



St. Lawrence Parish

505 Shelton Avenue, Shelton, Connecticut 06484

October 15, 2023 ~ Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rectory Office

Phone: 203-929-5355

Fax: 203-929-8939

E-mail Address: stlawrpar1@aol.com

Website: www.stlawrenceshelton.org

On Facebook: @StLawrenceShelton

Pastor: Fr. Ciprian Bejan

Parochial Vicars:

Fr. Férry Galbert

Fr. Claudiu-Gabriel Neculaesi

Deacons: Anthony Cassaneto,
Frank Masso, Joseph Klimaszewski

Assistant Deacon: Jim Brown

Office Hours:

Monday ~ Friday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

Sunday Masses

7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am, 5:00 pm

Daily Mass Schedule:

Monday ~ Friday: 9:00 am

Saturday: 9:00 am

Holy Days of Obligation:

7:00 am, 9:00 am, 12:10 pm, 7:00 pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday following 9:00 am Mass
until 6:00 pm, Benediction at 5:45 pm

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Sunday: 11:00 - 11:30 am

Sacrament of Baptism

Scheduled Sundays: 1:00 pm
(by appointment only)

Sacrament of Marriage

Please call the Rectory Office
to schedule a wedding



“Come to the Feast”

Mt 22:4bc



Mass Intentions

Monday, October 16th

9:00AM Sis Madigan Healey
(Req. by Charles and Jane Wolfertz)

Tuesday, October 17th

9:00AM Rosemary DeFeo
(Req. by Robin and Chris Mojcik)

Wednesday, October 18th

9:00AM Melanie Kolar
(Req. by the Levai family)

Thursday, October 19th

9:00AM Rosemary DeFeo
(Req. by her sister-in-law)

Friday, October 20th

9:00AM Nick Luise
(Req. by HTCA faculty, staff & students)

Saturday, October 21st

9:00AM Kathleen
5:00PM Elizabeth Kellogg
(Req. by the Kayser family)

Sunday, October 22nd ~ Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30AM Elizabeth Ann Kellogg
(Req. by the Fahey family)
9:30AM Saint Lawrence Parish Family
11:30AM Joseph Mino
(Req. by daughter)
5:00PM Mary Kelly
(Req. by Kevin Kelly)



Candles

For the Week of
October 14th ~ October 21st

A Lamp Burns for a Special Intention

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in loving memory of
Henry Majeski offered by his wife Barbara

The Mary Candles burn in loving memory of
Betty Wolf offered by the Wolf family
and in honor of
Bobby (living intention) offered by Carol Reh

The Saint Joseph Candle burns for
Families at Saint Lawrence Parish who are
experiencing difficult times



We give *because*
GOD Gave first

Weekly Offertory

Weekend of October 7th/8th

Sunday Offertory: \$10,555.00

Online giving: \$4,282.00

Total: \$14,837.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



**Each First Friday following the 9:00 am Mass
until 6:00 pm with Benediction at 5:45 pm**

*“Eucharistic Adoration is the secret to knowing
the love of Jesus Christ”*

One In Christ – The 2023 Bishop’s Appeal

Saint Lawrence Parish

2023 Bishop’s Appeal as of 9/22/2023

ABA Goal:	\$162,000.00
Total Pledged:	\$141,833 (88%)
Donors to Date:	309 Donors

The Bishop's Appeal supports the ministries of the Catholic Church throughout Fairfield County. If you have not yet given your support, please prayerfully consider doing so. Your support is critical to the continued success of the ministries.



To make a gift, or for more information,
please visit us at 2023BishopsAppeal.org,
call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.



New parishioners are invited to visit
the Rectory Office to register at
St. Lawrence Parish

You can download a registration form
at stlawrenceshelton.org

Contact Information

Office Administrator: Maureen Cole

Communications: Kathy Kelly

Religious Education: 203-929-8421

Karen O'Keefe, Coordinator

Cantor/Music Director:

