

St. Louis Catholic Church

SaintLouisParish.org





November 9, 2025 ~ Solemnity of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Parish Office

2907 Popkins Lane Alexandria, VA 22306 **Phone:** 703-765-4421

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:30am - 1:00pm 1:30pm - 5:30pm (except Wed)

St. Louis School 703-768-7732

St. Vincent De Paul Helpline 703-765-0050

Pastor: Rev. Keith O'Hare Parochial Vicars: Rev. Gregory Thompson Rev. Luke Poczatek

Sunday Mass

7:30am

8:45am Children's Mass 10:30am Traditional Ad Orientem 12:30pm Traditional Ad Orientem 5:15pm Quiet Traditional

Saturday Mass

Saturday Wass

8:45am 5:30pm Vigil Mass

Monday-Friday Mass

8:45am

Confessions

Mon-Sat: 7:45am-8:15am Wednesday: 6:00pm Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 8:30am-9:15am

Misa en Español

Domingo 3:00pm

Confesiones: Dom. 2:15pm-3:00pm

Grupo de Oración

Sábado 6:30pm

Poor Clare Monastery

703-768-4918

2505 Stone Hedge Drive

Mass Every Day

7:00am (Gregorian chant)

Sunday Devotions

Eucharistic Exposition 8:00am - 4:00pm

Rosary 4:00pm

Benediction 4:30pm

















PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends.

Today we as a Diocese begin the first annual "Week of Service" in all 70 parishes of our Diocese. Actions speak louder than words, as Jesus himself taught when he said, "Whatever you did to the least of my brethren you did to me." (Matthew 25:40) The theme of the Week of Service is "Love in action, Service in community." Love is a verb and it cannot remain at the level of mere sentiment or idea. Just as the Word (Jesus) became Flesh, so, too, must our good intentions and desires to do good be put into concrete action.

We do this best when we do it in community, and not in isolation. Jesus said, "Wherever two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20) Our actions of service become an encounter with Jesus Himself especially when we carry out these concrete actions of love in community. Jesus modeled this by living in community with the 12 Apostles during his three years of public ministry.

Here at St. Louis Parish we have selected Ministry to the Homebound as our special focus of attention during this week of service. Our parish school's focus is supporting the pro-life ministries of the local Marih Center which provides support to pregnant women and mothers of newborns.

I encourage you to listen to this week's podcast to hear personal stories about our parish's ministry to the homebound. I sincerely commend the many of you who serve the homebound by bringing them your love, your attention, and most especially Jesus Himself in the Blessed Eucharist. As I always like to say, "If you can't come to Mass, then the Mass comes to you!" The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion do precisely that. In next week's podcast the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy (Msgr. Bob Cilinski, who actually grew up here at St. Louis Parish) will talk about the many variety of concrete acts of service that are taking place across our diocese this week. What a beautiful week it is and we praise God for all the ways that His love is made present to those who are most in need!

Your Pastor,

Father O'Hare



Loving God, you know the sufferings of your people. You are an attentive and caring Father. You ask us to take care of those most in need: the poor, the marginalized, the suffering, the lost and the forgotten. No one is excluded from your love, for in your eyes we are all poor and needy.

Bless us and our diocese in this week of service as we offer friendship, solidarity and welcome to our brothers and sisters. Help us reach out with love, generosity, and support. Let us hold each member of the human family in our prayers. Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to You.

We pray for the intercession of Mary, Our Heavenly Queen and Mother of Mercy, whose loving arms embrace all God's children, especially the little ones and the poor.

Amen.







Ministry to the Homebound will be our special focus here at St. Louis Parish during the Diocesan "Week of Service".

On a weekly and monthly basis St. Louis parishioners (and priests) visit parishioners at home and those who are residents in George Washington Rehab, Paul Springs Retirement Home, and Bright View Senior Living. Nearly 100 persons in need receive regular visits each month!

During the Diocesan "Week of Service" special gift packages will be personally delivered to them as a sign of our love for these very important members of our Parish Community!







Why Do We Have a Collection in the Middle of the Mass?

By Father Keith O'Hare

The Mass is divided into two principal parts: The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. At the conclusion of the Liturgy of the Word we pray the Creed and the General Intercessions. Then we are seated while the altar is prepared for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The preparation of the altar and the presentation of the gifts of bread and wine draw the priest and people into a united act of sacrifice. The priest, for his part, prepares the altar upon which the one Sacrifice of Calvary (Christ Crucified) will be made sacramentally and truly present. Simultaneously the congregation offers a sacrifice of their own livelihood. The material-financial gift that you make in the collection in this moment is a gift from the heart. You give away to God - through the Church - some portion of the resources that you have justly earned by the sweat of your own brow. That is a real sacrifice!

