

SAINT LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 18, 2021



Fourth Sunday of Easter

6222 Franconia Road,
Alexandria, VA 22310
703-971-4378 (office)
www.stlawrencealex.org

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS- SUNDAY

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00am and
12:30pm (Extraordinary Form Latin Mass)

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS- WEEKDAY

M - F: 6:15 and 9:00 a.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

M 9:30am; W 6:30 - 8:00pm; F 6:45am; Sat 3:30-4:30 pm

Parish Clergy

Rev. Ronald J. Gripshover, Jr., Pastor
office@stlawrencealex.org

Rev. Daniel S. Sychala, Parochial Vicar
vicar@stlawrencealex.org

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, Visiting Clergy

Rev. Joseph Okwei Ocran, In Residence

Deacon Michael A. Waters
Permanent Deacon – Office & Finance Manager
703-922-0233 deacon@stlawrencealex.org

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary 703-971-4378	Cynthia Dreslin office@stlawrencealex.org
Director of Religious Ed 703-971-8541	Anne-Marie Pierce religioused@stlawrencealex.org
Youth Minister 703-971-5715	Joseph Stakem youth@stlawrencealex.org
Music Director	Raymond St. Pierre music@stlawrencealex.org



The Year of St Joseph

Dear faithful, the Pope has declared this the year of St Joseph, with that in mind, you may wish to pray to Jesus' Foster Father for his intercession in your prayers! Here is an example of an appropriate prayer:

Bless me, Oh dearly beloved father, St. Joseph; bless my body and my soul; bless my resolutions, my words and deeds, all my actions and omissions, my every step; bless all that I possess, all my interior and exterior goods, that all may redound to the greater honor of God. Bless me for time and eternity and preserve me from every sin. Obtain for me the grace to make atonement for all my sins by love and contrition here on earth, so that after my last breath I may, without delay, prostrate at thy feet return thee thanks in heaven for all the love and goodness thou, O dearest father, hast shown me here below. Amen.

*St Joseph, Protector of families....Pray for us
St Joseph, Protector of the Church....Pray for us*

April 25, 2021

4th Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

MON 4/26 - Our Lady of Good Counsel (EFM)
 6:15amHatseinesh Kidane †
 9:00amCouncil of Catholic Women (Liv./Dec.)

TUE 4/27 - St. Zita of Lucca (Historic)
 6:15amDominic De Nguyen †
 9:00amErica Creaven

WED 4/28 - St. Peter Chanel (OFM)
 6:15amEd Murphy †
 9:00amMichael Beto †

THU 4/29 - St. Catherine of Siena (OFM)
 6:15amDolores Dossman †
 9:00amAngela Renee Freeman †

FRI 4/30 - St. Pius V (OFM)
 6:15amMarcia Campbell
 3:00pmAmado & Sofra Medillo †

SAT 5/1 - St. Joseph the Workman (OFM/EFM)
 9:00amPresident Donald Trump

Vigil Mass (Meets Sunday Mass Obligation)
 5:00pmSomaly Kik Karimi

SUN 5/2 - Fifth Sunday of Easter (OFM/EFM)
 7:30amCarmela Washlack †
 9:00amEddie Nako
 11:00amJacqueline Faddoul †
 12:30pmParishioners of Saint Lawrence

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 4/26 Confessions 9:30am
 Religious Ed Classes 7:00-8:15pm
 Perpetual Help Novena 7:15 pm

Tue 4/27 High School Religious Ed 7:00 pm
 Legion of Mary 7:30pm

Wed 4/28 Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am-1pm
 Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00am Mass
 Religious Ed Classes 7:00-8:15pm
 Confessions 7:15 - 8pm
 Exposition Begins 7pm and ends with..
 ...Holy Hour 7:15-8:15pm

Fri 4/30 Confessions 6:45am

Sat 5/1 Confessions 3:30-4:30pm



Not sure how to dispose of your old and worn American flags? The Knights of Columbus will take care of that for you! Just drop those flags in the box in the Narthex and the Knights will properly dispose of them.

