

Gospel Reflection
The Epiphany of the Lord

Jan 7-8, 2017
Matthew 2:1-12



Three kings arrive. They visit not a palace but a cattle stall. They find a child and mother in rudest shelter, barely shielded from the world. His cradle is poverty.

They, the so-called "kings", strip off their silken fineries to replace

the burlap that bundled the child. They offered gold. What use was their money and wealth now that they had come to the God-treasure enfleshed? They removed their glittering crowns and jeweled turbans. Their nobility was but empty pride before the threesome, Jesus, Joseph and Mary in the crude nursery of Bethlehem.

In contrast to the humility of these kings, Herod remains proud and frightened. He was a different king than these three kings. He would never bow before God and certainly not before man, babe or otherwise.

The three from the East had a wisdom that Herod would never possess; they understood! They sheared the gold from around their necks and let their crowns fall into the dust. They were wise enough to learn the secret that, only as men stripped of glory, power, and conceit, could they know the naked love of God for man.

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

SHRIMP & CRABCAKE DINNER CANCELLED

The Shrimp & Crabcake Dinner is cancelled. Our next 150th Anniversary event will be a Friendship Surf & Turf Dinner on February 18, 2017 from 6pm – 10pm.

Mark your calendar now. Tickets will be available soon.

BIMONTHLY EMHC TRAINING

St. Lawrence Martyr is pleased to announce the upcoming Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) training on January 28th at 10am. You must attend this training session if you are a current EMHC. RSVP to Lola Rivera at lolarivera@gmail.com. Please arrive 15 minutes early to sign in and enjoy some coffee and donuts!

As we are preparing for our new worship space, we will need more EMHCs. **This is a good opportunity to serve the Lord and serve St. Lawrence Martyr Parish. Anyone who is interested in becoming an EMHC is welcome to attend the training to learn more.**

If you aren't able to make this meeting, there will be another opportunity on Wednesday, March 29th at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

JOIN US AT THE CHILI COOK-OFF – JANUARY 15TH!

Join us for some tasty chili on Sunday, January 15th from 2-4pm and support our Life Teen program.



For those tasting, the entry fee is \$4.00 and you'll be able to place two votes: one for your top chili choices for mild and one for spicy.

If you'd like to participate for the chance to win cash prizes, there's still time. Fill out an entry form (which can be found at the back of the church), and drop the entry in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office. You can also email the Parish Office at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org with your information.

The entry fee is \$10 and if you win, you collect all the entry fees for your category (mild or spicy)!

Additional food items will be available for purchase. And since chili and football go together, we'll televise the NFL Playoff games that are on at the time.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Attention Young Adults! Young Adult Social Ministry will be on the second and fourth Fridays of the month. Join us in the Parish Center starting at 7:00pm (late arrivals welcome).

Jan. 13th will be a **Board Game Night** and Jan. 27th will be a **Wine Tasting...with a Biblical slant!**

We have also started a **Bible Study for Young Adults** which meets the first, third, and fifth Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the Sacristy (area behind the altar). The next session will be January 19th.

For more information on Bible Study or our social activities, please email youngadult@saintlawrencemartyr.org

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR DONUTS & COFFEE

Join fellow parishioners for donuts and coffee after all morning Masses this Sunday.

Please also join the Prayer Shawl ministry from 10am -12pm in the Parish Center.

You can get your blood pressure screened by Parish Nurse Christine Magnuson, R.N., B.S.N.

MARCH FOR LIFE - FRIDAY, JANUARY 27TH

Please join fellow parishioners and the Knights of Columbus on Friday, January 27th at the March for Life in Washington D.C. Please call Tom Lauth at 410-551-8166 for details.

NEEDED: SOCKS

The Trinitarian Third Order is looking for new white tube socks to give to the homeless in the Baltimore and Glen Burnie areas.

We will be collecting the socks through March. The donations can be placed in the container in the Parish Center.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Jan. 7th: The Epiphany of the Lord
5:00pm + **Michael Stramella** req by his family
6:30pm **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Sunday, Jan. 8th: The Epiphany of the Lord
8:30am + **Barbara Murphy** req by Christine Magnuson
10:00am + **Tom Clark** req by the Clark family
11:30am **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary
5:30pm **Mass for the People**

Monday, Jan. 9th:
9:00am* **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Tuesday, Jan. 10th:
9:00am** **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Wednesday, Jan. 11th:
9:00am*** **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Thursday, Jan. 12th:
9:00am* **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Friday, Jan. 13th:
9:00am* **Patrick Kerrigan** req by his mom, Mary

Saturday, Jan. 14th: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm + **Louis Davenport** req by Mary & Michael Januk
6:30pm **Mass for the People**

Sunday, Jan. 15th: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30am + **Joseph McDonald** req by the Henry family
10:00am **Debbie Krajick** req by the Clark family & Margie Verkamp
11:30am + **Diane Campbell** req by Joe & Cathy Stegmaier
5:30pm

*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. You can even choose to do a Novena (nine Masses in a row).

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.

