



Footnotes

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC PARISH

Risen Victorious!



WE REJOICE IN THE SEASON OF REBIRTH



Youth ministers from across the Archdiocese gather at the newly constructed Holy Spirit Hall on Mobile Bay.

The Easter Vigil was especially exciting this year. Not only did this RCIA group persevere during a plague of Biblical proportion but we now have a most fruitful group of neophytes. We have now been blessed with 15 new parishioners.

At the Vigil we had four baptisms, five candidates received into the church, two young men received into the Church, one parishioner received Confirmation, and one young parishioner received her first Communion.

We had three married couples come into the Church. One

of the couple's twin sons were received into the Church and received their first Communion. One week after the Vigil, on Divine Mercy Sunday, another one of the couples' two young daughters were baptized and the other couple's young sons were baptized.

The Holy Spirit has indeed been present in the lives of all these wonderful people and blessed us with them! We hope that you will have the opportunity to meet them all in the coming weeks.



*Welcome
New Parishioners!*

JOHNNIE & MOLLY DEVINE
WITH JACK

JONI PARVIN

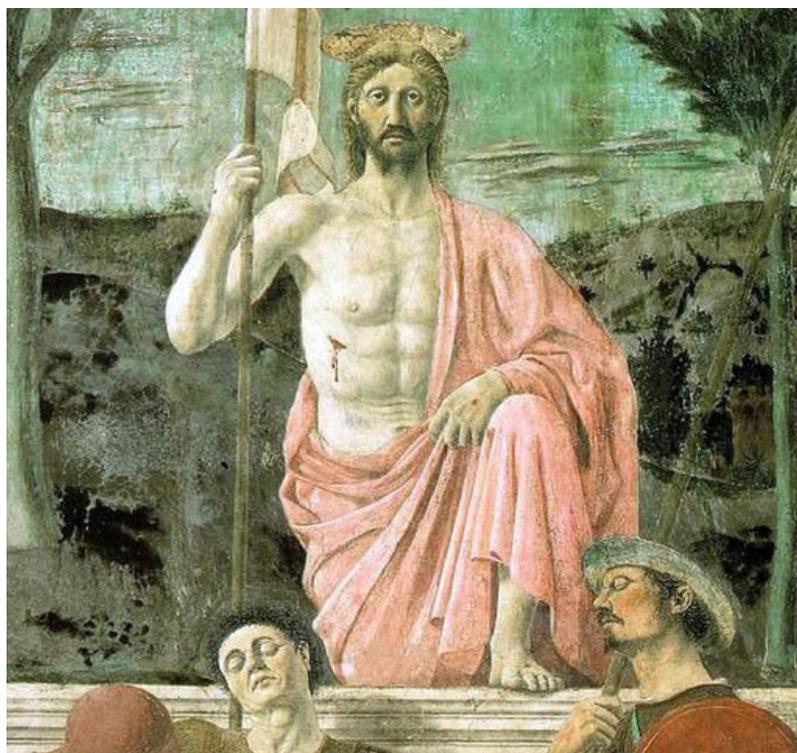
BARBARA ROGERS

WAYNE & KATHRYN ETHERIDGE
WITH WILL AND BEN

JUSIE LOTT

GREG & JEAN MILLER

TIM & JENNIFER WHITTEN



ROOTED WOMEN'S RETREAT: 3RD NIGHT



During the last evening of ROOTED IN MERCY: A WOMEN'S RETREAT the retreatants were able to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spend time with our Lord in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. They were given journal questions to reflect on, but encouraged to be present with the Lord in His love and mercy. This was a great transition from Lent into Holy Week and a beautiful conclusion to the retreat. The women were invited back after the retreat to join in an Easter reflection and to share about their Lenten experience with the rest of the retreatants. The core team is actively working on new events for women at the parish. Be on the lookout!



Lisa Kelly, Rose Metzger, Lisa Word, Janine and Sara Christiansen.



Keri Buhring, Tara Roof, Tiffany Hooper and Christina Stankoski.



Keri
Kathryn Etheridge, Barbara Garner, Babbette Authement, Susan Cumpton and Ellen Heebe.



Trey Krause and Afton Sylvester lead praise and worship during adoration.

SEDER SUPPER DURING HOLY WEEK



Greetings Parish Family! It was so good to be able to celebrate our Holy Week services this year. One of our services was a Passover Seder. This is done each year at St. Lawrence for those entering the Catholic Church through the RCIA program. The Hebrew word "seder" means "order, procedure." It is a sacred meal in which our Jewish friends remember God's great deliverance of them from slavery to Egypt. Our observance of the Passover Seder is meant to be a teaching moment rather than an actual performance of the Jewish liturgy. (How would we feel if our Jewish friends celebrated parts of our Mass they might find interesting?)

