

Gospel Reflection

Feb. 11-12, 2017

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 5:17-37



Anger, from Pixar's *In and Out*

At a cocktail party where two men were making small talk, one asked the other, "What business are you in?" The other replied, "My business is unfinished business." Seeing the quizzical look which that response prompted, the man went on to say, "I work in the area of anger management."

Anger is almost always an indicator of unfinished business—some injury or hurt that needs healing or a broken relationship which cries out for our attention.

By letting anger be our foe, we can easily become victims, and others, sometimes those nearest to us in our families, will suffer the tragedy as well.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that anger can have a murderous effect on our souls and cause us to wound or slay others. Jesus tells us that one day, sooner or later, we will be answerable to God Himself both for the anger we let simmer within us and for the harsh words and actions it might occasion. "I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment" (Mt. 5:22).

Most all of us have some unfinished business. If I simmer or sulk, the circumstance only gets worse, anger deepens and the rift widens. If, on the other hand, I promptly leave my gift at the altar and attend to the unfinished business of seeking mutual forgiveness, where once enmity kept us apart, communion can again flourish.

Remember, the painful silence of a stalemate can be banished by three simple words: *Please forgive me.*

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

FRIENDSHIP DINNER & DANCE – FEB. 18TH

Join us for our Friendship Dinner & Dance on February 18th from 6-10:00pm in the Parish Center. Enjoy shrimp, beef, sides, and dessert, all for \$20 a person. (Please note, the buffet will close at 7:30pm.)

Plus, there will be a Silent Auction and Door Prizes, a DJ, and a Cash Bar.

Reservation forms can be found in the back of the church. **There will be a limited number of tickets available at the door so please turn in a reservation form by Wednesday, February 15th.**

Any questions, please call Kathy Furth at 443-540-8168.

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.

AND JOIN US THIS WEEKEND FOR DIRECTORIES

The 150th Anniversary Directories are in! For all those who participated in having your family picture included, there is no cost for one copy and you can pick it up after Mass.

If you would like an additional copy of the Directory, or if you didn't have your photo included but would like a copy, the cost is \$5.00 each.

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2016

The statements for 2016 were mailed out on Tuesday. If you need it sooner, or if you have questions, please contact the Parish Office. Call 410-799-1970 or email Office@SaintLawrenceMartyr.org

A SUPER THANK YOU!

First and foremost, thank you to all who pre-ordered or picked up subs in support of the Life Teen Program!

Thank you also to Jimmy Depfer, Madison Donnelly, Theresa Donnelly, Summer Hornick, Jim Leddy, Kelly McConnell (and friends), Annette Nadeau, Micayla Nadeau, Emily Raines, Cathy Stegmaier, Joe Stegmaier, Rosemarie Wiley, and Theresa Winkelmeyer for their hard work preparing and selling the subs.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Attention Young Adults! 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 February 16th.

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

Feb. 24th - **Monster Mini Golf**
March 10th - **Game Night**

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our next Religious Education class will be February 19th. For 1st Eucharist class, we will meet on February 12th and 26th at 9:30am.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, Feb. 11th: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm + **James Prisco III** req by Jim Prisco Jr.
6:30pm

Sunday, Feb. 12th: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30am + **Silvio DiPietro** req by the Samuels family
10:00am **Mass for the People**
11:30am **All those who were married at St. Lawrence**
5:30pm

Monday, Feb. 13th:
9:00am* + **Frank Tobitsch** req by his family

Tuesday, Feb. 14th:
9:00am** **Members of the Trinitarian Community**
req by the Trinitarians

Wednesday, Feb. 15th:
9:00am*** **Dr. Akhil Chhatre** req by Richard Lambiasi, Jr.

Thursday, Feb. 16th:
9:00am* **Tony & Sara Gottile** req by Richard Lambiasi, Jr.

Friday, Feb. 17th:
9:00am* + **Phyllis Smith** req by her family

Saturday, Feb. 18th: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm + **Barbara Dorsey Prisco** req by Jim Prisco Jr.
6:30pm **Mass for the People**

Sunday, Feb. 19th: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30am + **Barb DeFronzo** req by her husband
10:00am + **Bernarda C. Orque** req by Trina Ngayan & family
11:30am + **Valentine Scheurich on his 150th birthday** req by Michael Levesque

*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.