Jan. 14th - 15th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Daniel P	Rick B	Jeff F	Jeff F Steve S	Help Needed
Saturday 6:30pm	Katie B Timmy B	Maggie P	Bill R	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Amanda S	Mary J	Rocco D	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Hannah L Cassie B	Carla D	Maureen M	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Angela G Rhea G	Elnora G	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Micayla N	Lola R	Steve F Drew F	Help Needed

CHURCH SUPPORT- DECEMBER 31- JAN 1, 2017

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$2,840.00	\$3,339.50
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,331.00	1,340.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	3,734.50	3,165.00
Solemnity of Mary:	981.00	1,281.00
Poor Box:	165.00	546.00
TOTAL	\$9,051.50	\$9,671.50

SPECIAL CARE FOR ARCHDIOCESAN PRIESTS

Next week, the second collection is for the Special Care for Archdiocesan Priests. The total proceeds from this collection will be used for the sole purpose of supporting those Archdiocesan priests in need of special medical attention, including those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, as well as those in convalescent or rehabilitation centers.

ONLINE GIVING

Saint Lawrence Martyr provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy. Visit our website at <http://www.saintlawrencemartyr.org> and click the Online Giving link. If you still want to place something in the offertory basket, pick up one of our "I gave On-Line" cards on your way into church and use that at offertory time.



- Jan. 7th:** 2nd Collection: Catholic Schools
- Jan. 8th:** 2nd Collection: Catholic Schools
Donut Social after all Morning Masses
10:00am Prayer Shawl (until noon)
3:30pm Confirmation Class (Parish Ctr)
6:30pm Life Night (Parish Ctr)
- Jan. 9th:** 7:00pm RCIA (Sacristy)
- Jan. 10th:** 10:30am TLC – Reflections (Parish Ctr)
6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Sacristy)
7:30pm 4th Degree K of C (Parish Ctr)
- Jan. 13th:** 7:00pm Young Adult Board Game Night
- Jan. 14th:** 2nd Collection: Diocesan Priests
7:30am Beans and Bread (Parish Ctr)
9:00am 3rd Order Mtg (Parish Ctr)
1:00pm Lectors' Mtg (Parish Ctr)
- Jan. 15th:** 2nd Collection: Diocesan Priests
9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK - 3rd (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th - 8th (Parish Ctr)
2:00pm Chili Cook-Off (Parish Ctr) (until 4pm)
6:30pm Life Teen (Parish Ctr)



SIT REFLECTION

We at SIT wanted to thank those who were able to attend our early December Prayer Vigil for Persecuted Christians. It was a moving evening where we reflected on Jesus coming into our world in exile and how His life is the example that all persecuted Christians follow in dedicating themselves to Him, no matter the cost. We also were privileged to learn about the people of South Sudan from Ms. Faith McDonnell, whose talk showed all of us that Christianity is alive and well in so many different parts of the world, even in the face of government neglect and attempted genocide. We will continue to follow the plight of the South Sudanese over the coming months.

We also thank those who were unable to attend our Vigil but were with us in prayer. There is no greater weapon against persecution than prayer, and indeed it is prayer for those living with so little because of their faith that connects us with our brothers and sisters in a galvanized way.

As this new year is upon us, SIT is looking to connect with other groups outside the Assyrian Iraqi community so we can truly be universal in our action focus. One can be utterly flabbergasted when reflecting upon all the different groups of people facing threats as a consequence of their love of Jesus, and the SIT group is investigating options we can consider so we can make even more difference to those hearts that are hurting.

Won't you consider joining us? If not in terms of attending our monthly meetings (the first Thursday of every month from 6-7pm in the church), then please feel free to offer suggestions of non-profit groups we should look into as viable options for donations, or feel free to pass along stories we should remain in tune with. We will continue to provide bulletin updates on persecution issues across the globe, and our Facebook page will remain up to date as well (*SIT St. Lawrence*).

The tears of those who face loneliness and desolation will not go unnoticed. If you have a family member who is hurting, you do what you can to help. Similarly, our Lord calls us to serve the persecuted who, by incorporation in the body and blood of Christ, are members of the universal family of God. As St. Paul tells us: *"There should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it."* (1 Corinthians 12: 25)

May God bless our humble group in our continued mission, and may He bless all of you this New Year.

~Matt Behum, SIT Director (mbehum@gmail.com)

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.

LECTORS' MEETING – JANUARY 14TH

Our next Lectors' Meeting will be Saturday, January 14th from 1-2:00pm at the Parish Center. We will be practicing and learning how to improve our proclaiming the Word.

MINISTRY FOR SEPARATED/DIVORCED

It takes a long time and a lot of work to heal the pain that comes with the breakup of a relationship. Now there is a safe place where you can be around people who truly understand how you are feeling. **REBUILDING** is a Christian-based support group for separated and divorced people sponsored by St. Bernadette Parish. Our completed five sessions have been a resounding success and participant reviews have been very positive.

