

# LIFE

AT ST. LUKE'S





Life in a Christian Parish is a composite of many things. It runs the gamut from birth to death. It is children and young people and men and women. It is teaching and learning . . . service and sacrament . . . sickness and health . . . plans and hopes prayer and devotion . . . fellowship and love . . . human weakness and the power of God . . . and the constant striving to follow Jesus Christ in thought, word and deed.

It is life lived in the all-encompassing orbit of the love of God.

This booklet gives a pictorial presentation of that life in St. Luke's Parish. It is published in the hope that our members may have a greater understanding of that life . . . that they will realize there is no other life in all the world like it . . . that they will know, as they live it, that this is the abundant, joyful, useful life promised to us by the Son of God.



This life begins at the Baptismal Font when a child is brought into the holy family of the Church "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Jesus said: "Let the little ones come unto me." As we bring them a father has a sense of duty properly fulfilled, a mother has deep joy and contentment in the knowledge that her child will forever be in God's care, brothers and sisters are concerned because this child is now a member of the one family in Christ.

It is the coming into this life that gives the power and strength to have victory, and to triumph, against the devil, the world and the flesh.



**DOUGLAS BENSON**  
201 ARLINGTON AVE  
JAMESTOWN NY 14701-2104



The teaching of this life—its way and its truth— begins at an early age and continues through the years. Strangely, what is taught becomes more and more meaningful as children mature and is often the deciding factor as to whether a life turns out "right" or "wrong."

"As the twig is bent, so grows the tree."



The patience and devotion of those who teach with no compensation save that



The teaching goes on always. Here some of our members learn more about the Hymnal that through music they might sing the praises of our God.



And others receive Confirmation instruction or attend to refresh their knowledge of the Church's teachings.



And always, at the heart of the teaching, is the Gospel through which we know what Jesus said and did and try more earnestly to follow Him.



"Defend, O Lord, this Thy Child . . . that he may continue Thine forever."

The Apostolic hands of our Father in God, the Bishop, are laid on the head of the Confirmand and the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Ghost . . . wisdom, understanding, counsel, ghostly strength, knowledge, true godliness and holy fear . . . are given.

And the child confirmand is now mature enough in the life of the fellowship to receive the blessed Body and Blood of his Saviour.



Instruction for Christian marriage . . . an honourable estate, instituted of God . . . to the end that these young lives may ever remain in perfect love together, and that their home may be a haven of blessing and of peace.



"Till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance." The Christian marriage receives God's blessing that husband and wife may so live together in this life



"Receive the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of a Priest in the Church of God . . ."

Out of the life in a Parish Church come the fine young men who offer themselves to the service of God in the world.

Every Parish is responsible for sending men into the ministry; every Christian parent should present this vocation to his son; every young man ought to consider this unselfish work . . . for truly the harvest of souls is plenteous, but the labourers are few.



The life begins on this earth, but does not end here. This is our hope and our faith . . . this is the great assertion of Christian doctrine.

For life in the Church gives us the sure and certain knowledge that we who believe in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.





The strength of the Christian life comes from the Bread of Life. Here in the Chapel early in the morning our oneness in Christ is made manifest as we kneel at the Altar rail to receive Him unto ourselves.



"Be still then and know that I am God."



The love and care of Parish life is not confined to the Church building. It goes forth to bring cheer and comfort to those in sickness and in pain.



And it reaches out to those of the fellowship who are invalid and shut in. To them it brings peace, encouragement and the knowledge that we are not alone.



"Rise up, O men of God."

Life in the Parish follows the life of our Lord by means of the Church year.

It begins annually on Advent Sunday. On that day the celebration of the Corporate Communion of Men and Boys is held. There is no more thrilling sight than that of fathers and sons—soldiers and servants of Christ—coming forward to receive the Sacrament together.



Christmas . . . and in our life together we remember with prayer, praise and thanksgiving the unbelievable gift of God who so loved us that He sent His only-begotten Son that through Him we might be saved forever.

It all began in a manger in a stable in Bethlehem . . . it has gone out through all the world . . . and is now kept in tiny missions, in parish Churches, in magnificent cathedrals . . . wherever this Christian life exists.



And we try to impart some of its glory and peace to others by means of our



Prayer, fasting and discipline are integral parts of the Christian life. We keep the season of Lent that we may become strong in the Spirit . . . and we come more often to that Holy Table.

And we live through the terrible struggle between love and sin as it was fought out on the Cross on Good Friday . . . and we know the price that was paid to redeem the souls of men and to bring them into this life.



Easter Day . . . and a Church ready to welcome its Risen Lord and those who believe in Him.

Easter Day . . . the Christian faith justified and the Christian hope realized.

Life on this earth has meaning only as it is seen and known in relation to the eternal life promised by God. Only in the life of the Church can the steadfast faith and the enduring hope that men must have in their lives be found.





Loyalty Sunday . . . and the members of the fellowship come to pledge their loyalty to Christ and to His Church.

This life is meaningful as we give ourselves and our resources to it, and we learn the truth that "It is more blessed to give, than to receive."



Joy and gladness as callers report back on Loyalty Sunday because they



And the pledges of Loyalty Sunday, representing the time, labor and sacri-



The life of a Parish depends in large measure on the interest, work and support of its organizations. Here the Altar Guild is caring for holy things in its quiet, devoted, faithful way.



