

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

820 E. Charles Street | Muncie, IN 47305



April 19, 2020
Second Sunday of Easter
(Divine Mercy Sunday)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

PHONE: 765-288-9223 FAX: 765-289-9262

e-mail: stlawrencemuncieparish@dol-in.org

Website: www.stlawrencemuncie.com

LORD'S DAY MASSES:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday: 12:15 p.m.—Spanish Mass

HOLY DAYS:

As announced in bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m. (Anytime by appointment)

BAPTISMS:

Call the Parish Office to make an appointment with the Pastor.

WEDDINGS:

Must be arranged at least six months in advance.

NEW TO ST. LAWRENCE? WANT TO REGISTER?

Register online at www.stlawrencemuncie.com; fill out a registration form on the tables in the back of church; or stop by the office.

TRINITY COMMUNITY CENTER:

St. Vincent dePaul 765-282-2842

Soup Kitchen of Muncie 765-287-8439

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday, 12 Noon.

Send items to: stlawrencemuncieparish@dol-in.org.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. David Hellmann, Pastor.....Ext. 11
fr.dhellmann@dol-in.org

Rev. Robert Williams, Retired; In Residence. Ext. 19

Phil McPherson, Business Manager.....Ext. 22
pmcpherson@parish.dol-in.org

Jason Hart, Dir. of Liturgy & Music.....Ext. 15
jhart@dol-in.org

Sue Wilhelm, Adult Faith Formation.....Ext. 21
swilhelm@parish.dol-in.org

Jeanette Carnes, Secretary.....Ext. 10
jcarnes@parish.dol-in.org

Joe Beatrice, Facilities Manager
jbeatrice@dol-in.org

Lois Short, Parish Bookkeeper.....Ext. 12
lshort@dol-in.org

Marsha Clark, HR Tech.....Ext. 22
mclark@parish.dol-in.org

Brenda Manis, Deacon's Pantry Mgr .765-702-7874

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2801 E. 16TH ST.

PHONE: 765-282-9353

FAX: 765-282-0475

Rob Frey, Principal

r.frey@stlawrencemuncie.org

PARISH CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Livestreamed Masses via Facebook –

St. Lawrence Catholic Church, or on our website-
stlawrencemuncie.com

Sunday – 9:00 a.m. and Spanish Mass 12:15 p.m.

Daily: 8:00 a.m.

If you had a Mass scheduled for a loved one, Father Dave will mention the intention at the private Mass (*see Mass intentions below). He will include multiple intentions when there were several Masses scheduled for that day.

TODAY'S READINGS (Sunday, April 19)

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalms — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17;

Mk 16:15-20

Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11;

1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday: Vigil Mass: Repose of the soul of Joseph Laskowski; Sunday Masses: Repose of the souls of Adam Thomas and Michael Alan Ross, and St. Lawrence Parish.

Monday: Repose of the soul of Sharon Newton

Tuesday: Repose of the soul of Harry Metzger

Wednesday: Repose of the soul of Pete Taverna

Thursday: Repose of the soul of June Beaty

Friday: Repose of the soul of Laura Campisi

Saturday: Repose of the soul of Betty Anderson

Sunday: Vigil Mass: St. Lawrence Parish; Sunday Masses: L/D Members of George and Mary McGraw Families, Repose of the soul of Thelma Bedel and Poor Souls in Purgatory

Dear Parishioners and friends of St. Lawrence,

The generosity of people of the parish during this time is amazing! It's hard to find words to express the gratitude and surprise that just leaves my mind overwhelmed. All I can say is "thank you" – your generosity is far greater than I ever imagined.

This past week has been one of the most difficult for me. With the cold front that has come our way, I didn't get out for a walk as I was able during the 70 degrees weather. This closed in time has pushed several of my buttons. It probably is related to the upcoming move. As I was sorting and discarding many papers filed away, I came across the letter I had written when I was leaving the parish in DeMotte. (I had mentioned in that letter that I had made a request to the Bishop if there was ever an opening to go to St. Lawrence, Muncie, I would like to be assigned there.) It is where my heart wants to be, and the problem is, my mind has accepted that as reality but that doesn't mean that my heart agrees with it. My heart wants to stay but it has to go with me. So far, I haven't convinced it – and it may take some time, but it doesn't want to listen to my mind. This is what is most challenging to have that battle going on inside of myself. To be in a fight or argument is one thing, but when it is between two parts of one's own self, it's not a simple or easy fight to win. Maybe I will need to work out a compromise between the two. So far a compromise isn't working. That's what I get for sorting things to get ready for the move.

