



December 2020
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Saint Luke Anglican Church, a parish of the Anglican Catholic Church
3081 Wheeler Road, Augusta, GA 30909 - 706.736.7479

The Evangelion



Inside this issue:

From the Rector's Study	1
Saint of the Month	3
Vestry Minutes	4
Birthdays/Anniversaries	5
Altar/Flower Guild	5
Christmas Eve Masses	5
Spiritual Reflection	6
Prayer List	6
Around the Parish	7
Thanksgiving Service	
Naomi Williams Chapel	
Annual Parish Meeting	
Kirkin O' the Tartan St.	
Anne's Ladies Guild	8
Minister of Music	9
Poinsettia Order Form	10
Prayer Cycle	11



A Thought for December

We forget that
waking up each day
is the first thing
we should be grateful for.

Regular Service Times

Sunday:

Morning Prayer at 9:00 am
Adult Forum at 9:30 am
Sung Mass at 10:30 am

Tuesday:

Morning Prayer at 8:30 am

Wednesday:

Evening Prayer at 6:30 pm

Thursday:

Said Mass at 11:30 am

From the Rector's Study

"Lighting a Candle for Hope"

Each year, during this Advent season, we progressively light the four candles on the Advent wreath to anticipate the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas to illuminate a dark world with His presence, his power, and his truth. *"The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined,"* writes Isaiah. Why? Because *"unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."*

The first candle on the Advent wreath, what some term the "hope candle" or the "prophecy candle" especially reminds us that, at Christ's First Coming, our Savior arrived to bring the world hope. He fulfilled the Old Testament's hope for a Messiah, and He inspired both His followers and the converts who believed their Gospel that Jesus' ongoing presence and power through His Church would continue to provide hope, both spiritual and cultural. The First Advent did not magically make the world perfect, but the grace of it certainly transformed whole societies and the lives of many people of goodwill who were ready be forgiven and made holy. As St. Paul to the Romans, *"hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us."* Oftentimes, we might wish that the world was already become the Garden of Eden again, but by the faith of the Church and the faithfulness of millions of Christians, it has become a better world than the one Jesus first entered. When we lit this first candle on our Advent wreath at St. Luke last Sunday, we did it neither naively or perfunctorily.



However, we must also remember that the hope symbolized by the Advent Wreath is not merely that of an ancient hope fulfilled long, but of a present hope—*our* hope—that, once again, Jesus will not "make us ashamed." Even after a tumultuous year like 2020, where evil abounds and all seems lost, God's faithful people we can still hope that the promises about Jesus' Second Coming will also be fulfilled. Yes, the somber purple color on the candle represents the repentance and fasting to which we must submit as we prayerfully anticipate the Lord's coming. The purple, which doubles as a color for royalty throughout the Bible, symbolizes that Christ will return, not as the Babe but as the King. Still, the

(continued on p.2)

(continued from p.1 "The Rector's Study")

wreath itself reminds us Jesus first had to wear a crown of thorns before He was glorified; we must carry our own crosses for now before we are blessed by His return.

Critics of Christianity often reproach our faith that it is not based in hope, but in wishful thinking. We merely want the idea of the Second Advent to be true, and so we deceive ourselves into believing that it will happen. Therefore, we must do our Bible readings from the Prayer Book's lectionary, as we meditate on the Advent Wreath with a very different kind of hope—one of secure assurance—because our trust is placed in a trustworthy God. God did not fail His people Israel nor His Church in the past; and therefore, if He claims he will do something in the future, we can have a hope that he will fulfill that claim. Assured hope waits and endures. It isn't flimsy or merely wishful thinking. It can withstand trials, disappointment, and loss.

As difficult as this past year has been for the world, our community, and our parish, we have witnessed together that God is still giving St. Luke reason to hope. We have endured the danger of the virus better than many other churches have; the Holy Spirit has guided new members to us, and many prayers have been answered, including an expanded digital outreach ministry and the hire of a fantastic new music director. We have good reasons to have a trusting and confident hope that God our Lord is not finished with St. Luke ACC. There will still be obstacles to overcome and challenges to be handled; even now, there remain goals and ministry objectives that we have not yet met for one reason or another. Nevertheless, from just our own past, we should have hope that God will give us the grace and the resources to persevere and that He will return for us when we have accomplished all things according to His will. As we prayed in our supplications at the lighting of the first Advent candle:

Bestir, O Lord, Thy might, we pray thee and come; that, defended by Thee, we may deserve rescue from approaching dangers brought on by our sins, and being set free by Thee, obtain our salvation. Who livest and reignest, with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end.

