

St. Lawrence Parish

ST. MATTHIAS CHAPEL

4886 Highway 175, Hartford, WI 53027

www.stlawrence-parish.com

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Richard J. Stoffel, Shared Pastor
Cell 262-224-6464
Email: fr.rick.stoffel@stpeterslinger.org
Rev. Jonathon A. Schmeckel, Shared Associate Pastor
Preferred: 262-644-8083, Ext. 2205
Email: frjs@stpeterslinger.org
Cell 262-661-9257
Rev. Mr. Robert M. Derks, Shared Deacon
Cell 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
stlawreled@gmail.com
262-644-5701 ext. 1
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 10:00 AM

Weekdays:

Tuesday 08:00 AM followed by
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion
Thursday 05:30 PM

Neighboring Parishes

Resurrection, Allenton: Saturday Vigil 6:30pm, Sunday 8:30am
Wednesday 6:30pm, 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,
Saturday 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: 10:00 AM 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

Knights of Columbus Unity Council 12743:

Contact—Paul Petri 262-644-7440 or prumpet@charter.net

• December 13, 2020 •

St. Lawrence Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

12 Saturday:

4:00pm Mass †Clemens & Sylvania Infalt

13 Sunday:

10:00am Mass †Marie Feldhusen

14 Monday:

15 Tuesday:

8:00am Mass †Harold Baier

16 Wednesday:

17 Thursday:

5:30pm Mass †Marvin Hahn

18 Friday:

19 Saturday:

4:00pm Mass †Roman & Audrey Wagner

20 Sunday:

10:00am Mass Pro Populo—For the People

MINISTRIES

19 Saturday

Lector: Denise Klink

Servers: No Servers

Eucharistic Ministers: No Eucharistic Ministers

Host:

Cup:

Host to Choir:

Ushers: Fred & Mary Montag, Mary Aufdermauer, Lois Olson

20 Sunday

Lector: Scott Kenitz

Servers: No Servers

Eucharistic Ministers: No Eucharistic Ministers

Host:

Cup:

Ushers: Emil & Brenda Becker, John Cleary, Jim Kauper

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Please see our Parish website for a link to the daily Mass readings

FINANCIAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 28 & 29

Membership: \$ 1,678.00

Offertory: \$ 381.55

Improvement Fund: \$ _____

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Trustees: Scott Kenitz Maureen Gehring

Pastoral Council:

Chair - Angie Cleary **Vice Chair** - Greg Recker

Secretary - Joan Krebs

At-Large - Russ Koth, Kenny Baus, Jackie Infalt

Finance Council:

Chair - Annette Mueller

Members - Maureen Gehring, Scott Kenitz, Brendan Kons, Joan Krebs, Kenny Baus

FROM THE SHARED ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S DESK:

Yesterday, on December 12, we celebrated the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** – who is the patroness of all of North and South America. Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1531 and asked him to go to the Bishop to have a shrine built in her honor. As a sign, she told him to pick roses from the mountainside (miraculously!) in the middle of the winter. As he brought these to the Bishop at the times as proof that it really was Mary appearing to the man, an image on his tilma, or his cloak, in the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This image on the cloak remains in the basilica built to her honor in Mexico City. Even after nearly 500 years, the image has not faded or changed.

What's more remarkable than the image is what the Holy Spirit did in Mexico in the years after – through Mary's appearance. Before, there were huge racial tensions between the Spanish colonists and explorers and the native people. The appearance of Mary as a native person helped to bridge the gap between these two worlds. Furthermore, almost the entire country of Mexico converted to Catholicism in a very short period of time. This feast is an important one for us these days. It is faith in God and trusting in Our Lady's intercession that will help us to overcome the great divides that we find in our own times – in the country, in our communities, and, too often, in our own homes. **Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!**

This Sunday we celebrate **Gaudete Sunday**. You will notice at Mass this Sunday the priest wearing a pinkish *rose* colored vestment. We will also light the pink candle on our Advent wreaths. This use of the color pink/rose is lighter than the dark purple of Advent. The brightness and freshness of this color reminds us that our period of waiting for the coming of Jesus is nearly over. The name Gaudete Sunday comes from the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass today, in Latin: *Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete....* This comes from Saint Paul's letter to the Philippians and means, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." (Phil 4:4-5) We should spend some time today in extra joy and festivity because Jesus is nearly here!