Jennifer Haddon, 203-640-7242

Parish Council President: Bill Farmer

Parish Trustees: Carol Calandra and
James Woods

~~~~~  
**Holy Trinity Catholic Academy:**

**Phone:** 203-929-4422

**Head of School/Principal:** Lisa Lanni

**PLEASE  
TAKE  
NOTE!**



The Development Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport would like to make you aware that there have been recent Post Office challenges in Bridgeport with mail not reaching the Catholic Center. The Catholic Center is investigating this problem. No missing payments made by check or credit card have been cashed or charged. If you suspect your payment may not have made it to the Development Office, you can place a stop payment on the check if you wish. If you wish to replace a lost payment, or make a new payment, please feel free to drop off a check in the parish office or place it in the offertory basket, made out to Bishop's Appeal, so it is not co-mingled with your offertory funds. You can also mail a payment to a new post office box at:

D.O.B.

P.O. Box 110410

Trumbull, CT 06611-9998

Also, donations can be made online at  
[2023BishopsAppeal.org](http://2023BishopsAppeal.org)

### From the Pastor's Desk



### Dear Parishioners,

When the members of a parish community bring together and offer their gifts and skills in service to others, the church family flourishes. Many parishioners contribute freely with their time and talents to benefit the entire parish. They are a great example of love and dedication for their church.

Every year, during a special celebration, the bishop of Bridgeport honors with the "*Saint Augustine Medal of Service*" individuals or couples from each parish in the diocese who have shown outstanding service to their local churches. The recipients from Saint Lawrence parish this year are Bill and Kelly Farmer. Bill is the president of our Parish Council, a Knight of Columbus, and an Usher. Along with Kelly, his wife, who also volunteers as a catechist, they have offered countless hours of service to our parish and beyond. During the pandemic they coordinated the efforts of making sandwiches for the homeless at Thomas Merton center in Bridgeport.

I am deeply grateful for their selfless dedication and for their great love for our parish family.

May their service become an inspiration to all of us and may God continue to bless our wonderful parish!

*Father Ciprian Bejan, Pastor*



### Marriage Preparation/Formation

The Diocese of Bridgeport offers formation for couples who wish to be married in the Catholic Church. Formation is available online in English and in person in Spanish.

For more information, please visit

<https://formationreimagined.org/marriage-prep-reimagined/>

### Pre-Baptismal Class

First-time parents are required to attend this class before having their baby baptized. Please call the Rectory Office to register.

**Please Note: The next class is on November 5th**



### In Memoriam

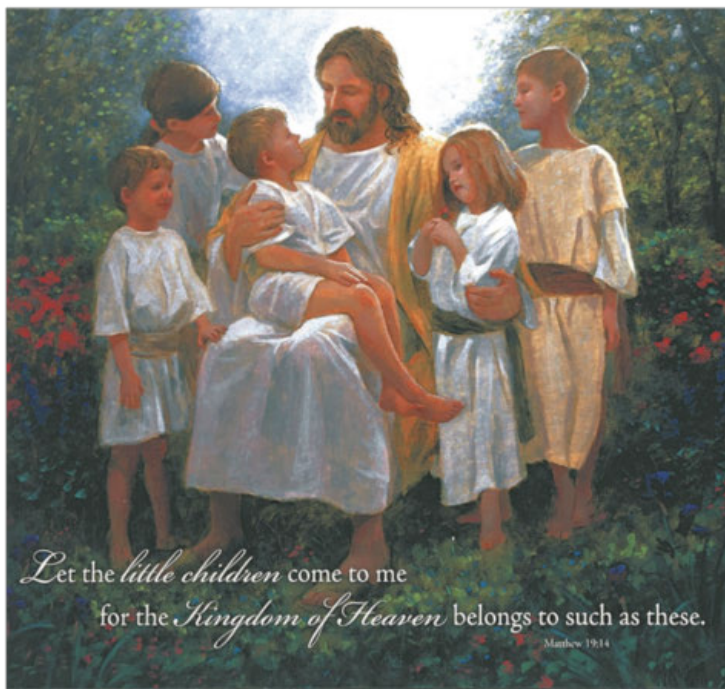
Please pray for the recently deceased.

Saint Lawrence Parish Family extends our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of the faithful departed, especially:

**John Vitka and Patricia Peterson**

May they Rest in Peace.





## Religious Education

### Next class:

Grades 1-4 - Tuesday, October 17th

Grades 5-8 - Monday/Tuesday October 16th/17th

### Grade 9 Confirmation rehearsal

Wednesday, October 18th, 6:00—7:30 pm in church

Student only, No Sponsor

### Grade 3 Penance Session #1

Saturday, October 28th, 9:00 am—12:00 Noon

Don't forget your banner, snack, review sheet and name tag

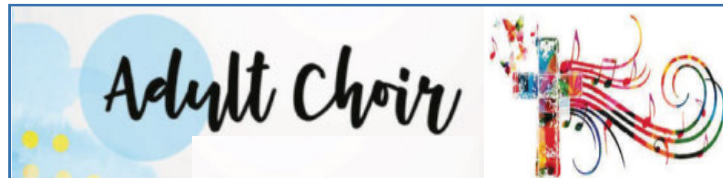
Parent meeting in the Parish Center 9:00—9:30 am

