



# The Ark of the Covenant

A Newsletter for the People of  
The Memorial Church of St. Luke, the Beloved Physician &  
All Saints Episcopal Church of Rhawnhurst  
*The Rev. Dr. Timothy Griffin, Rector*

March 2021  
Issue 95

## The Memorial Church of St. Luke, the Beloved Physician

1946 Welsh Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19115  
215.969.3645 (office)  
[stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com)  
[www.memorialchurchofstlukes.org](http://www.memorialchurchofstlukes.org)

### SUNDAY SERVICE

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
with music  
Followed immediately by  
refreshments and fellowship in  
the parish hall.

### Weekly Schedule

#### **Thrift Store**

Sundays 12:30 – 2:30 PM  
in the church hall

#### **AA**

Monday – Friday 1:00 p.m.  
Monday 7:00 p.m.  
in the church hall

#### **Contemplative Prayer**

Wednesday 6:30 - 7:00 PM  
Followed by Bible Study 7:00 –  
8:30 PM

**Celtic Eucharist with Healing**  
(suspended for the present)

#### **Irish Dance Classes**

Tuesdays and Thursdays  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
in the church hall

## MERE CHRISTIANITY

*“I am a very ordinary layman of the Church of England, not especially ‘high’, nor especially ‘low’, nor especially anything else. ... Ever since I became a Christian I have thought that the best, perhaps the only, service I could do for my unbelieving neighbours was to explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times” (Mere Christianity, p. VIII).*

*Mere Christianity* is a work of Christian apologetics by C.S. Lewis. The book was first published in 1952 but the contents of the book were originally radio broadcasts made during the early 1940s when England was in the midst of World War II. Lewis adapted the talks into book form, and as it stands it is a collection of short essays arranged under topic headings.

In the excerpt I quoted above from the Preface to the work, Lewis makes his intention clear. He is not interested in doctrinal niceties or splitting denominational hairs. He is rather concerned to make Christianity accessible and intelligible to nonbelievers. Of course, we should note that despite what he says, Lewis was anything but a “very ordinary layman”. He was an Oxford professor and his writings on Christianity were very persuasive to many. It is also worth noting that Lewis had been an atheist and came back to Christianity as an adult.

I mentioned above that *Mere Christianity* is a work of Christian apologetics. In other words, Lewis is making what is known as an apology for the Christianity. However, “apology” in this case does not mean saying “I’m sorry” or asking for forgiveness for a wrong committed. Instead, in this context an apology is a defense or justification for a position one holds or for one’s manner of life. The most famous “apology” of this sort was Plato’s dialogue entitled *The Apology* in which he purports to be recounting Socrates’ defense of his manner of life at his trial in Athens

## All Saints Episcopal Church of Rhawnhurst

1811 Loney Street  
Philadelphia, PA  
19111  
215.342.6310 (office)  
Email: [allsaintsrh@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsrh@gmail.com)  
[www.allsaintsrhawnhurst.net](http://www.allsaintsrhawnhurst.net)

### SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist,  
Rite II, with music

Followed immediately by  
refreshments and  
fellowship in the  
undercroft.

### Weekly Schedule

#### **Al-Anon**

Wednesdays 7-8:30 p.m.  
in the undercroft. Open  
Meeting for Adults.

#### **St. Paul’s Anglicans**

Sundays 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

#### **Bayit Abba Adonia**

Thursdays 6 – 8:00 p.m.  
Sundays 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.

#### **Yoga**

Saturdays 10 – 11:00 AM  
(outside- weather  
permitting)

## Message from the Rector (continued)

For the next few weeks, a few of us will be reading *Mere Christianity* together. I am inviting anyone who is interested to join us. Lewis is an engaging writer and his presentation is accessible for all of us, and the book is readily available from many online booksellers. My plan is to keep this simple. We will not meet on Zoom or any of the other platforms. Instead, beginning on Monday, March 1st I will (try) to send out an email with a few questions to consider for the essay in question. As I mentioned, the essays are short, so reading one each day (Monday through Friday) is very doable. But this is low impact, so if you miss a day, no sweat.

In addition, in a few weeks, Alex Palma has arranged to broadcast the movie *Shadowlands*, which is a movie (probably from the 80s or 90s) starring Anthony Hopkins as C.S. Lewis and Debra Winger as his wife.

