

Church of Saint Lawrence The Martyr

4325 Don Julio Blvd.
North Highlands, CA 95660



Mission Statement

The mission of our community is rooted in Jesus the Christ. This mission is to hear, respond to and proclaim the word of God as found in the Hebrew and Christian scriptures.

Through the Sunday Eucharist we are called to ongoing conversion and personal spiritual formation. As a community, we are challenged to provide mutual support for a Catholic Christian lifestyle and are empowered to use our gifts to minister to the needs of others. We commit our selves to the beatitudes, to the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and to minister to the larger communities in which we live and work. We respect the dignity of every person, at all ages and stages of life.

We hand on our Catholic heritage through catechesis, worship, service and witness.

In carrying out this mission we further the kingdom of God in

Parish Staff

Rev. Enrique AlvarezParochial Administrator
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Deacon Donald Galli Parish Deacon
deacongalli@sbcglobal.net

Mrs. Jean NelsonDirector of Religious Education
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Mrs. Paula Edwards Pastoral Associate
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Mrs. Martha Haig Coordinator of RE/Youth Minister
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Mr. David SwindellFacilities Manager
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Ms. Nancy Latham Bookkeeper
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Mrs. Yolanda Fletes-Villalba Receptionist/Admin. Assistant
receptionist@saintlawrencechurch.org

Ms. Elizabeth Peterson Receptionist
. Music Minister

Mr. Tony Nario
tony@surewest.net

Schedule of Liturgies

Sunday Eucharist (Mass)

Saturday - Vigil 4:45pm
(Spanish) 7:00pm
Sunday 7:00, 8:30, 11:15am

Daily Eucharist (Mass)

Monday - Friday 8:30am

Morning Prayer

Monday -Friday 8:00am

Reconciliation

Tuesday 5:00 pm-6:30pm

Infant Baptisms: This includes children up to 6 years. This Sacrament is celebrated quarterly. Parents must complete a two session preparation class. Please call the Parish Office for information.

Christian Initiation: Children and adults seeking to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church may call the Parish Office for information.

Remembering Church: Catholics wishing to return to the church or to become more connected to the church may call the Parish Office.

Weddings: Couples planning marriage at St. Lawrence are asked to call the Parish Office at least six months prior to anticipated wedding date. Couples are also required to complete a marriage preparation program.

Parish Office Hours

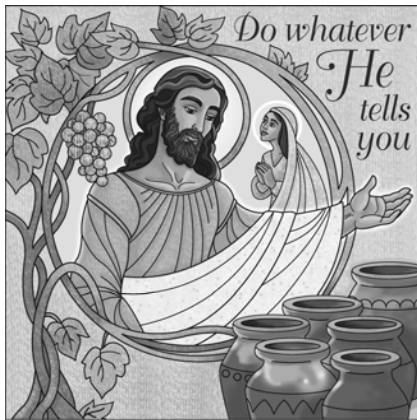
9:00 am to 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
Monday through Thursday
9:00 am to 12:30 pm each Friday

Parish Office (916) 332-4777

Fax (916) 332-8325

Parish Registration: We welcome new parishioners to the parish. Registration forms are available in the back of the church or by stopping by or calling the Parish Office. Please notify the Parish Office of moves or changes in address or telephone number.

SURPRISES



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Life is full of surprises, some pleasant, some not. The scriptures are filled with stories of God's surprises cropping up when they are least expected: younger children obtaining the inheritance; the lowliest being seated highest up;

an itinerant preacher, killed like a criminal, exalted to eternal, heavenly glory.

Anybody who has planned a wedding or similar event knows that they are filled with opportunities for surprises. For the bridegroom in today's Gospel story, who has no direct contact with Jesus, the pleasant surprise came because somebody else paid attention and had faith in Jesus.

