

So he went into their synagogues,
preaching and driving out demons
throughout the whole of Galilee

Mk

February 7, 2021

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

SAINT LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS- SUNDAY

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00am and
12:30pm (Extraordinary Form Latin Mass)

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 7:00 - 7:45pm; F 6:45am; Sat 3:30-4:30 pm

Parish Clergy

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

Rev. Daniel S. Sychala, Parochial Vicar
vicar@stlawrencealex.org

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, Visiting Clergy

Rev. Joseph Okwei Ocran, In Residence

Deacon Michael A. Waters
Permanent Deacon – Office & Finance Manager
703-922-0233 deacon@stlawrencealex.org

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary Cynthia Dreslin
703-971-4378 office@stlawrencealex.org

Director of Religious Ed Anne-Marie Pierce
703-971-8541 religioued@stlawrencealex.org

Youth Minister Joseph Stakem
703-971-5715 youth@stlawrencealex.org

Music Director Raymond St. Pierre
music@stlawrencealex.org

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

- Mon 2/8 **Confessions** 9:30am
CCD Classes 7:00 - 8:15pm
Novena-Our Lady of Perpetual Help 7:15pm
- Tue 2/9 **RCIA** 6:00 - 7:15 pm
High School CCD 7:00pm
Legion of Mary 7:30pm
- Wed 2/10 **Eucharistic Adoration** 9:30am-1pm
Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00am Mass
RCIA Classes 6:00 - 7:15 pm
CCD Classes 7:00 - 8:15pm
Confessions 7-7:45pm
Exposition Begins 7pm and ends with..
...Holy Hour 7:15-8:15pm
- Thu 2/11 **Knights of Columbus Meeting
(Marian Council)** 7:30pm
- Sat 2/13 **Confessions** 3:30-4:30pm

February 7, 2021

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

- MON 2/8 - Saint Josephine Bakhita (OFM)**
 6:15am.....Aspen Lagman & Marissa Ona
 9:00am.....Tom Turk †
- TUE 2/9 - Saint Cyril of Alexandria (EFM)**
 6:15am.....Arturo Monzone †
 9:00am.....Aurelia Padron †
- WED 2/10 - Saint Scholastica (OFM/EFM)**
 6:15am.....Joshua Sunga
 9:00am.....Lily Tan
- THU 2/11- Our Lady of Lourdes (OFM/EFM)**
 6:15am.....Bishop Joseph Strickland
 9:00am.....Maria Tran Thanh Sa †
- FRI 2/12 - Saint Eulalia (Historic)**
 6:15am.....Yvonne Phelps †
 9:00am.....Domenick Malatesta
- SAT 2/13 - Saint Catherine de Ricci (Historic)**
 9:00 am.....Maria Tran Thanh Sa †
- Vigil Mass (Meets Sunday Mass Obligation)**
 5:00 pm.....Maria Dung Do †
- SUN 2/14 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OFM)
 Quinquagesima Sunday (EFM)**
 7:30 am.....Aloysius Xavier Hoffarth †
 9:00 am.....Anna Mary Palladino †
 11:00 am.....Parishioners of St. Lawrence
 12:30 pm.....Neil Peart †


This Week in Our Parish

All Scheduled Public Masses are still being celebrated-- other Parish liturgical activities are also starting. Come to our Monday evening Novena and Exposition on Weds (9:30am-1pm) and Holy Hour starting with Exposition at 7pm! The Main Church is open 7 Days a Week until 9pm for private prayer.

(Please wear a mask and wash your hands thoroughly before entering church. Please maintain social distancing. We undertake all these measures, in an abundance of caution, for your safety).

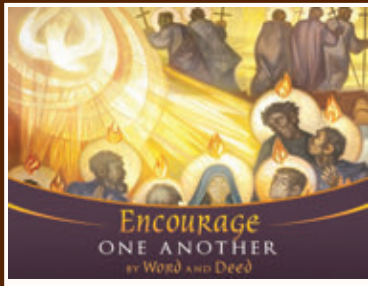
TAKE OUT BREAKFAST

Convenient, tasty and operated so as to exceed COVID health guidelines.



Please join the St. Lawrence Council of the Knights of Columbus on Sunday, February 7th, for their popular monthly breakfast in Hammond Hall following the 7:30 and 9:00 am Masses. Due to concerns over the COVID-19 virus, the breakfast will be take-out only. To minimize the number of people in Hammond Hall, we ask that only one member from each family wait in line.

We look forward to serving you.



Encourage one another by Word and Deed

This weekend every household in our parish will be asked to make a Bishop’s Lenten Appeal (BLA) pledge or gift. The BLA provides an opportunity to unite as a Catholic family and support programs, ministries and services that no single individual or parish could offer by itself. After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making BLA pledge. Every donation is vital to the success of the BLA.



You may complete a pledge card at Mass, mail in your pledge, go online to www.arlingtondiocese.org or scan the QR code to make a donation.



ST. LAWRENCE PARISH RETREAT - Men’s Weekend: MARCH 19th – 21st, 2021; Women’s Weekend: MARCH 12th -14th

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: “We Journey in Hope”. 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 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 during Lent to “Come Away and Rest Awhile” and spend some prime time with God.

Parish Finance Update - HELP with Offertory

A huge "Thank you" to all Parishioners Who Continue to support their church--even when limitations effect their ability to attend!

PLEASE REVIEW YOUR COMMITMENT AND HELP!

Our offertory collections were down nearly 17% in the Fall of 2019 as compared to a year earlier (the first downturn since the start of the COVID Pandemic last March/April.)

