



THE BELLRINGER

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH

FOREST HILLS, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 2014

Farewell Summer, Welcome Autumn!

Dear Friends,

As summer once again draws to a close, and thoughts and planning turn to school and other pursuits of the coming season of fall, I want to make mention of a particular kind of class: Confirmation Preparation classes.

Bishop Provenzano will administer Confirmation on Saturday, October 18 at 11am at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City. We have a small group of teenagers who will gather in preparation, as well as several adults.

For our teens, Confirmation is a coming of age celebration and affirmation – the Church's way for young people to reaffirm and say “Yes” for themselves regarding the promises their godparents made for them at Baptism when they were babies. Teenagers in today's world face many, many adult situations. Those who love them and care about them – from parents to teachers, clergy and friends – all know that we can be supportive for our teens in helping them to realize they have the tools, the courage and the faith to make decisions.

Confirmation preparation and the Celebration of Confirmation by the gathered Christian Community is a way for our young people to reflect upon which elements of faith are helpful to them in understanding God, the world around them, and better understanding themselves too – their own joys, hopes and dreams as well as the things in life that can cause them nervousness or worry. Confirmation is an event that reminds those to be confirmed that they are not alone and that they are respected and valued members of the faith community because each one of them is an amazing gift from God; and that, because of their own unique talents and

abilities, they can and do enhance the quality of life in the parish, at home, at school, with friends, and wherever they go.

Of course, all this holds true for adult members of the church also. In fact, one thing that Confirmation reminds all of us is that Christ is calling us. No matter our age, Jesus is inviting us to follow his path – his way and truth; his life.

You needn't be getting confirmed in October to participate in the Confirmation classes that begin in September. So consider this an open invitation. The first "class" will be my sermon on Sunday, September 14. Then classes will continue on the following Sundays:
September 21 and 28, 12 noon to 1:15pm
October 5 and 12, 12 noon to 1:15pm

And on Saturday, October 18th, I know a sizeable Saint Luke's contingent will be present at the Cathedral to support our confirmands.

Faithfully yours,



Summer Milestones

On Sunday, June 8, Enrique St.Armand and Sophia Mercado were received into the fellowship of Christ's Body, the Church through the ceremony of Holy Baptism. Please keep Enrique and his parents, Sonia Duchatattellier and Gary St.Armand, and Sophia and her parents, Angel and Angelica Mercado, in your prayers.

On Saturday, July 12, Joanna Guinther and David Friedman were united in Holy Matrimony. Please keep them in your prayers.

Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers Resumes September 10

We warmly welcome our rector upon his return from vacation. Father Tom will celebrate the 8:30 and 10:30 liturgies on September 7, and the healing service on Wednesday, September 10 at 10:00am.



RUMMAGE SALE OR BUST!

Bring us your unwanted treasures!

The Rummage Sale, one of the longest-running Saint Luke's traditions, is also among our most effective and essential fundraisers for the church's mission and ministry. More than that, it's a great chance to bond with fellow parishioners and open our arms wide to the outside world. And it's a lot of fun — especially when there are many hands making the labor light — so please let us know that you can lend a hand! This year's sale takes place on **SATURDAY, OCT. 11, 10 AM TO 4 PM, and SUNDAY, OCT. 12, NOON TO 4 PM.**

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The main ingredient for success is *lots of volunteers*. Whatever your strengths, we have the perfect job for you.

COLLECTING HAS BEGUN! Help us cover receiving hours at the church on Saturdays from 10 am to noon; Sundays from noon to 1 pm, now through Sept. 21. All you have to do is direct donors to place their contributions onstage, and give them a form to fill out for tax purposes.

SPREADING THE WORD: Please take some flyers (available in the parish hall), post them on any local bulletin board and distribute them to your neighbors and friends to encourage them to donate now and come back and shop later!

SETUP/CLEANUP: BETTER THAN ZUMBA!

Upstairs Setup Day, Sat., Sept. 27 at 10 am: Get a healthy workout hauling tables and racks and distributing the accumulated rummage.

Downstairs Setup Day, Fri., Oct. 10: *We really need help from anyone who is available during the day on Friday, or the Thursday night before, to get the downstairs departments organized in a jiffy.*

Cleanup Day, October 12, starting at 4 pm:

You'll get a chance to use those new muscles when we pack away the leftover treasures to be donated to various charities. It is essential to get the downstairs shipshape for day care and the upstairs back in order for us!

SORTING AND PRICING: Urban Archaeology at its most entertaining.

Daytime and evening sessions to sort through the fabulous treasures are planned for the two weeks before the sale. (Hours will be posted.)

FOOD PREPARATION AND SALE: Jean Tessier needs help in the kitchen before and during the sale, as well as your contributions of cookies, cakes, etc., to keep the shoppers well fed and eager to buy.

DEPARTMENT HEADS/SALES STAFF: All departments need volunteers, including Ladies' Separates, Menswear, Boutique, Children's Dept., Jewelry, Appliances, Linens, Outerwear, Books, Snack Bar and White Elephant.

TO VOLUNTEER, JUST LET US KNOW YOU'RE AVAILABLE.

No experience necessary -- you'll get on-the-job training! Sign up on the sheets in the narthex and parish hall, call or email Louise (212-769-7082; ltg@operanews.com) or Debbie (718-847-3015; dslimeybaby@gmail.com), or seek us out at coffee hour and tell us you'd like to lend a hand.