**MASS PASSES have started.** All students in grades 1-8 are required to attend mass every weekend and get a Mass Pass from the Priest or Deacon at the end of mass. Students should hand in their Mass Passes to their religion teacher at class. to their religion teacher at class.



### Bulletin News

Please submit all entries for the parish bulletin by noon, on the **Monday** before the weekend. Information should be emailed to [stlawrpar1@aol.com](mailto:stlawrpar1@aol.com), attn: bulletin, or dropped off in the Rectory Office.



### "Come join us and sing with joy!"

Anyone who would like to join our Adult Choir is welcome to join us for rehearsals. We rehearse in the music room beginning at 10:45 am on Sunday mornings and then sing at the 11:30 am Mass.

Come and give it a try! No experience is necessary.

On Wednesday, October 18th, we will begin meeting each Wednesday evening from 6:30—8:00 pm in preparation of singing for Christmas masses.

Please see or text/call Jenn at 203-640-7242 for more information.



### Do you love to sing???

### We need you in our group!!! Give it a try!

We would love to have our beautiful children's choir back again this year.

I have spoken with many of the parents, and we have decided to try 12 weeks at a time. We sing at the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday (rehearsal 9:00 am sharp in the music room). We will sing until Christmas (Christmas rehearsals will begin on Saturday afternoons in November).

Hope to see you all back again, along with some new faces!

Please contact music director, Jennifer Haddon, at 203-640-7242 for more information

### ~ Guidelines for Sponsors ~

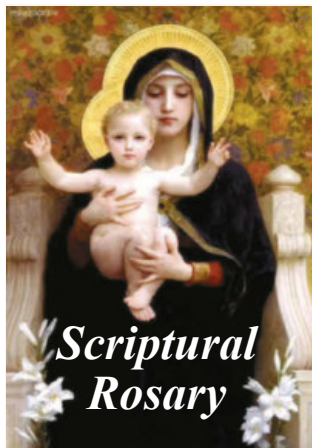
Any Parishioner of Saint Lawrence who has been asked to act as a Godparent for the Sacrament of Baptism or a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation should contact the Rectory Office for a Sponsor Certificate.

#### To act as a Sponsor a Catholic must:

- ~ Be at least 16 years of age
- ~ Have received all three sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation)
- ~ If married, be in a valid marriage recognized by the Church
- ~ Attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

In addition, in order to obtain a Sponsor Certificate from Saint Lawrence, you must be an active, registered Parishioner at Saint Lawrence for a period of at least 6 months.

**Please note:** When requesting a Sponsor Certificate, please contact the Rectory Office at least 2 weeks in advance and allow up to 10 business days for processing.



The month of October is dedicated to the Devotion of the Most Holy Rosary. Please join us to pray the SCRIPTURAL ROSARY this October in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary in worshipping her Son, Jesus.

*"When you say your Rosary, the angels rejoice, the Blessed Trinity delights in it, my Son finds joy in it too, and I myself am happier than you can possibly guess. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there is nothing in the Church that I love as much as the Rosary."*

Our Lady to Blessed Alan de la Roche

We will pray on October 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm to praying the Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries as we meditate on the Birth, Life, Death and Resurrection of our Lord. It is said that to pray all the Mysteries of the Rosary is to pray the whole New Testament.

\*IN ADDITION, the DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET and ROSARY are prayed weekdays by the outdoor Mary Statue, weather permitting, otherwise in the Church.

(There is no afternoon prayer on First Friday or Thursday evenings during October.)

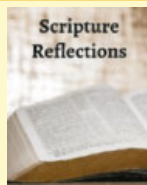
The Rosary is prayed on Saturday morning following the 9:00 am Mass.

Contact Eva Marie Duffy at (203) 305-3522 with questions.



## Faith Builders

Scripture  
Reflection Group