To symbolize this sacrifice several persons in the congregation come forward to present the actual bread and wine to the priest which will be consecrated on the altar. ALL ARE MAKING A GIFT OF THEMSELVES. The financial gifts of the people literally make possible the purchase of the very bread and wine which are being received by the priest and then placed on the altar.

All of this expresses visibly that the priest and people together offer a sacrifice to God in the Holy Mass. The Mass is a holy sacrifice - the re-presentation of Christ's once-for-all sacrifice on the Cross. All the People of God make a gift of themselves in every Holy Mass, for Christ calls each one of us to unite our lives to his.

And so the collection is not a mere logistical necessity. The collection is not done for merely practical purposes. Ultimately there is a holy purpose and meaning to the collection.

Every week you work very hard! Your 40 hours (or more) of work gain you a salary that you justly receive in order to meet your needs and the needs of your loved ones. Every Sunday you consecrate that work by giving a portion of its fruits to the Church. Your work is made a worthy offering to God in this way. Your gift is also an act of thanksgiving, since it is ultimately by God's grace that we are able to work and provide for ourselves and others.

It is a pious practice to offer to God the equivalent of what you earn in one hour of your work. By consecrating an hour, you symbolically consecrate all your hours of hard work and effort. This custom also draws richly on the "hour" that Jesus speaks of so consistently in the Gospel of John, as well as the "hour" that he prayed in the Agony in the Garden: "Could you now watch one hour with me?" (Matthew 26:40)

At the time of the Sunday collection, whether you use envelopes or our new electronic giving system, make it a spiritual moment. Really offer to God what you have - your work, your financial resources, your joys, and your sorrows - as a sincere gift and ask Him to accept it as a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

Please also realize that your generosity makes a real difference in real peoples' lives. It makes it possible for people to come to a beautiful church and pray, whether on Sundays or any day of the week. It makes it possible for children to be taught about the love of God in Religious Education classes and in our parish school. It makes possible countless acts of charity and innumerable opportunities for people to grow in their faith. Be assured that what you give always counts - God spiritually multiplies the gifts that we give in His name!



FlockNote Giving Has Begun!

Our communications system is now our safe and secure electronic giving system!

Please sign up for FlockNote giving today! (and then cancel your FaithDirect account)

Scan Here to Get Started





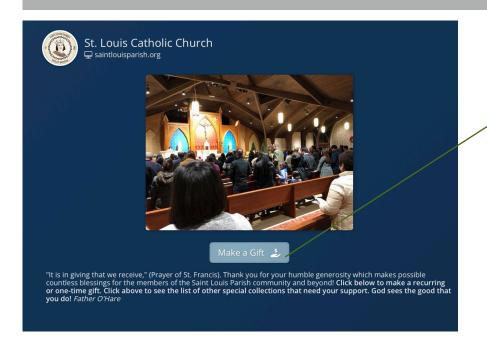


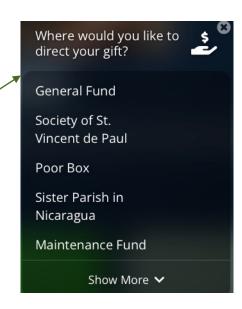
How do I donate to the second collections and other special collections?

* Click the button labeled "Make a Gift" (below the photo) *

The black-white menu will appear with the list of other collections.

Select the collection of your choice to make a one-time or recurring gift.



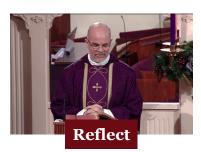


 \mathbb{R}^3

 R^3 for Women ~ Second Monday of the Month 7pm ~ 11/10/25 R^3 for Men ~ Fourth Monday of the Month 7pm ~ 11/24/25









From 7pm-8pm there is Eucharistic adoration, a brief reflection, silent meditation, and confessions. This "holy hour" is followed by "happy hour" in the Little Way Cafe! Beverages and snacks are provided.





Sunday, November 16 After the 10:30am Mass

Meditative Music
11:30am-12:00pm
Brief personal intercessory
prayer with a priest
and prayer team member



CHRISTIAN MEN & WOMEN IN ACTION (CWIA)

PRAYER BREAKFAST MEETING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025, 9:00 AM

HAMPTON INN & SUITES BY HILTON

5821 RICHMOND HIGHWAY, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22303

PRAISE + WORSHIP + TEACHING + FELLOWSHIP

GUEST SPEAKER: Eduardo Torres

Eduardo and his wife Virgen celebrated their 38th wedding anniversary earlier this year. A father of two and a grandfather of four, he has been active in the Catholic Church his entire life, serving as a religious education instructor in his parish and as a mentor in a three-step evangelization program entitled Christ Life. He also is Past Grand Knight in the Knights of Columbus and a member of its 4th Degree. In June 2024, while on a family vacation, he suffered cardiac arrest, regaining consciousness after 25 minutes of CRP and AED, at which time, he and his family experienced the mercy of God. Come and listen to his amazing story and bring a friend!

