

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

www.stlawrencealex.org

703-971-4378

Go, and from now on
do not sin any more.

JOHN 8:11



April 6, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Lent

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION - SERVICES

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, or if you need to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

Baptisms - Baptisms are generally held the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:30 pm. Parents must be registered members of the parish and first time parents must attend a one session pre-Baptismal class, offered once a month, usually the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

Sponsor Affidavits attest that a parishioner is in good standing and is qualified to act as a Godparent for Baptism or Sponsor for Confirmation. See website for requirements and Parishioner Sponsor form.

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.

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. Please call for details.

O.C.I.A. - The Order 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. Contact the Religious Education Office.

Parish Clergy and Staff

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

Rev. Maurice Mei Akwa, Parochial Vicar
fadamau1963@yahoo.com

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, Visiting Clergy

Parish Office: (703) 971-4378

General inquiries: office@stlawrencealex.org

Facilities: facilities@stlawrencealex.org

Finance: manager@stlawrencealex.org

Religious Education and Youth Office: (703) 971-8541

religioused@stlawrencealex.org
youth@stlawrencealex.org

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS, LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

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

CONFESSIONS

Monday 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. during Lent

Friday 6:45 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. during Lent

Saturday 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

NOVENA to Our Lady Perpetual Help

Monday 7:15 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Wed 9:30 - 1 p.m.

HOLY HOUR Wednesday 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Monday, 4/7	St. John Baptist de la Salle
6:15 a.m.	Ty Turk
9:00 a.m.	Mary Potosnak †
Tuesday, 4/8	St. Julie Biliart
6:15 a.m.	Olga Cage †
9:00 a.m.	Thomas & Laura Bourgeois †
Wednesday 4/9	St. Gaucherius
6:15 a.m.	Stefan Tretiak †
9:00 a.m.	Esperanza David Torres †
Thursday 4/10	St. Fulbert
6:15 a.m.	Bau Thi Le †
9:00 a.m.	Dai Pham †
Friday 4/11	Seven Sorrows of the B.V.M.
6:15 a.m.	Sharon Turk
9:00 a.m.	Carmella D'Amico †
Saturday 4/12	St. Julius
9:00 a.m.	Tuong Le †
5:00 p.m. Vigil	Phyllis Phillips †
Sunday 4/13	Palm Sunday
7:30 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
9:00 a.m.	Natalie Turk
11:00 a.m.	Cora Bottalico †

Our next Share Sunday is the weekend of Apr 19-20.



Let's remember our less fortunate community members this Easter! If you will be traveling but still wish to make a pantry donation, please use the donation bin in the narthex or bring directly to Koinonia. Most needed at this time:

Cereal, Canned Fruit
Chili, Canned Pasta
Beef Stew, Spaghetti Sauce
Sardines, Salmon
Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo
Sugar and Flour (1-2 lb packages best)
Coffee (instant and ground)
Laundry Detergent, Dish Detergent
All-Purpose Cleaners
Feminine hygiene products
Bath soap, Toothpaste
Shampoo and Conditioner

Thank you!

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 4/7	Confessions 9:30 a.m. CCD Classes 7-8:15 p.m. OLPH Novena 7:15 p.m.
Tues 4/8	OCIA 6:30-7:30 p.m. CCD Classes 7-8:15 p.m. Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 4/9	Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00 Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Confessions 6:30-8:00 p.m. CCD Classes 7-8:15 p.m. Holy Hour 7:15-8:15
Thu 4/10	French Conversation Class 10:30 - Noon Spanish Conversation Class 12:15 - 1:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. 11:00 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus 7:30 p.m.
Fri. 4/11	Confessions 6:45 a.m. LAST K of C Lenten Fish Fry 5:30 - 7 p.m. Confessions 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.
Sat 4/12	That Man is You 7:00 - 8:30 a.m. Confessions 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Koinonia is now accepting Spring and Summer clothing in new or gently used condition. Their Clothing Closet allows eligible residents in the Franconia/Springfield area to obtain in-season clothing in good condition at no charge. **All sizes are helpful**, especially Men's small & medium and Boys' sizes 6-14. Clothing may be dropped off at their office: 6037 Franconia Rd (in the parking lot behind the Methodist Church). For hours please visit their website koinoniacares.org or call **703/971-1991**.



DID YOU KNOW? Last fiscal year, Koinonia provided 23,561 articles of clothing to their clients (individuals & families)!

THANK YOU to all who participated in last weekend's Share Sunday. **Pantry donations totaled 507 lbs!** All donations-- financial, gift cards, food and supplies-- are greatly appreciated. Thank you also to the volunteers who staffed the tables and loaded the delivery vehicle. Our next Share Sunday falls on Easter Sunday.

FIAT Days with the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist (For high school girls) In the spirit of St. Francis, spend a day working in God's creation with the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and gets some good insights to prepare for Holy Week. It's Saturday April 12 from 9am – 3pm at their convent in Falls Church. Day will include Mass, talk, lunch and gardening. Bring gardening gloves and tools if you have them. Cost is \$15. For more information and to register visit ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT, or contact vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. Deadline to register and submit permission form is April 6.

