

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Home of the Mater Dei Community
Staffed by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter



Fr. James Smith, FSSP - Pastor

pastor@stlawrence.cc

Fr. Cidrian Cortes, FSSP - Assistant Pastor

assistant.pastor@stlawrence.cc

Marcella de Freitas - Secretary

secretary@stlawrence.cc

Mary Ann Vigilante - Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@stlawrence.cc

Paul Thomas May - Music Director

music@stlawrence.cc

General: contact@stlawrence.cc

Office: (717) 889 - 4217

Dial ext. 9 for Sacramental Emergency

Website: www.stlawrence.cc

MASS TIMES

Sunday: 7:30am (Low Mass), 9:00am (Low Mass), 11:00am (Sung Mass), 6:00pm (Low Mass)

Monday: 7:10am

Tuesday: 7:10am

Wednesday: 6:15am, 7:00pm

Thursday: 7:10am

Friday: 7:10am, 6:30pm

Saturday: 9:00am

CONFESSIONS

Before each Mass

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

Sunday: 5:30pm (Solemn with Benediction)

Tuesday: 8:00am—1:00pm (Solemn with Benediction)

Friday: 5:30pm—6:25pm (Simple Adoration except during Lent)

Saturday: 8:00am—8:50am (Solemn with Benediction)

DEVOTIONS

St. Jude: 3rd Wednesday, 6:00pm

Sacred Heart: 1st Friday, following 6:30pm Mass

DIVINE OFFICE

Vespers: Every Sunday, 5:00pm

Compline: 1st Friday, 7:00pm

Choir & Choristers

Practice weekly—music@stlawrence.cc.....Paul Thomas May

Church Cleaning

Rotates weekly—clean@stlawrence.cc.....Kristin Patterson

Confraternity of Christian Mothers

Monthly—mothers@stlawrence.cc.....Stephanie Fonticoba

Girls Sodality

Girls Age 8 - 14—girlssodality@stlawrence.cc.....Rebecca Mack

Holy Name Society

Monthly—holyname@stlawrence.cc.....William Gabig

Knights of the Altar

Altar Servers—altarboys@stlawrence.cc.....Ed Pitman

Knights of Columbus

Monthly—knights@stlawrence.cc.....Josh Logan

Mater Dei Praesidium of The Legion of Mary

Weekly—legionofmary@stlawrence.cc.....Daniel Jones

Meal Train

mealtrain@stlawrence.cc.....Alyssa Showers

Prayer Chain

prayers@stlawrence.cc.....Fr. Cortes

St. Catherine of Siena Young Adult Group

18-35, Monthly—youngadults@stlawrence.cc.....Fr. Cortes

St. Tarcisius

Ages 5-12, Monthly—sttarcisius@stlawrence.cc...Loretta Ferguson

Tuesday Adoration

Tuesdays 8-1pm—tuesdayadoration@stlawrence.cc...Amanda Healy

Youth Group

Ages 13-18, Monthly—youthgroup@stlawrence.cc...Joelle Riethmiller

MASS INTENTIONS

- Sun. Dec. 25 The Nativity of Our Lord, I**
 12:00am Sr. Mary Catherine Rose & Sr. Mary Mathias by Charles & Chris Stoner
 7:30am Amy Gudelski by Celine Gudelski
 9:00am Confraternity of St. Peter by Mary Ellen Barry
 11:00am Pro Populo
 6:00pm +John Joseph Broscius by Mary Alice Howard
- Mon. Dec. 26 St. Stephen, Deacon & Protomartyr, II**
 7:10am Holy Souls in Purgatory by Ed & Suzanne Pitman
- Tue. Dec. 27 St. John the Evangelist, Apostle, II**
 7:10am +Bernard Roth by Linda Boyd
- Wed. Dec. 28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs, II**
 6:15am Kathleen & Kevin Stover by John E. Czarnomski
 7:00pm +Robert Lessard by Celine Gudelski
- Thu. Dec. 29 5th Day in the Octave of Christmas, II**
 7:10am Karen Witcher by Charles & Chris Stoner
- Fri. Dec. 30 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas, II**
 7:10am Joseph & Mary Moody and Family by Linda Boyd
 6:30pm FSSP Confraternity by Celine Gudelski
- Sat. Dec. 31 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas, II**
 9:00am Priests and Seminarians of the FSSP by James Fair
- Sun. Jan. 1 Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord, I**
 7:30am Confraternity of St. Peter by Suzanne Pitman
 9:00am Holy Souls in Purgatory by Fonticoba Family
 11:00am Pro Populo
 6:00pm Theresa Wagner by Mary Ellen Barry



PROPERS OF THE MASS

Lesson Titus 2:11-15

Beloved: The grace of God our Saviour has appeared to all men, instructing us, in order that, rejecting ungodliness and worldly lusts, we may live temperately and justly and piously in this world; looking for the blessed hope and glorious coming of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and cleanse for Himself an acceptable people, pursuing good works. Thus speak, and exhort, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Luke 2:1-14

At that time, there went forth a decree from Caesar Augustus that a census of the whole world should be taken. This first census took place while Cyrinus was governor of Syria. And all were going, each to his own town, to register. And Joseph also went from Galilee out of the town of Nazareth into Judea to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem -

because he was of the house and family of David - to register, together with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child. And it came to pass while they were there, that the days for her to be delivered were fulfilled. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds in the same district living in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of God shone round about them, and they feared exceedingly. And the angel said to them, Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people; for today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you, Who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you: you will find an Infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men of good will.

