

SAINT LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Oct 3, 2021

27th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

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

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

Parish Clergy

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

Msgr. Patrick Dempsey, *Visiting Clergy*

Rev. Maurice Mei Akwa, *In Residence*

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
703-971-4378

Cynthia Dreslin
office@stlawrencealex.org

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

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

Music Director Raymond St. Pierre
music@stlawrencealex.org



The Year of St Joseph

Dear faithful, the Pope has declared this the year of St Joseph, with that in mind, you may wish to pray to Jesus' Foster Father for his intercession in your prayers! Here is an example of an appropriate prayer:

Bless me, Oh dearly beloved father, St. Joseph; bless my body and my soul; bless my resolutions, my words and deeds, all my actions and omissions, my every step; bless all that I possess, all my interior and exterior goods, that all may redound to the greater honor of God. Bless me for time and eternity and preserve me from every sin. Obtain for me the grace to make atonement for all my sins by love and contrition here on earth, so that after my last breath I may, without delay, prostrate at thy feet return thee thanks in heaven for all the love and goodness thou, O dearest father, hast shown me here below. Amen.

*St Joseph, Protector of families....Pray for us
St Joseph, Protector of the Church....Pray for us*

October 3, 2021 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

MON 10/4 - Saint Francis of Assisi (OFM/EFM)

6:15am Kevin Kelly

9:00am Dottie Schulz

TUE 10/5 - Saint Faustina Kowalska (OFM)

6:15am All Souls in Purgatory

9:00am Deacon Michael A. Waters

WED 10/6 - Saint Bruno (OFM/EFM)

6:15am Corazon A. Toledo †

9:00am Cali Creaven

THU 10/7 - Our Lady of the Rosary (OFM/EFM)

6:15am Sovanny Saray †

9:00am Fr. Daniel Spychala

FRI 10/8 - Saint Bridget of Sweden (EFM)

6:15am Deceased Mountaineer Priests †

9:00pm Fr. Daniel Spychala

SAT 10/9 - St. Denis & Comps. (OFM/EFM)

9:00am Dominic De Nguyen †

Vigil Mass (Meets Sunday Mass Obligation)

5:00pm Lawrence Dsouza †

SUN 10/10 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OFM)

10th Sunday after Pentecost (EFM)

7:30am Tuat Phan †

9:00am Hung Do †

11:00am John Nassar †

12:30pm Parishioners of Saint Lawrence

The 11 AM Mass choir is in need of
volunteers. Please contact the Rectory
Office for more information.

703-971-4378

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

- Mon 10/4 **Confessions** 9:30am
Religious Ed. Classes 7:00 - 8:15 pm
Perpetual Help Novena 7:15 pm
- Tue 10/5 **RCIA** 6:30 - 7:45 pm
High School Religious Ed. 7:00 pm
Legion of Mary 7:30pm
- Wed 10/6 **Eucharistic Adoration** 9:30am-1pm
Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00am Mass
Religious Ed. Classes 7:00 - 8:15 pm
Confessions 7-7:45pm
Exposition Begins 7pm and ends with..
...Holy Hour 7:15-8:15pm
- Thu 10/7 **Knights of Columbus Meeting** 7:00 pm
- Fri 10/2 **Confessions** 6:45am
Nocturnal Adoration St. Mary's 10-11pm
- Sat 10/2 **First Saturday Devotions** 8:30 am
Confessions 3:30-4:30pm

JESUS
Forgives
& Heals

The 26th Alexandria Life Chain Sunday, October 3

**PRAY TO
END
ABORTION**

Life Chains have been conducted annually for over 30 years across the United States and Canada on the First Sunday of October. They are prayer vigils and public witnesses to the sanctity of human life that last approximately one hour.

The Alexandria Life Chain will be held along Franconia Road, starting from Saint Lawrence to the Springfield Mall. The time will be from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, rain or shine. Life Chain signs will be available for pick-up at Hammond Hall starting at 2:00 PM. All Saint Lawrence parishioners and families are encouraged to participate and show our commitment to the protection and sanctity of human life. Proper social distancing between persons will be observed.

