

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH



"Speak to the whole Israelite community and tell them:

Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy."

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023

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

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS- SUNDAY

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

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 7-7:45 pm; F 6:45am; Sat 3:30-4:30pm

Parish Clergy

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

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, Visiting Clergy

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

Rev. Joseph Okwei Ocran, In Residence

Deacon Michael A. Waters
Permanent Deacon - Office & Finance Manager
703-971-5363 deacon@stlawrencealex.org

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary
703-971-4378

Dir of Religious Ed
703-971-8541

Youth Minister
703-971-8541

Music Director
703-971-4378

Sacristan

Cynthia Dreslin
office@stlawrencealex.org

Joseph Stakem (*Interim Director*)
religious@stlawrencealex.org

Joseph Stakem
youth@stlawrencealex.org

Raymond St. Pierre
music@stlawrencealex.org

Tatyana Nguyen

February 19, 2023, 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

- MON 2/20 - Sts. Francisco Marto & Jacinta Marto**
 6:15am..... **President's Day Holiday - No Mass**
 9:00am..... Repose of Souls in Purgatory most in need
- TUE 2/21 - Saint Peter Damian**
 6:15am..... Barry Thomas O'Hare
 9:00am..... John Rauer
- WED 2/22 - ASH WEDNESDAY (Fast & Abstinence)**
 6:15am..... Christine Haile
 9:00am..... Chris Henderson †
 Noon **Service (with Ashes)**
 5:00pm..... **Service (with Ashes)**
 6:30pm..... The Ambler Family
- THU 2/23 - Saint Polycarp**
 6:15am..... Penelope Hills Smith
 9:00am..... Repose of Souls in Purgatory most in need
- FRI 2/24 - Saint Matthias**
 6:15am..... Jose Bernardo †
 9:00am..... Joe Stakem
- SAT 2/25 - Saint Tarasius**
 9:00am..... Corazon Lagman †
VIGIL MASS - Meets Sunday Obligation
 5:00pm..... Repose of Souls in Purgatory most in need
- SUN 2/26 - First Sunday of Lent**
 7:30am..... Parishioners of Saint Lawrence
 9:00am..... Mary Alice Stewart †
 11:00am..... Judith & Kevin Jackson

What are You Reading This Lent?



With **Lent beginning Feb. 22**, come visit the parish book rack to view ideas for spiritual reading now thru Easter. **Lenten Companions** from Magnificat contain daily reflections, prayers, and Stations of the Cross. Also on the rack you will find Lenten meditations by the Saints and books on the passion of Christ. New materials for Lent will be arriving in the coming weeks.

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

- Mon 2/20 **Confessions** after 9am Mass
Perpetual Help Novena 7:15pm
NO Religious Education Classes - Holiday
- Tue 2/21 **Parents Ministry Playgroup** 10-11:30am
Legion of Mary 7:30 pm
NO Religious Education Classes
- Wed 2/22 **Eucharistic Adoration** 9:30am - 1pm
Fatima Prayer Cell after 9am Mass
NO Religious Education Classes - Ash Wednesday
- Thu 2/23 **11am Choir Practice** 7:30pm
Knights of Columbus 7:00 pm
- Fri 2/24 **Knights of Columbus Fish Fry** 5:30 - 7pm
Confessions 7:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:30pm
- Sat 2/25 **Confessions** 7:00pm

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

JOIN US FRIDAYS IN LENT

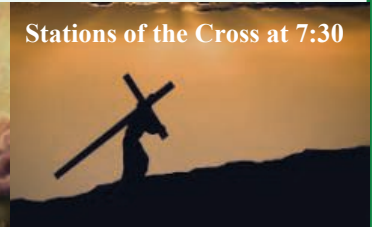
Knights of Columbus Fish Fries starting this Friday, 2/24 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Enjoy a delicious meal with your fellow parishioners and help support the Knights' charitable efforts for those in our community.



Confessions at 7:00 pm



Stations of the Cross at 7:30



St. Lawrence
Council of Catholic Women
 Service • Parish Life • Faith

Please join the Council of Catholic Women for a Lenten reflection with Father Peffley. Father Peffley has previously spoken to our CCW group about apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Shroud of Turin. Please join us February 19th at 2pm in Hammond Hall and bring a snack to share.

