

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

www.stlawrencealex.org

703-971-4378

Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.

Luke 14:11



The Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Aug. 31, 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, 9/01	Saint Giles
6:15 a.m.	NO Mass - Federal Holiday
9:00 a.m.	Megan Nguyen
Tuesday, 9/02	Saint Ingrid of Sweden
6:15 a.m.	Christina Insuasty †
9:00 a.m.	Aspen Lagman & Angela Messing
Wed., 9/03	Saint Gregory the Great
6:15 a.m.	Thomas O'Conner †
9:00 a.m.	Faithful Departed Souls †
Thursday 9/04	Saint Rosalia
6:15 a.m.	Emmett O'Hare
9:00 a.m.	Nicholas Koritko
Friday 9/05	Saint Teresa of Calcutta
6:15 a.m.	Thomas O'Conner †
9:00 a.m.	Huong Duong †
Saturday 9/06	Blessed Bertrad of Garrigues
9:00 a.m.	Josie Cofer
(Vigil for Sun.)	Dominicô Vượng Đỗ †
5:00 p.m.	
Sunday 9/07	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 a.m.	Jon & Elisa Schnur
9:00 a.m.	Estella Arciaga
11:00 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 9/01	Confessions 9:30 a.m. OLPH Novena 9:30 a.m.
Tues 9/02	Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 9/03	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 9/04	NO Choir Practice until September
Fri. 9/05	Confessions 6:45 a.m. First Friday Nocturnal Adoration at St. Mary (St. Lawrence's time 10-11pm)
Sat. 9/06	First Saturday Devotions begin at 8:30 am Confessions 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.



The Legion of Mary is having a Birthday Party for our Blessed Mother, on Monday, September 8th after the 9:00 am Mass. Join the Legion and your fellow parishioners in Hammond Hall to celebrate the Birthday of our Holy Mother Mary. Refreshments will be provided.

Women's Fall Bible Study

Starting **Thursday, October 2** from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. in Hammond Hall. Join us for *Touching the Divine* to explore qualities of Jesus revealed through the Gospel of John. This study draws us into a deeper relationship with Jesus as we reflect on His life and personality. For more information call 703-971-4378 or email office@stlawrencealex.org

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.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC September 21 from 1-4 p.m.

Join us for fun and games including a huge slide, mechanical bull and bounce house. The Knights of Columbus will grill hot dogs and hamburgers, and we'll have sno cones. We ask that everyone please bring a side dish or dessert to share and your own beverages. Join your other parishioners under the trees in our picnic area for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Members of our parish ministries will have information about available opportunities to volunteer and participate with other members of the parish.



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/>



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 THOSE LIVING IN WAR ZONES

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,
Barton Fischer, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara
Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia
Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, 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, Frank McDermott,
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, 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:

Jeff Martin (d. 9/1/11)
Jack Dreslin (d. 9/1/82)
Tom Leich (d. 9/7/13)
Yonathan Petros (d. 9/11/17)
Vincent MacQueeney (d. 9/13/13)
Jay Farabaugh (d. 9/13/24)
Michael Washlack, Jr. (d. 9/15/21)
Beverly Eppolito (d. 9/16/13)
Sally Ahlgren (d. 9/23/14)

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

FROM THE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN:

Save the dates:



**Sat October 18th at 6pm is
the Chili Dinner and Cook
Off.** Start practicing your
award winning recipe or just
plan to attend this fun and tasty even-
ing.



**Sunday October 19th at 12:30pm is a CCW potluck
lunch, meeting, and Blessed Virgin Mary Trivia
Game.** Plan to enjoy the company of other women in
the parish as we test our knowledge about Mary, her
many titles, feast days and images.

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.**

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

Retreat for Veterans at Loyola Retreat House, October 24-26, 2025

US Army veteran Fr Jim Conroy, SJ will lead Veterans in Prayer and Reflection about their experiences serving in the military. Anyone who has served their country has been generous with their skills and talents, but often at a cost. Learn and reflect on how God has been with you always, but often in hidden ways.

Retreat Fee is \$175. Contact Loyola Retreat House, 301 -392-0801, or loyolaonthepotomac.com for more information

Parish Groups Returning from Summer Break

ST. LAWRENCE ROSARY MAKERS is on 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.

All classes will be resumed September 11 and held every Thursday, at Hammond Hall. French class: from 10:30 – 12 Noon Spanish class: from 12:30 – 1:30pm

All are welcome. Join us to have fun learning, laughing and keeping our minds sharp!

THAT MAN IS YOU! PROGRAM BEGINS SEPT. 6

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.



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 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.**

The 2026 Wall Calendars & Spiral Daily Planners are in!

Stop by the book rack to see three different styles of religious art wall calendars: Mary and the Saints, The Life of Our Lord, and Angels. The 16-month spiral planners contain brief biographies of 70 Saints. All reference important Holy Days and holidays, fast days and feast days. See the back of each item for the suggested donation.

Retreat for Person's Facing Serious Illness October 3-5, 2025

Hosted by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington. You and your caregiver are warmly invited to a peaceful weekend retreat for person's facing serious illness at San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post VA. This retreat is an opportunity for prayer, reflection, spiritual guidance, and gentle care. Diocesan priests, medical professionals, and volunteers will accompany you with compassion and support. Come find spiritual healing, hope, and rest in God's loving presence. For questions or to register, email retreat@ccda.net, and a nurse will contact you within a few days. For further information, please call (703)841-3830. Space is limited.



CHESTERTON ACADEMY
OF CHRIST THE KING

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



FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH OFFICE Attention Parents and Students!!!!

All of our CCD/Religious Education Classes will begin in Hammond Hall at 7 p.m. with a

Mandatory ORIENTATION Night for Parents and Students (Grades 1-12)

You will meet the Director and Teachers, get books, go over rules, curriculum, etc.

September 8: for Mondays Grades 1-8;

September 9: for High School and Adult OCIA;

September 10: for Wednesdays Grades 1-8

(Please register for classes if you haven't done so yet. Forms are available in the Parish Office, Narthex or on-line).

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. Call or email Joseph Stakem at religiously@stlawrencealex.org or (703) 971-8541

After Abortion Day of Prayer and Healing

After Abortion Retreats: A Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025. These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and in Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, in 1 location). There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org

Struggling to forgive? Not sure what reconciliation should look like in the aftermath of hurt and Betrayal?

Join us Thursday, September 25 at 6:30 in Hammond Hall. Speaker, Jeannette Marino, MS, LPC brings clarity to understanding the difference between forgiveness and reconciliation and how to engage both in our relationship with Christ and each other. Based on a solid scriptural foundation, this presentation discusses various aspects of forgiveness and reconciliation.

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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!

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.

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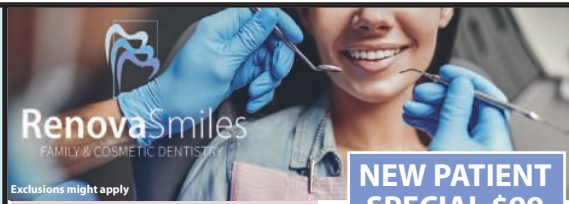
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