This Week in Our Parish

All Scheduled Public Masses are still being celebrated--other Parish liturgical activities are also starting. Come to our Monday evening Novena and Exposition on Wednesday (9:30am-1pm) and Holy Hour starting with Exposition at 7pm! The Main Church is open 7 Days a Week until 9pm for private prayer.

(Please wear a mask and wash your hands thoroughly before entering church. Please maintain social distancing. We undertake all these measures, in an abundance of caution, for your safety).

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING: Koinonia continues to accept new and gently-used children's Spring/Summer clothing. Especially needed are girls' and boys' clothing sizes 4-6. Some parishioners have enjoyed buying clothing from Walmart or thrift stores to donate to Koinonia. You may drop-off donations at Koinonia (6037 Franconia Rd; M, T, W, F 9am-12:30pm, Thur 9am-4pm, and 2nd Sat of month only 9am-12:30pm) OR drop off clothing at St. Lawrence in the Narthex bin located in the back of the church. Thank you!



Join your fellow Parishioners for First Friday Nocturnal Adoration!

Eucharistic Adoration provides a fervent response to Christ's invitation to keep prayerful vigil with Him; to deepen the experience of communion with our Eucharistic LORD, as He continues His self-offering and saving influence; and to live more consciously and actively the full significance of the Eucharist as the Sacrament of charity and unity for the Church and the world. The Nocturnal Adoration Society, of which St. Lawrence has participated in for over 40 years, has all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday of the month at the Basilica of St. Mary in Old Town Alexandria. St. Lawrence is responsible for the 10:00 PM – 11:00 PM hour. During this hour, both silent and vocal prayer are incorporated in the time spent with our Eucharistic LORD. The vocal prayers follow the *Little Office of the Blessed Sacrament* by praying several Psalms and beautiful Eucharistic meditations. Security is provided by Alexandria Police officers. We warmly invite you to come and join us for this special time with our LORD Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!



Thank you for generously supporting last weekend's Share Sunday! In addition to financial and gift card donations, 342 lbs of pantry goods were donated by parishioners to help those in need. An additional 108 lbs of donations were dropped-off for Koinonia directly in the Narthex bin since the start of April.



Within our Fr McAfee Memorial Garden, there is a small area surrounded by a circle of red roses, the symbol of life and the Right to Life. Designed by our Knights of Columbus Council 9407, this **Memorial Garden for Unborn Children** honors the memory of **all those souls lost during pregnancy** to abortion, miscarriage, and still-birth. Dedicated in 1993, the garden provides a peaceful place of prayer for an end to abortion, for all little ones lost prior to birth, and for those who may be seeking hope and healing due to their loss. This Spring this garden will be updated, including the addition of new statues and a short walkway lined with memorial stones (3"-5") engraved with the names of children lost during pregnancy. Please watch the Bulletin to learn how you can order a memorial stone to memorialize an individual with a name and date or other brief inscription.

As a reminder, the following resources are available for those needing assistance:

- > Pregnancy Assistance - Gabriel Project 703/841-3810
- > Confidential help after abortion - Project Rachel 703/841-2504 (for women); 703/841-3833 (for men)

The Book Rack is currently featuring selections for the Year of St. Joseph. Also the May *Magnificats* are in stock!

Pray Daily for a Future Priest or Sister: See the parish pamphlet rack for a brochure explaining the **Diocese of Arlington's St. Therese Vocation Society**. Members commit to praying daily for vocations and for individuals in formation as priests and religious. Those who join receive a quarterly calendar in the mail which lists the name of one person to pray for each day. There are no dues or required meetings. The prayers can be done at home on your own time. To see a sample prayer calendar or to sign-up on-line go to <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/pray/st-therese-society/>. Also, please continue to pray for seminarian Kevin Kelly who was here with us at St. Lawrence this summer.

