



## Gospel Reflection

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 10-11, 2016  
Luke 15:1-32

Today we mark the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 in our nation. The violence of that day cruelly took almost 3,000 lives. For some of us, like me, we lost personal friends who perished that day.

I remember that day well. One thing which I recall was having to preach to a packed church that evening. It was probably the hardest sermon I've ever had to preach. At least a dozen times before that I was called upon to give a homily at various funerals of murder victims, the majority of them killed during turf battles between gangs or by order of the bosses in drug cartels. At those funerals, I always urged non-retaliation and preached a gospel of forgiveness. I tried to do the same on the evening of 9/11 but my words seemed to lose strength because the anger and rage most of us felt was even stronger than the impulse to forgive. The wounds were still fresh and bleeding, as they literally were for the some of the surviving victims.

In today's first and second readings there is a thread pulled taut between wrath or outrage and mercy or forgiveness. In Exodus, it is God who is angry with the Israelites, and Moses who intercedes in favor of mercy and forgiveness. In Paul's letter to Timothy, Paul, who once breathed murderous threats against Christians, now finds himself forgiven and thanks God that he is now able to display all the mercy of Christ and God's patience towards others.

The tension is there in the Gospel too. The father forgives his son, but the elder brother refuses to do so.

Paul testifies that Christ Jesus has made him strong—strong enough to forgive and show mercy.

Now fifteen years out from 9/11, the wounds which gashed our hearts and our nation are still there. I felt them as I watched a PBS special entitled "9/11: Inside the Pentagon" on television this week.

My hope is that Christ has and will strengthen us enough to not be prisoners of hate and anger as the elder son in the parable was. How strong need we be to not be consumed by wrath and rather display mercy? Only God knows and only He can be the source of that strength.

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

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STARTS SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>

Regular Religious Education classes begin next Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>. Pre-K through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is from 9:30am – 11:00am; 4<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade is from 11:15am – 12:45pm.

You can still register the day of the classes or at the Donut Social today.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 410-799-1970 or email office@saintlawrencemartyr.org

### 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MASS – NEXT SATURDAY!

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass will be here at St. Lawrence at 5:00pm on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Archbishop Lori will be the celebrant for the Mass. In addition, Fr. Victor, Fr. Binoy, Fr. Bill Axe, Fr. Ed Owens, Fr. Stan DeBoe, and Fr. Juan Jose Molina will be concelebrating.

Mass will be followed by a light reception at the Parish Center. Please note that the 6:30pm Mass will be cancelled on that day.

Seating in the church will be first-come, first-seated. There will be plenty of seating in the Parish Center, where we will livestream the Mass. Communion will be available in the Parish Center as well.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### NEW CATHOLIC MEN'S STUDY GROUP

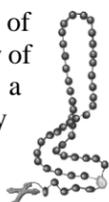
Have you ever been asked about Catholic beliefs concerning Mary, the Pope, saints, Eucharist, confession, marriage, etc.? We would like to form a Men's group for study of the Bible, Catholic Catechism, and other sources so we can better understand, not just the doctrines themselves, but the Biblical and historical reasons for these beliefs.

Our first meeting will be this Tuesday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> in the Sacristy at 6:30pm, after the Divine Mercy Chaplet prayer.

If interested, contact Ray Ogden after the Divine Mercy Chaplet at the church or (almost) anytime at home at 410-551-8364.

### LIVING ROSARY – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

Father Harding Council #12180 Knights of Columbus will commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "9/11" with the youth from Life Teen by hosting a recitation of the "Living Rosary" immediately following the 5:30pm Mass on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, in the Parish Center.



Local law enforcement, fire, and emergency personnel will also be honored as the "Unsung Heroes in Our Midst". All parishioners are welcome to participate in the Living Rosary, which can be a moving event. Refreshments will be served.

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you an adult who has never received First Communion or Confirmation? Consider the RCIA, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

The RCIA program consists of a series of sessions; a spiritual journey for those wishing to join our faith community. We typically meet on Mondays at 7:00pm. **Our next meeting is this Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.**

To find out more information, you can contact Jim Leddy at adultfaithslm@gmail.com or call 410-799-5907.

