aquí desde que yo era un niño. ¿Alguno de ustedes se recuerda de el "Chuc Wagon" en Broadway o la tienda "5 y 10" en Park Place (yo creo que se llamaba Paulsen's). Una de las cosas que he aprendido es que el viejo dicho Francés es verdad: *mientras más cambien las cosas, más permanecen siendo iguales.*

Este año la parroquia de San Lucas el Evangelista cumple 39 años y la gente aquí tiene muchos años vividos dentro de este tiempo. Hasta el día de hoy somos un grupo de personas que honestamente ha estado buscando la verdad y no nos disculpamos por hacer preguntas cada día. Nosotros no solamente queremos entender qué nos está Dios preguntando en general, pero también qué Él quiere que hagamos hoy en día. Para ayudarnos mejor a cooperar con el deseo de Dios, nosotros en San Lucas, asistimos a los estudios de las Escrituras, nos reunimos para la oración comunal cada día de la semana, tomamos parte en todas clases de educación continua, servimos como lectores todos los días y en las Misas de los domingos, trabajamos con y para los necesitados y esos con aflicciones, ofrecemos ayuda a madres expectantes y sus bebés y nos involucramos en todas clases de programas educacionales para nuestros jóvenes, pre-escuela a través de la escuela superior. Tenemos un grupo para Jóvenes Adultos, una organización para viudos y viudas y un grupo para la jardinería — tenemos algo para todos. Nosotros tratamos lo mejor que podemos para ser una parroquia de inclusión; queremos que todos aquí tengan la oportunidad de sentir que son parte de San Lucas.

Si usted es un parroquiano que asiste a Misa aquí cada domingo, gracias por su testimonio público de la fe y por ayudar a mantener esta parroquia viva y vibrante. Si usted no viene cada domingo, entonces trate de venir el próximo domingo para que nos de la oportunidad de darle la bienvenida a usted. Si usted se ha alejado de la práctica de su fe y quiere saber quienes somos y quizás saber más acerca de lo que está pasando aquí, entonces pase por el Centro de la Bienvenida en el vestíbulo de la Iglesia después de la Misa y denos la oportunidad de conocerle. Si usted cree que Dios no le importa y que la iglesia no es importante — entonces visítenos los domingos y verá a muchas personas que muy respetuosamente difieren de usted.

Fielmente de Ustedes,
Douglas J. Guthrie,
Pastor

Pope Francis: Use gifts to benefit church, not create division, envy, annoyance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Everyone has a special gift to offer the whole church, just make sure it is used to serve everyone and not to puff up one's own pride or to create division, Pope Francis said.

"It is a gift that God has given to someone not because he or she is a better person than someone else or because she or he deserves it," the pope said at his weekly general audience in St. Peter's Square Oct. 1

God gives gifts freely, out of love, so that they can be "put at the service of the whole community for the good of all people," he said...

Critically, these gifts have to be discovered and acknowledged within the wider church community, the pope said. "Someone cannot figure out by himself if he has a charism and which one." ...

It's only within a community and with its recognition and encouragement that people can discover what their unique charism is, he said. "It's good for each one of us then to ask ourselves, 'Is there some kind of charism the Lord has made evident in me?'" and then reflect on how that gift is used. "Do I live it with generosity, putting it at the service of everyone or do I neglect it and end up forgetting about it? Or maybe it has become a source of pride" and jealously, he said.

"There's trouble in store if these gifts become sources of envy, division or jealousy," he said.

The church, he said, should not be afraid of the huge array and variety of charisms out there. Rather than being seen as "a problem" or a cause for "confusion or discomfort, they are all gifts that God gives the Christian community so that it can grow in harmony, in the faith and in his love as only one body, the body of Christ."

The Holy Spirit is the one that creates this multiplicity of gifts, he said, and the one who unites them in their diversity...

By Carol Glatz
[Catholic News Service](#)



Papa Francisco: Usar regalos para beneficiar a la iglesia, no crear división, envidia, enojo

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) - *Todo el mundo tiene un don especial para ofrecer a toda la iglesia, sólo asegúrese de que se utiliza para servir a todos y no para inflar el orgullo propio de una o de crear división, dijo el Papa Francisco.*

"Es un regalo que Dios ha dado a alguien no porque él o ella es una persona mejor que otra persona o porque él o ella se lo merece", dijo el Papa en su audiencia general semanal en la Plaza de San Pedro 01 de octubre

Dios da dones libremente, por amor, para que puedan ser "puestos al servicio de toda la comunidad para el bien de todas las personas", Él dijo ...

