

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Home of the Mater Dei Community
Staffed by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter
110 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101



December 24, 2023

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, 6:30pm

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—11:45am (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, 5:30pm

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

DIVINE OFFICE

Terce: Wednesday, Friday; 8am

None: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 12noon

Vespers: Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday; 5pm

Compline: 1st Friday, 7:00pm

Fr. James Smith, FSSP - Pastor

pastor@stlawrence.cc

Fr. Cidrian Cortes, FSSP - Assistant Pastor

assistant.pastor@stlawrence.cc

Parish Office: contact@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

Parish Office Hours: Monday—Friday; 8am to 11:30am; 1:30pm to 5:30pm; Saturday: 8am to 5pm

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

Ages 9 -14—girlsodality@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

The Legion of Mary

Weekly—legionofmary@stlawrence.cc Daniel Jones

Meal Train

mealtrain@stlawrence.cc Alyssa Showers

Prayer Chain

prayers@stlawrence.cc Fr. Cortes

Pro-Life Group

Monthly—prolife@stlawrence.cc Kris Keck

St. Tarcisius

Ages 5-12, Monthly—sttarcisius@stlawrence.cc Dan Miccolupi

Tuesday Adoration

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

Young Adult Group

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

Youth Group

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. Dec 24	Vigil of the Nativity, I
7:30am	Rowan Kushla & Godparents Mark & Rachel Pitman
9:00am	+Susan C. Lawrence by Andrew B. Lawrence
11:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
6:00pm	Rod Raver by Brenda Raver
Mon. Dec 25	The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, I
12:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
7:10am	Grandchildren by Anthony Disanto
9:00am	+Cory Kofalt by Doug & Kay Faber
11:00am	+Rev. James Buckley, FSSP
Tue. Dec 26	St. Stephen, Deacon & Protomartyr, II
7:10am	For vocations from St. Lawrence Parish
Wed. Dec 27	St. John the Evangelist, Apostle, II
6:15am	+Augusta Wildt by Joe & Joyce Mackin
6:30pm	Rev. Jame Smith, FSSP by Elizabeth Kadar-Kallen
Thu. Dec 28	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs, II
7:10am	+Janet Biondo by Andrew B. Lawrence
Fri. Dec 29	5th Day in the Octave of Christmas, II
7:10am	Intentions of Apostleship by the Cunningham Family
6:30pm	Lincoln Healey by Anthony Disanto
Sat. Dec 30	6th Day in the Octave of Christmas, II
9:00am	Frank Joseph Bernat by the Riethmiller Family
Sun. Dec 31	Sunday in the Octave of Christmas, II
7:30am	Daniel and Anastasia Jones & Family by the Vigilante's
9:00am	<i>Pro Populo</i>
11:00am	LaDawanna Clancy by John & Mary Blair
6:00pm	Ed and Suzy Cottrill by David Wendell

NEW THIS CHRISTMAS: MATINS—We are excited to announce that thanks to the hard work of our music directory and several singers in the parish, we will sing Matins of Christmas Day tonight at 9:00pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS POSTER CONTEST—Today is the last day the Knights are accepting submissions for the *Keep Christ in Christmas* poster contest which is open to youth from ages 5 to 18 (if not yet a high school graduate). Be sure to drop off your posters in the parish center next to the church.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS MAGNETS—The Knights of Columbus are selling *Keep Christ in Christmas* magnets. They are at the entrance of the church after Sunday morning Masses from Nov. 26 to Dec. 24, while supplies last. If you want to purchase one and are unable to meet out front please email Josh Logan at knights@stlawrence.cc to make other arrangements.

FR. BUCKLEY REQUIEM MASS: JANUARY 5, 2024—We will have a Requiem Mass here at St. Lawrence for Fr. James Buckley, FSSP, on Thursday morning, the day of his funeral and burial in Nebraska. Please join us in praying for Fr. Buckley, who generously spent his life in faithful service to the Church and the FSSP.

