

Saint Lawrence Catholic Church

120 N. Gatewood Street, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

As Catholic disciples of Jesus Christ and His Church, we respond to our Lord's Invitation to be faithful in prayer, celebrate the Sacraments, deepen our faith through lifelong formation, serve those in need, and invite others to the fullness of the Catholic faith.

St. Lawrence Welcomes

Welcome! We are glad you are here to worship with us. Whether you are a cradle Catholic, or this is your first time at a Catholic Mass; whether you are a lifelong member of St. Lawrence or a visitor to our parish we are blessed by your presence. If you are new to our parish or a visitor, be sure to introduce yourself to Fr. Steve on your way out of Mass.

If you are interested in joining our parish, or have questions about the Catholic Church and St Lawrence parish, mention it to Father Steve and call 502-839-6381 or email us at stlawrencenews@cdlex.org



Weekday Mass

Tuesday: 6:00pm
Wednesday 8:30am
Thursday: 8:30am
Friday: 11:30am

Weekend Mass

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm
Sunday: 9:30am

Holy Day Masses

11:30am & 6:00pm

Adoration

Wednesday 9:00am - 8:00pm
Benediction 8:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:45 - 5:15pm
Sunday: 8:45 - 9:15am
or by appointment

St. Lawrence Connects

Live stream Sunday Mass on YouTube, Facebook, FM 76
stlawrencenews@cdlex.org
www.saintlawrencecatholicchurch.org
Look for us on Facebook!

How Can We Help You?

Fr. Steve Roberts MD, STL
Priest/Pastor
sroberts@cdlex.org

Dcn. Chris Cecil
Deacon
ccecil@cdlex.org

Dcn Frank Villalobos
Deacon
deaconfrank@outlook.com

Anna Courtney
Parish Office Mgr.
acourtney@cdlex.org

Rita Redden
Administrative Assistant
stlawrencenews@cdlex.org

For all regular inquiries including registering for CCD, prayer requests, appointments with Fr. Steve call **502-839-6381 ext. 5.**

For Sacramental Emergencies ext. 1.

St Lawrence This Week

April 28-May 4, 2024

Sunday, April 28 8:45am Reconciliation 9:30am Mass/Confirmation 11am Benedictus Book Sale 6:00pm Spanish Mass	Monday, April 29 6pm Bible Study-FLC
Tuesday, April 30 6pm Mass 6:30pm Finance Council meeting	Wednesday, May 1 8:30am Mass 9am – 8pm Adoration 6:30pm Movie Night 8pm Benediction
Thursday, May 2 8:30am Mass	Friday, May 3 11:30am Mass
Saturday, May 4 9:30-11:30am Women's Group Brunch 4:45pm Reconciliation 5:30pm Mass	Live stream Sundays on YouTube, Facebook., FM 76 More events at: www.saintlawrencecatholicchurch.org/news

St. Lawrence Worships

Reflections on Parts of the Mass

The Collect

The Collect is the prayer that concludes the Introductory Rites of the Mass. The priest addresses the people, “Let us pray,” signaling the purpose of the silence and the words that follow. Then he offers the prayer of the day, concluding with a formula to which everyone responds, “Amen.”

The silence is important. During this time everyone is to “become aware of being in God’s presence,” so that they “may call to mind their intentions.”

Everyone prays “together with the Priest” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 54)—exercising the common priesthood of the baptized. If you have come to Mass with particular needs, this silence is the time to call them to mind.

As the priest offers the prayer, he is “collecting” the thoughts of the people, who themselves have been “collect-ed” together from their homes for this celebration at church. Although it is sometimes called the “Opening Prayer” of the Mass, it is more properly and traditionally called the *Collect*.

The words express the character of the celebration. This is especially clear on occasions such as a wedding, a saint’s day, and liturgical times such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. People attentive to the words of the Collect will discover that the priest may be articulating the purpose of the event.

At other times, the words are more generic. Many of these prayers were composed from the sixth to the eighth centuries. Some of them were written for particular liturgical days, and are still being used on or near those days over a thousand years later.