Feb. 18th – 19th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Catie W	Mary J	Larry B	Jeff F Steve S	John S
Saturday 6:30pm	Katie B Timmy B	Joan M	Joan M	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Andrew S	Daniel S	Ed A	Dwayne G <i>Help Needed</i>	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Jason S Jahiem S	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	<i>Help Needed</i>
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Mike R	Kathy F	Steve F Drew F	<i>Help Needed</i>

CHURCH SUPPORT- FEB 4-5, 2017

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$5,173.14	\$4,389.61
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,608.00	1,388.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	2,240.50	2,150.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$9,021.64	\$7,927.61
Poor Box:	502.00	516.50
Catholic Schools:	929.00	N/A

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.



- Feb. 11th:** 7:30am Beans & Bread (Parish Ctr)
9:00am 3rd Order Mtg (Parish Ctr)
- Feb. 12th:** **Donut Social after all AM Masses**
9:30am 1st Eucharist Class (Parish Ctr)
10:00am Prayer Shawl Mtg (until noon)
11:30am Celebration of those married at St. Lawrence Martyr (during Mass)
3:00pm Parent/Confirmandi Mtg (Par Ctr)
3:30pm Confirmation Class (Parish Ctr)
- Feb. 13th:** 7:00pm RCIA (Sacristy)
- Feb. 14th:** 10:30am TLC Lunch (Parish Ctr)
5:00pm Chairs' Mtg (Parish Ctr)
6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Sacristy)
7:30pm 4th Degree K of C (Parish Ctr)
- Feb. 15th:** 7:00pm 150th Anniv Mtg (Parish Ctr)
- Feb. 16th:** 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study (Sacristy)
7:30pm K of C Social Mtg (Parish Ctr)
- Feb. 18th:** **2nd Coll: Restoration & Maintenance**
6:00pm Friendship Dinner/Dance (til 10)
- Feb. 19th:** **2nd Coll: Restoration & Maintenance**
9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK-3rd (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th-8th (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Prayer Ministry (Andrysiaks')
1:00pm Baptism
6:30pm Life Night (Parish Ctr)

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:

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

SHROVE TUESDAY

In many cultures, pancakes are associated with the day preceding Ash Wednesday as a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent.

Join us for a feast of pancakes prepared by Maggie Petza at no cost to you at 6:00pm, February 28th in the Parish Center.

JOIN FLOCKNOTES!

As the winter weather season is still giving us surprises, we encourage everyone to join Flocknotes so they can be alerted to 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.

STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE

“For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.” Let the Holy Spirit scrutinize and strengthen your marriage by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on April 21-23, 2017 or October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

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

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.

DONATIONS

Last week, Fr. Binoy and Fr. Victor spoke about the need for donations for furnishings in the new Worship Space.

Thank you so much for everyone who stepped up and donated. Although we still have a ways to go to purchase all 350 chairs, we are continually amazed at the generosity of St. Lawrence parishioners.

There is still time and still opportunities for donations, which you can do in memory or in honor of loved ones.

- **Prie Dieu** (stand alone kneeler) - \$900 each (2)
- **Chairs** - \$200 each or \$375 for two (See envelope in back of church)

Just to clarify, the price of the chair does include a kneeler and a hymnal rack. We ask for a pledge and deposit by Ash Wednesday, Mar. 1st, and we ask for final payment by May 1st.



Your intentions will be memorialized in a special bronze book to be displayed in our Gathering Area.

If you are interested in making a donation, please contact the Parish Office by calling 410-799-1970, or email

office@saintlawrencemartyr.org, or visit <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/donor> or

MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Seeking a caring, compassionate, creative, Catholic academic environment for your child? Monsignor Slade Catholic School welcomes children in Pre-K2 - 8th grade. Learn more at information nights for prospective families.

Pre-K and Kindergarten Information Night

February 16, 2017, 6:30-7:30pm

Join us to learn more about all that Slade offers for Pre-K and Kindergarten students. Our pre-school and kindergarten teachers implement technology in the classroom every day. Would you like your child to attend school where strong values and self-respect are part of the daily curriculum? We are excited to host you. Experience a day in the life of our students and learn more about the excellent education we offer!

