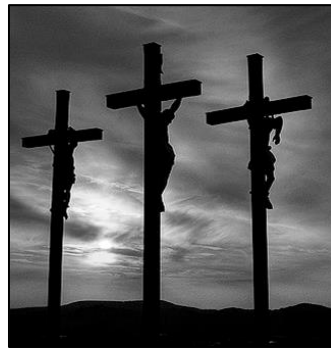


Gospel Reflection – Nov. 19-20, 2016
Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe Luke 23:35-43

It's not likely that the two first-century thieves who were crucified beside Jesus were educated men. They were probably not even able to read. So it's not likely that either of them could read the words written by Pilate and hung over the Cross which proclaimed Christ as king.



But one of the thieves saw Christ looking at him. Their eyes met and a criminal, the so-called "good thief", was given the promise of sanctity. Wearing the crown of suffering and rejected by the rulers who sneered at Him, Christ looked at the thief. What did the thief see in Jesus' eyes? Something unforgettable which prompted him to ask never to be forgotten.

Pope Francis says, "The Lord looks at us. He looks at us first...I feel great comfort when I think of the Lord looking at me. We think that we have to pray and talk, talk, talk...No! Let the Lord look at you. When He looks at us, He gives us strength and helps us to bear witness to Him."

That's exactly what happened when the King and the criminal exchanged a momentary glance on Calvary.

The thief was the first to bear witness to the Kingship of Christ and became the first sinner to benefit from His reign. In a single glance, the vision and promise of paradise dawned.

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

CONGRATULATIONS - 1ST RECONCILIATION CLASS

Congratulations to the children of our parish who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Thursday, November 17th. May God bless them with His mercy and love all the days of their lives.

Viviana Alarcon	Kaleb Buchholz	Carlo Catu
Ashlynn Farran	Madeline Gorman	Eric Herberich
Lillian Herter	Adella Junk	Alexander Kilbride
Bradley Kripas	Jacob Kusznir	Kaitlyn Martin
Kaelyn McDaniel	Makenzie McVitty	David Ortiz
Kylie Ostrowski	Valery Robles	Lucas Scott
Camryn Tapia	Kennedy Tapia	

HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Fr. Victor, Fr. Binoy and our staff would like to thank our wonderful parishioners, including those who give the gift of themselves and their time to the many ministries of St. Lawrence!

We pray that everyone has a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

YOUNG ADULT NIGHT – NOV. 20TH

This Sunday at 6:30pm (after the 5:30pm Mass), the Young Adult Ministry will enjoy homemade chili, put up Christmas trees to prepare for Advent, and then play board games. We hope you can join us. Be sure to bring your favorite board game and snack.

We will also be starting a new Young Adult Bible Study the first week of Advent. What a good way to begin the liturgical year! Stay tuned for details.

OFFICE CLOSED

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24th and 25th, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

THANKSGIVING GIFT BASKETS

We continue to collect this weekend for the Thanksgiving Gift Baskets to provide to our less fortunate friends and neighbors. **All donations should be dropped off this weekend.**



Special 150th Anniversary! As a tribute for the many graces we have received over our 150 years as a Parish, we are also giving 150 canned items in each of the following categories (meat products, veggies, soup, and fruit) to an area Outreach Program that helps poverty level elementary students. Please help us help others! **These items can still be brought in through the end of the month.**

All food items can be placed in the collection box in the Parish Center foyer. Please place gift cards in a marked envelope into the Poor Box or Collection basket.

YEAR OF MERCY – MOMENTS OF MERCY

Death is a difficult topic to discuss for many people, but it is something we face on a regular basis. The Church celebrates the life and memory of those who have passed from this world and reminds us of God's merciful love. There are many examples of this: at the beginning of November, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls); there are vigils for the deceased, funeral liturgies, rites of committal and final commendation, and prayers for the deceased and those who are mourning. All of these prayers and services help us acknowledge our grief, celebrate the life of the one who has passed away, and find solace in the loving compassion of God.

1. Throughout this month, we should commend in prayer the bodies and souls of those who have died and who may still be in need of God's mercy in purgatory (*CCC, 1020-1060*).

2. In addition to praying for them, we can help those who are grieving in a tangible way. Be open to listening to someone who is grieving. You could volunteer with St. Lawrence's bereavement ministry (this usually involves helping organize a small reception or luncheon after the funeral Mass for the family). In these small acts of mercy, we show others that the love of God is still present in their lives and their communities even though they are grieving.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Nov. 19th: Solemnity of Christ Our King

5:00pm **Mass for the People**
 6:30pm + **Patricia Ann Frances Dowd**
 req by the Naymick family

Sunday, Nov. 20th: Solemnity of Christ Our King

8:30am + **Barbara Murphy** req by Anna & Jerry Henline
 10:00am + **Mr. Emmanuel Chukwu** req by Euriel Chukwu
 11:30am **Mass for the Unborn** req by K of C Council #12180
 5:30pm

Monday, Nov. 21st:

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

Tuesday, Nov. 22nd:

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

Wednesday, Nov. 23rd:

9:00am*** + **Joseph Heil** req by his wife

Thursday, Nov. 24th:

9:00am* + **Alex Stewart** req by Grandma Judy Kurtz

Friday, Nov. 25th:

9:00am* + **Leonor Garay and Felix David Guzman**
 req by the Dudley family

Saturday, Nov. 26th: 1st Sunday of Advent

5:00pm + **Barbara Dorsey Prisco** req by Jim Prisco Jr.