Men & Women age 21 and older are invited!

Advanced reservations required. Please call Evelyn Luis at 703-850-7607 or mail a check in the amount of \$12.00 for a full buffet breakfast payable to:

CWIA, 4113 18th Street, Arlington, VA 22204.

The event will be available on ZOOM.

Visit www.cwia.holyspirit.com for Meeting ID and Passcode.



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!

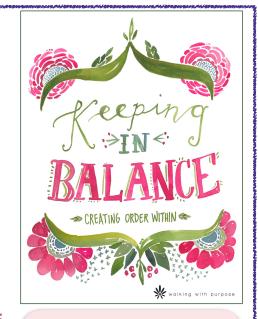
Two sessions to choose from
Tuesdays 10/14
9:30am to 11:30am
Wednesdays 10/15
7pm-9pm



Register Using this QR code



Start date: 10/14/25For questions contact the parish office



Don't forget to order your book when you register



Sunday Morning Band of Brothers Led by your parish Priests

7:30am - 8:30am in the Little Way Café

Scripture, prayer, discussion, and coffee



Saint Louis Children's Choir!

For children in 3rd grade, 4th grade, and 5th grade



Rehearsals are once a month the 2nd Sunday of the month after the 8:45am Mass from 9:45-10:15am

Children's Choir will sing monthly on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 8:45am Mass



Come and See: A Graduate Level Course in Theology

Weekly classes taught by Fr. O'Hare and Fr. Thompson

Sundays 10am to 10:45am

School Gym

UNITED COMMUNITY (UC) THANKSGIVING DAY FOOD DRIVE

NEXT SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH & 16TH, ST. LOUIS WILL BE CONDUCTING ITS MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE TO HELP RESTOCK THE SHELVES OF UC'S <u>FOOD PANTRY</u> IN PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THANKSGIVING DAY!!!!



WE ARE ASKING EACH ST. LOUIS FAMILY TO CONTRIBUTE AT LEAST ONE GROCERY BAG FILLED WITH HOLIDAY-RELATED NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS, TO INCLUDE CANNED VEGETABLES (CARROTS/CORN/PEAS/BEANS), FRUIT COCKTAIL, CRANBERRY SAUCE, CORNBREAD MIX, DESSERT MIX, STUFFING MIX, MASHED POTATO MIX, AND TURKEY GRAVY. MONETARY DONATIONS ALSO ARE WELCOME.

ON SATURDAY, WE WILL BE COLLECTING THE DONATIONS AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH BUILDING FROM 9:30 AM TO 3:30 PM.

JUST DRIVE UP, DROP OFF AND DRIVE AWAY!!!

WE ALSO WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS AT ALL THE WEEKEND MASSES.

If you have any questions about the Food Drive or are interested in volunteering, please contact Marvin Spychaj @ 703-380-2970 or marvinspychaj@msn.com.



As one Church we bear a special responsibility to care for the most needy among us. By God's providence we have been given the privilege to care for our materially poor brothers and sisters in the parish of San Isidro. We pray for Father Carlos, for the parishioners, and for the students and teachers in the parish school who depend on our financial support. Please join those parishioners who make a generous monthly donation through Faith Direct or in the envelope labeled "Sister Parish in Nicaragua." ¡Que Dios los bendiga!

Our Sister Parish in Nicaragua

Since 2007 our parish has been financially supporting a very poor parish in Nicaragua. The parish name is "San Isidro" (St. Isidore) and it is located in the rural north central area of Nicaragua on the border of Honduras. The pastor's name is Father Carlos Blandon, who visited us here two years ago. St. Paul says in his letter to the Romans, "We, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually parts of one another" (Romans 12:5).





St. Vincent de Paul

Following the example of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac, our parish St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) conference seeks to serve Christ in our neighbors—bringing hope, compassion, and practical help to those facing hardship. Your generosity makes this

mission possible.

Recently, we provided utility assistance to a single mother of five children, ages 7 to 13. With no child support—the children's father is incarcerated out of state—she works part-time at a Fairfax County school, allowing her to be home when her children are. Though she manages carefully with her wages and government assistance, she occasionally falls short, and your support helped her keep her utilities connected.

We also assisted a neighbor who suffered the heartbreaking loss of her baby in January. After being terminated from her job upon returning from medical leave, she has struggled to find new employment. With help from friends and family, she has managed to cover some bills, and through your generosity, we were able to assist with her rent and provide food cards.

St. Louise de Marillac, who shared St. Vincent's mission to serve the poor, reminds us: "Be diligent in serving the poor. Love the poor, honor them, as you would honor Christ himself."

