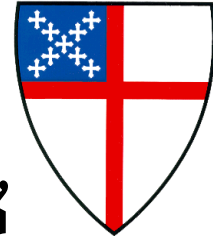




The Good News



St. Luke's Episcopal Church Newsletter
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Vol. 3 Ed. 7

October 2014

Parish News

Consecration Sunday

Consecration Sunday will be held on Sunday, October 19th at the 9:30 AM service. Please plan to attend this important service of renewal for our parish. This day not only marks a time for our parishioners to reconsider their financial stewardship but also how they can give of their time and talents. We also celebrate new and returning Vestry members who guide and support our parish from behind the scenes. Dinner for all parishioners will follow the service in Kreitler Hall.

What ways can you become involved in helping to support St. Luke's? Some possible ways to give to your parish include: increasing your weekly contribution, volunteering to help out at an activity, lending a hand with minor repairs, helping with one of our parish ministries, welcoming new members, inviting friends and family to join our parish family, donating flowers or an ambry candle, baking for our weekly social gathering, reaching out to fallen away or infrequent parishioners, making a commitment to attend services more regularly, donating to one of our special funds: building, youth or outreach and praying for our Parish Family and the success of all of our parish endeavors.

Our parish will not grow and thrive without your support. Any way you help – no matter how big or small – helps build our parish family and makes it stronger. Please prayerfully consider how you can help your parish and get involved!

"Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive."

Parish Feast Day

It is very fitting that this year's Consecration Sunday (October 19th) falls on the same weekend as our Parish Feast Day. St. Luke is honored by the Anglican Communion on Saturday, October 18th. As we prayerfully consider what we can do for our parish in the coming year, let us take a moment to thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon our parish under the patronage of Saint Luke. As one of the evangelists of the four Gospels, Luke's mission was to spread the Word of God to all people and welcome them to our Lord's message and calling. Let us follow St. Luke's example and carry Christ's message out into the world. May we, as the farmer in the vineyard, return from the harvest with the bounty of our time, talent and treasury for St. Luke's.



First Friday Scranton

The next downtown "First Friday" event will be held on Friday, Oct. 3rd at 6:30 PM. St. Luke's will be hosting our annual pet and animal blessing. Father William Marshall will be blessing animals of all shapes and sizes both inside and out. Plan to bring your pet to this long-time popular event and also experience the arts and music of Scranton. St. Luke's will also be selling popcorn and soft pretzels along with refreshments, so mark your calendar for this opportunity to support your parish. Follow First Friday Scranton on Facebook and Twitter for up to date listing of events and locations. St. Luke's is planning to participate in upcoming First Fridays: May, June, August and October 2015. Stay tuned for more information.



Halloween "Trunk or Treat"

The second annual Halloween "Trunk or Treat" event will be held on Friday, October 24, in the church parking lot. Eight to ten cars, preferably decorated, can be accommodated in the lot. Each car is responsible to provide its' own treat(s). In addition, there will be a serving table at the head of the lot dispensing beverages, balloons, etc. The event begins at 5:00 P.M. and costumes are encouraged. Last year several people often went in on one car. To provide or support a car or to make a donation for the serving table please speak with Rick Ammenhauser or Lynn Moran. Thank you for your interest in our Parish Youth Activities and spread the word! P.S. Pets are welcome.

October Vestry Meeting

The Vestry of St. Luke's will be meeting to discuss parish business at their upcoming monthly meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 8th at 6 pm in Kreitler Hall. All Parishioners are welcome to attend. It is a great way to find out what's happening and become more involved in your Parish.



Daughters of the King

The St. Elizabeth of Hungary Chapter meets here at St. Luke's. Women who are interested in following a Rule of Life including prayer and service are welcome to inquire. The Daughters of the King have prayer request cards on the back table in the Church. Fill out the card, tear off the bottom and drop it in the box shaped like a church. The Daughters will pray over your request every day for a month. In worship, the Parish will also pray for that request for a month.

