

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

*"Everyone who drinks this water
will be thirsty again;
but whoever drinks the water I
shall give will never thirst."*

3rd Sunday of Lent
March 12, 2023

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 6:30-8pm; 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	Cynthia Dreslin office@stlawrencealex.org
Dir of Religious Ed 703-971-8541	Joseph Stakem (Interim Director) religious@stlawrencealex.org
Youth Minister 703-971-8541	Joseph Stakem youth@stlawrencealex.org
Music Director 703-971-4378	Raymond St. Pierre music@stlawrencealex.org
Sacristan	Tatyana Nguyen

March 12, 2023

3rd Sunday of Lent

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON 3/13 - Saint Roderick

6:15am..... Patricia Haddock
9:00am..... Christian Childers

TUE 3/14 - Saint Matilda

6:15am..... Fr. Maurice Akwa
9:00am..... Deceased members of the Krall Family

WED 3/15 - Saint Louise de Marillac

6:15am..... Russ Horner
9:00am..... Maureen Keaveney †

THU 3/16 - Saint Abraham

6:15am..... Fr. Ronald J. Griphover, Jr.
9:00am..... Christine Annarella †

FRI 3/17 - Saint Patrick

6:15am..... Anne-Marie Pierce Family
9:00am..... Joseph Thinh Đỗ †

SAT 3/18 - Saint Cyril of Jerusalem

9:00am..... Lorenzo Castro †

VIGIL MASS - Meets Sunday Obligation

5:00pm..... Yolanda Bianchi †

SUN 3/19 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

7:30am..... Michael A. & Frances Marie Hoffarth †
9:00am..... Gordon Littig
11:00am..... Parishioners of Saint Lawrence

Book Rack News: **Holy Week and April Magnificats** are now available and come *bundled together in one rubber-banded package* for the suggested donation of \$5 regular print and \$6 large print. Please check you have one of each when you pick them up. Visit the pamphlet rack for



Confession guides, meditations on the Stations of the Cross, resources on Divine Mercy, pamphlets such as the **Rosary of the Seven Sorrows** and **Contemplate My Wounds**, and a prayer card with an **Act of Consecration to St. Joseph** whose

solemnity is this month. Thank you for supporting this ministry with your financial donations.

Having a Mass Said for Personal Intentions

If you would like to have a public Holy Mass said for a personal intention, please call the Office (and know that Masses are scheduled about 4 months out). If you would like to have a private Holy Mass said for your intention, please use your envelope--or just a plain envelope with the notation for the intention for the Mass. Generally, we send these private Mass intention requests to our retired priests and any donation you include (the average donation is between \$10-\$25). This practice has a priest (who says Mass daily, per their ministry) pray for your intention while offering Holy Mass--and we support our retired priests with limited retirement benefits.

Liturgical and Ministry Activity

- Mon 3/13 **Confessions** after 9am Mass
Perpetual Help Novena 7:15pm
Religious Education Classes -7-8:15pm
- Tue 3/14 **Parents Ministry Playgroup** 10-11:30am
Legion of Mary 7:30 pm
Religious Education Classes 7-8:15pm
- Wed 3/15 **Eucharistic Adoration** 9:30am - 1pm
Fatima Prayer Cell after 9am Mass
Religious Education Classes - 7-8:15pm
Confessions 6:30-8:00 pm
Holy Hour 7:15-8:15pm
- Thu 3/16 **11am Choir Practice** 7:30pm
Knights of Columbus 7:00 pm
- Fri 3/17 **Confessions** 6:45am
Film Series - Eternal Rest 5-6pm
Knights of Columbus Fish Fry 5:30 - 7pm
Confessions 7:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:30pm
- Sat 3/18 **Confessions** 3:30-4:30pm



Sacrament of Confirmation - Thursday, March 23 at 7pm

Confirmation of 17 of our young students will be held on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 7pm, here at St Lawrence.

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge will preside.

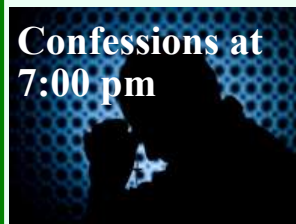
Please pray for our Confirmandi and their Families, and join us if you can!

FRIDAYS IN LENT

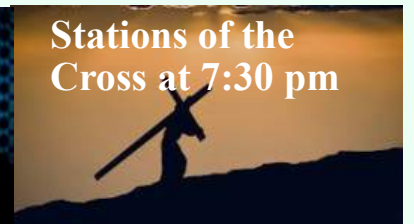
Knights of Columbus Fish Fries from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. Enjoy a delicious meal with your fellow parishioners and support the Knights of Columbus. Meal Includes baked or fried fish, French fries, mac and cheese and green beans. Full plate \$15; half plate \$10



Confessions at 7:00 pm



Stations of the Cross at 7:30 pm



Parents with Babies & Young Children

NEW Parents' Ministry Group at St. Lawrence! We meet Tuesdays, from 10:00 AM-11:30 AM in the back classroom of the parish hall.