Louise Guinther & Deborah Ledger-Smith
Rummage Co-chairs



*After a Summer Hiatus,
Saint Luke's "Bookstore"
is Open for Business*

Fiction, non-fiction, religion, cookbooks, travel guides, children's books -- you name it, you'll probably find it on our book table in the Parish Hall. All books are donated by parishioners, so if you have some you no longer love, please bring them with you to church or drop them off at the office during the week. Take as many books as you like, decide how much they're worth to you, and put the money in the Outreach Jar on the coffee-hour buffet table. Every little bit helps the Coalition for the Homeless care for homeless children, women and men in dire need.

*Amazon.com Link on Saint Luke's
Web Page Also Supports Our
Coalition for the Homeless*

Need to do some online shopping? If you make a purchase from Amazon.com through the link on our web site, Saint Luke's will receive a small percentage of that purchase price which will be added to our grant.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS -- BUSY
WEEKEND COMING UP!**

**Saturday, September 13:
Saint Luke's Choir Workshop**

After a well-deserved summer vacation, our wonderful choir will get a tune-up for the coming fall and winter at a workshop led by organist and choir director Bill Stokes. The workshop will run from 2:30 to 5:30pm, followed by dinner hosted by Father Tom at the Rectory.

Sunday, September 14:

NEW CHURCH SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

All children are invited to join the Church School for fellowship, fun, and faith formation. We meet at 10:15 on Sunday mornings.

Younger children (Pre-K through 3rd grade) meet in the classroom downstairs below the nave, and older children (4th grade and up) gather in the Lower Parish Hall. Over the summer, our enthusiastic team of teachers have been busy attending workshops and planning a great year of faith formation. We are excited that some classes this year will include elements of Godly Play, a Montessori-based approach of sharing Bible stories with children, and we will also continue exploring our faith through crafts, acting, music and other activities.

All the teachers from this past Spring are returning, and we'd like to welcome the newest member of our teaching team, Wei Gentile.

We look forward to seeing our returning students on the 14th. If your children haven't been a part of our Church School program before, this is a great time to begin! If you have any questions, please contact Emily Taylor at 718-456-9670 or at erwtaylor@gmail.com

Sunday, September 14:

Choir Returns

and

Parish Potluck Lunch

We warmly welcome all our dedicated singers, especially our two new choir members, Bob Lin (tenor) and Suzanne Schick (alto)! Having tuned up at the choir workshop on the previous day, our choir will be back in the stalls at the 10:30 liturgy on September 14. Immediately after the service, everyone is invited to the potluck lunch in the Parish Hall.

Please sign up on one of the sheets in the narthex and Parish Hall indicating how many people will be attending and what food you will bring to share.

Sunday, September 14:

**New York Opera Forum
Performs "La Gioconda"**

Under the direction of founder Richard Nechamkin, NYOF will present Amilcare Ponchielli's opera "La Gioconda" in concert at 4:00pm. Among the talented singers in the cast will be our own David Friedman. A wine and cheese reception follows the performance. Suggested donation is \$12, and \$10 for seniors and students.



Vigil of Saint Michael and All Angels

Monday, September 29 at 7:30pm:

Holy Eucharist with Hymns

This year's Michaelmas celebration falls on a Monday evening. As is our custom, worshippers are invited to bring fresh-cut flowers to adorn the altar. During the liturgy, a designated parishioner will tell the story of having encountered an angel, and after the Eucharist we will share a dinner ordered in from a local restaurant. Please join us!

Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Lamp

When you make a contribution for altar flowers (\$50) or sanctuary lamp (\$10) in memory of a departed loved one or in thanksgiving for the blessings of your life, your gift will be incorporated in that Sunday's intercessions. Following the liturgy, altar flowers are distributed to the homebound, hospitalized and others in need of cheer. Please email or phone your request to Lisa in the parish office. Checks may be made out to Saint Luke's with "altar flowers" or "sanctuary lamp" on the memo line.



September Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Gabriel Gentile
- 3 Vera Morón
- 3 Luke Dinan
- 5 Anthony Torres
- 6 Earl Liao
- 6 Julia Khan and Virginia Yu (A)
- 7 Dolly Guinther
- 8 Anneliese Wang
- 9 Kelsey Reese
- 10 Chandra Singh
- 12 Katie Laatikainen
- 12 Jeanine McPartlin
- 13 Benjamin Lee Callahan
- 15 Matthew and Lena Kempe (A)
- 16 Brianna Kelly
- 19 Joetta Wagner
- 20 Edna and Joseph Boyce (A)
- 24 Linda and Kenneth Portz (A)
- 25 Brendan Gieseke
- 25 Matthew Bachiochi

DON'T FORGET... ***RUMMAGE COLLECTION*** ***HAS BEGUN!***

BRING US YOUR UNWANTED TREASURES

Collection dates:

Saturday, Sept. 6, 10:00am to
12:00noon

Sunday, Sept. 7, 12:00noon to 1:00pm

Saturday, Sept. 13, 10:00am to
12:00noon

Sunday, Sept. 14, 12:00noon to 1:00pm

Saturday, Sept. 20, 10:00am to
12:00noon

Sunday, Sept. 21, 12:00noon to 1:00pm