

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 7, 2024



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00am

WEEKDAY

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

CONFESSIONS

M 9:30am, W 7-7:45pm; F 6:45am; Sat 3:30-4:30pm

Parish Clergy

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

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

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, *Visiting Clergy*

Deacon Michael A. Waters
Permanent Deacon - Office & Finance Manager
703-971-4378 deacon@stlawrencealex.org

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary
703-971-4378

Cynthia Dreslin
office@stlawrencealex.org

Dir of Religious Ed
703-971-8541

Joseph Stakem
religioused@stlawrencealex.org

Youth Ministry
703-971-8541

James Stakem
youth@stlawrencealex.org

Music Director
703-971-4378

Raymond St. Pierre
music@stlawrencealex.org

Sacristan

Tatyana Nguyen

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS Week of April 8-April 14, 2024

MON 4/08 - The Annunciation

6:15am Carolyn Bateman
9:00am Carole Roberts †

TUE 4/09 - Saint Gaucherius

6:15am Zachary Marbury
9:00am Anna Cassella

WED 4/10 - Saint Fulbert

6:15am Shannon Clasen
9:00am Ann Martin

THU 4/11 - Saint Stanislaus of Cracow

6:15am Michael Akwa †
9:00am Shannon Turk

FRI 4/12 - Saint Julius

6:15am Phyllis Phillips †
9:00am Gayl Martin

SAT 4/13 - Saint Martin I

9:00am Natalie Turk

Sat Vigil (Meets Sunday Obligation)

5:00pm John Thomas Maguire, U.S. Army †

SUN 4/14 - 3rd Sunday of Easter

7:30am Debbie Elwood
9:00am Josephine Turk †
11:00am Robert F. Corgan †

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week *At a Glance*

- Mon 4/08 **CCD Classes, Grades 1-8** 7:00-8:15 pm
OLPH Novena 7:15 pm
- Tue 4/09 **High School CCD** 7:00-8:15
Legion of Mary 7:30 pm
- Wed 4/10 **Fatima Prayer Cell** after 9 am Mass
Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 am-1 pm
CCD Classes, Grades 1-8 7:00-8:15 pm
Confessions 7:00pm
Holy Hour 7:15pm
- Thu 4/11 **11am Choir Practice** 7:00 pm
Women's Bible Study 7:00 pm
Knights of Columbus 7:30 pm
- Fri 4/12 **Confessions** 6:45am
- Sat 4/13 **That Man is You** 7:00 - 8:30 am
Confessions 3:30-4:30pm

OUR PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO *FORMED.ORG*

FORMED brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content to parishes, families, and individuals. There is something for everyone here: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming.

*This is PROVIDED AT NO
ADDITIONAL COST TO OUR
PARISHIONERS!*

Go to [Formed.org](https://formed.org) and put in "St Lawrence" to enjoy learning about your Faith!!!

Two suggested EASTER Formed Videos:

For Adults: "Easter Sunday: Jesus' Resurrection."

For kids: "Minno: Laugh and Grow, BIBLE FOR KIDS, EASTER"

Divine Mercy Sunday April 7, 2024

Come and participate this afternoon in group prayer as we publicly pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The Chaplet and Confessions begin the Church at the Hour of Jesus' death, 3:00 pm, as is the historical practice with adherents to St. Faustina's wonderful vision.



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 **Sean Mazary** who was here with us at St. Lawrence a few summers ago and for **Nhung Vu**, daughter of Tien Vu and Lan Do who is a postulant with the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of Jesus in Ohio.

ATTENTION TEENS AND PRENTS:

- ◆ Every Tuesday High School Youth Class from 7-8:15pm.
- Please contact the youth office at 703-971-8541 or youth@stlawrencealex.org for info.

MEMORIALIZE A LOST CHILD.

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. Originally designed by our Knights of Columbus Council 9407, this **Memorial Garden for Unborn Children** honors the memory of all souls lost to abortion, miscarriage, and still-birth. The Garden provides a peaceful place of prayer for an end to abortion, for the repose of the souls of all little ones lost prior to birth, and for those seeking hope / healing due to their loss.

Several new memorial stones have already been installed in this garden. Please visit the garden to see these memorials. You can purchase memorial stones anonymously that are engraved with names of children lost during pregnancy or due to abortion.



Arrangements have been made with Engraved-rock.com in Washington state to take orders for personalized memorial stones to be included in this Garden. There are two options:

Signature Rock: 3" -5" for \$45, suitable for 1-3 words (e.g.: name + date + graphic)

Small Rock: 7" -11" for \$115, accommodating a brief inscription of up to 8-10 words



All stones are natural and engraved to last many years. The completed memorial stone will be shipped directly to St. Lawrence Church for installation in the Garden.

Your confidentiality is important! Identifying information will not be shared with the Pastor or church staff in any part of the ordering, approval or shipping process. To purchase a memorial stone:

Via PHONE: 509-715-0630; Inform Linda Greene your order is for the St. Lawrence Church Memorial Garden

(Remember that Pacific Time is 3 hours behind us).

Via Internet: Go to: <https://engraved-rock.com> Select "Order Personalized Garden Stones," choose the small or medium rock size and enter design information. If you need help, use the CONTACT tab in the main menu. After entering your billing information, select "Ship to a different address." For first/last name enter: Memorial Garden; Company: Saint Lawrence Church; Address: 6222 Franconia Rd, Alexandria, VA 22310. In the "Order Notes" box write: For the St. Lawrence Memorial Garden. Feel free to contact the Office if you have any questions!

