PARISH STAFF
Very Rev. Richard J. Stoffel, Shared Pastor  
(262-224-6464)  
Rev. Jonathon A. Schmeckel, Shared Associate Pastor  
(262-661-9257)  
Rev. Mr. Robert M. Derks, Shared Deacon  
(414-313-5184)  
Together We Serve:  
Resurrection, Allenton (262-629-5240)  
St. Lawrence, Hartford (262-644-5701)  
St. Peter, Slinger (262-644-8083)  

Office:
Nancy Pfeifer  
stlawrenceoffice@gmail.com  
262-644-5701 ext. 2  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 08:30AM-04:00PM

Religious Education:
DRE Jacquelyn Haas  
stlawreled@gmail.com  
262-644-0011  
Office Hours: Half hour before class or by appointment

MISSION STATEMENT
We, the members of St. Lawrence Parish, believe that we truly become the disciples of the Lord when:
   - His words become our words,
   - His caring becomes our caring,
   - His healing touch becomes our touch
   - His life makes us alive.

We provide opportunities and education for lifelong spiritual growth for all our members.

MASS SCHEDULE
Weekends:
   Saturday .................................................. 04:00 PM
   Sunday .................................................. 09:45 AM
Weekdays:
   Tuesday .................................................. 08:00 AM followed by Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion
   Thursday .................................................. 08:00 AM

Neighboring Parishes
Resurrection, Allenton: Saturday Vigil 6:45pm, Sunday 8:30am Wednesday/Friday 8:00 am
St. Peter, Slinger:  
   Saturday Vigil 5:00pm & 8:00pm, Sunday 7:30am & 10:30am  
   Monday 8:00am, Tuesday 6:30pm, Wednesday/Thursday 8:00am

PARISH WEBSITE
www.stlawrence-parish.com
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK
facebook.com/stlawrencecatholicparish

Bulletin & Announcements Deadline: Submit information to the Parish Office by noon on Monday.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
Baptism: Arrangement to be done with Pastor and Office.
Reconciliation: 3:15-3:45PM Saturday or by appointment.
Marriage: Arrange with Pastor and Office, 9 months prior.  
   Coordinator: Joan Krebs 262-305-2774
Sick & Homebound: Contact Pastor for sacramental needs and visits.
Funeral: Contact Pastor before finalizing details.  
   Coordinator: Denise Klink 262-224-6059

Parish Membership: We welcome new members! Families and single persons (18 years and older) must be registered with the Parish in order to receive services the Parish offers. Please contact the Office to register. If changing address, please notify the Office.

Recommended Annual Donation:
Family: $500  Single: $250  Student/Nursing Home: $25
FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekend of November 16 & 17

Membership: $ 4,709.42
Offertory: $ 500.25
Improvement Fund: $ 693.25

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Trusted: Dennis Regan, Scott Kenitz
Pastoral Council:
Chair - Angie Cleary Vice Chair - Al Simays
Secretary - Joan Krebs
At-Large - Russ Koth, Kenny Baus, Greg Recker

Finance Council:
Chair - Annette Mueller
Members - Dennis Regan, Scott Kenitz, Brendan Kons, Joan Krebs, Kenny Baus

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Please see our Parish website for a link to the daily Mass readings

FROM THE SHARED PASTOR’S DESK:

1. The Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Falls on a Sunday this year, which also happens to be the 2nd Sunday of Advent; therefore, the Mass for the feast day is transferred to Monday, December 09, but the obligation to attend Mass is lifted this year only. Mass will be offered @ 8AM Monday at St. Peter’s for those who may wish to observe the feast. Because the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of her Immaculate Conception, is patroness of the USA, only when the feast day falls on a Sunday is the obligation to attend Mass lifted.

2. SCAMS – Have been noticed by some receiving texts/emails allegedly from clergy, requesting help for parish needs via purchase of certain gift cards. While generous impulses are stirred, these communications usually contain errors in basic grammar and are associated with e-mail addresses different than our own; delete immediately without any attention that would engage your participation in the confusion being created by social media misbehavers!