Faith Builders is a weekly scripture group for all stages of faith.

Come and join us as we explore the readings for the upcoming weekend.

**We meet every Wednesday from 9:30—11:00 am in the Parish Center**

No previous knowledge of scripture is necessary, no mandatory attendance, and there is no cost to attend.

The group provides an opportunity for spiritual formation by nurturing an intimate relationship with Christ through prayer, fellowship, and the study of His word.

For better insight, we watch Jeff Cavins reflections on the readings.

For more information, please contact Susan Rowan @ [msrow2729@yahoo.com](mailto:msrow2729@yahoo.com)



## Who are the Women of St. Lawrence?

We are faith-oriented women who pray together, socialize together, and do community outreach together.

All women of St. Lawrence are members of WOSL. Please contact Pat Fedak at 203-929-4176 with any questions.



walking with purpose

# Come as you are.

**YOU ARE WELCOME HERE**

WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to solutions given through Scripture. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—join us!

### **Living in the Father's Love**

Mondays 6:30—8:00 pm  
(6 weeks beginning 10/2/23)  
Upstairs in the Religious Education building

### **Touching the Divine**

Tuesdays 9:45—11:15 am  
(22 weeks began 9/12/23)  
St. Lawrence Parish Center

For questions or to register contact:

Jill Stowe: [stowej7@gmail.com](mailto:stowej7@gmail.com), 224-805-1262

Sandy Matthew: [sandy.matthew@att.net](mailto:sandy.matthew@att.net), 203-260-1226

[www.walkingwithpurpose.com](http://www.walkingwithpurpose.com)



***Dear Friends,***

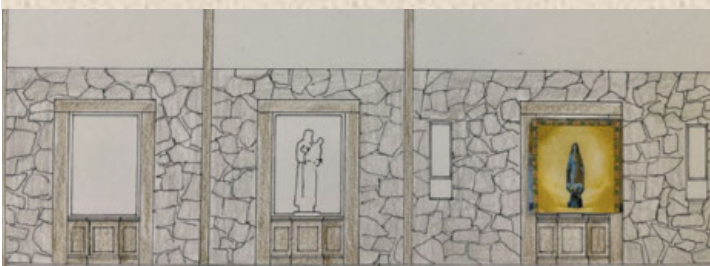
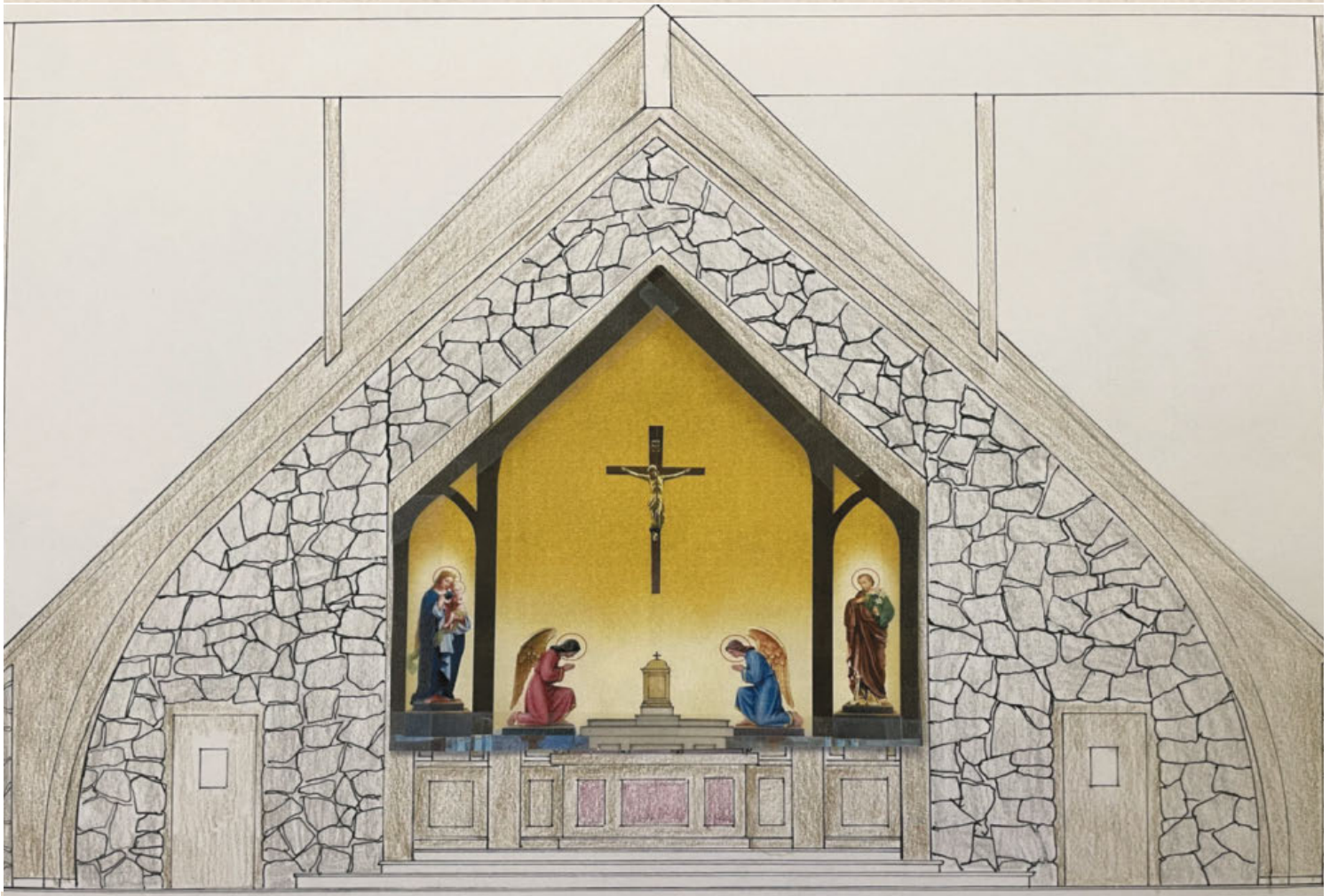
Soon we will begin the work in the church on our Sanctuary Improvement Project. For many months we have been working and planning this Project which will improve the sanctuary behind the altar and also the sides of the church. The estimated time-frame for the project is from Monday, October 23rd, until Thanksgiving, November 23rd. Our regular mass schedule will continue during the improvements. Most of the work will be behind the altar, but also on the sides of the church and those areas that may need little touches. The goal is to bring more beauty and sacredness into our place of worship, providing a deeper and stronger relationship with God and one another.

The project is funded by free will offerings only. Special envelopes are available in the back of the church for anyone who wishes to participate.

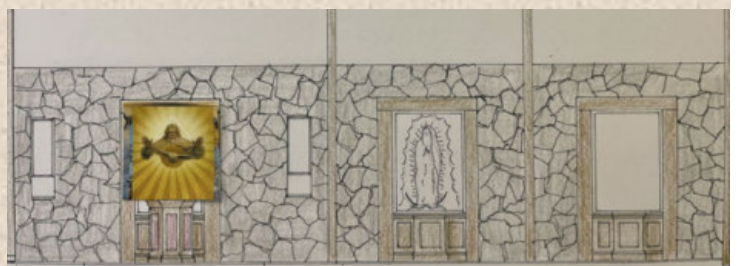
Bishop Frank Caggiano will rededicate the sanctuary on Saturday, December 2nd, at the 5:00 pm Mass.

As Always we appreciate and thank you for your continued support.

***Father Ciprian Bejan, Pastor***



Blessed Mother side, left of the Sanctuary



Baptismal Font side, right of the Sanctuary





### Prayers and Petitions:

***Please hold especially in your prayers all the members of our Parish who are in the hospital, nursing homes, homebound, or in need of the comfort of prayer:***

Maria Albano, Ed Arkison, Lyndon Bauer, Roseann Blanco, Joseph Burger, Frank Busa, Betty Butts, Thomas Cain, Louis Chkowski, Patricia Colbert, Kyle Colucci, Jennifer Coppola, Robert F. Curley, Judy Curran, Gabrielle Dana, Elizabeth Davison, Peter DeSanto, Gina DiFederico, Irene Farmer, Michael Fazio, Richard Fazio, Gilda Festa, Christine Gargano-Rosso, Mike Gemma, Kristin Graf, David Griff, Kevin Gydus, Jean Hadden, Ann Haste, Andrew D. Hernon, Deborah Horvath, Jennifer Jaworski, Robert Jevarjian, Amy Job, Audrey Kaszuba, John Konecny, Jim Kotschilidis, Christina Lake, Stephanie Leko, Connie Leniart, Christopher Madden, Joey Mandanici, Mary Jane Martucci, Betty Maulucci, Jean McCormick, Taylor Miller, Sr., Martina Mirci, Richard Monte, Kathryn Morales, Alice Moran, Joseph O'Neil, Paisley, Cheryl Peterson, Jennifer Phelps, Kelly Pineau, Julie Porzio, Helene Prokop, Edward Quick, Paul Rigoli, Michael Saul, Kristin Sciarappi, Jack Bradford Scofield, Joseph Sheridan, Antonio Silveira, Manuel Silveira, Maria Silveira, Mary Sorge, John Spodnick, Tom and Betsy Swank, Joyce Sweeney, Patricia Szube, Campbell Taft, Alejo Verdes, Irene Vesely, Dan Verrilli, Jeff Van Vooren, Pearl Walsh, Ray Yonco