O theme of prophets, Jesus Christ, the expectation of Thy people Israel, come and dwell among us forever. Amen



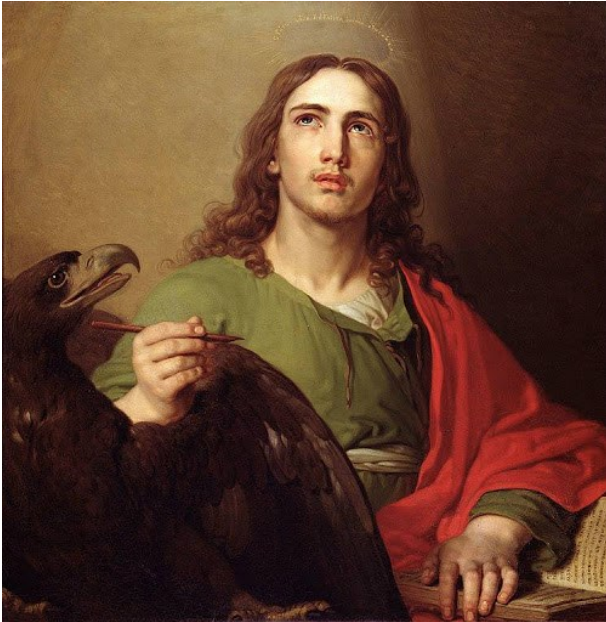
Photo from November 25
Advent Wreath instruction by
Susan MacEwen.



Saint of the Month

Saint of the Month – St. John the Evangelist (December 27)

St. John, the son of Zebedee and Salome, was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus. According to the Gospels, John was called to be an Apostle by Christ in the first year of His public ministry along with his older brother (St. James the Great). Jesus referred to the brothers as *Boanerges*, meaning “sons of thunder.” Traditionally, he is considered the same person as John the Evangelist, John of Patmos and the Beloved Disciple. John is believed to be the longest living apostle and the only not to die a martyr's death.



John, along with Peter and James, is presented in the New Testament as part of Christ's inner circle, and together they witnessed several important miracles to which the other nine were not privileged; such as, the raising of Daughter of Jairus and our Lord's Transfiguration on Mt. Tabor. John and Peter were the only two apostles sent by Jesus to make preparations for the final Passover meal, the Last Supper. Moreover, during the meal, St. John sat next to Jesus, leaning on him rather than lying along the couches, which has frequently become a fixture in much Christian art of the Last Supper through the ages. Following this sacred meal and Christ's washing of the Apostle's feet, John also joined James and Peter as the three closest witnesses to His Agony in Gethsemane. Following the betrayal by Judas, John was the only one of the Twelve Apostles who did not forsake Jesus in

the hour of His Passion. He stood faithfully at the cross when Jesus made him the guardian of His Mother saying, “Son, behold thy mother.”

John's loyalty to both Jesus and Mary would continue. According to the Gospels, John was the first to investigate the report of the empty tomb after Christ's Resurrection; and, according to Church tradition, John took Mary with him to Ephesus where he cared for her until her Dormition/Assumption. Tradition further relates that he later became banished by the Roman authorities to the Greek Island of Patmos, which is where he allegedly wrote the Book of Revelation. Although John never died a martyr's death, the attempt that he suffer was made during the reign of the Emperor Domitian, when he was plunged into boiling oil in Rome but suffered no injuries. We believe that John eventually died back in Ephesus as a very old man around the year A.D. 100—but not before influencing two generations of Christians and ordaining many of the Church's important first bishops, including St. Polycarp of Smyrna and St. Ignatius of Antioch.

