

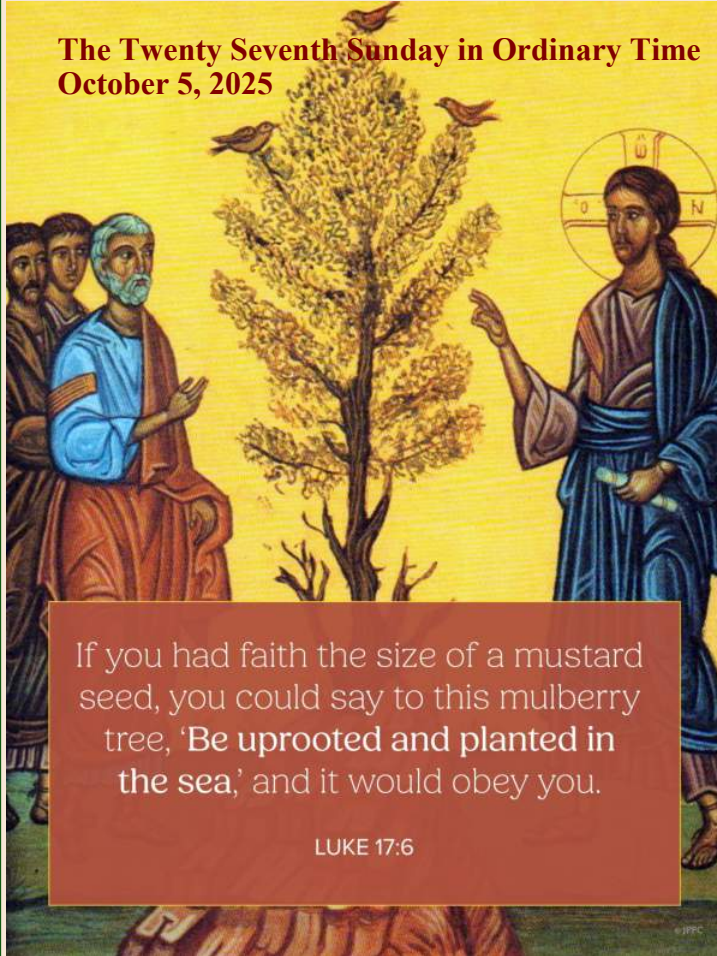
ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

6222 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA, 22310

www.stlawrencealex.org

703-971-4378

**The Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 5, 2025**



If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

LUKE 17:6

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, 10/6	Saint Bruno
6:15 a.m.	Ed Johnson †
9:00 a.m.	Corazon Toledo †
Tuesday, 10/7	Our Lady of the Rosary
6:15 a.m.	Ed Mahaffey †
9:00 a.m.	Duy Pham & Trân
Wed., 10/8	Saint Bridget of Sweden
6:15 a.m.	Jerome Gaines †
9:00 a.m.	Faithful Departed Souls †
Thursday 10/9	Saint Denis & Companions
6:15 a.m.	Beatrice DeMarco †
9:00 a.m.	Barry Childers †
Friday 10/10	Saint Francis Borgia
6:15 a.m.	Peter DeMarco †
9:00 a.m.	Margaret Kelly
Saturday 10/11	Saint John XXIII
9:00 a.m.	Mary Ann Davey †
(Vigil for Sun.)	Nick & Ngoc
5:00 p.m.	
Sunday 10/12	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 a.m.	Michael & Frances Hoffarth †
9:00 a.m.	Tuat Phan †
11:00 a.m.	Missa Pro Populo



The 9 AM Mass Choir sings O Sacrum Convivium by Giovanni Croce (1557-1609) today. Sung in Latin, its English translation is quite beautiful: How holy is this feast in which Christ is our food; his passion is recalled; grace fills our hearts; and we receive a pledge of the glory to come. Alleluia.

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 join us for training on October 19 from 1:30 - 2:00 in the Church** followed by Laser Tag and Pizza. Please have your parents contact the parish office at office@stlawrencealex.org or call (703) 971-4378.



Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for October

For collaboration between different religious traditions

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 10/6	Confessions 9:30 a.m. CCD Class (Grades 1-8) 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. OLPH Novena 7:15 p.m.
Tues 10/7	Rosary Makers 10:00 a.m. OCIA 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. CCD Class H.S. 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Legion of Mary 7:30 p.m.
Wed 10/8	Fatima Prayer Cell after 9:00 Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. CCD Class (Grades 1-8) 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Confessions 7:00 - 7:45 p.m. Holy Hour 7:15 - 8:15 p.m.
Thur 10/9	French Language Class 10:30 a.m. - Noon Spanish Language Class 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. 11 o'clock Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus - 7:30 p.m.
Fri. 10/10	Confessions 6:45 a.m. That Man is You 7:00 a.m.
Sat. 10/11	CCW Rosary Rally 12 Noon Confession 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST

Please join us this Sunday after the 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. Masses for the Knights of Columbus sponsored parish breakfast. All are welcome to come enjoy a delicious breakfast with your fellow parishioners and help support the Knights of Columbus in their charitable efforts.