ATTENTION PARENTS & TEENAGERS OF ST. LAWRENCE PARISH! **It's time to get involved** with Your St. Lawrence Youth Program. At St. Lawrence, we want to help our Teens (along with their parents) grow in their Faith, grow closer to/and have deeper relationship with God and Family and to keep involved in, and feel a part of, St. Lawrence Catholic Church Parish! (**we really need parental participation to accomplish this!!)**

Join us for Some or All of the following activities:

- ♦ **Tuesday night : Tuesday night High School Class**
7pm-8:15pm: Grow in your Faith with Religious Education, Prayer, Watch Movies from Formed.org, Food, Fellowship, Fun
- ♦ **Hiking Saturday morning in Sept./Oct**
- ♦ **Youth and Parent Cookouts/Bonfires**

- ♦ **Diocesan Rally Youth Event in October**
with Bishop Burbidge
- ♦ **Pizza/Movie Night & Fundraising Events**
- ♦ **Pro-Life Events and Charity/Service with other parish groups**
- ♦ **Diocese Annual Workcamp June 2022**
- ♦ **Other ideas?**

Email or call **Joseph Stakem**, Coordinator of Youth Ministry at youth@stlawrence.org or call 703-971-5715
PARENTS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Attention all Parishioners and Families--Silent Auction/Bazaar for Youth Group Activities!



The Youth Group will be putting on their Annual Silent Auction/Bazaar on Friday, October 1st (4-7 pm), Saturday, October 2nd (4-7 pm) and Sunday, October 3rd (8am-2pm - after all Masses) to raise money to attend WorkCamp 2022 in June. Please come over to Hammond Hall after Mass and check out the items up for bid or sale including brand new and slightly used items such as paintings, appliances, furniture, toys, books, religious items, dishes, gift baskets and so much more! All listed at deeply discounted prices. No obligation -- just come look around! All funds raised will be used to support the Youth of St. Lawrence and WorkCamp 2022. Thank you such much for your support! For more information, please contact Joseph Stakem in the Youth Office at youth@stlawrencealex.org or 703-971-5715.



MEMORIALIZE A LOST CHILD. Within our Fr McAfee Memorial Garden, there is a small area surrounded by a circle of red roses, the symbol of life and the Right to Life. Designed by our Knights of Columbus Council 9407, this **Memorial Garden for Unborn Children** honors the memory of all souls lost to abortion, miscarriage, and still-birth. The Garden provides a peaceful place of prayer for an end to abortion, for all little ones lost prior to birth, and for those seeking hope and healing due to their loss.

Several new memorial stones have already been installed in this garden. Please visit the garden to see these memorials. You can purchase memorial stones anonymously that are engraved with names of children lost during pregnancy or due to abortion.

Arrangements have been made with Engraved-rock.com in Washington state to take orders for personalized memorial stones to be included in this Garden. There are two options for ordering:

Signature Rock: 3" -5" for \$40, suitable for 1-3 words (e.g.: name + date + graphic)

Small Rock: 7" -11" for \$90, accommodating a brief inscription of up to 8-10 words

All stones are natural and engraved to last many years. In addition to selecting the size, you will choose the font, wording, and graphics (Cross, heart, angel, rose, etc) to design your memorial. Your final design will be sent to you and the Pastor for approval before the stone is engraved (without any personal information attached to the proof sent to the pastor). The memorial stone will then be completed and shipped with others directly to St. Lawrence Church for installation in the Garden. Of course, you are free to order a second stone shipped to your home, if desired.

Your confidentiality is important! Identifying information will not be shared with the Pastor or other church staff in any part of the ordering, approval or shipping process. However, all memorial stones are subject to approval before being included in the Garden (as noted above). To purchase a memorial stone through Engraved-rock.com:

Via PHONE: 509-715-0630; Inform Linda Greene your order is for the St. Lawrence Church Memorial Garden (*Remember that Pacific Time is 3 hours behind us*).

Via Internet: Go to: <https://engraved-rock.com> Select "Order Personalized Garden Stones," choose the small or medium rock size and enter design information. If you need help, use the CONTACT tab in the main menu. After entering your billing information, select "Ship to a different address." For first/last name enter: Memorial Garden; Company: Saint Lawrence Church; Address: 6222 Franconia Rd, Alexandria, VA 22310. In the "Order Notes" box write: For the St. Lawrence Memorial Garden. Feel free to contact the Office if you have any questions!



PLEASE NOTE: This is NOT a parish fund-raising effort, but the cost of the stones is exactly what the company charges.

