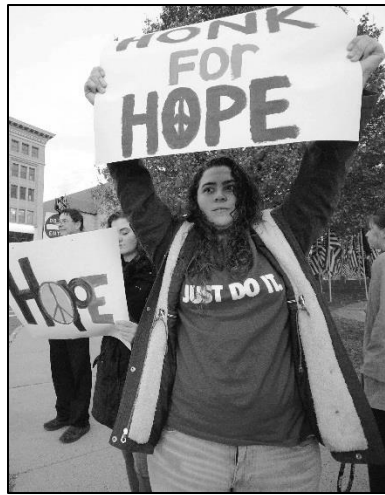


Scriptural Reflection

March 18-19, 2017

3rd Sunday of Lent

Romans 5:1-8



As we have recently witnessed in our nation and see in other parts of the world, politics can be powerfully driven by both protest and hope. Protest is a complaint against the status quo of today, while hope is a conviction that things will improve tomorrow.

Our readings this Sunday contrast protest and hope and project the outcome of each.

Saint Paul chooses hope. He says, "Hope will not disappoint..." (Rom 5:5). He is not naïve about present peril. Neither does he complain about it.

Just prior to this he writes, "We boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope" (Rom. 5:3-4).

The Israelites, by contrast, chose to complain and quarrel against God in the desert. Were it not for the mercy of God, they would have ended in despair. They were afraid to honor tomorrow because they chose only to complain about today.

Protest or hope, it's our choice; only one trusts in the steadfast promise of God.

With Saint Paul, I choose to "hope against hope" (Rom. 4:18). The odds clearly favor God.

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

ENCOUNTER OPPORTUNITY - RICE BOWLS

We encounter Fernando in El Salvador where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, youth are pursuing their dreams of building businesses to better the lives of their families. How have you worked to better the lives of others this Lent? Visit crricebowl.org for more.

All Rice Bowls are due by April 23rd.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent (other than Good Friday), join Deacon John Sedlevicius for Stations of the Cross from 7:00-7:30pm.

Take the time to experience Jesus' love in a powerful way.

MUSICIANS NEEDED

Serious musicians needed for our Praise Band for the Sunday 5:30pm Mass. Bassist, guitarist, keyboardist, drummer, and singers, playing Praise and Worship music by artists such as Tomlin, Maher, Blakesley.

The group rehearses Sundays at 4:30pm. Contact Dan Baker at 410-242-5741 or keytardan@aol.com for more info.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Last Wednesday, almost 40 people came in from the cold to listen to Dr. Lauri Przybysz as she discussed *Mending Relationships*. In addition to advising us to see Christ in others, she recommended three books: *Mending Broken Relationships*; *Building Strong Ones* by John & Theresa Boucher, *Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When the Stakes are High* by Kerry Patterson, and Pope Francis' *Joy of the Gospel*.

The final Soup Supper will be next Wednesday, March 22nd, with Fr. Bill Axe, O.S.S.T., discussing *Mending the Universe*. Please note, there will NOT be a Soup Supper on March 29th.

The Parish Center will be open for set up at 6:00pm. If possible, please bring your choice of soup in a crock pot. The Soup Supper begins at 6:30pm and the presentation starts at 7:00pm.

We look forward to having you join us for this time of food, fellowship, and faith.

LENTEN DINNERS

The Fr. Bernard Harding O.S.S.T Knights of Columbus Council #12180 invites you to join them in the Parish Center for Friday Night Lenten Dinners from 6:00-8:00pm.

They will be selling delicious crab cakes, shrimp, pizza, salad, and other items.

SHROUD OF TURIN PRESENTATION

Join us on Wednesday, April 5th, at 7:00pm for an extraordinary presentation on the Shroud of Turin (a length of linen cloth bearing the image of a man, believed by some to be the burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth).

Several of our parishioners have seen this presentation elsewhere and have been talking about it ever since. According to parishioner Jim Leddy, "This is a beautiful opportunity to relive the Passion of Jesus, historically and spiritually."