### Bereavement Ministry

**You may have left my life, but you will never leave my heart. - Unknown -**



**Next meeting October 15th, 11:00 am**

Please contact Mickie Hope at 203-929-8499 for further information on how we may help you.

As part of our Bereavement Ministry, we offer "Transitions": a support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. You may contact Jim Linden at 203-561-3410, or Mickie Hope at the number above.



**Parishioners who are homebound** and unable to attend mass in person due to serious or extended illness should contact the Rectory Office if they would like a Priest or Deacon to deliver communion to them at home, or for confession.

If a parishioner requires or desires the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the rectory office. "The Anointing of the Sick is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive the sacrament has certainly already arrived" (*Catechism*, 1514).

The Rectory Office can be reached at 203-929-5355.



**If you would like to support Saint Lawrence Parish** through online giving, please visit our parish website at [www.stlawrenceshelton.org](http://www.stlawrenceshelton.org), and click on the online giving logo for more information and enrollment instructions.

Online giving provides a secure, convenient, time-saving solution for weekly offertory and extraordinary collection giving.



***We appreciate your generous support!***

**Mass and Candle intentions may be scheduled TUESDAY—FRIDAY between the hours of 9:30 am and 12:30 pm**

**In order to accommodate and serve everyone fairly,** the following policies will be adhered to:

**Each family may schedule a limit of four (4) Masses** with individual (non-collective) intentions for 2024. This includes weekdays and/or weekends, with no more than one (1) Saturday 5:00 pm Mass requested per family;

There are still candle intentions available in 2023. Candle intentions are unlimited.

### "Masks Only" Pews

We have designated "Masks Only" pews in our church to accommodate those parishioners who are more comfortable attending Mass while wearing a mask and prefer to be seated in an area with other masked parishioners. If you choose to sit in a "Masks only" pew, please be considerate of those parishioners seated in these pews and wear a mask throughout the Mass.

Please note that it is not necessary to sit in these pews if you are wearing a mask, however, these pews are reserved for only those parishioners who are wearing a mask. Parishioners who choose to attend Mass while unmasked should refrain from sitting in the "Masks Only" pews. Thank you for your cooperation.



### Lay Carmelites

Join the Mystical Rose Community of Lay Carmelites and experience God through prayer, silence and reflection centered around devotion to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.

For information, contact Marie Zyskowski, Formation Director, 203-924-1929.



## RCIA ~ Begins October 15th

If you or someone you know is interested in discovering or rediscovering our Catholic faith, our parish is offering the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. This program is directed towards non-Catholics who may have an interest in our religion, those who were baptized Catholic but did not finish the Sacraments of Initiation (Holy Communion and/or Confirmation), and those who were fully initiated but have a desire to explore and have a better understanding of the catholic faith.

