



APRIL 28, 2024  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

# ST. LAURENCE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

WWW.SAINTLAURENCEDELCO.ORG

8245 WEST CHESTER PIKE, UPPER DARBY, PA 19082



## MASS SCHEDULE/ HORARIO DE MISAS

Monday – Saturday

8:30AM

Último martes del mes/  
Last Tuesday of the month

6:30PM en Español

Saturday Vigil/Vigilia del sábado

4:30PM

7:00PM en Español

Sunday

7:30AM, 10:45AM, 12:15PM

Domingo

8:30AM en Español

St. Alice

Sunday 10:30AM in Vietnamese

## DEVOTIONS/CONFESSION

Adoration of the Most Blessed  
Sacrament/Adoración del Santísimo  
Sacramento

Saturday 3:15-4:15PM

Wednesdays 9:30AM - 7:00PM

Confessions/Confesiones

Saturday 3:15-4:15PM

Rosary

Daily at 8AM and Monday at 7PM

Divine Mercy Chaplet

After daily Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturday after 8:30AM Mass

## OUR SACRED PURPOSE

The purpose of St. Laurence parish is to be a home where everyone knows the loving embrace of God their Father. We use our cultural diversity and our faith in God's providence to motivate and form each other to be Missionary Disciples sent by the Holy Spirit to love and serve one another.

## PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office & Mailing Address: 30 St. Laurence Road  
Upper Darby, PA 19082

Phone: 610-449-0600

FAX: 610-449-4299

Office Hours:

Mon., Wed., Thur. 9-7; Tues. and Fri. 9-5

Horas de Oficina:

Lunes, Mier., Jueves 11-7; Martes 9-5

Pastor:

Rev. Thomas Whittingham, x. 221

Email:

frtom@saintlaurencedelco.org

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Anthony Albanese

Email:

franthony@saintlaurencedelco.org

In Residence:

Rev. Anthony Raymundo

Permanent Deacons: Dcn. Samuel Ortiz & Dcn. Mark Wallace

## SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

School Office & Mailing Address: 8245 West Chester Pike  
Upper Darby, PA 19082

Phone: 610-789-2670

FAX: 484-452-6271

Principal:

Sr. Regina Matulka, IHM

Website:

www.saintlaurence.org

## PARISH STAFF

**Director of Parish Operations:** Henry Aquino,  
610-449-0600, ext. 227 or  
henry@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Parish Secretary:** Claudia Jiménez, 610-449-0600  
ext. 212 or claudia@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Hospitality Minister & Safe Environment  
Coordinator:** Meg Orr, 610-449-0600, ext. 210 or  
mego@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Welcoming & Hospitality Minister:** Mia  
Cardenas, 610-449-0600, ext. 216 or  
mia@saintlaurencedelco.org

## MINISTRIES/MINISTERIOS

**Altar Servers:** Father Anthony, 610-449-0600 ext. 213 or  
franthony@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Cantors:** Margie Kane, Music Director, 610-446-4072 or  
cantormargiek@gmail.com  
**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Lectors:**  
Maureen Carey, 610-608-8158,  
mecarey52@yahoo.com  
**Ministry of Hospitality (Ushers):** Father Tom  
610-449-0600 ext. 221 or frtom@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Sanctuary Society & Social Committee:** Cathleen Albertus,  
610-789-8792 or walber33@verizon.net  
**Church Environment Coordinator:** Diane McPartland  
610-316-7046 or mcpartland@comcast.net  
**R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults),  
Parish Religious Education Program (PREP):**  
Sr. Kathy Benham, IHM, Director of Religious Education  
religioused@saintlaurencedelco.org or 610-449-0600 ext. 215  
**Pre-Jordan (Baptism Prep) Catechesis:**  
Deacon Mark Wallace, 610-449-0600  
**Liturgy Committee:** Father Tom, 610-449-0600 ext. 221 or  
frtom@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Finance Council:** Joan Mazur, 484-433-0022  
**Pastoral Council:** Harry Dietzler, 484-557-0201  
**Men's Group:** Harry Dietzler, 484-557-0201  
**Prayer Group:** Terri Howell, 484-454-5655 or  
howellterri457@gmail.com  
**Pro-Life Ministry:** Joan Mazur,  
prolife@saintlaurencedelco.org  
**Knights of Columbus:** Tom DeFruscio, tommyd55@comcast.net  
**St. Vincent de Paul:** Bob Gwin, 610-449-0600, ext. 217  
**Ministerio Hispano/Hispanic Ministry:** 215-603-2669  
**Director of Hispanic Social Outreach:** 610-306-7370  
Hna. Dominica Lo Bianco, OSF  
**Laurentian Senior Group 55+:** Dottie Tillger, 610-945-5064