Join us on Wednesday, April 5th and bring a friend or two.

THIRD ORDER YARD SALE

As you do your spring cleaning, please save your excess "treasures" for the Yard Sale on Saturday, May 20th.

The proceeds benefit our sister parish Holy Trinity in Sucre, Bolivia. We support tutoring for children unable to attend school regularly.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Mar. 18th: 3rd Sunday of Lent

5:00pm + Josefina Callo req by Kevin & Imelda Gabel
6:30pm Mass for the People

Sunday, Mar. 19th: 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:30am Anthony-Mary Edet, thanking God for his birth and growth
10:00am + Josefina Pérez req by Mr. & Mrs. Eleida Roman
11:30am Angela Guzman, for her 16th Birthday, req by the Guzman family
5:30pm + Jose Martinez Teba req by Rivera family

Monday, Mar. 20th:

9:00am* St. Joseph req by Susan Wolf

Tuesday, Mar. 21st:

9:00am** St. Joseph req by Susan Wolf

Wednesday, Mar. 22nd:

9:00am*** + Joseph Malinowski req by Richard Lambaisi Jr.

Thursday, Mar. 23rd:

9:00am* + Jose Dapena, Carmen Marquez, and Miguel Luaces req by Marie DeFreije

Friday, Mar. 24th:

9:00am* St. Joseph req by Susan Wolf

Saturday, Mar. 25th: 4th Sunday of Lent

5:00pm +Barbara Dorsey Prisco req by Jim Prisco Jr.
6:30pm +Stephen Kasnic & the Kasnic family req by Tim & Margaret Brennan

Sunday, Mar. 26th: 4th Sunday of Lent

8:30am + Anna Daly req by Jo Eggerl
10:00am Juscilla Joseph, in honor of her birthday
11:30am Mass for the People
5:30pm Mass for the Unborn req by K of C Council #12180

*Rosary following Mass

** Rosary and Novena to St. Agatha

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

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Offering Mass for a Special Intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for someone, please contact the Parish Office via email at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call 410-799-1970.

Mar. 25 th – 26 th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Matthew C	Rick B	Elizabeth V	Jeff F Steve S	John S
Saturday 6:30pm	Catie W	Joan M	Bill R	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Christian C Amanda S	Ken W	Rocco D	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Cassie B Jason S	Alan A	Donna F	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Michael K	Bob S	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Mike R	Lola R	Steve F Drew F	Help Needed

CHURCH SUPPORT- MAR. 11-12, 2017

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$3,609.50	\$3,208.00
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,427.00	2,162.16
E-giving: Regular Weekly	1,325.50	1,320.00
Restoration & Maintenance	1,254.00	1,265.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$7,616.00	\$7,955.16
Poor Box:	\$323.50	\$279.00

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES - NEXT WEEK

Next week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC). Funds from this collection help provide food to the hungry, support to displaced refugees, and Christ's love and respect to all people here at home and abroad.

Next week, please give generously to the CRSC and **help Jesus in disguise**. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.



Mar. 18th: 2nd Collection: Capital Campaign

Mar. 19th: 2nd Collection: Capital Campaign

9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK-3rd (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th – 8th (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Prayer Ministry
1:00pm Baptism
6:30pm Life Night

Mar. 20th: 7:00pm RCIA

Mar. 21st: 10:30am TLC Lunch & Bingo (Parish Ctr)
6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Parish Ctr)
7:00pm Parish Pastoral Mtg

Mar. 22nd: 6:30pm Lenten Soup Supper (Parish Ctr)
7:00pm **Mending the Universe**
Fr. Bill Axe, O.S.S.T.

