

january 3, 2021 | the epiphany of the lord

st. lawrence o'toole & sacred heart parishes



Mass schedule

St. Lawrence

Saturday Vigil

5:30, 7:30 pm (Spanish)

Sunday

8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm (Spanish)

5:30 pm

Monday-Friday

8:30 am

Wednesday

7:00 pm

Sacred Heart

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

10:30 am

St. Lawrence Cemetery

Plots and cremation niches are available for purchase.

Cemetery office 845-279-2021 x201
call to schedule an appointment.

stlawrenceotoole.org

31 Prospect Street
Brewster, NY 10509
845-279-2021

sacredheartpattersonny.org

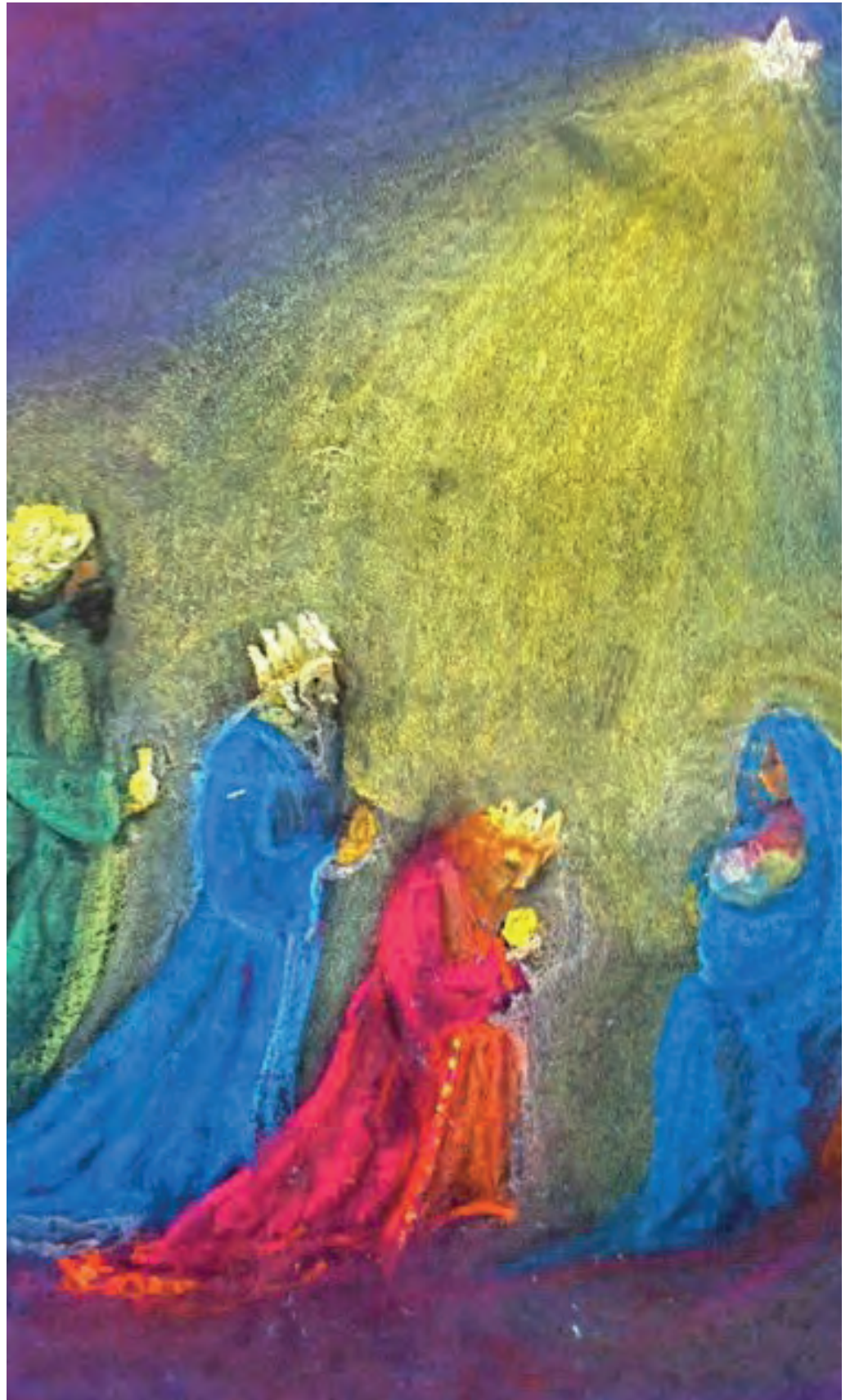
414 Haviland Drive
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845-279-4832

