



Bulletin

Making disciples of Jesus as a university Catholic church
Please visit umncatholic.org for more details

(612) 331-7941 | info@umncatholic.org

Mass

Tues - Fri: 12:15pm | Sat: 9am
Sun: 8am, 10:30am, 7pm

Confession

Tues - Sat after Daily Mass

Building Hours

Tues - Fri: 10am - 4:30pm

Reflection from Fr. Jake

December 10, 2021

Dear Friends of St. Lawrence,

I recall coming to Mass as a child and seeing the third Advent candle (the rose-colored one) being lit and my mother whispering to me “it means Jesus’ birth is getting closer!” This is a great fact about our Catholic faith in that we use signs and symbols—visible things, to communicate invisible realities.



This Sunday we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. We light the rose-colored candle and (some) priests even have the audacity to wear rose vestments! It has nothing to do with “one’s favorite color” (or least for that matter) but rather symbolizes the fact of the Lord’s nearness. It is this nearness to God that gives us joy—hence, Gaudete (Joy) Sunday. It is a visible reminder of an invisible reality: the Lord draws close to us.

And yet, lest we forget, every mystery of the Lord is true for all times, not just some times. In other words, by celebrating Divine nearness this Sunday, it is also the case that God is always near, even if we are not aware of this fact. Might I add, especially if we are not aware of this fact.

I have been drawn to Fr. Tadeusz Dajczar’s book entitled *Amazing Nearness*, in which he says this:

“I have a distorted picture of God. As I say the Our Father at Mass in a routine sort of way, I don’t discover His reality. I usually don’t realize that first word Abba, Father, allows me to turn to Him with all tenderness:

WHAT'S NEW?

This morning, Pope Francis named Father Joseph Williams, a priest of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, as Auxiliary Bishop! Bishop-elect Williams is currently the pastor of the Church of Saint Stephen and the Church of the Holy Rosary, both in Minneapolis. Please pray for him during his transition.

Wednesday, December 15 at 5pm adoration will conclude for the semester.

Beginning, **Tuesday, December 21st**, the building hours will change to **11am - 2pm**, Tuesday - Friday. Saturdays will be the normal Mass and Confession time. This will remain in effect until **Tuesday, January 18th**.

Catholicism Considered has ended for the semester. For more resources during the holiday break, please visit umncatholic.org/resources.

The **Christmas and New Years Masses** are as follows:

- Friday, Dec. 24: 5pm
- Saturday, Dec. 25: 9am
- Sunday, Dec. 26: 10:30am **ONLY**
- Saturday, Jan 1: 9am **ONLY**
- Sunday, Jan 2: 10:30am **ONLY**

Sunday, January 9th will return to the regularly scheduled three Masses. There will be no confessions following the Masses listed above.

St. Lawrence Newman Center is hiring a Director of Development and Business Administrator. To learn more about the positions, click [here](#) or visit our website.

Reflection from Fr. Jake cont..

Abba, Father who loves us, loves me until He is weary . . . You sought me—these words tell about His closeness. God is not at all distant. On the contrary, He is so close that He is ceaselessly taken up with me, especially in the Eucharistic miracle. My distorted picture of God arises from the Original Sin, culture, upbringing, and contemporary society, most of all resistance to grace. I get a proper idea of God from something good that I do in response to His grace; any infidelity, however minimal, deforms this image. The way to God is through improving my images of Him. St. John of the Cross explains that God has to tackle our illusions. I have to let Him do it.”

As your spiritual father, I pray that our faith may be ever stronger. To believe in the Lord’s nearness even if we do not feel or perceive this nearness. In the words of St. Thomas Aquinas: “What the senses fail to fathom, let us grasp through faith’s consent!”

May the Lord be ever close to us and we to Him,
Fr. Jake

NEWS CONT...

Check out any news and updates at umncatholic.org/st-lawrence

Do you have a prayer intention? We have a place to collect your prayers [here](#) or on our website. Please pray for us as we pray for you.

We are grateful to our generous supporters for contributing to the mission here at St. Lawrence. Consider giving a gift today at umncatholic.org/donate or contact Rochelle Shirk at 612-261-2808.

Mass Intentions

Sun. Dec. 12 | 8am: + Richard Jordan, 10:30am: For Our Parish, 7pm: + Lynn Crane | Tues. Dec. 14: Jack Crane
Wed. Dec. 15: Megan Foht | Thurs. Dec. 16: + Carl Holub | Fri. Dec. 17: + Fr. Timothy Nolan | Sat. Dec. 18: + Rene Juncosa

Third Sunday of Advent | December 12 - December 18 Ministries and More at St. Lawrence Newman

CSU

Join our email list found at umncatholic.org/weekly-email for the most up-to-date information.

UNITE: Dec 14 at 7:30pm - Join us this Tuesday for a CSU Christmas party.

For more information, contact Br. Matthew at bromatthew@brohope.net.

Young Adults

Come check out the St. Lawrence Young Adult Group. This group is targeted at those 22-32 years old. The group meets every other Wednesday at 7:15pm in the Social Hall. For more information, please contact youngadults@umncatholic.org

Women's Group

The Women’s Group provides opportunities to share experiences, wisdom, and hold fundraising events. Email President Jacqueline Dekker Travis at jdekkertr@aol.com to learn more or visit umncatholic.org/womens-club

Women's Book Club

December 27 - 7pm: **Homegoing** by Yaa Gyasi
January 24 - 7pm: **In the Midst of Winter** by Isabelle Allende

Call Izabella Frederiksen, Communications Coordinator at 612.261.2806 to receive the zoom meeting number. All are welcome.

Giving Tree

Please see our giving tree in the gathering space. Take an ornament from the tree, purchase the item listed, and return it to the parish office by **December 21** so we can distribute the gifts to those in need in our parish and community.

Christmas Flowers

We would like to give the community of St. Lawrence Catholic Church and Newman Center the opportunity to purchase Christmas flowers in honor or in memory of loved ones. The suggested donation is \$15. Names of those honored will appear in the bulletin on the Sunday after Christmas. Complete this form, get the form from [this link](#) on our website or fill out the form in the gathering space and turn it in to the parish office.

Donor: _____

In memory or in honor of: _____

Prayer Requests

- For the repose of the soul of Karson Janssen
- For Jim and Ellen Gardner
- Healing for two-year old Wyatt.

To request a prayer, visit umncatholic.org

Victim Assistance Program: (651) 291-4475