THANK YOU to all our concerned St Lawrence Family

Please use your envelopes or You can also Use Faith Direct eGiving

Narthex!

Would you or your Group like to get together and memorialize a beloved relative, or your family, or your Catholic Group?

HUGE MEMORIAL GRANITE STONES OF THE APOSTLES SURROUND THE OUTER SACRED HEART STATUE -- MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

-Apply your current Narthex donation pledge toward the cost of \$29,500 for each Stone (now at a reduced price of 19,500 if we get a fourth to save on engraving costs)

-Join other/your families for a multiple memorial

-Customizable memorial at bottom of each stone!!!

See just how dominating and reverent these

x 4' Apostle-memorial stones are!

4'



Please Pray for the Sick of our parish family, including Jay Farabaugh, Melanie Brady, Justin Pham, Raymond Stanekenas, Rita MacQueeney, Donald Lawson, Minh Tran, Anthony Torres, Leah Bloom, Richard Kuron, Sr., Jack Marzan, Matthew Peters, Patricia Lewis, John Bonfanti, Chris Henderson, Leah, Francis Flaherty, Barbara Gaul, John Forrester, Bud Shatzer, Bon Le, William Geoghegan, Donna Sullivan, Julietta Fuster, Kurt Steinbacher, Joan Curley, Renate Craft, Mary Kirby and Zemui Teklu.

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 Kevin Kelly who was here with us at St. Lawrence this summer.

NARTHEX PLEDGE FUNDRAISING REPORT

A humble "Thank you" to for the generosity of all Parishioners Who Continue to Meet--and, Yes, Even Exceed--Their Pledges for the Beautiful Construction of our Narthex.

New Goal - \$2 million

\$1,750,000

\$1,500,000

\$1,250,000

Original Goal \$1.2 Mil

\$1 million

\$750,000

\$500,000

\$250,000

We are now at \$1,370,207

Electronic giving can be made via Faith Direct.

See: www.faithdirect.net

-Your Pledges have made your Renovation project happen -- now help pay for the extra costs NOW!!! Donate either electronically or "in pew". Every little bit helps--in anonymous donations we have received over \$4000!

NOTE: If you have already made your donation and/or paid off your pledge, your additional donations can be made at any time and we will update your pledged/donated amount!!!

(Contact Deacon Mike for more Info.)



PARISH SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION AND SERVICES

Baptisms - Baptisms are held the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 1:45 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. Baptisms in the Extraordinary Form may be requested by calling the parish office.

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, Anne-Marie Pierce, 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 (on HOLD due to COVID), or if you need to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory to make arrangements.



Book Rack News - USED BOOK

SALE currently underway! Proceeds help to purchase new materials for the book and pamphlet racks and also aid parishioners

who cannot afford Catholic reading material and ask the parish for assistance. Suggested donations are marked on the items, many of which are \$1-3. Your generous support is greatly appreciated! Thanks to all who donated their used Catholic books to the parish office in 2020 for this purpose. (Sale ends when supplies diminish)

Gabriel Project - support for pregnant women, for new mothers or those mothers new to the area. Call **703-841-3810**, or visit the website at:

www.helpforpregnantwomen.org

Project Rachel is a post-abortion healing ministry open to anyone who seeks healing after abortion. Call Project Rachel at:

703-841-2504 or visit the website at:

www.helpafterabortion.org

*While we are still dispensed from physically attending Holy Mass on Sundays and other Holy Days by our Bishop--if one feels unable to be in public during these COVID times--and even though nothing can replace being physically present at Holy Mass--the dispensation requires us to set aside time on these days to view Holy Mass virtually, or to perform some other specific devotion (a special Rosary, Reading of the Bible...etc), to meet our obligation. **Know that 9am Holy Mass for Sundays will be recorded and posted Online each day by 11am, and the 12:30 EFM Mass will be online by 2pm** to assist those who cannot make it physically so they can meet their obligations to honor these Holy Days under the Bishop's dispensation.*

Vocational Discernment Retreat for Men

Could Christ be calling you to the priesthood? Take a step to find out. Attend the weekend discernment retreat for men (ages 18-50) Friday-Sunday, March 19-21, 2021. This is a great opportunity for prayer and discernment, confession, and talking with priests and seminarians. Cost is \$60 and includes overnights and all meals (financial assistance is available if needed). Retreat starts Friday at 6:30 p.m. and concludes Sunday after lunch. For more information or to register, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg at 703-841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. Deadline to register is Monday March 8. There is a similar retreat for women June 18-20.

R.C.I.A. CLASSES CONTINUE
Need to receive a sacrament, join the Church, or learn more about your Faith? Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults classes MEET Wednesday from 6:00 - 7:15 pm.

If you are interested in joining RCIA, please contact Anne-Marie Pierce, our Director of Religious Education, at 703-971-8541, or via e-mail: religioused@stlawrencealex.org.

Faith Direct: We encourage the use of Faith Direct for our Parishioners. The option to make your contributions to the parish electronically adds convenience and consistency to your contribution, and saves the cost of mailing envelopes -- so your Church donations goes toward pastoral needs vice administrative costs. In order to show your support, especially as an example to your children and others, Faith Direct provides cards you can place in the baskets passed in Church. Visit faithdirect.net and enroll securely online or call 1-866-507-8757. Note: Our parish code is **VA325**.

USE FORMED.ORG TO IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE FAITH

*Teach Your Children (and Yourself) About Our Faith -
Go to Formed.org and put in "St Lawrence" to enjoy learning about your Faith!!!*

As a parish we have already paid for this service to be available to parishioners--so your access to FORMED will not cost any additional money for you and your family to use!!

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#WHATSMYNAME
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