



OCTOBER 2011

Saint Luke's DAYS

Dear Friends,
Please mark your calendars now for *two*
Saint Luke's Days this October:

Saint Luke's Patronal Festival
Sunday, October 16

Saint Luke's Ministry Fair
Sunday, October 30

October 16: Our annual Patron Saint's Day is an opportunity to recall elements in the life of Saint Luke that reflect the Gospel way of life. This year, we celebrate Saint Luke the Physician with a liturgy that makes use of many prayers for healing. Our Festive Choral Eucharist is always a celebration with special music offered by the choir. As always, parishioners are encouraged to wear the colors of the day—red, for the Holy Spirit; or blue, the color worn by the Order of Saint Luke, an organization dedicated to healing ministries. This year, following the 10:30am liturgy, there will be a Parish Forum on our Saint Luke's community lifestyle entitled, "The Spirit of Giving".

October 30: Saint Luke's Ministry Fair will take place following both the 8:30 and 10:30 liturgies. If on the 16th we feast on all the gifts we have been given as Saint Luke's Church, on the 30th we focus on the work we have been given to do. Our parish ministry committees will each have "booths" set up in the parish hall. Parishioners will be encouraged to visit the booths to learn more about our various ministry projects and the ways in which we can become even more engaged in carrying out the mission of the

church. In addition, all members of Saint Luke's will have the opportunity to respond to a survey on our parish ministries. Your feedback is a crucial aspect of our ongoing discernment about the future shape of Saint Luke's Church, so please plan to participate in both Saint Luke's Days this October.

Faithfully yours,

Vestry Resolution on
Bishop's Pastoral Letter

At its regular Vestry Meeting on September 21, Saint Luke's Vestry considered Bishop Provenzano's provision that allows for the celebration and blessing of same-gender marriages. The Vestry resolution follows here:

All are Welcome

Our parish mission statement says that Saint Luke's Church strives to be a center of spiritual strength and compassionate service, a welcoming home to all who seek a greater awareness of God's purpose. United by God's abiding love, we celebrate the rich diversity of our community, opening our doors to all people.

Sharing Fully in the Sacramental
Life of the Church

Following the June 2011 passage of the New York State Marriage Equality Act, The Right Reverend Lawrence Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island, embraced The Episcopal Church's 2009 General Convention resolution which calls for generous pastoral response in dioceses where civil union and marriage are permitted for same-gender couples. The Rector, Wardens and Vestry of Saint Luke's Church accept and endorse our Bishop's direction allowing the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and use of rites that bless marriages between persons of the same gender. Furthermore, Saint Luke's Church

assures all persons of the pastoral care and sacramental ministry of Christ (Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Affirmation of Faith, Ministry Discernment, Marriage, Ministry with the Sick and Dying).

We are All Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Whether one is seeking the Church's blessing in marriage or guidance for faithful living; whether you are married or single, an adult, teenager, young girl or boy, each one of us is a child of God blessed with divine gifts and called to life together in sharing the gifts of God. By worshipping and learning together, we share in the joys of faith and supportive community, remembering that we are called to be the presence of Christ in the world.

Volunteers Needed to Deliver God's Love

With the new season of Fall upon us, the Outreach Committee is recruiting people to deliver food for GLWD (God's Love We Deliver). There are currently 4.5 teams of driver-riders and we are looking for another driver so that the rotation for each team will be every 5 weeks.

GLWD is a food ministry whose mission is to bring nutritious meals to people who are too sick to shop or prepare food themselves. As their policy is to accept into the program all who are medically qualified, they strive to increase the number of volunteers willing to deliver meals on a regular basis. Saint Luke's has committed to deliver food to 7 households every Wednesday. We therefore ask you to consider joining us. It is an easy ministry, but one that blesses you a thousandfold.

Please contact Barbara Gratz by email (barbaragratz@yahoo.com), or phone (718-418-8186), or in person following the 10:30 Sunday services if you want to know more about this ministry, and if you feel you'd like to give it a try. And visit our Outreach booth at the Ministry Fair on October 30 to

find out more about this and other Outreach ministries.

-- Barbara Gratz

New/Updated Parish Directory Available

Members can pick up the Parish Directory Booklet from the table in the church narthex. The Directory is updated each September and lists the names and contact information for all parishioners (we have been blessed with a number of new members during the past year), birthdays and anniversaries, college student school year information, Friends of Saint Luke's listing, and important information about parish life. Be sure to pick up your copy this Sunday. Its eye-popping yellow cover will be hard to miss!