We may think that the point of today's familiar story of the wedding at Cana is that when we have faith in Jesus, our lives will be pleasantly changed. A Christian, however, needs to have a broader perspective and realize that to have faith in Christ means that somebody's life—not necessarily our own—will be surprised for the better.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51;
Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19, or any readings from the Mass "For Peace and Justice," nos. 887-891

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19;
1 Cor 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]; Lk 1:1-4;
4:14-21

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Fiscal Year Runs July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010

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|----------------------------------|---------------|
| First Collection Weekend Jan1-3 | \$ 11,551.58 |
| Total Collections YTD | \$246,545.89 |
| Goal (Based on Budgeted Revenue) | \$250,038.33 |
| Over (Under) Goal | (\$ 3,492.44) |

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| 2nd Collection for January Wellspring Women's Center & Loaves & Fishes (Green) | \$ 1,923.87 |
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| Facility Fund for December 2nd Collection Taken 3rd Sunday (Goldenrod) | \$ 844.00 |
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| St. Vincent de Paul Society Since our last 5th Sunday Collection | \$ 203.00 |
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CAN BANKS

If you have not returned your filled can bank , please return it next weekend. There will be a basket at the entrances of the church.

FACILITY FUND

The second collection this weekend will benefit the Facility Fund. Thank you for your continued generosity. Please remember that our gift to the Facility Fund should be over and above the first collection, which provides funds to keep the parish running.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Adults: God fills each of us with grace (miracles) and gifts, what is one grace (miracle) or gift that you have shared with your family?

Youth: Jesus got his start in ministry through the urging of his mother. Who urges you to pray, go to Church, and do good works?

Children: What is one special gift that God has given to you to share with your friends or classmates?



The next Youth Group meeting is Sunday, **January 24** in St. Lawrence Hall at 6:30 p.m. Youth Group is open to all 7th to 12th grade students.

The next Core planning meeting, for students 10th grade and above, will be **January 18** at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

DO YOU KNOW

... what happened to the First Sunday in Ordinary Time?

Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time because it begins the second week in Ordinary Time. Last week we celebrated the baptism of the Lord which ended the Christmas season. The Monday after last Sunday we began the first week of Ordinary Time, so there is no First Sunday in Ordinary Time. The word “ordinary” comes from “ordinal” meaning “counted,” so we have the Second Sunday, the Third Sunday, etc. in Ordinary Time. In this situation it does not mean “regular, plain, run-of-the-mill, ho-hum.”

Before the reforms of thirty years ago, these winter weeks were called the “Sundays after Epiphany.” This linked Epiphany to Ordinary Time rather than relating it to Christmas. The same occurred with the “Sundays after Pentecost,” the second block of Ordinary Time.

There are five Church seasons: Advent, Christmastime, Lent, Triduum and Eastertime. There are two blocks of Ordinary Time. First, in winter come the weeks between Christmastime and Lent. Then, in summer and fall come the weeks between Eastertime and Advent. That is over half of the year. Most days in Ordinary Time, green vestments are worn. Ordinary Time is not a season, just a way to describe the weeks between seasons.

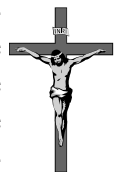
Today’s Gospel reading from John completes a triad of “epiphany” readings – there are three – the appearance of the Magi, at His baptism, and now at the wedding feast at Cana. The miracle at the wedding feast at Cana is described by John as the “first” of Jesus’ signs and so it is right for it to begin Ordinary Time. The miracle at Cana is about Jesus being revealed as the Messiah, the Holy One, in the midst of our ordinary human experience, a marriage, transforming our “secular” reality into the fine wine of God’s grace. Even though His hour has not yet come, Mary’s faith in her Son becomes the occasion of His first sign of God’s kingdom. Jesus turns water into wine, the fruit of the vine and work of human hands. Jesus’ ministry begins with an act of joy and delight, a sign of God’s desire for our relationship with Him.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Sat., Jan. 16**
4:45 p.m.
- 7:00 p.m. Adan Mendoza †
- Sun., Jan. 17**
7:00 a.m.
- 8:30 a.m.
- 11:15 a.m.
- Mon., Jan. 18**
- Tues., Jan. 19**
- Wed., Jan. 20**
- Thur., Jan. 21**
- Fri., Jan. 22**

VOCATIONS

Households that participate in this ministry will take the Vocational Cross home that week and pray for Vocations. The parish will provide the prayers. The crosses will then be returned the following weekend to the same Mass to make it available for the next household to take home. In January the crosses are being rotated at the 11:15 a.m. Sunday Mass and the 4:45 p.m. Saturday Mass. In February the 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Masses will rotate the crosses. Please sign up in the back of the church.



