



# St. Lawrence the Martyr Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 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 :**

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

**Parish Web Site:** [www.stlchester.org](http://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	973-760-7633	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 Wiczorek	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		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

### RETIREMENT AND DAILY MASS



Retirement can be a time of opportunities. Without the time demands of daily employment and of commuting to and from work, retired persons can explore different activities that seemed impossible before their retirement. I would like to make a suggestion to our parish retirees. We have two morning Masses from Monday to Friday. These Masses are at 8 and 9 am. Beginning the day with the Mass can set the tone for our day. To hear God's Word and to experience the closeness of Jesus in Holy Communion gives a wonderful start to the other activities that fill the day. In addition, the 8 am Mass is the better attended of the two morning Masses. Being at the 8 am Mass can give one the opportunity to socialize also. Many people stop in the foyer and the kitchenette of the

Parish Center to mix and mingle a bit and share a cup of coffee and maybe a little snack before heading home or to their next activity. The social dimension is a nice part of the morning Mass. If you are retired, please consider joining us for one of our morning Masses! I think you will really enjoy it.

### MOTHERS AND THE 9 AM MASS

Many years back, we added a 9 am Mass to our weekday life at St. Lawrence Church. It was added to be convenient for mothers who have just sent their children off to school. Mothers, the 9 Mass from Mondays to Fridays can be a great blessing for you. Why not give it a try?

God bless.

*Father Nick*

### PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

**"A prophet like me will the Lord God raise up for you, from among your own kin, to him you shall listen... I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into their mouth. He shall tell them all that I command him. Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it."**

The first pages of scripture tell us of a promised redeemer. The prophets, the spokespersons for God, constantly reminded the people of their covenant with God. John the Baptist pointed out Jesus as the one. Jesus being present made a new covenant and today that covenant is renewed in His church.

Promise, prophets, presence, preaching, the story of salvation for us all. Today we are called to listen to the voice of God found in the teaching and preaching of our church leaders, chosen ones, who are calling us to awaken and respond to the covenant God made with us. We hear the word proclaimed at Mass; we open the bible at home to reflect upon it. We have so many resources on YouTube or Relevant Radio to continue to form and reform our lives. May this help us answer for His call.



**MEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT**  
**April 19 -20, 2024**  
**Sisters of Christian Charity, Mendham**

More details to follow.

Questions?

Contact Stanley Kudron: 973-464-3872



### COLLECTING OLD PALMS

Please bring back your old palms and place in the receptacles found at the church entrances and in the Parish Center. We will burn these palms and use the ashes on Ash Wednesday.

**Ash Wednesday is February 14**  
**Easter Sunday is March 31**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK****MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024**

8:00 am - Spec. Int. of Joe Staigar  
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Julie Denberg

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024**

8:00 am - Spec. Int. of Tony Mangione  
 9:00 am - Brenda Reaves

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024**

8:00 am - Spec. Int. of Mary Stone  
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Spring Family

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

8:00 am - Myriam Schneider  
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Beata Welsh  
                   - Thomas Welsh

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024**

8:00 am - Conrad Spring  
 9:00 am - Ileana Villagra

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024**

9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Robertiello Family  
 5:00 pm - For the People of the Parish

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

7:30 am - Robert Aquino  
                   - Jim Ward, Sr.  
 9:00 am - Spec. Int. of Unborn & their Families  
                   - Margaret Sweeney  
 11:00 am - Donald Rasweiler  
 12:30 pm - For the Souls in Purgatory  
 6:00 pm - Joseph Cingari



**BLESSING OF THROATS**  
 At all Masses  
 the weekend of February 3-4  
 (Including 9 am Mass on Saturday)

On February 3, on the memorial of St. Blaise, the custom is to bless the throat of the faithful after Mass.

*"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness."*

**MORE**

*Care more than others think necessary.  
 Trust more than others think wise.  
 Serve more than others think practical.  
 ~Anonymous*



**GIVING  
STATEMENTS**

**ANNUAL GIVING  
STATEMENT**

If you would like a copy of your 2023 contributions to St. Lawrence Church for tax purposes, please contact Karen in the Parish Office at [kjaworski@stlchester.org](mailto:kjaworski@stlchester.org) or call 908-879-5371. Please indicate whether you use envelopes or WeShare (online giving).

