

Gospel Reflection

Feb. 25-26, 2017

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 6:24-34

Have you ever met a parent who puts themselves in debt to provide some “thing” which is entirely unnecessary for the children? In our day and time, the electronic age, it may be the latest gadget or game. What would you say about a parent who spent so much to buy these kinds of sophisticated toys and then was forced to skip on the month’s groceries? Absurd, isn’t it? But it does happen. Such a parent needs to grow up themselves and reprioritize. Entertainment can certainly keep a child occupied and baby-sat for a while but it doesn’t necessarily nourish or nurture a child.



Our heavenly Father is, as we heard last week, a perfect father, not like the mother who, even for a moment, forgets her child. He provides good things to His children and to those

who seek first His Kingdom.

Those “things” which He provides for us are not games and toys, not material prosperity, but everything that will sustain us in this life and nurture us for life eternal.

The children of good parents usually live relatively carefree lives. They have little to worry about. They live lives of trust that are still open to wonder.

Shouldn’t we—who are truly God’s sons and daughters—be trusting enough, even in adversity, to do the same?

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

ASH WEDNESDAY - LENT BEGINS THIS WED., MAR. 1ST

Ashes will be distributed during the 9:00am, 12:00noon, and 6:30pm Masses this Wednesday, March 1st.

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, this Tuesday, February 28th in the Parish Center.

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.

Adoration follows with Benediction at 8:00pm.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

As we look at our divided country and world, we wanted to address the topic of **Mending: Mending Our World, Mending Society, Mending Relationships.**



Speakers are still being lined up, but please join us on Wednesday, March 8th, March 15th, March 22nd, and March 29th at 6:30pm.

LENTEN DINNERS

The Fr. Bernard Harding O.S.S.T Knights of Columbus Council #12180 invites you to join us for Friday Night Lenten Dinners. This year, we will be selling crab cakes, shrimp, pizza, salad, and other items. See the bulletin insert for more information.

ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL THIS WEEKEND

This week, Catholics across the Archdiocese are being asked to make a commitment to support the 2017 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. Ministries supported by the Appeal have a direct impact on the administration and evangelization efforts at St. Lawrence as well as at the other parishes in our Archdiocese.

Your generous support and participation is critical to the success of the 2017 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal at St. Lawrence and helps move us forward in hope as we seek to better embody the Gospel message in our lives. Please complete a pledge form or pledge online at www.archbalt.org/appeal. Thank you for your prayers and support for a successful Archbishop’s Annual Appeal.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Please stop by the church this Friday, March 3rd, to visit the Blessed Sacrament any time after the 9:00am Mass until 6:30pm. Since Stations of the Cross are at 7pm, there will not be a Rosary.

All scheduled adorers, please remember to be there for your assigned hour. We also welcome anyone to stop by for an unscheduled visit any time during the day.

WELCOME

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcomed Leonora Christina Stratakos, daughter of Christos Stratakos and Angela Bowers Stratakos, baptized on February 19, 2017.

We also welcomed Samuel Loughlin Wade, son of Andrew Wade and Natasha Mary Loughlin Wade.

May they and their families continue to grow in God’s love and grace.

NEW BUILDING SITE

We appreciate your interest in the new building, but for safety and security purposes, we ask that you not enter the building or the property.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, Feb. 25th: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm + Felix Martin Veiga req by Glen Martin
6:30pm

Sunday, Feb. 26th: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am + James Prisco III req by Jim Prisco Jr.
10:00am + Josefina Pérez req by Mr. & Mrs. Eleida Roman
11:30am + Jim Fisher req by his wife and daughter
5:30pm Armando DeDios req by his family

Monday, Feb. 27th:

9:00am* Joann Sottile & Dawn Siegart
req by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Tuesday, Feb. 28th:

9:00am** + Sotero Nieves req by Mr. & Mrs. Armando DeDios

Wednesday, Mar. 1st:

9:00am*** + Alfred Detollenaere req by Dick & Judy Boivin
12:00pm + Fr. Aaron Dowdell O.S.S.T. req by the
Trinitarians

6:30pm

Thursday, Mar. 2nd:

9:00am*

Friday, Mar. 3rd:

9:00am* Anthony-Mary Edet, thanking God for his birth
and growth

Saturday, Mar. 4th: 1st Sunday of Lent

5:00pm + Stephany Mallicotte req by the Harvey family
6:30pm

Sunday, Mar. 5th: 1st Sunday of Lent

8:30am + Anna Daly req by Anna & Jerry Henline
10:00am + Francisco Quintero req by Angela Tovar Quintero
and the Prieto Family
11:30am + Sr. Jeannette Levesque, D.H.S.,
req by Trudy & Joe Levesque

