

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

www.stlawrencealex.org

703-971-4378

Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.

John 14:23



May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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, 5/26	Saint Philip Neri 6:15 a.m. NO 6:15 Mass today - Holiday 9:00 a.m. Alicia & Bert Matias
Tuesday, 5/27	Saint Augustine of Canterbury 6:15 a.m. Amparo Guevarra † 9:00 a.m. Lawrence Violette
Wed., 5/28	Saint Bernard of Montjoux 6:15 a.m. Victor Rojas † 9:00 a.m. Emiliano Caperal †
Thursday 5/29	Ascension of the Lord 6:15 a.m. Rev. Mr. Sean Mazary 9:00 a.m. May Mendoza †
Friday 5/30	Saint Felix I 6:15 a.m. Dolores Windt † 9:00 a.m. Dai Pham †
Saturday 5/31	Our Lady, Queen of Apostles 9:00 a.m. Barry Davis †
(Vigil for Sun.)	5:00 p.m. Joseph Khâm Vũ & Maria Cúc Lã †
Sunday 6/01	The Ascension of the Lord 7:30 a.m. Missa Pro Populo 9:00 a.m. Yvonne & Russ Horner 11:00 a.m. Thomas & Doris McGee †



Lectors

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.

"For a church is not a barber's shop or a chemist's or a market stall; it is the dwelling of angels and archangels; it is the kingdom of God; it is heaven itself. If someone gave you your own entrance into heaven, you would not dare to speak a word, not even if you were to see your own brother or father. Likewise in the church, only spiritual things may be spoken, for this is heaven."

- St. John Chrysostom

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 5/26	Confessions 9:30 a.m. OLPH Novena after 9:00 a.m. Mass
Tues 5/27	High School CCD - 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 5/28	Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00 Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Confessions 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Holy Hour 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
Thu 5/29	French Language Classes 10:30 - 12:00 Spanish Language Classes 12:15 - 1:30 11:00 Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.
Fri. 5/30	Confessions 6:45 a.m.
Sat 5/31	Confessions 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

All parishioners are invited to join us after the 7:30 and 9:00 am Mass Sunday, June 1st for the Knights of Columbus Parish Breakfast. The Knights cook a delicious breakfast and you can relax and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners while helping support the K of C charitable causes.

Knights of Columbus Flag Retirement Ceremony



The Knights will have a flag retirement ceremony on June 7th at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this Ceremony is to encourage proper respect for the Flag of the United States and to provide a dignified disposal of unserviceable flags.

If you have any worn, torn or damaged flags, please drop them off in the box located in the church Narthex prior to June 7th.

Thank you for your attention.



PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY
FOR THE PEACE IN THE
WORLD.

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 June 9.**



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, 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: **Fermin Villar, 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:

Rose Morgan (d. May 6, 2023)

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:

Rev. Mr. 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 Jesus in Ohio.

Join Catholic Charities in Serving the Vulnerable!

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

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

After Abortion Care Day of Prayer & 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). The next event is Saturday, **June 14th**. 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.

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

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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.

There is also an Amazon baby registry that MaRiH has created. Check out the website at www.marih.org to learn more. Thank you for your generosity!

THIS PARISH IS SUBSCRIBED TO **FORMED.ORG**

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 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.

ST. LAWRENCE ROSARY MAKERS will take a break over the summer and meet again on Tuesday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m. in Hammond Hall. All are welcome. Call the parish office for more information.



PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

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.

If interested, call the parish office and leave a message.



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.

SAINT AMBROSE SUMMER SESSSIONS

Mondays, June 30 - July 21, 2025 at St. Ambrose Catholic Church (3901 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003)

Have you read through The Beatitudes recently? They're...enigmatic. Challenging. Wonderful. Bizarre. Brilliant. Is it possible to actually...live this way? Saint John Paul II calls The Beatitudes "the Magna Carta of Christianity." The Catechism says they're the "heart of Jesus' preaching." Join us this summer at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Annandale as we seek to unpack what The Beatitudes mean for our daily lives as Catholics. Refreshments/Fellowship at 6:30 pm with Session talks at 7 pm in the Parish Hall. The Summer Sessions expiration date is July 28, 2025.

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, Father'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.**



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 27); 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.

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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