

Gospel Reflection

May 20-21, 2017 Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14:15-21



In a parish where many of you have served in the military or are on active duty, I thought that this little snippet from an old army manual might make you chuckle:

Tent pegs, aluminum, 9-inch, NSN 8340-00-261-9749, must be painted orange. The bright color provides an easy means of locating the pegs under various light and climatic

conditions during field use. When bright orange pegs are used, they must be driven into the ground completely out of sight.

Ah, the wisdom of army manuals!

The Spirit, though by nature not visible to the eyes, should be made visible to the world through our lives and witness. The Spirit is bright orange, if you will, so that He can be readily identified in the field of the world. He is the reason for our hope and we must not be shy in making His presence known. Now if we bury the Spirit completely underground, God will be invisible and Christ unknown to the world. But if we live our faith, everyone will quickly find Him and know that He is always near.

By the way, we Christians have a well-written manual, whose author is Wisdom.

~ Fr. Victor Scocco, O.S.S.T.

NEW WORSHIP SPACE DEDICATION - JUNE 3RD

Our new Worship Space is quickly taking shape!

We are moving into the new location at 7850 Parkside Blvd. with a **Dedication Ceremony at 5:00pm on Saturday, June 3, 2017.** Please join us!

MONDAYS AT THE HISTORIC CHURCH

After our move to the new Parish Complex on June 3rd, we will continue to have Morning Prayer and Morning Mass at the historic church on Mondays. Tuesday-Friday will take place in the new location. You may also use the historic church for baptisms, funerals, or other sacraments. Please note, there are temporarily NO bathroom facilities available at the historic church.

PARISH OFFICE

Starting on May 19th, there will be no walk-in office hours at the Parish Office, during our transition. Appointments may still be made with any of the staff and you can also reach us via email or by phone. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding during our move.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will not be a First Friday Eucharistic Adoration in June.

It will resume on July 7th in the new Parish Complex.

SIT REFLECTION

With Mother's Day behind us, there is a story I wanted to share that is heartbreaking to its core from *The Christian Times*, but shows the sacrifice our brothers and sisters around the world routinely must make when facing the ultimate decision of staying true to faith.

Often that sacrifice is experienced by fathers ... and, yes, by mothers, when the resolute nature of faith will not bend, even when one has to say goodbye to a loved one.

In the spring of 2016, an Assyrian mother and her daughter were visited by ISIS militants in their Iraqi home. As typically is the case ISIS demanded a hefty tax (*jizya*) if they would not convert to Islam, or else they must leave the premises instantly. Shaken, the mother pleaded for just a few minutes so she could tell her daughter to get out of the shower and be prepared to leave.

The request was denied.

"You don't have a few minutes," the militants replied as they torched the abode and fled. The mother frantically tried to find an entrance to retrieve her 12-year old daughter amidst the flames. As the fire died down a bit, the mother was able to grab her daughter from the house, rushing her to the hospital. But the flames had done their damage.

A few hours after arriving at the hospital, the young girl died in her mother's arms, but just before that moment the daughter taught her mother one of the most selfless lessons ever imaginable. She uttered, 'Forgive them' as she left this world, and entered into Jesus' kingdom.

Stories like these happen in one form or another around the world, and will never be told. We cannot fathom what creates such tunnel-vision evil set to rip apart families, but we can appreciate the victims as real life examples of Jesus on earth—turning the other cheek, accepting earthly consequence for the opportunity to crawl into our Savior's arms in Heaven. As Father Larry Richards once said, "If we truly felt in our hearts how glorious eternity with Jesus actually will be, the line for Mass would be out the door every single day."

I can speak for fellow SIT members that stories like these bring us closer to Him ... and to those who have made those sacrifices. It shows us how far we have to go to secure that strong faith, but gives us hope that amidst the most sinister evils, forgiveness and glory in God is just a fading breath away if we so choose it.

God bless you all,

~Matt Behum, SIT Director (mbehum@gmail.com)



Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 20th: 6th Sunday of Easter

5:00pm + James Prisco III req by Jim Prisco Jr.
6:30pm + Patricia Ann Frances Dowd req by the Naymick family

Sunday, May 21st: 6th Sunday of Easter

8:30am + Mike Baggarly req by Mangubat family
10:00am + Josefina Pérez req by Mr. & Mrs. Eleida Roman
11:30am + Agnes Siska req by the Gates family
5:30pm Mass for the People

Monday, May 22nd:

9:00am* + Paul Caruso req by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Tuesday, May 23rd:

9:00am** Intentions of Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 24th:

9:00am*** + Barbara Dorsey Prisco req by Jim Prisco Jr.

Thursday, May 25th:

9:00am* Marghett & Emmett Allen req by Richard Lambiasi Jr.