So far I haven't heard of any parishioner coming down with Covid-19, but that doesn't mean no one has. But everyday when I look at the obituaries, I often wonder did the virus have a part in it. A special concern is with all the nursing homes where people are enclosed – elderly who are more vulnerable. The other week when I called my former pastor in New Orleans, I learned of the death of Sr. Mary John who had died in a nursing home – had a high fever and had difficulty breathing – but was never diagnosed as a victim of the virus. But just two days earlier, a woman on the same wing had died from the virus and another with the virus had been hospitalized and placed on a ventilator also from that wing of the nursing home. Then this week so many stories regarding nursing homes have been told by the press.

This really calls for all of us to pray for all those endangered and those in the medical field who are risking their own lives in service of those who have fallen ill. Please pray for the safety of all our medical workers, especially for those in Delaware County and from our own parish.

*God Bless,
Fr. Dave*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember the following parishioners in your prayers this week: Beth Kaiser, Sonja Bickey, Larry Tricker, Isaiah Greiner, Dan Wade, Joe Morgan, Dale Goth, JoAnn Brown, Miriam Walker, Adam Pence, Alex Pence, Anthony Pence, Joseph Jenkinson, Clara Persinger, Martha Jean McIntosh, Dorothy Duncan, Linda Goth, Betty Wright, Shirley Jordan, Kameron Kadinger, Joe Duncan, Lucille Kanney, Pat Daunt, John Haack, Larry Rigel, Ronald Macken, Joyce Doyle, Marie Rhorer, for the family of Alex and Kim Flores, Stacey Vencel, Joshua Cole, Richard Biehl, Ed Kratochvil, Mary Hadley, Noah Cross, Judy Cool Beaty, Mary Kerrigan, Roni Johnson, William Berger, Tia Lindsey, Dixie Lindsey, David Duke, Bill Brown, Bailey Michelle Rinker, Jimmy Hossom, Paula Hughes, Don Cox, Kevin Farrell, Helen and Ronny Fouts, John Hartmeyer, Phyllis Dornberger, Julie Coley Werling, James Kenneth Barnes II, Gary Pavlechko, Jim Savage, Sister Paulette Shaw, Lora Brenner, Becky Chandler, Kathy Taylor, Marsha Clark.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please call Joan McKinley 716-7073 for the St. Lawrence Church Prayer Chain request.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April

Universal: Freedom from Addiction

We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

Pray For:

Our Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians

Sun.	Fr. Daniel Duff	Dcn. R. Nevinger
Mon.	Msgr. John Duncan	Dcn. Michael Block
Tues.	Fr. S. Duquaine	Jordan Boone
Wed.	Fr. Dale Ehrman	Jason Diebolt
Thurs.	Fr. Dennis Faker	Brian Farrell
Friday	Fr. Samuel Futral	Matthew Jakupco
Sat.	Fr. Alan Funk	Jacob Miller



**Weekend of April 12, 2020
Mailed in or Dropped Off**

St. Lawrence Parish	\$11,154.00
School Support	\$ 1,054.00
Deacon's Food Pantry	\$ 970.00
Fuel Fund	\$ 72.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 22.00
Funeral Dinners	\$ 95.00
Rice Bowls	\$ 134.00
Easter Offering	\$ 2,320.00
Flowers	\$ 380.00



We have seen an increase in online givers. Thanks for taking the leap! Please consider online giving. Go to www.osvonlinegiving.com/4289 or call the Business Office at St. Lawrence 765-288-9223, Ext. 22.