John is known as the author of the Gospel of John and four other books in the New Testament - the three Epistles of John and the Book of Revelation. The authorship of the Gospel is credited to the “disciple whom Jesus loved,” and John 21:24 claims the Gospel of John is based on the “Beloved Disciple's” testimony. However, the true authorship has been debated since 200. In his *Ecclesiastical History*, Eusebius states the First Epistle of John and the Gospel of John are agreed upon as John's. Eusebius continues to state the second and third epistles of John are not John the Apostle's. Regardless, in what is called the “Johannine Canon,” John deftly conveys—in the New Testament's best Greek, no less—the deity of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the “Word-made-flesh,” including seven “I am” statements from Christ that deepen this mystery, and timeless themes of life, light, and love to characterize the Church's relationship with God and with one another.

Vestry Minutes**ZOOM Vestry Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2020 – 7:00 PM**

Meeting Facilitator(s): Fr. Daniel S. Trout and Joseph McRoy. Opening Prayer by Fr. Trout.

Those present were: Fr. Daniel Trout, Senior Warden Joseph McRoy, Junior Warden Barbara [Zmijewski](#), Treasurer Rebecca Blair, Barbara Cope, Sam Nechtman and Beverly Roberts. Absent: Karen Elmy. Visitor: Anita Trout

Approval of Minutes from September 13 and September 28 Meetings. Barbara Zmijewski moved and Sam Nechtman seconded to approve the two sets of minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report. Treasurer Rebecca Blair presented the financial statements and pointed out total income and expenses, credit card usage, special accounts worksheet and the monthly and yearly budget. Rebecca suggested a new operating software that would be more in line with what we actually need; Joe McRoy said he would look into it. Barbara Cope moved and Barbara Zmijewski seconded to approve the financial report. The motion carried.

Rector's Report.

Prior/Ongoing. Father Trout reported on the health of Sylvia Rezner and Fr. Martin and Frances. He reported on the marble bust, a collection of religious literature books and two paintings left to St. Luke by Naomi Williams and that the Chapel area will be dedicated to Naomi. Father stated there has been uploading to YouTube with very good quality; podcasts have been posted about St. Luke; the "Blue Mass" was held on September 29 but conflicted with the funeral for a policeman; and the Blessing of the Animals was held on October 3 with a good turnout.

Upcoming. Father Trout reported that "White Mass" with a potluck will be held October 18; All Saints' Vigil Mass and Spooky Social will be on October 31; Thanksgiving Eve service will be on November 25; and Kirkin O the Tartan, which is a traditional Anglican celebration beginning advent, for St. Andrew's will be on November 29. Father announced that he volunteered to be a chaplain for the Richmond County Sheriff's Department; and Naomi Williams' funeral is scheduled for March 27, 2021, near the anniversary of her death.

Junior Warden Report. Barbara Zmijewski reported that maintenance around the Church continues; and the Parish work day will be October 24 to include repairing the Baptismal Font, painting in the church and parish hall, landscaping and cleaning out the shed.

Old Business.

- Master Key Box in the Office. There was discussion about the key box and that the keys needed to be inventoried and identified.
- Training and Development for St. Luke's new Faithlife digital hub and outreach. Joe McRoy stated that there will be Wednesday night study groups beginning on October 21 at the Church for those who need assistance with their computers, tablets, etc.
- Parishioner contact lists for the Vestry. Each vestryman will be given a list of 6 or 7 names of parishioners to contact.
- Lance Davis Contract and Start Date at St. Luke. Father reported that the contract was signed by Lance Davis, and Father and Joe McRoy will sign it on Wednesday. Lance's starting date will be November 22 and he will be paid on the 30th of each month.

New Business.

- Benevolence Committee Meeting. Father requested the Benevolence Committee meet before the end of the month.
- REMINDER Annual Parish meeting on December 13. Father reminded the vestry that the second Sunday in December is the annual parish meeting and potluck. It will be a face to face meeting as well as the live camera. The agenda has to be determined.
- Formation of a Budget Committee and a Bylaws Committee. Since the budget and the bylaws should be presented for a vote at the annual meeting, these two committees must present their items to the parishioners three weeks in advance. The Budget Committee, which will meet on October 29, will consist of Treasurer Rebecca

(continued on p.5)

We are on the Web!

