

Gospel Reflection
July 8-9, 2017
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mt. 11:25-30

I am on vacation as I write this reflection. A little "R & R". Don't we all need it now-and-again?

Leisure is a gift we rarely give ourselves, but one which God, who ordained the Sabbath, knows we all need.



The word "vacation" comes from the Latin word *vacare* meaning "to be empty".

What's your idea of the ideal vacation? A beautiful island resort with an abundance of palm trees, sandy beaches, and a turquoise blue sea? No traffic, no noise, no phone, no internet? For some, a divorce from all the electronic world would spell anything but ease. It would make them anything but comfortable. They might feel cut off from the world. For some, that may be a fate worse than death.

The fact is, however, that now more than ever, we need that kind of dying to distractions or the relinquishing of demands, if we are ever to find God.

There's a Latin expression which speaks to this very need: *vacare Deo*. It means to be empty for God or to be at leisure for or available to Him.

Personally, I can think of no better company than His. Yes, I'm willing—more than willing—to empty myself and my calendar to make time for leisure with Him.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt. 11:28).

Do you want a vacation? There's no need to spend thousands to rush off to an exotic isle, as tempting as that may be. The pleasure of His company in Paradise is within you and one small restful step away.

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

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.

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR DONUTS & COFFEE

Join fellow parishioners in the Hall for donuts and coffee after the 8am, 10am, and 12pm Masses this Sunday.



Please also join the Prayer Shawl ministry from 10am-12pm and get your blood pressure screened by Parish Nurse Christine Magnuson, R.N., B.S.N.

SACRISTAN MINISTRY

This Tuesday, July 11th, we will hold a Sacristan Training session at 8:00pm for all current Sacristans and those interested in this critical ministry.

A Sacristan is responsible for Mass set up and clean up, and also acts as the Mass Coordinator.

LECTORS' MEETING – JULY 16TH

A Lectors' meeting is scheduled for next Sunday, July 16th at 1:30pm. We will be discussing some issues and concerns and addressing some questions regarding the new building.

SAVE THE DATES

We will have our annual Parish Grillin' Picnic on Saturday, August 12th from 12-4:30pm, here at our new campus. Fun for all ages. Volunteers are needed to assist in the big event (*especially those with hidden talents...balloon animal making, DJs, musicians, etc.*). If you have a talent you would like to share, please let us know at the Parish Office.

Watch your mail for more information and raffle tickets!

Another date to save is Saturday, September 23rd as we will close our 150th Anniversary celebrations with a Dinner Dance. More details to come.

EXPLORING RELIGIOUS LIFE

SPONSOR: Sisters of Bon Secours

DATES: July 14 – 16, 2017

ARRIVAL: Saturday, 8:00 am (Friday evening arrival can be arranged)

DEPARTURE: Sunday, 1:00 pm (after Sunday Mass and lunch)

DESCRIPTION: For single Catholic women ages 19 – 48 to learn more about and experience life as a sister. Join other women who are exploring religious life as a life option. Enjoy time for input and group discussions, reflection, liturgy, and relaxation.

PLACE: Sisters of Bon Secours Provincial House, 1525 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, Maryland 21104. (Near Baltimore)

CHARGE: NONE

REGISTRATION: Deadline: July 9th

CONTACT: Sr. Pat Dowling, CBS, Vocation Director, 410-442-3171 or email: cbsvocations@bshsi.org, or register online at BonSecoursVocations.org.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 8th: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm + **Mariano, Lillian, & Jose Vazquez** req by Lizette & Elizabeth Vazquez

Sunday, July 9th: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am + **Michael Barnes** req by the Magnuson family
 10:00am + **Josefina Perez** req by Mr. & Mrs. Eleida Roman
 12:00pm + **Ray Tansill** req by Rosemarie Wiley
 5:30pm **Mass for the People**

Monday, July 10th:

9:00am* + **Mary Mudd Nehrling** req by Dr. Glenda Snavely

Tuesday, July 11th:

9:00am** **Jim & Myrtle** req by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Wednesday, July 12th:

9:00am*** **All those who made it possible for me to be an EMHC** by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Thursday, July 13th:

9:00am* **For my household** by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Friday, July 14th:

9:00am* **For a special intention** by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Saturday, July 15th: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm **Mass for the People**

Sunday, July 16th: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am + **Robert Paul Harper**
 req by Lisa Anne Harper Wright
 10:00am + **Frank Fronczek** req by Patrick & Judi McBee
 12:00pm **Mass for the Unborn** req by K of C Council #12180
 5:30pm + **Dawn Bleess** req by Patty Dieterich

*Rosary following Mass **Rosary and Novena to St. Agatha

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

DEVOTIONAL CANDLES

The taller candles on the back row of the new candle stand are available as Memorial Candles. The Memorial Candle remains lit 24 hours a day, every day, for one year and includes a small plaque with the name of your loved one in front of your candle. Plaques will remain on display for a year for an annual fee of \$200.