**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.

<b>Tithing Income for January 21, 2024</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Tithing Income for January 22, 2023</b>	<b>\$ 9, 047.00</b>

**From Father Nick:** "I thank you all for your confidence in God as you follow His plan for giving!"

**From a Parishioner of St. Augustine Parish, Seymour, CT:** "Tithing has been my salvation. Returning to God part of my income made me realize that I must return more of my time to those around me. Doing this has been rewarding here and hopefully hereafter."

**NO 6 PM MASS****On Super Bowl Sunday, February 11**

Please make note of this schedule change.

**NEXT HEALING MASS**

**Tuesday, February 20 at 7 pm**  
**Begins with Rosary at 6:30 pm**

Come bring your prayers  
 for healing.

## Joyful Ever After

Getting the Marriage You Want from the Marriage You Have  
 With Keynote Speakers Damon and Melanie Owens

**February 10**  
**10am-3:30pm**

From the beginning, God created marriage to perfect us in life, love, and joy! It was created to transfer His deepest mystery into the visible reality of our world. So, why is marriage so hard? Every stage of married life seems to carry its own challenges to our intimacy, faithfulness, finances, communication, prayer—even our dignity and identity.

We all start our marriage journey with such hope, joy, friendship, and confidence in our future life together. But the everyday weight of life can bring doubt, fear, frustration, and loneliness. We need constant renewal and refreshment in order to get the marriage we want from the marriage we have! This renewal begins first with you individually, then as a couple, and finally in community with other couples.

You can restore your wedding-day joy, and as we are discovering, grow it into something even greater than you can imagine. Let's enrich, strengthen, and encourage each other, learning together how to live joyfully ever after!

For registration, please visit:

<https://insidethewalls.org/marriage-conference>

# PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN FOOD PACK PROGRAM

## Catholic Charities of Paterson



St. Lawrence Church continues to support the diocesan wide Pre-School Food Pack Program which provides needy pre-school children of the El Mundo Del Nino School in Paterson with a supply of healthy food and snacks and a meal for families. The families appreciate our support.

**This year we are asked to provide 100 food packs that will be delivered to Paterson by Friday, February 16.**

A typical food pack for each child includes:

**2 breakfast items** (instant oatmeal pack) [200 needed]

**2 lunch items** (Chef Boyardee Micro Meal Beefaroni, Kraft Easy Pack Mac & Cheese) [200 needed]

**1 milk** (Horizon White Milk) [100 needed]

**1 Apple and Eve 100% apple juice** [100 needed]

**1 fruit cup** (diced peaches, Mandarin orange segments, apple sauce) [100 needed]

**2 snacks** (Rice Krispie Treat, soft and chewy granola bars) [200 needed]

**1 meal to share with family** (16 oz. bag white rice, 5 oz. can tuna, 16 oz. bag dry black beans) [100 rice or beans needed / 100 cans of tuna needed]

**Please stick to these items above. The food packs will be assembled by the Good Samaritans on Monday, February 12.**

**Thursday, February 1 - Sunday, February 11:**

**Leave donations in Church Hall or bins in front of church.**

**Shoprite gifts cards are also appreciated.**

**(Place gift cards in collection basket marked for the food drive.)**

**As always, thank you for your generous support!**

# ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS GRADE 3  
AND OLDER



FRIDAY  
9 FEBRUARY



TIME  
5:00

PLACE : CHURCH

CONTACT FATHER ANGEL  
[ATORRES@STLCHESTER.ORG](mailto:ATORRES@STLCHESTER.ORG)

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THOUGHTS AND TIME TO JESUS"  
POPE FRANCIS



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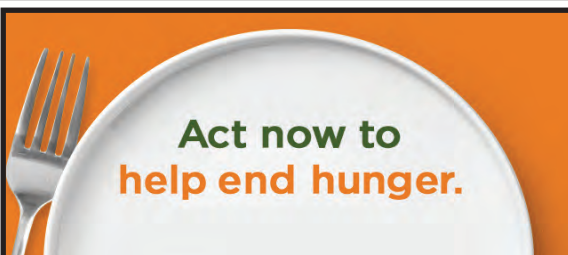
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