The Council of Catholic Women VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please consider volunteering for our **Christ House Ministry** through CCW. St. Lawrence provides an evening meal every second Monday of the month at Christ House in Old Town. **The next date is April 14.**

Volunteers provide ingredients for the main course, vegetables, bread, desserts, and/or their time to support this ministry. Please contact our coordinator Rita Tassa by emailing either ccw@stlawrencealex.org or office@stlawrencealex.org



Please Pray for the Sick of our

parish family, including: Anne Marie Pierce, Dr. Ronald Gripshover, Colleen Adamson, Curley Anderko, Giovanna Faustina Annarella, Jenny Antoun, Sandy Bertini, Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Dave Bocchino, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer, Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza, Joan Charters, Barry Childers, Pat Childers, Baby Reese Clasen, Josie Cofer, Renate Craft, Nancy Crowley, Ann Cullen, John D'Adamo, Anna Deaver, Gary DeMarco, Felicia DiFeo, Kevin Donaleski, Evan Duncan, Hilda Elizondo, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, Carl Haines, Karina Hanna, Christal Eve Herrera, Elizabeth Horswell, Judy and Kevin Jackson, Judith Jackson, Norma Kemp, Mary Kirby, Tom Kirby, Jr., Richard Kuron Sr., Donald Lawson, Antonio Yu An Leng, Patricia Lewis, Luisa, Kathleen MacQueeney, Rita MacQueeney, Rose Marie Malatesta, Jack Marzan, Martha Mastic, Deborah Miller, Nhung "Kim" Miller, Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Justin Pham, Larry Poh, Aubrey and Lori Polson, Ginny Rauer, Herman & Martha Rollandini, Vin Rosano, Eduardo San Diego, Hannelore Smallfield, Randy Souther, Raymond Stanekenas, Kurt Steinbacher, Donna Sullivan, Lily Tan, Henry Taylor, Zemui Teklu, Jun Tolentino, Anthony Torres, Minh Tran, Grace Valenciano, David Verbano, Marie Victorino and Fran Visco **Holy Mary, Mother of God, we seek your intercession for our sick!!!**



Preparation Lent Reflection
Fasting Sacrifice
Temptation

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember: **Dai Pham, Joan Curley, Mary Anne Choi, Federico Carreon, Elie Feghali, James Bennett, Balthazar Yambao, Christopher Cruz, Elvira DePaolis, Sarah Anne Valandra, Jay Farabaugh, Mulumebet Demissie, James Stakem, Jr. (Father of our DRE, Joe Stakem), John Dina, Joanne Robertson, and Benjamin Sarmiento.**

We also pray for the souls of the following deceased loved ones on this month's anniversary of their deaths:

Joseph Son (d. April 1, 2002)
Purificacion P. Ebdani (d. April 1, 2008)
Sovanny Saray (d. April 7, 2021)
Jose Dos Ramos (d. April 7, 2022)
Robert F. Corgan (d. April 8, 2023)
Robert D. Morgan, Sr. (d. April 10, 2018)
Sidney Ho (d. April 11, 2023)
Lisa Marie Wilusz (d. April 11, 2017)
Helen P. Angelick (April 18, 1995)
Tracey Ann Taylor (April 18, 2016)
Evelyn Santone (d. April 24, 2017)

(If you have a memorial of a death you wish remembered in the Parish please contact the office, giving the name and anniversary date.)

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 and prayers can be done at home on your own time. For a 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 Sean Mazary** who was here with us at St. Lawrence a few summers ago.

Matt Chapman, in formation for the Diaconate.

Sister Gaudete Maria, daughter of Tien Vu and Lan Do (who work in your parish). Sister Gaudete Maria has taken the second step of her vocation with the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus in Ohio.

THIS PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO **FORMED.ORG**

Sign up now for free access to this program offering beautiful and faithful Catholic content. Simply go to www.formed.org and search for our parish by zip code (22310). Type in your name and email address and then check your email message to sign in! There is something for everyone here: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming.

St. Monica Prayer Group

Men and women are invited to attend on the first and third weeks of the month - Wednesday evenings at 6:15pm and/or Friday mornings at 8:00 am. The group meets in the Family Room in the Narthex. For more information contact the parish office at and leave your name and contact info.

Electronic giving through

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Faith Direct is a highly respected and secure company. The Faith Direct program gives you a convenient way to support St. Lawrence by electing to use direct debit like many do for other payments or charitable giving. It also gives you the opportunity to support our parish even if you are absent from Mass for travel or illness. Visit the Faith Direct website www.faithdirect.org and use the parish's code **VA325** for secure online enrollment.

