



# St. Lawrence the Martyr Church

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017



### MISSION STATEMENT

*St. Lawrence the Martyr Church is a community of Catholic Christians who gather together to celebrate the Eucharist, their love of Jesus Christ and their love of one another as children of Christ. We are a diverse community focused on creating an enthusiasm for our faith and enriching the lives for all who come to worship in our parish. Inviting and welcoming liturgies, multiple youth and young adult activities and adult enrichment programs all help make the Word of Christ a living reality at St. Lawrence.*

**Rev. Nicholas Bozza, Pastor**

**375 Main Street, P.O. Box 730, Chester, New Jersey 07930**

**Rev. Rolands Uribe, Parochial Vicar**

**Deacon William DeVizio, Permanent Deacon**

**Rev. Mr. Sylwester Pierzak, Transitional Deacon**

**Trustees:** Phil Guidone, Jeanne McCormick

**Parish Secretary:** Karen Jaworski

**Accountant:** Sharon McCann

**Business Manager:** Bill McCormick

### **Coordinators of Religious Education:**

Carla Fuscaldo, Dorothy Kudron, Terry Leing

Cynthia Vittitow— Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Brian Flanagan — Confirmation

Kathleen Galdi — DRE

**Music Minister:** Joseph P. Tamburro

**Youth Minister:** Brian Flanagan

**Mercy Minister:** Cindy Zeis

### **MASSES:**

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm (Spanish), 6:00 pm

Daily Mass: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am & 9:00 am, Sat. 9:00 am

Holy Day Vigil: 7:00 pm

Holy Day: 8:00 am, 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm (bi-lingual)

### **BAPTISMS:**

**Baptism Preparation Class:** First Friday of month of Baptism (7:30 pm).

**Baptisms:** Please call Parish Office to schedule.

### **SPANISH BAPTISMS:**

**Baptism Preparation Class:** First Friday of month of Baptism (7:30 pm).

**Baptisms:** Celebrated at Mass (1:00 pm) on 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays of month.

### **MARRIAGES:**

Please contact the Priest/Deacon whom you wish to officiate at your wedding one year in advance to arrange for Marriage Preparation Sessions.

### **PARISH MEMBERSHIP:**

Every family moving into the parish is requested to register. If you move to another parish or change your address, please notify the Parish Office.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:**

**Gr. K-4 & CGS 2:** Sun. 9:45-11:15 am

**Gr. 1-8 & CGS 1:** Thurs. 4:30-5:45 pm

**Gr. 5-8:** Sun. 4:30-5:45 pm OR Mon 7:00-8:15 pm

**Gr. 9-10:** Sunday evening

### **ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

RCIA: Sundays (September-Easter)

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 pm, Monday: 6:30-7:00 pm & on request.

### **SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:**

Please call the Parish Office anytime for communion calls or visitation of the sick and elderly. Keep us informed so that we can be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital.

**Parish Email:** [parish@stlchester.org](mailto:parish@stlchester.org)

**Parish Web Site:** [www.stlchester.org](http://www.stlchester.org)

**Web Master:** Joanne Franklin (908-879-6222)

### Parish Ministries and Ministry Facilitators

Welcome	Janet Villafane	(908) 879-3032	Haiti Twinning Program	Christine Colannino	(201) 314-9824
Bereavement	Don Martone	(908) 879-7957	Lectors	John Kennington	(908) 879-0827
Good Samaritans	Patsy Soden	(908) 879-3374	Eucharistic Ministers	Loretta Stewart	(973) 222-7492
Grocery Cards	Jean Ward	(908) 334-3442	Ushers	Bob Holl	(908) 876-3488
Moms & Tots	Melissa Altieri	(908) 797-0676	Music Minister	Joe Tamburro	(908) 453-3302
Arimathaea	Arlene McDonald	(973) 584-7319	Spanish Ministry	Louis Villafane	(908) 879-3032
Liturgical Environment	Joanne Carr	(908) 879-5543	Youth Minister	Brian Flanagan	(973) 946-8770
Women's Cornerstone	Eileen Bennett	(908) 420-6536	Altar Servers	Chuck Feller	(908) 768-2838
Men's Cornerstone	Marc McFeely	(973) 222-9739	Evangelization	Bob Holl	(908) 876-3488
Pastoral Adv. Board	Jerry Frech	(908) 377-2900	RCIA	Jan Richards	(908) 975-3555
Rosary Society	Marie Holl	(908) 876-3488	Respect Life	Connie Wiczorek	(908) 879-6453
Media Ministry	Jeanne McCormick	(908) 879-6884	Barn Ministry	Jack & Beverly Pickering	(908) 879-5169