**Classes will begin on Sunday, October 15th**, at 2:30 pm in the Church, and will be held on most Sunday afternoons through March.

## EXODUS

• NINETY DAYS •

## Men's Spirituality

Men of St. Lawrence, a spiritual battle rages all around us. The nations rage,

inspired by the dragon and his beasts, bringing the rebellion of the fallen angels onto earth. One thing defeats them: the blood of the Lamb.

Come join us starting each week to understand our call as men to practice our faith and be better men, brothers, husbands and fathers. Over a 40 day period of prayer and penance, we will imitate the practice of St. Francis of Assisi called St. Michael's Lent. St. Michael's Lent will prepare us for battle by taking up the spiritual weapons of prayer, asceticism, and fraternity. During this time, we will prepare for the great feast of the Archangel Michael by joining the heavenly praise of the angels.

For more information see:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Slpl\\_apaVRw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Slpl_apaVRw)

<https://app.exodus90.com/j/CF2LQAC>

**To join, contact:** Dave Stowe, [Stowe.dave@gmail.com](mailto:Stowe.dave@gmail.com)



DIocese of BRIDGEPORT

## WEDDING *Jubilee* MASS

For all those married couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 45th, or 50+ year anniversaries are invited to gather at

Saint Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023**

At 1:00 pm for a Mass celebrated by  
*Bishop Caggiano*

To register, contact Patricia Hansen at [phasen@diobpt.org](mailto:phasen@diobpt.org) or 203-416-1342

## † Knight's Corner † Saint Lawrence Council #14014



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Imagine being part of an organization that fills your heart and your mind with the joy of giving to others and the feeling that comes with making a difference."

To join or for more information about the Knights, please call Carlos Perez at 203-395-8086.



## HOUSE BLESSING

Please consider having your house blessed, especially if it hasn't been blessed before or in recent years.

Contact the Rectory Office 203-929-5355 to schedule a blessing. This can also apply to businesses.



## Safe Environments: Protecting God's Children Awareness Training

All parishioners of Saint Lawrence Parish ages 18+ who wish to volunteer in the Parish must enroll in the Diocesan mandated **Protecting God's Children Awareness Training Program**. You may register online to attend **VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults** by logging on to the website: [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and either selecting first-time registrant if this is your first session or by logging in if you have been previously trained. **Please note that if you attended a class more than five years ago, you need to be recertified.**

Volunteers are also required to attend a live **VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults** class and to return a copy of your training certificate to the parish office.

A criminal background check is also required of all volunteers. Additional information about background checks may be found at [www.bridgeportdiocese.com](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.com) under "Human Resources."

Once you have read the Diocese of Bridgeport Code of Conduct and Sexual Misconduct Policy, the signed acknowledgement should be returned to the parish office.

This is required of ALL volunteers, regardless of whether you are working directly with children.

For more information, please contact Erin Neil, Director of Safe Environments, at the Diocese at (203) 416-1406.





