

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

www.stlawrencealex.org

703-971-4378



My sheep hear my voice;
I know them, and *they*
follow me.

John 10:27

May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter -
Good Shepherd Sunday

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, 5/12	Saints Nereus, Achilleus & Pancras
6:15 a.m.	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 a.m.	John B. "Jack" Joynt †
Tuesday, 5/13	Our Lady of Fatima
6:15 a.m.	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 a.m.	Juanita Fernandez †
Wed., 5/14	Saint Mattias
6:15 a.m.	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 a.m.	Thomas & Laura Bourgeois †
Thursday 5/15	Saint Isidore the Farmer
6:15 a.m.	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 a.m.	Sr. Gaudete Maria
Friday 5/16	Saint Ubaldu
6:15 a.m.	Mother's Day Novena
9:00 a.m.	Joseph Stakem
Saturday 5/17	Saint Paschal Baylon
9:00 a.m.	Miller & Pham Family
(Vigil for Sun.)	Orench Lagman Family
5:00 p.m.	
Sunday 5/18	Fifth Sunday after Easter
7:30 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo
9:00 a.m.	Msgr. Robert Rippey
11:00 a.m.	Georgina J. DaCosta †

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS

Are you a practicing Catholic in the Parish and think you would like to volunteer to Lector at a weekday 9:00 a.m. Mass? Please contact Joseph Stakem at 703-971-8541 to find out more information.



Lectors

Mass and Healing Prayer Service

is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., **Tuesday, May 27**, at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, 4401 Sano Street, Alexandria. Fr. John Melmer of Saint John the Beloved Church of McLean will celebrate the Mass and Confessions will be available. This liturgy comes through the diocesan Catholic Healing Ministry. For more information, please contact Dick Schaad, 703-455-6131



PRAY THE ROSARY
FOR THE COLLEGE OF
CARDINALS TO BE GUIDED BY
THE HOLY SPIRIT

Liturgical and Ministry Activity

This Week At a Glance

Eucharistic Adoration - Stay tuned for the emails and announcements at Mass as to whether the daily adoration will continue into this week

Mon 5/12	Confessions 9:30 a.m. CCD Classes 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. OLPH Novena 7:15 p.m.
Tues 5/13	Rosary Makers 10:00 a.m. High School CCD - 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 5/14	Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00 Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. CCD Classes 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Confessions 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Holy Hour 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
Thu 5/15	11:00 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus 7:00 p.m.
Fri. 5/16	Confessions 6:45 a.m.
Sat 5/17	That Man is You - resumes in the Fall Confessions 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.



Our next Share Sunday is the weekend of May 17/18.

Volunteers will be at all Masses to collect financial and pantry donations to assist those in need. Suggested items are listed below:

Grocery gift cards	Fresh Fruits and Veggies.
Cereal	Instant Coffee (Regular or Decaf)
Masa, Pancake Mix & Syrup	Sugar & Flour (1-2 lb. packages are best)
Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo	Salad Dressing, Jelly
Canned Pork & Beans	Canned Chili, Beef Stew
Canned Pasta (e.g. Chef-Boy-Ardee)	Canned Sardines, Salmon
Dish Soap, Dishwasher Detergent	Laundry Detergent
All-Purpose Cleaners	Bar Soap, Razors,
Toothpaste, Toothbrushes (1-2 pack)	Shampoo & Conditioner

Thank you for your support

The Council of Catholic Women VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please consider volunteering for our **Christ House Ministry** through CCW. St. Lawrence provides an evening meal every second Monday of the month at Christ House in Old Town. **The next date is May 12.**



Volunteers provide ingredients for the main course, vegetables, bread, desserts, and/or their time to support this ministry. Please contact our coordinator Rita Tassa by emailing

either ccw@stlawrencealex.org or office@stlawrencealex.org

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, Al and Sandy Bertini, Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Dave Bocchino, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer, Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza, Joan Charters, Barry Childers, Pat Childers, Baby 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, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, Carl Haines, Karina Hanna, Christal Eve Herrera, David Hoff, Elizabeth Horswell, Judy and Kevin Jackson, Judith Jackson, Norma Kemp, 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, 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, Henry Taylor, 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: **Olivia Miranda Kliukevic, Aubrey Polson, Dai Pham, Joan Curley, Mary Anne Choi, Federico Carreon, Elie Feghali, James Bennett, Balthazar Yambao, Christopher Cruz, Elvira DePaolis, Sarah Anne Valandra, Jay Farabaugh, Mulumebet Demissie, James Stakem, Jr. (Father of our DRE, Joe Stakem), John Dina, and Joanne Robertson.**

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

Christopher Henderson (d. May 11, 2022)
Catherine Tatem (d. May 13, 2021)
Diane Elaine Pray (d. May 19, 2017)
Razuel Sajous (d. May 22, 2022)
Kenneth Anderson (d. May 25, 2021)
Daniel Miller (d. May 27, 2016)
Emile Joseph Dufort (d. May 29, 2019)
Enrique Simental (d. May 29, 2018)
Deacon Domingo Tan (d. May 31, 2014)

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

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:

Newly Ordained Transitional Deacon Sean Mazary (who was here with us at St. Lawrence a few summers ago).