The deadline to apply for the annual CCW Scholarship has been extended to March 13th. Applications can be obtained at the rectory office or from the parish website.

Parents with Babies & Young Children

NEW Parents' Ministry Group at St. Lawrence! We will meet on **Tuesdays, from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM** in the back classroom of the parish hall. We hope to meet every Tuesday. You are invited to bring your babies and small children for a fun time socializing with other parish families. Feel free to bring any toys you'd like to donate for use during the play group. Please contact the parish office with any questions.



PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS

(PTSC): We are single Catholics, 40 and over, who are free to marry by Catholic standards. Meet us for: Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade

(March 4); Square Dancing (March 7, 21, 28); Thursday lunches (March 9 and 23); dinner in Arlington (March 12); Mass at Nativity Church and lunch (March 16); tour of Dodona Manor (March 18); walk in Wakefield Park (March 25). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com. (Are you 40 to 59? Ask Tom about our free limited-membership offer.)

'23 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA)

This weekend each household is asked to make a BLA pledge or gift. This appeal provides an opportunity to unite as a Catholic family to support programs, ministries and services helping tens of thousands of people. After reflecting upon God's blessings to you, please consider a BLA pledge. You may complete a pledge card at Mass, mail in your pledge, go online to www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code to make a gift.



PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember: **Vivian May Haecherl, Edgardo C. Javier, Parveen Teresa, Martin Swann, Virginia Santos and Bob Volkert.**

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

Lawrence Joseph Mader (d. Feb. 1, 1984)
Frances Watts (d. Feb. 1, 2022)
James Lawrence Conrad (d. Feb. 3, 2022)
George E. Chapman, Jr. (d. Feb. 4, 2020)
Janice Faye Albany (d. Feb. 5, 2017)
Joseph Paul Rogers (d. Feb. 7, 2022)
Robert John Conklin (d. Feb. 14, 2013)
Charles Leo Cook (d. Feb. 14, 2007)
Timothy Brennan (d. Feb. 15, 2017)
Elizabeth Ann Dateno (Feb. 16, 2017)
Vincetta Bruce (D. Feb. 17, 2015)
Louis C. Santone, Sr. (d. Feb. 20, 1999)

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

Koinonia's Clothing Closet will begin accepting **SPRING & SUMMER CLOTHING on Feb. 15**. All sizes (adult's & children's) are currently needed. Please drop new or gently-used clothes at Koinonia, 6037 Franconia Rd. Hours: MTWF 9-12:30, Th 9-12 & 1-4, and 2nd & 4th Sats of the month 9-12:30. Thank you!

Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023 Witness the joy of our religious sisters during the Sundays with the Sisters Rejoice Tour 2023! The tour will showcase the religious women of our diocese who, like Mary, rejoice in the Lord by their daily surrender. The tour features an event at a different convent each month, bringing together sisters and lay women for prayer and community. For single women ages 18-50. RSVP by the Monday before each event. **Next event March 26.** to vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. More info at ArlingtonDiocese.org/RejoiceTour.

Save the Dates: Arlington Diocesan Conferences for Men (March 4th) & Women (March 11) .
For Registration and details email: familylife@arlingtondiocese.org
or call 703-841-2550

THIS PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO *FORMED.ORG*

Watch "**I Prefer Heaven, the St. Philip Neri Story**" (A Study of Sainthood) — Or have your kids watch FORMED's "**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Littlest Saints**" so they can relate to sainthood!

Go to Formed.org and put in "St Lawrence" to enjoy learning about your Faith!!!

Baby Cradle Baby Items Needed

The MaRiH Center serves pregnant women and their children, to give options especially for women in crisis. Donations such as those listed below 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:

- Baby clothes up to size 2T
- Baby equipment; e.g., **MOST NEEDED** are non-expired car seats and strollers that collapse easily.
- Maternity and nursing clothes
- Formula, baby food, and diapers
- 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. Please visit their site marih.org to see other needs. Thank you for your generosity!



Thank you to everyone who donates to our baby cradle and the bin for food and seasonal clothing and shoes in the Narthex. **However, it is beyond the scope of these ministries to accept household items.**

Please do NOT leave picture frames, furniture, small appliances, etc in the Narthex. Some local options for thrifting household goods include **GREENDROP** in the Manchester Lakes Shopping Plaza and **GOODWILL** in Hayfield Shopping Center on Telegraph Road. Both places also schedule home pick-ups.