The Collect is addressed to God the Father, and it is offered through Jesus Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

The priest extends his hands while he prays, using a gesture popular in Christian prayer since the earliest times.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: Gestures, Postures, and Customs of the Liturgy © 2020 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul Turner. CCC © 2000

Liturgical Ministers

Date	Time	Sacristan	EMOHC	Lectors	Greeters	Musician
April 27	5:30pm	Anna	John T	Annette & Mary Jo	Lisa & Sally	Avelyn
April 28	9:30am	John C	Anita & Jeff W	Bill G & Sue	Bill & Jeanette	Jane
May 4	5:30pm	Rochelle	Joy	Annette & Mary Jo	Sally & Bill	Avelyn
May 5	9:30am	Robin	Tina & Monty	Marcia & Bill G	Denis & Kathy	Libby

This Week's Mass Readings Scan here:



Mass Intentions

Saturday	April	27	Gabriela Guzman Camarena(i)
Sunday	April	28	†Virgie Mattingly
Tuesday	April	30	Colin Roark(i)
Wednesday	May	1	† Juan Guzman Jimenez
Thursday	May	2	† Martha Camarena Lopez
Friday	May	3	†Mr. and Mrs. Joseph True

St. Lawrence Prays

For Those in Need

Parishioners: Betty Butler, Rosalie Covello, Jack Durkan, Terry Elder, Jo Johnson, Kathy Mirilovich, Bob Moses, Bob Simon, Dr. Glyn Caldwell, Maria Sepulveda; Shirley Norris, Gale Twohig; Jim Bach

Family & Relatives: Margaret Boyle, (M Friel); Barbara Cann, (L. Cann); Kenny Blair (P. Crane); Pam Hall (B. Sloan); Alli Johnson (Jo J); Jill Thompson, (D. King); Martha Clark (N Thompson); Tim Tucker, Donna Amody, Bobby Hunter (S. Rue); Caroline Elder (MJ Timmerman); Douglas Wade Jr. (J. Wade); Max Wilburn, Julie Van Hook (M White); Michael Caldwell (G. Caldwell); Josh Miner (S. Higgins); Ann Simpson (A. Pike); Fr. Steve's parents (Fr. Steve); Rachel Burdge (J. Martin); Joe Dant, (J. Thompson); Dr. Dave Doering (MJ Timmerman); Ivanna Sepulveda, (H. Sepulveda); Carolyn & Ralph Booth (M. Yeager); Sally Alfonsi (S Higgins); Erica, John & James Nelson, Ryan Bickell(A. Dull);

Friends: Shirley Durr, (J. Bozorgzad); Deacon David Costello, Dan Cunningham, Shannon Wheeler (A. Dull); Houghland Family, (K. Mirilovich); Gene Laffoon, (MJ Timmerman); Rev. Rodney Stewart-Wilcox & Rev. Ronda Stewart-Wilcox (R. Redden); Marguerite Wordell, Mikal McClung (P. Marraccini); Angelina Bermudez, Virginia Dunning (Dunning Family); Family of Barbara Joyce Holsbeke (G. Holsbeke); Hayley Carey (S Higgins); Danny McCann (J. Thompson); Lavolia Snell (S Higgins);

Those who serve our country: GySgt Shane Carey, Alex Crane, Hugh Devane, Konner Larson, David Lanier Jr., Colt Litkenhus, Mike LoSchiavo Jr. Carson Lowe, Travis Nicolette, Bill Redding, Todd Rucker, Matthew Spencer, Brian Thompson.

Reflections on the Our Father

Father. . . Abba

In what sense is God our Father?

When commenting on the "Our Father," St. Thomas Aquinas answers this question by saying, "We call him Father by reason of him having created us in a special manner, viz. to his own image and likeness, which he did not impress on other creatures below."

One may ask, why God would create us in his image and likeness? Why would God give us a free will, an intellect and the ability to enter into loving relationships?

The obvious answer is that God greatly desires to be in an intimate and loving relationship with us! This is truly an amazing thought.

In Pope Benedict's encyclical *God is Love*, the Pope points out that certainly God has *agape* love for us. A love that is completely giving and self-sacrificial as exemplified on the Cross.

But God also has an *eros* type of love for us. Our culture has so distorted and dirtied the word "eros," we have lost its real meaning when it comes to love. *Eros* is a desirous love. A love that longs, a love that desperately seeks out the other in order to enter into an intimate relationship with him or her! That the god of the universe God, who creates us in His image and likeness, has this type of love for us is truly startling and incredible!