If you would like to reserve a Memorial Candle, please contact the Parish Office.

July 15 th – 16 th Ministry Schedule					
Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Matthew C Catie W	Mary J	Deacon Dave Elizabeth V Lizette V	Jeff F Steve S	John S
Sunday 8:00am	Amanda S	Judi M	Kathy M Donna S Tony S	Dwayne G <i>Help Needed</i>	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Hannah L	Daniel S	Bev A Maureen M Ed M	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 12:00pm	Angel G Rhea G	Elnora G	Maria D <i>Help Needed</i>	Michael L Jerry S	<i>Help Needed</i>
Sunday 5:30pm	<i>Help Needed</i>	Jim L	Kathy F Kim N Jeffrey W	Steve F Drew F	<i>Help Needed</i>

CHURCH SUPPORT – JULY 1ST – 2ND

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$4,825.50	\$3,077.00
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,919.00	2,455.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	3,195.50	2,655.00
Catholic Schools:	728.00	1,002.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$10,668.00	\$9,189.00
Poor Box:	525.00	501.50

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 button.



- July 8th:** **2nd Collection: Rest. & Maintenance**
 7:30am Beans & Bread
 9:00am Trinitarian 3rd Order Mtg
 11:00am Young Adult Brunch & Canoeing
- July 9th:** **2nd Collection: Rest. & Maintenance**
Donut Social after morning Masses
 10:30am Prayer Shawl (until 12pm)
 6:30pm Life Night Social
- July 10th:** 6:00pm 150th Anniversary Mtg
 6:15pm SIT St. Lawrence Mtg
- July 11th:** 10:30am TLC Lunch
 6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
 6:30pm Men's Bible Study
 6:30pm Women's Bible Study
 7:30pm 4th Degree K of C
 8:00pm Sacristan Training
- July 12th:** 6:00pm Gabriel Network
- July 15th:** **2nd Collection: Capital Campaign**
- July 16th:** **2nd Collection: Capital Campaign**
 11:15am Prayer Ministry (McKenna)
 1:30pm Lector Training

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Thank you to all who have volunteered for our various ministries. Our Hospitality Ministries could use some help. Remember, these ministries help form a visitor's first and last impression of our St. Lawrence community.

Our Greeters, Coffee Ministry, Parking Lot Ministry, and an Information Desk Ministry can all use new volunteers!

Training for these ministries should be taking place soon. If you already volunteered, you should get a phone call or email with those dates soon!

Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. Please take this opportunity to serve the Church.

MAKING ORDINARY TIME EXTRAORDINARY WITH FORMED

To Watch: In Her Footsteps For 350 years, a young Christian Mohawk woman has been interceding for and inspiring natives and non-natives around the world. On October 21, 2012, Kateri Tekakwitha became the first Native North American woman to be recognized as a Saint.

This moving documentary takes us on a journey from northern New York State to Montréal and Kahnawake; from Washington State to New Mexico, as we follow St. Kateri's incredible journey of deep faith, heroic sacrifice, and love of Christ.

Go to Modern Day Saints

Vacation Read! *Something Other Than God* by Jennifer Fulweiler. Raised in a happy, atheist home, Jennifer had the freedom to think for herself and play by her own rules. Yet a creeping darkness followed her all of her life. Finally, one winter night, it drove her to the edge of her balcony, making her ask once and for all, why anything mattered. At that moment, everything she knew and believed was shattered. Just when Jennifer had a profound epiphany that gave her the courage to convert, she was diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition—and the only treatment was directly at odds with the doctrines of her new-found faith.

Something Other Than God is a poignant, profound, and often funny tale of one woman who set out to find the meaning of life and discovered that true happiness sometimes requires losing it all.

Available for iBooks, Android, Nook and Kindle.

Go to Prayer and Devotion

To Access: Go to www.formed.org and click "Register", located in the lower right hand corner. Then enter both the Parish Code, which is ed1783, and your email address. You'll need to fill out some basic information and then click "Submit".

Formed will send an email for verification to your email. Go to & open your email received from "Formed" and click on the word "Verify". It will take you to the Formed site.

NEW: the FORMED app is now available for Apple products and it's FREE!

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We're looking for adult volunteers to staff the reception desk in the office. Volunteers would answer phone calls, assist visitors, and do light office work.

We have three shifts available: morning, afternoon, and evening. Let us know your preference and availability of day and shift. Any help is greatly appreciated. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

SHARE FOOD NETWORK: HOST SITE #4305

Would you like to have healthy, seasonal and nutritious food delivered to your door each month? Host Site #4305 of the SHARE Food Network, located here in Jessup, MD, does just that at an affordable cost for the disabled, sick, shut in, and senior members of our community.