Instagram: [stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny](https://www.instagram.com/stlawrenceotoole_brewsterny)

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& Sacred Heart

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the way

LYNDA HOLLER DIRECTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP



Series 3: Which Way? The Rugged Road

I am convinced that everyone experiences challenges and suffering in their lives. We may look at some people and think that they have skated through easily because they don't talk about or we haven't witnessed their adversities. But some neighbors that seem to have it all now, may have grown up in abusive homes or poverty, they may be living in dysfunctional relationships or are plagued by addiction or burdened by unfulfilling jobs. The deeper query is: which way is our suffering leading us?

Blessed Henry Suso said, "Suffering gives a man wisdom and experience. A man who has not suffered, what does he know?"

Some people are determined to avoid suffering at all costs. That wasn't Jesus' way and it can't be ours. He makes it clear that the road to heaven is not the one we might expect.

Jesus says, "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few."

We witness people choosing the immoral, smooth road instead of the righteous, rugged one over and over. Life is messy and the broad road that appears to avoid discomfort and hardship can be tempting. But there is satisfaction that comes from taking the high road and pushing our character beyond normal limits and by obtaining the wisdom and experience promised by Suso. The devil will tell us that we are not strong enough for the rugged road, but as Christians, we know better. Jesus will guide our conscience, help us embrace our cross, and step forward with us as we choose his way, the way to life.

Scripture: Read Matthew 7:13-14.
Reflect on what God is saying to you.

Call to Action: Consider the road you are on. Have you accepted your suffering and allowed Jesus to use it to draw you closer to Him? If not, what changes can you make?



January 3, 2021

while we're at it

our vision Create a parish of missionary disciples whose personal relationship with Jesus Christ inspires others into a life-changing relationship with Him.

Dear Friends,

Thirty years ago today – January 3, 1991 – I stood alongside 59 equally nervous young men under the majestic dome of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, waiting to be ordained by the Vicar of Christ Pope St. John Paul II.

It was a day perfect in every way... and the power of the Holy Spirit transformed little ordinary me from Hicksville, NY into a priest of Jesus Christ. From that point forward, I would be responsible to proclaim the deepest mysteries of our faith and sanctify his people by the sacraments.

I could never have imagined how my priesthood would unfold in different places around the country and abroad, and in different ministries – from retreat work and spiritual direction, to schools and graduate centers, to family centers and marriage preparation and marriage counseling... and in the past eleven years, to parish ministry as a pastor. I could never have foreseen how he would use me to touch or encounter souls, trying to leave them something of Jesus. I'm certain the greatest blessing God can give a man is the gift to be his priest and use him to bring people closer to his heart.

I've loved every minute of being a priest in all these 30 years. But the best part has been the years I've spent in Brewster and Patterson as pastor of two wonderful, faith-filled parishes. I thank you all for allowing me to serve you, and for your patience with all my shortcomings. I apologize for anytime I may have been an obstacle for some in finding their way to God and his mercy.

I hope that somehow through my ministry people have come closer to Jesus that in the balance, it was positive.

I've also seen how fragile we are and I thank God that despite my many faults and weaknesses I have been able to remain in his service. I pray every day that I be given that greatest of graces, to persevere to the end of my days in love and in the service of God and his people. I so want to hear him say those words, "well done, good and faithful servant...".