If you are interested in reading a long with us, please get a hold of a copy of *Mere Christianity* and send your email address to me (and to [stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com)) and I will add you to the list of email recipients. Then, should you be inspired you can post your insights or questions for that day's reading.

Let me know if you have any questions about this.

God Bless,  
Fr. Tim

## Message from Sebrum Morris, Junior Warden All Saints

### THE BEATITUDE MADE SIMPLE

Jesus Sermon on the Mount - Matthew Chapter 5, Verses 3 to 12

- Happy is the person who realizes that they need a Savior because they cannot save themselves, for the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- If you are sad because of bad things that happened you can still be content, because Jesus will comfort you.
- Happy is the person who can control their emotions, for they will be rewarded.
- Happy are the people who want to do the right and know God more than anything else, for God will give them what they want most.
- Happy are the people who are kind and forgiving to other people, for they will be shown kindness and forgiveness too.
- Happy are the people who not only change their actions and what they do and how they act on the outside, but also change their heart on the inside and how they feel, for they will see God.
- Happy are the people who work to make peace and good for others, for they will be called children of God.
- People who are hurt, suffer or are treated badly because they have done right, can be happy knowing that they will have the kingdom of Heaven to look forward to.

- You can be happy when people make fun of you, hurt you or say things that are mean and wrong against you because of Jesus. Be excited and happy because just like the other heroes of the Bible, your reward is going to be great when you get to HEAVEN!



### All Saints - March

1 Dale Leiby	13 Lisa Bachman	19 Alexandra York	23 Doreen Eagles
2 Curtis Griffin	14 Denise Sarber	20 Abigail York	23 Kenneth King
11 Robert Kessler	16 Hunter Meisner	21 Patricia Eagles	25 Linda Colwell

### St. Luke – March

2 Allen Canty	10 Charlotte Miller	20 George Rutter	26 Genevieve Scott
4 Kathy Cook	11 Emma Clare Sharkey	20 Frank Lafferty	26 Stephen M. Krisch
7 Christopher	13 Adama Sirleaf	23 Grace Shahene	27 Doreen Gulley
9 Laura Duncavage	15 Betty Shifflett	23 John Brambilla	29 Joseph Runewicz
10 Florence Forbes	15 Laura Kriss	23 Matthew Kakareka	



### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

St. Luke's and All Saints are facing considerable expenses in the near future to maintain our buildings and grounds. The Vestry is asking each family that is able to contribute to the Capital Improvement Fund to help offset some of these costs.

**St Lukes: asking for \$25 per quarter (\$100 annually) All Saints: asking for \$10 per month**  
(of course, anything you are able to give is greatly appreciated)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ark Submissions** – Please send any articles or news that you would like included in the Ark to the Church Secretary at [stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com) no later than noon on Monday, February 22nd; the March Ark will be emailed and in church mailboxes by Sunday, February 28th.

**Pastoral Concerns** – Please contact Father Tim.

**Vestry Meetings** – St. Luke's: Monday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m.; All Saints: Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Annual Meetings** – St. Luke's: Sunday, March 14th at 1:00 p.m.; All Saints: Sunday, March 21st at 1:00 p.m.

**Compline** - Please consider joining us for Compline, which is held each night (Monday through Friday) at 8:30 p.m.. It is a beautiful prayer that lasts about 10 minutes. If you are interested in joining, please let Father Tim know.

**Jean Zekas** - Jean, a member of All Saints Parish, is in rehabilitation at Majestic Oaks Rehabilitation and Nursing Center. If you would like to send Jean a card, her address is:

Majestic Oaks Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Room 221  
333 Newtown Road  
Warminster, PA 18974

**Oak Street Health** - Oak Street Health, doctors for adults on Medicare, is focusing on vaccinating patients and community members who live near our center and who are 65+ in age. Oak Street has begun offering COVID-19 vaccinations, by appointment only, at:

Oak Street Health – Roosevelt  
2311 Cottman Avenue, Suite 71  
Philadelphia, PA 19149  
215-647-0383  
oakstreethealth.com



## Dates For Your Calendar

Thrift Store

Closed until further notice (St. Luke's)

## Prayer Requests

**St. Luke's Prayer List-** The prayer list is now being updated monthly. Please email **all** requests to **Caroline Cotugno** ([pinevalleyfan@aol.com](mailto:pinevalleyfan@aol.com)) and cc. **Terry Weikel** ([stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com](mailto:stlukesoffice1946@gmail.com)). You may also see Caroline in church or write in the book located at the church entrance, whenever indoor church services resume. **Member Requests:** please let us know when you need prayers, but also when you need to come off the prayer list. **Non Member Requests:** Please make your requests monthly, as names will be removed at the end of the month unless notification is received. **Please submit all April prayer requests by Monday, March 22nd and the list will be updated by Sunday, March 29th.** Please note, as per Father Tim's request, we are only accepting names for the prayer lists, rather than praying for groups of people.