Matt Chapman, in formation for the Permanent Diaconate.

Sister Gaudete Maria, daughter of Tien Vu and Lan Do (who work in your parish). Sister Gaudete Maria has taken the second step of her vocation with the Daughters of Holy Mary of the Heart of

Join Catholic Charities in Serving the Vulnerable!

Be part of something meaningful—sign up today! volunteer.cdda.net or call : (703) 224-1478

French conversation classes meet every Thursday in Hammond Hall from 10:30 - 12:00 p.m. Noon

Spanish conversation classes meet every Thursday in Hammond Hall from 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.



FROM THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Weekend Discernment Retreat for Women

How do we make our “Fiat” like Mary’s, not just a one-and-done proposition but a way of life? Join the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco to explore embracing God’s plan with hope and joy at the annual diocesan discernment retreat for young women (ages 18-40). The retreat is **June 20-22 at San Damiano Spiritual Life Center** and will include tools to aid your prayer and discernment, opportunities for prayer and confession, and Q&A with the sisters. Cost is \$150 and includes single room and bath and all meals (financial assistance is available). For more information or to register, contact the Office of Vocations.

vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-3829.

Space is limited; deadline to register is Monday June 9.

What to Know About the Annulment Process

Want to Learn More about the Annulment Process?
Join us for a presentation at St. John the Evangelist
Catholic Church, Warrenton, VA on June 14th
beginning with 9am parish Mass and ending with a
rosary. Fr. Thomas Ferguson, Judicial Vicar, will be the
keynote. The event is free but to register and learn more
visit arlingtondiocese.org/annulmenthealing. For
questions call the Office of Marriage, Family and
Respect Life at 703-841-2550

After Abortion Care Day of Prayer and Healing

These group healing events are held in a private and peaceful setting, in English and Spanish, based on the Entering Canaan model (2 separate retreats, 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 and registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org. Project Rachel is the Diocese's post-abortion healing ministry, offering compassionate support to anyone affected by abortion. Our mission is to reach all women wounded by abortion with a message of hope, healing, and forgiveness, inviting them back into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Electronic giving through Faith Direct

is a highly respected and secure company. The Faith Direct program gives you a convenient way to support St. Lawrence by electing to use direct debit like many do for other payments or charitable giving. It also gives you the opportunity to support our parish even if you are absent from Mass for travel or illness. Visit the Faith Direct website www.faithdirect.org and use the parish's code **VA325** for secure online enrollment.



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.

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Sign up now for free access to this program offering beautiful and faithful Catholic content. Simply go to **www.formed.org** and search for our parish by zip code (22310). Type in your name and email address and then check your email message to sign in! There is something for everyone here: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming.

THAT MAN IS YOU! A Catholic Man's Leadership Program. We have complete

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.

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN ANNUAL SPRING BRUNCH



Please mark your calendar for **May 18**, the date of the Spring Brunch. We are planning a tasty menu from La Madeline and a wonderful discussion about the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

We'll be looking for volunteers to help sell tickets after all Masses on the weekends through May 10-11. **Please note that tickets must be purchased in advance.** If you have any questions, please contact the CCW at ccw@stlawrencealex.org

Pathways to Citizenship Navigating the Journey Through Naturalization.

Jesus calls us to "welcome the stranger." How can your parish support immigrants and other newcomers on the journey to citizenship? Join the Catholic Charities Office of Volunteers and Newcomer Services staff to learn about the U.S. citizenship process, including eligibility, naturalization application, taking the citizenship test, and interview preparation. Our legal and education staff will share resources for preparation and identify common challenges. This meeting will also include Catholic Charities ministry updates, breakout sessions for networking and a Q & A session. Please register early—we look forward to seeing you! Advance registration at: <https://bit.ly/PLNApril30>



PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC):

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Come on out with us to: Square Dancing (May 13, 20 & 27); Walk in Springfield (May 14); Car Show (May 17) Lunch (May 22); Mini Golf and Christ House (May 24); Basilica Tour (May 29) and more! For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

PRAY IN SONG



The 11 am 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!

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.

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 cover many different Catholic devotions including praying for someone at Mass, offering a Holy Hour, and praying a Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, or Novena for the intended recipient. **Special occasion cards are also available: Birthday, Thank You, Get Well, Sympathy, Mother's Day, Easter, and each of the Sacraments.** 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.**

MASS PRAYER BOOKS and CRY ROOM CHILDREN'S BOOKS -

Attention: parents, grandparents, godparents, caregivers... We have placed in the back of Church copies of a booklet, "Prayers of the Holy Mass" and in the Family Room a selection of Children's Mass books. These books are for use during Holy Mass and while you are at prayer; and we ask that you return the books after you use them for others to use to help in their prayer time. Know that if you would like to have any of these books for yourself or children, please use the Book Rack envelopes for any donation.



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