

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH IN A TIME OF NEED

Even as New York State moves through successive phases of re-opening from the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, untold numbers of hardworking people are still in a place of economic insecurity. The shuttering of so many businesses and furloughing of so many employees has created record unemployment, and left huge numbers of people without a sense of financial stability.

Not surprisingly, every parish and Church institution in our Diocese has also been impacted dramatically. **For the 3 ½ months during which Masses were canceled to help mitigate the spread of the virus, our parish had no regular source of income.** Even now, with public Mass once again being celebrated in church, our attendance has been very modest, and consequently what is collected at those liturgies is minimal. To compound the financial challenge we face, a number of summer activities that would normally produce revenue for St. Lawrence are canceled, including a camp called “Destination Science” that rents the school building for several weeks, and our summer CYO program, which also generates significant income.

But God is good (and so are you!). Many of our parishioners have been amazing in their steady, uninterrupted support, even when it means sacrifice on their part. As we move into summer, **I ask that each household do what they can to sustain St. Lawrence through this extraordinarily challenging time.** For those who are not yet attending Mass in person, there are several options for practicing good stewardship on a weekly or monthly basis:

1. Those who regularly use the envelope system are asked to please **mail** your envelopes to the rectory.
2. Those who normally give cash are asked to write a check for the time being.
3. Those who do so much of their banking, bill-paying, etc. online are asked to consider using **Faith Direct**, the simple electronic means of parish support that is designed for unforeseen situations *just like this!* To register, all you need to do is go to www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code: NY234. Or simply call 1-866-507-8757. It literally takes 15 minutes to set up, and can make a huge difference in our financial wellbeing. (See the next page for more info.)
4. **The Diocese has created another innovative option: TEXT-TO-GIVE**, which requires no more than your smartphone. For all the information you need, just go to: <https://www.drvcmissionarygrowth.org/text2give> Our parish keyword is **150parishstlawrence** (See the next page for more info.)

Please give prayerful consideration to what you can give in a spirit of **trusting and generous stewardship**, and offer what’s manageable for you at this time. Consistency is the key! I’m so deeply grateful for your ongoing support, in good times and in bad.

Father Brian

Online Giving is an Answer to Our Prayers!

During this time of ongoing challenge, we depend on your steady, consistent support *more than ever*. We urge you to use “e-Giving,” which allows you to donate from your computer, smart phone or tablet. This is the time to switch! Register now to set up a recurring donation, or make a one-time gift. It’s surprisingly simple!

How e-Giving benefits you *and* our parish:

- Consistency: Your support comes to St. Lawrence with the regularity we so much need, regardless of ability to attend Mass, vacations, weather, etc.
- Convenience: Support the parish from the comfort and safety of your home with a computer or smartphone; registering will take 15 minutes!
- Simplicity: Once registered, e-Giving requires no effort, no weekly envelopes, and allows us to redirect printing and mailing costs in more worthwhile directions.

To make a donation, simply go to
<https://membership.faithdirect.net/NY234>
or simply call 1-866-507-8757

But why stop at only ONE digital option?

The Diocese of Rockville Centre has set up a second option for supporting the parish, one that may be even more attractive to those who use their cellphone for everything! “TEXT-TO-GIVE” allows you to contribute to St. Lawrence simply by texting our parish keyword to (516) 271-3338. And what is our parish keyword?

150parishstlawrence

Thank you for using whatever means you prefer to help support our parish!