



# Basilica

Saint Lawrence

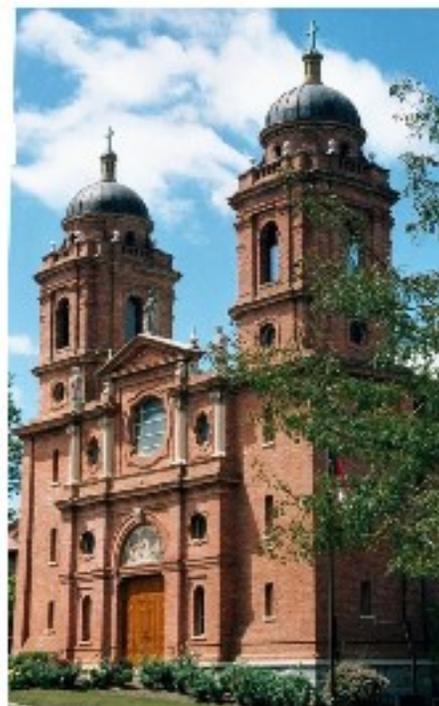
DEVMIN & MARTYR

## WELCOME!

*Our Parish is blessed to provide for the worship of the Blessed Trinity and the distribution of the graces of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Sacraments for our parishioners and visitors.*

## ¡Bienvenido!

*Nuestra parroquia tiene la bendición de proveer para la adoración de la Santísima Trinidad y la distribución de las gracias del Santo Sacrificio de la Misa y los Sacramentos para nuestros feligreses y visitantes.*



**MOST REVEREND PETER J. JUGIS**

*Bishop of the Diocese of Charlotte*

### BASILICA CLERGY

Father Roger K. Arnsperger, V.E.

*Rector & Pastor*

Father Nohe Torres

*Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Philip Miles

*Deacon*

### PARISH OFFICE

#### Hours of Operation

Tuesday—Friday:  
9:00am to 12:00 Noon

#### Street Address

97 Haywood Street  
Asheville, NC 28801

#### Mailing Address

PO Box 1850  
Asheville, NC 28802

#### Contact

828.252.6042

basilicacomm@gmail.com

RAFAEL GUASTAVINO, ARCHITECT

Built 1905—1909

DEDICATION

October 17, 1909

CONSECRATED

October 13, 1920

DESIGNATED A MINOR BASILICA

April 6, 1993

NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE DESIGNATIONS

National Register of Historic Places, 1978

National Significance, 2010

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:00 am, 12:00 Noon (English)

4:00pm (en Español)

### DAILY MASSES

Monday and Friday: 12:10 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 7:30 am

### SACRAMENTS

#### Reconciliation

Friday: 12:45 – 1:30 pm

Saturday: 8:30 to 9:30 am

#### Baptisms

[Saintlawrencebasilica.org/baptism](http://Saintlawrencebasilica.org/baptism)

#### Marriage

[saintlawrencebasilica.org/marriage](http://saintlawrencebasilica.org/marriage)

(Inquire at least one year prior to a proposed wedding date)

#### Anointing of the Sick

Call to make an appointment before surgery or entering a hospital. This is offered before or after a scheduled Mass.

### DEVOTIONS

#### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction

Friday: 11:00 am – 11:45 am

#### Angelus

Friday: 12:00 noon

#### Rosary

Sunday: 8:30 am

#### Eucharistic ADORATION BEFORE THE TABERNACLE,

#### PRAYER, AND VISITS

Mon: 11:00 am – 12:00 noon

Tues: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Wed: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Thur: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

## BASILICA ACTIVITIES

**DEAR VISITORS:** All are welcome to attend Mass at the Basilica and visit during our new visiting hours as shown below in our Schedule of Activities and Fr. Arnsparger's weekly article.

**LIVE STREAMING:** Masses that are being live streamed and/or recorded for upload to our YouTube channel are notated with an "\*" in the schedule below.

