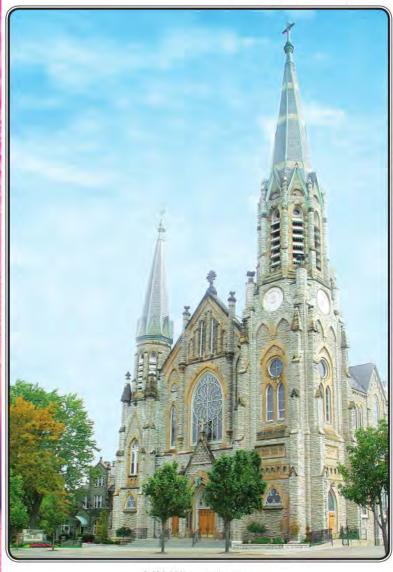


St. Lawrence Church

Fr. Zachary Cecil, Pastor • Fr. Mark T. Watkins, Senior Vicar Fr. Robert Keller, Senior Vicar • Fr. Scott Morgan, Parochial Vicar Deacon Tracy W. Jamison Sr. Helen Julia Hahn, S.C., Pastoral Minister Jen Long, Principal



3680 Warsaw Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45205 Rectory 921-0328 • School 921-4996 Heritage Hall 921-4230 • Parish Center 921-0200 Pastoral Minister 244-7376 www.stlawrenceparish.org Obligation Mass Schedule Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM Holy Day (On The Eve) 3:00 PM (On The Day) 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 7:00 PM (Except Christmas and New Year's Day)

Eucharistic Adoration/Confessions

(August - June) Thursday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM **Confessions** Saturdays 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Baptism** Call the Rectory

Marriages Make Arrangements 6 Months in Advance

Holy Orders and Religious Vocations Contact the Rectory or Call the Vocation Office at 421-3131

R.C.I.A. Call Rectory

Weekly Bingo 1:30 PM Sunday 7:00 PM Monday

Education Commission When announced

Knights of Columbus 7:00 P.M. the 3rd Thursday of the month

P.T.O. When announced

Athletic Association 8:00 P.M. the 3rd Wednesday of the month

Boy Scouts Scouts meet 7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. every Tuesday in the cafeteria (Heritage Hall)

Cub Scouts Meet by grade level dens during school year

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2022

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY, December 11, 2022	
9:00 am	Ray and Margie Glaser (d)
11:00 am	Tau Nguyen (d)
7:00 pm	For the Parishioners
MONDAY, December 12, 2022	
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (USA)	
8:30 am	Jerry Langen (d)
TUESDAY, December 13, 2022	
	Saint Lucy, Virgin, Martyr
8:30 am	Mary E. Cooper (d)
	WEDNESDAY, December 14, 2022
Saint John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor of the Church	
8:30 am	Amanda Wadlinger (d)
THURSDAY, December 15, 2022	
8:30 am	Mary Jo Simon (l)
3:00 pm-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION	
FRIDAY, December 16, 2022	
8:30 am	Mary Jo Roesel (d)
	SATURDAY, December 17, 2022
8:30 am	Norma Erhardt (d)
3:00–4:00 pm Confession	
4:30 pm	Don and Mary Jo Westendorf (d)
SUNDAY, December 18, 2022	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
9:00 am	Barb Prater (d)
11:00 am	
7:00 pm	For the Parishioners

SERVERS

December 17/18

To Be Determined

LECTORS

December 17/18 To Be Determined

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

December 17/18 To Be Determined

December 4, 2022

\$6,969.00

Thank You for your Generosity!

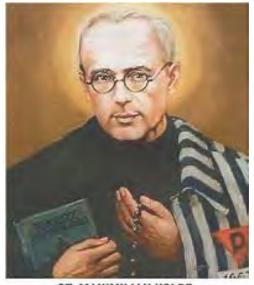
<u>Vocation View</u>: To testify to the truth; this is why Christ came, this is the mission of the priest and religious. Has your life testified to the truth that Christ is King?

<u>Thought for the Day:</u> "Be a Catholic: When you kneel before an altar, do it in such a way that others may be able to recognize that you know before Whom you kneel."

By St. Maximilian Kolbe

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PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.



ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE GREAT HEARTED LOVER OF GOD AND MAN, PRAY FOR US

The Laurentian



Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration are on Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 pm. During Eucharistic Adoration, I hear confessions from about 3:15 pm-3:45 pm. By the way, an excellent help in preparation for Christmas is to make a good confession and spend some time in Eucharistic Adoration.

Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm Midnight Mass (Carols begin at 11:30 pm) Christmas morning – Sunday, December 25 9:00 am and 11:00 am

St. Lawrence Bulletin Advertisements:

On rising make the sign of the cross, and then say: My God, I adore Thee and love Thee with all my heart

I thank Thee for all Thy benefits, and especially for having preserved me this night.

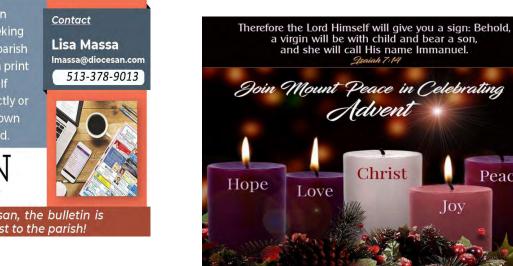
I offer Thee whatever I may do or suffer this day, in union with the actions and sufferings of Jesus and of Mary, with the intention of gaining all the indulgences I can gain.

I resolve to avoid all sin this day, and especially such a one (*it is good to make a resolution*, particularly about the fault into which we fall the oftenest); and I beg of Thee to give me perseverance for the love of Jesus Christ.