Deacon Don and Susan Galli are the Coordinators for the English Community. Enrique Canto is the Coordinator for the Spanish Community.

Let Us Remember Our Dead

- Jan. 18 George Hurley, Gilbert Beaudry, Karen Fitzpatrick, Javier Sanchez, Manuel Tomas, Sr.
- Jan 19 Anna Steffen, John Singleton, Michael Sullivan, Mercedes De Leon, Dolores DeLeon, Connie Morales, Joseph Whatley, Domingo Arupo
- Jan 20 Cipriano Gose
- Jan 21 Marie Victor, Emil Beffa, Elizabeth Borg
- Jan 22 Anna Young, Taylor Poesen
- Jan 23 Deleforo Olivares, Edward Zinda, Charles Hose, Dr. Petronio Monsod, Roger Gose
- Jan 24 Juanita Vicaldo, Todd Bruce

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & HOLY HOUR

February 1 and each first Monday of the month, there will be **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the church after **8:30 Morning Mass until Benediction at 6:45 p.m.** Please note the change of time. We invite you to **sign up to spend time keeping company with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.**

There will be a **Holy Hour from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. ending with Benediction** every Monday except the first Monday of the month. The next Holy Hour will be **Monday, January 18.**

CHRIST THE KING MEN'S RETREAT

This year's theme is "With Burning Hearts, Proclaiming Our Passion." Sign up now for a wonderful weekend of peace and quiet and the opportunity to enrich your spiritual life. You'll enjoy good rest, tasty food, and insightful conferences to help you draw closer to God, to your family, and to yourself! We'll see you on the weekend of **January 22-January 24, 2010** at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center in Citrus Heights. For reservations call **Steve Jackson** at **(916) 722-8076** or email at weteachem@surewest.net You can also call the Retreat Center directly at (916) 725-4720. You can view the Center at www.passionist.org/retreats/christtheking.

YOGA IS BACK AT ST. LAWRENCE

Yoga has returned to St. Lawrence. It will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 - 8 p.m. in Extension (the room behind Gabrielli Hall.) Please bring an exercise matt and a towel.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC PRIEST?

There will be a Discernment Weekend at St. Patrick's Seminary **January 15-17, 2010** in Menlo Park, CA. If you are interested, please contact the Office of Priestly & Religious Vocations (916) 733-0258.

Pray for our priests and our seminarians.

INFANT BAPTISM CLASS IN ENGLISH

Our next Infant Baptism class in English will be Friday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. You must fill out a registration form before attending the class. Registration forms are available in the office. The Baptism will be Saturday, February 13 at 10:00 am.

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, January 18, 2010 in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Mercy San Juan Medical Center offers a free support group for adults experiencing the loss of a loved one. **Meetings are on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 6-7:30 pm** at Mercy San Juan Medical Center, 6501 Coyle Ave., Carmichael 95608. Meet in Conference Room 1 or 2 adjacent to the cafeteria on the lower level. For information the number for the Main Hospital is (916) 537-5000 and the Spiritual Care Services Dept. is (916) 537-5098.

Walk for Life • West Coast 2010!



This will be a beautiful scenic walk along San Francisco's waterfront commencing with a short series of speeches centering around the theme of abortion's damage to women, children—unborn and born – and families.

Starts at 11:00 am Saturday, January 23, 2010, at Justin Herman Plaza (at the Embarcadero) and ends at the Marina Green. Invited guests include Lila Rose and Rev. Clenard Childress. For more information visit www.walkforlifewc.com To volunteer or to arrange for bus/carpool transportation contact Dolores 704-0725 or Lisa 804-6766 or email questions to: lisawire@comcast.net

MARRIED COUPLES - IT'S A NEW YEAR

Resolve to start a new love affair with your spouse that's beyond your wildest dreams. It can happen on a World-wide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Sign up soon so you can renew your love for one another. Our upcoming WWME Weekend: **February 12-14**, Sacramento. Contact Barry & Julia Reynolds at 866-825-2046, or go to merestrar@aol.com for more information.