**CONFESSIONS**—Church Vestibule as directed by Greeters—shown below.

**HOLY HOUR—EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & BENEDICTION**—shown below.

## Mass Intentions & Activities

\* denotes Live Streaming

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 19 -**

\*5:00pm *Vigil* Special Intention

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 20 - The Third Sunday of Lent**

\*9:00am Pro Populo

12:00pm Special Intention

4:00pm *Español* Special Intention

Choir Warm Up, 8:15am, LCR

Rosary, 8:30 am, Basilica

First Holy Communion Preparation, 10:15am, Basilica

Preparación de Primera Comunión, 2:15pm, Basilica

### **MONDAY, MARCH 21 -**

12:10pm Special Intention

Private Prayer & Visits, 11:00am - 11:45am, Basilica

Spanish Prayer Group, 6:30pm, Basilica

### **TUESDAY, MARCH 22 -**

7:30am † John Kabel by Knights of Columbus

Private Prayer & Visits, 11:00am-1:00pm and 3:00pm-5:00pm, B

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 - St Turibius of Mogrovejo**

\*7:30am † Bill & LaVerne Butcher by Verne & Terry Franks

Private Prayer & Visits, 11:00am-1:00pm and 3:00pm-5:00pm, B

Stations of the Cross, 5:30pm, Basilica

Via Crucis, 6:30pm, Basilica

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 24 -**

7:30am † Don Giulio Matteuzzi by Massimilla Harris

Private Prayer & Visits, 11:00am-1:00pm and 3:00pm-5:00pm, B

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm, Basilica

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 25 - THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

12:10pm † Luci Pinto by Flavia Rossi

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction, 11:00am, Basilica

Confession, 12:45pm—1:30pm, Basilica

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 26 -**

\*5:00pm *Vigil* Pro Populo

Confession, 8:30am - 9:30am, Basilica

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 27 - The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

\*9:00am † Janet Bryan by Suzanne Harter

12:00pm † Charles Hearn by Fr. Arnsparger

4:00pm *Español* Special Intention

Choir Warm Up, 8:15am, LCR

Rosary, 8:30 am, Basilica

Donuts & Coffee with KOC, 10:00am, Courtyard

Catholic Daughters, 2:00pm, Laurentine Hall

## FROM THE PASTOR

Sunday, March 20, 2022, The Third Sunday of Lent

Dear Parishioners,

"Unless you repent..." These words of our Lord remind us of His first proclamation of salvation in His public ministry: "Repent and believe the Good News." Our Lenten exodus has begun, and we are already at the third Sunday of Lent! Our disciplines have helped us "repent" by focusing us on the spiritual journey to "be in the presence of the Lord" as we pray in the second Eucharistic Prayer. The Catholic life is all about living in the "presence" of the Lord.

Moses understood his privilege to "live in the presence" of the Lord. Imagine his spiritual encounter with the Divine Presence in the burning bush. We read from Exodus: "As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So, Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned." God invites Moses into a mystic experience, but there are requirements: "When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers, he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God." God gives Moses a call to reverence, humility, and inclusion in the promise to the patriarchs.

Like Moses we have approached the living God as we come to Holy Mass. We are on Holy Ground here and here God allows us to enter into the redeeming sacrifice of the Cross; He offers us the graces we need to be reverent, humble, and included in the Promise of redemption.

This Lent is a time for us to reawaken our amazement of God's presence in our lives and especially His Presence here at Holy Mass. Our amazement is like that of Moses when He saw the burning bush. When we come to Mass we express our amazement at His Presence by many practices: we dress in our Sunday best, we prepare by getting up early and reading the Mass readings before getting to Holy Mass; we arrive at Mass early to prepare, we reverently and slowly genuflect in recognition of the Divine presence, we kneel and tell the Lord our intentions and concerns as we prepare to worship Him, we tell him of our gratitude for being at His Holy Mass. God has called us as He called Moses to come closer but to remember that we are on Holy Ground.

Christ calls us to "repent" and gives us another Lent to do so. Like the tree in the Gospel, He says to us: "Crescat!" Let it grow! Our Lenten practices prepare the soil of our lives, they water it, weed it, and nourish it to "bear fruit" in growing in reverence, humility, and inclusion in God's Holy Church. As we grow spiritually, we will bear much good fruit of holiness for the Lord and that holiness will allow us to serve the Lord well in our practical use of time and talent and treasure.

Each of us really longs to be in God's presence. Unworthy though we may be, God stands in our midst - He is in the Church. Through the Church the living waters of Grace, God's divine life is offered to us. Lent is the time for us to "soften" our hearts and yearn for that Grace. As we discipline ourselves, we let go of the attachments we have developed so that we can make room for God's grace. Let us continue to empty ourselves of being self-absorbed so that there is room for God's Grace to be poured into our hearts. Let it grow! That is, the grace in our souls. Let us look deeply now into our hearts. Let us yearn for eternal life. Let us open our softened hearts to the Lord Who wishes to pour into us His living Grace, His life. Let us walk with the Church in our Exodus to Easter when we will renew our Baptismal promises and celebrate the 50 days of Easter. Let us pray for each other for blessings in this season.

