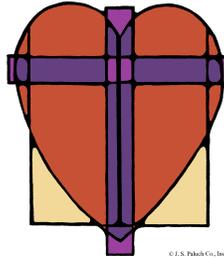




St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community

A Message from the Pastor

April 8, 2020



Dear Parishioners,

Today is sometimes referred to as “Spy Wednesday” as the Gospel presents us with Judas plotting the demise of Jesus. Judas the betrayer! How dare he? Yet, look at who Jesus chose to be his closest companions: fishermen, tax collectors, jealous brothers and sinners. This is our Church! As we approach the celebration of Holy Thursday and the Last Supper meal, I invite you to meditate on those characters. I want you to see yourself among those characters. This, of course, means you have come to the humble admission that you are indeed a character and a sinner. If not, then you may not have a seat at this table of sinners.

I have always repeated, “some of the greatest saints were first great sinners!” This is true of us as we sit around the table. Like the disciples who responded to Jesus’ revelation that one of them was about to betray Him, we respond, too: “Surely, it is **NOT** I, Lord!” But it is. We are but weak characters in the drama of relational life with God and one another. It is in this admission that we begin to gain strength in His grace.

Again, look at who sits at the table with Jesus. Realize that Jesus **CHOSE** them and loved them, even Judas. Now, look at who sits around our table of nourishment at Saint Luke! Yes, He chose **US** and loves **US**! It is in this relational discovery that perhaps, even if but for a day, we move forward: “Siempre Adelante.” We are the sinners at the table: the broken, the hurting, the alone and lonely, the depressed and anxious, the angry and intolerant, the impatient and imperfect. But **WE** are here! He called us and we have responded. Let us grow perfecting our love for Him who loves us perfectly...even, in our imperfection.

- Join us this week in our celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday -

Mass of the Last Supper

Holy Thursday, April 9

Viewing Time: 5:00 pm

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 10

Viewing Time: Noon

Easter Sunday Mass

Sunday, April 12

Viewing Time: 6:30 am

The recordings will be available on our Parish website, www.stluketemplecity.org, and sent through our e-communications at the *approximate times above*. The services will remain posted so you may view at your convenience.

Be assured of our continued prayers and blessings,

Fr. Mark

Visit lacatholics.org/holyweek each day to read daily reflections and discover ways to live Holy Week at home. Additional resources available at: <https://stluketemplecity.org/lenten-season-2020>.

National Moment of Prayer on Good Friday: Join Archbishop José Gomez, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and archbishop of Los Angeles, in a national moment of prayer on **Good Friday, April 10, at 9 am (PST)**. Visit: <https://lacatholics.org/sacred-heart/>

Please visit our Parish Website for continued COVID-19 information related to parish activities and previous e-communications: <https://stluketemplecity.org/covid-19>