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>:** 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
5:00pm + Barbara Dorsey Prisco req by Jim Prisco Jr.  
6:30pm

**Sunday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>:** 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30am + Barb DeFronzo req by her husband  
10:00am Mass for the People  
11:30am Jessica Baustian req by Joe & Cathy Stegmaier  
5:30pm Emergency Responders req by the parish

**Monday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>:**  
9:00am\* Paul Nouvet req by his family

**Tuesday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:**  
9:00am\* + Stella Kasnic req by Tim & Margaret Brennan

**Wednesday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>:**  
9:00am\* + Maria Lanh Trinh req by her niece

**Thursday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>:**  
9:00am\*

**Friday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>:**  
9:00am\* + Alvin Wirtzfield req by the Ruiz family

**Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>:** 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
5:00pm + William Durr req by Ed & Mary Allen

**Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>:** 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:30am + Michele Mihok req by her father, Tom Chorba  
10:00am Steven & Jessica Mangubat req by Leigh and Kathy Mangubat

11:30am Mass for the People  
5:30pm + Jessica Watsula req by Jon & Valerie Magnuson  
\* Rosary following Mass

### 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.

Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup> Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Cassie B Timmy B Katie B Matthew C Michael K Daniel P Emily R	Mike J Maggie P	N/A	Jeff F Steve F Michael L John M Steve S	Angie N Help Needed
Sunday 8:30am	Amanda S	Mike A	Ed A	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Hannah L	Carla D	Tom L	Darryl B Help Needed	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Michael K	Holly W	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Help Needed	Kathy F	Steve F	Help Needed

### CHURCH SUPPORT- SEPTEMBER 3-4, 2016

Category	This year	Last year
<b>Envelopes:</b> Regular Weekly	3,095.00	\$3,182.00
<b>Loose:</b> Regular Weekly	1,336.00	1,109.00
<b>E-giving:</b> Regular Weekly	2,130.00	2,843.00
<b>Poor Box:</b>	264.00	222.00
<b>Catholic Schools:</b>	766.00	1,105.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,591.00</b>	<b>\$8,461.00</b>

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION FOR LOUISIANA FLOOD VICTIMS**  
Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, the President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, called for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection to aid those in Louisiana who are devastated by the recent floods.

"The recent storms in Louisiana may not have a name, but the names of those suffering in the wake of the worst flooding since Hurricane Katrina are our sisters and brothers. As a people of God, let us come to their aid. I encourage Catholics across the United States to respond generously."

Archbishop Lori invited the Archdiocese of Baltimore churches to participate in the relief effort with a second collection on September 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>.



**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Rest. and Maintenance  
7:30am Beans and Bread  
9:00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Order Meeting  
2:30pm Young Adult – 8-Door Tour  
7:30pm K of C Installation of Officers

**Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Rest. and Maintenance  
Donut Social after all AM Masses  
10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (until noon)  
6:30pm Living Rosary (K of C/Life Teen)

**Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>:** 7:00pm RCIA (Sacristy)  
No SIT St. Lawrence Meeting

**Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:** 6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)  
7:30pm 4<sup>th</sup> Degree K of C (Parish Ctr)

**Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>:** 7:00pm Confirmation Mtg (Parish Ctr)

**Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>:** 7:30pm K of C Social Mtg (Parish Ctr)

**Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Louisiana Flood Aid  
**5:00pm 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass**  
No 6:30pm Mass

**Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Louisiana Flood Aid  
11:15am Prayer Ministry (McKennas)  
6:30pm Life Teen (Parish Ctr)



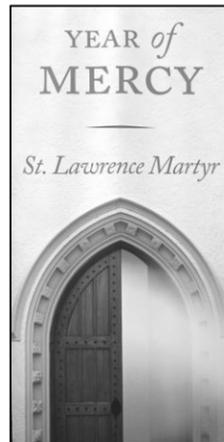
## JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR DONUTS & COFFEE

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

### YEAR OF MERCY MOMENTS OF MERCY – SEPTEMBER



New situations can be intimidating, yet they are also a great opportunity to grow and express yourself. We want to make a good impression on others, whether it is at the beginning of a new school year, a new job, or just meeting someone for the first time. Likewise, when people are first turning to the Christian faith, we want them to have a positive experience of Christianity so that they can come to know the love and mercy of God.

In all of our actions then, we ought to take this into consideration and model our own attitudes and actions after Christ, who is the "face of the Father's mercy" (MV, no. 1). By showing others love, mercy, and compassion, we offer them the opportunity to deepen their relationship with God.

Personal encounters and invitations are a great way to witness God's mercy and compassion to others. This month, try some of these out. Even little actions, like a smile, can make a big difference in the way people see you as living out your faith.

- Eat lunch with someone you don't normally sit with
- Say hello to those you pass on the street, making eye contact and smiling rather than looking down at your feet
- Invite someone to come to church with you or to a parish activity

### 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.

When you participate, your gift will be securely transferred directly into the parish bank account. And you won't have to remember to write a check or stop by the ATM on the weekend! 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.

