

St. Lawrence Catholic Church

Home of the Mater Dei Community
Staffed by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter
110 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101



March 29, 2026

MASS TIMES

Sunday: 7:30am, 9:00am, 6:00pm (Low), 10:30am (High)

Monday to Friday: 7:10am

Saturday: 9:00am

Wednesday and Friday: 6:30pm

CONFESSIONS — Before each Mass

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

Sunday: 5:30 to 5:50pm Solemn with Benediction

Tuesday: 8 to 11:45am Solemn with Benediction

Friday: 5:30 to 6:25pm Simple Adoration except during Lent

Saturday: 8 to 8:45am Solemn with Benediction

MONTHLY DEVOTIONS

St. Jude: 3rd Wednesday, 5:30 to 7:30pm

Sacred Heart: 1st Friday, 5:30 to 7:30pm

DIVINE OFFICE — Daily except Monday

Lauds: 6:30am (Sunday)

Terce: 8am

None: Noon

Vespers: 5pm

Compline: 7pm (1st Friday)

Terce and None are recited privately on Sunday.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Rev. James Smith, FSSP *Pastor* fr.smith@stlawrence.cc

Rev. Cidrian Cortes, FSSP *Assistant Pastor* fr.cortes@stlawrence.cc

Rev. Ronald McCann, FSSP *Assistant Pastor* fr.mccann@stlawrence.cc

Mr. Paul Thomas May *Music Director* music@stlawrence.cc

Parish Office contact@stlawrence.cc

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Saturday; 8:00am to 4:00pm

(717) 889-4217 • Dial x9 for Sacramental Emergency

TODAY

Sunday, March 29, 2026

- Low Mass—7:30am, 9am, 6pm
- High Mass—10:30am Blessing of Palms & Procession
- Adult Catechism—12:15pm

UPCOMING

Wednesday, April 1

- Spy Wednesday
- Low Mass—7:10am
- Vespers—5pm
- High Mass—6:30pm Sung by *Mater Dei* Choristers

Thursday, April 2

- Maundy Thursday
- Tenebrae—7am
- Solemn Mass—6:30pm
- Adoration—All night

Friday, April 3

- Good Friday
- Adoration until 7am
- Tenebrae—7am
- Solemn Liturgy—3pm
- Stations of the Cross—5:30pm

Saturday, April 4

- Holy Saturday
- Tenebrae—7am
- Vespers—5pm
- Easter Vigil—7:30pm

Sunday, April 5

- Easter Sunday
- Low Mass—8am
- High Mass—10:30am Mozart orchestral setting
- Parish Easter Party
- Vespers—5pm
- No 6pm Mass

Saturday, April 11

- Altar Boys Meeting—10am
- Girls' Sodality—10am
- Adult Inquiry Class—3:30pm

Thursday, May 14

- Ascension of the Lord

Sunday, May 24

- Pentecost Sunday

Sunday, May 31

- Trinity Sunday

Thursday, June 4

- Feast of Corpus Christi

Sunday, June 7

- External Solemnity of Corpus Christi
- First Holy Communion
- First Communion Party

Sun. Mar. 29	Palm Sunday, I <i>Pro Populo</i> 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	Confraternity of the FSSP by Anthony Patterson †Brian Kolb by Lisa Washington †Arlene Faley by Christina & Charles Stoner
Mon. Mar. 30	Feria of Holy Week, I 7:10am	†Helen Kadar by Kadar-Kallen Family
Tue. Mar. 31	Feria of Holy Week, I 7:10am	Francis & Catherine Slobodnik by Daniel Slobodnik
Wed. Apr. 1	Feria of Holy Week, I 7:10am 6:30pm	Tina Koufos by The D. Jones Family Theresa Somerville by Sean Carroll
Thu. Apr. 2	Holy Thursday, I 6:30pm	†Kiley Mackenzie Rios by Colby & Cindy Myers
Fri. Apr. 3	Good Friday, I	
Sat. Apr. 4	Holy Saturday, I 7:30pm	†Earl & Ann Conway
Sun. Apr. 5	Easter Sunday, I 8:00am 10:30am	†Wilfred & Elaine Dumas by Anne-Marie Walker The Jones Family by Maxwell Melching



FAITH BEE FINALIST—Congratulations to Luke Rosenberg on winning the St. Lawrence Catholic Faith Bee! Also, congratulations to our runner-up, Jacob Arrington. Luke will represent St. Lawrence at the Diocesan Catholic Faith Bee on Wednesday, Apr. 15.

IMPROVED AUDIO—Thanks to the keen work of one of our parishioners, the audio system has been improved. On Wednesday, the microphone in the sanctuary was connected to the video feed in the church basement cry room, and other places where the video signal is carried. Now, the sermons should be clearly hearable in these places. In addition, some weeks ago, the same sanctuary microphone was re-connected to the speakers in the narthex of the church. We know that the lack of audio in the narthex, due to some wires accidentally being damaged, was sorely missed by parents with babes in arms, and we are delighted to be able to restore this audio—finally.