Weekly Collection

Thanks to everyone who have continued to support our parish during this uncertain time. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. We are indeed blessed. We can fill your prayers of support as well, and we are remembering all of you in our prayers. Know that we understand if you are not able to contribute at this time. As previously announced, the Parish Office is still open at this time. **Please call the office prior to stopping by as hours of coverage will be shorter during this time.**

FRUITFUL HARVEST

We are \$10,003 short of our Fruitful Harvest goal. It would be great if we could close this gap before Fr Hellmann leaves in June. Thanks to all of you who continue to send in your pledges. If we receive 100%, we will be able to get our rebate amount which will truly help the parish. If you are in a position to help, you can send your check made out to Fruitful Harvest, to the Parish Office, and we will make sure that it gets to the Diocese and entered correctly to credit St. Lawrence Parish.



Eucharistic Adorers Ministry

The next date for Eucharistic Adoration has not been scheduled at this time. If you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact Marilyn Sherrill at 765-396-3583 or 765-744-4086.

HEARTS OF HOPE MINISTRY

This Ministry will not be meeting until further notice. If you have any questions, contact Deb Saxon at 765-760-4800.



FOOTPRINTS SEWING GROUP

The ladies are currently making face masks and delivering them to the nursing homes. All meetings of this group have been discontinued at this time. For more information, please contact Carmen Simmons at 765/808-1917 or Jayne Waechter at 765/288-8920.

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT FAITH FORMATION COLUMN

(Sue Wilhelm)

Dear Friends,

This way of being that we are called to at this time may bring hidden graces and gifts. My prayer for us is that we may recognize God's invitation and movement.

Lectio Divina: 7:15pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday followed by Night Prayer

This week we will use a meditation form called Lectio Divina before Night Prayer. We will use the Gospel of the coming day and pray with it using the following four steps:

1. Reading: The Gospel will be read aloud twice. Notice which words capture your attention or your heart.
2. Meditation: Reflect on what captures your attention in the reading. Ponder the words, their meaning, their application for you.
3. Prayer: As loving conversation with God, prayer comes from what we are moved by in the scripture. We might offer prayer of praise, of gratitude, of contrition, of petition. Speak to God from your heart.
4. Contemplation: Rest in God's love for you. Let God/Jesus gaze on you in quiet love, and return that gaze.

Study of *Laudato Si*: On Care for Our Common Home by Pope Francis.

This marks the 5th year since its promulgation. We will be offering a study with a guide, video presentations, and sharing through ZOOM or other medium. If you are interested in connecting for this study, please call the parish office or email swilhelm@parish.dol-in.org More details coming next week.

Blessings, friends!

Sue



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19 – 3:00 p.m. – Divine Mercy Chaplet will be live-streamed from our website: stlawrencemuncie.com or our Facebook page: St. Lawrence Catholic church. Additionally, we will have a special “drive-in” for this devotion with the Blessed Sacrament placed in the main entrance of the church (doors opened) for all to see from their vehicles in the grassy lot across the street from the church. We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet together while sitting in our vehicles in view of the Blessed Sacrament.

St. Lawrence Parish - Mission and Vision

Mission: St. Lawrence Parish, a people of prayer and service glorifying God.

Vision: Through prayer and service, St. Lawrence Parish deepens its love for and knowledge of God

Deacon's Food Pantry – The pantry is still giving sacks of food out to those who come to the pantry on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you have non-perishable items to donate, you can drop them off at the Parish Office. If it is a large donation, call the office (288-9223) and we can meet you at the pantry to help you unload. **Their greatest need at this time is for canned fruit. If you can find cans that have the pull tab on top, that would be helpful as most do not have a way to open the cans otherwise.**

FAITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUTH!!



SACRAMENT CLASSES FOR FIRST COMMUNION AND FIRST PENANCE:

Due to the National Emergency concerning the COVID-19 virus, our Sacrament Class will not be meeting until the restrictions are lifted. For any questions, contact Sheila Henry at 765-729-1229.

A FAMILY OF FAITH (Grades K-8)

No meetings scheduled at this time.