Confession will be available this Tuesday, March 14th.

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 parents@stlawrencealex.com 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: Square Dancing (March 21, 28);

Thursday lunches (March 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) The BLA theme this year is "My soul rejoices in the Lord," which is shared with the second preparatory year of the Diocesan Jubilee. After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. The BLA funds programs and ministries that serve thousands of people in our diocese. Through the inspiration of the BLA theme, let us joyfully make a pledge to support God's Kingdom in our diocese! You make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code above.



PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember: **Virginia Santos, Bob Volkert, Margaret Dockery, Yemenushal Yilma, Patricia Giordano Cecil Roy and Ed Peregrino.**

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

Joseph Bosch (d. March 9, 2002)
Sergio Annarella (d. March 14, 2014)
Celestine Schamel (d. March 22, 2010)
Carolyn Gotzens (d. March 24, 2018)
Gil Coquia (d. March 25, 2015)
Mauricia "Rory" Tenorio (March 27, 2018)

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



Pray the Holy Rosary

KOINONIA'S CLOTHING CLOSET is now accepting good quality (no tears or stains), new and gently used **SPRING & SUMMER CLOTHING**. The families Koinonia serves are able to "shop" four times per year for each member of the family. Currently all sizes (adult's & children's) are needed to stock the supply before March 1st when "shopping" begins. Please consider cleaning your closets or even thrifting for donations! Clothing may be dropped off at Koinonia, 6037 Franconia Rd. MTWF 9-12:30, Th 9-12 & 1-4, and 2nd & 4th Sats of the month 9-12:30. Thank you!

Day of Prayer and Healing After Abortion Retreat for Women - After Abortion Retreat: A Day of Prayer and Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be on Saturday, March 25, 2023. This group healing event is held in a private and peaceful setting, based on the Entering Canaan model. 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*

Watch "**Journey into the Desert with Fr. John Burns**" (A Lenten Study) — Or have your kids watch FORMED's "**Brother Francis: Kids Stations of the Cross**" so they can relate to Christ's Gift!

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!

ST. LAWRENCE PARISH RETREAT Men's Weekend: MARCH 17 – 19



Renew your spirit during Lent with a retreat at the Loyola Retreat House in southern Maryland. This year's retreat theme is: "If Today You Hear God's Voice". To reserve your room, call Loyola at 301-392-0800. The suggested offering for the weekend is \$245. (\$195 for first timers or young adults under age 35). You can review the retreat schedule and also reserve a room online at www.loyolaonthepotomac.com.

For more info, contact parishioners Mark Krause (703-971-7146) or Chuck Wipperfurth (571-385-9699). Take some time to "Come Away and Rest Awhile" and spend a weekend during Lent with God.

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.



Looking to get involved but without a huge time commitment? **Volunteers are needed to sub for the Share Sunday Ministry.** Time commitment is 30 minutes before and after one weekend Mass per month when one of our regular volunteers is unable to serve. For more info please leave your name with the Parish Office 703/971-4378 . Thank you!

LENT: PRAYER, FASTING AND HELPING THE POOR

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, Nhung "Kim" Miller, Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Justin Pham, Reyes Ponce, Ginny Rauer, Vin Rosano, 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



The Alexandria/Springfield/Arlington Chapter of CBN Nova will have its March networking meeting at the Uncommon Luncheonette in Arlington. This is a great location for coming after work to network with fellow Catholic business people and supporters of Catholic education in our diocese. The restaurant will open specially for us to give us a wonderful environment for finding new contacts and introducing your needs for us to support as a Catholic business community. Location: Uncommon Luncheonette, 1028 North Garfield St. Arlington (Clarendon), Virginia Date: March 22, 2023, Time: 5:30pm to 7:30 p.m. Cost: Pre-registration member cost \$20 which includes hors d'oeuvres; cash bar. Non-Member/ less than 48 hours/ At-the-door: \$25 Please RSVP at www.CBNNoVa.org with the link below, or on the website. Pre-registration and pre-payment are preferred.

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.

Thinking of replacing or getting rid of your old car? Please consider donating it to your parish. A parishioner of ours (who prefers to remain anonymous) saw this ad in the bulletin and donated their car to the parish and we transferred the car to the ministry, *Cars for Families*. That family's generous donation provided reliable transportation for another family whose father was employed, but having trouble getting to his job site and was in desperate need of transportation. Other non-operational cars or vehicles such as trucks, RVs and campers can be accepted by a referral to charities that participate in this life-affirming mission. Donating is EASY! They handle the paperwork and you receive an IRS donation receipt. Call Deacon Mike for more information.

JOIN SATURDAY PRO-LIFE 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.



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

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.



Join us at the next CCW meeting on Sunday, March 19th at 2pm. We will pray *Mary's Way of the Cross*. All are welcome. Please bring a snack to share.

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 FREE Estimates by Certified Arborist Licensed and Fully Insured Storm Damage/Prevention Experts • Tree & Stump Removal • Pruning & Fertilization • Crown Maintenance www.rosstrees.com
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