Advertising in the Bulletin advertising@stlawrence.cc	Nathan Kreider
Altar Linens Guild altarlinens@stlawrence.cc	Kelly Jones
Bookstore bookstore@stlawrence.cc	Art O'Dea
Choir & Choristers Practice weekly—music@stlawrence.cc	Paul Thomas May
Church Cleaning Rotates weekly—clean@stlawrence.cc	Kristin Patterson
CCD: Sunday Catechism, K-12 Weekly—dre@stlawrence.cc	Dr. Phillip Cuccia
Confraternity of Christian Mothers Monthly—mothers@stlawrence.cc	Pamela Kole
Confraternity of St. Peter csp@stlawrence.cc	Joseph Cunningham
Events Coordinators events@stlawrence.cc	Kris Keck
Flower Guild flowers@stlawrence.cc	Fr. McCann
Friday Education Program K-12—fridayeducation@stlawrence.cc	Dawn Forbeck
Greeters greeters@stlawrence.cc	Sharon Kaercher
Girls Sodality Ages 9-14—girlssodality@stlawrence.cc	Rebecca Mack
Guild of St. Stephen Altar Servers	altarboys@stlawrence.cc
Holy Name Society Monthly—holyname@stlawrence.cc	Frank J. Galushka
Knights of Columbus Monthly—knights@stlawrence.cc	Malakye Wilson
Legion of Mary Weekly—legionofmary@stlawrence.cc	Jerome Hall
Library library@stlawrence.cc	Sharon Knowles
Meal Train mealtrain@stlawrence.cc	Elizabeth Firoozmand
Parking Ambassador parking@stlawrence.cc	Dan O'Leary
Prayer Chain prayers@stlawrence.cc	Fr. Cortes
Pro-Life Group Monthly—prolife@stlawrence.cc	Kris Keck
Sunday CCD Grades K-12, Weekly—dre@stlawrence.cc	Dr. Phil Cuccia
Tuesday Adoration Tuesdays	tuesdayadoration@stlawrence.cc
Ushers ushers@stlawrence.cc	John Osuch
Wedding Coordinator weddingcoordinator@stlawrence.cc	Bridget Forbeck
Young Adult Group Ages 18-35, Monthly—youngadults@stlawrence.cc	Fr. Cortes
Youth Group Ages 13-18, Monthly—yg@stlawrence.cc	Joelle Riethmiller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED—The parish office will be closed on Good Friday, Apr. 3, and Holy Saturday, Apr. 4. The office will reopen on Tuesday, April 7.

FREE PARKING ON GOOD FRIDAY—All parking in downtown Harrisburg will be free on Good Friday.

PRO POPULO MASS—Every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation the pastor has the privilege and obligation to celebrate a Mass *Pro Populo*, or for the people. Fr. Smith will celebrate a private *Pro Populo* Mass on the morning of Easter Sunday.

MAUNDY THURSDAY ADORATION—The Church will be open all night Maundy Thursday, Apr. 2, into Good Friday, Apr. 3, for Eucharistic Adoration at the altar of repose, Our Lady's altar on the Gospel side of the Church. We will need at least two adorers present at all times from 8pm to 7am. Use this link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/26maundythursday>.

EASTER PARTY: APRIL 5—The St. Lawrence Easter party will be on Easter Sunday, Apr. 5, following the 10:30am orchestral Mass. Everyone is invited to the Civic Club, located at 612 N. Front Street. RSVP for the party and sign up to bring food or volunteer using this link: <https://bit.ly/easterparty-2026>.

EASTER BREAK—The Friday education program will take a break from Apr. 3 through Apr. 10 and will resume classes on Friday, Apr. 17. The Sunday CCD program is currently on break from Mar. 29 through Apr. 5 and will resume classes on Sunday, Apr. 12.

HOLIDAY HOURS—The parish bookstore will be closed on Easter Sunday.

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE FOR 2026

Palm Sunday, March 29

Regular Sunday schedule for Low Masses
High Mass with blessing of palms and procession at 10:30am

Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31

Regular schedule.

Spy Wednesday, April 1

Low Mass at 7:10am
High Mass sung by *Mater Dei* Choristers at 6:30pm
Vespers at 5pm

Maundy Thursday, April 2

Tenebrae at 7am
High Mass at 6:30pm followed by all night Adoration

Good Friday, April 3

Tenebrae at 7am
Solemn Liturgy at 3pm

Holy Saturday, April 4

Tenebrae at 7am
Vespers at 5pm
Easter Vigil at 7:30pm

Easter Sunday April 5

Low Mass at 8am
High Mass at 10:30am with orchestra
Vespers at 5pm
No 6pm Mass

FROM YOUR PASTOR—I thought it would be helpful for you to have some historical background on the timing of the great event of the Easter Vigil. From as early as the time of St. Jerome in the early 5th C., there was a debate within the Church on whether the vigil should extend overnight. The argument was over various things, including the fact that some people late at night in low light would do indecent things—in the church of all places. The difficulty of staying up all night and the impact days later might have had an influence on the discussion too. Finally around the time of St. Gregory the Great in the 7th C., the matter was resolved in favor of holding the vigil during the day, and by the Middle Ages, the vigil was begun early on Holy Saturday morning.