Saint Lawrence Catholic School

stlawrencemuncie.org

765.282.9353

Rob Frey, Principal:

r.frey@stlawrencemuncie.org

Our mission is to provide a Catholic Christ-centered education rooted in love and compassion to prepare students to lead meaningful lives of service

Our school is currently not in session until further notice

Students will be utilizing e-learning throughout the month of April. Be sure to visit the school website to see what our students are learning. www.stlawrencemuncie.org

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR A LIVESTREAM MASS:

Bishop Doherty will live stream Sunday Mass at 8:00 a.m. from the Church of the Blessed Sacrament. Here is the website: <http://churchoftheblessedsacrament.yourstreamlive.com>.

One of our parishioners, Dorothy Tricker, has sent the following information. "I hope that all people know they have the opportunity to stay connected to the Church through all the various programs offered through EWTN. Get program details at www.ewtn.com and visit www.ewtn.com/channelfinder You will find all kinds of special documentaries and information along with the ability to hear daily Mass."

Check Out this website!

We were notified by our parishioner, John Coutinho, of the following website: www.dcema.com This is the carona virus hub for Delaware County with lots of helpful information and advice.



A Note from Stephen Ministry.....

In light of the challenges we face these days, consider these words by former president, Theodore Roosevelt: "Do what you can with what you have, where you are." You might not know what you can do, or you may worry that what you can do, or what you have, is not enough. You might not know where you are. You might worry that where you are is not a good place. You might be concerned that you need to be somewhere other than where you are, literally or figuratively. So, what does it take to do what you can, with what you have, where you are? COURAGE!

Courage *noun* **1.** the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., with strength, without fear; bravery. **2.** The ability to do something that frightens one. **3. Obsolete definition:** the heart as the source of emotion
Obsolete? The Latin origin of the word, courage, is COR, which means heart. Not so obsolete when it comes to what it takes to demonstrate courage!

WHAT'S AT THE HEART OF THE MATTER?

Challenges Optimism Unity Resilience Acceptance
God Empathy

As sons and daughters of God, we belong to Him, serve Him, need Him, trust Him, love Him. When in the midst of the storm, as we are now, may we remind ourselves of these truths. God is at work, and good can happen between us and among us in the midst of adversity. Being deeply loved by God gives us strength, while loving God deeply gives us courage.

God bless you and yours.....

The Stephen Ministry Leadership Team



Please pray for those serving our country in the military – especially:

Benjamin Branson, William Cox, Jared Hargis, Kyle Jones, Kyle & Leandra Long, Jon Powell, Stephen Smith, Kyle Stewart, Christopher Tolmachoff, Payden Schug, and Matt Johns

Easter Flowers -- In Memory of:

Arguijo, Jose, Julieta, Chris Sr. & Jason
 Bechelli, Betty and Fritz
 Beck, Homer and Anne
 Becker, Rita McGuire
 Biehl, Walter and Evelyn
 Buchanan, Betsy O'Neill
 Campisi, Marty
 Carnes, Jim and Betty
 Disinger, Larry
 Dornberger, Leonard and Felicia
 Dugan, Paul and Evelyn
 Flores, Alex Jr.
 Fulton, family of Judy and Bill
 Glaser, Clarence and Hope
 Glaser, Craig
 Glaser, Jim and Joyce
 Glaser, Nancy
 Greiwe, Fr. Edward
 Greiwe, Jim
 Greiwe, Paul and Thelma
 Hahn, Dick
 Hahn, Lewis and Florence and sons
 Hansan, Nancy
 Harris, Joseph and Louise
 Hoyt, deceased members of Marion and Hilda
 Kerkhove, deceased members of Frank and Cecelia
 Kress, deceased members of Charles and Julia
 Krug, Melvin and Katherine
 Land, Susan
 Lands, Clarence and Mary
 Laskowski, Joseph and Kathryn
 Livingston, Tom R.
 Matchett, Morris and Ruth
 Matchett, Ralph
 McIntosh, William and Coletta
 McPherson, Dean and Agnes
 Pedigo, Debora
 Rahe, Harold and Rita
 Read, Karl
 Riddle Family
 Rudo, George and Ruth
 Singleton, Bill and Joan
 Spears, Jack
 Stoecklein, Ray
 Taverna, Pete
 Vest, Tina
 Vester, Jim
 Zvokel and DeLoughery families

GET REAL!