Fundamentalmente, estos dones tienen que ser descubierto y reconocido dentro de la comunidad de la iglesia más amplia, dijo el Papa. "Alguien no puede averiguar por sí mismo si tiene un carisma y cuál." ...

Es sólo dentro de una comunidad y con su reconocimiento y estímulo que la gente pueda descubrir cuál es su carisma único, dijo. "Es bueno para cada uno de nosotros, entonces que preguntarnos, '¿Hay algún tipo de carisma que el Señor ha hecho evidente en mí?'" Y luego reflexionar sobre cómo se usa ese don. "¿Vivo con generosidad, poniéndolo al servicio de todo el mundo o me descuido y terminan olvidando de ello? ¿O tal vez se ha convertido en una fuente de orgullo y celos, Él dijo.

"Hay problemas en la tienda si estos regalos se convierten en fuentes de la envidia, los celos o la división", dijo.

La iglesia, Él dijo, no debe tener miedo de la gran cantidad y variedad de las carismas que hay. En lugar de ser visto como "un problema" o un motivo de "confusión o malestar, que son todos los regalos que Dios nos da la comunidad cristiana para que pueda crecer en armonía, en la fe y en su amor como un solo cuerpo, el cuerpo de Cristo ".

El Espíritu Santo es el que crea esta multiplicidad de dones, y el que los une en su diversidad ...

Advent & Christmas Liturgical Calendar



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, November 30

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year

Monday, December 8

9:00 a.m. Mass in English 7:00 pm Mass – Bilingual

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Friday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Mass – English

7:00 p.m. Mass – Bilingual

followed by dinner in the Social Hall

LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE

Sunday, December 14 – 7:00 p.m.

PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, December 15 – 7:00 p.m.

CHURCH DECORATING

Monday, December 22 – *following the 9:00 a.m. Mass*

SOLEMNITY OF CHRISTMAS

a Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 24 – *Christmas Eve*

4:30 p.m. Children's Mass

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

Thursday, December 25 – *Christmas Day*

12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

10:00 a.m. Mass – Bilingual





“...helped me realize that you didn’t have to travel to third world countries to make a difference...”

A Visit to Casa Juan Diego “Feeds the Soul”

Fellow parishioners, my name is Ashley Alvarez, and I am one of the candidates preparing for Confirmation. Recently, as part of the Confirmation process, we went on a service trip to Casa Juan Diego, and I’d like to take a moment to tell you about my experience.

For those who don’t know, Casa Juan Diego is a shelter for Houston’s disadvantaged. It was co-founded by Mark and Louise, a couple who dedicate their lives to service. They live at the shelter with the people they serve and receive no compensation for their work. When we arrived, Mrs. Louise sat down with us and emphasized the importance of Scripture in the founding of Casa Juan Diego. Inspired by the Lord’s words that “whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40), Mark and Louise have chosen a life of voluntary poverty in order to seek joy and spiritual fulfillment.

While we were there, my group helped package and sort copies of their newsletter that were to be distributed as far as Japan and Peru. The scope of their influence was both eye-opening and inspiring, and it helped me realize that you didn’t have to travel to third world countries to make a difference in the lives of those in need.

After we finished the newsletters, the volunteers gave us a tour of the garden at Casa Juan Diego. The garden is a self-sustaining, green haven that exists amid the stark urbanization of the downtown area. The garden’s vegetables and fruits help support both those living at Casa Juan Diego as well as an additional 400 families in need. During our visit, one of the volunteers told us that his work at Casa Juan Diego is work that “feeds the soul.”

For me, one of the most memorable moments of our trip was this distinction between food for the body and food for the soul. While the man’s day job provides the funds for his physiological necessities – the food for the body – it is his service at Casa Juan Diego that provides the nourishment for his soul, a certain spiritual fulfillment that no amount of monetary compensation can begin to satisfy.

When we returned to the Cenacle Learning Center, we reviewed how Casa Juan Diego exemplifies the Catholic values of the innate dignity of the human person, the dignity of work and the rights of workers, and the ever important communal aspect of our faith. When it was time to go home, I, and I hope my fellow candidates, left with the distinct impression that we had taken an essential step forward in both our Confirmation process and, more importantly, in our faith.