Annual Parish Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, September 21st. Thank you to all who attended the meeting (the turnout was very good!), contributed ideas and participated in the potluck. The luncheon was enjoyed by all in attendance. Some highlights from the meeting: The building committee worked throughout the year to make needed minor repairs. Replacing light bulbs in the church is up-coming. The parish needs to update the kitchen fire suppression system to bring it up to code. Donations for this project, will be most appreciated and allow the parish to conduct additional activities. The pastoral care committee continues to make visits to our hospitalized or shut-in members as well as offer prayers for them. New members to this ministry are always welcome and scheduling is very flexible. The Daughters of the King continue to provide many services to our parish while living their Rule of Life requiring prayer and service. All women of the parish are welcome to consider this special calling. The financial and treasury reports were reviewed for those in attendance. A general report on the state of the parish as well as election of new Vestry members took place. Welcome Rebecca Beal, Elsa Nelson and Robin O'Hearn to your new terms on the Vestry.



ANNUAL PARISH
Meeting

Thank You's

***A big thank you goes out to Elsa Nelson and all who volunteered to make the September 28th Senior Space a huge success.

***Thank you to all who helped decorate the outside of the church for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure on September 20th. Our parish is well known for their support of this important health issue.

***Thank you to all who helped over the summer with the Warren Memorial Garden up-keep. Your efforts provided our parishioners and the public with a very welcoming garden area.

New E-mail List



The Parish is creating a new E-mail list and we need your help. If you are interested in receiving this newsletter and other important announcements sent to your e-mail, please let us know. You can fill out the slip at the end of the newsletter and return it in the collection plate, call the Parish Office at 570-342-7654 or e-mail Bonita in the office at StLukesScranton@verizon.net. Please help us keep you informed of what's happening at your Parish and help us cut down on paper – do your part to protect the environment!

Mark Your Calendars



Christmas Decoration Day will be held in the church on Wednesday, December 17th at 6:00 PM. All parishioners are encouraged to come out and lend a hand in beautifying our sanctuary and church for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord. More hands make the burden lighter and pass more quickly. It is also a great time to build bonds of fellowship with parishioners old and new, young and old.

Safety Net Program

The Safety Net program is continuing here at St. Luke's. Bags are located at the end of the pews for you to take home and fill with much needed food items. This program ties directly into our Parish Mission Statement to serve others. Please consider taking part in this worthwhile program to help those facing hardships.

December Senior Space

The Senior Space Committee is looking for a volunteer to play the piano (Christmas songs) at the December 28th Senior Space gathering. They are also seeking small gift/favor items that can be given to the seniors at the meeting. As always, if anyone is interested in volunteering to help with Senior Space (serving, clean-up, activities, etc.),

you are most welcome to attend any gathering. For additional information about the December 28th meeting, please call Elsa Nelson at 570-878-4013.

Warren Memorial Garden

Attention all gardeners !!! This is your big chance. Come and volunteer an hour or two on Saturday, October 11th from 10 am to 12 pm at the Warren Memorial Garden next to the church. All volunteers – young and old are welcome. Enjoy some fresh air and fellowship with fellow parishioners!!!

St. Luke's Craft Group

Last month, we wrote about a crochet and knitting group that meets at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral in Wilkes-Barre. This would be a great idea for all of our skillful people at St. Luke's. The group would not be limited to crochet and knitting, but be open to all crafts. Items the group makes could be donated to those in need in the community or even sold during First Fridays to benefit the parish. If anyone is interested in forming a craft group, *NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SKILL LEVEL OR AGE GROUP*, please email Jim Kobeski at: jkobeski@westernwayne.org. Let's build a fellowship at St. Luke's and put our talents and creativity to work.

Our Episcopal Neighbors

Cathedral Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem. *The Priscilla Payne Hurd Lecture Series on Church and Society* will be held on Saturday, November 1st from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM in Sayre Hall. This year's featured speaker is Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, President of the House of Deputies, Episcopal Church, U.S.A. Tickets are \$7.00 and includes a full catered breakfast. Reserve your space by contacting dsmith@nativitycathedral.org or by calling 610-865-0727.

Diocesan Convention, October 10-11, 2014, Cathedral Church of the Nativity, 321 Wyandotte St., Bethlehem, PA 18015. Check www.diobeth.org for more information.