## SACRAMENTS/ SACRAMENTOS

Arrangements for Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick, Reception of Holy Communion at home, and appointments for Confession may be made at our parish office or visit our website.

Los arreglos para el Bautismo, el Matrimonio, la Unción de los Enfermos, la recepción de la Sagrada Comunión en el hogar y las citas para la Confesión se pueden hacer en nuestra oficina parroquial o visite nuestro sitio web.

[www.saintlaurencedelco.org](http://www.saintlaurencedelco.org)

## WEEKLY MEETINGS/ REUNIONES SEMANALES

### ST. LAURENCE MEN'S GROUP

Mondays at 7:00PM, Main school entrance

### VIRTUAL ROSARY

Mondays at 7:00PM, On computer, tablet, or smartphone go to: <https://meet.goto.com/681543997>  
Password: 5432 By Phone: 1(872)240-3212,  
Access Code: 681-543-997# Audio PIN: 25#

### PRAISE & WORSHIP PRAYER GROUP

Tuesdays at 2:00PM, St. Laurence Rectory

### PRE-JORDAN BAPTISMAL CLASSES

Second Monday of the month at 7:00PM, Rectory

### NEEDLECRAFTERS

Fridays 1:30 - 3:30PM, St. Michael Room in the rectory

### HORA SANTA EN ESPAÑOL

Miércoles, 7:00 - 9:00PM, Iglesia

### CLASES PRE-BAUTISMALES

Tercer jueves de cada mes, 6:30PM, Rectoría

## DONATIONS

### ST. JOSEPH'S SIDE SANCTUARY LAMP

In honor of **JOSEPH SAGGIOMO** by Angelina

Donations to cover the cost of the altar bread and wine or the sanctuary candles on either side of the main altar can be made in honor or in memory of loved ones. Please call or visit the parish office if you are interested in sponsoring the candles or bread/wine. Thank you!

### ADORATION EVERY WEDNESDAY

Remember that we have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesdays 9:00AM to 7:00PM. Come experience the peace that only God can give!

# MASS INTENTIONS

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

7:30AM Pro Populo  
8:30AM Misa Comunitaria  
10:45AM Jack & Anna Shtofman  
12:15PM Deceased members of Sweeney Family

**MONDAY, APRIL 29**

8:30AM Andrew Sivak

**TUESDAY, APRIL 30**

8:30AM Richard F. Cullen, Jr. & Margie Cullen  
6:30PM Misa Comunitaria

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**

8:30AM Rev. Msgr. John M. Savinski (L)

**THURSDAY, MAY 2**

8:30AM John Van Allen

**FRIDAY, MAY 3**

8:30AM Memorial Fund Enrollees

**SATURDAY, MAY 4**

8:30AM Bob & Millie Burns  
4:30PM Pro Populo  
7:00PM Misa Comunitaria

**SUNDAY, MAY 5**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

7:30AM Robert Acton  
8:30AM Misa Comunitaria  
10:45AM Yen Van Nguyen  
12:15PM Rosemary Kiely

**(L) denotes living**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please pray for Jim Leitz. Also pray for those suffering from serious illnesses, incurable diseases, & substance abuse.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS** of the faithfully departed:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. Through the mercy of God, may they rest in peace. Amen.