See *Praying with Confidence*, Fr. Paul Murray, OP, page 22.

Other Events

Thursday May 2, marks the 73rd annual Day of Prayer. Please join others in faith as they gather at the Anderson County Courthouse to pray from 12:15-12:45pm.

St. Lawrence Formation

NEW Formation Opportunity for Adults!

Beginning on May 5th, we will begin a new adult education program at St. Lawrence Parish. Every Sunday, at 11:00am, we will have a book discussion in Blandford Hall. So go to Mass, enjoy some coffee and donuts in the Parish Life Center and then come up to Blandford Hall for a great book discussion. This will be an ongoing program!

The first book we will be discussing is *The Eight Doors of the Kingdom* by Fr. Jacques Philippe, which is a spiritual guide to Jesus' paradoxical and puzzling Beatitudes. Fr. Philippe is one of the popular Catholic spiritual writers in the world today! The discussion will be led by Fr. Steve and Mike Armstrong, a parishioner and the head of young adult and youth ministry in the diocese.

Benedictus Book Store will be here this weekend, April 27th and April 28th, to sell the books or you can buy them on Amazon. St. Lawrence gets a small proceed if the books are purchased from Benedictus. We will try to have some books available if you don't get to purchase one beforehand.

Child Care for children 12 and under will be provided during the book group by parish volunteers. Older children are welcome to assist with children's activities or sit with the adult book group. Child Care will meet in the Family Life Center. All children must be signed in and out. We are looking for additional Volunteers. You must be Safe Environment certified. Please contact Anna or Vanna for additional information regarding Safe Environment. Child Care will be during summer months.

Spiritual Directions

FROM CURSING TO BLESSING

It is a common strategy of the Evil One to tempt us to focus on the faults and sins of others!

If we really examine our thoughts, words and sometimes even our actions, we will most likely find that many of them are focused on criticism of others! Jesus is clear that this is a dangerous spiritual trap which will poison our souls and bring about division in the Kingdom of God! The Kingdom

of the World is inundated with vitriol and criticism of others causing division and strife! This is not of God!

Jesus warns that we so easily see the splinter in our neighbor's eye while being blind to the log in our own eye! That is why focusing on the faults and sins of others is such a trap. It takes the focus away from us, the one person, with God's grace, that we can truly change! God has something so much more virtuous planned for us! In addition, it moves us away from the Lord's command to love our neighbor!

One of my Spiritual Directors in the seminary gave us great advice to help with this common temptation. When we find ourselves being critical of others, say this prayer: **"God bless them, and God have mercy on me."**

I love this prayer because it is filled with Christian charity. It asks God to truly bless the person we want to be critical of, while at the same time asking for God's mercy for myself and my hard-heartedness. Hopefully this put the focus back on me by praying that God's mercy will transform me into more of the image and likeness of Christ!

Did Jesus Really Rise From the Dead?

The empty tomb plus the appearances of the resurrected Jesus

The empty tomb, reported by all the Gospels, is not direct evidence of the resurrection, but it is an indirect corroboration and a pointing to the continuity of His risen body and pre-resurrection body.

Some scholars have made the claim that the empty tomb is not that important of an historical fact because there is the possibility that the body was placed somewhere else like a common grave or that the body could have been stolen.

There is a very minority opinion that the tomb may not have even been found empty. That is incredibly unlikely. Matthew would not have recorded the very unflattering and embarrassing accusation of the Jewish authorities that the disciples had stolen Jesus' body. Why would the Jewish authorities make this accusation unless they needed an explanation for a real missing body? The Jewish authorities did not deny the empty tomb, but wanted to suggest a reason why it was empty.

Others have speculated that Jesus' body was placed in some mass grave, but it seems extremely unlikely that Jesus' followers would have somehow lost track of his body.

There were known incidences of grave robbers, especially stealing the treasures from tombs, but this has been found only in Gentile regions, not Jewish ones.

And the disciples stealing the body of Jesus doesn't make much sense considering their future actions of proclaiming the Gospel to the entire known world against incredible odds, great tribulations and the martyrdom of many of them. People certainly die for their beliefs, but do not voluntarily die for what they would have known to be false, that is that Jesus did not rise from the dead because his body was stolen by the very ones proclaiming his resurrection.