And the Bishop Overs Auxiliary plans ways and means of providing milk for the



The Coffee Hour . . . the social time of fellowship after Service where new members and strangers are welcomed and where our corporate life is deepened and strengthened. A great asset in the Parish . . . paid and provided for by St. Luke's Guild.



St. Luke's Guild at meeting . . . thinking, no doubt, of some project which will be of help to the whole life of the fellowship.



The Guild at tea and having an opportunity to visit.



Life in a Parish is many things. It's cooking and serving lunches and dinners where we break bread together and organizations earn money to support the program of the Church.





Stars in their crowns! That is our reaction when we see the remarkable progress that the women of our Parish have made in the United Thank Offering over a space of three years.

What is more remarkable is the conception of the prayers and thanks for God's blessings which are the source of this Offering.

Again, the life of the Parish is not selfish. It goes out through the United Thank Offering, the Diocesan Assessment and Apportionment and the National Church Quotas to help others and to extend God's kingdom to the uttermost parts of the earth.



The young men share in this life by assisting at the Altar and consider it an honor to help in this way.



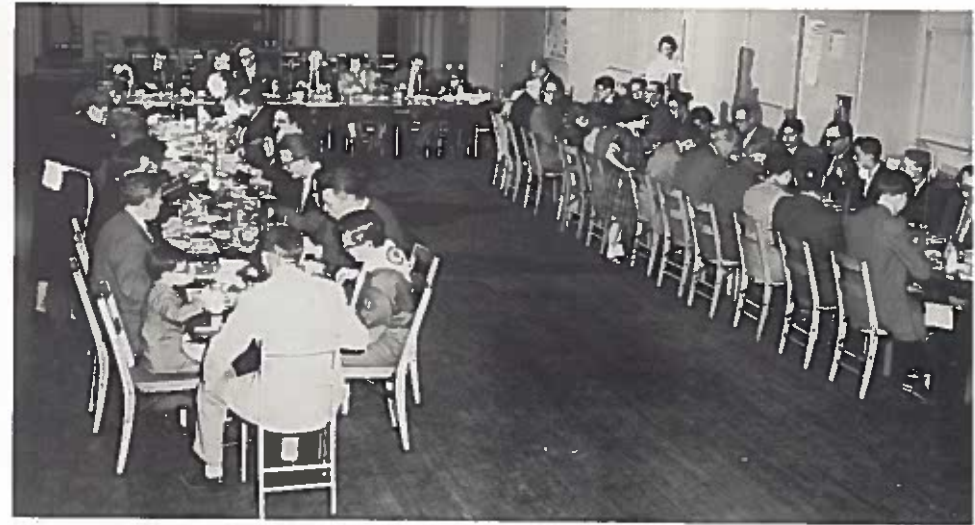
It is a young man playing the chimes . . . to tell our community that the Lord is in His holy temple . . . that His people are worshipping Him . . . that the doors to this life are open to all who wish to enter.



It is the Ushers welcoming the stranger and being of service to the congregation.



And the Men's Club planning and carrying out a program that will lead men into



Fathers and Sons sit down together at the Annual Banquet sponsored for them by the Men's Club.



In this Parish life we discover and use talents that otherwise might lie hidden



The demand for the products of those talents was great . . .



. . . and mighty tempting . . .



... and if the proof of the pudding is the eating who could remain unconvinced?



Business, finances and policy are important factors in Parish life. members of the Vestry elected by the congregation and called upon to time and talents that the life at St. Luke's shall be strong and vibrant future assured.



It is much more than posing for pictures as the concentration of importance to St. Luke's demonstrates.



Music is a vital factor in our Services. The Church and Church School Choirs give joy and depth and meaning to our worship of God all through the year.



The Annual Parish Meeting and Dinner provide the opportunity for every member of the Parish to speak his mind. Out of this come the suggestions and decisions which do so much to formulate policy and program.





Life in a Parish is an active thing. It must always be ready for new calls to service and wider opportunities.

St. Luke's Alive shows the future policy and program adopted by our members at a special Parish Meeting. It was arrived at after a thorough study of our Parish and its community had been presented to the congregation and had been approved by democratic vote.

This is our program. As such it deserves our complete support and effort.



Adoption of a program must be implemented by work. This is the Undercroft as we move forward to make it a place where Christian Education can be given under the proper physical conditions and where other activities can be carried on in bright clean surroundings.



The membership voted for...



Concern was expressed about activities for our young people. The result is this group of happy faces taking a more active part in the life of St. Luke's through the newly-organized Young People's Fellowship.



Last, but by no means least, in the life of a Parish, is the Staff. These are the genial, conscientious workers whose service goes far beyond the compensation received. From Sexton to Rector there is a devotion to the life that goes on at St. Luke's and a willingness to do everything possible for the strengthening of our Christian fellowship.



One of the needs in the proper education of our children was trained teachers. This is the Teacher Training Course in which members received invaluable help from





Life at St. Luke's is made up of the thoughts, words and deeds of fallible human beings who seek to follow the will of God and to pattern their lives after the life of their Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

That life always has its source and strength at the Altar where, through the Holy Sacrament of Bread and Wine, we are made one with Him and one with each other.

It is the faithful, devout participation in this Holy Communion that binds us together in Christian love . . . and that makes Life at St. Luke's such a glorious, abundant, meaningful life to everyone who shares in it.