**NARTHEX FUND-
RAISING PROGRESS**
Current Pledges:
\$1,444,630

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



Our parish garden is one of the most beautiful gardens in Alexandria thanks to the loving

attention of Tien Vu, our talented Facilities Manager. I would like a team of volunteers called "Our Lady's Gardeners" to help Tien pick up the leaves, especially those large magnolia leaves in front of Our Blessed Mother. Please contact Anne-Marie Pierce at 703-971-8541 if you wish to volunteer 20 -30 minutes a week to this ministry. God bless you.

John Paul II Catholic High School has immediate job openings for a F/T School Counselor; Information System Specialist; Admissions/Enrollment Counselor, substitute teachers and bus drivers. Send resume and cover letter and salary required search.committee@jpthegreat.org

Thank you for your generous donations for last month's drive-thru drop-off and Share Sunday. In addition to pantry goods, gift cards, and financial contributions, ten bags of clothing were also collected. Your support is most appreciated!

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 religious@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 religious@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.

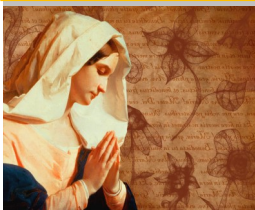
Prayers/Visits for Ill or Homebound - If you are ill and would like to be placed on the prayer list or have Holy Communion brought to the home, or if you need to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the rectory to make arrangements.

NOTICE: Shephard's Center Senior Transportation Service

Shepherd's Center is a non-profit that offers rides to those 50+ in age who no longer drive. They charge nothing for the services but they do not offer "same day" and ask for 5 days notice for the transportation you request. Shepherd's Center volunteers can take you to your medical and dental appointments, grocery store, banks, food banks and a host of other locations. The Center is also planning day trips, at minimum costs in the near future. If you would like information please call 703-941-1419.

From the Vocations Office: - **Take a Hike! with FIAT and the Nashville Dominican Sisters** on Saturday, 10/16 join the FIAT high school young women and Dominican Sisters for some prayer, hiking and hanging out in Leesylvania State Park. Visit arlingtondiocese.org/FIAT 703-841-2514

Respect Life Month: Every October, we celebrate Respect Life Month. We consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. **Are you being called to help the parish Respect Life Committee?**



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, William Geoghegan, Donna Sullivan, Kurt Steinbacher, Joan Curley, Renate Craft, Mary Kirby, Zemui Teklu, Kathleen MacQueeney, Duyen Tran, Randy Souther, Robert Nguyen, Antonio Yu An Leng, Evangeline Azarraga, Maria Victorino, Jaime Guzman, Eduardo San Diego, Jun Tolentino, Karina Hanna, Dolores Sullivan, Jerry Alexander and Laura Cassie Jones.

Mary, Mother of God, we seek your intercession for our sick!!!

PRAY THE HOLY ROSARY



PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS (PTSC) serves single Catholics 40 and over. . Meet us for: Mass at St. Bernadette Church/ brunch at Milano's (Oct. 10); walk and lunch in Occoquan (Oct. 11); Thursday lunches (Oct. 14 and 28); Okee Dokee Brothers concert in McLean (Oct. 16); dinner at Hot Peppercorn in Springfield (Oct. 24); walk and lunch in Leesburg (Oct. 30). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

Diocesan Pilgrimage - Bishop Burbidge invites you to join him to mark this "Year of St. Joseph" at the diocesan Marian pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, October 30 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. This beautiful family event is free and there is no need to register. For complete schedule and details, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/2021/marian-pilgrimage

FEAR NOT, STAND FIRM, AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD

Gentlemen: The cultural chaos, deep political divisions and turmoil over the pandemic in our country continue to increase, presenting a major spiritual challenge for all of us. What is being asked of faithful Catholic men in this time of trial? **The 23rd Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by The Very Reverend Paul D. Scalia**, will be held on Sat. Nov. 6 from 9:15am--1:15pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Rd., Springfield VA 22153. There is no charge for this event, **but you must register before Oct. 30 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat** For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmv1maas@gmail.com.

Bishop O'Connell High School Open House Sunday, Oct. 3, 1-3 p.m.

Bishop O'Connell High School is hosting an Open House on Sunday, Oct. 3, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., where families are invited to learn more about the Catholic high school experience. Find out how the school's Catholic mission is integrated across the curriculum, visit science and engineering labs, meet teachers, administrators and coaches, and chat with current students. For more information, visit www.bishopoconnell.org or call 703-237-1433. Bishop O'Connell High School is located at [6600 Little Falls Road](http://www.bishopoconnell.org) in Arlington.

Faith Direct Electronic Giving: 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 more of 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**.