



St. Lawrence the Martyr Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Lawrence the Martyr Church is to continue to build a loving and welcoming community, to encourage our members to grow in holiness and to bring all people to Jesus.

Rev. Nicholas Bozza, Pastor

Street Address: 375 Main Street Chester, NJ 07930

Mailing Address: PO Box 730 Chester, NJ 07930

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Angel Torres

Permanent Deacons: Bill DeVizio, Greg Szpunar, Dave Galdi

Trustees: Phil Guidone, Margie Scobell

Parish Secretary: Karen Jaworski

Accountant: Sharon McCann

Business Manager: Robert Holl

MASSES:

Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9 am, 11 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish), 6 pm

Daily Mass: M-F: 8 am & 9 am. Sat.: 9 am Mon.: 7 pm (Spanish)

Holy Day Vigil: 7 pm (Spanish)

Holy Day: 8 am, 9 am, 5:30 pm, 7 pm **(Call office for latest changes.)**

Healing Mass: 7 pm every 3rd Tues. of month. Rosary at 6:30 pm

Healing Mass (Spanish): 7 pm every 4th Mon. of month.

BAPTISMS:

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

Baptism Preparation Class: Clergy will contact family to schedule.

SPANISH BAPTISMS:

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

Baptism Preparation Class: Clergy will contact family to schedule.

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.

Faith Formation/Religious Education:

Sr. Marie Luu — DRE, Youth Protection/Safe Environment

Dorothy Kudron (Gr. K-4), Sr. Marie Luu (Gr. 5–Confirmation)

Vimala Justin — Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Music Minister: Joseph P. Tamburro

Youth Minister: Allison Farnald

Mercy Minister: Cindy Zeis

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:

Sunday EARLY AM 8:50am-10:15am

Grades K, 1 & 2

Sunday AM 9:00am-11:15am *includes 9am Mass

Grades 1 - 6

Sunday PM 4:45pm-7:15pm *includes 6pm Mass

Grades 2 through YEAR 1 Confirmation

Sunday LATE PM 6:00pm-8:15pm *includes 6pm Mass

YEAR 2 Confirmation and High School Confirmation

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

RCIA: Sundays (September-Easter)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 4:00 pm, Monday: 6:30 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

Parish Web Site: www.stlchester.org

Parish Ministries and Ministry Facilitators

Altar Servers	Fr. Angel Torres	908-879-5371	Mary's Moonflowers	Karen Jones	973-479-5271
Arimathaea	Arlene McDonald	973-229-9697	Men's Cornerstone	Stanley Kudron	973-464-3872
Armata Bianca	Lorna Phillips	617-538-5567	Moms & Tots	Angela Albano	908-365-4007
Barn Ministry	Carla Fuscaldo	908-879-7647	Music Minister	Joe Tamburro	347-213-0621
Discover Gifts/Talents	Robert Holl	908-876-3488	Pastoral Adv. Board	Jerry Frech	908-377-2900
Eileen George Prayer Gr.	Fr. Nick Bozza	908-879-5371	Racial Justice Ministry	Bill DeVizio	732-236-3361
Eucharistic Ministers	Loretta Stewart	973-222-7492	RCIA	Jan Richards	908-975-3555
Family Mass Social	Marc McFeely	973-222-9739	Respect Life	Robert Holl	908-876-3488
Formation for Apostolates	Connie Wiecezorek	908-397-5986	Rosary Society	Marie Holl	908-876-3488
Good Samaritans	Patsy Soden	908-879-3374	Spanish Ministry	Louis Villafane	646-895-2753
Haiti Twinning Program	Christine Colannino	201-314-9824	Ushers	Bob Holl	908-876-3488
Knights of Columbus	Robert Holl	908-876-3488	Welcome	Michael & Lunden Scheller	973-908-9719
Lectors	Brian Curley	908-879-2090	Women's Book Club	Laura Star	254-640-6848
Liturgical Environment	Joanne Carr	908-879-5543	Women's Cornerstone	Lisette Howell	973-975-7343
			Youth Ministry	Allison Farnald	908-879-6714

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A FULL CHRISTIAN LIFE



In the 1950's, the Catholic Church in Spain launched a movement to deepen the faith of its people. It was called the Cursillo de la Cristianidad. (A Short Course in Christianity). This movement included a pre-evangelization element of community, several talks that offered both evangelistic testimonies and catechesis (lessons that had their roots in the lessons of Jesus) and alone time with Jesus in the chapel along with Mass and confessions during the three day retreat. I attended a Cursillo myself back in the 1990's and my parents had become part of the Cursillo Movement themselves in the 1980's, I believe.

For my parents, the Cursillo was a real-life changer. They had practiced their faith all of my life, but I remember a new fire and joy in them about our Catholic faith. They beamed with a desire to share our faith with others. They loved our Catholic faith and wanted others to enjoy it, too. They rarely missed an opportunity to share the faith with our relatives and friends and even with strangers and acquaintances. They wanted to help the "lukewarm." The Cursillo retreat and the follow up meetings had a profound effect on them.