The various and diverse eyewitness accounts of the Risen Jesus in a glorified body plus the fact of the empty tomb, certainly supports the historicity of the resurrection.

Other Events

This week, April 27th, we welcome Fr. Danny Taylor, Director of Vocations for the Lexington Diocese, for Saturday Mass who is filling in for Fr. Steve who is officiating at a wedding.

Catholic Way Bible Study Monday April 29th at 6pm in the FLC.

Movie Night continues May 1st at 6:30pm in the FLC with Bishop Barron's Catholicism Project, "Amazed and Afraid: The Revelation of God Become Man."

Confirmation-Sunday April 28th Join us for this special celebration for our two Confirmandi as they confirm their bond with the Holy Spirit. The Bishop will be here for this special event.

Women's Group Brunch will be Saturday, May 4th, 9:30am-11:30am in the Family Life Center.

Save the date-Vacation Bible School is back. VBS will be July 15-18 from 6pm-8:30pm at Lawrenceburg United Methodist Church. Volunteers needed! Call the office.

St. Lawrence Serves

Open Hands Pantry

If you would like to help feed the hungry of Anderson County, we always need the following non-perishable food items: Sugar, Peanut Butter, Canned Salmon, Canned Chicken, Canned Beef Stew, Green Beans, Corn, and Shelf Stable Milk.

St. Lawrence Gives

Saturday April 20	54	Offertory	\$ pending
Sunday April 21	123	Building	\$ pending
Domingo 21 abril	26	Diocesan Collection	\$ pending

St. Lawrence Community

Ministry Committee Chairs

Pastoral Council	Tony Silvernail	Finance Council	Annette Riddle
Liturgy	Deacon Chris Cecil	Formation	Robin Basham
Sacristans	Lupe Sepulveda	Altar Servers	Deacon Chris Cecil
EMOHC	Monty Collingsworth	Lectors	Sue Litkenhus
Greeters	Denis King	Altar Society	Cathy Figlestahler, Robin Basham
Homebound Ministry	Joy Bozorgzad	Funeral Coordinator	
Bible Study	Marcia Roark	Mowing Team	Bob Figlestahler
Open Hands Food Pantry	Andrea Dull, Lisa Cann	Hispanic Committee	Maria Gonzalez
Knights of Columbus	Johnny Benningfield	Women's Ministry	Vanna Armstrong, Diana Nichols

This Week's Birthdays

April 30 Merly Foote, Justin Perez Ramos; **May 4** Elenita Emerick, Alexis Zeibert

Thank You

We would like to thank all those that came out Saturday to help beautify the grounds with incredible landscaping. It looks great, a yard worthy of our Lord's house. Be on the lookout for more landscaping. Thanks to Tony Silvernail, Denis King, Kevin Basham, Lisa Cann, Kim Oploh, Donna House and Andrea Dull.

Other Events

Finance Council will meet Tuesday, April 30, at 6:30pm.

The Mowing Team is looking for people to partner up and form teams to help mow the church and rectory grounds. Contact Bob Figlestahler at 502-598-9287 for more information.

Diocese of Lexington Events

Second Collection for Home Missions

The Annual Collection for Home Missions will be taken up next weekend April 27th and 28th. What is a home mission diocese? Home mission dioceses are those Catholic dioceses in the United States, its territories, and former territories that cannot provide basic pastoral services without outside help. Basic pastoral services include Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and ministry training for priests, deacons, religious sisters, and laypeople. Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered home missions. Please give generously to The Home Missions Collection.

The Magnificat Breakfast will be on April 27, 2024 at 9AM at Christ the King Cathedral, 299 Colony Blvd., Lexington, KY (Hehman Hall). Speakers will be mother and daughter, Vicki and Jordan Luciano from Lexington. RSVP by April 13 at magnificatrvp@gmail.com.

St. Lawrence Supports



L Lovers Leap
Vineyards & Winery

1180 Lanes Mill Rd, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342
502-839-1299



American Legion Post 34
Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

"Come join the family"
Monthly meeting every
4th Tuesday @ 6:00
pm

For benefit questions, VA help or basic inquiries, Please Call
Sally Higgins, Service Officer Post 34 @ 1-303-521-0590



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