

Gospel Reflection – Oct. 22-23, 2016
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Luke 18:9-14



I know this may be hard for some of you to believe, but as a child I was not perfectly well behaved. There were times when I did things which I knew were wrong. Some of these became known to my parents and others not. While I always felt remorse for the wrong I had done, there was one time when I felt absolute shame. That shame still painfully resides in my heart.

The act involved a scheme to sell something entirely useless—rocks found in my backyard—to a younger neighbor. I'd convinced him that they were part of a valuable collection. They weren't. He gave up his allowance to have them.

His parents told my parents what had transpired. At first, I thought the sale to have been quite entrepreneurial, but when my father confronted me and told me how disappointed he was that I had "cheated" my young neighbor, I felt filled with shame. I could not raise my eyes from the ground nor look my father in the eyes.

The tax collector in today's Gospel found himself similarly shamed. He too could only keep his eyes cast down when standing in the Temple. He had cheated many of his neighbors.

What benefit was that painful shame? In the tax collector's case, he went home justified, that is, made right in the sight of God. We don't know if he made restitution, the story doesn't tell us that (I did, by the way). He was justified not because of his shame but because of God's mercy. His sin was the circumstance, his shame the aftermath, and forgiveness the outcome.

Are there any unconfessed sins that still weigh heavy on our hearts? If there are, I think we all know where and how in God's sight we can be restored, forgiven, and made whole.

As today's responsorial psalm says:

*The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;
 and those who are crushed in spirit He saves.
 The LORD redeems the lives of His servants;
 no one incurs guilt who takes refuge in Him.*

(PS 34:19,23)

~Fr. Victor Scocco, O.S.S.T.

PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL OPPORTUNITIES

The Pastoral Parish Council is seeking parishioners to serve on the Parish Council. Parishioners in good standing with the Catholic Church and interested in serving should contact the Rectory office in order to have their name included on the ballot.

HALLOWEEN FAMILY BINGO – OCT. 28TH 

Join us for family bingo this Friday, October 28th. Doors open at 6:00pm and Bingo is at 6:30pm. Regular Bingo is \$5.00 for 12 games and special games are \$1.00 each.



There will be a costume parade. Food and drinks will be available for sale. For more info, please contact Topher Darragh at 410-799-1970, ext. 55.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Being an Altar Server provides our female & male youth (Grade 3 or above, received First Communion) with an opportunity to participate in the Liturgy, serve the Lord, and develop leadership skills. The primary role of the altar server is to assist the priest in the celebration of the Liturgy. Altar servers help the priest and the entire congregation praise God through active participation in the Liturgy.

Please contact Diane Baldwin at 443-679-6241 or dnboct4@hotmail.com for more information and so a training session can be arranged.

 **SPAGHETTI DINNER – OCTOBER 29TH**



Join us next Saturday, October 29th, when the 3rd Order holds its Spaghetti Dinner in the Parish Center.

It will take place from 4:00–7:30pm. Prices are Adults: \$8.00, Children (6-12): \$4.00, 5 and under: Free.

You can also get your spaghetti to go, and there will be a bake sale so you can purchase dessert as well! We are also seeking donations of baked goods.

Proceeds from the Spaghetti Dinner benefit the children's tutoring program at our Trinitarians' Sister Parish in Sucre, Bolivia.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR ALL SOULS IN OUR CEMETERY - NOVEMBER 10TH

On Thursday, November 10th at 7:00pm, in conjunction with our 150th Anniversary celebration, we will be having a Prayer Service for those buried in our cemetery.

This will be hosted by our Young Adult Ministry as part of their efforts to live out all Seven Corporal Acts of Mercy.

We will gather outside and all the names of the deceased in our cemetery will be read. We will pray for all those souls, and pray for comfort for those that mourn them.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The next Religious Education classes meet on October 30th, November 6th, and November 13th.

If you have any questions, please contact Valerie Magnuson by emailing val@saintlawrencemartyr.org or calling 410-799-1970, ext. 54.