2025 ALEXANDRIA LIFE CHAIN

The 30th Alexandria Life Chain will be held on Sunday, October 5, 2:30 – 3:30 pm. Life Chains have been conducted annually for 37 years across the United States and Canada on the First Sunday of October as prayer vigils and public witnesses to the sanctity of human life.

The Alexandria Life Chain will be held along Franconia Road 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.

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.

Thinking of a Priestly Vocation? Spending a weekend at a seminary is a critical part of exploring your vocation. You live, pray, eat and recreate with seminarians and experience first-hand what seminary life is like. Join Vocations Director Father Noah Morey for a weekend at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The group departs northern Virginia Friday November 21 at 5:30 p.m. and returns Sunday November 23 in the afternoon. Cost is \$40. Contact the Office of Vocations for more info and to register: vocations@arlingtondioceses.org or call 703-841-2514. The deadline to register for this trip is Monday November 10.

FROM THE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN: Save the dates:

Sat October 18th at 6pm is the Chili Dinner and Cook Off. Start practicing your award winning recipe or just plan to attend this fun and tasty evening.



Sunday October 19th at 12:30pm is a CCW potluck lunch, meeting, and Blessed Virgin Mary Trivia Game. Plan to enjoy the company of other women in the parish as we test our knowledge about Mary, her many titles, feast days and images.



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, Matt Chapman, and Sister Gaudete Maria.

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

We pray for those who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, most recently we remember:

Giovanna Faustina Annarella, Patricia Terlecki, Barry Childers, Lai Wah Tang, Patricia Mankin, Martha Ann Jones, Roseann Frances Branagan, Olivia Miranda Kliukevic, and Fermin Villar.

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

Dora Marie Ciardullo (d. October 4, 2018)
Nelson David Rosa (d. October 5, 2024)
Gloria Buckley (d. October 8, 2015)
Bill Pailin (d. Oct. 10, 2017)
Frederick Henderson (d. October 11, 2013)
Benjamin Simpao (d. October 12, 2015)
Frank Santone (d. October 13, 2016)
Laureano Gomez (d. October 19, 2015)

(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, Colleen Adamson, Curley Anderko, Jenny Antoun, Lorenzo Betia, Leah Bloom, Dave Bocchino, Maria Bonfanti, Betty Bonifer, Melanie Brady, Luis Cristian Carranza, Iris Castro, Joan Charters, 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, Barton Fischer, Francis Flaherty, John Forrester, Barbara Gaul, William Geoghegan, Julia Delli Gatti, Patricia Gilcrest, Jaime Guzman, Karina Hanna, Christal Eve Herrera, Elizabeth Horswell, Judy and Kevin Jackson, Judith Jackson, 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, Frank McDermott, Martha Mastic, Deborah Miller, Nhung "Kim" Miller, Pamela Moore, Robert Nguyen, Matthew Peters, Justin Pham, Steve Piscitelli, Larry Poh, Lori Polson, Ginny Rauer, Romeo Rigor, Herman & Martha Rollandini, Vin Rosano, Eduardo San Diego, Hannelore Smallfield, Randy Souther, Raymond Stanekenas, Kurt Steinbacher, Donna Sullivan, Lily Tan, Rebekah Tan, 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!!!*



Pray the Holy Rosary.
"The Rosary is the shortest ladder up to heaven..."
Saint Carlos Acutis



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



Chesterton Academy of Christ the King will be opening in the Fall of 2026, at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Alexandria. The more than 70

Chesterton Academies nationwide are known for their strong spiritual formation anchored in daily Mass as well as their rigorous, integrated classical curriculum oriented toward the good, the true, and the beautiful. Chesterton high schools form joyful, faithful, curious, articulate, and resilient young men and women prepared for college and for life. Visit Chesterton-ChristTheKing.org to learn more, [connect with us here](#), or [register to attend an upcoming information session](#)



The 2026 Wall Calendars & Spiral Daily Planners are in!

Stop by the book rack to see three different styles of religious art wall calendars: Mary and the Saints, The Life of Our Lord, and Angels. The 16-month spiral planners contain brief biographies of 70 Saints. All reference important Holy Days and holidays, fast days and feast days. See the back of each item for the suggested donation.



OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 2 from 1-4 p.m.