One of the follow-up lessons to the Cursillo retreat was a lesson about a three-legged stool. To stand, the stool needed all three legs. An analogy was made between Catholic living and the stool. The three legs represented the Catholic life. The legs represented prayer, study and service. We all need to pray, learn more about our faith and to serve others. This lesson is still useful today.

I noticed that my parents had become daily Mass goers and were regular with their own personal prayer time and confessions and the monthly Cursillo meetings (Ultreyas). Cornerstone and Search and Antioch find their roots in the Cursillo movement. We all need to pray, study and serve. There is much we can learn from history!

God bless.

Father Nick



MARCH FOR LIFE
Friday, January 19, 2024
Washington, D.C.

*Be a voice for the unborn
as we march together
in Washington.*

The local councils of the Knights of Columbus are making provisions to provide a bus for this event. If you are interested in joining us, signup sheets are available in the church vestibule, Church Hall and Parish Center. Or email Bob Holl at rholl@stlchester.org with name, email address and reach number. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

HOSPITALIZED, HOMEBOUND, IN ASSISTED LIVING



Please contact our Parish Office if you know of anyone in the area who is hospitalized, homebound or in assisted living. Many would appreciate a friendly visit, a phone call, help with rides to medical appointments, or the opportunity to receive Communion. The smallest of gestures can be assurance that they haven't been forgotten. What a blessing that could be. Thank you for your help.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024**

8:00 am - Edward Stone
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Terry Mangione

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

8:00 am - John Forkell
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Julie Denberg

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

8:00 am - Maureen Makris
 9:00 am - Mena McAllister
 - Anthony DiLascio

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

8:00 am - Joseph Cingari
 9:00 am - Richard Parrish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024

8:00 am - Vito A. Bellezza
 9:00 am - Eugene Farbanish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024

9:00 am - Vito A. Bellezza
 5:00 pm - Richard Mills

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

7:30 am - Brian Spring
 9:00 am - Joyce DeMartino
 - JoAnne Connolly
 11:00 am - For the People of the Parish
 12:30 pm - Julio Carrera
 6:00 pm - For the Souls in Purgatory

IN CELEBRATION OF THE EPIPHANY

Epiphany, meaning “manifestation”, celebrates God’s glory being manifest to all nations symbolically through the Magi (three kings). In addition to blessing your home with the inscription below, this is a good day to set the Magi in the nativity scene and share their story from the Gospel of Matthew.

20 + C + M + B + 24

In Latin, the letters C M B stand for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, meaning “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway of a home and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

On this special day, often called ‘Little Christmas’, we immediately think of kings or magi, three in number, a star, bringing three mentioned gifts and discovering the presence of the newborn king. Our traditions, based on the scriptures, call us today to be no different than the travelers from the east.

Our journey is to find the Christ today. Our traveling brings us to a church and sacraments. Having been so blessed, we are asked to bring the gift of ourselves to the Lord and share Him with the most in need.

In this age of ‘re-gifting’, we know we have the Lord and others are waiting to meet Him. Follow the star as He leads you to someone really in need. Jesus thanks you.

TITHING IS GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING.

Biblically a tithe means 10%. All are asked to consider tithing and return 10% of our income to the Lord (5% to the parish, 5% to God’s other charities) in gratitude.

Tithing Income for December 31, 2023 \$11,353.00

Tithing Income for January 1, 2023 \$ 7,773.00

From Father Nick: “Thank you for the sacrifices that you make for God and for His Church.”

From a Parishioner of St. Therese Church, Succasunna: “As I reflected on the scriptural basis for tithing, on my relationship with God, and the fact that God has been good to me — He has given me so many blessings — my attitude changed. I began to think that, despite the fact that 5 % seems like a lot of money to me, I think I can do it.”

TEMPER AND PRIDE

Temper is what gets most of us into trouble.

Pride is what keeps us there.

—Anonymous

**NEXT HEALING MASS**

**Tuesday, January 16 at 7 pm
 Begins with Rosary at 6:30 pm**

Come bring your prayers
 for healing.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

St. Lawrence Church welcomes all children Grade 3 and older to join our Altar Server Ministry!

There will be a meeting on Friday, February 9 at 5:00 pm in the church. Please contact Fr. Angel at atorres@stlchester.org if interested.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

**Welcome! We are very happy
 to have you here with us!**



If you haven’t done so already, please register with the parish by visiting www.stlchester.org so we can keep you up to date with events, schedules and news.



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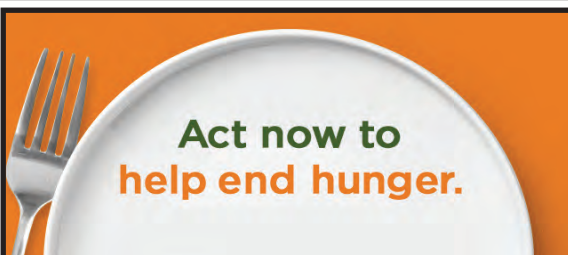
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