May our Lord bless you and our Lady keep you in her tender care. With my prayers, Father Arnsparger

## Week Day Readings for Mass

MAR 20:Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9 (30) or, for Year A, Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42 (28) Pss III

MAR 21:\*2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30 (237)

MAR 22:Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35 (238)

MAR 23:Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19 (239)

MAR 24:Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23 (240)

MAR 25:Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38 (545) Pss Prop

MAR 26:Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14 (242)

[\*The following readings may be used on any Lenten day this week, especially in Years B and C when the Gospel of the Samaritan Woman is not read on the Third Sunday of Lent: Ex 17:1-7/Jn 4:5-42 (236)]

Please support our Bulletin Advertisers: [Click Here to View](#)

## Parish Announcements for Sunday, March 20, 2022

For more information contact the parish office at 828.252.6042 or visit [saintlawrencebasilica.org](http://saintlawrencebasilica.org)

### 2022 DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL

#### "FAITH...MORE PRECIOUS THAN GOLD"

This year's DSA campaign is underway. Our assessment is \$68,172.00.

At present 75 households have pledged a total of \$37,297.56. We are gaining ground! We still have a balance to be pledged of \$30,872

.44 to meet our assessment. You may complete a pledge envelope and return it to the Parish Office or make a gift online at: [charlottediocese.org/dsa](http://charlottediocese.org/dsa), text "DSA" to 704-389-2096, or scan the QR code: Thank you to all who have already pledged. Watch for more updates in the weekly bulletin.

On behalf of those who benefit from the Diocesan Support Appeal, thank you for your generosity. Remember, "Faith More Precious Than Gold" – putting our faith into action to support the diocesan ministries that serve those in need, bring the light of Christ to those in the dark, and encourage vocations.



## Ways To Give

<b>Online</b>	<a href="http://charlottediocese.org/dsa">charlottediocese.org/dsa</a>
<b>Text</b>	"DSA" to 704-389-2096
<b>Envelope</b>	mail pledge card to diocese or contact your parish office
<b>QR Code</b>	

**Thank You**  
for your 2022 DSA  
donation which will be  
credited to our parish!



### SAINT LAWRENCE ALTAR SOCIETY



Would you like to serve as a member of the Altar Society? Please contact Andrew Davis for more information about this parish ministry at: 828-779-9371, or email: [basilicamusic@aol.com](mailto:basilicamusic@aol.com).

#### VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

**Repent, says the Lord;  
the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

~ Mt 4



### LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

"Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection."

### THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them and indeed she exhorts them to contribute to the good of the People of God by freely uniting themselves to the Passion and death of Christ. [Catechism of the Catholic Church 1499](#)

The Anointing of the Sick is normally celebrated before or after a Sunday or daily Mass.

Active Parishioners should make an appointment to schedule the Sacrament of the Sick before going to the hospital or a care facility.

Please call the office at 828-252-6042 to request an appointment for an Anointing or by completing the online form on our website at: <https://saintlawrencebasilica.org/anointing-of-the-sick>. The form is located on the left side bar.

### ST. LAWRENCE PARISH IS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Our Diocese and Parish have been blessed for over 20 years of having a very good program for education on making our parishes safe for all who participate and visit. To continue with that goal, we require all volunteers at St. Lawrence Parish to participate in our "Safe Environment Program" to protect all members of our Parish Family, in particular children and vulnerable adults. This program consists of each volunteer:

1. Completing a Volunteer Profile Form (to be kept at the Parish Office)
2. Having a Background Check run and renewed every 5 years (paid for by the Parish)
3. Reading the Diocesan Safe Environment Polices and signing electronically that you have read: "The Diocese of Charlotte Code of Ethics/ Conduct" and "The Policy of the Diocese of Charlotte Concerning Ministry-Related Sexual Misconduct by Church Personnel."
4. Attending one VIRTUS program of "Protecting God's Children Workshop" (online or in person)
5. Reading and staying current with the online Monthly VIRTUS training bulletins

After the Volunteer Profile Form (#1) is complete, the other elements of our Safe Environment Program (#2-#5) are now done online through [Virtusonline.org](https://virtusonline.org). If you do not have a VIRTUS account, please call the Office so that we can help you set it up and arrange for the background check. Thank you for helping us keep St. Lawrence Parish a safe and welcoming parish!