I resolve to conform myself to Thy holy will, and particularly in those things that are contrary to my inclination, saying always: Lord, Thy will be done.

My Jesus! Keep Thy hand over me this day. Most Holy Mary! Take me beneath thy mantle. And do Thou, Eternal Father, help me, for the love of Jesus and Mary! O my angel guardian and my patron saints, assist me. An Our Father and a Hail Mary and the Creed, with three Hail Marys in honor of the purity of Mary.

By St. Alphonsus De Liguroi



Ioin Mount Peace in Celebrating Advent Peace IOV

Church Bulletin Advertising

Lisa Massa, representing our Bulletin Publisher, Diocesan, is currently seeking new advertisements. Support our parish while you promote your business in print and digitally through social media. If interested, please contact Lisa directly or call the parish office. Only a third down payment is required to reserve an ad.



Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2022

The desire of your heart constitutes your prayer

In the anguish of my heart I groaned aloud. There is a hidden anguish which is inaudible to men. Yet when a man's heart is so taken up with some particular concern that the hurt inside finds vocal expression, one looks for the reason. And one will say to oneself: perhaps this is what causes his anguish, or perhaps such and such has happened to him. But who can be certain of the cause except God, who hears and sees his anguish? Therefore the psalmist says: *In the anguish of my heart I groaned aloud.* For if men hear at all, they usually hear only bodily groaning and know nothing of the anguish of the heart from which it issues.

Who then knows the cause of man's groaning? *All my desire is before you*. No, it is not open before other men, for they cannot understand the heart; *but before you is all my desire*. If your desire lies open to him who is your Father and who sees in secret, he will answer you.

For the desire of the heart is itself your prayer. And if the desire is constant, so is your prayer. The Apostle Paul had a purpose in saying: *Pray without ceasing*. Are we then ceaselessly to bend our knees, to lie prostrate, or to lift up our hands? Is this what is meant in saying: *Pray without ceasing?* Even if we admit that we pray in this fashion, I do not believe that we can do so all the time.

Yet there is another, interior kind of prayer without ceasing, namely, the desire of the heart. Whatever else you may be doing, if you but fix your desire on God's Sabbath rest, your prayer will be ceaseless. Therefore, if you wish to pray without ceasing, do not cease to desire.

The constancy of your desire will itself be the ceaseless voice of your prayer. And that voice of your prayer will be silent only when your love ceases. For who are silent? Those of whom it is said: *Because evil has abounded, the love of many will grow cold.*

The chilling of love means that the heart is silent; while burning love is the outcry of the heart. If your love is without ceasing, you are crying out always; if you always cry out, you are always desiring; and if you desire, you are calling to mind your eternal rest in the Lord. And all my desire is before you. What if the desire of your heart is before him, but not our groaning? But how is that possible, since the groaning is the voice of our desire? And therefore it is said: My groaning is not concealed from you. It may be concealed from men, but it is not concealed from you. Sometimes God's servant seems to be saying in his humility: My anguish is not concealed from you. At other times he seems to be laughing. Does that mean that the desire of his heart has died within him? If the desire is there, then the groaning is there as well. Even if men fail to hear it, it never ceases to sound in the hearing of God.

by St. Augustine, bishop



The Laurentian

The voice is John, the Word is Christ

John is the voice, but the Lord *is the Word who was in the beginning*. John is the voice that lasts for a time; from the beginning Christ is the Word who lives forever.

Take away the word, the meaning, and what is the voice? Where there is no understanding, there is only a meaningless sound. The voice without the word strikes the ear but does not build up the heart.

However, let us observe what happens when we first seek to build up our hearts. When I think about what I am going to say, the word or message is already in my heart. When I want to speak to you, I look for a way to share with your heart what is already in mine.

In my search for a way to let this message reach you, so that the word already in my heart may find place also in yours, I use my voice to speak to you. The sound of my voice brings the meaning of the word to you and then passes away. The word which the sound has brought to you is now in your heart, and yet it is still also in mine.

When the word has been conveyed to you, does not the sound seem to say: *The word ought to grow, and I should diminish?* The sound of the voice has made itself heard in the service of the word, and has gone away, as though it were saying: *My joy is complete*. Let us hold on to the word; we must not lose the word conceived inwardly in our hearts.

Do you need proof that the voice passes away but the divine Word remains? Where is John's baptism today? It served its purpose, and it went away. Now it is Christ's baptism that we celebrate. It is in Christ that we all believe; we hope for salvation in him. This is the message the voice cried out.

Because it is hard to distinguish word from voice, even John himself was thought to be the Christ. The voice was thought to be the word. But the voice acknowledged what it was, anxious not to give offense to the word. I am not the Christ, he said, nor Elijah, nor the prophet. And the question came: Who are you then? He replied: I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way for the Lord.

The voice of one crying in the wilderness is the voice of one breaking the silence. Prepare the way for the Lord, he says, as though he were saying: "I speak out in order to lead him into our hearts, but he does not choose to come where I lead him unless you prepare the way for him."

To *prepare the way* means to pray well; it means thinking humbly of oneself. We should take our lesson from John the Baptist. He is thought to be the Christ; he declares he is not what they think. He does not take advantage of their mistake to further his own glory.

If he had said, "I am the Christ," you can imagine how readily he would have been believed, since they believed he was the Christ even before he spoke. But he did not say it; he acknowledged what he was. He pointed out clearly who he was; he humbled himself.

He saw where his salvation lay. He understood that he was a lamp, and his fear was that it might be blown out by the wind of pride.

by St. Augustine, bishop





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