PLEASE NOTE: This is NOT a parish fund-raising effort, but the cost of the stones is exactly what the company charges.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION AND SERVICES

Baptisms - Baptisms are held the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 12:30 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.

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



PRAY IN SONG

The 11am choir is looking for additional members. If you enjoy prayer through song, please join us for practice Thursdays at 7pm and for Mass at 11am on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. There are no 'try-outs' and all are welcome!

SENIOR PARISHIONER "GET TOGETHERS"

The Seniors meet biweekly at 10:15 a.m. in the parish hall. Our biweekly "get togethers" will include fellowship, as well as discussions about relevant issues facing the elderly.

Please join us on April 18th at 10:15 a.m. in the parish hall for the next meeting of the St. Lawrence Senior Group! All are welcome! For questions, please contact Anne McCray at springfield.ed@sunriseseniorliving.com.

Please Pray for the Sick of our parish family, including: Anne Marie Pierce, Dr. Ronald Gripshover, Giovanna Faustina Annarella, Jenny Antoun, Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Dave Bocchino, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer, Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza, Joan Charters, Pat Childers, Barry Childers, Baby Reese Clasen, Renate Craft, Nancy Crowley, Ann Cullen, Joan Curley, John D'Adamo, Anna Deaver, Felicia DiFeo, Kevin Donaleski, Evan Duncan, Hilda Elizondo, Jay Farabaugh, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, Karina Hanna, Christal Eve Herrera, Judy and Kevin Jackson, Judith Jackson, Mary Kirby, Tom Kirby, Jr., Richard Kuron Sr., Donald Lawson, Antonio Yu An Leng, Patricia Lewis, Kathleen MacQueeney, Rita MacQueeney, Jack Marzan, Martha Mastic, Deborah Miller, Nhung "Kim" Miller, Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Robert Pettiti, Justin Pham, Aubrey Polson, Ginny Rauer, Joanne Robertson, Vin Rosano, Eduardo San Diego, Hannelore Smallfield, Randy Souther, Raymond Stanekenas, Kurt Steinbacher, Donna Sullivan, Henry Taylor, Zemui Teklu, Jun Tolentino, Anthony Torres, Minh Tran, David Verbano, and Marie Victorino.



Mother of God, we seek your intercession for our sick!!!

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember: **Yolanda Malferrari, Josephine Turk, Stella Henderson, Eduardo Barrios, Msgr. Roy Cosby, Palbo Maldonado, Jim Weaver, Wilfredo Picardo, and Rowene Valdellon.**

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

Joseph Son Ngo (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)
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.)



WE HAVE MET OUR PLEDGE GOAL !!!

**We Now Have Building Project
Pledges in the Amount of
\$2.009 Million**

Thank you to all who have pledged so Faithfully to make your church so beautiful, welcoming and reverent and for all those still meeting and increasing their pledges!

CONVERSATION CLASSES IN SPANISH AND FRENCH

- the French conversation classes begin Friday, April 12th, from 10:30 - 11:30 am

- The Spanish conversation classes begin Thursday, April 18th from 11:30 - 12:30 pm

More details to come! If interested, call the Rectory at 703-971-4378.

Sacristan Assistants/ Substitutes

We are looking for someone who can fill in when our regular sacristan is away. The basic responsibilities are:

- ◆ Set up the Altar for 9AM weekday/Sunday Masses
- ◆ Change the candle and the Altars cloths when needed
- ◆ Soak, rinse, launder, and iron the linens used for Holy Mass once a week
- ◆ Keep the Altar and the floor of the sanctuary clean
- ◆ Water plants once a week

If you would like to volunteer for this wonderful and rewarding work, please either call or email the parish office.

Our parish garden is one of the most beautiful gardens in Alexandria thanks to the loving attention of Tien Vu, our talented Facilities Manager. We 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 see Mr. Vu if you wish to volunteer 20 -30 minutes a week to this ministry. God bless you.

Parents Ministry

If you're bringing home a newborn, recovering from illness or surgery, or facing any other major life event and could use some help with meals, your St. Lawrence family would love to support you with a Meal Train. Contact the parish office or email parents@stlawrencealex.org, and we will set up a Meal Train page for you to coordinate your fellow parishioners bringing you dinners.

The Parents Ministry is preparing to offer childcare in the parish hall during confession one Saturday a month. If you love kids and are interested in volunteering, please email parents@stlawrencealex.org or contact the parish office. We welcome volunteers of all ages and will be in touch with more information soon.

MAKE ROSARYS TO SPREAD THE FAITH

If you would like to assist in spreading the use of the Rosary, we are in need of persons who would like to make Rosaries which we provide for free by the Book Rack and which are very popular. No experience necessary, if you can tie a knot, you can spread Mary's love for Christ. Call the Office for info.

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR SOUGHT

No experience required. Graces await. If you are a young man who was received the Sacrament of the Eucharist and are interested in learning to serve at the altar, please have your parents contact the parish office.

Can We Count on You???

It is important we have Sunday Counters to help with reporting the collection and depositing funds entrusted to the Church in the collection. If you can help count Sunday morning after the 7:30 Mass (from Post-Mass to 9:45, once every 6 weeks) please contact the office!

MEN-REINVIGORATE YOUR FAITH

TMIY IS LOOKING FOR GOOD MEN WHO ARE TRYING TO BE GOOD CATHOLICS IN A COMPLEX WORLD EVERY Saturday Morning-7am

Meetings Every Saturday!!!

A Program Designed to help Men Seeking SPIRITUAL PEACE

That Man is You! Call the office for info.

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC)

We are a social group, mostly age 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate membership group). Meet us for: Easter dinner (March 31). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.



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