|                                |                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 15th                   | Bereavement Ministry Group, 11:00 am, Religious Ed building                           |
| October 15th                   | RCIA, 2:00 pm in the church                                                           |
| October 16th                   | Adult Faith Formation with Deacon Anthony, 10:00—11:30 am, Parish Center              |
| October 17th                   | Adult Faith Formation with Deacon Anthony, 7:00—8:30 pm, Music Room                   |
| October 19th                   | Scriptural Rosary, 7:30 pm                                                            |
| Faith Builders                 | Wednesday mornings, 9:30—11:00 am in the Parish Center                                |
| Walking With Purpose           | Mondays 6:30—8:00 pm, upstairs Rel Ed building, Tuesdays 9:45—11:15 am, Parish Center |
| Choir Practice                 | Wednesday evenings, 6:30—8:00 pm, in the Music Room                                   |
| Children's Choir               | Rehearse Sundays at 9:00 am in the music room before singing at 9:30 am Mass          |
| Lay Carmelites                 | Meet the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 am in the Parish Center                   |
| Knights of Columbus            | Meet the 3rd Thursday of the Month                                                    |
| Rosary                         | Monday—Friday 3:00 pm, Saturday following 9:00 am Mass                                |
| Adoration of Blessed Sacrament | Each First Friday following the 9:00 am Mass                                          |



## Respect Life Ministry

**Proclaiming and supporting God's truth that life is a sacred gift from the moment of conception to natural death.**

The Respect Life Ministry invites all to join in our prayers and activities to protect babies in the womb, help parents in need, the elderly, and to pray for the conversion of those who do not currently value life from conception to natural death.

**Join others from Shelton to pray on Thursdays.** We meet in St. Joseph's Church Parking lot at 2:00pm to carpool, and returning by 4pm.

**Now through November 5<sup>th</sup>:** 40 Days for Life prayer campaign is underway! Sign up at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com), or call Linda Kosko at (203)913-4661 to sign up or to pray with others from Shelton. This is an international prayer campaign in 70 nations, with over 9,200 local campaigns, and one million volunteers and 20,000 churches involved.

In case you meet someone who may need help, please pick up a copy of "**Services and Resources for Pregnant Moms, Dads, and Families,**" found in the back of the church, which identifies local resources and services for families.

***Let us Pray:*** (From US Conference of Catholic Bishops)

*For all who have lost loved ones, and especially for parents of a child who was miscarried, aborted or stillborn, that they will find peace in the promise of the Resurrection.*

*For parents facing an unexpected pregnancy, that they lovingly accept the precious life God has entrusted to their care.*

*For all who labor under burdens that seem too great to bear—due to illness, age, poverty, cruelty, or injustice—that our prayers and aid will lighten their crosses. Amen.*



## LOCAL CONFESSION TIMES

For your convenience, we are happy to provide the times during which the Sacrament of Penance is available on different days of the week at parishes in the area:

### **Mondays**

Christ the King, Trumbull 7:00—8:00 pm

### **Tuesdays**

St. Catherine of Siena, Trumbull 6:00—8:00 pm

### **Wednesdays**

St. Pius X, Fairfield, 7:00—8:00 pm

### **Thursdays**

St. Theresa, Trumbull 7:00—8:30 pm