To receive credit in 2020 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!

A MESSAGE OF CONSOLATION

Christmas is perceived to be the holiday when we are to experience extraordinary joy; the joy of the birth of Our Savior, the Son of God, Jesus; the joy of gatherings of loved ones, family and friends; the joy of giving and receiving; the joy of greeting strangers and celebrating our connectedness. Yet, because of the very nature of the holiday, many people suffer their greatest pain, which is the grief and loneliness brought on by the death of a loved one. The source of our greatest joy becomes the source of our greatest sadness. It is at this most difficult time that we can experience a deeper awareness of the true meaning of Christmas. Emmanuel means "God with us." The significance of Christmas is that we celebrate our God being with us. Jesus was born. Jesus died. But Jesus rose and promised to be with us always. The Good News is that although there is death, there is resurrection. Remember, Christmas is the celebration of the fact that we are not alone. God is present to comfort and heal us. Emmanuel, our God, is with us. One way to become aware that God is with us is to reflect on happy memories and thank God for them, and to particularly thank God for the person we loved who is now in heaven. Knowing our loved one is with God doesn't take away our pain, but it helps us to live through it. Even in our pain we can experience the joy of knowing the peace and serenity of Emmanuel, which is the true gift of Christmas.

"Lord, for your faithful people life is changed, not ended. When the body of our earthly dwelling lies in death we gain an everlasting dwelling place in heaven."

Practical Suggestions for Getting Through the Holidays: Things Change. Sometimes it is helpful to change the way we do things, if only a little bit. If you traditionally have a family sit-down dinner, maybe it would be easier to have a buffet this year. Then the empty seat would not be such an obvious and painful reminder of your loss.

If family get-togethers are going to make you feel worse, plan to do things and be with people who will make you feel better. Remember, there is no right or wrong way of doing things. Do not place guilt on yourself if you limit some contacts. Be good to yourself; it is part of healing.

Be careful of "shoulds." Listen to your heart. Ask yourself, "How do I feel about that?"

Do only tasks (baking, decorating, etc.) that you enjoy.

Do traditional things differently (times for church, dinner, etc.).

Instead of traditional gift giving, you might choose to buy inexpensive gifts and make charitable gifts to help others in need in honor of your loved one.

Anticipation is often worse than realization. Christmas Day is only one day; Jesus, Emmanuel, is the reason for the season and with us always.

Practical Suggestions for Comforting the Bereaved:

Grief shared is grief diminished. Call, write notes, or visit. The greatest pain is loneliness. Bring the bereaved a little gift – symbol of love and compassion. Invite them out for coffee, to take a walk, to visit a museum, to see a play, a movie, etc. Talk about the deceased. Many people erroneously think that this is too painful for the bereaved. On the contrary, it is part of the healing process to talk about the loved one. Tell the griever you are praying for them. Perhaps you could invite them to go to church with you between Christmas and New Years. One friend, one person who understands and truly cares can change an entire outlook. The first duty of love is to listen.

PARISH CALENDAR

2021		
January	21	Finance Council Meeting 6:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting 7:15 PM
February	09	Christian Women Meeting 6:30 PM
March	08-10	Tri-Parish Mission at St. Lawrence
August	08	175th Anniversary & Feast Day Celebration with Archbishop ListECKi

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN—GOAL \$250,000

As of December 3, pledges total \$255,043 (102% of our goal) and we have received \$243,400. Thank you!



*Nora Marie
daughter of
William & Kelly Culp*



*I.
Luke Bainbridge &
Leah Klink*



*to the family of
Herbert Schmidt*

ADVENT SACRIFICE

Journey - A Ministry of the Catholic Parishes of Washington County that Educates and Empowers those with Special Needs in their Faith...

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 proPs meet 12 times a year for 90 minutes from October thru April.

Archdiocese Coronavirus Emergency Fund

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee created the Coronavirus Emergency Fund to help alleviate the financial hardship caused by the outbreak. Thanks to your generosity, the fund is providing emergency needs to local families including food, personal care items, rent assistance and job referral services. To date, 38 grants have been distributed to our parishes, St. Vincent de Paul chapters and local Catholic programs. If you are able, please consider making a donation now to help alleviate the growing financial hardship caused by the pandemic in our area. Even small gifts make a difference. We do miracles with it.

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