

St. Laurence Parish



Jewett at Standish Streets,
Elgin, Illinois 60123

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

Saturday - 4:00 PM
Sundays - 7:15, 9:00, 11:00 AM
Daily Mass -
8:00 AM Tuesday—Friday
6:00 p.m. Thursday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday from 3:00 - 3:45 PM
Special times upon request

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
Marriage Preparation Program required
6 months notice necessary

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday—Friday

REGISTRATION
All new parishioners are requested
to register through the parish office.

PASTORAL STAFF

REV. ANDREW MULCAHEY
PASTOR

RECTORY - 226 Orchard St.

e-mail: amulcahey@rockforddiocese.org

AFTER HOURS CONTACT:
224 - 535-8815

PARISH OFFICE - 565 Standish St.

847- 468- 6900
Fax 847- 468- 6904

Web Site: stlaurencechurchelgin.com
e-mail StLaurenceChurch@att.net

DEACON, ROBERT PLAZEWSKI

CONNIE SAJTAR, SECRETARY

LINDA HOLLENSTEIN, BOOKKEEPER

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
COORDINATOR / YOUTH MINISTER

BRIANA COLLINS

PARISH COUNCIL
BOB JONES, CHAIRMAN

FINANCE COUNCIL
JOE MALAS, CHAIRMAN

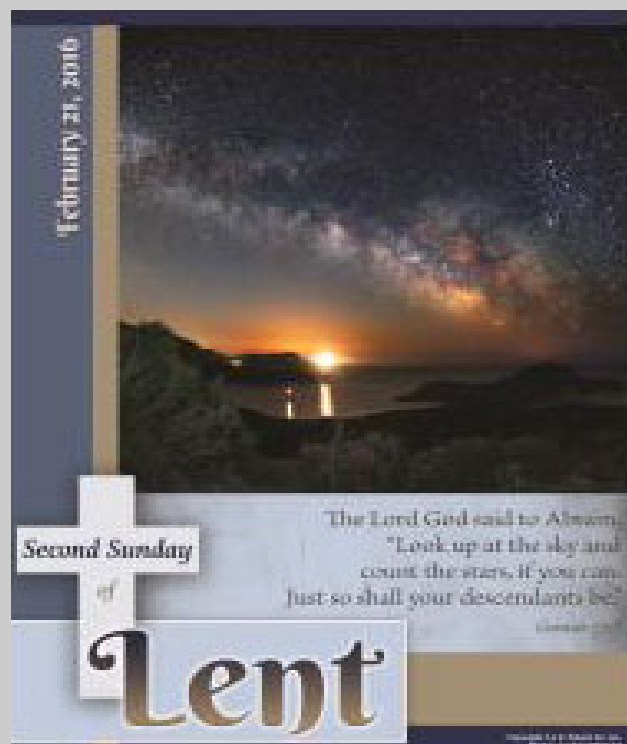
SCHOOL
TRACY WAHL, PRINCIPAL
KATHY LAUDONT, SECRETARY

847- 468-6100
Fax 847- 468-6104

EDUCATION COMMISSION
RON SZOPA, PRESIDENT

Web Site: stlaurenceschool.com

February 21, 2016



Mass Intentions

WEEKDAYS

February 23 - 26, 2016

Tuesday, February 23

8:00 a.m. + Kay Wilhelmi by Gin Lossau

Wednesday, February 24

8:00 a.m. Francisco & Ray Becerra Good Health by Children

Thursday, February 25

8:00 a.m. + Souls in Purgatory

6:00 p.m. + Terry Corcoran by Kay Gotter

Friday, February 26

8:00 a.m. + Jaxon Lee Turner Mitchell by Soohov Family

WEEKEND MASSES

February 27 & 28, 2016

Saturday, February 27

4:00 p.m. +Klea Honert by Grace & Judy Seyller

Sunday, February 28

7:15 a.m. + Rhett Lundy by Family

9:00 a.m. + Andrew O'Connor

11:00 a.m. + Marilyn Malsi by Maxine Hansen & St. Laurence Parish Family

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER—Sherman Hospital

February 26, 2016 - Dee Reinhardt

BAPTISM—Parents are required to meet with Fr. Andrew before the Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated. If you are expecting a baby, please contact Fr. Andrew before the delivery of your baby. He can be reached at 847-468-6900. **Baptisms are celebrated the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after Mass.**

“May the message of mercy reach everyone, and may no one be indifferent to the call to experience mercy.”

