

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

Blessed are those servants
whom the master finds
vigilant on his arrival.

LUKE 12:37



**The Twentieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time, Aug. 17, 2025**

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 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.

Friday 6:45 a.m.

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, 8/18	Saint Agapitus
6:15 a.m.	Jon & Elisa Schnur
9:00 a.m.	Jad Azur †
Tuesday, 8/19	Saint John Eudes
6:16 a.m.	Joe & Gracie Hahn
9:00 a.m.	Eileen Steinway
Wed., 8/20	Saint Bernard of Claireaux
6:15 a.m.	Christy Karako
9:00 a.m.	James Creaven
Thursday 8/21	Saint Pius X
6:15 a.m.	Richard Rutledge †
9:00 a.m.	Cindy Dreslin
Friday 8/22	The Queenship of the BVM
6:15 a.m.	Josefa Vera †
9:00 a.m.	Bruce Cofer †
Saturday 8/23	Saint Rose of Lima
9:00 a.m.	Michael Ruffley, Sr. †
(Vigil for Sun.)	Jon & Elisa Schnur
5:00 p.m.	
Sunday 8/24	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
9:00 a.m.	Lillian Nguyen
11:00 a.m.	The Richard Bell Family (Living/Deceased)

Liturgical and Ministry Activity

Mon 8/18	Confessions 9:30 a.m. OLPH Novena 7:15 p.m.
Tues 8/19	Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 8/20	Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00 Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Confessions 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Holy Hour 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
Thur 8/21	11:00 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.
Fri. 8/22	Confessions 6:45 a.m.
Sat. 8/23	Confessions 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

THIS SUNDAY - PARISH COOKOUT

Our parish cookout will be held August 17 from 2-4 p.m. **THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE** (in Hammond Hall in the event of inclement weather). Join us under the trees for hot dogs and hamburgers grilled by the Knights of Columbus. Please bring a potluck side dish or dessert to share! All parishioners are welcome!



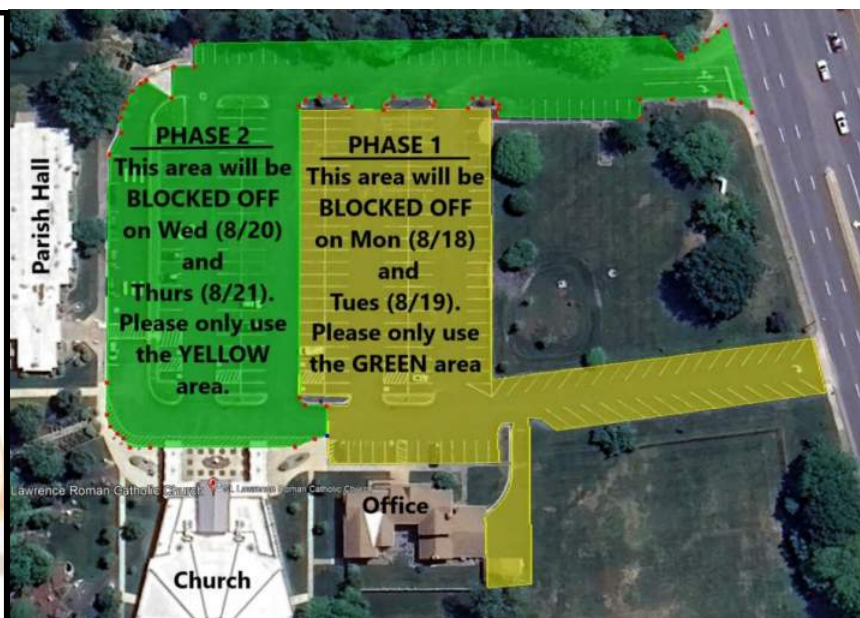
Celebrating A Golden or Silver Wedding Anniversary This Year? If you were married in 1975 or 2000, please join Bishop Michael Burbidge for the 2025 Mass for Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 19th at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Contact your parish office to register no later than October 3rd. For more info, visit <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/event/marriagejubilee/>



Whenever you travel, please remember your obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Go to Masstimes.org to find Catholic Churches nearby. This service provides worship times, church locations, contact information, website links and maps. www.masstimes.org



Beginning on Monday, August 18th, the resurfacing work will begin and will last, please God, for four days. This portion of the project will be done in two phases as you can see on the map at right. Phase 1 is marked by the YELLOW section; Phase 2 is marked by the GREEN section. During Phase 1, the normal parking lot entrance is used. For Phase 2, however, please enter the parking lot by the "Exit Only" driveway and NOT the normal entrance. There will be construction cones marking the work areas to avoid. Please pray that our Lord gives us good weather to get this work done expeditiously!