Bring the whole family! Learn more about our rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, competitive athletics, inspiring visual and performing arts, and abundant extracurricular opportunities! Meet students, teachers and coaches and learn what makes JP GREAT!!

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Koinonia is now accepting new and gently used Fall and Winter clothing



for adults and families with children who need assistance. All clothing sizes are helpful in stocking the Clothing Closet for the cold weather season. Please call 703/971-1991 or visit koinoniacares.org for hours of operation and drop-off location. Clothing should be free of stains and tears, with working zippers and all buttons. Thank you!

The upgrade from Faith Direct to ParishSOFT Giving is almost here!

As a reminder, you don't need to take any action—your recurring gifts and payment information will transfer automatically.



After the upgrade, you'll log in to ParishSOFT Giving using your same credentials. A link and instructions will be provided at launch.



ST. LAWRENCE ROSARY

MAKERS meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month at 10 o'clock in Hammond Hall

CONVERSATION CLASSES - THURS.

French class: from 10:30 – 12 Noon

Spanish class: from 12:30 – 1:30pm

All are welcome. Join us to have fun learning, laughing and keeping our minds sharp!



That Man is You! a Catholic Man's Leadership Program meets every Saturday morning starting at 7 o'clock.



Call 703-971-4378 or email office@stlawrencealex.org.

Retreat for Veterans at Loyola Retreat House, October 24-26, 2025

US Army veteran Fr Jim Conroy, SJ will lead Veterans in Prayer and Reflection about their experiences serving in the military. Anyone who has served their country has been generous with their skills and talents, but often at a cost. Learn and reflect on how God has been with you always, but often in hidden ways.

Retreat Fee is \$175. Contact Loyola Retreat House, 301-392-0801, or loyolaonthepotomac.com for info.



PRIME TIME SINGLE

CATHOLICS (PTSC): We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate group.) Meet us for: Mass at St. Louis Church/visit to Poor Clares Monastery (Oct. 5); Thursday lunches (Oct. 9 & 23); dinner in Ashburn (Oct. 11); tour of historic Rippon Lodge and Neabsco Creek Boardwalk (Oct. 18); Ocean City Beach Days (Oct. 24-27); serving meal at Christ House (Oct. 25); ancient cemeteries tour/dinner in Alexandria (Oct. 26); Annual Dinner Dance (Nov. 15). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

SAINT LAWRENCE NEEDS YOU!!

Our parish relies upon its volunteers in order to smoothly function.



We have an urgent need for volunteers to help St. Lawrence meet parishioners' needs.

At all Masses next weekend (October 11/12), after each Mass, St. Lawrence will have manned sign-up tables in the Narthex for you to check your volunteering interests for these parish ministries: Altar Servers; Lectors; Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers; Collection Counters; Knights of Columbus; and the 11am Choir.

Please pray for these ministries and on how you can volunteer to help your fellow parishioners.

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.



PRAY IN SONG

The 11 am choir is resuming practice on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

If you enjoy prayer through song, please join us for practices 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!

27th ANNUAL CHRIST THE KING MEN'S RETREAT: DIE CATHOLIC AND IN THE STATE OF GRACE AND YOU WIN:

How to make the last battle of your life a victory

Arm yourself for the war being waged against God by the evil one's unrelenting assault on human life. **The 27th Annual Christ the King Men's Day of Recollection, directed by Father Francis de Rosa**, will be held on Sat. Oct. 25 from 8:30:am—12:15pm 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. 22 to attend.** Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmvlmaas@gmail.com.

ROSARY RALLY - OCTOBER 11 AT 12 NOON



Please join together at our rosary rally at 12 noon, Saturday, Oct. 11. We will meet in Hammond Hall and pray for the repentance and conversion of our great nation, asking God to save America through the rosary of

His Most Holy Mother.

NEWLY available on our narthex pamphlet rack: A **Pope Leo XIV Prayer Card**, and pamphlets celebrating the recent canonizations of **Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati** ("Toward the Heights") and **Saint Carlo Acutis** ("The Eucharist is my highway to heaven"). Pick up extras to share with those in your circle of influence!

Ever wondered what college seminary is like? Join Vocations Director Father Noah Morey and Quo Vadis on November 15, 2025 to experience it firsthand on a visit to St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. Meet the college seminarians and their formators, see where they live, pray, eat and study, celebrate Mass together and tour parts of Catholic University where they have classes. Dads are welcome but not required. Cost is \$15 per person; deadline to register is November 3. Space is limited! Visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis, or contact the Office of Vocations, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-2514. Quo Vadis events are for high school boys interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocations.

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 n more. Thank you for your generosity!



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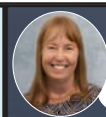
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