- Pope Francis

BULLETIN NEWS—All articles for the bulletin are due into the parish office one week prior to when you want the event to appear.

Bulletin Briefs

“Our son Charlie was born with Down Syndrome in 2007....Labels could not describe how his smile lit up a room, or how the sweetness of his soul had captured our hearts so completely.” “A Perfect Gift” www.goo.gl/Ub6GVf

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday: Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31

Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday: Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

PRAYER LIST—For the strengthening in faith of all who are afflicted in body, mind or spirit please pray for:

Eliezer Alejandres, Terry Baranowski, Eleanor Bell, Timm Berg, James Blazina, Sr., Kathleen Camarena, Dennis DeBoer, Judy Eckerson, Ron Glogowski, Ellie Grudnowski, Ed Haering, Warren Honert, Cindy Huyvaert, Don Johnston, Joseph Kicinski, John G. Kolakowski, Cliff Kramer, Colin Kramer, Sandy Litts, Emily McCullough, Michael Melvin, Lois & Lyle Mousel, William O'Brien, Connie Patino, Betty Pekofske, Bonnie Penera, Sandra Plazewski, Donna Sardina, Mike Shannon, Richard Tucker, Irene Weidner.



We Pray for Our Military—

AIR FORCE: Staff Sgt. Eric Charckon, Major Victoria Cramer, Airman Patrick Schubert, **ARMY:** Sgt. Daniel J. Duffy, 1st. Sgt. Eric Case, Cpl. Jennifer (Clough) Korfmacher, Sgt. Charles Korfmacher, 1st. Lt. Thomas Martin, Sgt. Jacob McDonald, **COAST GUARD:** Cadet 3rd Class Allison Rychtanek, **MARINES:** Pfc. Patrick Metz, **NAVY:** Seaman Apprentice Terrance M. Alexander, Seaman Recruit Timothy M. Alexander, CDR Bettina Sauter, Corpsman Nick Toufexis. May God protect them and return them safely to their families.

We pray for the repose of the soul of Carl Menconi, husband of Rose Menconi.



We ask God to keep his family in His care!

Stewardship Collection February 13 & 14, 2016

- Total giving this week- \$ 6,803.00
- Year-to-Date Actual- \$ 267,830.08
- Year-to-Date Budget- \$ 262,400.00
- YTD Surplus/Deficit \$ 5,430.00

Fiscal 2015-16 Full Year Budget.....\$410,000

THANK YOU



If you would be interested in helping the Parish this next season with lawn maintenance, Father Andrew would be interested in speaking with you. We are seeking volunteers to defray the cost of our landscaping. If interested please call the

Parish Office at 847-468-6900 to set up an appointment with Father.

Elgin Knights of Columbus will host our 18th annual “Chili for Charity” Dinner/Fundraiser on February 27th at Saint Thomas More Gym. Dinner is between 3:30 and 7:00 p.m. This is



our largest fundraiser of the year, raising almost \$10,000 each year. Proceeds benefit the 5 Catholic schools in Elgin. If interested in tickets please contact Mike Kmiecik (630) 698-3005, Terry Green (847) 888-0831 or the Parish Office (847) 468-6900. Tickets are \$7.00 before the event or \$8.00 at the door.

St. Vincent dePaul Society—We have a joint group with members of St. Thomas More Church in Elgin. Our next meeting will be at **St. Thomas More Church on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.** Please come to one of our meetings and learn about all the worthwhile work that we do for the needy of our community. Questions, call 847 628-5170.

“It is time to return to the basics and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters. Mercy is the force that awakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope.”

- Pope Francis

LIFE MATTERS—Any woman who is pregnant and in need can turn for help to the pro-life movement. She never has to feel that abortion is the only option. People anywhere in the country can find assistance at the following numbers: The Life Center-847 622-1235; Fox Valley Pregnancy-847 697-0200; Catholic Charities-800 759-7626; National Life Center-800 848-5683; For Post-Abortion Healing Project Rachel-800 593-2273 or 815



SEDER MEAL

Tuesday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m.

Enrich Holy Week by joining with the Parish Family in a celebration of the Seder Meal, a special ritual of the Jewish Festival of Passover commemorating the release of Israel from Egyptian slavery. We will celebrate, as Jesus did, this ritual meal of history, readings, song, and stories to find a deep and strong expression of our own Faith during this Lenten Season. Please bring a dish to share (meat casserole, vegetable, salad or dessert) with our St. Laurence Family. There will be sign up sheets in the back of church after all Masses the weekends of March 5/6 & 11/12, 2016.