If you can, I'd ask you to offer a little prayer for me to persevere firmly to the end.

God bless,

Fr. Richard Gill





winter faith formation



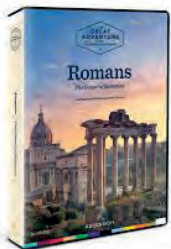
WHY FORGIVE?

WEDNESDAYS - IN PERSON & ZOOM
Jan 13 — Feb 10
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM

Join us as we explore the complex and emotional subject of Forgiveness. Deacon Mark will begin by sharing his

own personal forgiveness testimony. Participants will read and discuss four of the chapters in WHY FORGIVE?, by Johann Christoph Arnold. The testimonies in the book along with the teachings of the Catholic Church can help you begin the New Year with healing you never thought possible.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/WhyForgive



ROMANS: THE GOSPEL OF SALVATION

THURSDAYS - IN PERSON & ZOOM
Jan 21— April 8
9:30 am – 11:30 am or 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Discover what it means to be saved! Romans will help you make sense of the difficult passages regarding faith, works of the law, and justification. Above all, it will help

you to enter into a more meaningful relationship with Christ.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/Romans



CONSECRATION TO ST. JOSEPH: THE WONDERS OF OUR SPIRITUAL FATHER

SUNDAYS - IN PERSON & ZOOM
Jan 17 — Feb 21
9:30 am – 10:30 am
NEW YORK ROOM

In the midst of crisis, confusion, and a world at war with the Church, it's time to come home again to our spiritual father, St. Joseph. In this richly researched and lovingly presented program of consecration to St. Joseph, Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, brings to life the wonders, the power, and the ceaseless love of St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and the Terror of Demons.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/StJoseph

MOVIE NIGHT: PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST

FRIDAY
Feb 26
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
GYM



Roma, 67 AD. After the fire that burned a great part of the city, Emperor Nero names Paul, Jesus' apostle, as guilty of the fire, arresting and imprisoning him. Despite the risks, physician and medicine man Luke gets access to the jail and meets Paul, who accepts Luke's request to tell his biography for a new book about Jesus' teachings. Join us for a revealing portrayal of the barbaric conditions the early Christians endured and the great faith that formed the foundation of our Catholic Church. Warning: contains graphic and disturbing scenes.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/PaulMovie

PRAYER – SEEKING THE FACE OF GOD

SUNDAYS - IN PERSON: & ZOOM
FEB 21 – MAR 28
6:45 pm – 8:15 pm
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM



One day we will stand before Jesus and speak face-to-face. We don't have to wait for heaven for intimate communication with our God. A deep prayer life allows us to have a close relationship with Jesus here and now. Our goal in prayer is to deepen our friendship, to pour out our hearts and hear God's merciful and loving guidance in return. Use this Lent to learn to pray following the model of Scripture and the saints. Bring a Bible and a small notebook.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/FaceOfGod



SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

WEDNESDAYS - IN PERSON & ZOOM

Feb 24 – Apr 14

7:00 pm – 8:45 pm

DINING HALL



If you are a Catholic who loves your faith and wants to know how to share it with those in your life (or even with those you have never met before), join us during Lent for this exciting new program. Sharing our faith can seem daunting or even out of place for Catholics today, but it is our duty and vocation to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This training is designed for beginners. It includes informative videos, small group discussion, and role-playing exercises.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/GoodNews

WOMEN'S GIFT

MONDAYS-ZOOM ONLY

Jan 11 – May 3

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm



We are continuing the fascinating and engaging study of women saints and holy women that we began last spring. Women from the Old Testament as well as contemporary saints will be included. We'll be pondering the work of the Holy Spirit in building the Body of Christ through these women and discovering some of God's most unlikely helpers. This spring we will study one saint each meeting. Participants are asked to choose from the list of holy women to prepare and present a summary of her life and work. Join us as we meet some amazing women!