Volunteer Teachers Urgently Needed! ESOL (English for Speakers of other Languages) teachers needed to teach virtually. Teachers are only asked to teach one class period per week but may teach more if desired. No experience or foreign language ability necessary and all materials and training provided! If interested, please email volunteer.newcomer@ccda.net or call 571-208-1572.



Pope St John Paul the Great High School

John Paul the Great 9th Annual Gala

Join the Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School community for an evening of fun, food, and fundraising on Saturday, May 8! Enjoy dining al fresco under a beautiful open tent on JP's beautiful campus. Visit jpthegreat.org for ticket information.

John Paul the Great Virtual Open House

Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School will host a virtual open house, live online from May 1-15, with a Zoom Q&A Panel on May 2 from 7:30-8:30pm. Visit jpthegreat.org to register!

John Paul the Great Summer Camps

JP Summer Camps are back for 2021! Sign your elementary and middle school-age children up for a variety of athletic and enrichment camps during the month of July. Camps include Robotics, Photography, Leadership, Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Soccer and more! Visit jpthegreat.org for details and registration information.

Our parish garden is one of the most beautiful gardens in Alexandria thanks to the loving attention of Tien Vu, our talented Facilities Manager. I would like a team of volunteers called "Our Lady's Gardeners" to help Tien pick up the leaves, especially those large magnolia leaves in front of Our Blessed Mother. Please contact Anne-Marie Pierce at 703-971-8541 if you wish to volunteer 20 -30 minutes a week to this ministry. God bless you.



NARTHEX PLEDGE FUNDRAISING REPORT

A humble "Thank you" to for the generosity of all Parishioners Who Continue to Meet--**and, Yes, Even Exceed**--Their Pledges for the Beautiful Construction of our Narthex.

New Goal - \$2 million

\$1,750,000

\$1,500,000

\$1,250,000

Original Goal \$1.2 Mil

\$1 million

\$750,000

\$500,000

\$250,000

We are now at \$1,395,179

Electronic giving can be made via Faith Direct.

See: www.faithdirect.net

-Your Pledges have made your Renovation project happen -- now help pay for the extra costs NOW!!! Donate either electronically or "in pew". Every little bit helps--in anonymous donations we have received over \$4000!

NOTE: If you have already made your donation and/or paid off your pledge, your additional donations can be made at any time and we will update your pledged/donated amount!!!

(Contact Deacon Mike for more info.)



PARISH SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION AND SERVICES

Baptisms - Baptisms are held the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 1:45 pm. Please contact the office at least one month in advance. Parents must be registered members of the parish and first time parents must attend a one session pre-Baptismal class, usually held on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Parents are encouraged to attend this class before the birth of their child; please call to register. The Godparent(s) must provide a Sponsor Certificate from their parish before the Baptism. Baptisms in the Extraordinary Form may be requested by calling the parish office.

Sponsor Certificates - These are Parish testimonies to the fact you are a practicing Catholic in the parish and are issued to those wishing to be a Godparent or sponsor for a Confirmation candidate. You must be registered in the parish and first time Godparents must attend a class before a certificate will be issued.

Sacrament of Matrimony - Contact the office at least 6 months before your desired wedding date. Marriage Preparation is required by Church Law to enable a couple to fully understand the holiness and obligations of the Sacrament. Note that living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the marriage preparation time.

Religious Education (CCD) - All children not attending a Catholic School who are in the first grade and up should be enrolled in the Parish Religious Education Program. Call the Religious Education Office at (703) 971-8541 for details or email religioused@stlawrencealex.org

R.C.I.A. - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are instructed in the Doctrine of the Church and are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. If you or someone you know would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call the Religious Education Office, Anne-Marie Pierce, 703-971-8541 or email religioused@stlawrencealex.org

Parish Registration - Prior to receiving particular services from the parish, one must be registered. You may register on the parish website or pick up a registration form at the rectory or in the vestibule of the Church.