3. Christmas With an Advent Attitude – While driving about on my day off, I listened in to some “talk radio” and found, predictably, that a conversation was being hosted on “when is it OK to put up your Christmas decorations.” Opinions, of course, varied from anytime you want (most of these seemed to have theirs up already) to after Thanksgiving, or a mid-December day, with only a few retro hold-outs advocating everybody wait right up to and just before Christmas Day. Understandable are weather related concerns about putting up outdoor decorations; understandable are those complicated calendars under which busy families labor these days; some want decorations up as early as possible so as to have more time to enjoy them during the more limited times many actually spend at home; everyone, however, seemed to agree that decorations come down right after the day itself. Our Catholic traditions have long suggested otherwise. While we do anticipate Christmas a bit on the Third Sunday of Advent, clothing ourselves in joyful sounds and color (rose) that reflect our Savior’s birth being near at hand, we first pull out all the stops for Christmas Eve/Day, and then allow ourselves the joys of holiday afterglow for many days thereafter, observing feasts honoring the Holy Family, Mary: Mother of God, Our Lord’s Epiphany and Holy Baptism, all part and parcel of Christmas which, for us, is not just a day but a season that first concludes January 12. Knowing many among us have resolved this discussion for ourselves and already have decorations and holiday music up and going, might I boldly suggest that no matter when they went up that we keep them up longer than many neighbors who tire too early of Christmas joys. Maybe it’s not so much a matter of when we start to celebrate as how long we allow ourselves to contemplate, to consider and care about what a difference Jesus truly makes!

4. With Advent Season – We begin a new cycle (A) of our three year pattern of scripture readings for weekend Masses, and the gospels begin to come from St. Matthew. Information on him, the evangelist who opens our Biblical witness to the birth, life, words, deeds, death, and resurrection of Christ, is fragmentary, scarce, and insufficient for what we call a biography. That he was a tax collector (likely in Capernaum near the Sea of Galilee where Peter had his fishing business and Jesus often visited) is well known. Jesus’ call to him to join the inner circle of His followers is a sure sign of God’s mercy as tax collectors were considered among the worst of sinners, miserly extortionists and collaborators with despicable taxing authorities, no better than prostitutes! Matthew’s call to follow Jesus reminds us that the call to holiness is not exclusive but inclusive; those considered the worst among us may be changed into the best among us by acceptance of Divine forgiveness. That Matthew responded immediately to Jesus’ call is also well attested; he left a job that involved

(continued on next page)
**FROM THE SHARED PASTOR’S DESK: (CONTINUED)**
dishonorable, unfair, unjust accumulations of excessive wealth even though it assured him a reliable means of support. He understood that his new association with Jesus did not allow him to continue to pursue activities of which God disapproved. We, too, are called to detach ourselves from things and thoughts incompatible with following Jesus, including things dishonestly achieved or gained. Matthew’s determination to be Jesus’ worthy disciple is exemplary. While his feast day is September 21, his example and intercession can be a great inspiration as we begin a good Advent in preparation to celebrate a joyful Christmas!

**HARTFORD AREA COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**
Wednesday, December 4th, 12:30pm to 5:30pm, at the Hartford Senior Center, 730 Highland Ave Hartford. Donate blood and the Milwaukee Admirals will THANK YOU with a ticket voucher to see any home game in December or January! New donors are always welcome!! Anyone 17 years of age or older, weight of 110 lbs or over, and in good health is eligible to donate. Please bring a picture I.D. Appointments are suggested, but not required. Call 1-877-232-4376 or online at www.versiti.org/hartford. The Blood Drive is sponsored by the Hartford Senior Friends, Hartford Women’s Club and the Hartford Area Blood Donors Club in co-operation with the Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin.

To receive credit in 2019 funds must be in the Parish Office no later than noon on December 31.

The recommended Annual Donation is:
- Family-$500
- Single-$250
- Student/Nursing Home-$25

Thank you for supporting our Parish!

**ST. LAWRENCE PARISH CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS**

- $12 – 6 ½” Red Poinsettia
- $12 – 6 ½” White Poinsettia
- Donation toward other items needed

In Honor or Memory of:

________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

Donated by: ____________________________________________

Please respond by December 15, 2019

**PARISH CALENDAR**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Advent Socials after Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Christian Women Bake Sale</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Advent Penance Service at St. Lawrence 10:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>Feast Day with Bishop Jeffrey Haines</td>
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**ADVENT SOCIALS**
Please join us next weekend after Mass for our annual Advent Social in the Church Hall.

**ADVENT SACRIFICE**
This year our Lent Sacrifice is for the benefit of:

**Journey—Spiritual Advancement for Individuals with Disabilities**

Journey is a Catholic religious education program that is designed to meet the spiritual and sacramental needs of persons ages 6-adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Journey meet 12 times a year for 90 minutes from October thru April and is located at St. Frances Cabrini in West Bend.

**Dynamic Catholic**

Dynamic Catholic’s mission is to re-energize the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism. Your support makes it possible to develop free world-class resources for Catholics of all ages.

Please consider giving up a meal or two and donating to these worthy causes.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN—GOAL $250,000**
As of November 18, pledges are $229,637 (91.9% of our goal) and have received $197,205. Thank you!

Check our website under the tab “Parish Life—Photos” for pictures of the work as it has progressed.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN CORNER**
Our Christmas Cookie Bale Sale is next weekend - Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8. Get your baking supplies and bring in your yummy cookies to the St. Joseph’s Room from 9 - 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 7.