TODAY

Sunday, December 24

- No CCD classes nor adult catechism
- Christmas Eve: regular Sunday Mass schedule
- Tour of the Parish Center—10:15am
- 1st Vespers of Christmas—5pm
- Matins of Christmas—9pm
- Midnight Mass—12midnight

UPCOMING

Monday, December 25

- Christmas Day
- Mass schedule: 12midnight, 7:30am, 9am, 11am
- Orchestral Mozart Mass—11am
- Blessing of infants after the 11am Mass

Tuesday, December 26

- High Mass with induction ceremony for the Guild of St. Stephen—12:15pm

Wednesday, December 27

- Blessing of wine in honor of St. John the Apostle after Mass

Saturday, December 30

- High Mass at 9am
- Parish Christmas Party

Sunday, December 31

- Last day of the year: *Te Deum* sung after all Masses, with Plenary Indulgence
- No CCD classes
- Adult catechism—12:45pm

Monday, January 1

- Octave of the Nativity of Our Lord—Masses at 7:10am, 12:15pm, 6:30pm
- First day of the year: *Veni Creator Spiritus* sung after before Masses—Plenary Indulgence

Saturday, January 6

- Feast of the Epiphany
- Installation of new officers of the Holy Name Society

January 6 to January 13

- Epiphany Blessings

Friday, January 19

- National March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Sunday, January 28

- Septuagesima Sunday

Wednesday, February 14

- Ash Wednesday

Sunday, February 18

- First Sunday in Lent

Saturday, March 2

- Interviews for First Penance

Saturday, March 16

- First Penance

Sunday, April 14

- Confirmations with Pontifical High Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday, Dec. 25: Christmas

Midnight Mass: **12midnight**

Low Masses: **7:30am** and **9am***

Orchestral Mozart Mass: **11am**

2nd Vespers of Christmas, followed by Exposition and Benediction: **5pm**

* Confessions will be offered before each Mass, but will be limited during the 7:30am and 9am Masses since both priests will be celebrating Masses. One will offer the public Mass while the other a private Mass. Along with All Souls Day, Mother Church allows a priest to offer three Masses on Christmas Day. In total, we will have six Masses on Christmas, but only four will be public.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP—Catholic men 18-years old and older are invited to join the St. Lawrence Holy Name Society. Information about this traditional confraternity can be found at www.nahns.com. All eligible men are encouraged to consider this spiritual and social opportunity. Men interested or needing information about the activities of the Society may approach a member at a table located in the narthex after all Sunday Masses today. The Society will host a new member induction ceremony after the 9am Mass on Saturday, Jan. 6. If you have any questions, you may also email Mr. William Gabig at holynamesociety@stlawrence.cc.

DIVINE OFFICE: TERCE—Starting in the new year, seeking to more faithfully abide by the Constitutions of the FSSP, the priests will add Tuesday and Saturday to the days on which they sing the office of Terce 8am. It will be recited immediately after Exposition and in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. The rubrics provide a way to celebrate the Divine Office when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, which requires the choir to remain standing rather than sitting, since sitting in the presence of the Exposed Blessed Sacrament is not proper. We invite the Faithful present to do the same.

MARRIAGE PREP CLASSES—Starting Feb. 9, 2024, and going until March 15, 2024, there will be a Marriage Preparation Class every Friday night at 7:30pm. This class is mandatory for any spring or summer marriages at St. Lawrence next year.

CCD (SUNDAY CATECHISM) EXPANSION—The CCD Program at St. Lawrence has more than doubled in size over the past few years. With that development, the need has grown for more teachers, teacher aides, substitutes, admin assistants and hall monitors. If you are interested in assisting with Sunday Religious education program in any of these capacities, or you want to find out more information about getting involved, please contact dre@stlawrence.cc.

MUSICAL ACT FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY—We have space for one or two musical performers at our Parish Christmas party. Volunteers should have 30–45 minutes of repertoire to perform and must bring their own music/instruments. Either a keyboard or a piano will be available. Classical style is preferred, but other genres are acceptable. For inquiries email Paul Thomas May: music@stlawrence.cc.

TODAY, 10:15AM: PARISH CENTER TOUR—Take a tour of the beautifully decorated Parish Center today at 10:15am, led by Mr. Arthur O’Dea, a parishioner, CCD instructor, and experienced tour guide of Troeg’s brewery in Hershey. Just come to front door of 112 State Street and meet in the front room. The tour will be a delight, as you can see all of the decorations, the gingerbread houses, the posters for the art competition, and get to know this building that has taken on such an important part of our parish life. At some point in the near future, the parish will need to make a decision about whether to purchase this building, or to vacate it. This tour will help you make an informed opinion.

WEDNESDAY AM MASS TIME CHANGE—Effective in the new year, the time of the Wednesday morning Mass will be changed to 7:10am, which means that all of the morning Masses from Monday through Friday will all have the same time. The new weekday Mass schedule then will be: Monday through Friday: 7:10am; Saturday: 9am; Wednesday and Friday: 6:30pm.