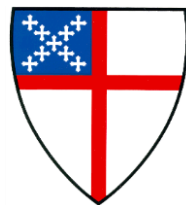


National News

Episcopal Relief & Development Celebrates 75 Years

Episcopalians, friends and partner agencies around the globe are joining together to celebrate *Episcopal Relief & Development's 75th Anniversary*. The 75-week celebration, which will continue through the end of 2015, invites supporters to learn more about the organization's programs and get involved in campaigns to raise \$7.5 million to sustain its vital work. In 1940, the National Council of The Episcopal Church established Episcopal Relief & Development – originally the Presiding Bishop's Fund for

World Relief – to respond to the needs of European refugees fleeing World War II. Now, working on behalf of the Church with partners in nearly 40 countries, the organization continues its legacy of bringing together the generosity of Episcopalians and others to help communities overcome challenges and create lasting change. “At this milestone anniversary, Episcopal Relief & Development is celebrating 75 years of healing a hurting world, together with our partners and supporters around the globe whose contributions of time, talent and treasure have made this work happen,” said Rob Radtke, the organization’s President. “Each year, more than 3 million people participate in innovative, locally led programs that boost harvests while protecting the environment, prevent diseases by mobilizing local volunteers and empower people to build livelihoods through financial and skills training. It is a joy to be part of the community of people whose efforts support this life-giving work.” “As the Chair of Episcopal Relief & Development’s Board of Directors, I am honored to have personally witnessed a deepening in both the organization’s impact, through the strategic integration of programs that address poverty, hunger and disease, and its ability to engage and energize supporters across the Church and the wider community,” said the Right Reverend Robert J. O’Neill, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado. “I invite everyone to join in the celebration of what we have accomplished together over the last 75 years.” “Episcopal Relief & Development is one of the foremost outward expressions of faith for Episcopalians, and one of the best examples of what we can accomplish when we join with our brothers and sisters in the US and internationally to strengthen communities and create a thriving future,” said Dr. Catherine George, Chair of the 75th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee. “I think this is great cause for celebration, and I am excited be leading the efforts to honor Episcopal Relief & Development’s 75th Anniversary.” For more information about Episcopal Relief & Development and the 75th Anniversary Celebration, visit <http://www.episcopalrelief.org/75>.



Church of England News

Archbishop Invites Young Christians to Spend Year Praying at Lambeth Palace

In a unique experiment, Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby is to open up Lambeth Palace in London to Christians aged 20-35 – inviting them to spend a year living, studying and praying at a historic center of the Anglican Communion. Launching in September 2015, the Community of St Anselm will gather a group of adventurous young adults from all walks of life, hungry for a challenging and formative experience of life in a praying community. The Community will initially consist of 16 people living at

Lambeth Palace full-time, and up to 40 people, who live and work in London, joining part-time. The year-long program will include prayer, study, practical service and community life. Members of the Community will live in a way the ancient monastics would recognize: drawing closer to God through a daily rhythm of silence, study and prayer. But, through those disciplines, they will also be immersed in the modern challenges of the global 21st century church. Archbishop Justin Welby said: Living in a praying community is the ultimate wager on the existence of God, and is anything but comfortable or risk-free. Through it, people subject themselves to discipline, to each other in community, and, above all, to God. “I expect this venture to have radical impact – not just for the individuals who participate but for life at Lambeth, across the Church and in the world we seek to serve. This is what we expect in following Jesus. I urge young people to step up: here is an open invitation to be transformed and to transform.” To find out more, visit: www.stanselm.org.uk



