

SAINT LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sept 19, 2021

25th 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
703-971-8541

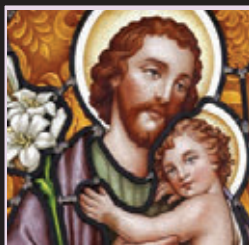
Anne-Marie Pierce
religioused@stlawrencealex.org

Youth Minister
703-971-5715

Joseph Stakem
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*

September 19, 2021 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

**MON 9/20 - Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gõn and Paul
Chõng Ha-Sang & Companions (OFM)**

6:15am Mary Murray † & Mary Waters †

9:00am Ret Nguyen

TUE 9/21 - St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist (OFM/EFM)

6:15am Robin Millier †

9:00am Evangeline Azarraga

WED 9/22 - Saint Maurice & Companions (EFM)

6:15am Fr. Joseph Ocran

9:00am Jane Palladino

THU 9/23 - Saint Pius of Pietrelcina (OFM)

6:15am Jimmy Sunga

9:00am Pierce/Baldwin Family

FRI 9/24 - Our Lady of Ransom (EFM)

6:15am All Souls

9:00pm Lauren Dsouza (in Thanksgiving)

SAT 9/25 - Blessed Herman the Cripple (Historic)

9:00am Sovanny Saray †

Vigil Mass (Meets Sunday Mass Obligation)

5:00pm Milagros Zini †

SUN 9/26 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (OFM)

18th Sunday after Pentecost (EFM)

7:30am Fr. Daniel Spychala

9:00am Harold Dsouza & Family

11:00am Parishioners of Saint Lawrence

12:30pm Hatseinesh Kidane †

**Parish Picnic - THIS SUNDAY -
September 19 from 2-6 pm. Food,
fun, games, mechanical bull, moon
bounce, giant slides, live music and
more! Come enjoy a great afternoon
with your fellow parishioners. Please bring a
side dish or dessert to share.**



Liturgical and Ministry Activity This Week At a Glance

Mon 9/13 Confessions 9:30am
Religious Ed. Classes 7:00 - 8:15 pm
Perpetual Help Novena 7:15 pm

Tue 9/14 High School Religious Ed. 7:00 pm
Legion of Mary 7:30pm

Wed 9/15 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

Thur 9/16 Knights of Columbus 7:00 pm

Fri 9/17 Confessions 6:45am

Sat 9/18 Confessions 3:30-4:30pm

CLOTHES DRIVE. Koinonia is currently accepting donations of **new and gently used Fall and Winter clothing and shoes** for children and adults (all sizes) to help those in need. Items may be left in the donation bin in our church narthex OR brought directly to Koinonia, 6037 Franconia Rd (small building in back parking lot). Hours: M-W F 9-12:30, Thu 9-4, and 2nd Sat each month 9-12:30. Thank you!

CCD Teachers and Assistants needed – This is an opportunity to Teach and Improve your knowledge of Our Catholic Faith.

Adult and Teen Catechists needed for 2021– 2022 school year. Please contact Anne-Marie Pierce 703-971-8541 religioused@stlawrencealex.org You will use a teacher's edition (book with the answers) for your class but you will not just teach -- you will also learn from your students. There are openings in grades 3 to 6 Monday or Wednesday 7pm to 8:15pm. Teach a class with your spouse, or old and new friends. We are all called to live our faith, teach our faith and pass on our faith. **Classes began 9/8 - Registration is still open!!!!**

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](http://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:
\$1,441,720

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.



Catholic Charities volunteers feed, shelter, educate, welcome and heal poor and vulnerable men, women and families who live within our communities. They are the hands and feet of Christ, bringing His love to the people served. Volunteer teachers, tutors and subs are needed for the Fall semester for in-person and online/virtual classes in ESOL, Computers, Citizenship, GED Prep (Math, Science), and Childcare. Training (including Zoom) and materials are provided! Commitment is approx 2.5 hrs one day per week. Call: 571/208-1572 for more information.

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 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, Anne-Marie Pierce, 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.



Please support our next Share Sunday at all Masses the weekend of Sept. 18-19. Current needs include: Fresh fruit * Canned: Corn, Tomatoes and Salmon * Cereal (any kind) * Salad Dressing * Masa and Sugar (small bags best) * Flavored Rice or Pasta * Similac Baby Formula * Baby Diapers Size 6 * Laundry Detergent * Dish and Dishwasher Detergent * All-Purpose Cleaners and Cleaning Supplies * Shampoo and Conditioner * Bath soap (bars or liquid body soap) * Always (or similar) Pads (not "liners") * Tissues * Toothbrushes and Toothpaste * Deodorant * Shaving Cream * Grocery (Aldi, Lidl, Giant) & Dollar Tree Gift Cards.

Once again this month there is a DRIVE-THRU DROP-OFF option Sat. Sept. 18, 1-4 pm. Pull up to the cones in the church parking lot and volunteers will assist in collecting your donations. In addition to pantry items, especially those listed above, we are also collecting new and gently used Fall/Winter clothing and shoes for children and adults in need in our area. **Note: Clothing and non-perishable food donations may also be left in the Narthex bin anytime church is open.** Thank you!

The St. Lawrence Council of Catholic Women invites all parishioners and guests to its September meeting on Sunday, September 26 at 2 pm in Hammond Hall. Highlights include:

- A Meet & Greet: See old friends, meet new friends
- Tea & Sweets: Please bring an accompaniment for the tea
- An announcement about the 2022 CCW Scholarship
- Distribution of the 2021-2022 CCW Calendar of meetings and events

All current COVID safety measures will be followed.

Mass for Marriage Jubilarians

Celebrating A Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary This Year? Were you married in 1971 or 1996? Please join Bishop Michael F. Burbidge for the 2021 Mass for Marriage Jubilarians to be celebrated on Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington, VA. Please contact the parish office to register no later than October 1, 2021.



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 and Dolores Sullivan.

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. Upcoming events include Lunch at House of Dynasty (Sept. 23); Walk at South Run Recreational Center (Sept. 25); Annual Ocean City Beach weekend (Oct. 1-4) For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.

Give a child the gift of a Catholic education and receive most of your donation back in federal and state tax savings!

The Virginia Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credit Program will award a 65% state tax credit for donations made to the **Diocese of Arlington Scholarship Foundation**, which will, in turn, provide scholarships for new students wishing to attend our diocesan Catholic Schools. **You do not have to itemize in order to receive the 65% tax credit!** Donations must be preauthorized in advance. Please see the insert in the bulletin or call Jeanne Combos at 703/841-2764 (or email DASF@arlingtondiocese.org) or go online for more details and to download the preauthorization request form at: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Scholarship-Foundation/>

Post-Abortion Healing Retreats for

Women in English and Spanish: An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2021. **Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy!** You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry (703) 841-2504 or info@helpafterabortion.org.

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.

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