# PARISH NEWS

**WE GIVE because  
GOD GAVE FIRST**

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY	APRIL 21
Offertory	\$ 7,783
Online	\$ 732
Capital Campaign	\$ 5,727

## ELDERCARE

### FOOD PANTRY

The Lansdowne YMCA has reopened their Togetherhood Pantry on select Wednesday afternoons (shelf-stable meats and dairy) and Saturday mornings (fresh fruits and vegetables). Photo ID necessary; first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Jennifer for more information.

### PROPERTY TAX AND RENT REBATES

Let me know if you would like assistance in completing your property tax or rent rebate application. The income guidelines for renters and property owners have gone up significantly, as has the rebate amount.

Jennifer Rose -610-449-0600, ext. 234

[jrose@chs-adphila.org](mailto:jrose@chs-adphila.org)

### VACCINE CLINIC

Bethel AME Church in Ardmore will host a clinic offering the following vaccines: updated COVID-19; Flu; TDAP; Shingles; Pneumonia, and; RSV on the evening of Tuesday, April 30. Advanced registration is encouraged; call 610-642-8966 or email [bethelardmore@verizon.net](mailto:bethelardmore@verizon.net).

### COFFEE & DONUTS SUNDAY, MAY 5

Please join your fellow parishioners for fellowship and treats after all Masses in the Parish Hall! Make new friends and catch up with longtime friends!



### RESPECT FOR GOD'S HOUSE

Please help keep our church clean and welcoming for all who come to worship our LORD. After Mass kindly place missalettes at the end of the pew, pick up and remove any tissues, wrappers, etc. you may have dropped so that the church is ready for the next Mass. Thank you for your help in this matter.

# ANUNCIOS



## PARA DESTACAR EN LA ESCUELA SAN LORENZO Hna. Regina Matulka

Gracias a todos los que ayudaron y apoyaron a Soles on Fire, nuestra recaudación de fondos escolar anual. Logramos nuestra meta de más de \$33,000 y todos pasamos un día divertido. ¡El Sr. Hochman organizó su primer evento de desafío Soles on Fire! Los profesores, el personal, los niños y los invitados disfrutaron de un momento fantástico, que incluyó un tanque de inmersión. Gracias a toda la comunidad de San Lorenzo por hacer de esto un éxito.

Mantenga a nuestros Comulgantes en sus oraciones mientras continúan preparándose para su Primera Comunión.

Dios los bendiga a todos con una gran semana.

### BOLSA DE BINGO

#### viernes 10 de mayo

Únase a San Lorenzo Casa & Escuela para una divertida noche de bingo con bolsas. Habrá premios en puerta, rifa de canastas y rifa 50/50. Este evento es BYOB/BYOF.

Puertas abiertas a las 6:00PM

Primer partido a las 7:00PM.

\$30 por adelantado hasta el 6 de mayo

\$35 en puerta (solo efectivo)

Los cheques se pueden hacer a nombre de  
St. Laurence Home & School.

**Cashapp** \$78meech **Venmo** Michelle-ODonnell-7

Salón Parroquial de San Lorenzo

Cualquier duda contacta con casa y  
escuela @slshomeandschool@gmail.com

### ADORACIÓN NOCTURNA EN SAN ANDRÉS

La Sociedad de Adoración Nocturna de San Andrés de Drexel Hill se reunirá de 7:30PM a 8:30PM el Jueves, el 2 de mayo para una hora de Adoración Eucarística en la iglesia.