Those of us who flatter ourselves that we have a "realistic" view of the world may listen to the first reading today and say, "Get real!" when we hear Luke's account of the early, Elysian days of the Christian movement. All seems to be rosy, lots of wonders are performed, everyone shares selflessly, they eat together in "exultation," and the Lord added to their numbers? Well, who wouldn't be attracted to a group like this? From the wind that swept through the upper room at Pentecost as the Spirit of God blew over the face of the waters in Genesis, and the fire that appeared over each disciple as the light appeared at the dawn of creation, Luke's intent in Acts is to show a new creation, a restoration of creation's original goodness through the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit who continues to make us into the Body of Christ. We may occasionally, like Thomas in the Gospel, say, "Get real!" but our ultimate reality in the Spirit is to work continually to make our Christian community a new creation, one in which others will find God's joy and beauty.
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FIRE

Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.
 —St. Catherine of Siena

**Second Sunday of Easter
 (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)**
April 19, 2020

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

"Thank you, Lord, for not condemning me for my doubts. Send your Spirit of peace where there is confusion. May your perfect love for me cast out every fear in my heart."



The Christian steward approaches life with an “Easter vision” rooted in gratitude for the salvation our Lord has won for us through His death and Resurrection. Today’s readings on this Divine Mercy Sunday teach us how this approach plays out in daily life and remind us that we can have complete

trust in the mercy of God to lead us, step-by-step, to heaven.

Certainly, it is challenging to live for heaven when the things of the earth — job stress, family crisis, health troubles, political strife — loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like the Apostle, Thomas, in our Gospel passage today — until he had an encounter with the merciful Savior. We all recall the famous line from Thomas, who was not present with the other Apostles during Jesus’ first appearance after the Resurrection. Beaten down by the events of the last several days, Thomas refuses to believe that the others had indeed “seen the Lord” as they claimed.

Thomas stubbornly declares he would not believe their story about the Lord unless he placed his finger into the nailmarks and his hand into His side. Yet, these doubts did not repel our Lord. Our merciful Lord saw that beneath the hubris in Thomas’ statement were pain and disappointment. Our Lord is mercy itself. And so He did not condemn Thomas, but calmed his doubts and fears, and allowed Thomas to actually touch those Sacred Wounds. What amazing grace.

When we are tempted to give in to doubts to the faith for whatever the reason, all we need to do is seek the Lord — in prayer, in the sacraments, through the encouragement of our Christian communities — and just as He did for Thomas, our Lord will mercifully restore our Easter vision and fill us with His joy and peace.

Reflection on a verse from today’s Gospel passage. *John 20:26 Jesus came . . . and stood in their midst.*

Jesus had appeared to the disciples on Easter Sunday. So why did he come a week later to the exact same place? Perhaps it was because this time Thomas was there, and Jesus wanted to convince this doubt-ridden disciple that he had truly risen from the dead.

Jesus could have stayed away, but he didn’t want to leave Thomas in that state. So he invited Thomas to touch his wounds and see that it was really him. And that act of compassion and patience—that act of mercy—led Thomas to proclaim, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). Eventually, that mercy would lead Thomas to travel far and wide proclaiming the gospel and, in the end, give his life for his Lord.

Thomas’ story shows us that God’s mercy involved more than just the forgiveness of our sins, great as that is. It also involves his compassion for our weakness and his patience with our slow progress. It’s a wide mercy that frees us from our doubts, fears, and guilt as well as our sin. Like Thomas, it allows us to experience Jesus’ divine life more fully so that we can follow him wherever he leads us.

In the end, God’s mercy cannot be separated from his love. He is love and he is mercy—that is his very nature. Every day Jesus comes and stands in our midst, desiring to show us that he is our Lord and God. Every day he wants to take away our doubts and fears and forgive our every sin. Every day he wants to open us to more of his life and blessings.

Don’t every underestimate the power of divine mercy! As you continue to read from the Book of Acts this Easter season, know that every miracle the apostles did, every word they spoke, was grounded in the mercy they had first received—and continued receiving to the end of their lives. God’s mercy is the foundation of your life too, a mercy that is new every morning, a mercy that will never, ever end (Lamentations 3:22-23)!