## THE 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.

"The leader of our SIT group, Matthew Behum, has been asked by DeMatha High School to give a keynote reflection to the student body and staff on the importance of supporting persecuted Christians during the school's annual prayer service for the persecuted on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. **Please keep Matt in your prayers.**"

### 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 wipes and diapers.** Thank you very much!

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

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE IN MINISTRY?

We welcome volunteers, and 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.

In order to do so, please go to [www.shieldthevulnerable.org](http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org) and sign up as a St. Lawrence/Hanover volunteer after selecting *First-Time*, then *Catholic Dioceses*, then *Baltimore Archdiocese*, then select *Confirm*. Please follow the directions afterward.

If you have any questions, go to our website at [www.saintlawrencemartyr.org](http://www.saintlawrencemartyr.org), choose the STAND page under the Service tab, and follow the step-by-step directions. For more information, call Valerie Magnuson, our screening coordinator, at 410-799-1970, ext. 54.

### PLEASE JOIN US...



If you would like to join us for Lauds, our morning prayers, please join us at the church at 8:30 every weekday morning.

## CONFIRMATION INFO SESSION: SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>

If you have a high school teen who is ready to be confirmed and have not come to a previous info session to learn about our Confirmation program, we will be having an info session this Wednesday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

If you have any questions or are unable to make the meeting, feel free to contact Topher Darragh at 443-765-8200.

### ADULT CONFIRMATION

The Department of Evangelization of the Archdiocese of Baltimore and the Basilica of the National Shrine will offer three sessions to assist with the immediate preparation of adults who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This formation series will take place at the Catholic Center on Saturdays, Sep 17<sup>th</sup>, Sep 24<sup>th</sup>, and Oct 1<sup>st</sup> from 3-5:00pm. To register for these sessions or for more information, please call Kathy Wandishin at (410) 727-3565, extension 204, or email [kwandishin@baltimorebasilica.org](mailto:kwandishin@baltimorebasilica.org)

### VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE OF LOURDES—SEPT. 22<sup>ND</sup>

North American Lourdes Volunteers will present a 90-minute Virtual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, at St. Lawrence Martyr Parish on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm. During this guided Lourdes experience, you will immerse yourself in the Gospel Message of Lourdes as given by Our Lady to St. Bernadette.



You will have the opportunity to touch the Grotto Rock and to experience the healing grace of Lourdes Water. As part of this spiritual opportunity to draw nearer to God with Our Lady and St. Bernadette, you will receive a Eucharistic blessing and pray the Rosary.

A Plenary Indulgence is granted to all the faithful, under the usual conditions, who attend a Virtual Pilgrimage with North American Lourdes Volunteers. Come and experience the healing grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ through His Immaculate Mother. Invite your family, children and friends! Our Lady extends her invitation to all!

The next best thing to visiting Lourdes itself is a Pilgrimage journey without the travel!

For more info, call the Parish Office at (410) 799-1970.

### RETREAT FOR SINGLE PARENTS

The Catholic Community of Ascension & St. Augustine Parishes are presenting "Finding Time With Our God", a Single Parent's Retreat on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – noon.

The cost will be \$15 and free child care is available by advance registration. If you'd like more information, contact St. Augustine Church at 410-796-1520 or email [bob@staugustinechurch.org](mailto:bob@staugustinechurch.org).

## DO YOU LIKE TO WORK OUTDOORS?



The **Church Grounds Crew** needs volunteers to help cut grass. There are two crews: Wednesday morning and Wednesday evening.

For further information, please contact Michael Levesque via email [michaelrlevesque@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelrlevesque@yahoo.com) or by calling him at 410-262-6751.

### 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](mailto:flintjan@gmail.com) with any questions.

### ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

**Last week's answer:** *Ecce Thesaurus Ecclesiae* means "Behold, the treasure of the Church". This was what St. Lawrence said when he gathered all the poor and needy and presented them to the prefect of Rome.

**This week's question:** Archbishop Martin John Spalding presided over the dedication of our church in 1866. Archbishop William E. Lori will preside at our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass next Saturday. What else do they have in common? (*Besides the obvious: Archbishop of Baltimore*)

## LIFE TEEN

**This Week In Youth Ministry:** We will be participating in the Living Rosary with the Knights of Columbus to commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of "9/11".

### Upcoming Events:

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>: Living Rosary  
Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Info Session  
Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>: 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass – 5pm  
Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>: Halloween BINGO  
Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>: Baltimore Youth Catholic Conference  
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](mailto:Topher@saintlawrencemartyr.org) or call 443-765-8200.

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

### Secular Quote of the Week:

"Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime."  
~Adlai Stevenson