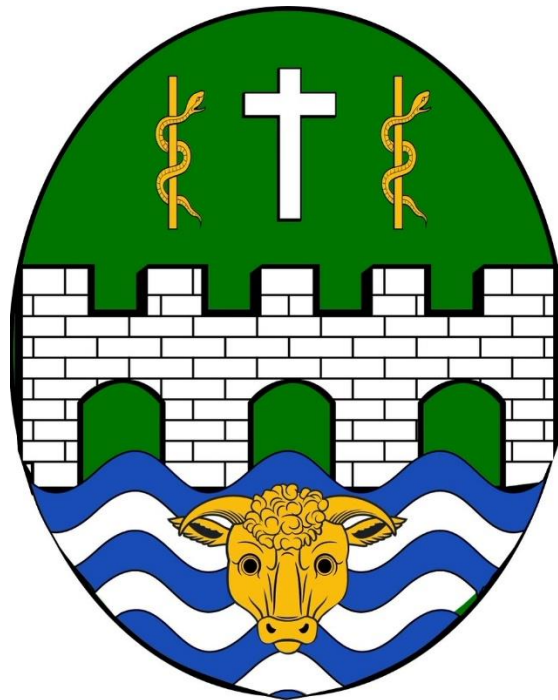


**The Saint Luke Guild**  
**A Public Association of the Christian Faithful**

**Statutes**



***The Saint Luke Guild***  
***Statutes***

**Article I: Name**

The public association of the Christian faithful described herein is known as the *Saint Luke Guild*.

**Article II: Spiritual Mission**

1. The Saint Luke Guild exists to encourage Catholic healthcare workers within the Diocese of Bridgeport to grow in Christian discipleship through a process of encounter with our Lord, Jesus Christ, and mutual accompaniment.
  - a. The Guild's primary mission is to support the ongoing spiritual, pastoral, and theological formation of its initiated members who serve in the healthcare profession.
  - b. The members of the Guild will be formed, trained, and supported to assist others who work in the health care profession and are not members of the guild primarily through the offering of spiritual and formation experiences open to all.
2. More specifically, the Saint Luke Guild seeks to help Catholic healthcare workers grow in Christian discipleship by adhering to the Guild's spiritual disciplines and inviting its members to be accompanied in faith through periodic gatherings of its members for prayer and formation.

**Article III: Membership**

1. The four spiritual requirements of each Guild member are:
  - a. To pray the Guild prayer each day.
  - b. To attend the annual Retreat/Guild Mass for the healthcare community, wherein aspirants will be inducted into the Guild and current members of the Guild will renew their commitment to the Guild's mission.
  - c. Attend the annual theological/ministerial reflection.
  - d. To commit to serve all those in healthcare by assisting in organizing and attending periodic spiritual and social experiences.
2. Association to the Saint Luke Guild is spiritual in nature and open to all healthcare workers. It is voluntary and associates' names are kept on file at the Catholic Center.

3. Initiated Membership is communal in nature and granted by going through a period of aspirant discernment and formation with the Guild Director or an instituted member of the Guild, and being installed at the Annual Guild Mass.
4. Initiated Membership is annual and personal and must be renewed each year at the annual Guild Mass to remain an initiated member.
5. Initiated Membership is also voluntary and members' names are kept on file at the Catholic center.
6. Membership can be withdrawn in any of the following ways:
  - a. Guild member can send a letter or email to the Director of Guilds stating their intention of withdrawing their membership from the Guild.
  - b. Guild member can choose not to renew their Guild commitment at the Annual Guild Mass.
7. The Bishop has the right to remove any persons from Guild membership with or without just cause.

#### **Article IV: Commitments**

1. To achieve its spiritual mission, the Saint Luke Guild encourages members to grow in personal, radical holiness through the following means:
  - a. Daily personal prayer, especially offering the Guild prayer each day (cf. Appendix A),
  - b. Fostering a personal love for God the Father, for Jesus Christ and commitment to Him as Lord, and a personal openness to the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and openness to all His gifts,
  - c. Frequently participate in the sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, especially attendance at Sunday Mass,
  - d. To live a deep love for and loyalty to the Catholic Church and her teachings, as expressed through the Church's Magisterium authority, which includes the Pope and the bishops in communion with him, and serve as guides in matters of faith and morals,
  - e. To foster a personal love for and devotion to Mary as mother and model of all Christians,
  - f. Offer witness to and reverence for the sanctity of life, in all its stages, from natural conception to natural death, to its fulfillment in God.
  - g. Offer personal acts of spiritual and corporal works of mercy,
  - h. Whenever possible, to attend periodic gatherings sponsored by the Guild, that will foster community among its members and provide opportunities for ongoing spiritual and professional formation.

## **Article V: Guild Chapters**

1. When sufficient participation allows, local or regional Guild Chapters can be created by the Council of Advisors.
2. Guild Chapter Structure: each Chapter will have a coordinator to plan and administer periodic meetings as needed for spiritual accompaniment, prayer, and fellowship.

## **Article VI – Governance**

1. Council of Advisors
  - a. The Saint Luke Guild is governed by a Council of Advisors overseen by the Diocesan Director of Guilds, composed of eight to fifteen members who are nominated by the Diocesan Director of Guilds and appointed by the diocesan bishop for a term of three years.
  - b. Council members must be initiated members of the Guild
  - c. There are no consecutive term limits for the members who serve on the Council. The diocesan bishop will decide who will be reappointed when a term ends.
  - d. The bishop reserves the right to remove members from the Council without cause.
2. The Council of Advisors is responsible for:
  - a. Representing the Guild and the Diocese of Bridgeport as witnesses to the secular healthcare worker community through radical faith and holiness.
  - b. Overseeing the spiritual mission and life of the Guild and providing an annual report to the bishop,
  - c. Recruiting new members and hosting “Prayerful Encounter” events,
  - d. Helping to organize the Annual Retreat & Mass and recruiting a brunch speaker,
  - e. Helping to organize the Annual Formational Gathering and Dinner and recruiting a speaker for the dinner,
  - f. Collaborating with the bishop on the progress of the Guild,
  - g. Meet on a quarterly basis to review the needs of its members, plan events and discuss ideas to grow the objectives and benefits of the Guild.

3. Guild Chaplain

- a. The diocesan Bishop can serve as and/or will appoint a priest or deacon to serve as the chaplain of the Guild.
- b. His responsibilities include:
  - i. Work with the Council of Advisors & Diocesan Guild Director to ensure the spiritual mission of the Guild is maintained,
  - ii. Attend the Annual Mass and Formational Gathering
  - iii. Attend the one-day spiritual retreats,
  - iv. Be available to spiritually assist individual Guild members, and Guild prayer/reflection events whenever possible.

**Article VII: Promulgation of Statutes**

These Statutes will be promulgated by a canonical decree to be signed by the Bishop (cf. Appendix B). They remain in effect, once promulgated, unless revoked or amended by the Bishop.

## **Appendix A**

### **Saint Luke Guild Prayer**

Loving God,

You created us with the capacity to heal,  
to restore and to offer peace, hope and love.  
through our role in Catholic healthcare ministry.

Help us to be visible signs of compassion in the world today- honoring every  
person we meet who is in need of healing.

When our burdens are heavy, renew us, and remind us of the blessings as  
well as the privilege of our calling.

Reawaken our commitment to the healing ministry of Your Son, Jesus Christ  
our Lord.

Amen