<http://stlukeaugusta.com/>

Follow us on Twitter! @StLukeACC

Join us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stlukeaugusta/

Birthdays/Anniversaries

12/3 Archbishop Haverland

12/23 Sandra McKinney

12/30 Dorothy Holden



Altar and Flower Guild

Altar/Flower Guild Report

It's time to help the church decorate for Christmas! The Altar & Flower Guild would like to remind everyone to turn in your donation form for Christmas poinsettias in memory or celebration of a loved one. All donors and the subject of their donation will be included in the Christmas bulletins. Finally, remember that any additional donations collected this year that push the Flower Fund over \$1000 will be transferred to the Altar Guild Fund to aid the purchase of new altar supplies. Thank you for your support!



(continued from p.4 Vestry Minutes)

Blair, Barbara Zmijewski, Roberta Hannibal and Wayne Buckley. The Bylaws Committee, which will meet on October 24, will consist of Father Trout, Joe McRoy, Steven Unikewicz, Lucy Whitehorne, and Frank Guthrie.

d. Church Directory. Father asked Beverly Roberts to assist him with a new directory, which will be duplicated and distributed at the Annual Parish Meeting.

e. Classical and Jazz concerts at St. Luke this Fall/Winter. Father stated there has been interest in giving concerts at St. Luke. One will be on December 19; and a jazz concert will be outside on Sunday, November 8, at 3 p.m.

There was discussion and all agreed to have background checks at \$35 each for Lance Davis, Joe McRoy, Rebecca Blair, Father Trout, and Sue Rule.

f. Next Vestry Meeting. The meeting will be November 8.

Adjournment. The motion was made by Barbara Z and seconded by Sam Nechtman to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion carried.

Beverly A. Roberts, Recording Secretary, Pro-tem

Christmas Eve masses on Thursday, December 24, will be at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. A short "Prelude Service of Carols" at 10:30 p.m. will precede the later mass. The church and parish office will then be closed for the remainder of the week.

Spiritual Reflection

Advent is a time of vigilance to keep us expectant for the fulfillment of God's promises. God doesn't want us to be caught unawares, but focused and prepared when He appears. Therefore, with perhaps no other season providing more joy and delight than Christmas, Advent gives us the opportunity to cultivate the great habit of being *watchful* for Christmas and for when Our Lord will return in glory (the Second Coming). One particular devotion we can use toward the close of Advent is the "Christmas Novena," a nine-day prayer cycle featuring seven "O Antiphons" that constitute the verses of the beloved Advent hymn "O Come O Come Emmanuel."

DECEMBER 16 (O SAPIENTIA) O Wisdom, which camest out of the mouth of the Most High, and reachest from one end to another, mightily and sweetly ordering all things: Come and teach us the way of prudence.

DECEMBER 17 (O ADONAI) O Adonai, and Leader of the house of Israel, who appearedst in the Bush to Moses in a flame of fire, and gavest him the Law in Sinai: Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

DECEMBER 18 (O RADIX JESSE) O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

DECEMBER 19 (O CLAVIS DAVID) O Key of David, and Scepter of the house of Israel; that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest and no man openeth: Come and break down the prison walls of them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and lead thy captive people to freedom.

DECEMBER 20 (O ORIENS) O Dayspring, Brightness of Light Everlasting, and Sun of Righteousness; Come and enlighten them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death, and guide us into the way of peace.

DECEMBER 21 (O REX GENTIUM) O King of the Nations, and their Desire; the Cornerstone who makest both one: Come and save mankind, whom thou formedst of the dust.

DECEMBER 22 (O EMMANUEL) O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Desire of all nations and their salvation: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

DECEMBER 23 (O VIRGIN VIRGINUM) O Virgin of virgins, how shall this be? For neither before thee was any seen like thee, nor shall there be after. Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me? The thing which ye behold is a mystery.

CHRISTMAS EVE O Thou whose dominion is great, and who kingdom shall have no end; the mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace: Come Thou among us and we shall be saved.