JAN 26-28: FSSP TRADITIONAL MEN’S RETREAT—The St. Mary’s Holy Name Society (the FSSP’s church in Conshohocken, PA) is organizing the first annual Traditional Men’s silent retreat at Malvern Retreat House from the evening of Friday, January 26th, to the morning of Sunday, January 28th. Fr Portzer, FSSP will be the retreat master and will celebrate the traditional mass all three days. Please wear collared shirt and trouser, with jacket preferred, tie optional. Age Restriction: 18 and older. Cost: \$325 inclusive. Gratuity for dining staff is not included but encouraged and generally given in cash, at Sunday breakfast. RSVP to Ken Orner stmarys.hns.treasurer@gmail.com to arrange registration and payment with him. Malvern Retreat House is located at: 315 S Warren Ave, Malvern, PA 19355. A schedule and more information will be provided to retreatants.

PART-TIME PARISH EMPLOYMENT—We will have a part-time opening at St. Lawrence in accounts early July 2024. Hours will be 8 to 16 hours per week, including Mondays. Duties will include submitting financial documents to the diocese, payroll, reviewing budget, etc. If this is an employment opportunity that interests you, please contact Fr. Smith at pastor@stlawrence.cc.

DEC. 27: BLESSING OF WINE—On Wednesday, Dec. 27, the feast of St. John the Evangelist, the Church provides a special blessing for wine in honor of this apostle. If you would like to benefit from this blessing, bring to Mass on Monday your bottles and place them in the place designated. They will be blessed immediately following the Last Gospel. Please remove your bottles right away, or no doubt someone else will drink them. The blessing says, in part: ‘Bless and consecrate, O Lord God, this chalice of wine (or any other beverage) through the merits of St. John, Apostle and Evangelist. Bestow benediction and protection upon all who drink of this cup. For as the blessed John partook of the poisoned potion without any hurt, so may all who on this day drink of the blessed wine to the honor of St. John, by him be freed from poisoning and similar harmful things. And as they offer themselves soul and body to thee, O Lord God, give them absolution and pardon....Bless, O Lord, this draught that it be a helpful medicine to all who drink it; and grant by thy grace that all who taste thereof may enjoy bodily and spiritual health in calling upon thy holy name.’”

Notes on Today's Music

Processional hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, 796
Recessional hymn: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, 801
Kyriale: Mass XVII, 762; Credo IV, 780

Offertory antiphon: *Tollite portas*, Giovanni Battista Martini (1706–1784)

Marian antiphon: *Alma Redemptoris Mater*, Solemn Tone
Communion antiphon: *Revelabitur*, Johann Joseph Fux (c.1660–1741)

Today's propers focus intently in anticipation of tomorrow's solemn feast. The communion antiphon is set by **Johann Joseph Fux** with the text taken from Isaiah 40:5: "*The Glory of the Lord shall be revealed; and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God.*" Fux staggers each voice's entrance and when the fourth voice joins, the lower three voices unite rhythmically to convey the idea of revealing the Lord's glory. He concludes the motet on the dominant chord, which has a sense of expectation rather than resolution.

Johann Joseph Fux (c.1660–1741) was an Austrian composer, music theorist and pedagogue of the late Baroque era. His most enduring work is his treatise on counterpoint, *Gradus ad Parnassum*, which has become the single most influential book on the Palestrinian style of Renaissance polyphony. His work greatly influenced composers such as Haydn, Beethoven, and Mozart.

Processional Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave.

Refrain

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

Sunday Collections

Week of December 17, 2023

Offertory (December 17)	\$5,430.00
Building Fund (November 27 - December 17)	11,319.55
Coffee Social (December 17)	15.00
Vestments (December 17)	64.00
Online Giving (December 11 - December 17)	<u>4,053.00</u>
Total:	\$20,881.55

REQUIESCAT IN PACE FR. MIGUEL STEGMAIER, FSSP— Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr. Miguel Stegmaier FSSP, who died in a fire on Tuesday, December 19 in our house St. Adelheid in Langenbach (Germany). Fr. Stegmaier was born on May 13, 1976 in Santiago de Chile (Chile). He entered St. Peter's Seminary in Wigratzbad in 1996, and was ordained for the Fraternity on June 21, 2003. From 2003 to 2020, Fr. Stegmaier ministered in our Cologne apostolate. He recently moved into our new house St. Adelheid in Langenbach. May he rest in peace.

DOCTORS, NURSES, and EMTs—The parish has created an email group for doctors, nurses, and EMTs in order to be able to identify qualified people in event of an emergency, and so that Fr. Smith can consult this group for best practices. We request that you add yourselves to our email group by sending a message to medical+subscribe@groups.stlawrence.cc.

Recessional Hymn

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.