

Jesus Casts Out a Demon

January 28 2024

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

4th Sunday in Ord. Time

ST LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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 7-7:45pm; 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

Dir of Religious Ed
703-971-8541

Youth Ministry
703-971-8541

Music Director
703-971-4378

Sacristan

Cynthia Dreslin
office@stlawrencealex.org

Joseph Stakem
religioused@stlawrencealex.org

James Stakem
youth@stlawrencealex.org

Raymond St. Pierre
music@stlawrencealex.org

Tatyana Nguyen

January 28, 2024 4th Sunday in Ord. Time

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON 1/29 - Saint Gildas the Wise

6:15amLillian Grace Batz †
9:00amAida Guardia Claire †

TUE 1/30 - Saint Martina

6:15amAnne-Marie Pierce
9:00amEsperanza, Margot, Humberto
Christancho †

WED 1/31 - Saint John Bosco

6:15amNicholas Koritko
9:00amEd Zahrobsky †

THU 2/01 - Saint Ignatius of Antioch

6:15amCecelia Latimer †
9:00amMichael Washlack †

FRI 2/02 - The Presentation of the Lord

6:15amLarrie Bart †
9:00amDorothy Monroe †

SAT 2/03 - Saint Blaise

9:00amBruce & Grandma Cofer †

Sat Vigil (Meets Sunday Obligation)

5:00pmParishioners of Saint Lawrence

SUN 2/04 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30amThe Sturman Family
9:00amDoris O'Hare
11:00amJoe Bonifer †



ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE CANDLES

Candlemas Day is Friday, February 2. Candles will be blessed at the beginning of (and part of) the 9:00 am Mass. Parishioners who wish to bring candles from home for a special blessing on this Feast of the

Presentation of our Lord should come early and place their candles on the tables provided in the Narthex.



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 !

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

- Mon 1/29 **CCD Classes Grades 1-8, 7-8:15pm**
OLPH Novena 7:15pm
- Tue 1/30 **RCIA Classes 6:30 H.S. CCD 7-8:15pm**
Legion of Mary 7:30pm
- Wed 1/31 **Eucharistic Adoration 9:30am - 1:00pm**
Fatima Prayer Cell after 9am Mass
CCD Classes Grades 1-8, 7-8:15pm
Confessions 7:00-7:45 pm
Holy Hour 7:15 - 8:15
- Thu 2/1 **11am Choir Practice 7:00pm**
Knights of Columbus 7:00pm
Women's Bible Study 7:00pm
- Fri 2/2 **Confessions 6:45am**
First Friday Adoration at St. Mary's
St. Lawrence's time is 10-11pm
- Sat 2/3 **First Saturday Devotions begin 8:30 am**
Confessions 3:30-4:30pm



The Knights of Columbus will hold the Parish Breakfast after the 7:30 and 9:00 am Masses next Sunday. Please join with other parishioners for a delicious breakfast and fellowship as you help the Knights support their charitable causes.

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 information.

Epiphany Water for Home Blessing

For those of you who were unable to attend the ceremonial blessing, extra Epiphany Water and chalk, along with the Rite for the blessing, are available at the Rectory Office for the blessing of your home in 2024.



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.

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, February 16-18, 2024. This is a great opportunity for prayer and discernment, confession, and talking with priests and seminarians. Cost is \$150 and includes overnights and all meals. 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 February 5. There is a similar retreat for women June 14-16.

Mornings of Mercy - Join other members of the Diocese who have gone through divorce in a series of morning retreats. The morning will include Holy Mass, talk, and Benediction. Mornings of Mercy retreats are led by Rev. Thomas P. Ferguson, Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church. The retreats are free. The next retreat is Saturday, February 3 at 9 a.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church in McLean. Please register at arlingtondiocese.org/morningsofmercy

Lights-Camera-Action -- FIAT Day with the #MediaNuns

- Calling high school girls to join the Daughters of St. Paul for an afternoon of media reflection, fun, and prayer. Sunday, February 25, 1-5 p.m. at Pauline Books & Media in Alexandria. Space is limited, visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT or contact the Office of Vocations, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-2514. Deadline to register (but don't wait!): February 19. FIAT events are for high school girls interested in growing spiritually and exploring their vocation.

Day of Prayer and Healing - After Abortion Retreats for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024. 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.