In the event of inclement winter weather go to **WLOS.com** to find information on delays and closings.

**ONLINE GIVING**  
*Scan to Give*



### WHAT ST. LAWRENCE IS DOING TO ADDRESS

#### MITIGATION OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION

- Sign placement to encourage 6-foot social distancing, and frequent hand sanitization, if necessary.
- All hymnals and missalettes have been removed.
- Offertory baskets are available as you enter and leave the church, not passed down the pews.
- Communion offered under one species; consecrated host.
- The Sign of Peace, which is an optional rite, is suspended.
- Touchless Holy Water Fonts.
- Limited supplies of disposable masks are available for those who need one and forgot to bring their own.
- Parishioners are asked to bring their own hand sanitizer; an extra supply is on hand if needed.
- Continued monitoring of Diocesan, Federal, State, and Local Covid-19 recommendations and apply as needed

#### FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

- **Office Hours:** The Parish Office is open Tuesday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.
- **Appointments:** To request an appointment, please complete the online form at: <https://saintlawrencebasilica.org/appointments> or call the office at 828-252-6042.
- **Phone Calls to Office:** If your call is not answered, please leave a detailed voicemail with your full name and reason for calling. Staff will return your call.
- **Bulletin:** The weekly bulletin continues to be published in digital format only. It is typically uploaded to the parish website on Friday afternoon.
- **Covid-19 Updates:** Please visit the parish website for any Covid-19 Updates we may need to post.
- **Mass Intentions:** To schedule Mass Intentions, please use our online form: <https://saintlawrencebasilica.org/schedule-a-mass> This is the most efficient way for office staff to handle your request.

## Parish & Community Announcements - March 20, 2022

### FREE WINTER NFP CLASS SERIES

1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (FEB.- MAY)

Calling all engaged and married couples of childbearing age! What better way to start the New Year, than by learning how to use a 100% hormone free method of Natural Family Planning (NFP). This Fertility Education and Medical Management (FEMM) course teaches the nuances of the woman's cycle and focuses on ovulation as a sign of health. A comprehensive series that will cover the basics of charting, including application of Family Planning protocols. Learn to chart daily as a self-care practice & optimize fertility while increasing appreciation of God's design and Feminine Genius. Make a New Year's resolution to commit or (re- commit) to consistent tracking of your signs of fertility by registering today!

**April 5th** FEMM Expert

**May 3rd** Q & A medical management with Megan Blum, P.A.-C from MyCatholicDoctor.com (location TBD)

**Location:** St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, [102 Andrews Place, Swannanoa, NC 28778](#)

**Childcare:** Limited availability for childcare will be available with pre-registration one week in advance!

**Pre-registration required:** Elizabeth Harris, BSN, RN at [avlfemminstructor@gmail.com](mailto:avlfemminstructor@gmail.com) or call (828)-214-7789.

*\*Please plan to eat before you come. Dinner will not be served.*

### THE BISHOP'S YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

APRIL 9, 2022

9:00AM-3:00PM

REGISTER ONLINE AT [GOEUCCHARISTIC.COM](http://GOEUCCHARISTIC.COM)

\$15/person, includes lunch

Bishop Peter J. Jugis invites middle and high school youth to join him at Belmont Abbey for a day of prayer and adoration of our Eucharistic Lord. The Bishop's Youth Pilgrimage is graciously hosted by Belmont Abbey College and Monastery and provides youth with an experience of the Catholic faith with uplifting music and dynamic speakers. The Youth Pilgrimage is the perfect opportunity to prepare the way for the Eucharistic Congress.



### DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP?

If you or someone you know is experiencing financial difficulties, please remember that the Society of St. Vincent de Paul wants to help. Over the past 23 years we have helped with rent, utility bills, auto repairs, bus passes, emergency food and other needs. You may leave a message for the St Vincent de Paul volunteer team at 828-775-1933 on Monday mornings. State your phone number very clearly and a Vincentian will return your call. Be assured, all calls are held in strict confidence.

### ¿CONOCES A ALGUIEN QUE NECESITE AYUDA?

Si usted o alguien que usted conoce tiene dificultades económicas, recuerde que la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paul desea ayudarle. Por los últimos 23 años hemos ayudado con renta, servicios de utilidades, reparaciones de carro, pases de obnibus, comida y otras necesidades. Por favor llámenos al 828-775-1933. Deje su número de teléfono bien claro y una persona que hable español le retornara su llamada. Le aseguramos que todas las llamadas son confidenciales.