World News

Diverse Churches to Address Persecution Faced by Christians

A recent meeting of representatives from ecumenical organizations, Catholic, Evangelical and Pentecostal churches in Strasbourg, France has promised to address more effectively discrimination, persecution and violence faced by Christians around the world. This theme will be explored in-depth through an international consultation to be held in 2015. The meeting in Strasbourg was convened by the Global Christian Forum (GCF) with participation from the representatives of the Vatican, the World Council of Churches (WCC), the World Evangelical Alliance and the Pentecostal World Fellowship. The planned 2015 consultation will address the theme “Christian discrimination, persecution and martyrdom”. The event will bring together representatives of the churches and Christian communities who have faced discrimination and persecution in their local contexts. As part of the planning for the consultation, organizers will collect data on religious persecution sourced from international organizations. Team visits to a number of countries will be planned to explore the different natures of religious persecution. Rev. Hielke Wolters, WCC associate general secretary, said, “It is a strong sign of hope that churches and ecumenical organizations with such a diverse background are ready to work together to support Christians who go through difficult times.” He said that “religious freedom is important for all of us, whether Christian, Muslim or adherents of any other religion”. Wolters went on to say that this joint initiative is very much in line with the WCC’s efforts to accompany Christians and churches in countries like Syria, Iraq, Egypt and Nigeria. Larry Miller, secretary of the GCF, said “The GCF exists to

enable churches of all traditions to face common challenges together. It is highly fitting that the first of these initiatives is to support Christians around the world as they face discrimination, persecution and martyrdom in their communities.” Pastor Ingolf Ellssel from the Pentecostal World Fellowship said that he was “excited about this initiative of the Global Christian Forum bringing world Christianity together and lifting up the voices of those suffering discrimination, persecution and martyrdom. I hope this is the beginning of a new process of unity in the Body of Christ.”



Perspective

Spiritual Fitness

by Derek Olsen

Most of the things that we do in life—especially our modern lives—take up our time. However, I am firmly convinced that there are two things that actually give us time back: prayer and exercise. I find that when I’m doing these regularly, I can think more clearly, am more focused, and am better able to stay on task. (Not coincidentally, I also find I’m a better dad and husband then, too...) Of course, trying to fit these things in around an overcommitted schedule—day job, side jobs, church work, and chauffeur duty for the girls’ activities—is never easy. Our schedule has just made its great Autumn Shift as the girls are back in school and ballet is back in full swing. As usual, I’m trying a new exercise routine to pack it all in. Early mornings consist of a 50-minute block for tai chi, speed rope jumping, and stretching. Then, my lunch hour alternates between a strength workout or running. It’s been moderately successful so far... (Translation: I haven’t gotten a single strength workout in within the past week and only ran two days!) One of the issues that fights against the success of this program is keeping different physical activities in play. Some folks say that it doesn’t matter what you do as long as you get yourself moving. That’s entirely true, if you’re getting yourself active, but at this point in my life that doesn’t work best for me. I just hit the big 4-0 this summer. I find myself creaking and joints crackling more in the morning when I go up and down the stairs in the morning chase to get hair and teeth brushed, lunches and schoolbags packed. I know I need to work on my mobility and flexibility; the stretching and tai chi help with that. The jump rope and running help with the two kinds of cardio, anaerobic and aerobic. The strength training helps me to keep what muscle I’ve got. (Yes, I’m finally mature enough to accept that I’ll never be buff, and I’m better off trying to preserve what’s actually there!) Because they are all targeted on different body systems they’re not interchangeable. Tai chi doesn’t do what running does; jumping rope can’t replace strength training. And this same principle is just as important in my spiritual life too. I read with great interest the article posted the other day on The Lead about diminishing silence in modern life. The writer is spot-on that our schedules and gadgets make it too