THIS 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 FREE TO
OUR PARISHIONERS!***

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

Come Pray for Vocations - All are invited to join the St. Thérèse Vocation Society for their annual Morning of Reflection on Saturday February 10, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Alexandria. The day will include continental breakfast, spiritual conference, Mass and Holy Hour. Fr. Peter St. George is our speaker. There is no cost but please RSVP with the Office of Vocations by February 5, 2024, at (703) 841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org. The St. Thérèse Vocation Society was formed to pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.



800th Anniversary of Nativity Scene. Plenary Indulgence. If you plan on visiting a church Nativity scene, you can receive the plenary indulgence from December 8th (the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception) through February 2, (the Feast of the Presentation). The Vatican approved that the faithful can obtain a plenary indulgence by praying before a Nativity scene at a church entrusted to the care of the Franciscans. In the Arlington Diocese, you may visit St. Francis of Assisi in Triangle, St. Joseph in Herndon, or the Poor Clare Monastery of Alexandria (which are staffed by Franciscans). Another option nearby is the Franciscan Monastery in Washington, D. C. The usual conditions (going to confession and receiving Holy Communion) also apply.

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember: **Wilfredo Picardo, Rowene Valdellon, Raymond W. Jackson, Sr., Anna Carmichael, Leticia Tan Servilla, Myrna Gaerlan, Robert Beauregard, Robert Farabaugh, and Linda Lee Reeves.**

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

January:

Cindy Kuron (d. January 3, 2020)
John Lent (d. January 7, 2011)
Chu Pham (d. January 13 2022)
John Wayne Melvin (d. January 16, 2022)
Charles Cotte (d. January 17, 2021)
Javier Lopez (d. January 17, 2005)
Mui Pham (d. January 19, 2005)
Wilson "Bud" Shatzer (d. January 21, 2022)

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

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, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer, Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza, Joan Charters, Pat Childers, Barry Childers, Renate Craft, Nancy Crowley, Joan Curley, John D'Adamo, Anna Deaver, Felicia DiFeo, Kevin Donaleski, Evan Duncan, Jay Farabaugh, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, Karina Hanna, Stella Henderson, 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, Viviana Ferrer Lopez, Kathleen MacQueeney, Rita MacQueeney, Palbo Maldonado, 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!!!



**Please consider donating your car to the
parish to assist Parishioners in need. A tax
receipt will be given. Call Deacon Mike for
more information.**

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), <https://helpafterabortion.org> *Mother and baby both are precious to God who is loving and merciful.*

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. **Our next meeting will be held February 11th.** All are welcome! We look forward to seeing you there. For questions, please contact Anne McCray at springfield.ed@sunriseseniorliving.com.

Save the dates for the Annual Arlington Diocesan Men's and Women's Conferences:

Location: St. Joseph Catholic Church in Herndon, VA. **Men's Conference Renewed in Christ: Reflecting His Light to the World** (Saturday, March 2) and **Women's Conference Behold, I Make All Things New** (Saturday, March 9). Price is \$65 before Feb. 1; \$80 after. For more information or to register go to: arlingtondiocese.org/men or arlingtondiocese.org/women

Volunteer Information Sessions Sign-Up Catholic Charities: Please join us to learn more about how to help newly-arrived families thrive in Northern Virginia. We are offering volunteer information sessions about our opportunities and on-boarding process starting in January. They will be held the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in virtual format (Zoom) - Sessions will last about an hour. Registration is required: Please use the link to register for the information session that best matches your schedule. Registration link: bit.ly/40pcwwH

Altar servers wanted

No experience required. Graces await. If you are a young man who has received the Sacrament of the Eucharist and are interested in learning to serve at the altar, please have your parents contact the parish office at office@stlawrencealex.org or call (703) 971-4378 to RSVP."



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**

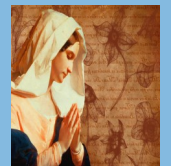
That Man is You! Call the office for info.

KOINONIA UPDATES:

The Koinonia Clothing Closet is now accepting new and gently used **Winter and Spring clothing**. All adult and children's sizes are appreciated, especially **Men's small and medium and Boys' sizes 8-14**. Thank you!



*Pray the Holy
Rosary*



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: Chinese Lunar New Year, McLean

Community Center (Feb. 2); square dancing at Greenspring (Feb 6, 20 27); Thursday lunches at Samuel Becket's (Feb 8), Fratelli's (Feb 22); Bowling in Shirlington (Feb. 10); Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes and Lunch (Feb. 11); Walk at Ben Brenman Park (Feb. 15); Hamrock's Restaurant (Feb. 18); serving evening meal at Christ House (Feb. 24); Tour of Gadsby's Tavern (Feb 25). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.