Mar. 23rd: 7:00pm Evangelization Mtg (Parish Ctr)

Mar. 24th: 6:00pm Lenten Dinner (until 8pm)
7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

Mar. 25th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services
1:00pm Altar Server Mtg (Parish Ctr)

Mar. 26th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services
9:30am 1st Eucharist Class (Parish Ctr)
10:15am 1st Eucharist Parent/Child Project
3:30pm Confirmation Class
6:30pm Life Night

ALTAR SERVER MEETING – MARCH 25TH

There will be a mandatory meeting of all altar servers and their parent(s) on Saturday, March 25th at 1:00pm in the Parish Center. A lunch of pizza and chicken wings will be provided. Any questions, please contact Diane Baldwin at 443-679-6241 or altarservers@saintlawrencemartyr.org.



BOY SCOUTS MULCH FUNDRAISER

Boy Scout Troop 62 is holding a hardwood bark mulch fundraiser and they need your support. They will be selling mulch outside the church after this Sunday's, March 19th 8:30am, 10:00am, and 11:30am Masses and after next Saturday's, March 25th 5:00pm and 6:30pm Masses. The mulch will be delivered on April 1st. A 2.0 cubic foot bag is \$4 each, or 3 bags are \$11. Call 301-490-2030 or 240-568-9119 for more info.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all who participated in St. Lawrence's 2017 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Through the generosity of Catholics like you, the Archbishop's Annual Appeal strengthens ministries that serve our Archdiocese. Please take a moment to reflect how the Lord is calling you to support the mission and ministries of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. To make a pledge to our parish's Archbishop's Annual Appeal, please visit www.archbalt.org/appeal or complete a pledge form available in the back of the church. Thank you for your prayers and support.

SIT COMMUNITY NEED

Our SIT group is trying to help a victim of persecution who is looking for local area rental housing for her family. Parish friend, Faith McDonnell of the Institute on Religion and Democracy, and speaker at our most recent SIT vigil, informed us that Jehan Deng, a government minister from South Sudan, is here with her five children because of medical leave and due to the situation in South Sudan, she wishes to stay local for the time being and possibly continue her leave from government service or find an option to continue serving her government from the US. Her husband removed her children from school in Africa and sent them all here to her.

Now she is looking for a place. Ms. Deng thinks she can afford about \$1800/month. The family could most likely use furnishings for the residence as well if not already furnished. If you know of a property that is available for rent, and/or have items you are interested in donating to assist this family, please contact Matt Behum at mbehum@gmail.com, or call the rectory. Thank you for your assistance.

~ Matt Behum (SIT Leader)

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Attention Young Adults! Young Adult Social Ministry is on the second and fourth Fridays or Saturdays of the month.

Our next meeting will be: Saturday, March 25th at 11:00am - **Brunch and Hiking** – bring your favorite dish to the Parish Center, then hiking at Patapso State Park. **Children welcome!**

Please join our **Bible Study for Young Adults** which meets the first, third, and fifth Thursday of the month at 7:00pm in the Sacristy. The next session will be Mar. 30th.

For more info on Bible Study or our social activities, please email youngadult@saintlawrencemartyr.org or go to:

www.saintlawrencemartyr.org/youngadult

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OF MARYLAND

The Mission of the Catholic Men's Fellowship of Maryland is to strengthen men's spirituality in the Archdiocese of Baltimore through evangelization and discipleship. One of the ways they do this is through their annual conference.

The theme of this year's conference, taking place on Saturday, March 25th, is: **"Rise Up, O Men of God": Mobilizing for the New Evangelization.** The conference will take place at Morgan State University.

They are hosting these amazing guest speakers: Scott Hahn (author of the book that was handed out at Christmas), Deacon Paul Shelton, and Alex Zunca.

To find out more information and to register, go to:

www.catholicmensfellowship.com/ If anyone would like to carpool, please call the Parish Office.

CONFERENCE FOR SEPARATED, DIVORCED, WIDOWED AND REMARRIED

The annual conference for separated, divorced, widowed, and remarried will be held on Saturday, **April 29th** at Our Lady of the Fields Church, 1070 S. Cecil Ave. in Millersville.

The conference is a vital outreach to those who are single again, as well as a valuable resource to Archdiocesan ministry, counselors and others interested in the needs of the single again community. For more information, contact ministry4singleagain@gmail.com or send an email to gcuevas@olffparish.com.