easy to drown out the silence that used to appear in spaces in our lives and that we need to intentionally cultivate it as a discipline. Now—my fear is that some enterprising clergy person reading that article will decide that the best way to do it is to put more intentional “quiet time” into the Sunday Eucharist. And that won’t cut it. I’m not saying there’s anything wrong with some silence in the Eucharist, but there is a pernicious notion that if Episcopalians are going to do something “spiritual” then it has to occur between 10 and 11:15 on a Sunday morning. This defies both logic and the prayer book. The Eucharist has its own rhythms and purpose: we join together publicly as the Body of Christ to participate in his own self-offering to God the Father through the Holy Spirit. We are privileged to get plugged into the internal dynamics of the Trinity. But we also have the Daily Office. Here we lift our voices in prayer and praise at the hinges of the day, and make our own sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to recall who God is and what God has done for us in our own person and through our ancestors in the faith. And we are called to read and search the Holy Scriptures. Yes—we hear these in the Eucharist; yes, we read them in the Daily Office. But those times are not and cannot be a substitute for our own engagement with the Scriptures where we, with the aid and guidance of the Spirit, play hide and seek with the Word amongst the words. And too we must engage in holy silence. We must shut our own mouths, still our own thoughts, and open our own hearts to the Holy Other whom we meet in the quiet. Our spiritual lives need to incorporate a variety of exercises; one is not enough. The Sunday morning Eucharist is not a catch-all where we try to cram all of our spirituality for the week into a single hour and a quarter (or half...). You can’t substitute one for the other and expect to have a balanced spiritual life. That’s specifically why the Book of Common Prayer has continued to insist, communicating to us the wisdom of the centuries, that our wholeness is found by opening ourselves to God along many channels, not just one. It takes a routine to accomplish it; it takes discipline. As I struggle to keep my own routine, the Eucharist is pretty easy to manage—it shows up once or twice a week and in public. There’s a certain community accountability built in. But meditation, Scripture, and the Office: they’re important too. I find that I’m—literally—not all there when they’re not a regular part of my life. Like my running and my lifting, I can’t pretend I get to them every day. Sometimes a week will go by without me cracking my devotional Bible. Sometimes an apologetic prayer on the way out the door will have to take the place of the Office. But I know that the pieces have to be in play. As the run up to General Convention starts and as voices start getting louder presenting various plans and platforms for fixing the Church, I think this is going to have to be mine... The Church can’t be the Church only on Sundays. The Eucharist is glorious—but not sufficient. It’s an important piece of a balanced spiritual diet—it can’t be the only dish on the table. Reading the Scriptures, praying the Office, embracing holy silence, these aren’t things we can delegate away or farm out to contractors. We—us—the great mass of laity; this is what we’ve got to be about. I know it’s not easy—believe me! But there’s no way we’ll get anywhere towards accomplishing it if we don’t make these activities priorities—in our personal lives and in our common life. Our clergy and bishops should be helping us with this, helping us towards this. A full and balanced spiritual life for the laity bolstered by the clergy is not a distraction from the Church’s work but the foundation of it. Justice, mercy, loving-kindness are most fully enacted when we are in constant contact with their

source, the true Fountain of Virtues. Only then can we fully be who we are called to be—the Body of Christ united in our on-going pilgrimage to inhabit the Mind of Christ.

Dr. Derek Olsen is a layperson in the Diocese of Maryland where his wife is a priest and his daughters are an acolyte and boat-bearer respectively. He serves as Secretary of the Standing Commission on Liturgy & Music and is the Liturgical Editor of the newly revised edition of the Saint Augustine's Prayer Book. An IT specialist by day, Derek created and maintains the online Daily Office site The St. Bede's Breviary.



Youth Corner

SECRET CODE: Message of Truth

Figure out the message about God and Truth. Each number is a letter of the alphabet

1=A 4=D 7=G 10=J 13=M 16=P 19=T 22=W
 2=B 5=E 8=H 11=K 14=N 17=R 20=U 23=X
 3=C 6=F 9=I 12=L 15=O 18=S 21=V 24=Y

" 24 15 20 22 9 12 12 11 14 15 22 19 8 5
19 17 20 19 8 1 14 4 19 8 5 19 17 20 19 8
22 9 12 12 18 5 19 24 15 20 6 17 5 5."
 (10 15 8 14 5 9 7 8 19 and 19 8 9 17 19 24 - 19 22 15)



Sunday Reflections

October 5th.....Proper 22 The Gospel tells of the unfaithful and murderous tenants in the vineyard. Jesus's parable says in part that the vineyard will be given to new tenants who will produce a good harvest and be loyal to God, the landowner. Christ, rejected by the hierarchy, is the new cornerstone, and both the early Christians (and those of us who call ourselves Christians today) are called to be the new tenants and faithful servants. What are you doing in your life to be a good and faithful servant? How do you live and serve God and those around you?

October 12th.....Proper 23 In today's Collect we pray that God's grace "*may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works*". We must not allow that grace to surround us like a protective bubble and insulate us from being "*mindful of the needs of others.*" But the paradox is, the more we break out of the bubble to care for and about others, the more flexible and God-enriched the bubble becomes!