Prayers/Visits for Ill or Homebound - If you are ill and would like to be placed on the prayer list or have Holy Communion brought to the home (on HOLD due to COVID), or if you need to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

BISHOPS LENTEN APPEAL UPDATE

We are Currently at **87%** of our Parish Goal!

Thank you for prayerfully considering your support for our Seminarians and Diocesan ministries and for providing assistance for the poor in our area!

TO GIVE CONVENIENTLY TO THE BLA ELECTRONICALLY

Open your camera of your smartphone and let it hover over this code--then follow the link, give your name and address, our parish and your credit card info--and your pledge is done!!



LOOKING FOR GREAT RESOURCES TO IMPROVE YOUR (and your kid's) EASTER SEASON PRAYER LIFE, and INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH??

USE FORMED.ORG

Watch "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist "
Or watch FORMED's "Lectio: Peter with Dr. Tim Gray"

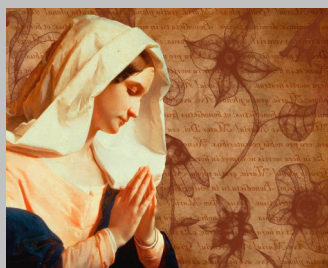
JUST TWO EXAMPLES!

Teach Your Children (and Yourself) About Our Faith -
Go to Formed.org and put in "St Lawrence" to enjoy learning about your Faith!!!

No Cost -- We
subscribed for
you!!

While we are still dispensed from physically attending Holy Mass on Sundays and other Holy Days by our Bishop because of COVID--if one feels unable to be in public during these COVID times--and even though nothing can replace being physically present at Holy Mass--the dispensation requires us to set aside time on these days to view Holy Mass virtually, or to perform some other specific devotion (a special Rosary, Reading of the Bible...etc.), to meet our obligation.

Know that 9am Holy Mass for Sundays will be recorded and posted Online each day by 11am, and the 12:30 EFM Mass will be online by 2pm) to assist those who cannot make it physically so they can meet their obligations to honor these Holy Days under the Bishop's dispensation.



Please Pray for the Sick

of our parish family, including Jay Farabaugh, Melanie Brady, Justin Pham, Raymond Stanekenas, Rita MacQueeney, Donald Lawson, Minh Tran, Anthony Torres, Leah Bloom, Richard Kuron, Sr., Jack Marzan, Matthew Peters, Patricia Lewis, John Bonfanti, Chris Henderson, Leah,

Francis Flaherty, Barbara Gaul, John Forrester, Bud Shatzer, Bon Le, William Geoghegan, Donna Sullivan, Kurt Steinbacher, Joan Curley, Renate Craft, Mary Kirby, Zemui Teklu, Kathleen MacQueeney, Ty Hamilton, Duyen Tran, Randy Souther, Robert Nguyen, Antonio Yu An Leng, Evangeline Azarraga, Maria Victorino and Norma Kemp.

Mother of Christ, we seek your Intercession for our sick!!!

Angelus Academy

The Angelus Academy is a pre-K to 8th Grade school that features small classes and a vibrant, faith-filled community of caring educators and supportive parents who are committed to raising the next generation of well-educated, prayerful, patriotic Catholic leaders dedicated to serving others with great love. **Angelus Academy** offers a Catholic liberal arts education in the classical tradition.

Angelus Academy is celebrating 20 years!

Please join our Gala celebration on the afternoon of Sunday, May 2 at Springfield Golf & Country Club. To purchase tickets, be a sponsor, or make a donation please visit www.charityauction.bid/AngelusAcademy

+Faith Direct: We encourage the use of Faith Direct for our Parishioners. The option to make your contributions to the parish electronically adds convenience and consistency to your contribution, and saves the cost of mailing envelopes -- so your Church donations goes toward pastoral needs vice administrative costs. In order to show your support, especially as an example to your children and others, Faith Direct provides cards you can place in the baskets passed in Church. Visit faithdirect.net and enroll securely online or call 1-866-507-8757. Note: Our parish code is VA325.