**Are You Returning to Your Catholic Roots?
Welcome Home!**

Whether you've been away from the Church for 1, 10, or even 30 or more years, our parish family is delighted to welcome you home to the Catholic Church. If you have not already done so, we invite you to visit the Catholics Come Home website/English: CatholicsComeHome.org or Spanish: CatolicosRegresen.org. Our confession schedule here at St. Lawrence is Tuesday evening from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Don't remember how to go to confession? That's not a problem...when you enter the confessional, simply tell the priest you've forgotten how and he will guide you through the process, step by step. Our parish is offering sessions for those returning to the church beginning Monday, **February 1st at 7:00 p.m.** in Gabrielli Hall. For more information please call the Parish Office at (916) 332-4777.

**Not Catholic? Have Questions?
Exploring the Catholic Church
for the First Time?**

Our parish family warmly welcomes you! We offer inquiry sessions for those who are exploring Catholicism. These sessions provide an opportunity for you to come "as you are" to a friendly, welcoming, non-pressuring atmosphere to learn more about the Catholic Faith, even if you don't think you'll want to actually become Catholic. If you desire to take steps towards becoming Catholic, you will have the option to do so, on your own initiative. Please call the Parish Office at 916 332-4777.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Confirmation Retreat for 8th-12th grade is Saturday, January 30 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at Christian Brothers High School, 4315 Martin Luther King, Jr., Sacramento.

Prayers to grade level must be learned by Sunday, **January 24** and Tuesday, **January 26**.

Please continue to **bring in non-perishable foods** to stock our shelves for St. Vincent de Paul. Our shelves are empty due to the needs during the holidays.

CELL PHONES

Please turn your cell phone off before you enter the church. If you must have it on, please set it on silent. Thank You.



THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

- Sunday Jan. 17** R.E. All areas 10-11 AM
 - Monday Jan. 18** MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED
Holy Hour CH 6-7 PM
Lectors PCMR 7 PM
Youth Grp Core Mtg. PCYR 5:30-8 p.m.
 - Tuesday Jan. 19** RFE 7-8 PM Classrooms & LIB
Confessions CH 5-6:30 PM
Yoga Ext. 6:30 - 8 PM
 - Wednesday Jan. 20** Harvest Us Home Mtg. PCMR 9-Noon
Lectors in Spanish 7-8 p.m. PCK
Sp. Prayer Group CH 7-9 PM
STVDP PCMR 7-9 PM
 - Thursday Jan. 21** Bounty STLH 5 PM
Choir CH 7-9 PM
Grupo Cultural Catolico STLH 7-9 PM
Spanish Group PCYR 7-9 PM
Cub Scouts LIB 6:30-8:30 PM
Yoga Class Ext. 6:30-8 PM
 - Friday Jan. 22** Eng. Prayer Grp 7-9 PM Rm 3
Eng. Baptism class PCMR 7 PM
Bible Class PCYR 9-11AM
Sp. Choir CH 6 PM
Cub Scouts GH 6:30-8:30 PM
 - Saturday Jan. 23** Pack #122 Mtg. STLH 10AM-2 PM
Boys Scouts STLH 5-9 PM
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| PCK | Parish Center Kitchen |
| PCMR | Parish Center Meeting Room |
| PCCO | Parish Center Counseling Office |
| PCYR | Parish Center Youth Room |
| STLH | St. Lawrence Hall |
| CH | Church |
| GH | Gabrielli Hall |
| Ext. | Extension (Behind Gabrielli Hall) |
| LIB | Library |
| Rm. 3 | Room 3 of the School |

*Are you ready to answer
God's call to Stewardship?*

**The Knights of Columbus
Annual Crab Feed**

Saturday, January 30th at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$35

Contact Vince @ 961-8912 or Steve @ 338-3816.