October 19th.....Proper 24 In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about being a responsible citizen of the world, but balancing that with "*giving to God the things that are God's*". The government makes sure to tell us what we owe them, but how ever do good stewards begin to calculate how to faithfully return a share of their blessings to the gracious provider who has given us everything we have in life.

October 26th.....Proper 25 The Great Commandment – love God and love your neighbor – is reaffirmed in today's Gospel. How can we make it the basis of all we do in life? Perhaps the Holy Habits of prayer, study, sacrificial giving, and being connected to a faith-filled community can be our stepping stones to living that commandment in a world that constantly tempts us into living only for ourselves, and puts God in the less than primary place He deserves.



The Episcopal Church Calendar

October

- 1 Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, c. 530
- 3 George Kennedy Allen Bell, Bishop of Chichester, and Ecumenist, 1958;
also John Raleigh Mott, Evangelist and Ecumenical Pioneer, 1955
- 4 **Francis of Assisi**, Friar, 1226



Francis was born in 1182, the son of a wealthy merchant. His early years were frivolous, but an experience of sickness and another of military service were instrumental in leading him to reflect on the purpose of life. One day, in the church of San Damiano, he seemed to hear Christ saying to him, "Francis, repair my falling house." He took the words literally, and sold a bale of silk from his father's warehouse to pay for repairs to the church of San Damiano. His father was outraged, and there was a public confrontation at which his father disinherited and disowned him, and he in turn renounced his father's wealth. He renounced all material possessions, and devoted himself to serving the poor. Since he could not pay for repairs to the Church of San Damiano, he undertook to repair it by his own labors. He moved in with the priest, and begged for stones to shape them for use in repairing the church. He got his meals by scrounging crusts and discarded vegetable from trash-bins, and by working as a day laborer, he insisted on being paid in bread, milk, eggs, or vegetables rather than in money. Soon a few companions joined him. After three years, in 1210, the Pope authorized the forming of the Order of Friars Minor, commonly called the Franciscans. They would have no money or property, individually or collectively. Their task was to preach, declaring by word and action the love of God in Christ. Francis probably set up the first Christmas manger scene, to bring home the Good News of God made man for our salvation, home to men's hearts and imaginations as well as to their intellects. He died on October 4th, 1226. The following is from the first known letter from Francis to all Christians:

"O how happy and blessed are those who love the Lord and do as the Lord himself said in the gospel: You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart and your whole soul, and your neighbor as yourself. Therefore, let us love God and adore him with pure heart and mind. This is his particular desire when he says: True worshipers adore the Father in spirit and truth. For all who adore Him must do so in the spirit of truth. Let us also direct to Him our praises and prayers, saying: "Our Father, who are in heaven," since we must always pray and never grow slack. Furthermore, let us produce worthy fruits of penance. Let us also love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanse our souls from the stains of sin. Men lose all the material things they leave behind in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve. We must not be wise and prudent according to the flesh. Rather we must be simple, humble and pure. We should never desire to be over others. Instead, we ought to be servants who are submissive to every human being for God's sake. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on all who live in this way and persevere in it to the end. He will

permanently dwell in them. They will be the Father's children who do his work. They are the spouses, brothers and mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

6 William Tyndale, Translator of the Bible, 1536, 1568

7 Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Lutheran Pastor in North America, 1787

8 William Dwight Porter Bliss, Priest, 1926

9 Wilfred Thomason Grenfell, Medical Missionary, 1940

10 Vida Dutton Scudder, Educator and Witness for Peace, 1954

11 **Saint Philip**, Deacon and Evangelist

In the sixth chapter of Acts, we read that the Apostles commissioned seven men in the congregation at Jerusalem to supervise the church's ministry to the needs of its widows and other poor. This is generally considered to be the beginning of the office of Deacon in the Church. Two of these have gained lasting fame. One was Stephen, who became the Church's first martyr. The other was Philip, whose story we find in Acts 8:5-40; 21:8-9. After the death of Stephen, there was a general persecution of the Church at Jerusalem, and many Christians fled to escape it. Philip fled to Samaria, where he preached the Gospel to the Samaritans. They received the message with eagerness, and soon Peter and John came to Samaria to bless the new converts. After this, Philip was sent by God to walk along the road from Jerusalem southwest to Gaza, where he met a eunuch of the Queen of Ethiopia returning home after worshipping in Jerusalem. The man was reading from Isaiah 53 ("He was wounded for our transgressions"), and Philip told him about Jesus, and persuaded him that the words were a prophecy of the saving work of Jesus. The man was baptized, and went on his way rejoicing, while Philip went north to Caesarea, the major seaport of Israel.