RADIO MASS & TELEVISION MASS

Listen to the Radio Mass of Baltimore on its new stations and times: Sundays at 9am on Q1370 AM and WCBM 680 AM and WCBM 690 AM, and 6pm on WCBM 680 AM.

The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), which offers Catholic-themed programming and is available on Verizon, DirecTV, and other television service providers, also broadcasts the Mass at various times each day.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE IN MINISTRY?

Proclaiming Christ's Good News through Welcome, Worship, and Service... this is the Mission Statement for St. Lawrence Martyr Parish, and how we try to live. For our Service component, we encourage all of our parishioners to volunteer for a ministry... or two.



There are many opportunities for Service at St. Lawrence: from working with the elderly, to helping protect the unborn, assisting the poor, and many others. And there are opportunities for all of us, young and old!

To learn more about the ministries, go the St. Lawrence website: <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/service>

Since we are committed to protecting the safety of our children and our volunteers, and in compliance with the Archdiocese of Baltimore, St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church requires ALL who volunteer at St. Lawrence to complete Shield the Vulnerable (STAND) training.

For more information, call Valerie Magnuson, our screening coordinator, at 410-799-1970, ext. 54.

DONATIONS

We are at 75% of the chairs donated. **There is still time if you'd like to donate these items in memory or in honor of loved ones.**

- **Chairs** - \$200 each or \$375 for two (See envelope in back of church)
- **Prie Dieu** (standalone kneeler) – One left - \$900

If you are interested in making a donation, please email to office@saintlawrencemartyr.org, visit our website at <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/donor>, or call 410-799-1970.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The remaining classes for Religious Education are on March 19th and April 2nd. For 1st Eucharist class, we will meet on March 26th at 9:30am for a Child Class followed by a Parent/Child Project at 10:15am.

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

CAMP VERITAS 2017

Camp Veritas is a one-week play-and-pray sleep away summer camp for teens going into 7th – 12th grades. It will take place at three USA locations: July 16-22 at Mt. Saint Mary's College in Newburgh, NY, July 23-29 at Summit Lake Camp in Emmitsburg, MD, and August 13-19 at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. Enrollment is open and the enrollment price for each week is \$450 per camper. Early bird rates (if paid in full by 4/1/17) are \$400 for all sites. There is no additional charge for the dance and basketball programs options (at Mount Saint Mary College only). Volunteers (must be over 18 years old) are needed and free!

More details can be found at www.campveritas.com

NEEDED – EMHC

As we prepare the move to the new Church building, several Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be needed for all Masses. We ask you to prayerfully consider if God might be calling you to assist the parish through this ministry.

For more information and to sign up for our next training session, you can contact Lola Rivera at or Maureen McCart at emhc@saintlawrencemartyr.org

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week's answer: The objective of Lenten fasting is not only to discipline oneself. In ancient times, and in modern times, the church asks that people take the money you would have spent on extra food, and give it to the poor.

The CRS Rice Bowls are one excellent way to participate in this long tradition. If you haven't yet, pick one up in the back of the church.



This week's question: By the end of the fourth century, it was well established in the Church that Lent's duration was 40 days, representing the 40 days that Jesus spent fasting in the desert.

Forty days also figure prominently in the lives of several significant Old Testament prophets. Who were they?



This Week In Youth Ministry: This week at Life Teen, we will be wrapping up our series on the Marks of the Faith. Please plan on joining us for this teaching night.

Next week, we will have our monthly social. Come celebrate the March birthdays with a night of games and cake!

If you are interested in going to the Steubenville NYC conference this summer (July 21-23) please let AnnaMarie know so we can get our numbers in.

If you have any questions, please email AnnaMarie Link: annamarielink@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

- **Service Hours available- Fridays during Lent at the Lenten Dinner (6-7pm)**
- **Steubenville NYC: July 21-23, 2017**

We are always looking for adult volunteers to help with Life Teen. Please feel free to email or call me at 410-799-1970, ex 55 if you're interested in helping.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram! @SLMLifeTeen