 **Mass Intentions**

Saturday, Oct. 22nd: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm + **Barbara Dorsey Prisco** req by Jim Prisco Jr.
 6:30pm + **Alex Stewart** req by Grandma Judy Kurtz

Sunday, Oct. 23rd: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am + **Chuck Cole** req by Miriam Heil
 10:00am + **Luis Francisco Quintero V** req by Angela Tovar
 11:30am + **Grace Howlin** req by Sheila, Jim, and Debra
 5:30pm **Mass for the People**

Monday, Oct. 24th:

9:00am* **Sally Kendzierski for healing** req by Dick & Judy Boivin

Tuesday, Oct. 25th:

9:00am** + **Daniel H. Redding** req by Deacon Ed Kernan

Wednesday, Oct. 26th:

9:00am*** + **Stephany Mallicote** req by the Harvey family

Thursday, Oct. 27th:

9:00am* + **Deceased members of the Nguyen family**

Friday, Oct. 28th:

9:00am*

Saturday, Oct. 29th: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm + **Kathleen Welms** req by the Lauth family
 6:30pm

Sunday, Oct. 30th: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am **God's Divine Favor and Mercies** for John, Bolanle, and Anthony-Mary Edet
 10:00am + **Alice Lafollette** req by Ray & Yvonne Ogden
 11:30am **Mass for the People**
 5:30pm **Rena Cerquetti** req by Topher Darragh

* *Rosary following Mass* ** *Rosary and Novena to St. Agatha*

*** *Rosary and Novena to St. Michael of the Saints*

MASS INTENTIONS

Offering Mass for a Special Intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church. Masses are offered for many reasons: in remembrance for the deceased, or for the living, in honor of a birthday or other special occasion.

If you'd like to have a Mass celebrated for someone, contact the Parish Office at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call 410-799-1970. It is a free will offering, but typically people donate \$5 to \$10 a Mass.

Oct. 29th – 30th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Matthew C	Larry B	Rick B	Jeff F Steve S	Help Needed
Saturday 6:30pm	Katie B Timmy B	Debra W	Bill R	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Amanda S	Mike A	Rocco D	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Hannah L	Mike J	Maureen M	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Michael K	Holly W	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Courtney D	Kathy F	Help Needed	Help Needed

CHURCH SUPPORT- OCTOBER 22-23, 2016

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	3,469.00	\$3,429.00
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,664.72	1,085.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	1,830.00	1,805.00
Poor Box:	213.00	196.50
Total:	\$7,716.72	\$6,515.50

MILITARY ARCHDIOCESE COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Next week, our parish will take up the Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS). The AMS relies solely on private donors in support of its mission, "Serving those who serve" and its ministry to provide the same pastoral care and services to Catholics serving in the United States Armed Forces, enrolled in US Military Academies, undergoing treatment at any of the 153 Department of Veterans Affairs' Medical Centers, working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond US borders, and the families of these populations, as does any other Catholic diocese. While the salaries and retirement of Catholic military chaplains are paid for by the US Government, the AMS receives no funding from government or military for its programs and services, including the Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, which provides priests for home dioceses and for the military chaplaincy. To learn more about the AMS, go to: www.milarch.org/nationalcollection.



- Oct. 22nd:** **2nd Collection: Mission Sunday**
 1:00pm Lector Training/Mtg (Parish Ctr)
 3:00pm CPR Training (Parish Ctr)
- Oct. 23rd:** **2nd Collection: Mission Sunday**
 9:30am Welcome Breakfast
 9:30am 1st Recon - Class
 10:15am 1st Recon Parent/Child Project
 3:30pm Confirmation Class
 6:30pm Life Teen (Parish Ctr)
- Oct. 24th:** 7:00pm RCIA (Sacristy)
- Oct. 25th:** 10:30am TLC (Parish Ctr)
 6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Parish Ctr)
 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Sacristy)
- Oct. 28th:** 6:30pm Halloween Bingo (Parish Ctr)
- Oct. 29th:** **2nd Collection: Military Archdiocese**
 4:00pm Spaghetti Dinner (Until 7:30pm)
- Oct. 30th:** **2nd Collection: Military Archdiocese**
 9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK-3rd (Parish Ctr)
 11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th – 8th (Parish Ctr)
 6:30pm Life Teen (Parish Ctr)

FORMED RECOMMENDATIONS

To Watch: *Symbolon Knowing the Faith Session 2: Divine Revelation* If God, the all-powerful Creator of the Universe, loves us, then how does He communicate with us? The answer is surprising, yet it establishes an essential part of what we believe as Catholics.