REGISTER AT: stlawrenceotoole.org/GIFT_Saints

Men's Ministry

SATURDAYS- IN PERSON & ZOOM

ONGOING

7:00 am-8:30 am

LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM



The primary duty of a man is to be a good spiritual role model to his family. This has never been more essential than in today's society. Men's Ministry meets each week to learn and discuss topics related to our Catholic faith, spirituality, and issues that impact our lives as men, professionals, husbands, and fathers.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/MensMinistry



FROM MOURNING TO JOY BEREAVEMENT

TUESDAYS - IN PERSON & ZOOM

ONGOING

7:00 pm -9:00 pm

NEW YORK ROOM



Our bereavement group meets weekly to help people rebuild their lives after the loss of a spouse, child, parent, family member, or friend through group support and applying biblical principles to the healing process. We meet both live in the parish center and on Zoom to accommodate everyone. We have witnessed great healing, as people move from morning to joy.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/Bereavement

SURVIVING DIVORCE

TUESDAYS, EVERY OTHER WEEK

ZOOM ONLY

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm



Jesus longs to mend your heart and lead you to a life filled with promise, peace, and joy. We offer support to begin the healing process. Journey of Hope is a program for separated and divorced Catholics. The practical topics addressed in each session are discussed within an intimate, confidential environment and give participants the tools they need to begin a hopeful new life. The program uses the teaching of the Catholic faith, including the teaching on the nature of marriage, annulments, and remarriage.

REGISTER: stlawrenceotoole.org/SurvivingDivorce

VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGES

Travel virtually with your fellow parishioners this winter and spring to the destinations of some of the world's great pilgrimage sites. With expert tour guides and great photography, Covid travel limitations will not stop us from growing in faith as we witness our loving God responding to the needs of his people all around the world. Stay tuned for the upcoming itinerary!





THE SHROUD OF TURIN

Jan 6-12 Exhibit in Gym, 9 am-5 pm

the man of the shroud

TINA GRANT



St. Lawrence is privileged to exhibit the Shroud of Turin. Sean Fitzgerald, an expert on its existence, recently spoke. The Holy Shroud is a length of linen cloth bearing the negative image of a man. Millions claim the image depicts Jesus of Nazareth and the fabric is the burial shroud in which Jesus was wrapped after his crucifixion. Mr. Fitzgerald

explained in detail how science, history, scripture and faith all came together and how this piece of linen cloth told the story of all Jesus endured for us.

His opening statement “The Shroud received much controversy because it wrapped a man who said he was God”, got my attention. I listened as he brought the Shroud alive and the story it told of the horrific torture, scourging and crucifixion Jesus underwent. I learned that Jesus received over 200 floggings, not 40, because it was Romans inflicting the pain, not the Jews. I learned The Shroud of Turin Research Project examined the Shroud and found the markings on the cloth consistent with a crucified body and stains were real human blood. The images contain markings that correspond to the crucifixion wounds of Jesus including thorn marks on

his head, lacerations from flogging, bruises on his shoulders and blood stains. As he spoke, I followed his descriptions on the replica present.

C.S. Lewis popularized the argument that Jesus was either a liar, a lunatic or the Son of God. We are asked to choose. If he is not a liar or lunatic, he is the Son of God. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life”.

The Holy Shroud’s authenticity is in the eye of the believer. To me, it tells the story of the last several hours of a man who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, sent to us by God and who I call Jesus. After Jesus rose from the dead, he appeared before his disciples and Mary. He gave them that gift. The Holy Shroud that survived a fire and protected by bullet-proof glass in Italy, is a gift that Jesus left for us.