14 Samuel Isaac Joseph Schereschewsky, Bishop of Shanghai, 1906

15 Teresa of Avila, Nun, 1582

16 Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, Bishops, 1555, Bishops and Martyrs

17 Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, and Martyr, c. 115

18 **Saint Luke the Evangelist**

*****Our Parish Feast Day**



Almost all that we know about Luke comes from the New Testament. He was a physician and companion of Paul on some of his missionary journeys. Material found in his Gospel and not elsewhere includes much of the account of Our Lord's birth and infancy and boyhood, some of the most moving parables, such as that of the Good Samaritan and that of the Prodigal Son, and three of the sayings of Christ on the Cross: "Father, forgive them," "Thou shalt be with me in Paradise," and "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit." In Luke's account of the Gospel, we find an emphasis on the human love of Christ, on His compassion for sinners and for suffering and unhappy persons, for outcasts such as the Samaritans, tax collectors, lepers, shepherds and for the poor. The role of women in Christ's ministry is more emphasized in Luke than in the other Gospel writings. Luke is commonly thought to be the only non-Jewish New Testament writer. His writings place the life of Christ and the development of the early Church in the larger context of the Roman Empire and society.

Almighty God, who didst inspire thy servant Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of thy Son: Graciously continue in thy Church the like love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of thy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

19 Henry Martyn, Priest and Missionary to India and Persia, 1812

23 **Saint James of Jerusalem**, Apostle, Brother of Our Lord and Martyr, c. 62



James of Jerusalem is referred to in the New Testament as the brother of Our Lord Jesus Christ. He was for many years the leader of the Christian congregation in Jerusalem, and is generally supposed to be the author of the Epistle of James. Peter, about to leave Jerusalem after escaping from Herod, leaves a message for James and the Apostles. When a council meets at Jerusalem to consider what rules Gentile Christians should be required to keep, James formulates the final consensus. Paul speaks of going to Jerusalem three years after his conversion and conferring there with Peter and James, and speaks again of a later visit on which Peter, James, and John, "the pillars," placed their stamp of approval on the mission to the Gentiles. Outside the New Testament, James is mentioned by the Jewish historian Josephus, who calls him "the brother of Jesus the so-called Christ," and reports that he was much respected even by the

Pharisees for his piety and strict observance of the Law, but that his enemies took advantage of an interval between Roman governors in 62 AD to have him put to death.

Grant, we beseech thee, O God, that after the example of thy servant James the Just, brother of our Lord, thy Church may give itself continually to prayer and to the reconciliation of all who are at variance and enmity; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and ever. Amen.

26 Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, 899

28 **Saint Simon and Saint Jude**, Apostles

O God, we thank thee for the glorious company of the apostles, and especially on this day for Simon and Jude; and we pray thee that, as they were faithful and zealous in their mission, so we may with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

29 James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1885

30 John Wyclif, Priest and Prophetic Witness, 1384

31 Paul Shinji Sasaki, Bishop of Mid-Japan, and of Tokyo, 1946, and Philip Lindel Tsen, Bishop of Honan, China, 1954]

May we look to the example of these holy men and women!



Prayers

As we celebrate Consecration Sunday, we pray for our personal and parish renewal. May we come alive in the Holy Spirit to carry out Christ's command to carry His message to all peoples and in all things we do. We also pray for our Parish family as we mark our Parish Feast Day.