Prayer List



Dorothy, Denison family, Hedger family, Laura, Levine, Logan, Juliet, Oscar, Jeff, Julia, Lynn, Benita, Leslie, William, Ernie, Ruth, Kristi, Charles, Preacher, John, Amy, Lamar, Wanda, Penny, Hope, Marsha, Frank+, Frances, Maria, Stephanie, Jane, Becky, Norah, Kevin, Elizabeth, Emma, Michael, Robin, Ronnie, Michi, Mario, Grace, George, Jacob, Tonya, Todd, Tina, Bryan, Naomi, Jacquie, Teresa, Diane, Gentry/Becky & child

*Around the Parish***Thanksgiving Service & Social**

On Wednesday, November 25, St. Luke celebrated its annual Thanksgiving (Eve) Holy Communion service to begin this holiday season with praise and thanks to God for His many blessings on our nation, our parish, and our families. Fr. Trout celebrated the mass, which included a special “Blessing of First Fruits” ceremony to dedicate our Thanksgiving feasts to God and for the assistance of our fellow men. Following the service, everyone enjoyed some delicious refreshments, and special guest Susan MacEwen instructed how to prepare an Advent Wreath for the upcoming season.

**Announcement: Blessing of the Naomi Williams Memorial Chapel**

On Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 PM, the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Luke will formally consecrate the transept as the Naomi Williams’ Memorial Chapel in honor of our parish’s most beloved and charismatic founding member. Naomi died in April of this year, but her legacy lives on through her many acts of generosity, including the pieces of artwork that she donated or left to the church. All of these works of art will be used to decorate the officially-designated chapel area in her memory.

Everyone is invited to attend or to watch through the livestream on Facebook, this special consecration of the chapel, followed by the Holy Eucharist for the feast of the Conception, B.V.M.

Announcement: Annual Parish Meeting

Everyone is encouraged to participate in the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, December 13, following the 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion service. Please bring your favorite dish to share!

Parishioners of St. Luke are asked to assist with discussion and voting on parish business, which will include—but not be necessarily limited to—the following:

- Approval of 2020 meeting minutes
- Appointment of the 2021 parish secretary
- Approval of the 2021 parish budget
- Election of new vestrymen
- Election of parish delegates to the 2021 diocesan synod

Please contact Fr. Trout or a member of the vestry if you have any questions about the procedures of the meeting. If you have an inquiry about serving on the vestry next year, or you have an interest in nominating a fellow parishioner to serve on the vestry or to be the 2020 parish secretary, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee: Mrs. Sam Nechtman (706) 564-0229, Ms. Lucy Whitehorne (706) 421-0212, or Ms. Deidre Daniels (706) 831-1555.

If you cannot attend this meeting and want to participate contact Senior Warden Joe McRoy at 706.955.5461 or joemcroy@me.com and he will help you join the meeting from your home.

Kirkin’ o’ the Tartans

On Advent Sunday—the Vigil of St. Andrew the Apostle—St. Luke started a new custom of observing the “Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan,” a Scottish-American tradition that honors Scotland’s contribution to our Faith, as well as the culture shared by many in the Anglican Church. Over a dozen parishioners and guests bearing and/or

(continued from p.7 "Around the Parish")

clad in clan colors participated in the procession to the stirring sound of organ and snare drum. Fr. Trout prayed and gave thanks to God for His protection of the Scottish people and the legacy they have left, and then blessed the declared clans through anointing the tartan of each with holy water. In his homily, Father also reminded everyone that it was through Scottish Episcopal Church that American Anglicanism received the apostolic ministry when our first bishop Samuel Seabury was consecrated by the Primus Robert Kilgore in 1784. Moreover, our Holy Communion service owes much more to the Scottish liturgy than to the 1662 English Prayer Book. After the service, everyone moved to the parish hall to fellowship and to enjoy a wonderful spread of Scottish foods. Everyone agreed that the Kirkin' was a wonderful celebration of our Anglican/Scottish heritage, and a great event to revisit each year.

Fr. Trout would like to thank our Music Minister Mr. Lance Davis and percussionist Mr. Kent Hannibal for their musical contributions, especially the performance of the hymns "Praise My Soul the King of Heaven" and "Abide with Me" by the Scottish composer Henry Francis Lyte during the procession. He would also like to thank an old friend of the parish Mr. David Chew for carrying the Bible during the procession as the ceremonial beadle and Mr. Justin and Mrs. Susan MacEwen for leading the procession with their clan banner. Finally, the St. Anne's Guild and all who donated food must be thanked for providing everyone with a wonderful feast.