Found in PROGRAMS under Exploring the Catholic Faith

To Watch: *Beloved Living Marriage Session 1: Christ at the Center* Putting Jesus at the center of our married lives is crucial for maintaining a strong marriage. Only in Him can we find the strength and grace to face the many challenges and joys that come our way. But *how* do we make Jesus the center point of our lives? This study explains.

Found in PROGRAMS under Sacramental Preparation

To Listen: *Being All In* by Eric Mahl He earned a scholarship to play division one football at Kent State University and, in 2005, was signed by the Cleveland Browns. After leaving the NFL, he spent three years working in the world where he continued his intensive focus on discerning his vocation. After this period of discernment, he sold or gave away all his belongings so as to fully give himself to the Lord and live out the message of Divine Mercy.

Found in AUDIOS under Year of Mercy

To Access: Go to www.formed.org and click "Register", located in the lower right hand corner. Then enter both the Parish Code which is ed1783 and your email address. It will then ask you for some basic information and then click "Submit". Formed will send an email for verification to your email. Go to & open your email received from "Formed" and click on the word "Verify". It will then take you to the Formed site.

FORMED truly is the Catholic faith—on demand. Every parishioner is able to have 24/7 access to the best Catholic content on any device with internet access, including your computer, smartphone, or tablet.

TRINITY SCHOOL NOVEMBER OPEN HOUSES:

Trinity School, a Catholic, accredited, coeducational school for PreK3 through Grade 8, is hosting a Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, November 3rd at 9:00 am. We are also hosting a PreK and Kindergarten Open House on Friday, November 11th at 9:30am and on Sunday, November 13th, we will host an Open House at 11:00am for all grades. Trinity School, twice the recipient of the Exemplary School Award designated by the U.S. Department of Education, is located at 4985 Ilchester Road in Ellicott City. Come see why Trinity School is "a place where children learn to love learning." Visit our web site at www.trinityschoolmd.org. For more information or to schedule a private tour call 443-498-5040 or email admintrin@trinityschoolmd.org.

WELCOME

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome Venus Dang, daughter of Vu Dang and Hong Nguyen, who was baptized on October 6, 2016. May she and her family continue to grow in God's love and grace.

YEAR OF MERCY – MOMENTS ON MERCY

This Jubilee of Mercy is not the first time that Pope Francis has emphasized the need for the faithful to live their lives in a witness to the mercy of God. In *Evangelii Gaudium*, or The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis highlights the connection between mercy and continually spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ in our everyday lives. In paragraph 24 of *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Church is called to be "missionary disciples" as an "evangelizing community" seeking "to show mercy, the fruit of its own experience of the power of the Father's infinite mercy" (EG, no. 24). Our faith is not our own; it is ours as members of the Body of Christ, who continually testify to the truth of the Gospel through all of our actions. Just as mercy is an overarching theme for Pope Francis's pontificate and his life, we are all called to make mercy the theme of our life.

1. Read *Evangelii Gaudium*. Take note of the various places that the mercy we show others is described as a reflection of God's merciful love and compassion.
2. Share your faith with someone else. This is somewhat intimidating, but it can be done in a variety of ways since all of our words, actions, and lives should reflect the joy of God's great gift of mercy and love. Even something as simple as stating that you are a Christian can help someone recognize the connection between your actions of compassion and your faith in Jesus Christ.

MARRIAGE EVENING AT ST. JANE FRANCES

St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish will host a marriage evening on Saturday, **November 5th**, beginning with Mass at 5:00pm and dinner at 6:00pm. Fr. James Boric, Associate Pastor at St. John the Evangelist in Severna Park, will offer a talk entitled, "Doing God's Will in your Marriage." For more information and to RSVP, contact 410-437-3048 by November 3rd.

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Saturday, **November 19th**, 9:00am to 12:00pm, Holy Family Catholic Community, 7321 Burkittsville Rd., Middletown, MD in the Legacy Room.