In our Seder, we explain the symbolic meaning of the particular foods on the seder plate. We also reflect on our Mass liturgy and our common root with the Jewish faith. We read scripture showing how Christ instituted the Eucharist during the feast of Passover. Afterward, we share a full meal together.

For Catholics, Jesus is our Passover Lamb Who takes away the sins of the world. We believe God still delivers all from slavery to sin, fear, and death. The Angel of Death "passed over" the Israelite homes that had marked their doorways with the blood of a lamb. The Lamb of God is with us. Do not fear. Mother Church proclaims, "the Lord is risen!" and we joyfully respond, "He is risen indeed!" Let us reflect on the great deliverance our God has provided. Let us live our "Alleluia" in the world. Shalom!



MASS DURING HOLY WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Fr. Gil offered Mass at St. Michael Catholic High School on Spy Wednesday of Holy Week. Fr. Gil gave a homily on the Matthew 26:14, which recounts Judas' betrayal of Jesus. In verse 15, Judas asks the chief priests, "What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?" Fr. Gil reflected on the things we trade for Christ's love, for Christ's presence and His grace. We betray Christ in our lives also. It may not be for 30 pieces of silver, but we make choices that don't reflect the

gift of Christ's life to us. Fr. Gil asked the students to reconsider our actions in a way where we prioritize our relationship with Christ, protect our time spent with him, and ultimately strive to leave behind a life of sin in order to reach eternity with Him. Our priests always enjoy the opportunity to visit with the students and share the grace of the sacraments with our young people. Please pray for our priests and our young people as we strive for heaven together.



We pray for our fellow parishioners who have entered into eternal rest:

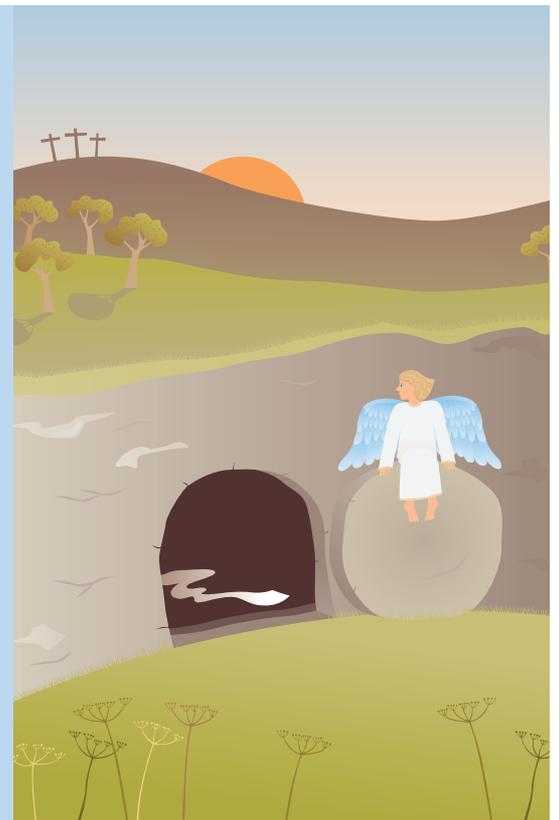
AUGUSTUS "DUKE" SMITH, JR.

JOHN GUTKNECHT

LAWRENCE "LARRY" SANDSTROM

KYLE PITT

BERNARD A. FOGARTY, JR.



EASTER TRIDUUM: **HOLY THURSDAY**



We are so thankful for all those who took time to pray and participate in the Triduum liturgies. The Triduum liturgies are considered the summit of the liturgical year as they culminate in the celebration of the Easter Vigil. As the catechism states, "By his death, Christ liberates us from sin; by His Resurrection, He opens for us the way to a new life." So we, too, might walk in newness of life! Thanks be to God for the gift of His son Jesus and our salvation from sin and death.



Our altar servers do a tremendous job assisting at the Mass.



Fr. Steve and Fr. Gil keep watch with Jesus on Holy Thursday.

EASTER TRIDUUM: **GOOD FRIDAY**



TOP: Fr. Steve leads outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday of Holy Week. ABOVE: Thank you to all who came out for our Good Friday Stations of the Cross. RIGHT: Fr. Gil elevates the cross at our Good Friday liturgy.

WHY DO WE “FLOWER” THE CROSS?