During Lent, **Mass** will be celebrated each **Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m.** Stations of the Cross will be after the Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated during Lent as follows:



Weekdays

After the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday evenings after the 6:00 p.m. Mass

Weekends

Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. (before Mass)

Wednesday, March 16, 2016 – “Be Reconciled”

8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

“Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the center once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God’s mercy with their own hands. For every penitent, it will be a source of true interior peace.”

- Pope Francis



Vocations Corner: *When Things Get Tough*

Fr. Keith Romke, Director of Vocations

Sometimes life can throw some pretty tough stuff our way. When this happens it can be really easy to want to just plain give up. Or if we don’t give up, we at least are tempted to change course and to shift the direction of our efforts or of our life as a whole. When we are faced with these difficulties, in particular during times of desolation, we need to take a deep breath and cool down!

Desolation can be described as a period of time during which we don’t sense or feel God’s presence or the aid that He provides for us. This doesn’t mean that God isn’t there – He is – we simply don’t perceive it sometimes. When we are in this state it can be so easy to want to give up hope and change course. St. Ignatius of Loyola in his discernment of Spirits teaches that we must NEVER make big decisions during a time of desolation. The reason why is because discouragement never comes from God, and so if we listen to the voice of discouragement we will be following the plan of the evil one rather than following the will of God! So when it comes to discerning your vocation, if you have a bad day and things seem to not be going well and suddenly you feel like giving up and dropping consideration of an idea that usually gives you joy – Don’t give in! Always wait until things in life seem more balanced to make any major decisions. This will help you to make decisions that are in accord with God’s will!

What are you doing for Lent?

- * Think about what you usually spend your money on. Do you buy a few too many clothes? Spend a few too many bucks on iTunes? Eating out? Pick one type of expenditure that you'll "fast" from during Lent, and give that money to a local charity.
- * Make a commitment to trying something new spiritually. Have you ever tried an hour of Eucharistic adoration? We have one on the first Thursday of the Month. The next one will be March 3, at 7:00 p.m..
- * Make a commitment to "fast" from cruel comments about others. So, no gossiping or reading celebrity tabloids.
- * Turn off your iPod or your car radio on your commute. The silence may be jarring at first, but you may find that you are able to concentrate better and will be more observant of your surroundings.
- * Donate 1 can of food per day to the food pantry
- * Donate 1 article of clothing per day to the needy

Remember the 40 days and nights that Christ spent in the desert.

Keep following...

The Diocese of Rockford Vocation Office is Sponsoring our Annual Spring Nun Run

We will be hosting a vocational discernment "Nun Run" for women 17 years of age, college age and older who are interested in a religious vocation. We will be visiting Sisters and Nuns of different orders with different apostolates, this will include talks on discernment and religious life, time in prayer with our Lord, as well as many opportunities to meet, share and pray with the sisters. We will be visiting various religious communities in Wisconsin. Cost is only \$90.00. The date of the trip will be March 17 thru March 20, 2016. The deadline for registration is March 1st. Space is limited. You can contact the Vocation Office at 815-399-4300 ext. 375, our website www.rockforddiocese.org/vocations. Discerning Women or dbarger@rockforddiocese.org for more information.

TIME AND TALENT UPDATE

Talent Ministry Group Meeting and Training Session
Saturday, February 27, 2016
8:00 a.m.— 12:30 p.m.
Cafeteria of School

Guest Speaker : Rev. David A. Peck,
 Pastor of St. John Neumann Parish, St. Charles
 Training Session on Evangelization through Piety,
 Study and Action

If you have not completed a Time and Talent form, please be sure to register for this event by contacting Joe Bermea at 847-931-5133 or e-mail: bermej2002@yahoo.com.



“DIVORCE AND THE YEAR OF MERCY ...”

In this year Pope Francis has dedicated to mercy, what does that mean for Catholics who are divorced?

- Can I continue to receive the Eucharist?
- Can my children receive their sacraments?
- What about annulments and the annulment process?

We invite you to an evening to explore many common myths about divorce and what the Church teaches and also to learn about annulments and what other resources are available for Catholics who are divorced.

Tuesday, March 1, 2016
7:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 215 Thomas More Dr., Elgin
 For more information contact Sharon Hall
 847-888-1682

BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG -
If you forgot to bring your filled baby bottle back,
you can bring it back next weekend.