Friday, May 26th:

9:00am* Rosary Group of St. Lawrence Catholic Church req by Mr. & Mrs. Edet

Saturday, May 27th: The Ascension of the Lord

5:00pm + Carol Lazur req by Sherri Graham

6:30pm Neil & Linda Doran req by the Parish

Sunday, May 28th: The Ascension of the Lord

8:30am + Frances Allen req by Miriam Heil

10:00am Mass for the People

11:30am + Sylvester Smith req by his family

5:30pm For all the parishioners of St. Lawrence throughout the years

*Rosary following Mass **Rosary and Novena to St. Agatha

***Rosary and Novena to St. Michael of the Saints

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Offering Mass for a Special Intention is a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

If you would like to have a Mass celebrated for someone, please contact the Parish Office via email at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call 410-799-1970.

Please call ahead if you want your intention on a specific date so it can be put it on the calendar.

May 27th – 28th Ministry Schedule

Time	Servers	Lector	EM	Ushers	Greeters
Saturday 5:00pm	Matthew C	Maggie P	Rick B	Jeff F Steve S	John S
Saturday 6:30pm	Katie B Timmy B	John M	Joan M	John M	Anna B Jeff B
Sunday 8:30am	Andrew S	Alan A	Ed A	Dwayne G Help Needed	Helen C
Sunday 10:00am	Jason S	Ken W	Maureen M	Darryl B Aida R	Angie N
Sunday 11:30am	Matthew C	Bob S	Deacon John	Michael L Ray T	Help Needed
Sunday 5:30pm	N/A	Mike R	Kathy F	Steve F Drew F	Help Needed

CHURCH SUPPORT – MAY 13TH – 14TH

Category	This year	Last year
Envelopes: Regular Weekly	\$3,334.50	\$3,015.00
Loose: Regular Weekly	1,370.00	1,325.00
E-giving: Regular Weekly	1,270.50	1,830.00
Rest. & Maintenance	1,271.00	1,332.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$7,246.00	\$7,502.00
Poor Box:	172.00	144.00

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Next week, our second collection is for the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign connects people with Christ, here and around the world in developing countries, through the internet, television, radio, and print media.

Fifty percent of funds collected remains in our diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the gospel message! To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/cc.



May 20th: 2nd Collection: Capital Campaign

7:30am Yard Sale (until noon)
10:00am EMHC Training (Church)
4:30pm Yard Sale (until 8:30pm)

May 21st: 2nd Collection: Capital Campaign

7:30am Yard Sale (until 1pm)
1:00pm Move to the New Building!!!!

May 23rd: 11:00am TLC Lunch (Olive Garden)

6:00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (Church)
6:30pm Women's Bible Study (Parish Ctr)
6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Sacristy)

May 25th: Sarah's House Meal Prep

7:00pm Rosary for the Unborn

May 27th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Communication

May 28th: 2nd Collection: Catholic Communication

May 29th: Closed for Memorial Day

MUSICIANS NEEDED

Serious musicians needed for our Praise Band for the Sunday 5:30pm Mass. Bassist, guitarist, keyboardist, drummer, and singers, playing Praise and Worship music by artists such as Tomlin, Maher, Blakesley.



The group rehearses Sundays at 4:30pm. Contact Dan Baker at 410-242-5741 or keytardan@aol.com for more info.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBER



Some of you might have seen a familiar face in our new or historic buildings. Michael Levesque, lifelong parishioner and Church Historian, started work on Monday as our new Facilities Manager.

Mike has a degree in Mechanical Engineering, has been chair of the Grounds Committee for years, and is an experienced handyman in carpentry, electrical, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, and roofing.

Bob Petza, our long-time Maintenance Coordinator, will be retiring at the end of June. Thank you Bob for your many years of service. Details to come on a farewell for Bob.

FORMED RECOMMENDATIONS

One parishioner said that FORMED—which is free for all parishioners—is like YouTube for Catholics. You start watching one program, then another, then another.

To Watch: *St. Rita of Cascia*. Famous as the patroness of hopeless situations, St. Rita of Cascia is immortalized in this wonderful, deeply moving film about this beautiful woman who lived in Italy in the fourteenth century. This powerful drama tells the story of this brave and loyal woman who married her knight, helped him overcome his dark past and convert to faith, happily bore him two children, and later endures immense pain as she loses everything in her life. She eventually finds peace and new hope and because of that, she develops a deep union with Christ that greatly inspires all near her. Her feast day occurs on May 22nd.

Go to Movies- Saints of History

To Access: Go to www.formed.org and click “Register”, located in the lower right hand corner. Then enter both the Parish Code, which is ed1783, and your email address. You’ll need to fill out some basic information and then click “Submit”.

Formed will send an email for verification to your email. Go to & open your email received from “Formed” and click on the word “Verify”. It will take you to the Formed site.

WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Our Women’s Bible Study meets every Tuesday, from 6:30pm–8:30pm in the Parish Center, except for the second Tuesday of the month.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Judy Kurtz and Sandy Garrick at womensbible@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call the Parish Office at 410-799-1970 ext. 50.

Join us, gain strength and knowledge, and grow stronger in your faith!