**Parish Office:** 908-879-5371 **Priests' Home:** 908-879-1901 **Religious Ed.:** 908-879-6714 **Youth Minister:** 973-946-8770 **Fax:** 908-879-7701

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### MARY OF NAZARETH, VIRGIN AND MOTHER



In the seventh chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, Isaiah announces to King Ahaz that “the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son and shall name him Emmanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” The virgin with child is both a prophecy and a sign.

That a virgin will be with child is a remarkable sign that God was giving the king to confirm the power and presence of God. That a virgin will be with child is also a wonderful prophecy about the Virgin Mother of God. It is remarkable that Mary could become a mother without losing her virginity. That Mary remains both a virgin and a mother indicates her role as a model for all girls and women, the young and the old, the virgins and the mothers.

The Isaian prophecy about Mary is a source of great joy for us as we ponder the greatness of God!

*Father Nick*

### MARY'S POWERFUL RESPONSE

Newly confident, Mary says Yes. Notice that she does so in absolute freedom. No one coerces her. And she was free to say no.... She doesn't ask Joseph for permission. Nor does she tell the angel that she must consult with her father. The young woman living in a patriarchal time makes a decision about the coming king. Someone with little power agrees to bring the powerful one into the world: “Let it be with me according to your word.”

~Rev. James Martin, "Jesus: A Pilgrimage"

### THINK OF MARY

In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips, never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray; invoking her, you shall never lose heart.

~St. Bernard of Clairvaux

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

“Octave” comes from the Latin word for “eight,” and since eight is one step beyond seven, the number of days in a week, it has long been seen as a symbol of perfection, completion, and new beginnings. Early Christians called Sunday the “eighth day,” since it was the day after the Sabbath and a day of resurrected life, the Lord's Day. By the seventh century, people regarded the eight days after Easter Sunday as one great day, an octave, one glorious feast when people were forbidden to fast or kneel. In the seventh century, Pentecost acquired an Octave, too. Christmas didn't claim the honor of a continuous feast, but it did get an Octave Day. January 1 is the oldest Marian feast, the Octave of Christmas. It was originally a feast of the motherhood of Mary, although for centuries until 1969 it was called the Feast of the Circumcision. Our reformed calendar follows the earlier tradition of celebrating Mary as Mother of God.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION THIS WEEK****Thursday**

- CGS I - 4:30 pm

**Sunday**

- CGS II - 9:45 am
- FF - 9:45 am, 4:30 pm
- Confirmation classes - 5:40 pm

**MEETINGS THIS WEEK****Tuesday**

- Tutoring - 4:30 pm

**Wednesday**

- ESL - 7:30 pm
- PST Meeting - 8:00 pm

**Thursday**

- Moms & Tots - 10:00 am
- Bell Choir - 6:00 pm
- Adult Choir - 7:00 pm

**A SPECIAL CONFERENCE FOR FATHERS AND MIDDLE SCHOOL SONS**

To improve communication between fathers and sons and to strengthen the bonds between them, the St. Lawrence Faith Formation team is sponsoring a three hour conference for fathers and their middle school aged sons on **Saturday, January 14, from 9 am till noon in the Church Hall.** The morning will include holy Mass, breakfast and a session given by Fred Bunsu, a popular Catholic motivational speaker and corporate coach. Please consider joining us!

**FORGIVENESS**

*The Lord never tires of forgiving.  
It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness.*

Take a moment to reflect on the goodness of God, and seek His mercy on those areas of your life that are broken. The joy of the Lord is found in such a relationship with His loved ones.