Casa Juan Diego

P. O Box 70113

Houston, Texas 77270

713-869-7376

To bring donations of food or clothing: 4818 Rose, Houston, Texas 77007
Donations of food and clothing between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Monetary donations are very much appreciated
info@cjd.org



STEWARDSHIP MONTHLY THEMES

DECEMBER—"JOYOUSLY WAITING"

The Advent Wreath can be a way to involve even very little children in learning about Christian preparation - not only for celebrating Our Lord's birth, but to make our hearts truly ready to receive Him. The wreath's symbolism of the advent (coming) of Light into the world is clear. The gradual lighting of the four candles, one on each Sunday of the Advent season, combined with the liturgical colors of the candles (purple is the penitential color used during Advent and Lent; rose is a liturgical color used only on Gaudete Sunday in Advent and Laetare Sunday in Lent) help to symbolize not only our expectation and hope in Our Savior's first coming into the world, but also in His Second Coming as Judge at the end of the world.

The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. Children who are old enough can take turns lighting the candles. (The littlest ones can blow them out at the end of the meal.) If you use the wreath at mealtime, it is helpful to place it on a tray or platter so it can be moved and to protect the table from candle wax. On Christmas Day, all the greens and decorations are replaced with fresh ones, and four new white candles, symbolizing Christ, replace the colored ones and are burned throughout the Christmas season.



January - "Closer to God: Resolutions for a New Year"

January 6, 2015: Epiphany of the Lord

The Three Wise Men (Kings) brought gifts to Jesus.

What is your gift for Jesus?

An old Catholic tradition is for families to bless their homes on the Feast of the Epiphany. See House Blessing on parish website or pick up a copy in the church narthex.

As a family read Luke 19:1-9.

FEBRUARY—"LOVE AND COMPASSION"

February 3, 2015 St Blaise--Blessing of the Throats

A ritual performed by the Roman Catholic Church. The legend is that a boy was brought to St Blaise with a fish-bone stuck in his throat. The boy was about to die when St Blaise healed him.





Why we like St Luke!

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On October 4, 2014 we gathered in the rear parking lot at 10am as Fr. Guthrie blessed our beloved pets. He shared with us a reading from the book of Genesis and prayed over our pets that they may have long and healthy lives. We also gathered in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi, a person who had a deep love and respect for all creatures



Celebrating the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz of Manila

On September 29, 1637, San Lorenzo Ruiz, the son of a Chinese father and Tagala mother who lived in the Parian district outside the city walls of Manila professed his faith by martyrdom.



He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in Manila and later canonized on October 28, 1987. San Lorenzo Ruiz holds the distinction of being the first person beatified outside the Vatican. He also holds the honor of being the first Filipino saint, the "most improbable of saints," as Pope John Paul II described him during the canonization ceremony.

Senior 55+ Information Fair On August 23, 2014 St. Luke the Evangelist hosted their first Senior 55+ Information Fair, *Unleash the Power of Age*. A day of speakers, events, vendors, and demonstrations that touched many areas of senior needs from Medicare information, senior vacations, senior dancers, food & door prizes.



Safe Trunk or
Treating for the
youth of our par-
ish in our church
parking lot!



Tet Vietnamese New Year

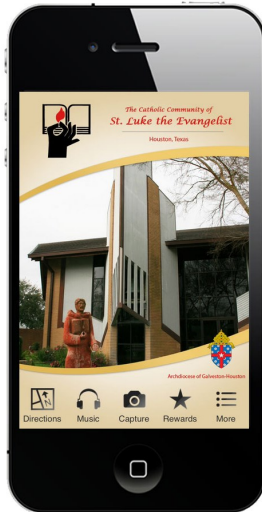
Our parish celebrates "Tet" the Vietnamese New Year. Our Vietnamese parishioners treated our community to a sampling of their traditional celebration.

TET is a time for reunions, paying respect to ancestors and elders plus gifts of food is made to friends, neighbors and relatives.





What Can My Parish App Do?



Pray: Help you pray with common prayers, Order of the Mass, Daily Readings, Sunday Reading Reflections, Morning, Daytime, Evening & Nighttime Prayer, the complete Bible, Saint of the Day, Stations of the Cross, and Pray as You Go Podcasts!

Here I Am!: Help locate your parked car, share your location with friends and family for a simple get together or help them locate you in case of an emergency.

And much, much more!

Download our Parish App (it's free) by searching the app store for "St. Luke the Evangelist".

Community of St. Luke's Vision

We, as the Catholic Community of St. Luke the Evangelist, invite all to come together to worship and serve the Lord in a spirit of love, sharing, and hope.

In response to God's call to fulfill the needs of others, our vision is to effectively use our gifts to proclaim the Good News.

We recognize that we are a diverse, yet unified community whose foundation of faith rests upon Jesus Christ.

The Catholic Community
St Luke the Evangelist
11011 Hall Road
Houston, Texas 77089
(281)481-6816

stlukesatholic.com

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