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH RETREAT

Men's Weekend:

MARCH 17th – 19th, 2023

Women's Weekend:

MARCH 10th -12th, 2022

Need to get away from the constant "busyness" of today's world? Renew your spirit with a retreat. The men of St. Lawrence Parish go on retreat each year during Lent at the **LOYOLA RETREAT HOUSE** in Southern Maryland. This silent retreat is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola. It begins Friday evening with the Sacrament of Penance and dinner, and closes with Mass and lunch on Sunday.

The retreat theme for this year is: "If Today You Hear God's Voice". Each retreatant is free to structure the weekend to suit your own personal needs.

To make a reservation, call Loyola at 301-392-0800. A deposit of \$115 will reserve a private room with a half bath for you. The suggested offering for the weekend is \$245 or \$195 for first time retreatants and for young adults under age 35. Find more information at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com For more info on the weekend experience, contact parishioners Mark Krause (703-971-7146) or Chuck Wipperfurth (571-385-9699). Take some time to "Come Away and Rest Awhile" and spend some prime time during Lent with God.



Please Pray for the Sick of our parish family, including: Anne Marie Pierce, our DRE, Dr. Ronald Gripshover, Jerry Alexander, Giovanna Faustina Annarella, Jenny Antoun, Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Melanie Brady, Marie Bonfanti, Luis Cristian Carranza, Joan Charters, Robert Corgan, Renate Craft, Nancy Crowley, Joan Curley, John D'Adamo, Bob Farabaugh, Jay Farabaugh, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Jaime Guzman, Karina Hanna, Christal Eve Herrera, Judy and Kevin Jackson, Mary Kirby, Peter Kupstas, Richard Kuron Sr., Donald Lawson, Antonio Yu An Leng, Patricia Lewis, Bernadette Litz, Kathleen MacQueeney, Rita MacQueeney, Jack Marzan, Martha Mastic, Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Justin Pham, Reyes Ponce, Ginny Rauer, Eduardo San Diego, Hannelore Smallfield, Randy Souther, Raymond Stanekenas, Kurt Steinbacher, Donna Sullivan, Zemui Teklu, Jun Tolentino, Anthony Torres, Minh Tran, David Verbano, and Marie Victorino.

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

Angelus Academy, *Where the Truth of Catholic teaching takes flesh in the lives of Pre-K - 8th graders and their families.*

We love having Saint Lawrence parishioners at our school. What a blessing it is to be learning together!

We are now accepting applications for 2023-24. Space is limited and we are filling up fast. Apply soon! <https://angelusacademy.org/admissions-overview/applying/>.

Call or email Julie Maimone, Director of Admissions, for more information or to schedule a tour.

Come visit us and see why our students love coming to school. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. www.AngelusAcademy.org 7644 Dynatech Ct. Springfield, VA 22153 703.924.3996 x113



PREGNANT or POST-ABORTION -- For those who know an expectant woman in need or individuals impacted by an abortion experience, confidential help and support are available: **Pregnancy Hotline:** 703/841-3810 helpforpregnantwomen.org ; **Help After Abortion** 703/841-2504, 703/841-3833 (men), <http://helpafterabortion.org> ***Mother and baby both are precious to God who is loving and merciful.***

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.

NARTHEX Pledge Progress



We are Edging Ever Closer to Our \$2m Goal

We Now Have Building Project Pledges in the
Amount of
\$1.769 Million

*Thank you for those giving new pledges and to
those giving more than their original pledge,
and those who have pledged anew!*

Pray, Give, Serve!

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.

General Carpentry-Handyman No job is too small Call for a Free Estimate Alfredo Gonzales 571-224-6693 Parishioner!	The Irish Plumber, Inc. Family Owned & Operated 703.924.3100 www.TheIrishPlumber.com Parishioners receive \$25 off any service call with this ad	REMEDIAL READING SERVICES 176-698-7262 gregory_masaitis@yahoo.com	Reading for God's Glory Children All Ages & Adults Specializing in Grades Pre-K, K-3 Cheryl Masaitis-Spychaj, BA, MA Remedial Reading Specialist Taught At St. Louis School 2020-2021	Ross Tree Service RTS 703.583.1733 (877) 333-1733
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