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Once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade. - Mark 4:32

MASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Sunday 9 am at HF

11am at SL

Tuesday Noon at HF

Wednesday 8am at HF (when school

is in session)

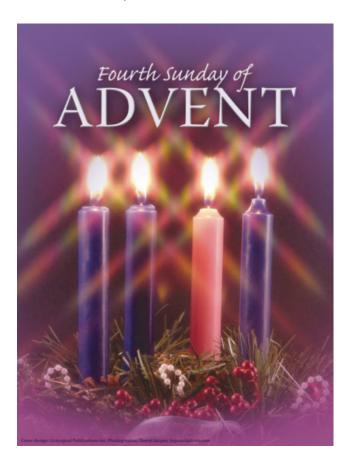
Wednesday Noon at SL Thursday 8 am at HF Friday 8 am at SL Saturday 4 pm at SL

Confessions

Sundays 8 am HF
Tuesdays 11:30am HF
Wednesdays 11:30am SL
Saturdays 3 pm SL
Or by Appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Tuesdays 8:30 am - 8:30 pm at SL Wednesdays 8:30 am - 6:30 pm at HF



THE FORTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 19, 2021

Prepare the way of the Lord

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St. Lawrence

2410 Morris Thomas Rd, Duluth, MN 55811

218-722-2259

Admin. Assistant - Stephanie Jago Office Hours: M, W, Th 8:30 am - 4 pm E-mail: stlawrencechurch@msn.com

Please contact your parish office for baptisms, marriage preparation, funeral planning, to register as a new parishioner, or if you are interested in possibly becoming Catholic.

Fr. Eli Gieske's Message



Dear Parishioners,

This weekend (Dec. 18th-19th) after each of the Masses, we will be having a short time of adoration (30 minutes). During this time, I want to invite people to pray for anyone in their life who may need healing. Family, friends, yourselves, all who you want to be healed in anyway, whether it's physical, spiritual, or psychological healing. Whether it's healing from past experiences, or present struggles, God wants to meet us in our woundedness. During this 30-minute time period, I will be offering anointing of the sick for those who are in need of it. Those who are dealing with long term illnesses, injuries, or ailments. (Normally we wouldn't get anointed for the flu or a cold

etc.) If you have a question about whether it's appropriate for you to get anointed, you can talk to me, or we can make arrangements to talk about it some time in the near future. We will also have some teams of people who can pray over people who are looking for prayers for a specific intention or need.

During this 30-minute time for prayer, I would ask you to take time in adoration to pray for those needs and intentions you are wanting to bring to God. You can also seek prayers from one of the prayer teams or seek the anointing of the sick. I'll give some instruction about this time at the end of Mass. If you don't wish to participate, I would ask that you leave the church respectfully and quietly to help facilitate this time of prayer.

The goal of this time is to help prepare us for Christmas. There are many ways we can prepare for this great feast, but one of them is to ask God heal us, and heal our family and friends who are in any kind of need. One of our great roles as Christians is to pray for other people and to be intercessors. This is something we can all do. I'd invite you to participate in this time of prayer, and throughout this week to keep praying for the healing of family, friends and even our broader community and nation. Jesus is the one who heals us, and when we place our hope and trust in him, he can do great things. I pray this will be a time to increase our receptivity to the graces God wants to give us.

Just a reminder that there will be extra confessions in this week leading up to Christmas. Check the website or the bulletin insert from last weekend for specific times. Note that this Wednesday, there is also an extra time of adoration and prayer offered from 6:30-7:30 at Holy Family, confessions will be available during that time as well.

See the website for Christmas Mass times, it's a bit confusing. Note, regarding obligatory Mass attendance this year, Catholics are obligated to attend Mass either Christmas Eve, or Christmas Day which is Friday evening or Saturday... As well as attending on the feast of the Holy Family which occurs the day after Christmas Sunday the 26th. Because any Masses Saturday evening would be Christmas Day Masses there is no anticipatory Mass on Sat. for the Feast of the Holy Family. There will only be the two Sunday Masses. Therefore, note there is no evening Saturday Mass on Christmas Day (Sat. Dec. 25th).

To those who will be traveling and visiting family, have a safe and blessed Christmas! In Christ,

-Fr. Eli



Mass Prayers & Readings

VOCATIONS PRAYER:

Almighty Father, we beg you for an increase in religious vocations and holy marriages in our diocese. Help us to be generous in our response to Your call. Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your work and strengthen us with the courage to say "yes" and to follow You. Help us as a diocese, as a parish, as families to encourage and foster vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, and consecrated life. We commend our prayers to our Patroness, Mary, Queen of the Rosary, and ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING:

Mi 5:1-4a

Thus says the LORD:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel;
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient times.

Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return

to the children of Israel.

He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 80

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING:

Heb 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:
"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.
Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will, O God."

First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in."
These are offered according to the law.
Then he says, :Behold, I come to do your will."
He takes away the first to establish the second.
By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

GOSPEL:

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah

and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,

the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father: through him all things were made. For us men and our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow through "and became man") and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Communion Antiphon:

Is 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.



CLERGY

Pastor: Fr. Elias Gieske Deacon John Foucault Deacon Timothy Kittelson

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January

Holy Family ~ Karen Perfetti St. Lawrence ~ Pat Reynolds

ALTAR SERVER GARMENT CARE

January

St. Lawrence ~ Sandy Finch

CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

HOLY FAMILY

December 12, 2021

Envelopes & Plate: Not available at time of printing

Fiscal Year to Date: \$ 70,446.23 UCA goal for 2021: \$ 31,573.16 UCA collected to date \$ 28,979.63 Needed for our goal \$ 2,593.53

St. Lawrence

December 11 & 12, 2021

Envelopes & Plate: Not available at time of printing Fiscal Year to Date \$ 100,718.40 UCA goal for 2021 \$ 62,712.54 UCA collected to date \$ 47,099.98 Needed for our goal \$15,612.56

Please keep your parish in mind when estate planning

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat	Dec 18	4pm	SL	† Todd Huberty
Sun	Dec 19	9am	HF	† Terry Johnson
		11am	SL	† Parishioners Intentions
Mon	Dec 20	Private	Mass	† John & Mary Larson
Tues	Dec 21	Noon	HF	Shubitz Family
Wed	Dec 22	Noon	SL	† Deceased Members of the Seaway Garden Club
Thurs	Dec 23	8am	HF	† Sue McQuiston
Fri	Dec 24	8am	SL	Those in our families struggling spiritually, mentally, or physically
Fri	Dec 24	4pm	HF	† Willard Carlson
Fri	Dec 24	7pm	SL	† Mike Spehar
Sat	Dec 25	9am	HF	† Evelyn, Louis, & Garry Ranthum
Sat	Dec 25	11am	SL	† Todd Huberty
Sun	Dec 26	9am	HF	† Parishioners Intentions
		11am	SL	† Walczynski Families, Living & Deceased

Daily Readings for the Week of December 19, 2021

Sun: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Mon: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38

Tues: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

Wed: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56

Thurs: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Fri: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Sat: Vigil: ls 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22 -25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: ls 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: ls 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

LITURGICAL SUPPORT

CHRISTMAS EVE

Friday, Dec 24, 4pm Holy Family

EM's: Bev Carlson

Dcn Tim Dcn John Handmaids

Ushers: Tim Walczynski

Jeanine VanNispen

Steve Gilbert Randy Nelson Dave DeToffol Bruce Lobermeier

Reader: Donna DeToffol

Servers: Jeff Nelson

Evelyn Monson Kayla Chapin Aidan Chapin

7pm St. Lawrence

EM's: Nick Sloboda

Steve Wedel Jeanne Tondryk

Ushers: Steve Wedel

Jeanne Tondryk Jerry Spehar Jim Donovan

Reader: Paul Howard

Servers: Keaton Christianson

Karson Christianson

CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, Dec 25, 9am Holy Family

EM's: Joanne Connor

Jeff Nelson

Ushers: Frank Gerard

Andy Brunette Dave Makowsky Jeanine VanNispen

Reader: Chuck Gehlen

Servers: Matt LaFontaine

Arabella Skrivanek

Niko Carlson

Cameron Skrivanek

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday, Dec 26,

9am Holy Family

EM's: Jodi Bergh

Steve Gilbert

Ushers: Tim Walczynski

Dave DeToffol Randy Nelson Bruce Lobermeier

Reader: Mike Orobona

Thomas Orobona

Servers: Jeff Nelson

Aidan Chapin Kayla Chapin Natalie Skrivanek

11am St. Lawrence

Greeter: Barb Olson

EM's: Kim Lindquist

Janet Stanley Barb Olson

Ushers: Jim Segel

Jim Wallner Jenny Wallner Mandy Baker

Reader: Michele Beeksma

Servers: Isaac Baker

Christopher Gannucci

11am St. Lawrence

Greeter: Joann Suliin

EM's: John Baker

Karen Ball Deacon John

Usher: Angel Carl

Jim Segel

Jeanne Tondryk Roger Morrison

Reader: Judy Borash

Servers: Adam Morrison

John Paul Morrison

PRAYER SUPPORT MINISTRY

St. Lawrence: Marie Warner 727-1708 Holy Family: Sue Wick 591-7183

Email our prayer chain: needofprayers@gmail.com

Parish Announcements

Youth Faith Formation

MISSION TRIP UPDATE! There are a few spots left! We will be having a meeting in January to plan out upcoming fundraisers- this trip to Alive in You will be July 12-17. A deposit of \$150 is needed to hold your spot- any youth entering 8th grade and above are welcome to attend!