Iglesia de San Andrés Apóstol

3500 School Lane, Drexel Hill, PA 19026

### PEREGRINACIÓN EUCARÍSTICA NACIONAL

Tengamos la oportunidad de acoger y adorar a Jesús en la Santísima Eucaristía cuando la Peregrinación Eucarística Nacional pase por la Arquidiócesis de Filadelfia entre el 30 de mayo y el 3 de junio. Todos están invitados a unirse a la peregrinación durante las muchas paradas que harán en nuestras parroquias. Para conocer el horario completo de oportunidades para la oración, procesiones y otros eventos eucarísticos, visite: [phillyeucharisticrevival.org/pilgrimage](http://phillyeucharisticrevival.org/pilgrimage)

30 de mayo al  
3 de junio



### PROGRAMA CUIDADOS

¡Los programas PreK y CARES de Escuela San Lorenzo ahora tienen licencia! El primer beneficio para ustedes como padres, si cumplen con los requisitos, es ayuda para pagar los costos de cuidado infantil. Child Care Work, el programa de cuidado infantil subsidiado, ayuda a las familias a pagar el costo del cuidado infantil. Debe presentar la solicitud en el condado donde vive. Puede conectarse en línea para completar la solicitud en [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us). Nos quedan dos meses de escuela, le animo a que presente su solicitud hoy para recibir asistencia durante el resto de este año.

El ELRC, Centro de Recursos de Aprendizaje Temprano, determinará si usted es elegible. Si necesita ayuda para completar la solicitud, comuníquese con ELRC al 610-713-2115.

### RESPETO a la CASA de DIOS

Por favor ayude a mantener nuestra iglesia limpia y acogedora para todos los que vienen a adorar a nuestro Señor. Después de la Misa, por favor coloque los misales al final de la banca, recoja y retire los pañuelos, envoltorios, etc. que se le hayan caído para que la iglesia esté lista para la próxima Misa. Gracias por su ayuda en este asunto.

# FROM OUR PASTOR



## WHY GOD CUTS AWAY OUR BRANCHES

by Fr. Hugh Barbour, O. Praem.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.

You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

-John 15:1-8

This passage from the Savior’s Last Supper discourse is full of comfort. St. Thomas tells us that here he is consoling his apostles for the tribulations they will undergo after he leaves the world—not only in his death, but in his going away in his ascension. This may, however, not be entirely apparent to us, since this Gospel passage also has some very challenging *warnings* to offer.

**What does it mean to be comforted?** The origin of our English word *comfort* will give us a clear clue. The word comes from a Latin term meaning “to strengthen completely or altogether.” Yet this idea of strengthening is not our usual understanding of comfort. By comfort, we usually mean reassurance that things are not or will not be so bad after all. Although that may be true in the long run, in view of the happiness of heaven, this is not the Lord’s way of comforting. He comforts us, as the word implies in our own language, to *make us strong* against painful trials that are sure to come. No one is exempted from these trials. As he tells us, even if we are faithful and fruitful branches, we will still be pruned in order to bear even more fruit. His Father, the vine grower, will cut away and prune as recognition that our proven fruitfulness must be fostered in this painful way.

Thus no one can say, “But I am doing my best and trying my hardest, so why does God allow this or that to happen to me?” St. Augustine tells us that there is no one so pure that

he does not profit from purifications and trials. Now, the trials of this life can be horrible and painful; there is no sense in minimizing them. But the comfort we must take from them is that they are under the providential rule of God’s loving and merciful hand.

St. Rose of Lima says that if we understood the value of suffering we would seek only that, and very ardently. St. Teresa of Avila tells us that if we understood the life of grace, of the union with God of which Our Lord speaks today, we would be willing to suffer a thousand times the sufferings of this life in order to grow just one degree in merit.

This is why we are wrong in a sense when we always explain great trials and disasters as simply “allowed” by God. Only *sin* is merely allowed by him. Everything else in the world, including trials, tribulations, and sufferings, are willed by him to be saving remedies. So if the trial or suffering is not a sinful act, then it is something ultimately good for us.

And as we have pointed out, this is not because you are bad, but especially because you are good. God is not training us for life on this earth, but eternal life, and in view of that we must be purged and purified by the hand of God.