### FEEDING THE HUNGRY

**Catholic Charities** is still working to serve households in need during this difficult time. For more information about services, visit [ccdoc.org](http://ccdoc.org). We are accepting donations at 50 Orange Street on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you have questions or need to make alternate drop-off arrangements, contact us at 255-0146.

**Items Most in Need:** Food: Canned Veggies, Dried Beans, Rice, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Flour, Cooking Oil, Sugar, Canned Tuna, Kid-Friendly Snacks and Easy-to-Prepare/Dried Meals.

Non-Food: Bar Soap, Toothpaste, Laundry Detergent, Personal Hygiene Products, Toilet Paper. We are assisting households with nonperishable food as well as meat, produce, baby diapers, and more via our drive-thru food distribution services. **Our biggest needs right now are diapers, wipes, toiletries, and feminine hygiene products.**

### BILINGUAL PROFESSIONAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING

John 14:27 "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte Western Regional Office in Asheville is pleased to provide bilingual professional mental health counseling for couples and adults in English or Spanish. During COVID-19, all counseling sessions are being held remotely through a safe, confidential, and virtual platform. Appointments are required. If we can help, please call us at 828-820-5148. Peace is just a phone call away.

## People to Pray for . . .

#### • PARISHIONERS:

Fr. Wilbur Thomas, Donna Smith, Priscilla Minch, Larry Moderno, Amy Treverton, Otis McIntosh, Linda & Michael LaFlamme, Johnny Moss, Alexander Adams, Patricia Streeto, Sophia Brooks, Dick Berlage, Robert Aucremanne, Richard & Rosemary Barcelou, Mary Booth family, Richard & Anna Bruder, Nancy Dixon, Martina Duckett, Ralph & Mary Keil, Paul Nealon, Philip Pritchard, William Reilly, Albert & Rosemarie Czarnecki, Linda God-charles, Sharon Manogin, Carmela Mandala, Benita Esposito, Tom Girton, Joshua Townsend, Mary Fanslow, Perry Coe, Jr., Joanne Coates, Margaret Malone, Rosemary Franklin, David Wellmon, Pat Lepore, Ginny Dack, Veronica Sartor, Jim Peacock, Rupert Muana, John & Kristy Ledford, Matthew Bodosky

#### • HOMEBOUND:

Emily Aiken, Marian Bogdanowicz, Dolores Kane, Bob Niedzwicki, Phillip Organ, James & Vel Pauls, Barney Raffield, John Wenta, Betty Zalewski

#### • NON-PARISHIONERS:

Lolius Solomom, Linda Adams, Maxwell James Rodgers, Yanelis Delacruz, Raphael Winters, Emma Mullen, Wes Westmoreland, Alexandra & Luke Maynard, Melanie Ford, Lin Choo, Kathy McGuire, Lauren & Patty Crompton, Ashley V. Paxton, Kayce Edwards, David Jones, Adam Powers, Tony Sellers, Ron Thompson, Bernie Thompson, Trent Johnson, Martha Johnson, Jennifer Martin, Swede Oppermann, Robert Walther, Dori Barrett, Cecile Pearsall, Martha Gunn, Gary Bunzer, Katie Searles & family, Bill Ribell, Tony Case, Jank & Susie Ellege, Cheryl Ocaly, Annie & Nicolas Gullet, Elizabeth Pitts-Madonna, April Moore, Wilma Blackmon, Stacey Folwell, John Lewis, Janet Frye

#### • MILITARY PERSONNEL:

Christopher Balot, Vincent Camarata, Joseph Houston, Steffan Pixler

## Catechism and Questions \*Update\*

Our last Catechism and Questions will be substituted for St. Lawrence Synod Sessions.

All parishioners are invited to join us for our Synod Conversation Sessions:

**Sunday, April 3rd, at 10:15 AM, (English) in Laurentine Hall hosted by Christopher Fiore.**

**Sunday, April 3rd, at 2:15 PM, (Spanish) in Laurentine Hall hosted by Antonio Garcia.**

Please see Synod Flyer for more information.