5:30pm

*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. 4th – 5th Ministry Schedule

| Time | Servers | Lector | EM | Ushers | Greeters |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Saturday 5:00pm | Matthew C | Larry B | Rick B | Jeff F Steve S | John S |
| Saturday 6:30pm | Catie W | Debra W | Joan M | John M | Anna B Jeff B |
| Sunday 8:30am | Andrew S | Mike A | Ed A | Dwayne G Help Needed | Helen C |
| Sunday 10:00am | Cassie B Daniel P | Carla D | Maureen M | Darryl B Aida R | Angie N |
| Sunday 11:30am | Michael K | Holly W | Deacon John | Michael L Ray T | Help Needed |
| Sunday 5:30pm | N/A | Allie D | Lola R | Steve F Drew F | Help Needed |

CHURCH SUPPORT- FEB 18-19, 2017

| Category | This year | Last year |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Envelopes: Regular Weekly | \$3,976.00 | \$3,358.00 |
| Loose: Regular Weekly | 1,431.00 | 1,310.00 |
| E-giving: Regular Weekly | 2,410.50 | 2,110.00 |
| TOTAL OFFERTORY | \$7,817.50 | \$6,778.00 |
| Rest. & Maintenance: | 1,111.00 | 1,208.00 |
| Poor Box: | 215.00 | 280.50 |

CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

Next week, on Ash Wednesday, we take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in over 20 countries, many of which are still struggling to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccee

UPCOMING EVENTS



Feb. 25th: 2nd Coll: Capital Campaign

Feb. 26th: 2nd Coll: Capital Campaign

9:30am 1st Eucharist Class (Parish Ctr)
10:00am Welcome Breakfast (Parish Ctr)
3:30pm Confirmation Class (Parish Ctr)

Feb. 27th: 7:00pm RCIA (Sacristy)

Feb. 28th: 11:00am TLC Lunch (Denny’s)
6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
6:00pm Shrove Tue. Pancake Dinner (Ctr)

Mar. 1st: Ash Wednesday: Masses and Distribution of Ashes at 9:00am, noon, and 6:30pm

7:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Sacristy)

Mar. 2nd: 6:00pm SIT St. Lawrence (Church)
7:30pm K of C Business Mtg (Parish Ctr)

Mar. 3rd: 9:30am 1st Friday Eucharistic Adoration
(until 6:30pm)

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

Mar. 4th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Schools
Birthday/Anniversary Blessings

Mar. 5th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Schools
Birthday/Anniversary Blessings
9:30am Rel Ed Classes PreK-3rd (Parish Ctr)
11:15am Rel Ed Classes 4th – 8th (Parish Ctr)
12:30pm Baptism Class (Sacristy)
6:30pm Life Night

SIT COMMUNITY NEED

Our SIT group has a need for a local victim of persecution who is looking for 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.

Our next SIT Meeting will be on March 2nd at 6:00pm.

~ Matt Behum (SIT Leader)

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.

STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE

"Then the eyes of both of them were opened," Let us appreciate the totality of our spouses by taking part 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

PREGNANT, NEED HELP?

Call Gabriel Network at 1-800-ANGEL OK or visit www.gabrielnetwork.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.

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 info, contact ministry4singleagain@gmail.com or gcuevas@olffparish.com

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.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DISPENSATION

With St. Patrick's Day (March 17th) falling on a Friday during Lent this year, Archbishop William E. Lori has granted Catholics in the Archdiocese of Baltimore a dispensation from abstinence from eating meat that day. Catholics practice fasting and abstinence as penitential practices which unite Catholics to the redemptive suffering and death of Jesus.

Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent in remembrance of the day Christ died. In lieu of abstaining from meat on St. Patrick's Day, the Archbishop encourages those members of the faithful of the Archdiocese to engage in some additional act of prayer, service to the poor, or almsgiving.

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.

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 plan now to join us!

DONATIONS

Thank you so much for everyone who stepped up and donated. **We are over halfway there!** There is still time to donate, but the opportunities are going quickly!

Again, you can donate these items 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 Wed, March 1st, and 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 our Office by email at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org, visit our website at <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/donor>, or call 410-799-1970.

DIRECTORIES ARE IN

The 150th Anniversary Directories are in! For all those who participated in having your family picture included, there is no cost for one copy.

To pick up your copy, please either contact the Parish Office, or see Valerie Magnuson in the Religious Education office during classes. 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

March classes for Religious Education are on March 5th and 19th. For 1st Eucharist class, we will meet on March 12th at 9:30am for a Child Class, and 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.

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 March 2nd.

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).

March 10th - **Game Night**

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

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: Cardinal James Gibbon had the longest tenure as Archbishop of Baltimore from 1877 until his death in 1921. This was after he served as Bishop of Richmond, Virginia from 1872 to 1877.

This week's question: The Archdiocese of Baltimore has two cathedrals located in Baltimore: The Cathedral of Mary Our Queen and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We are one of only four United States dioceses that has two churches serving as cathedrals in the same city. Which are the other three?



This Week In Youth Ministry: This week at Life Teen we will be continuing our series of the church being One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic.

We hope to see you at this teaching night for dinner and fellowship with teens from around Anne Arundel County and dive a little deeper into your faith.

Next week: join us for a teaching night.

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:
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