**THE OLDEST KNOWN PRAYER TO MARY**

This prayer, known in Latin as *Sub Tuum Praesidium* and first found in a Greek papyrus c. 300 AD, is the oldest known prayer to the Virgin:

*We turn to you for protection,  
Holy Mother of God.  
Listen to our prayers  
And help us in our needs,  
Save us from every danger,  
Glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

**ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED**

If you are in the 4th grade or older, consider becoming an altar server! Training will be provided. If interested, please call Chuck Feller, our altar server coordinator, at 908-768-2838 or email [cnfeller@att.net](mailto:cnfeller@att.net).

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE  
January 7-8**

5:00 pm	8:00 am	10:00 am	11:30 am	6:00 pm
CB- Ann Hoye	CB- Daniel Kudron	CB- Grace Higgins	CB- Harlan Iverson	CB- Andrew Guido
S1- Beth Hoye	S1- Patrick Kudron	S1- Thomas Bulzachelli	S1- Maria Arostegui	S1- Stephen Howell
S2- Evan Tusa	S2-	S2- Nick Weah	S2-John Iverson	S2- Ali Wallace

**DAY OF ADORATION & PRAYER**  
**Friday, January 6,** is a day of adoration and prayer. All are invited to come to Our Lady's Chapel from **8:30 am-8:30 pm**. Adoration also takes place each subsequent Friday from 8:30-9:30 am in the chapel. Make it a New Year's resolution to spend more quiet time with the Lord.

**WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE SICK . . .**

Kirsten Mumma, William Ware, Julio Carrera, Sebastian Quinn, Ralph Bozza, Caroline Bozza, Sister Eucharistia, Father Eugene Romano, Father John Mushinsky, Father Rolands Uribe, Father Paul Knauer, Father Rafael Perez, Msgr. Martin Rauscher, Msgr. Richard Rusconi, Msgr. Pat Brown, Patrick John Moran, Ann Kelly, Bill Basso, Lloyd Matsamoto, Helen Crowe, Eileen George, Jane Alt, Patrick Pronio, Allison Spina, Lesley Pawar, Tom Walsh, Steve Briggs, Brian Graham, Colleen Saito, William Kelly, Mary Norwood, Diane Sones, Mary Lanzara, Rocco Colantuono, Diane Verge, Michael Marelli, Cade Feitel, Helen Lappin, Christine Ambrosino, Carole Stessl, Kathy Bollwork, Dick Goodwin, Nicholas Brown, Jane Rufino, Kevin Callahan, Camille McQueen, Judy Thelen, Mary Ross, Harro Ehrenbeck, Judith Stampone, Brian McAuliffe, Jeanette Mahoney, Paul Fitzgerald, Edward Boyle, Robert Snow, Lyndsay McNeil, Charlotte Poth

**Help us keep this list current!**  
**Please call Karen at 908-879-5371. Thank you.**

### 10 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS TO CONSIDER MAKING:

1. **Resolve to stay faithful to Jesus Christ. He is the one Truth, Way and Life. There's no reason to look elsewhere.**
2. **Resolve to not let anything – a career, a significant other, social media, a house – become an object of worship.**
3. **Resolve to watch your language and not speak any destructive talk, especially involving the name of God.**
4. **Resolve to prevent burnout by putting aside work one day a week. Trust God to provide for your needs that day and just enjoy the time He's given you.**
5. **Resolve to talk to your parents on a regular basis and show them love and respect.**
6. **Resolve to be angry less. Channel any feelings of rage, which Jesus said are as severe as murder, into worshiping God and serving others.**
7. **Resolve to honor your commitment to your spouse. Whether in thought or in deed, stay pure and loyal in the union God made.**
8. **Resolve to not take anything that's not yours, including stuff you can hold and put in your pocket, and plenty that you can't, like music downloads, streaming movies and hours on your timecard.**
9. **Resolve to speak about others only with truth and love, not gossip.**
10. **Resolve to be content with what you have and not worry about that others are amassing.**

### THE BEACON

#### Do You Receive The Beacon?

If you receive The Beacon, your support to help underwrite the monthly subscription bill would be greatly appreciated. The annual subscription fee is \$29.50. A check, made out to St. Lawrence Church, can be mailed to the Parish Office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. Thank you!