## Upcoming Sacramental Preparation Classes:

**Sunday, March 20, 10:15– 11:30am, First Holy Communion Preparation Class**

**Sunday, March 20. 2:15-3:30pm, Preparacion para la Primera Comunion**

## Eucharist: The Mystery of the Eucharist

All parishioners are invited to participate in a home study of the Eucharist by watching the **Eucharist** Program on Formed.org. This is an excellent program with video sessions and a study guide. Our parish has a subscription to Formed.org, so all the material there is available to you at no charge; all you need to do is set up your personal account for Basilica of St. Lawrence.

**FORMED.org: Use Code—NT732K**

## Special Programs on Formed.org for Lent and Holy Week

1. **Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage.** This is a beautiful, 30 minute documentary that takes viewers on a walk through the locations of the events of Holy Week. Beginning in the Upper room with the Last Supper, the film incorporates religious art and Sacred Scripture as you see the sites of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord in the Holy Land.

2. **Easter in Art.** This is a three part series which looks at pieces of sacred art that depict the events of Easter. Each runs 20 minutes.

3. **Into His Likeness: Be Transformed as a Disciple of Christ.** Dr. Edward Sri provides a Lenten companion to those who, while recognizing their weaknesses, wounds and sins, know the truth of their higher calling: to be perfected in God's love and transformed in Christ. This is a program of six 30 minute videos.



We are pleased to announce a new parish subscription to Openlight Media: Bringing the Light of Christ into the World. The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist are passionate about sharing the truth, beauty, and goodness of God—leading others into an encounter with Christ. Openlight Media is an accessible and trustworthy portal providing relevant informational resources helping educators, young families, and individuals.

To begin your subscription go to: <https://openlightmedia.com/openlight-media-plus-coupon-code-redemption/>

Follow the **OPENLIGHT MEDIA PLUS COUPON CODE REDEMPTION INSTRUCTIONS.**

The Basilica Coupon Code is: **oplparrishbasilicaofstlawrencecharlotteaq**

## Manners Monday with the Sisters

As you know, we have a parish subscription to OpenLight Media of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist. Their program has great resources for helping your children grow in virtue and therefore success and happiness in “practicing the Faith”. A part of that program is “Manners Monday with the Sisters”. Here is a link to the videos the Sisters have produced. Enjoy! <https://openlightmedia.com/manners-monday>

We hope you enjoy Openlight Media Plus and the Dominican Sisters of Mary.



For a synodal Church Por una Iglesia sinodal  
comunión | participación | misión comunión | participación | misión

## Continuation from Pastor

Sunday, March 20, 2022, The Third Sunday of Lent

Estimados feligreses,

"Si no os arrepentís..." Estas palabras de nuestro Señor nos recuerdan Su primer anuncio de salvación en Su ministerio público: "Arrepentíos y creed en la Buena Nueva". Nuestro éxodo cuaresmal ha comenzado, ¡y ya estamos en el tercer domingo de Cuaresma! Nuestras disciplinas nos han ayudado a "arrepentirnos" enfocándonos en el camino espiritual para "estar en la presencia del Señor" como rezamos en la segunda Plegaria Eucarística. La vida católica se trata de vivir en la "presencia" del Señor.

Moisés entendió su privilegio de "vivir en la presencia" del Señor. Imagina su encuentro espiritual con la Presencia Divina en la zarza ardiente. Leemos en Éxodo: "Mirando él, se sorprendió al ver que la zarza, aunque ardía, no se consumía. Entonces, Moisés decidió: "Debo ir a ver este espectáculo extraordinario y ver por qué la zarza no se quema". Dios invita a Moisés a una experiencia mística, pero hay requisitos: "Cuando el Señor lo vio acercarse para mirarlo más de cerca, Dios lo llamó desde la zarza: "¡Moisés! ¡Moisés!" Él respondió: "Aquí estoy". Dios dijo: "¡No te acerques! Quitate las sandalias de los pies, porque el lugar donde estás es tierra santa. Yo soy el Dios de tus padres, continuó, "el Dios de Abraham, el Dios de Isaac, el Dios de Jacob". Moisés se cubrió el rostro, porque tenía miedo de mirar a Dios". Dios llama a Moisés a la reverencia, la humildad y la inclusión en la promesa a los patriarcas.

Como Moisés, nos hemos acercado al Dios vivo cuando venimos a la Santa Misa. Estamos en Tierra Santa aquí y aquí Dios nos permite entrar en el sacrificio redentor de la Cruz; Él nos ofrece las gracias que necesitamos para ser reverentes, humildes e incluidos en la Promesa de la redención.