NEW MASS SCHEDULE STARTING IN JUNE

Remember, when we move to the new Parish Complex, beginning June 3rd, our Mass schedule will change slightly.

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm, and 5:30pm

We hope everyone is using the invite cards we passed out last week to invite friends and family to join us! Additional cards are available to help spread the word.

CATHOLIC MEN’S STUDY GROUP

The purpose of this group is to better understand the biblical and historical basis for Catholic doctrines. The group meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm.

The topic for May is various interpretations of the Book of Revelation, including Scott Hahn’s “*The Lamb’s Supper*.” All are welcome.

JOIN FLOCKNOTES!

We encourage everyone to join Flocknotes so they can be alerted to any events or news from the church. You can either go online to:

www.flocknote.com/saintlawrencemartyr
or text SLM to the number 84576

from your phone to subscribe to updates. Regular texting rates apply. Once you sign up, please follow the steps to complete the sign-up process. You can also sign up for various ministries in which you are interested or active.

IMPROVE YOUR MARRIAGE

“*And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.*” Expand your married love by exploring a WorldWide Marriage Encounter Weekend on October 27-29, 2017 in Gaithersburg, MD.

For more information and to apply online visit welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007, or email at applications@welovematrimony.org.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Attention Young Adults! Please join our **Bible Study for Young Adults** which meets the first, third, and fifth Thursday of the month at 7:00pm. The next session will be June 1st in the Sacristy of the historic church.



Young Adult Social Ministry usually meets on the second and fourth Friday or Saturday of the month, however, due to Memorial Day weekend, there won’t be an activity that week.

For more info on Bible Study or our social activities, please email youngadult@saintlawrencemartyr.org or go to:

www.saintlawrencemartyr.org/youngadult

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As we move into the new Parish Complex in June, we still need more parishioners involved in the various ministries.

In addition to needing more altar servers, lectors, EMHCs, ushers, and greeters, we also have new ministries: Our Coffee Ministry, Parking Lot Ministry, and an Information Desk Ministry can all use new volunteers!

If you like coffee—or live and breathe coffee—or if you like helping others, we need people to help out after Mass to serve at the coffee bar. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. This is a vital piece of evangelization to our neighbors! Please take this opportunity to serve the Church.

PRAYER VIGIL FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

SIT St. Lawrence will be holding a Prayer Vigil supporting Persecuted Christians around the world on Friday, June 23rd, from 6:30-8:30pm in the new parish complex.

Let us come together to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament, and pray, sing, and reflect on why it is important to remember our brothers and sisters who embody galvanized faith in the face of evil.

Please contact Matt Behum with any questions at mbehum@gmail.com, or call the Parish Office.

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

We are at almost 90% of the chairs donated. **There is still time if you’d like to donate a chair in memory or in honor of loved ones.**

- **Chairs** - \$200 each or \$375 for two (*See envelope in back of church*)
- Donations toward restroom renovation for historic church

If you are interested in making a donation, please email to office@saintlawrencemartyr.org, call 410-799-1970, or visit our website at <http://saintlawrencemartyr.org/donor>

HONORING OUR GRADUATES!

If you or a family member are graduating this year (high school or college degree), please let the Parish Office know at office@saintlawrencemartyr.org or call 410-799-1970.

We’d like to list our honorees in an upcoming bulletin. We will include their high school or college name, and for college graduates, please provide their degree (e.g. BA, BS, MBA) and their major.

PAPER RECYCLING

Do not bring any more paper from home to put in our paper recycling dumpster. The dumpster has been removed.

Thank you so much to our parishioners for the many years of bringing in paper. While we did originally make money from this program, the amount paid has decreased in recent years.

Please continue to help the environment by using your home curbside recycling program.

HEALTH SCREENING – JUNE 29TH

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Lawrence



Parish on June 29, 2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis.

Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete.

In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or call 1-888-653-6441 or text the word circle to 797979.

ST. LAWRENCE TRIVIA

Last week’s answer: We’re excited about our shiny new kitchen! It is almost 950 square feet, compared to 250 square feet (almost 4x as large as our previous kitchen). We have two microwaves, two refrigerators, one freezer, a 36-inch griddle, a 6-burner range with an oven, a large convection oven, a deep fryer, and the best part, we have a dishwasher! The old one did have a dishwasher, but his name was Bob Petza (at least during ChristLife, when he washed hundreds of dishes.) ☺

This week’s question: How many entrances are there to the new building?



This Week In Youth Ministry: Hey teens! Have you grabbed our summer calendar? We kick off June 11th with a BBQ and water games. We’d like to welcome incoming 9th graders to join in on the fun! Questions? Email AnnaMarie Link @ annamarielink@gmail.com

If you are interested in going to the Steubenville NYC conference this summer (July 21-23) please let AnnaMarie know so we can get our numbers in.

We are always looking for adult volunteers to help with Life Teen. Please feel free to email or call me at 410-799-1970, ext 55 if you’re interested in helping.

Be sure to follow us on Instagram! @SLMLifeTeen

In Him through her,
AnnaMarie Link