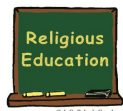


Altar Ministry for the Weekend of February 27 / 28, 2016

Mass Time	Lector	Altar Server	Eucharistic Minister
4:00 p.m.	John Muchmore	Alejandra Arambula, Alyssa Baugus	Mitch Esterino, Jan Hroback, Barb Miller, Vickey Muno
7:15 a.m.	Dee Reinhardt	Evan Sajtar, Colin Tuftedal	Vicky Giuliano, Deacon Plazewski, Loretta Revesz, Chris Stine
9:00 a.m.	Pam Klein	Tommy Bruneman, Tyler Eshoo	Mary Berg, Mary Ann Bruneman, William Misk, Jamie & Ron Szopa
11:00 a.m.	Terry O'Connor	Michael Corcoran, Malakai Mortensen	Briana Collins, Gail Essary, James Kararo, Max Marcordes, Melanie Marcordes

Religious Education—

Our next class will meet on **Wednesday, February 24th from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m.**



CONFIRMATION is **Saturday, March 5, at 10 am.** All students should arrive by 9:15 am. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Briana Collins at the parish office (847-468-6900).

Palm Sunday Bake Sale

Make sure to mark your calendars for our annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale. It will be held the weekend of **March 19 / 20**. We are asking you to make your special cookies, cakes, pies, candies and other treats. All you shoppers, come hungry!



BUTTER BRAID SALE

Our Cub Scouts are selling delicious Butter Braid pastries. Choose from a variety of flavors: cream cheese, apple, cinnamon, raspberry, caramel and strawberry/cream cheese. Two variety packs are also available: All-American (apple, cinnamon, cherry) and Cream Cheese (strawberry/cream cheese, cream cheese, blueberry/cream cheese). Individual Butter Braids are \$13 and variety packs are \$37. Payment is due at the time of order. Place your order with a Cub Scout or visit our table and try a sample after masses on **February 27 & 28. Pick-up will be Friday, March 11, in the church lobby from 2:30—3:30 p.m.** Contact Margie Kwill 847-217-0965 with any questions or to place an order.

Thank you for your support!

World Wide Marriage Encounter:

Just as Peter, John and James experienced the Transformation of Jesus, let Jesus transform your Marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are March 4-6 in Madison, WI, April 15-17 in Brookfield, WI, or May 20-22 in Crystal Lake, IL. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call 888-547-5653.



FOOD COLLECTION

We will be **collecting goods for the food pantry**. There are many in our community who are not financially able to provide the necessary food for their families. The food collected will be distributed by the Interfaith Food Pantry. **Please bring your donations on the 1st weekend of each month. The next collection will be March 5 / 6, 2016.**

School News

TRIFECTA TICKETS—*Congratulations to the winners of the February 16, 2016 drawing:*

\$100— M. Parker

\$75— R. Schaff

\$50— D. Dzik

The School will pray the Stations of the Cross

Mondays at 10:30 a.m. (grades 5-8)

February 22 & 29

March 7, 14 & 21

Fridays at 12:20 p.m. (grades 1-4)

February 26

March 4, 11 & 18

Please join the Students on their Lenten Journey!

Why Send Your Child to St. Laurence:

- Catholic tradition and academic excellence developed in a community grounded in faith.
- Balanced curriculum which includes art, music and physical education.
- Educated to serving others and developing leadership skills.
- Safe and disciplined environment.
- Dedicated faculty who help students reach their highest potential.

We are now accepting registrations for the 2016/2017 school year. If you would like more information or a tour of St. Laurence School, please call the school office at 847-468-6100. You may also visit our website at: www.stlaurenceschool.com.

Congratulations to our Boy Scouts, Dustin, Kwil, Ryan Ramsden and Vincent Scaletta. They earned the "Light of Christ" religious scout medal. These were presented to them by Father Andrew and Deacon Bob during the Scout Sunday Mass on February 7th.

Open Door Clinic Collection

This organization ministers to people and families with HIV. They have a great need for toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, laundry soap, socks, breakfast cereals and non-perishable food items. There is a box in the back of church.

This month the dates are February 27 / 28, 2016.

We encourage our parishioners to support the businesses using our bulletin. This week we highlight:

Brittain's Express Oil & Lube

1570 Larkin Avenue. Elgin

847-695-2235