Accessibility Entrance Report

Though all City and Forest Hills Gardens authorizations are in place for the construction of the church entrance accessibility ramp, some design and cost considerations are responsible for the slow-down. Specifically, the architectural brick pattern originally envisioned for the new stoop has been deemed too expensive when the labor hours for laying the brickwork became evident. As a result, the committee had to research attractive yet less costly options. Having now decided upon a "pea grit" surface of concrete and small stones—the standard and accepted walking path surface throughout Forest Hills Gardens—our parish project should move ahead into the construction phase very soon this fall.

"All Creatures Great and Small..."

***Saint Francis and Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 2***

Saint Luke's annual Blessing of the Animals will take place at 11:30am on the parish lawn immediately after the 10:30 Eucharist. All parishioners, friends and neighbors are warmly invited to bring their beloved pets to

this brief ceremony, and to linger afterward for refreshments.

**Father Doubleday Leads
Adult Education Series
Wednesday Evenings, October 26,
November 2 and 9 at 7:30pm**

**The Modern Episcopal Church: How We
Got Here, Where We Might Be Going.**

Oct 26: 1945-1960: An Era of Mythic
Memories and Mainline Protestant
Dominance

Nov 2: 1960-1980: An Era of Radical
Change and the Rise of Conservative
Christianity

Nov 9: 1980-Present: An Era of New
Challenges and Opportunities: The
Baptismal Covenant and Lay Ministries,
Anti-Racism and Pluralism, New
Technologies, Changing Views on Human
Sexuality, Graying Congregations, and "I
am Spiritual but not Religious"

Plan to attend these lively presentations—a
great way to gain a deeper understanding of
the history of the Episcopal Church as we
prepare for our upcoming Centennial Year.

*** LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER ***

**Gingerbread Players Present
William Shakespeare's Romantic Comedy
"Twelfth Night"**

Hello, you bard buffs out there! The 2011
theatre season in New York has offered us a
generous dose of Shakespeare's "dark"
comedies – *Measure for Measure*, *All's Well
that Ends Well*, and *The Merchant of Venice*
twice!

"If Music Be the Food of Love..."

Cheer up, Shakespeare fans. The
Gingerbread Players will bring you a light-
hearted *Twelfth Night* in November, a
production that is all mischief, mirth and
merriment. Look for your old favorites (Jim
Chamberlain as Feste, Andrew Dinan as
Malvolio, David Friedman as Sir Toby
Belch, Louise Guinther as Viola, Lori Feren
as Olivia) and discover some delightful
newcomers as well (Kenneth Eckert as Sir
Andrew Aguecheek and Guy Ventolieri as
Orsino).

Plan to come to at least one of four
performances: Saturday, November 5 at
7:30pm, Sunday November 6 at 2:30pm,
Saturday, November 12 at 7:30pm and
Sunday, November 13 at 2:30pm. Suggested
donation is \$12, \$10 for groups of six or
more. For best seats, make your reservations
early by calling 718-268-7772, or visit
www.gingerbreadplayers.org.

--Dolly Guinther
Director

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

4 Dennis Daniel
7 Kellen Reese
8 Brian and Marianne Percival (A)
11 Edna Boyce
12 Dillon Philip Anastasi
20 Luke Seagraves Patterson
21 Robert Lin and Suzanne Schick-Lin (A)
22 Chris and Diane Santana (A)
23 Brice E. Simmons
24 Emma Simcox
28 Noelle Lenti-Nightingale
30 Chris Santana
30 Fisher Brown
31 Jane Thornton
31 Shalini Varghese
31 Austin Baxter

Saint Luke's Church Vestry

Rector: The Reverend Thomas F. Reese

Wardens: Anne Harte Su, Velma Adams

Vestry: Gary Carldon, Jackie Dinas, Christopher Dippel, Louise Foisy, Ed Geist, Barbara Gratz, Joanna Guinther, Jeanine McPartlin, Brian Percival, John Ryding, Jane Thornton, Karen Van Westering

Treasurer: Jean Tessier

Clerk: Jeanine McPartlin

Parish Staff

The Reverend William Doubleday,
Priest Associate

William J Stokes, Interim Organist
and Choir Director

Lisa Duca, Parish Administrator
Martha Garcia, Sexton

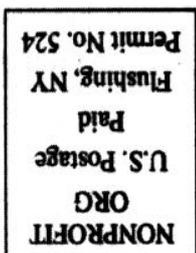
Office Phone: 718-268-6021

E-mail: stlukesoffice@verizon.net

www.stlukesforesthills.org

Father Reese phone: 917-714-5647

E-mail: stlukestom@yahoo.com



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Saint Luke's Church
85 Greenway South
Forest Hills, NY 11375