As Mr. Fitzgerald spoke in fine detail of every mark on the Shroud I could only image each and every wound Jesus sustained for us. Yet, I also felt the enormous love in that



linen cloth. It is an amazing exhibit told in a very powerful way of a man who after more than 2000 years has changed the world and remains the central figure of the human race.



pray for

Please remember our brothers and sisters in the Lord who have asked for prayers:

Kaitlyn King ◦ Mary McMahon ◦ Joseph P. Massimo ◦ Michael Brady ◦ Betty Lou Lawlor ◦ Maryann & Jackie Civita ◦ Carol Garcia ◦ Laura Faul ◦ John Donovan ◦ Hailey ◦ Bonnie Grant ◦ Andy Morehead ◦ Robert Sarlo ◦ Larry Tobin ◦ Michael Taylor ◦ John Curra ◦ Angie Salas ◦ Patrick Joyce ◦ Dawn Sarlo ◦ Amy Laura ◦ Patricia Lichtenberger ◦ Judy Bruen ◦ Henry Joyce ◦ Kayla Pinzur ◦ Clifford Gale ◦ Brian Seibert ◦ Ed Dolan

Names will remain on the Prayer List for 90 days and then will be transferred to the prayer list in the Adoration Chapel.

To add names to or remove names from the Prayer List, please email:

SLOT.SH.Office@gmail.com

italian take out dinner 1/29


This year the Italian Dinner Take Out run by the Knights of Columbus will give proceeds to benefit Michael Brady-portion of the net plus any additional donations.

Friday, Jan 29 pick up your dinner from 5 pm to 7 pm.

Includes bread, salad, Rigatoni with sauce, Cavatelli with broccoli and oil, meatballs and susagage and Tiramisu. Gluten free pasta available. Pre-paid price: Adults \$20 and Family \$50.

RSVP by Jan. 27 Contact Vinny LaRusso at 845-278-0239 or James Tiffany at 845-671-0184.

To pay go to paypal@kofc1495.org



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or irenewestin18@gmail.com

mass intentions

Saturday, January 2

4:00PM *Sacred Heart*

5:30PM

7:30 PM

Anne Gardiner

Quinlan & Calise Family
Spanish

Sunday, January 3

8:00AM

9:30AM

10:30AM *Sacred Heart*

11:00AM

12:30 PM

5:30 PM

Rosemary Conneally

Intentions of Mia Carollo

Edward Richardson

Timothy Hanrahan

Spanish — Katie Cooper

Sr. Corita Clarke

Monday, January 4

8:30AM

Gloria DeGennaro

Tuesday, January 5

8:30AM

Frank McAuliffe

Wednesday, January 6

8:30AM

Deceased members of Furey &
O'Brien Families

Intentions of Frances Smith

7:00 PM

Thursday, January 7

8:30AM

St. Lawrence O'Toole Society

Friday, January 8

8:30AM

Souls of St. Lawrence O'Toole
Cemetery

Saturday, January 9

4:00PM *Sacred Heart*

5:30PM

7:30 PM

Intentions of Judy McDermott

Mary McQueeney

Spanish

Sunday, January 10

8:00AM

9:30AM

10:30AM *Sacred Heart*

11:00AM

12:30 PM

5:30 PM

Catherine Mc Dermott

Jane & Carmine Pellecchia

Bill & Joseph Lewis

Cathy Mannfolk

Spanish

Brian Hansbury

dedications

The **Tabernacle Candle** at **St. Lawrence** is dedicated to **Ernest Weidemann** requested by June Serra

The **Blessed Mother Candle** at **St. Lawrence** is dedicated to **Caitlin Giamundo** requested by the Giamundo Family

pope francis proclaims “year of st. joseph”

With the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from December 8, 2020, to December 8, 2021.



the power of the sleeping st. joseph

JACQUELINE HOLLCRAFT

The Lord spoke to Joseph three times through dreams. First, when Joseph had decided to quietly divorce Mary after learning of her pregnancy—itsself a merciful decision that defied custom—an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said: “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She is to bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” -Matthew 1:20-21

The scripture emphasizes, “When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home” (Matthew 1:24).