When we hear of great disasters in which many die unexpectedly, we should pray for them, but also understand that not a single one would prefer to return to this world, no matter how tragic the cause of their death.

**Now you could say, and with reason,** “Father, all this is easy to say, but you know how hard it is to suffer.” Yes, indeed, but we need strength, not illusions. Christians are commanded by the Savior to take up the cross daily and follow him, and *he* never deserved to suffer anything.

And today the Lord gives us the secret of suffering well: closeness to him, union with him; indeed, identity with him by grace, since the vine and the branches share the same nature.

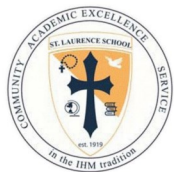
The most comforting thing he tells us is that without him we can do nothing. This means that he expects us to count on him to give us the strength to endure, for giving us the power to thrive in spite of the tragedies and misfortunes and day-to-day trials is his business.

So when we feel we can’t go on, or foresee our future difficulties, it is right and just to remind him in prayer that without him you cannot do it. Then we will prove true the words of St. Paul, “I can do all things in him who strengthens me.”

Now *there* is true comfort.

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/why-god-cuts-away-our-branches>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## SPOTLIGHT ON ST. LAURENCE SCHOOL Sr. Regina Matulka

Thank you to everyone who helped with and supported Soles on Fire, our annual school fundraiser. We achieved our goal of more than \$33,000 and a fun day was had by all. Mr. Hochman hosted his first Soles on Fire challenge event! Faculty, staff, children, and guests were treated to a fantastic time, which included a dunk tank. Thank you to all the St. Laurence community for making this a success.

Please keep our communicants in your prayers as they continue to prepare for their First Communion.

God bless everyone with a great week.

### CARES PROGRAM

Saint Laurence School Pre-K and CARES programs are now licensed! The first benefit to you as parents, if you meet the requirements, is help in paying your child care costs.

Child Care Work, the subsidized child care program helps families pay their child care cost. You must apply in the county where you live. You can go online to complete the application at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us). We have two months of school remaining, I encourage you to apply today to receive assistance for the remainder of this year. The ELRC, Early Learning Resource Center, will determine if you are eligible.

If you need help completing the application, contact the ELRC at 610-713-2115.



### YOUNG DISCIPLES YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY DINNER WITH JESUS

- **May 19 — ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO**  
How to Equip Yourself for Spiritual Warfare
- **June 9 — ST. LAURENCE, UPPER DARBY**  
ARISE Youth Event

<https://sites.google.com/view/delco-young-disciples/home>

### BAG BINGO

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Join St. Laurence Home & School for a fun night of bag bingo in the St. Laurence Parish Hall. There will be door prizes, raffle baskets and 50/50 raffle. This event is BYOB/BYOF.

Doors open at 6PM

First game at 7PM

\$30 in advance by May 6.

\$35 at the door (Cash only).

Make checks out to St. Laurence Home & School.

**Cashapp** \$78meech **Venmo** Michelle-ODonnell-7

Any questions, please contact Home & School at:

[slshomeandschool@gmail.com](mailto:slshomeandschool@gmail.com)

### AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Give blood. Help save lives.



St. Laurence Parish Hall

8245 West Chester Pike, Upper Darby, PA

Sunday, May 12 from 9:00AM-2:00PM

### NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

3:00PM AND 7:00PM

There will be prayer and benediction at **St. Charles Borromeo Seminary**, at 3:00PM, Sunday, June 2.

And we will have the special opportunity to welcome and adore Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist at 7:00PM Sunday, June 2 in **St. Laurence Church**. There will be adoration and testimonies. All are invited to join us.

For the full schedule of opportunities for prayer, processions and other Eucharistic events, visit:

[phillyeucharisticrevival.org/pilgrimage](http://phillyeucharisticrevival.org/pilgrimage).

May 30 to  
June 3