The richness of our Catholic faith is full of tradition that can be seen throughout the liturgical year. One of these traditions is the flowering of the cross. The custom began eight years ago with a simple idea from our own Little Flowers Girls Club, and led to a six-foot wooden cross erected outside of the church, thanks to the donations of fellow parishioners. The girls wanted to celebrate Christ's resurrection with flowers. St. Therese of Lisieux, sometimes called "the Little Flower", is the patron saint of the girl's group and they loved following this saint's example.

The girls thought that Jesus would be really happy if the dark, draped, Lenten cross was transformed into "His living garden". Parishioners were invited to add their own flowers and greenery for the Saturday Vigil Mass. The flowering of the cross very much represents how we, as a parish family, can unite in the Mystical Body of Christ. By individually placing our blooms on the cross, we slowly witness how the blooms, when united, create a beautiful symbol of Christ's resurrection and life everlasting.

Thank you for participating in this wonderful tradition of flowering the cross. Grandparents with grandchildren, elderly, young families and teenagers all come out to place their flowers. Families have shared that participating in the flowering of the cross is now their yearly Triduum tradition. What a glorious way to honor Our Lord together!

EASTER TRIDUUM: **HOLY SATURDAY VIGIL**



The faithful of St. Lawrence gathered together at the Easter Vigil to rejoice in the Resurrection of our Lord and welcome the catechumens and candidates into the fullness of the Catholic faith in the sacraments. After last year's Easter closing, it was absolutely beautiful to see so many of our parishioners back in the Church celebrating together in God's presence. The Vigil Mass began with the Easter fire. As the Pascal Candle entered the pitch black sanctuary on Saturday evening, the drama of the moment captures a deep spiritual reality. So much darkness pervades as the servers light their candles from the Paschal Candle. From there they proceeded to share their light with those on the aisle, and then from one Christian to another, the whole Church is illuminated. This moment is a reminder of how much the light of Christ can sustain us and provide for us. Let us be careful to keep the light of Christ with us and share it with those around us often. Happy Easter! He is Risen!





The Rutter children enjoy participating in the Easter Vigil Paschal Candle lighting and procession.



Deen Bosso is baptized by Fr. Steve at the Easter Vigil Mass.



Fr. Steve welcomes Pat Williamson at the Easter Vigil Mass.



Fr. Steve confirms Brittany Rogers at the Easter Vigil Mass.



Colette Barfield received her First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil Mass.



A full group of altar servers assists at the Vigil Mass to properly celebrate the Resurrection.

WHY PRAY FOR MARY'S INTERCESSION?

The Diocese of Brooklyn states that when a person is baptized they become part of the mystical body of Christ. A Christian is connected spiritually to other Christians through their baptism. Since Christianity is a communal faith, we are supposed to help each other out spiritually, as well as physically. The Bible actually tells Christians to pray for one another in James 5:16, "Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects." Praying for one another is powerful, and the prayers of a righteous person are very powerful. What human, other than the God-Man Jesus, is more righteous than Mary? She is full of grace (Luke 1:28) and blessed among women (Luke 1:42). Mary is our mother; Jesus extended her motherhood to all humanity when He was on the cross (John 19:26-27). What good mother isn't concerned with her children? Mary loves her children and prays for her children.

The Pro-Life Committee is providing two different opportunities at St. Lawrence to ask for our Mother Mary's intercession. The first one is through a spiritual bouquet. There are baskets placed by each exit where you can write your prayer intentions and they will be offered to Our Lady on Mother's Day. In addition, you can also participate by bringing a flower of thanksgiving for her motherly love and intercession on

Mother's Day and placing it in the vase located by the statue of Our Lady.

As we celebrate the gift of mothers and honor Our Blessed Mother, we also recognize that Mother's Day can be a difficult holiday for many. We hope this spiritual bouquet provides an opportunity to pray for the intentions brought to your heart by Mother's Day.

Secondly, you can help reach the goal of One Million Rosaries for unborn babies. During the weekend of May 7th, 8th, & 9th, pray at least one rosary for an end to the surgical and non-surgical killing of unborn human persons. Please be one of the individuals/families who will participate in this multi-national One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies. To register, go to www.SaintMichaelTheArchangelOrganization.org and click on the top left registration tab.

Interested in receiving legislation alerts from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops? Visit prolife@uscbb.org and keep up-to-date with current issues. Look under the tab "Issues & Actions".

Lord, you are the Creator of all things. Guide my thoughts to consider your creation in all of its majesty, beauty and holiness. Guide my heart especially to your creation of precious human life. Help me to comprehend how essential life is in your own heart. Teach me to appreciate, love and protect all human life.