6:30pm **Mass for the People**

Sunday, Nov. 27th: 1st Sunday of Advent

8:30am + **Barbara Murphy** req by Jo Eggerl
 10:00am + **Mr. Emmanuel Chukwu** req by Euriel Chukwu
 11:30am **Mass for the Intentions of the 11:30am choir**
 req by K of C Council #12180

5:30pm + **Geraldine Dess** req by the Magnuson family

* *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.

Nov. 26 th – 27 th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Matthew C Jason S	Maggie P	Jeff F	Jeff F Steve S	Help Needed
Saturday 6:30pm	Katie B Timmy B	John M	Bill R	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Amanda S Jaheim S	Mike A	Rocco D	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Hannah L Daniel P	Ken W	Maureen M	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Karey R Rhea G	Bob S	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Courtney D	Kathy F	Help Needed	Help Needed

CHURCH SUPPORT- NOVEMBER 12-13, 2016

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$3,554.50	\$3,285.00
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,887.00	1,281.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	2,390.50	2,133.00
Seminarians:	819.00	754.00
Poor Box:	544.00	286.50
TOTAL	\$9,195.00	\$7,739.50

CCHD COLLECTION THIS WEEK

The collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. CCHD's grants improve education, support economic development, and create affordable housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend human dignity and build communities of solidarity.



Nov. 19th: 2nd Collection: CCHD

Nov. 20th: 2nd Collection: CCHD

9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK-3rd (Parish Ctr)
 11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th – 8th (Parish Ctr)
 11:15am Prayer Ministry (McKennas)
 No Life Night

Nov. 22nd:

10:30am TLC (Parish Center)
 6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Parish Ctr)
 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Sacristy)

Nov. 24th:

Sarah's House Meal Prep (3rd Order)

Parish Office is Closed

Nov. 25th:

Parish Office is Closed

Nov. 26th: 2nd Collection: Restoration & Maintenance

Nov. 27th: 2nd Collection: Restoration & Maintenance

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

DECEMBER 9TH

SIT St. Lawrence will be holding a Prayer Vigil supporting Persecuted Christians around the world on Friday, December 9th from 6:30-8:30pm in the church. Let us come together this Advent season to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament, and pray, sing, and reflect on why it is important to remember our brothers and sisters who embody galvanized faith in the face of evil.

Faith McDonnell of the Institute on Religion and Democracy will be speaking. Adoration and Benediction will follow, and light refreshments will be in the Parish Center at the Vigil's conclusion. Come to as much or as little of the event as you wish.

Please contact Matt Behum with any questions at mbehum@gmail.com, or call the Parish Office.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Next week, we will again have the “Christmas Giving Tree”, where you can choose an ornament which lists requested gifts for less fortunate families in our area. All gifts are due back by December 19th. You can place them under the Christmas Tree in the Parish Center Foyer.

It is preferred that the gifts are in a gift bag or can be wrapped, but it’s not necessary. Please be certain to attach the ornament which you selected to the package; it contains information needed to get the gift to the right person.

Thank you to St. Lawrence parishioners for your incredible generosity to this program in the past!

ENJOY FORMED.ORG FOR FREE “YOUTUBE FOR CATHOLICS”

One of our parishioners described FORMED as “YouTube for Catholics”. If you have a question about your faith, you can check the site to find it out. And once you start watching, you can’t stop!

To Watch: *Catholicism Episode 1: Amazed and Afraid* The strange and dangerous words of Jesus of Nazareth set up a drama that will culminate in a surprising battle between two kings, and in the wake of this conflict, an empire will be defeated—and the world will be changed. Bishop Robert Barron illuminates and explains the conviction of the Catholic Faith that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised Messiah and the revelation of God become man. He shows how Jesus fulfills the four tasks of the Messiah, according to the Old and New Testaments, and how the living legacy of Christ, God and Messiah, is proclaimed by the Church. Join Bishop Barron as he addresses some of the most controversial questions about the life and identity of Jesus Christ and travels through the mysterious and sacred places of the Holy Land of Israel and the eternal city of Rome.

Found in PROGRAMS under Exploring the Catholic Faith

To Listen: *Who Do You Say That I Am?* By Bishop Robert Barron Bishop Barron illuminates with conviction that Jesus of Nazareth is the promised Messiah and revelation of God become man. He shows how Jesus fulfills the four tasks of the Messiah according to the Old and New Testaments and how the living legacy of Christ is proclaimed by the Church.