### **Saturdays**

St. Lawrence, Shelton 4:00—4:45 pm

St. Mark, Stratford 3:30—4:30 pm

St. Stephen, Trumbull 3:30—4:30 pm

Christ the King, Trumbull 4:00—4:45 pm

### **Sundays**

St. Lawrence, Shelton 11:00—11:30 am





# Sunday's Readings

## First Reading:

The Lord GOD will wipe away  
the tears from every face. (Is 25:8)

## Psalm:

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days  
of my life. (Ps 23)

## Second Reading:

I have learned the secret of being well fed and of  
going hungry,  
of living in abundance and of being in need.  
I can do all things in him who strengthens me.  
(Phil 4:12-13)

## Gospel:

"Go out, therefore, into the main roads  
and invite to the feast whomever you find." (Mt 22:9)

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The goodness and mercy of God are gifts He  
wants to share with each one of us, but we have  
to be ready to receive them. Let's be prepared for  
whatever the Lord will ask of us this week.

## Observances for the week of October 15, 2023

- Sunday:** 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
- Tuesday:** St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. Luke, Evangelist
- Thursday:** Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs
- Friday:** St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Mission Sunday



I confess that I have a soft spot for the scary things Jesus says because they are usually ignored. But there's gold in them thar hills, if we have courage to look. This week Jesus gives us a terrifying warning in his parable about the king who gives a marriage feast for his son and

promptly goes berserk when people don't respond. The point: those who do not properly respond to God's generous invitation will face totally devastating consequences. The invitees who don't show up get their city burned to the ground. The poor homeless man is tortured for not wearing the correct clothes. Scary indeed.

Is Jesus trying to intimidate or bully us into following him? No, because that is certainly not how he treats anyone in the Gospels. A better view is this: to Jesus, your life *matters*. The universe is not an empty wasteland where anything goes. It is a theater of love offered and either accepted or rejected. How easy it can be to glide through life thinking my life doesn't make a difference. But it does. It really does.

This should not only be sobering but exhilarating. The positive side of the negative in Jesus' scary parables is the thrill and joy that he is inviting us, therefore our lives matter a great deal. There *is* a reason to get up in the morning. God's generous love is relentlessly calling us. True, obstinately saying no through our indifference is a catastrophe for us and those around us. But how wonderful must the consequences of our 'yes' be?

— Father John Muir

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### Notre Dame High School

Sunday October 15th, 1:00 pm  
Visit <https://www.notredame.org/>

**Lauralton Hall** will host a STEM Open House on Saturday, October 21st, from 8:00 am—Noon  
Contact Admissions Office at 203-877-2786, ext. 125 for more information

Visit: <https://www.lauraltonhall.org/events/science-olympics>

### Saint Joseph High School

Sunday, October 22nd, 1:30—3:30 pm  
For more information or to register visit:  
<https://www.sjcadets.org/admissions/visit/open-house>

### Sacred Heart Academy, Hamden

Sunday, November 5th at 11:00 am  
For information and to register visit:  
<https://www.sacredhearthamden.org/>

### Fairfield Preparatory School

Saturday, November 18th, 9:00 and 10:00 am  
Visit: <https://www.fairfieldprep.org/admissions/visit-prep/open-house>





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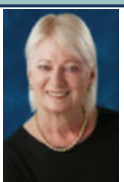
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