Rain and dark clouds could not keep Maureen Clark from praying outside Planned Parenthood.



Three generations come together in prayer outside Planned Parenthood. What a beautiful sight! Grandmother Robyn Farrell, daughter Jessica Zdyb and granddaughter Maddie Farrell, all standing for life.

LIFE TEEN: PREPARING FOR AN AMAZING SUMMER!

Life Teen has had a beautiful Spring! The teens have grown closer to their faith, and to one another, due to continued weekly meetings. We celebrated the Risen Lord with a Resurrection Party, and just recently completed a huge step in the preparations for our summer - the SOULstice Lock In!

SOULstice is our teen-led retreat, where the high schoolers put on a retreat for the middle schoolers. During their preparations, the high schoolers reflected on their own spiritual lives, thought about what they needed as middle schoolers, and created a whole retreat with the purpose of helping middle schoolers grow closer to Jesus and their Catholic faith. At the Lock In, the retreatants practiced giving their talks, rehearsed games and activities, and spent time in prayer

to better prepare their hearts for this retreat. One highlight was getting the chance to make some homemade pasta from scratch, but everyone's favorite part was the private Mass Father Gil put on for the team, followed by a silent Holy Hour with Adoration.

Please pray for Life Teen as we continue to prepare for the SOULstice Retreat on June 18th-20th! If you have a child who will be a rising 7th to 9th grader this summer, and they would like to attend the retreat, please contact Stephen Sylvester at edge@stlawrencefairhope.com. For any Life Teen questions, please contact Kathleen King at lifeteen@stlawrencefairhope.com.



Tiziri and Brayden practice a tagliatelle recipe they'll teach at the SOULstice Retreat.



Jon and Anna show off their freshly made pasta dough.



Life Teen members listen as Beth and Stephen lead small groups.



We are all so excited for SOULstice Retreat.



Some Life Teen girls do their best to get their noodles extra thin to make the perfect noodle.



The mess was well worth the delicious hand made meal.

LIFE TEEN



May & June At A Glance

May	June
5/2 <u>Life Teen Small Groups</u> 6:30-8:30	6/2 <u>Life Teen Senior Honoring Dinner</u> We'll give our seniors lots of love as we thank them for their time in Life Teen and celebrate their future!
5/9 <u>Life Teen Small Groups</u> 6:30-8:30	6/6 <u>Sacred Heart Concert</u> 6:30-8:30 Join us down at Sacred Heart for a concert with Stephen Sylvester. We'll serve pizza and snow cones. Bring a blanket or chair to sit on!
5/16 <u>Freshmen Welcome Event!</u> Details to come!	6/9 <u>Life Teen Open Gym</u> 6:30-8:30 Stuardi Hall and the St. Lawrence Gym will be open to everyone to come hang out!
5/19 <u>Life Teen Holy Hour</u> 6:00-8:00 Come for Confession, Adoration, and open gym.	6/13 <u>Life Teen Holy Hour</u> 6:00-8:00 Come for Confession, Adoration, and open gym.
5/23 <u>Murder Mystery Party!</u> All participants are asked to RSVP by Wednesday, May 19. to get assigned a character to play to figure out who the murderer is!	6/16 <u>Life Teen Open Gym</u> 6:00-8:00
5/30 <u>Amazing Race Night!</u> 6:30-8:30 Teens will join up in teams to compete against one another in a series of activities and games.	6/18-20 <u>SOULstice!</u> The high schoolers run a retreat for the middle schoolers.
	6/20 <u>No Life Teen</u>
	6/23 <u>All Day Life Teen Movie Marathon!</u>
	6/27 <u>Life Teen Open Gym</u> 6:00-8:00
	6/30 <u>Tubing, (\$20), 10:00-2:00</u> Spend the day floating down the Styx River! Bring lunch and water.

For more details or to reach the youth director, email Kathleen King at lifeteen@stlawrencefairhope.com

St. Lawrence Catholic Church Footnotes
370 S. Section Street
Fairhope, AL 36532

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Austin Urbin
Our Lady of Guadalupe



Madison Farrell
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Gabrielle Eslava
St Michael Catholic



Virginia Sage Pryor



Joseph Croft Templeton
Fairhope High School

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO FEATURING
OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUTES IN OUR
NEWSLETTER

*St. Lawrence Seniors
from the Class of 2021*

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTO, NAME, AND HIGH SCHOOL
TO [MEDIA@STLAWRENCEFAIRHOPE.COM](mailto:media@stlawrencefairhope.com) BY
TUESDAY, MAY 18TH