Need help? Call our Helpline: 703-765-0050

Wish to donate? Use the "Make a Gift" button in Flocknote. Write a check to Saint Vincent de Paul, Saint Louis and leave it at the Rectory. Use Venmo: Venmo@SVDP-Alexandria. Contribute from your IRA; our Tax ID: 26-1100276

Want to join us (we need and want you!)? Email Jim Paton: jimp@svdpalexandria.org or come to one of our bi-weekly meetings to learn more: 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 7:00 pm in the St. Francis Room.



Bread for Our Brothers needs a volunteer The Bread for Our Brothers



program
delivers trays
of bread to Sr.
Ada, a
member of
The Little

Workers of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary, at their house in Riverdale, MD. This is an alternate week activity. For more information contact Jim McCracken 703-593-4546 /

jimmcva@verizon.net



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INVITE YOU!

KofC Pancake Breakfast after 7:30, 8:45 & 10:30 Mass.



Knights of Columbus HONEY BAKED HAM SALE

Order your Thanksgiving Ham, Turkey, and Gourmet Cakes & Pies Online from the Knights of Columbus!







Questions? Contact Mike Evans at 571-283-5873

Mothers' Group

 The St. Louis Mothers' Group meets every Wednesday from 10:15am to noon - feel free to drop-in for any length of time. All mothers are invited and all children are welcome! We host discussions, social time, meetups for field trips and park days, as well as brunch gatherings and events around the liturgical calendar.

THIS WEEK - This Wednesday, Nov 12th, we will meet in the YAR at 10:15AM for a fresh flower arranging demonstration from one of our moms, while the kids play! Please check Theresa's email for info on RSVP and materials fee. (The YAR is located at the back of the church building, look for the black gate and follow the stairs down to the YAR door)

CONTACT: For more information or to join our email list or Facebook page, please contact Theresa Talavera at (571)331-8441 or tatalavera@yahoo.com

Are You Grieving?

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Come to a monthly opportunity for prayer and conversation led by Fr. O'Hare.

The next session of "Grief and Grace" will be in the Little Way Café on Wednesday, November 19, from 12:30pm-1:30pm.



Advent Wreath Candle Sale

Prepare your home and heart for the Advent season with beautiful wreath candles. Candles will be available for purchase after all Masses on the weekends of November 15th–16th and 22nd–23rd. Candle sets are \$10 and the proceeds supports St. Louis Trail Life Troop VA-2907.





Have an Upcoming Wedding Anniversary?

Please let us know! If it is a significant anniversary (ending in a "5" or a "0") we would especially like to honor you. Please contact the parish office.



This week's episode features an interview with Chris Bouquet and Jim McCracken, who share stories about their ministry to our beloved homebound parishioners.



Order pizza for the babysitter!



Get ready to travel the globe with us at "Where in the World is the St. Louis Hawk?" Trivia Night! We're just weeks away from an evening full of fun, laughter, and friendly competition.

Purchase tickets below



November 14 at 7:00 PM

www.stlouisschool.org

Principal Mrs. Calogero

703-768-7732

LET US PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Monday, November 10

7:00am, Poor Clares, All Souls Novena 8:45am, Intentions of Sok Hui (Suki) Cunning

Tuesday, November 11

7:00am, Poor Clares, +James A. Moreland

8:45am, +Pedro Quintanilla

Wednesday, November 12

7:00am, Poor Clares, +Joseph Fulton

8:45am, Intentions of John Moos

Thursday, November 13

7:00am, Poor Clares, +Virginia Shufflebarger

8:45am, +Bob Pugh

Friday, November 14

7:00am, Poor Clares, Intentions of Dennis Moos

8:45am, +Salvador Capestany

Saturday, November 15

7:00am, Poor Clares, +Curtis Johnson

8:45am, +Juaning Cajayon

5:30pm, Deceased legionaries of

Handmaid of the Lord

Sunday, November 16

7:00am, Poor Clares, +Joseph Fulton

7:30am, +Marian Zassarano

8:45am, +Vita Santulli

10:30am, Pro Populo

12:30pm, Intentions of Rogan Family

3:00pm, +Juana Ramirez Guevara

5:15pm, +Michelle Mee

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord! Richard Koslow Clyde Millie Dr. Richard Redding



Prayer for the Homebound

Lord, you have a special love for those who are weak, infirm, and dependent.

Bless the homebound parishioners of our parish as they carry their daily crosses.

May our prayers bring them strength and consolation, and the Sacraments sanctify and inspire them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This week we pray especially for the following homebound parishioners:

Paul Spring residents, Robert Pierpoint,

Rose Pugh, and Ethel Moreland.



NOW OPEN! Schedule your visit today. 800.666.9536 BrightviewAlexandria.com

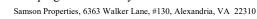
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