FLOCKNOTE is the main communication tool we use for programs within Faith Formation, events and reminders, and to communicate class closing because of weather. You can sign up for FLOCKNOTE messages via our parish website: www.catholicduluth.org or by calling Karen in the parish office at 722-2259; t's never TOO LATE to JOIN Faith Formation- ALL are welcome!

TEXT-TO-GIVE... We are now set up to Text to give to St. Lawrence or Holy Family. There are 3 simple steps to giving by text. 1.) Text T2GLAW for St. Lawrence or T2GHF for Holy Family to 800-950-9952. 2.) Click on the link, and 3.) Complete your gift. Please call your parish office if you have any questions.

Nurse for Priests

The Nurse for Priests promotes the healing ministry among the Presbyterate of the Diocese of Duluth, especially senior priests. This position provides leadership in identifying and responding to the health -related needs of the priests. The nurse articulates the relationship of health of mind, body, and spirit for active and retired priests. If you are interested in this part-time role (20 hours per week), please email Mary Rasch at mary.rasch@duluthcatholic.org

The next meeting of the Merry "Mary" widows will be held next Sunday, December 19, at 3:00 PM at St. Lawrence Church. We welcome all widows from St. Lawrence or Holy Family to join us."



We are in need of a regular adorers for Eucharistic Adoration at BOTH PARISHES. Contact Sr. Therese Marie at 218-722-4445, if you are interested in spending an hour in the comfort of our Lord.



Restored Retreat for Adults All adults, 21 RESTORED and older, are invited to come to the diocesan Restored retreat! Come be restored in both body and soul. Enjoy good food.

time with others in good community, thoughtprovoking talks, time for relaxation, and an opportunity for Adoration, Mass, and Confession. The retreat will be taking place January 21 - 23 at Sugar Lake Lodge near Grand Rapids. The link to register and more information can be found at <u>www.dioceseduluth.org/Restored</u>. Spots are very limited due to COVID, so register today!

Theology Uncapped is excited to announce our next event, Thursday January 27, 2022, featuring Father Richard Kunst and Pastor Rollie Brockbrader. This event topic is: "Salvation" and is being held at St. Benedict Catholic Church, 1419 St. Benedict Street, Duluth MN. The cost is \$25 which includes a catered meal from Famous Dave's, beer, wine, pop and coffee. Seating is limited at 215, so register now at www.theologyuncapped.org. Please contact Deacon John Foucault @ (218)393-0631 if you are unable to register online.

The annual St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus Winter Blood Drive will be held on Monday, January 17th. Whether you are a regular or a first time donor, we need you. Due to COVID-19, local blood supplies remain extremely low. Parishioners throughout our cluster are encouraged to donate. Remember you can donate whole blood every 56 days. Please try to schedule your donations so you can give at our blood drive too. Donation is by appointment only. Register on line at mbc.org or you can contact Steve Gilbert at 727-6206. Thanks in advance for your lifesaving gift!

Contact Ginny Nelson at 722-4445 or e-mail holyfamilyduluth@yahoo.com with announcements, stories or pictures you would like to share in the Mustard Seed. Articles due by noon Monday.

We Welcome Into Our Catholic Family

<u>Cohen Jameson Finn</u> Son of Sean & Kristin Finn

Baptized at St. Lawrence Church,

December 19, 2021.

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of us all, we turn to you today as the one who said "Yes" to Life. "You will conceive and bear a Son," the angel told you. Despite the surprise and the uncertainty about how this could be, you said yes. "Be it done unto me according to your word. "Mary, we pray today for all mothers who are afraid to be mothers. We pray for those who feel threatened and overwhelmed by their pregnancy. Intercede for them, that God may give them the grace to say "Yes" and the courage to go on. May they have the grace to reject the false solution of abortion. May they say with you, "Be it done unto me according to your word." May they experience the help of Christian people, and know the peace that comes from doing God's will. Amen

Masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

Christmas Eve Masses
4pm at Holy Family
7pm at St. Lawrence

Christmas Day Masses

9am at Holy Family

11am at St. Lawrence





During our RCIA/Intro to Catholicism class this week, we will learn more about "Mary". Feel free to join us at Holy Family, 6:30,

Tuesday Dec 21.

THANK YOU to the advertisers on our bulletin who pay for the printing of our bulletin each week. It is from their generosity and support of our community that we are able to keep you up to date with the happenings in our parishes. When you support our supporters, they feel more confident in supporting our Churches.









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