#### Would You Like to Subscribe or Cancel The Beacon?

Please contact Karen at the Parish Office:

908-879-5371 OR [kjaworski@stlchester.org](mailto:kjaworski@stlchester.org).

### NEW TO THE AREA?

We welcome those who have recently moved into the area. If you would like to become a registered parishioner of St. Lawrence Church, please obtain and fill out a registration form by either:

- ◇ Coming by the parish office during the week
- ◇ Calling 908-879-5371 to have a form mailed to you
- ◇ Visiting the church website to download a form



### MOVING?

#### LOCAL ADDRESS CHANGE?

Please notify the parish office by phone or email if you are moving or if your address has changed. We appreciate your help in keeping our parish directory up to date.

### CALENDARS FOR NEW YEAR

Calendars for 2017 are available at both exits of the church and in the Parish Center. Please be sure to pick one up after Mass or during the week.

### MARCH FOR LIFE

Friday, January 27, 2017

Washington, D.C.

Save the date!

Help us be the voice that supports life  
from conception to natural death.

### MASS BOOK 2017

Just a reminder that the Mass Book for 2017 is open for your Mass intentions. Please call or visit the Parish Office to schedule your desired dates and Mass times.

### PLEASE USE THESE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

#### Parish Office:

[parish@stlchester.org](mailto:parish@stlchester.org)

#### Faith Formation Office:

[fft@stlchester.org](mailto:fft@stlchester.org)

### DONATION STATEMENTS FOR 2016

If you use envelopes for weekend Mass collections, a statement of your donations for 2016 will be mailed directly to your home in the coming weeks. If you use ParishPay, you will receive an email statement of your yearly donations.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK****MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2017**

8:00 am - For the Souls in Purgatory  
 9:00 am - Fr. Edward Williams, OMI

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017**

8:00 am - Frank Fila  
 9:00 am - Jim Pasapane

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2017**

8:00 am - Gordon Furlong  
 9:00 am - For the Souls in Purgatory

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2017**

8:00 am - Jim Sommer  
 9:00 am - Maureen Makris

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2017**

8:00 am - Kevin Forkell  
 9:00 am - Parents of Mike & Elena Acerra

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017**

9:00 am - For the Souls in Purgatory  
 5:00 pm - Donald Jones

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017**

8:00 am - Fr. Edward Williams, OMI  
 10:00 am - Janice Mesce  
                   - Agastino "Gus" Coldabella  
 11:30 am - Timothy Parks  
                   - John W. Niemasz, Sr.  
 1:00 pm - For the People of the Parish  
 6:00 pm - Alice Welsh

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! (Numbers 6:22-27).

**Psalm** — May God bless us in His mercy (Psalm 67).

**Second Reading** — God sent the Spirit of the Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but an heir, through God (Galatians 4:4-7).

**Gospel** — The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (Luke 2:16-21).

**PASSIONS**

*We should employ our passions in the service of life,  
 not spend life in the service of our passions.*

~Richard Steele

**MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 4:14-22a  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20;  
                   Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Sal 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 2:1-11  
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;  
                   Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**THE NEW YEAR**

*May God be with you throughout  
 the new year,  
 and fill your life with  
 comfort, love and peace.  
 May this day and the days ahead  
 hold many blessings for you and yours.  
 Happy New Year!*

Fr. Nick, Fr. Rolands,  
 Deacon Bill, Deacon Sylwester  
 and the entire parish staff

**ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH OFFICES:  
 CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY**

The Parish Office and Faith Formation Office will be closed **Monday, January 2**. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 3.

**NEXT HEALING MASS**

**Tuesday, January 17**

**Rosary at 6:30 pm followed by Mass at 7:00 pm**  
**All are welcome!**

**Tithing: God's Plan for Giving.**

**From the pastor:** I thank you for your special gift to the Lord as we celebrate His birthday.

**A testimony from a parishioner of St. Christopher Church in East Hartford, CT:** "My husband and I do not agree on this. I will continue to help others. I will continue to make food/money donations as I have in the past. I will pray to better understand why he feels so differently and hope he'll change his mind. God bless all of you and thank you for all that you do."