Join us to Celebrate 25 Years of the St. Louis Mother's Group

Saturday and Sunday, August 30-31 at
St. Louis Catholic Church, Alexandria

Saturday - 4 p.m. Vigil Mass, 5-10 p.m.
Dinner, Dancing and Social
Sunday, Donuts and Family Time after
8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.



PRAY THE ROSARY FOR ALL THE POOR SOULS IN PURGATORY

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,
Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Dave
Bocchino, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer,
Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza,
Joan Charters, Pat Childers, 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, 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, Pamela Moore,
Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Justin Pham, Steve
Piscitelli, Larry Poh, Lori Polson, Ginny Rauer, Herman
& Martha Rollandini, Vin Rosano, Eduardo San Diego,
Hannelore Smallfield, Randy Souther, Raymond
Stanekenas, Kurt Steinbacher, Donna Sullivan, Lily Tan,
Rebekah 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!!!*



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.

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked
with the sign of faith, most recently we remember:

**Patricia Terlecki, Barry Childers, Lai Wah Tang,
Patricia Mankin, Martha Ann Jones, Roseann
Frances Branagan, Olivia Miranda Kliukevic,
Fermin Villar, Aubrey Polson, and Dai Pham.**

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

Herman Verbano (d. 8/5/21)
William Curley (d. 8/5/2018)
James F. Stakem, Jr. (d. 8/10/2024)
Michelle Cio (d. 8/13/13)
Genevieve Grippo (d. 8/15/2022)
John Malatesta (d. 8/22/2016)
Rev. Gerry Petta (d. 8/24/2012)
Jane Palladino (d. 8/14/2023)
Ofelia Dalusung (d. 8/19/2023)
Jerry Alexander (d. 8/26/2023)

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

Catholic Charities St. Martin de Porres Senior Center (SMdP) is looking for volunteers with various

opportunities. SMdP provides services to prevent
isolation of seniors and promote their
wellness, happiness, and independence.
Volunteers are needed for breakfast and
lunch; activities, arts and crafts, exercise
instructor, computer/tech instructors,
nutritionist, and more opportunities listed
online at <https://www.cdda.net/seniorservices>. Center
hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00 am - 1:30 pm.
Flexible schedules based on availability. SMdP is located
at 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304.
Contact maria.mellor@cdda.net; phone: 703-751-2766.



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:

**Rev. Mr. Sean Mazary, Matt Chapman, and Sister
Gaudete Maria.**

FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH OFFICE: Calling all High School Students & Parents!! St. Lawrence Youth Ministry will have a "Back to School Meet & Greet" after 11:00 a.m. Mass this Sunday, Aug. 17, at Hamond Hall from 12-1:30 p.m. Come hear of our High School Youth Activities, classes and fun planned for the Fall Semester. We will have a bonfire and s'mores as well. Please email or call James Stakem at youth@stlawrencealex.org or 703-971-4378 x 127.

ATTENTION PARENTS & STUDENTS: All Religious Education classes for Grades 1-8, High School and Adults start on September 8, 9 and 10th. Parents, please register. Forms are available in the Narthex, parish office and on-line. Joseph Stakem, our Director of Religious Education, will be available after all Masses this weekend to assist parents with registration and answer any questions about the program.

St. Lawrence Religious Education office **is in need of volunteers** for CCD Teachers and Assistants for Mondays or Wednesdays from 7:00- 8:15 p.m. Books & training are provided. Classes are designed to prepare students to live the Catholic Faith, learn to pray, respond to the call for universal holiness, to desire and prepare for the Sacraments and live a life as Christ's disciples.

To volunteer and learn more, please contact Joseph Stakem religioused@stlawrencealex.org or 703-971-8541.

THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON EWTN's Free Family Celebration Event

You'll hear hope-filled messages from EWTN hosts and clergy, attend Holy Mass with The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Confession and Adoration, and meet your favorite EWTN personalities. And best of all, it's free! Doors open at 8:00 am in Tysons, Virginia, on Saturday, **August 30th**. Seating is limited so reserve your spot today by registering online at www.ewtn.com/familycelebration

Electronic giving through Faith Direct



Making plans for the summer? Make sure to plan for your offertory as well! When your summer travels take you away from Sunday services, eGiving lets you continue to support our church and the ministries you cherish. You can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

THIS PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO FORMED.ORG

To **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.

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 n more. Thank you for your generosity!

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.) Accompany us to: square dancing (every Tuesday); Thursday lunches (Aug. 28); brunch (Aug. 17); talk by Dawn Beutner, Editor for Saints at *Magnificat* magazine (Aug. 21); serving meal at Christ House (Aug. 23); movie/dinner (Aug. 24); picnic (Aug. 31). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.



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.



Angelus Academy. *Where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of 3 year-old to 8th grade children and their families.*

We love having St Lawrence parishioners at our school. What a blessing it is to be learning together! We are continuing to accept applications for the 2025-26 school year as space permits. Spots are filling up fast--apply soon! [Angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying](https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying). Angelus Academy is celebrating its 25th anniversary this fall. We'd love to have you be a part of our celebrations! Call or email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, for more information or to schedule a tour this summer: admissions@angelusacademy.org or 703-924-3996 x 18

Parish Groups on Summer Break

ST. LAWRENCE ROSARY MAKERS will take a break over the summer and meet again on Tuesday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m. in Hammond Hall. All are welcome. Call the parish office for more info.



FRENCH AND SPANISH CONVERSATION CLASSES. Our foreign language classes are on a break for the summer. Please look for details on classes resuming in the fall.

THAT MAN IS YOU! A Catholic Man's Leadership Program. We have completed our third year of meetings and will resume in the Fall after Labor Day. If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office to leave a message for the Program Coordinator, Chris Isham.

TMIY

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will resume their weekly Thursday Bible Study groups in September. Join other women from the parish to study and pray. Stay tuned for more details on the starting date and time



Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening in the Fall of 2026, hopefully at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria. The more than

70 Chesterton Academies nationwide are known for their strong spiritual formation anchored in daily Mass as well as their rigorous, integrated classical curriculum oriented toward the good, the true, and the beautiful. Chesterton high schools form joyful, faithful, curious, articulate, and resilient young men and women prepared for college and for life. Parent information sessions will be held throughout the summer.



Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, [connect with us here](#), or [register to attend an upcoming information session](#)



PRAY IN SONG

The 11 am 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!

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

Are you a practicing Catholic in the Parish and think you would like to volunteer to Lector at a weekday 9:00 a.m. Mass? Please contact Joseph Stakem at 703-971-8541 to find out more information.



Lectors

2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer "I Am With You Always"

On August 23, from 9:15 am - 2:15 pm, you are invited to attend the 2025 Mental Health Day of Prayer, with the theme "I Am With You Always: Healing From Trauma and Loneliness" at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. The day features small group discussions, a keynote luncheon with Dr. Maura McFadden, and Holy Mass celebrated by our shepherd, Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge, at 11 am. *This event is free, but please register at:* arlingtondiocese.org/mentalhealthdoph. We look forward to seeing you there.

Project Rachel After Abortion Care is hosting a series of Drop-In Virtual Zoom Meetings: We understand that healing after abortion can be a complex and deeply personal journey. If you have experienced abortion and are seeking confidential support and insight into the healing process, we invite you to join our virtual drop-in sessions in a safe space with no commitments, no homework, and no pressure...Upcoming dates @ 5 pm: September 11. Interested? Contact us today: 703-841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org



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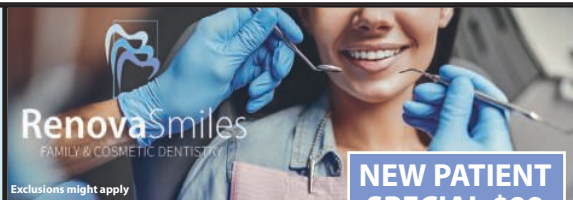
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