This workshop is designed for adults who are facing the holiday season after the loss of a loved one. Featuring Fred Schneider, LCSW-C, M. Div., M.A., a retired Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has worked in the field of Hospice, Pastoral Care and Bereavement Services for 30+ years. Light refreshments provided.

Bring a friend! Offered by Bridges Grief Ministry. RSVP helpful but not required 301-473-4800.

GABRIEL NETWORK – HELP PREGNANT WOMEN

St. Lawrence Parish Gabriel Network program, which supports practical, emotional, and spiritual care to pregnant women in crisis situations, is going strong. **We have an immediate need for newborn size diapers and newborn girl's clothing. Thanks!**

If you'd like to help with the program, contact Joe Toher by email at joetoher@gmail.com or call 443-850-6207.

CATHOLIC MEN'S STUDY GROUP

Have you ever been asked about Catholic beliefs concerning Mary, the Pope, saints, Eucharist, confession, marriage, etc.? We have recently formed a men's group that will study the Bible, Catholic Catechism, and various other sources, so we can better understand, not just the doctrines themselves, but the biblical and historical reasons for these beliefs.

We meet in the Sacristy after the Divine Mercy Chaplet, at 6:30pm every Tuesday, other than the third Tuesday of the month. If interested, contact Ray Ogden after the Divine Mercy Chaplet at the church or (almost) anytime at home at 410-551-8364.

SIT-UATION

The SIT St. Lawrence Ministry focuses on our fellow Christians who suffer persecution because of their commitment to Christ and His Church.

The three pillars for SIT St. Lawrence are prayer, action, and awareness. In order to facilitate awareness of persecuted Christians, we will be informing everyone of persecution around the world as well as awareness events.

"Asia Bibi is a mother of five facing death by hanging from the Sharia courts of Pakistan for blasphemy against the prophet Mohamad while praising Jesus instead in casual conversation.

She has been imprisoned since 2010 and her sentence is up for appeal this month; you can sign the petition demanding Asia's release at: www.callformercy.com." *Christianity Today*

PRAYERS TO ST. AGATHA OF SICILY

St. Agatha is the patron saint for those who suffer from breast cancer, those who suffer from sterility, and of rape victims and nurses.

Please join us as we pray a perpetual novena to St. Agatha on Tuesdays after our Daily Mass.



DIRECTORY UPDATE

We are still working on the upcoming 150th Anniversary edition of the St. Lawrence Pictorial Directory. If you have not yet replied to the email regarding photo choices, time is running out, and we'll choose for you if we don't hear from you.

We hope to have the Directory ready before the holidays.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS—TUESDAYS AT 6:00PM

Please join SIT St. Lawrence for a weekly praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet for Persecuted Christians every Tuesday in the church at 6:00pm.

Please contact the Parish Office or Flint and Jan Sibayan at flintjan@gmail.com with any questions.

BUILD FAITH THROUGH LOVE

"The one who serves God willingly is heard; his petition reaches the heavens."

Let us serve God willingly by strengthening, renewing and rekindling our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on November 11-13, 2016, April 21-23, 2017 or October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD.

For more information and to apply online, visit welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007, or email at applications@welovematrimony.org.



ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week's answer: According to what we've been told, St. Lawrence Parish became St. Lawrence Martyr Parish when one Easter we ended up with both our flowers and those from St. Lawrence in Dickeyville (now part of the Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Woodlawn.)

This week's question: Who was running in the first presidential election in which St. Lawrence Parishioners could vote?



This Week In Youth Ministry: We have a special message from the President that we'll need to discuss. Come out and do your civic duty!

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 23 rd :	Confirmation Class
Oct. 28 th :	Halloween BINGO
Nov. 18 th -20 th :	BYCC (Ocean City, MD)

Contact us with questions about any of these upcoming events!

We are always looking for volunteers to help with Life Teen. Please feel free to email or call me if you're interested in helping!

Topher@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call 443-765-8200.

Secular Quote of the Week:

"Voting is the expression of our commitment to ourselves, one another, this country and this world."
~Sharon Salzberg