For the better part of 1400 years, then, the Church held her Easter Vigil during the day—until 1955, when major changes to the Roman Rite began. Then it was mandated that the vigil begin at midnight, though it allowed for exceptions. Since then, most Catholic parishes around the world have found that overnight vigils were impractical and reverted to the more traditional practice of keeping the vigil at an earlier hour.

Another question arises: since the Easter Vigil will be completed by midnight, and therefore will not fall on Sunday proper, does this fulfill one's Sunday obligation. Traditionally, Masses were not allowed in the evening, so it was not the practice to fulfill one's Sunday obligation by assisting at Mass on Saturday night. In more recent years, evening Masses have been allowed, and in cases of Sundays and holy days of obligation, these evening Masses technically do fulfill the obligation if there is an obligation the next day.

This provision was originally intended to give employees required to work on Sundays the opportunity to assist at Mass. Unfortunately, in some places it has become the norm. It is better to assist at Mass on the Lord's Day itself, and in the case of Easter Sunday, I would encourage you to assist on Sunday morning even if you do plan to attend the Easter Vigil. For those who can attend twice, I would ask you not to do just what you're obliged, but to what you can out of love for our Savior who was sacrificed on the cross.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE—The public phase of the *Generation to Generations* Capital Campaign is coming to a close, and we are so grateful to the 218 households who have made commitments totaling \$2,043,761 as of Saturday, March 28. We are now 98% of the way toward our *Mater Dei* goal of \$2.1 million. On Tuesday, Mar. 31, we will cease the public recitation of the prayer to The Divine Infant of Prague. We ask that the prayer be said privately for the continued success of the campaign. In the coming month, we'll be making one final appeal by mail to parishioners who have not yet had an opportunity to complete their pledge card.

If you have not yet made your commitment, we invite you to consider prayerfully your participation in the days ahead. We thank all who have responded so generously and sacrificially and pray for the continued success of this important effort.—Fr. Smith

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—The Stations of the Cross will be Wednesday and Friday at 5:30pm.

Notes on Today's Music

Recessional hymn: *O Sacred Head Surrounded*, 837
 Kyriale: Mass XVII, 762; Credo VI, 788

Hymn after Offertory: *Christus Factus Est*, a3, Rev. Giovanni Matteo Asola
 Communion Antiphon: *Pater, Si*, Heinrich Isaac (c.1450–1517)

The Gradual chant *Christus Factus Est* is prayed incrementally through the Paschal Triduum with its text taken from Philippians 2:8–9: *Christ became obedient for us even unto death, death on the cross. Therefore God exalted Him and gave Him the name which is above all names.* The three voice motet by **Rev. Giovanni Matteo Asola** is set for men's voices.

Pater, Si, set to music by Heinrich Isaac, derives the melodic material directly from the Gregorian antiphon. In the musical tradition of singing the Passion narratives, as we hear at Mass on Sunday, Jesus has the lowest voice. In this motet, which takes the text from Our Lord in the Garden of Gethsemane, the voices are all set lower than an average *Communio* by Isaac—perhaps as a connection to this tradition.

Rev. Giovanni Matteo Asola (c. 1532–1609) was ordained a parish priest in 1569 and held numerous music posts in Italy. In 1577 became *maestro di cappella* for Treviso Cathedral and subsequently moved to Venice directing at San Servio until his death. Despite living in Venice, Asola's compositional style is closer to the Roman school.

Sunday Collections
Week of March 22, 2026

	Cash	Online
Offertory	\$7,036.00	\$5,329.80
Building Fund	320.00	922.00
Flowers	145.00	—
Vestments	25.00	53.00
Votives	52.00	—
Friday Program/Catechism	—	30.00
TOTAL:	\$ 13,912.80	

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Generation to Generations: A campaign for St. Lawrence

As of Saturday, March 28, here is our status:

Pledged:	\$2,043,761
Received	\$463,247
Remainder to reach overall goal:	\$57,739
Mater Dei Goal:	\$2,100,000

We urge each parishioner to pray daily to the Divine Infant of Prague, seeking our Lord's blessing on this capital campaign. If you have not yet received the package in the mail, which includes full details about the campaign, please contact the parish office. To give, visit www.generationtogenerated.com.

PARKING GARAGE VALIDATION—The South Street Parking Garage transactions are entered electronically. To use the parking garage, simply drive in and enter your license plate by scanning the QR code or using the link below. Call 717-238-0496 with any questions. <https://bit.ly/SouthStreetGarage>



SAVE THE DATE—Parish Men's Night will be on May 30. Please visit the following link for sign-ups: <https://bit.ly/MensNightMay2026>.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARTY—A party celebrating this year's First Holy Communion class will be on Jun. 7. Please visit the following link for sign-ups: <https://bit.ly/FirstCommunionParty2026>.

INQUIRY CLASS—If you are not Catholic and are interested in Catholicism, or if you know of anyone interested, we hold an Inquiry class every Saturday at 3:30pm in the 2nd floor conference room at our 112 State Street Parish Center. Please email our Parish office with questions at: contact@stlawrence.cc.

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