Our current session is on-going running **every Wednesday from 7-9:00 pm** in the St. Bernadette's Conference Room at 801 Stevenson Rd, Severn, MD 21144. If you or someone you know is dealing with the pain of separation or divorce join us to experience how the Holy Spirit uses this group to lift you up and equip you to move into a new beginning. **REBUILDING** is a 13-week program and participants can join at any time since each session is standalone. There is a one-time fee of \$15 for materials. For additional information call Andrea Montrose at 410-969-2782 or email us at rebuildingsevern@gmail.com.

JOIN FLOCKNOTES!

As bad weather is just around the corner, we encourage everyone to join Flocknotes so they can be instantly alerted on any cancellations. You can either go online to:

www.flocknote.com/saintlawrencemartyr
or text SLM to the number 84576

from your phone to subscribe to updates. Regular texting rates apply.

Once you sign up, please follow the steps to complete the sign-up process. You can also sign up for various ministries in which you are interested or active.

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.

Please contact Diane Baldwin at 443-679-6241 or dnboct4@hotmail.com for more information.

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.

If needed, elections will occur this month.

DEDICATION DATE & DONOR OPPORTUNITIES

Our new Worship Space is quickly taking shape! We should be moving into the new location at 7850 Parkside Blvd. with a **Dedication Ceremony on 5:00pm on June 3, 2017.**

We couldn't have gotten this far without the generosity of our parishioners to the Capital Campaign. However, we still need to furnish our worship space. Again, thanks to the kindness of our parishioners, many of the liturgical furnishings have already been donated.

But there are still some opportunities for you to make a specific gift In Honor or In Memory of a loved one. We hope that you will consider offering a gift to help us make the new building as beautiful as possible.

If you are able to sponsor one of these items completely on your own, we would be deeply grateful. However, we also have opportunities for parishioners to join together to purchase our items. The total cost of an item is shared by individuals or families.

- **Ambo** (pulpit) - \$3,000
- **Crucifix** – \$3,000 (\$2,000 remaining)
- **Prie Dieu** (standalone kneeler) - \$900 each (2)
- **Tabernacle Stand** - \$3,500
- **Chairs** - \$200 each (See flyer in back of church)

Your intentions will be memorialized in a special bronze plaque/book that we will display prominently in our Gathering Area. If you are interested in making a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one, please visit <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/donor> or you can contact Cathy Stegmaier at cstegmaier@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call (410) 799-1970, ext. 50.

OUR CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

Thanks to all who contributed to our Christmas Giving Tree. Our parishioners took ALL the snowflakes from the tree and returned them as gifts to be given to families in need in our parish and in our surrounding area. Those receiving your gifts were deeply thankful for the generosity of our parish.

Some parishioners brought in extra gifts in addition to the snowflake requests. These extras allowed us to help a family who lost their home to a fire just days before Christmas. They send their love to St. Lawrence. In the spirit of St. Teresa of Kolkata you gave *"small things with great love."*

ADDITIONAL FLOWER DONATIONS

An additional flower donation came in after last week's flyer:

In Memory of Mary Meile, by Gil Meile

RETIRED FLAG COLLECTION

The 4th Degree Assembly #3245 is collecting retired US flags for proper disposal. If you have flags that you need to retire, please drop them in the box in the Parish Foyer.

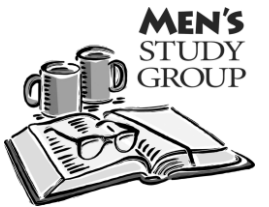
At the end of January, all that have been collected will be disposed of properly.

HELP US FEED THE POOR /BEANS & BREAD

Come to our Parish Center next Saturday, Jan. 14th at 7:30am to help the Trinitarian 3rd Order make 510 lunches for distribution to the poor at Beans & Bread and the Franciscan Center in Baltimore and Arundel House of Hope in Glen Burnie. This is a good opportunity to earn service hours.

CATHOLIC MEN'S STUDY GROUP (JANUARY 2017)

The purpose of this group is to better understand the biblical and historical basis for Catholic doctrines. The group meets in the Sacristy (room behind the altar) on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm (*following the Divine Mercy chaplet*).



January topics are: 10th: "Priests - more Types"; 24th "Mass - origin"; and 31st "Eucharist - Real Presence".

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This month, Religious Education classes will be on January 15th and 29th. First Eucharist classes begin with an Inscription Mass on January 22nd at 8:30am, followed by a parent/child class.

If you have any questions, please contact Val Magnuson: val@saintlawrencemartyr.org or 410-799-1970, ext. 54.

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week's answer: Jesus was eight days old when He was circumcised.

This week's question: A two-parter: The story of the visit of the Wise Men (Magi) appears in which Gospel? And how many Wise Men visited Joseph, Mary, and Jesus?



This Week In Youth Ministry: Welcome back! Tonight we will have a teaching night on The Cross: the Passion, Death & Resurrection of the Lord. We hope to see you all there to dive a little deeper into Scripture.

Also don't forget to sign up for our Chili Cook-Off January 15th! If you have any questions please email AnnaMarie Link: annamarielink@gmail.com

A New Year thought: "Yesterday is gone, Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only Today. Let us begin." ~ St. Mother Teresa

In Him, through her.

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.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram! @SLMLifeTeen