Every month, SHARE offers Value Packages for \$21 which include \$40-\$45 worth of basic and healthy groceries, and always 4 to 6 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables, sometimes with seasonal grocery or dessert items. Other great food specials are also offered at below market prices.

Payment options include: debit/credit cards, EBT, and Cash/Money Order.

For more information or to place an order for the month of July 2017, please call Myrtle Webb, Host Site Coordinator, at 443-621-0002.

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 on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm.

The topic for the summer is various interpretations of the Book of Revelation.

All are welcome.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Our Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday, from 6:30pm-8:30pm, except for the **third** Tuesday of the month. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Judy Kurtz and Sandy Garrick at womensible@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call the Parish Office at 410-799-1970 ext. 50.

Join us, gain strength and knowledge, and grow stronger in your faith!

TLC—THE LASTING CONNECTION— FOR 55+

Join us this Tuesday at 10:30am and enjoy a free lunch in the new Hall.

The TLC ministry provides for the social interaction of our senior citizens. In this ecumenical group, lectures, activities, trips, and a monthly meal are provided in a safe, caring, and enriching environment. Typically, we meet on Tuesday. Please see the TLC website page at <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/tlc>

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.

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



SIT-UATION

Last week Father Victor gave a very nice reflection on the value of the recent SIT USA conference at the Trinitarian Retreat Center in Pikesville.

Speaking personally, it was a pleasure to work behind the scenes in securing such amazing speakers known internationally. Some shared personal struggles, while all shared keen insights on the importance of staying on that straight line of hope and devotion in our Lord.

As I said during an Advent reflection last year, our faith is one that was established from the throes of persecution—being Christian means not always being the most popular attendee at the party. We should wear that as a badge of honor, and our duty, as St. Teresa of Avila tells us, is to reflect Christ in all our actions for, 'Christ has no body now but mine. He prays in me, works in me, looks through my eyes, speaks through my words, works through my hands, walks with my feet, and loves with my heart.'

Christ openly gave Himself for us ... is it easy for us to do the same for Him? Of course not!

But that is why commemorating the persecuted is so important because we not only stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world, but we learn from their actions in how we can better express Christ in all we do.

SIT St. Lawrence will continue to learn as much as we can to share stories with you all and engage this beautiful parish community so we can all continue on that journey together in nourishing our own faith through celebrating the resolute nature of so many others. God bless you all, and God bless the persecuted.

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

** And if you are interested, our next SIT meeting will be this Monday, July 10th at 6:15pm. All are welcome.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Attention Young Adults! Please join our **Bible Study for Young Adults**, which now meets the first, third, and fifth **Wednesday** of the month at 7:00pm. The next session will be July 19th.

Young Adult Social Ministry usually meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday or Saturday of the month.

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

MONDAYS AT THE HISTORIC CHURCH

Please note, Morning Prayer and Morning Mass on Mondays takes place at the Historic Church.

There are temporarily NO bathroom facilities available at the Historic Church.

IMPROVE YOUR MARRIAGE

“. . . and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.” Find out how Love and communication can ease your burdens by participating in a WorldWide Marriage Encounter Weekend on October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD.

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

DO YOU LIKE TO WORK OUTDOORS?

The **Church Grounds Crew** needs volunteers to help cut grass, at both the Historic Church and cemetery and at the new Parish Complex. For further info, please contact Michael Levesque via email michaelrlevesque@yahoo.com or call 410-262-6751.

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week's answer: To answer, which employee has been here the longest, Valerie Magnuson has been here for just about 24 years (July 15, 1993 was her first day).

The question initially meant for our current employees, but for those who guessed Mary Ann Naples, she is the employee who had the longest tenure overall. Mary Ann started working here in 1978 and retired in 2013. So that meant she was here for 35 years as a faithful and wonderful St. Lawrence employee!

This week's question: We've already had the question of which pastor has the longest tenure at St. Lawrence (Fr. George A. Speisburger, from 1923-1939).

So instead we'll ask: which Permanent Deacon has the longest tenure at St. Lawrence?



This Week In Youth Ministry: This week at youth group, we will be having a game night and celebrating birthdays. Come and bring your friends. We will have dinner and hang out in the café area of St. Lawrence. Hope to see you there.

Next week we will not have youth group, but mark your calendar on July 23rd for ice skating!

Also, start looking for exciting changes coming to the youth ministry program starting in the Fall. We will be debuting a new program and we are looking forward to introducing it to you! Questions? Email AnnaMarie Link - annamaried.link@gmail.com

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

Be sure to follow us on Instagram! @SLMLifeTeen

In Him through her,
AnnaMarie Link