Esta Cuaresma es un tiempo para que volvamos a despertar nuestro asombro de la presencia de Dios en nuestras vidas y especialmente Su Presencia aquí en la Santa Misa. Nuestro asombro es como el de Moisés cuando vio la zarza ardiendo. Cuando venimos a Misa, expresamos nuestro asombro por Su Presencia a través de muchas prácticas: nos vestimos con nuestra mejor ropa de domingo, nos preparamos levantándonos temprano y leyendo las lecturas de la Misa antes de llegar a la Santa Misa; llegamos temprano a Misa para prepararnos, hacemos una genuflexión con reverencia y lentamente en reconocimiento de la presencia Divina, nos arrodillamos y le contamos al Señor nuestras intenciones y preocupaciones mientras nos preparamos para adorarlo, le decimos nuestra gratitud por estar en Su Santa Misa. Dios nos ha llamado como llamó a Moisés a acercarnos, pero recordando que estamos en Tierra Santa.

Cristo nos llama a "arrepentirnos" y nos da otra Cuaresma para hacerlo. Como el árbol del Evangelio, nos dice: "¡Crescat!". ¡Déjalo crecer! Nuestras prácticas de Cuaresma preparan el suelo de nuestras vidas, lo riegan, lo quitan las malas hierbas y lo nutren para "dar fruto" al crecer en reverencia, humildad e inclusión en la Santa Iglesia de Dios. A medida que crecemos espiritualmente, daremos mucho buen fruto de santidad para el Señor y esa santidad nos permitirá servir bien al Señor en el uso práctico de nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro.

Cada uno de nosotros realmente anhela estar en la presencia de Dios. Por indignos que seamos, Dios está en medio de nosotros - Él está en la Iglesia. A través de la Iglesia se nos ofrece el agua viva de la Gracia, la vida divina de Dios. La Cuaresma es el tiempo para que nosotros "ablandemos" nuestros corazones y anhelemos esa Gracia. A medida que nos disciplinamos, dejamos ir los apegos que hemos desarrollado para que podamos dejar espacio para la gracia de Dios. Sigamos vaciándonos del ensimismamiento para que haya espacio para que la Gracia de Dios se derrame en nuestros corazones. ¡Déjalo crecer! Es decir, la gracia en nuestras almas. Miremos profundamente ahora en nuestros corazones. Anhelemos la vida eterna. Abramos nuestros corazones blandados al Señor que quiere derramar en nosotros Su Gracia viva, Su vida. Caminemos con la Iglesia en nuestro Éxodo a la Pascua cuando renovemos nuestras promesas Bautismales y celebremos los 50 días de Pascua. Oremos unos por otros por bendiciones en esta temporada.

Que nuestro Señor os bendiga y nuestra Señora os guarde en su tierno cuidado.

Con mis oraciones, Padre Arnsparger

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For a synodal Church Por una Iglesia sinodal  
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**“I invite you to join me in participating intentionally in the synodal path the Holy Father has called us to, for I am certain it will bear much fruit in the life of our diocese.”**

**— Bishop Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte**

Pope Francis is asking everyone to contribute to the upcoming Synod of Bishops by prayerfully considering its topic: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.”

In response, the Charlotte diocese is organizing synod conversations in parishes and groups, using the following questions:

- *What are the most significant signs of the Lord’s presence in your life?*
- *What are the biggest challenges or questions you face in responding to the Lord’s call?*
- *What steps is the Holy Spirit suggesting to you and your community to respond more fully to the Christian vocation?*

Because one of the synod’s goals is to allow people to encounter one another and grow in faith and unity together, everyone is encouraged to participate in the conversations happening in their community.

**All parishioners are invited to join us for our Synod Conversation Sessions:**

**Sunday, April 3rd, at 10:15 AM, (English) in Laurentine Hall hosted by Christopher Fiore.**

**Sunday, April 3rd, at 2:15 PM, (Spanish) in Laurentine Hall hosted by Antonio Garcia.**

Diocese of Charlotte Synod Information: <https://charlottediocese.org/synod2023/>

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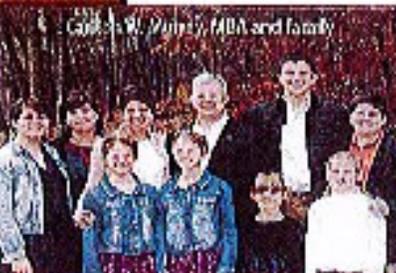
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