Found under RECENTLY ADDED on the home page.

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. You’ll need to fill out 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.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX PROGRAM

Each year around this time, the Apostleship of the Sea partners with local parishes and organizations to prepare gift boxes for seafarers that will be distributed to them “dockside” during their calls in the Port of Baltimore during the holiday season.

The Knights of Columbus Council #12180 and the Fourth Degree Knights Assembly #3245 are joining together to do the Christmas Shoebox Program. They will supply the plastic shoe boxes; we need you to donate the items to go into the shoe boxes.

Suggested donations (**travel-sized is best**): Toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, combs, nail clippers, mouthwash, shampoos, conditioners, soap, shaving cream, deodorant, q-tips, disposable razors, socks, gloves, scarves, caps, pens, pencils, writing supplies, English dictionaries, 2017 calendars, pocket-sized address books/planners, scotch tape, playing cards, travel-sized games, reading materials (magazines, paperbacks), non-perishable foods/snacks/candy, a small signed Christmas card or blessing (personal notes and blessings are always appreciated). Telephone calling cards are also appreciated.

The donation box is located in the Parish Center foyer.

WINTER WONDERLAND BAZAAR – DEC. 2-3

Resurrection of Our Lord Roman Catholic Church at 8402 Brock Bridge Road, Laurel, MD, is excited to announce their Winter Wonderland Bazaar to be held on December 2nd and 3rd, and they invite St. Lawrence parishioners to join them for fun and great food. The famous Baltimore chef, John Walsh, will once again cook his delicious food.

There will also be a silent auction, new and unopened gifts for children and adults, and of course, a visit from the North Pole.

The hours are Friday, December 2nd, from 5pm-8pm and Saturday, December 3rd, from 8am– 2pm.

CATHOLIC MEN’S STUDY GROUP

The purpose of this group is to better understand biblical and historical basis for Catholic doctrines.

The group meets in the Sacristy (room behind the altar) on most Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm (following Divine Mercy chaplet at 6:00pm). Dates and topics for November are: Nov. 22nd (Early Church people and ideas); 29th (Popes—how it began). Topics for December are: 6th (Popes in history: Good and Bad); 13th (Jesus: Divine and HUMAN!).

If interested, contact Ray Ogden at 410-551-8364.



ST. LAWRENCE ORNAMENTS

If you haven’t picked up your pre-ordered St. Lawrence ornaments or if you’d like to purchase one of these beautiful ornaments commemorating our historic church, please see Valerie Magnuson in the Religious Education office this Sunday.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Knights of Columbus will sponsor Breakfast with Santa at the Parish Center on Saturday, Dec. 17th, from 9:00am to 11:00am, for our children.

Breakfast will be served at no cost and Santa will be on hand to talk with the children.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The next regular Religious Education class meets on November 20th. If you have any questions, please contact Val Magnuson by emailing val@saintlawrencemartyr.org or calling 410-799-1970, ext. 54.

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.

Three Azerbaijani men arrested last June were reunited with their families on Monday, November 6. The three came as tourists to Iran to attend a friend’s wedding. The wedding party was raided, and ten people were arrested. These three men were kept in solitary confinement then imprisoned without consular assistance or legal counsel.

Kristin Wright, Director of Advocacy at Open Doors USA

LECTORS

The workbooks for the new liturgical year are now available for your convenience in the Sacristy. Please be sure to stop by and pick up your copy.

Thank you to all of our lectors for their hard work in preparation each week to proclaim the Word of God.

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.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH - 6:30PM

St. Lawrence will hold our 6th International Food Festival on Wednesday, December 7th beginning at 6:30pm. We want to feature tables from a variety of cultures. Each table can be decorated with national flags, colors, items, and pictures. We ask that each team donate and cook food from their ethnicity to share.

If you’re interested in representing your culture, please contact Fr. Binoy at (410) 799-1970, ext. 52 or email binoyosst@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office.

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 Parish Office at 410-799-1970, in order to have their names included on the ballot.

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week’s answer: Saint Rita prayed for the deaths of her sons before they could commit murder to avenge the death of their father. One year later, her prayers were answered when both of her sons fell prey to dysentery and died.

This week’s question: What saint is credited with teaching the Rosary?



This Week In Youth Ministry: There will be no Life Night this week as many of us will be at the Baltimore Catholic Youth Conference in Ocean City. Please keep us in your prayers!

Also, in terms of prayers, we ask that you pray for Topher as he moves on to other exciting opportunities. His last Life Night as Youth Minister will be December 4th (more info to come).

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 4th: Topher’s Last Life Night
Dec. 18th: White Elephant Gift Exchange

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.

Be sure to follow us on Twitter and Instagram! @SLMLifeTeen

Secular Quote of the Week: "Either you decide to stay in the shallow end of the pool or you go out in the ocean." - Christopher Reeve