Middle School Information Night

February 23, 2017, 6:30-7:30pm

Seeking a new or different option for your middle school student? Your son or daughter will receive an education driven by strong values and concern for others. At Monsignor Slade, we present a well-rounded curriculum guided by Catholic values while offering individual access to technology for each of our students.

If you would like more information please visit: www.msladeschool.com or call 410-766-7130.

SIT REFLECTION

~ Matt Behum, SIT leader, mbehum@gmail.com

Over the past week or so, my entire family has been plagued by various sicknesses. 'Tis the season, I'm told. What I know is that all I wanted was relief, and I didn't want to be troubled by moderate inconveniences as it was a self-perceived struggle to take care of day-to-day tasks. Let's just say it was hard for me to toughen up.

As I regained clarity, however, and started looking again at world news, it dawned on me that this coming week marks one year since 21 Coptic Christians from Egypt and Eritrea were mercilessly beheaded by ISIS. Guilt immediately enveloped me.

The story of these 21 brave souls is simple—they were en route to a shoreside escape from their homelands where they originally faced incessant persecution against Christianity (with a recent mass bombing in a Coptic church in Egypt, that degree of persecution should not come as a surprise.) But during their travels, ISIS intercepted the entire group (with one of these members just converting to Christianity that week), and as all members refused to turn from Jesus, they were beheaded in a movie-production style format aimed at reaching the entire world. These men are now heroes in their homelands and are embraced by Jesus in paradise.

As I struggled with the illnesses facing my family, when did I call out to Jesus for help—where was my sole reliance on His ability to intervene? It was absent.

I was preoccupied by the inconvenience and I certainly walked a step or two away from faith in Him—that same faith that galvanized a young group of nearly two dozen to unashamedly meet their end because they refused to stray from it.

Let us not forget the universal nature of persecution facing Christians around this world. As a matter of fact, our friends at Iraqi Christian Relief Council recently posted that an estimated one out of twelve Christians worldwide suffer from some form of persecution. We can learn from persecution to become reaffirmed in our identity as followers of Christ, the one who suffered the most for all of us, in hopes that it helps us to always clutch onto faith in His glory, no matter the inconvenience, in everything we say, think, and do.

And if you find yourself wanting to learn more about the persecuted, do not hesitate to see what our SIT group is all about—either call the Parish Office, stop Father Victor or Father Binoy, or e-mail me. God bless you all.

CATHOLIC MEN'S STUDY GROUP

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.

Our next February topic is: February 14th (Confirmation). There are no sessions February 21st or 28th.

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME BREAKFAST

On Sunday, February 26th at 10:00am, we will have a Welcome Breakfast for all new parishioners. If you have not registered, this is the perfect time so you can enjoy a delicious breakfast and get to know parish staff and your fellow new members.

You can pick up a registration form from the rack in the back of the church, ask an usher or greeter, or register online at <http://www.saintlawrencemartyr.org/join-us>

NEW WORSHIP SPACE DEDICATION - JUNE 3RD

Our new Worship Space is quickly taking shape!

We should be moving into the new location at 7850 Parkside Blvd. with a **Dedication Ceremony at 5:00pm on Saturday, June 3, 2017.** Please join us!

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.

They truly appreciate all our support. Thank you very much! We have a need for diapers and toiletries for new babies. If you'd like to help out with the program, please contact Joe Toher by email at joetoher@gmail.com or by calling 443-850-6207.

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week's answer: In 1800, John Carroll ordained Rev. Leonard Neale, who became the first RC Bishop ordained in the US. Bishop Neale then succeeded Archbishop Carroll after Carroll's death in 1815.

This week's question: How long would Archbishop Neale remain the Archbishop of Baltimore?



This Week In Youth Ministry: At Life Night this week, we learn how the Church is both a unified and diversified community. Join us Sunday night from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Parish Center for food, fellowship, and faith-filled fun! In Him through her, AnnaMarie

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

Upcoming Events:

Steubenville NYC: July 21-23, 2017

We are always looking for 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