***"Prayer is the movement of the heart of a person toward God; a movement that in a sense is within God - God in the heart sharing its life with God the Creator of all life." - Howard Thurman***

## All Saints, Rhawnhurst



Dawn Bachman  
Kula Benjamin  
Wayne Bindernagle  
Marianne Black  
Jamie Campbell  
Diane Celotto  
Linda Colwell  
Harry Coraluzzi  
Patsy Craig  
Sara Dean  
Ruth Doe

Regina Domanico  
Dorothy Dungan  
Patricia Ellis  
Fr. Tim Griffin  
Massa Hunder  
Noai Karpe  
Ray Kaspar  
Mike Kelly  
Lisa Kimball  
Ken King  
Judy Kolaris

Denise Lalka  
Joseph Marco  
Marion Morabito  
Fr. Jim Morris  
Sebrom T. Morris III  
Walter Morris  
Eric Nason  
The Robinsons  
Nancy Strang  
Jean Zekas

All of the families who lost  
loved ones to Covid-19.

All of the victims who  
succumbed to Covid-19.

## St. Luke's



Elaine Woods  
Genevieve Scott  
Ruth Fischer  
Joe Hanis  
R. Lee Kostic  
Jackie Oxenford  
Patricia Cellini  
Rosa Michnya  
Susana Navarro  
Charlene Segal  
George Mitchell  
Gerry  
Peggy  
Wendy  
Vince  
Ed  
Sabrina  
Robert  
Steven  
Stella  
William  
Shane  
Vernon  
Mark  
Reethi

Gregory Park  
Renato Cavaliere  
Walburta Nelson  
Bob Baur  
Bob Carter  
Charlene Segal  
Don Shifflett  
Caroline Cotugno  
Carol Mitchell  
Marge Sharples.  
Herb Rolland  
Justin & Emily  
Becca  
Karen  
Pam  
Tim  
Emani & Erica  
Anita  
Anna  
John  
Tracy  
Suzanne  
Janine  
Carol  
Vasu

Elaine Black  
Nancy M. Wright  
Llyn Carter  
JoAnn Runewicz  
Rose Whaley  
Meaghan Kriss  
Aurelia Thorpe  
Nancy Orlando  
Dolores Howard  
Deneen Raysor  
Eileen  
Denise  
Evie  
Audrey  
Aissie  
Roger  
Marsha  
Elizabeth  
Patricia  
Ricky  
Betsy  
Michelle  
Merrie  
Warren  
Meena

Alan Wilkinson  
Fr. Tim  
Laure Padian  
Barbara Kaufold  
Anna M. Pascarella  
June Mueller  
Thomas Duncavage  
Patricia Gantz  
Linda Roussis  
Rita Smith  
Tabitha  
Augustine  
Constance  
Kali  
Karen  
Earl  
James  
Kathleen  
Ruth  
Caylee  
Minerva  
Connie  
Othniel  
Madu  
Kala

## *Message from Caroline Cotugno, St. Luke's*



### An Irish Prayer

"I arise today  
Through the strength of heaven;  
Light of the sun,  
Splendor of fire,  
Speed of lightning,  
Swiftness of the wind,  
Depth of the sea,  
Stability of the earth,  
Firmness of the rock.

I arise today  
Through God's strength to pilot me;  
God's might to uphold me,  
God's wisdom to guide me,  
God's eye to look before me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to speak for me,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's way to lie before me,  
God's shield to protect me,  
God's hosts to save me

Afar and anear,  
Alone or in a multitude.  
Christ shield me today  
Against wounding

Christ with me, Christ before me,  
Christ behind me,  
Christ in me, Christ beneath me,  
Christ above me,  
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I lie down,  
Christ when I sit down,  
Christ in the heart of everyone  
who thinks of me,  
Christ in the mouth of everyone  
who speaks of me,  
Christ in the eye that sees me,  
Christ in the ear that hears me.

I arise today  
Through the mighty strength  
Of the Lord of Creation.”

- Anonymous







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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**  
Address Correction Requested