St. Anne's Ladies Guild

Meeting Minutes—November 15, 2020, 12:30 p.m.

Attending: Father Trout, Sue Rule, Jennifer McRoy, Rebecca Blair, Barbara Zmijewski, Deidre Daniels, Barbara Cope, Anita Trout, Skylar, and Juliet

Called to order: Jennifer McRoy motioned to call the St. Anne's meeting to order. Father Trout led the meeting in prayer.

Discussion: of Upcoming Events: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 6:00 pm Wreath Making for Advent ; Sunday, November 29, 2020 Kirking of the Tartan; First Sunday in Advent, 9:45 am Set-up, Menu – 30

Attendees – Special Events Funding

Father – Scotch Eggs, Cheese, Malt Vinegar, Brown Sauce

Jennifer – Bacon Buddies (Sliders) Steak Fries

Rebecca – Sausage (Lidl) Cheese, Smoked Salmon (Costco)

Barbara Z – Oval Trays, Shortbread, & Scones, Chips (Hot Air Fryer)

Susan and Justin MacEwen – Scotch and Bourbon

Juliet - Punch

Anita - Drambuie

Treasurer Report: Will confirm \$ was collected at 11/15 meeting.

Adjournment: Jennifer moved to adjourn the meeting with Rebecca seconded. The next St. Anne's meeting scheduled for December will be determined.

Rebecca S. Blair, Secretary/Treasurer



Dear Parishioners of St. Luke's,

I am thrilled to be able to address you as your new Minister of Music. I realize this is a position of great importance in a parish, and I sincerely thank you for trusting me with this responsibility. I know you did not make this decision lightly, and I will do everything in my power to honour the trust you have placed in me.



As your music director, my first duty is to the public worship of Almighty God. It is my belief that liturgy must be beautiful, and that a parish ought to offer its very best in the service of the temple. Beautiful worship speaks to the soul in a way few other things can, and music has always been intimately connected with Christian liturgy. Indeed, as St. Augustine said, "he who sings well prays twice". Our rich Anglican heritage gives us many musical resources to draw on in pursuit of this goal, and I intend to use them all to the fullest of my ability.

My second duty is to the edification of the parish and the parishioners of St. Luke's. Worship must engage not only the mind, but also the heart. I hope, as your music director, that the work in which I engage will have a profound impact upon each of you, drawing you further into the liturgy, and helping you connect with the sacred words and actions in a deep and meaningful way.

My third duty is evangelism. Beautiful music and well-executed liturgy, combined with the truth of the Catholic faith, never cease to attract people. We live in a world of artificiality, materialism, and ugliness. It is our responsibility as Christians to bring Truth, Goodness, and Beauty to a world starving for authenticity and genuine meaning. As a parish, one way we can do this is through offering exceptional music. It is my intention to not only build a choir to enhance our public liturgies, but also to eventually offer concerts and community events to bring in our friends and neighbours around Augusta. This will not always be easy, and will occasionally require us to make sacrifices that may take us out of our comfort zones, but every act for the furtherance of God's Kingdom will bear fruit.

Please know, as your music minister, that I am your servant. Everything I do will be in deference to the duties I have described, and always within the framework of authentic and traditional Anglican Catholic practice. I am always available for each of you, and am more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you, again. I look forward to many years of service.



Christmas Poinsettia Order

If you wish to donate poinsettias for our Christmas Eve services, please complete this form and turn it into the parish office or place it in the offering plate.

If you order a plant, you may take it with you after the Christmas mass that you attend (4:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.)

Please consider helping Saint Luke to enhance the beauty of our sanctuary during this Christmas season, and recognize or memorialize a loved one with a poinsettia. A list of donors will be noted in the church bulletins.

I would like to order _____ poinsettias:

() In memory of:

() In recognition of:

Given by: _____

Please make checks payable to St. Luke Anglican Church and indicate "Christmas Poinsettias" on the memo line.

Please turn in orders by Sunday, December 20.