TODAY

Sunday, December 25

- The Nativity of Our Lord
- Vespers—5pm—Exposition—5:30pm

UPCOMING

Monday, December 26

- Adult Inquiry Class—6pm-6:55pm
- Monday Night Basketball YMCA—7pm

Tuesday, December 27

- Blessing of wine
- Legion of Mary—6pm

Wednesday, December 28

- Commemoration of the Greater Feria of Advent

Thursday, December 29

- 5th Day in the Octave of Christmas

Friday, December 30

- 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas

Saturday, December 31

- 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas
- End of Year Indulgence —*Te Deum*
- Christmas Party

Sunday, January 1

- Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord
- Beginning of Year Indulgence —*Veni Creator*

Monday, January 2

- Holy Name of Jesus

Wednesday, January 4

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Thursday, January 5

- Blessing of Epiphany Water

Friday, January 6

- The Epiphany of the Lord
- Blessing of Gold, Incense, and Myrrh; Chalk

Sunday, January 8

- Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CRUCIFIX TO BE RESTORED TO ST. LAWRENCE



News came to St. Lawrence a few days ago of a wonderful Christmas gift. Thanks to the kind cooperation of education officials of the Diocese of Harrisburg, the support of several priests in the area, and Bishop Gainer, we at St. Lawrence Church plan to restore the crucifix that was original to the building when it was built a century ago.

In the image above, taken early in the church's history and obtained from the archives of the diocese, the beautiful wooden crucifix can be seen suspended by chains above the sanctuary, giving all that would gaze upon it a stunning piece of art illustrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the same as at Calvary.

For most of the last century, the cross was at St. Lawrence, but seemingly some decades ago, it was moved out of the sanctuary to the rear of the church, then eventually moved to a nearby Catholic school.

If all goes according to plan, we hope to erect scaffolding this week and lift the cross that wrought our salvation high into the air. As Our Lord, said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all things to myself" (John 12:32).

Registration at St. Lawrence Church—The Pastor and Assistant Pastor have the special grace to guide those who are registered parishioners and are hence assigned to their care. The *Pro Populo* Mass offered for the people every Sunday, is offered for those who are registered members. Anyone seeking the Sacraments of Baptism, 1st Communion, Confirmation and Matrimony here must be registered and active parishioners for 6 months. Registration forms are available on our website.

THIS SATURDAY— Parish Christmas Party at 112 State Street!— Please use the codes below to RSVP and volunteer:



Our Christmas Party's Music Repertoire Festivities will begin at 10:30am with the Parish choir's performance of a few of our favorite Christmas carols and *motets*, and public sing-along. Please see the Insert (2 pages double-sided) included in today's Bulletin.

PUBLICATION OF THE PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Effective in the new year, the parish office hours will be as follows:

Monday through Friday: 8am to 11:30am and 1:30pm to 5:30pm; Saturday: 8am to 12noon and 1pm to 5pm. During this time, you are invited to stop by the parish office, now located in the Parish Center at 112 State Street, and speak with Marcella de Freitas, the parish secretary, Mary Ann Vigilante, the parish bookkeeper, Paul Thomas May, the parish music director, or one of the priests. Each person has a different schedule (Fr. Smith has his day off normally on Mondays, and Fr. Cortes on Thursdays), but the goal is that that during these times, you should be able to find someone by ringing the doorbell at either the front or rear of 112 State Street.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER—Also effective in the new year, we announce that the church will be open for prayer (through the front door) every day until 12:15 pm. This will allow you to come for private prayer in the church at your own schedule, and to assist at the Divine Office, the schedule for which was published last week. We know that the opportunity to be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament is very important and helpful for prayer, so we have long wanted to make this possible. Now that our parish owns this church, and we have been able to install some security cameras and other devices, we are able to do this.

Holy Name Society—Jan. 8, 2023 Induction Ceremony!

The Holy Name Society will celebrate its annual new member induction ceremony after the 11am Mass on Sunday, Jan.8, 2023. New Candidates and Novices must attend in order to become Professed Members of the Holy Name Society. Please email Mr. William Gabig at: willgabig@comcast.net for more information.

St. Lawrence Pro-Life Committee—We are looking for parishioners who are interested in forming a Pro-Life Committee to address the needs of the community and to organize future events. If you are interested in joining, please email the Parish Office at: contact@stlawrence.cc.