An Act of Renewal

Lord, behold this Your family in Christ, and grant us to be one in Your presence. Pardon what is amiss in us, confirm what is good and order what shall be; withdraw us from

ways and allegiances which would estrange us from You. Give us a desire to learn the truth and quicken our hearts with understanding. Day by day, guide us to seek You in Your Word and by the power of prayer. Show us what You would have us do and give us grace to fulfill the same. Make us so thankful that we shall offer all we have and are in Your Name. Unite us in the Spirit with all others who seek You in the Word and in prayer. Grant us constancy and courage that we may be found faithful in Your sight. May God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit give light to guide us, courage to support us and love to unite us, now and forevermore. Amen.

Prayer for Our Parish

Almighty and ever-living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family of St. Luke's. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Episcopal Church Societies

The Episcopal Church has many resources and organizations to help people explore and grow their faith:

The Daughters of the King: The Order of the Daughters of the King is a spiritual sisterhood of women dedicated to a life of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. They have made a commitment to Jesus as their Savior, and they follow Him as their Lord. Visit the national website at www.doknational.org or the regional website at www.dok-proviii.org for more information. We are fortunate to have the St. Elizabeth of Hungary Chapter here at St. Luke's.

The Anglican Society: The purpose of the Anglican Society is to promote and maintain the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Episcopal Church in accordance with the principles and contents of the Book of Common Prayer. Membership in the Society is open to all interested persons through payment of membership dues, currently \$10 annually. Dues include a subscription to The Anglican, the Quarterly Gazette of the Anglican Society. Visit www.anglicansociety.org for more information.

The Brotherhood of Saint Andrew: The Brotherhood vision strives to develop and equip men for faithful discipleship to effect changed lives throughout the world for the greater glory of God through the lifelong disciplines of daily prayer, regular study and committed service. For information, visit www.brotherhoodofstandrew.org or e-mail Province III representative Tom Saxe at saxe@comcast.net



Where to Find It

The following are useful Episcopal websites and contacts:

St. Luke's Episcopal Church: www.stlukescranton.org

St. Luke's E-mail: stlukesscranton@verizon.net

Diocese of Bethlehem: www.diobeth.org (also on twitter)

US Episcopal Church: www.episcopalchurch.org

Episcopal News Service: www.episcopaldigitalnetwork.com (also on twitter)

Forward Day by Day: www.forwardmovement.org (also on twitter)

Anglican Communion: www.anglicancommunion.org

Church of England: www.churchofengland.org

The Anglican Digest: www.anglicandigest.org

St. Luke's Newsletter Submissions & Information:

Dave Wegner: drwegner@epix.net

Deirdre Frazier: deirdre.j.frazier@baml.com

Jim Kobeski: jkobeski@westernwayne.org



Words of Wisdom

The last few weeks have brought much fear to our beloved Northeastern Pennsylvania. A Pennsylvania State Trooper ruthlessly gunned down and another critically wounded. The gunman, an extremist and marksman, disappears into the wilderness and a manhunt ensues to bring him to justice. Schedules, schools, even daily lives are all disrupted by this senseless act. We might sometimes find ourselves asking if God exists or if He is a part of our lives when this kind of violence shakes our lives. In these times of trouble, we must put our faith in Him more than ever. God has a purpose for all of us in this world. He had a purpose for Trooper Bryon Dickson as well. God's purposes are

like the seasons. They change slowly over time. Some like the change, others do not. But regardless, the seasons do change and come to fruition. Sometimes the fear and other bad emotions we feel can be alleviated by putting our faith and trust in Our Savior Jesus Christ. When we pour our hearts out to Him, we no longer need to carry those burdens and we become much more open to the purpose He has for everything. May the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Trooper Bryon Dixon, rest in eternal peace.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

**232 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503**

Autumn Service Schedule

**Saturday, 5 PM (said)
Sunday, 9:30 AM (sung)**



We hope you have enjoyed reading our Parish Newsletter. If you have information you would like to share with us for the next issue, a topic you would like to read about or general comments or suggestions, please use one of the e-mail addresses listed above. Thanks. Peace!

SAINT LUKE'S CHURCH WELCOMES ALL!

Parish Email List Sign Up

Please sign me up for the Parish e-mail list. Please fill in and return in the collection plate on Sunday or send to the Parish Office. Thank you!!!

Name _____

E-mail
address _____