Two more times “the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.” Once, when God told Joseph to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from Herod (Matthew 2:13-14). Another time was when the Lord called Joseph to bring Jesus back to the land of Israel (Matthew 2:19-21). Immediately after God spoke to Joseph, he responded exactly as he was told.

St. Joseph Teaches Us to Rest

One thing I have often overlooked is the fact that the Lord spoke to Joseph when he was in a state of complete rest. This realization struck me particularly hard because this year the “word of the year” I received from a word generator was rest.

The past few years of my life have been rife with intense undertakings. I also struggle with insomnia, so the word “rest” has both physical and spiritual implications for me. Once again, St. Joseph is nurturing me, teaching me, and giving me a silent example of the disposition to assume before the Lord.

When Joseph was faced with the dilemma of an inexplicably pregnant wife, we can assume he worked out the solution of a quiet divorce with great care and discernment, for Scripture reveals that he “was a righteous man” (Matthew 1:19).

Yet God penetrated Joseph in a vulnerable moment, in a period of rest, to show him another way. No matter how carefully Joseph strove to find a solution while he was awake and alert, God revealed to him the wonderful plan of salvation while he was resting.

Sleep Implies Trust—Not only was Joseph able to receive God’s astonishing plan, but he received God’s plan through the precarious means of a dream. He trusted the message, and he trusted the means in which God gave him direction.

Joseph’s trust indicates his strong faith and his deep intimacy with the Lord. Joseph knew it was the Lord speaking to him. He was familiar with God’s voice in his life, which means he must have had a deep, consistent prayer life. It’s not enough to just rest, either spiritually or physically. We must know who we are resting with, or rather who we are resting in.

While I’ve never received a message from the Lord in a dream, when I do sense God speaking to me, I often wonder if I am just imagining things. Or I question whether the prompting is true. I doubt the Spirit and hesitate to act. Yet Joseph awoke assured, ready to respond. He showed a holy animation, inspired and generated during a period of rest, that only comes from deep communion with God.

Intimacy with God—For me, the sleeping St. Joseph image is a model of the trusting, familial, vulnerable attitude I am called to have before the Lord. My prayer, under the tutelage of St. Joseph, is that I can develop a deep intimacy with God along with the ability to rest, so that when God speaks to me in my rest, I can trust His word and readily respond. I pray to follow Joseph’s example upon awakening, allowing the Spirit to animate me into holy action that realizes God’s divine plan in my life.

parish support

st. lawrence parish support

Weekend of December 20	
In Pew Collection	\$ 5,537.00
November WeShare weekly	\$ 5,649.93
Total	\$ 11,186.93

sacred heart parish support

Weekend of December 20	
In Pew Collection	\$ 1,957.00
Novembrer WeShare weekly	\$ 503.87
Total	\$ 2,460.87

Note: Regardless of whether you attend St. Lawrence or Sacred Heart, for convenience on a particular weekend, be assured your collection envelopes will be returned to the parish in which you are registered.



parish staff

- Rev. Richard Gill.....Pastor
- Rev. Thomas Berg.....Weekend Associate
- Mark Shkreli.....Deacon
- Julie Noce.....Pastoral Assistant
- Maureen Herbstritt.....Business Manager
- Lynda Holler.....Director of Discipleship
- Sally Silvestro.....Director of Communication
- Cecilia Britez...Director of Evangelization and Family Program
- Peter RyanDirector of Music
- Theresa Scorca.....Coord. of Religious Education
- Clara Segreti.....Family Program Assistant
- Janine Kristensen.....Family Program Coordinator Support
- Kim Santerre.....Director of Early Childhood Learning Center
- Irene Westin.....Adult Sacramental Administrator
- Eileen Stokes.....Cemetery Administrator

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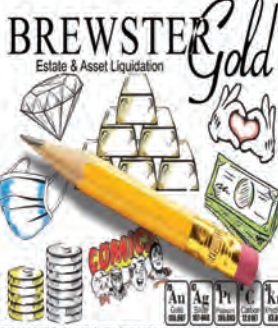
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