LAST DAY TO SIGNUP FOR EPIPHANY HOME

BLESSINGS—We are happy to offer again the possibility of having your home blessed with Epiphany water, incense, and chalk. To request this blessing during the time of Epiphany (on the days of Jan. 9 through 12), please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/3j29AEG> or by scanning the QR Code below:



When visiting your home, the priest will sprinkle and incense your house, and mark the front door (or doors) with chalk. This tradition commemorates the visitation of the three Magi to the Holy Family in Bethlehem. A priest visits the home, blessing each room (or at least, whichever rooms you would like him to bless) with Epiphany water and incense. The main entrance of the home is then marked with the initials of the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, and a code of the current year (2023) connected with crosses: 20+C+M+B+23. The letters have two meanings. First, they represent the initials of the Magi; and second, they abbreviate the Latin phrase, *Christus mansionem benedicat*; “May Christ bless the house.” Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless the home, and that He abide with all those who dwell therein throughout the year.

Email Prayer Chain—If you are not currently on the Mater Dei prayer request email list and would like to be added, please email: prayers@stlawrence.cc. In this way, Parishioners can submit prayer intentions that we then share with everyone on the email list.

Processional Hymn O Come All Ye Faithful

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:
Refrain: *O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,*
O come let us adore him Christ the Lord

God of God, Light of Light.
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin’s womb:
Very God, Begotten, not created: **Refrain**

Sing choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav’n above:
Glory to God in the highest: **Refrain**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be glory giv’n:



Sunday Collections

Week of December 18, 2022

Offertory (December 18):	\$ 5,534.00
Online Giving (December 11-December 18):	\$ 3,344.00
Total:	\$ 8,878.00

* The Building Fund is reported once per month

Parish Christmas Party Slide Show—Photos of parish events wanted—We are creating a slideshow of the many important events that have taken place in our Parish this year. If you have photos of any parish events, including First Communion, Confirmation, Chant Camp, our Parish & All Saints Day Picnics, Youth Group, YAG, Sports, etc., please send them to: historian@stlawrence.cc, no later than Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Legion of Mary—meeting time change effective Jan. 2023—In an effort to meet the needs of the active members who regularly attend its weekly Tuesday evening meetings, the Mater Dei Praesidium of the Legion of Mary will begin meeting at 6:30pm after the change of the year. We will also be moving our meeting location from the Church’s Social Hall to our 112 State Street Parish Center. Guests are always welcome!

FSSP 2023 Liturgical Calendars—are now available for purchase @ \$17 each; please place your donations in the black metal box after purchasing one.

Reminders—No Friday Religious Education classes Dec. 30, Jan 6; CCD classes Dec.25, Jan.1, Jan. 8, and Jan 15.

Recessional Hymn Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing over the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains.
Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?
Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain



Christmas Party 2022 Musician Lineup

10:30 am St. Lawrence Choir - Carols

A public sing-along with the members of our parish choir along with performance of a few of our favorite motets.

11:15 am Beata Lakatos & Daniel Glessner - Violin & Piano

Violin Concerto in E minor, Movement 1 - Felix Mendelssohn

Csárdás - Vittorio Monti

12:30 pm Kateri Kadar-Kallen - Harp

Prelude in C - Johann Sebastian Bach (Arr. D. Rees-Rohrbacher)

Gabriel's Message - Basque Carol (Arr. Kim Robertson)

Two Hornpipes - Henry Purcell (Arr. Deborah Friou)

O Holy Night - Arr. Sylvia Woods

Panis Angelicus - César Franck (Arr. D. Rees-Rohrbacher)

Snow on the Hills - Traditional Irish (Arr. Kim Robertson)

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - Traditional Polish (Arr. Kim Robertson)

Winter: Largo (Second Movement) - Antonio Vivaldi (Arr. Deborah Friou)

Carol of the Bells - Traditional Ukrainian Carol (Arr. D. Rees-Rohrbacher)

Canon in D - Johann Pachelbel (Arr. D. Rees-Rohrbacher)

Eight Variations on Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming - Jonathan Kadar-Kallen

1:30 pm Helena Jones & Sharon Knowles - St Lawrence Harp Duo

Chimes. Comp. Dr Janet Harbison

Sing of Mary arr. S. Knowles

Immaculate Mary arr. S. Knowles

Lord Galway's Lamentation. Comp. Turlough O'Carolan 1670-1738. Arr. S. Knowles

The Water is Wide arr. S. Knowles

Leaving Lismore a traditional Scottish air arr. S. Knowles

Personent Hodie. Medieval Carol. Melody from Piae Cantiones 1582 arr. S. Knowles.

2:30 pm John & Sharon Knowles - Harp duo

Selected English and Celtic Christmas Carols.

Nocturne in A minor for piano by Ana Lakatos

Selected music from the Irish and Scottish traditions.

3:30 pm Celine Albright & John Mason - Harp, Piano & Vocals

Various selections of Christmas and Celtic Music

"Break, Break, Break" by John Mason