SATURDAY PROLIFE ROSARY PRAYER VIGIL

Please join St. Lawrence at the Rosary Prayer Vigil conducted every Saturday morning, 9:05 – 10:15 am, outside the abortion clinic at 2839 Duke Street, Alexandria. St. Lawrence has led this prayer vigil for over 30 years outside one of Virginia's largest abortion providers. For further information, contact the rectory or Bruce Borzino, 703-402-8335.



PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC):

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Come on out with us to: A Movie *The Chosen - Last Supper* (April 2, 9, 14);

Guys and Dolls at Bishop Ireton H.S. (April 5/6); Lunch at *Artie's* in Fairfax (April 10); Roving Restauranteers *Carlyle in Shirlington* (April 12); Mass and Brunch in Clifton (April 13). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

A Holy People - Living the Scriptural and Social Teaching of our Faith

Journey to the heart of Christ this Lent! Join the Diocese for A Holy People: Living the Scriptural and Social Teaching of Our Faith, a guided, in-person series that will enrich your Lent with prayer, Scripture, and the Church's rich social teaching. Five Tuesdays at 7:30 pm, March 11 through April 8. Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Burke Hall, 3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, Virginia

ORDINATION OF TRANSITIONAL DEACONS

On April 26, 2025, Bishop Burbidge will ordain twelve seminarians to the Transitional Diaconate: James Harbour, Donghan Lee, **Sean Mazary**, Eric McDade, Alexander Solsma, Teko Teko-Agbo and Aaron Zanca. The Mass will be held at The Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington at 11:00 a.m. and will also be livestreamed. Visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/Ordinations to learn more about these men, what led them to seminary, and about the ordination events.

Pray for our future priests!

The MaRiH Center, a crisis pregnancy and pregnancy resource center, needs donations and volunteers.

Items can be left in the cradle near the entrance of the Narthex. Our volunteers make weekly pick ups and deliver the donated items to MaRiH Center: **Please note that large, heavy bags of clothing are too cumbersome to our volunteers. Smaller bags would be helpful. Thank you!**

- Baby clothes up to size 2T
- Maternity and nursing clothes
- Formula, baby food, and

diapers

• Baby equipment; e.g., **MOST NEEDED** are non-expired car seats and strollers that collapse easily.

- Other items: shoes, bottles, diaper bags, toys, books, stuffed animals, bedding
- Baby wipes -- which are in very short supply.



There is also an Amazon baby registry that MaRiH has created. Check out the website at www.marih.org to learn more. Thank you for your generosity!

ST LAWRENCE ROSARY MAKERS

If you would like to learn to make rosaries to help spread the faith, we have a monthly meeting in Hammond Hall. No experience is necessary. If you can tie a knot, you can make a rosary to spread Mary's love for Christ! **NOTE: The Rosary Makers will meet monthly on the first Tuesday at 10 a.m. Call the parish office for more information.**



PRAY THE ROSARY FOR THE HEALTH OF OUR HOLY FATHER

Holy Week Schedule

Normal Mass, Novena and Holy Hour Schedule
Monday - Wednesday

CONFESSIONS

Monday - 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 pm.

Tuesday - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday - No Confessions

Friday, 12 Noon - 2:30 p.m.

Saturday - 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 p.m.
Adoration in the hall chapel until Midnight

Good Friday

Stations of the Cross 12 Noon
Celebration of the Lord's Passion and
Veneration of the Cross 3:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday

Blessing of the Easter Food Baskets Noon

Easter Vigil
8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday
7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

The Knights of Columbus FINAL LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAY OF 2025

The Knights of Columbus Fish Fry dinner is an iconic feature of Lenten Fridays, and is held from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in Hammond Hall. Enjoy a delicious meal with your fellow parishioners and support the Charitable activities of the K of C. Meal includes Fried or baked fish, French fries, coleslaw, mac and cheese and green beans. Price is \$15 for a full plate, \$10 for a half plate.



Send the Encouragement of Prayers!

Looking for a tangible way to let a loved one know you prayed for them? **Stop by our recently restocked rack of Catholic greeting cards from NovenaCards.com available for purchase in the parish narthex!** The cards cover many different Catholic devotions including praying for someone at Mass, offering a Holy Hour, and praying a Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, or Novena for the intended recipient. **Special occasion cards are also available: Birthday, Thank You, Get Well, Sympathy, Mother's Day, Easter, and each of the Sacraments.** The cards are located on the small wall rack located on the left side as you enter church, adjacent to the ladies restroom. **The suggested donation is on the back of each item and Book Rack payment envelopes are provided for your use.**

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT



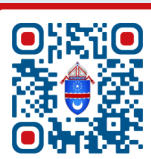
French conversation classes meet every Thursday in Hammond Hall from 10:30 - 12:00 Noon

Spanish conversation classes meet every Thursday in Hammond Hall from 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.

If interested, call the parish office and leave a message. ALL ARE WELCOME

2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL -

Thank you to those who have pledged to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal! If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on your blessings and consider making a commitment. The BLA unites as a diocesan family to support programs, ministries and services which help tens of thousands of people. Every donation, large or small, is essential. You may mail a pledge, go online to arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR



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