**WE WERE ASKED TO ANNOUNCE****"Grave Matters –End of Life Decisions"**

Fr. Pawel Tomczyk, from St. Paul Inside the Walls, will expertly and delicately explore Catholic teaching on many end of life situations, including: palliative care, assisted suicide, euthanasia, hospice care, providing nutritional or extraneous life support, and more.

**When:** Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, ending at 9pm

**Where:** St. Therese Church Sanctuary



**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

<b>1</b> HAPPY NEW YEAR!  Mass-8 Mass-10 Mass-11:30	<b>2</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Confession-6:30	<b>3</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Tutoring-4:30	<b>4</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  ESL-7:30  PST-8	<b>5</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10  CGS  Bell Choir-6 Adult Choir-7  Men's Cor.-7	<b>6</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Adoration 9:30-8:30  BOLD Middle Ice Skating-6	<b>7</b>  Morn. Prayer-8:30 Mass-9  Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5
<b>8</b>  Mass-8 Mass-10 Mass-11:30 Mass-1 (Spanish) Mass-6  FF, CGS Confirmation clas- ses	<b>9</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Confession-6:30  FF  Good Sam.-7 Haiti-7	<b>10</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Tutoring-4:30  Wom. Cor.-7	<b>11</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  ESL-7:30  PAB-7  BOLD TNL-7:30	<b>12</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10  FF, CGS  Bell Choir-6 Adult Choir-7	<b>13</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Adoration 9:30-10:30	<b>14</b> WELCOME WEEKEND  Morn. Prayer-8:30 Mass-9  Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5  Antioch Team Re- treat  Father/Son Conf. – 9
<b>15</b> WELCOME WEEKEND  Mass-8 Mass-10 Mass-11:30 Mass-1 (Spanish) Mass-6  Antioch Team Re- treat Teaching Mass- 9:45	<b>16</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Confession-6:30	<b>17</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Healing Mass-7	<b>18</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  ESL-7:30	<b>19</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10  CGS  Bell Choir-6 Adult Choir-7	<b>20</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Adoration 9:30-10:30	<b>21</b>  Morn. Prayer-8:30 Mass-9  Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5  CGS II-Parent/ Child Med.-3:45
<b>22</b>  Mass-8 Mass-10 Mass-11:30 Mass-1 (Spanish) Mass-6  FF, CGS Confirmation Clas- ses	<b>23</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Confession-6:30  FF	<b>24</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Wom. Cor.-7	<b>25</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  ESL-7:30  PST-8	<b>26</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9 Moms & Tots-10  FF, CGS  Bell Choir-6 Adult Choir-7	<b>27</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Adoration 9:30-10:30  March for Life	<b>28</b>  Morn. Prayer-8:30 Mass-9  Confession-4-4:45 Mass-5
<b>29</b>  Mass-8 Mass-10 Mass-11:30 Mass-1 (Spanish) Mass-6  FF, CGS Confirmation Clas- ses	<b>30</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Confession-6:30  FF	<b>31</b>  Morn. Prayer-7:30 Mass-8, 9  Tutoring-4:30				



## SKI TRIP 2017

*Feb. 10-12*

Gore Mountain, NY

### Attention All High School Teens!

#### 2-Night Ski/Board Package:

- Round Trip Transportation
- 2-Night Hotel Stay
- 2-Day Lift Pass
- All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast
- VIP Dinner Saturday Night & Bowling Bash

**Registration Deadline  
is 1/9/2017**

QUAD: \$360  
TRIPLE: \$385  
DOUBLE: \$ 425

NEED MORE INFO?  
Contact Brian Flanagan  
StLawrence@boldym.com

**REGISTER ONLINE NOW! ♦ BOLDYM.COM/SKI17**

# BOLD B MIDDLE

All 6th, 7th, 8th Graders

ICE SKATING!

Friday, 1/6  
6:30-10:15pm



Ice Skating at Bridgewater Sports Arena

We'll hop on the bus at St. Lawrence Church at 6:30pm and return by 10:15pm.  
Download your form at [boldym.com/SLM/forms](http://boldym.com/SLM/forms). Please return the form to the Parish Center with a \$25 check to St. Lawrence Church by Tuesday, January 3rd.

Brian Flanagan • (973) 946-8770 • StLawrence@boldym.com