

Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Corner of 7th Street & Gore Blvd.

P.O. Box 2546, Lawton, Oklahoma 73502

Phone: (580) 355-2054

Website: www.lawtoncatholic.com

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Paul Lewis, Pastor
Email: frjohnpaul@lawtoncatholic.com
Rev. Thomas Nallapatti, Assoc. Pastor
Email: frthomas@lawtoncatholic.com
Deacon Bob Quinnett
Deacon Howard Harper

RECTORY * (580) 355-2054

Address: 12 S.W. 7th Street
Lawton, OK 73501

PARISH OFFICE * (580) 355-2054

Joanne Linville, Office Manager
Michelle Benke, Secretary
Jo Ann Landoll, Records
12 S.W. 7th Street, Lawton, OK 73501
Fax: (580) 355-2055
Mailing Address: PO Box 2546
Lawton, OK 73502
Email: secretary@lawtoncatholic.com

EVANGELIZATION AND CATECHESIS

Director: Laurie Harper
Email: evangelization@lawtoncatholic.com

SAFE ENVIRONMENT * (580) 355-2054

Director: Alicia Brierton
Email: safe@lawtoncatholic.com
Hours: By Appointment Only

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Deacon Bob Quinnett
Email: DeaconBob@lawtoncatholic.com

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS *

Meets the second Tuesday of the month

ALTAR SOCIETY

Meets the second Monday of the month,
September through May only

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 8:00 am and 11:30 am
Sunday Mass: 9:45 am at our Mission,
St. Patrick Catholic Church in Walters
Daily Masses: Monday-Saturday 7:30 am
Check Mass Schedule for any changes.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Parents should call for an appointment at least three months prior to the desired date of Baptism. Parents must be registered parishioners. Please call the parish office for more information.

MARRIAGE

At least six months preparation time is required and one party must be registered in the parish. Please call the parish office to begin this preparation.

THRIFT SHOP * (580) 581-1309

Currently Open Mondays and Wednesdays Only, From 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS, COURT ST. JUDE *

Jolene Schonchin (580) 583-7556
Meets the third Saturday of the month

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY *

(580) 355-7837

Meets the first and third Tuesday of the month

LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR, FR. JOHN PAUL LEWIS

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The following article was republished in the most recent issue of the Sooner Catholic by our Archbishop, Paul Coakley. I think it is important for us to reflect upon this very important issue in our society, and open our hearts to receiving and living out this very important teaching of the Church.

Each year we have an opportunity to renew our prophetic commitment to promoting human dignity and sanctity of every life from conception to natural death. Human dignity is an endowment we receive from our Creator who creates us in his image and likeness. Though we can deface that dignity by our sinfulness, we cannot totally uproot or destroy it. It is not something we earn or can forfeit. It is not granted to us by a government but created in us by God. He alone is the Lord of life.

It is a good time to focus on an important part of our Church's prophetic moral teaching about the sanctity of life that we often overlook or question. I am referring to the death penalty.

In recent years, we have witnessed an authentic development of the Church's teaching on the use of the death penalty. In 1999, Saint John Paul II called for an end to the death penalty, which he described as "both cruel and unnecessary." In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI said, "Society's leaders should make every effort to eliminate the death penalty." In 2018, Pope Francis revised the Catechism of the Catholic Church so that henceforward it reads, "The Church teaches, in light of the Gospel, that 'the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person,' and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide" (CCC, 2267).

While the Church is coming to a clearer appreciation of the incongruity of the death penalty with our fundamental conviction about human dignity and the sanctity of every human life, other factors also are leading to a growing realization in society that the time has come to eliminate the death penalty.

Let's be clear that we do acknowledge the harm done to the victims of crime and to society at large because of heinous acts of violence. We do stand for justice. We must stand with victims of crime. However, we can protect society and punish crime without resorting to the death penalty.

The use of the death penalty only contributes to the continued coarsening of society and to the spiral of violence. Taking another life does not ultimately bring closure and peace to those who have lost a loved one through violent crime. Justice is necessary, but it is not enough. As William Shakespeare wrote, "Mercy seasons justice." Mercy perfects justice and brings healing and closure. This is the message of the Cross and Resurrection.

For many years, we have tolerated the death penalty based on our belief that it was a deterrent to crime. The facts do not bear that out. In fact, 88 percent of criminologists do not accept this assertion. The areas of the country with the highest execution rates also have the highest crime rates. Conversely, those areas of the country with the lowest execution rates also have the lowest crime rates.

There are many other factors that we should consider. While execution is final, our system is not infallible. To date, there have been 166 exonerations of death row inmates. These often have been based on DNA evidence that was not available at the time of trial. A profile of the inmates on death row and those executed show that they are disproportionately poor, people of color and those who suffer from intellectual disabilities or mental illness. Contrary to what many believe, it is far more costly to execute a criminal than to sentence that person to life without parole.

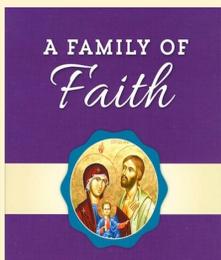
For many years, the tide of public opinion has trended away from support of the death penalty. The number of executions has declined dramatically since 1999 and an increasing number of states are doing away with it altogether. It is certainly a cause for concern that the federal government has recently decided to begin executions again for federal crimes, something that has not occurred since 1993.

I know that in Oklahoma people are generally strongly in favor of protecting the innocent unborn from the violence of abortion. It is harder for many to understand and accept with equal conviction the Church's teaching on the inadmissibility of the death penalty. But, there is consistency in our position based on the inviolable dignity of every person.

I encourage everyone to study this issue and to pray about it. Those interested in learning more will find valuable resources through the Catholic Mobilizing Network. These are available at catholicmobilizing.org.

In Christ,
Fr. John Paul

A Family of Faith



Our first Family Night is
Wednesday,
September 21st, from
6:30 pm until 8:00 pm.
All parents and children
meet together in the
Parish Hall.

World Youth Day Information Meeting

If you are interested in attending
World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal
on August 1st-6th, come to the
informational meeting on
Wednesday, **September 28th** from
6:30 pm-8:00 pm in the Parish Hall.
Father John Paul is presenting information
for those youth who would like to attend
World Youth Day.



YOUTH GROUP

you are the group

The Youth Group is not meeting this Wednesday, September 21st, so all can attend Family Night in the Parish Hall from 6:30 pm until 8:00 pm. See you next week.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST



The Knights are serving breakfast with pancakes, French toast, bacon, sausage, hot links, hash browns, scrambled eggs, biscuits, gravy, coffee and Tang on **Sunday, September 25th** **from 9:00 am until 11:00 am** in the Parish Hall.

8-12TH GRADE GIRLS

bible study

All girls in 8th-12th grade are invited to a Bible study every other Thursday.

Our first meeting will be **September 22nd from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm** on the 2nd floor of the St. Mary Building. Materials are provided, as well as, pastries/snacks.

The Fall Festival/Carnival October 1, 2022 12:00 pm-7:00 pm Parish Hall and Outdoors

Volunteers are needed to move items for the Carnival on Friday, September 30th starting at 5:30 pm for about an hour and again Saturday, October 1st beginning at 8:00 am to set up the tents and games for the Carnival.

Donations are still needed for Bingo. If you would like to donate merchandise or gift cards for a Bingo basket, please contact Letha Seibold at 580-284-1597.

The Altar Society is asking for donations of homemade cakes, pies, cookies, and other baked goods for their Cake/Pie booth. Contact Linda Benke at 580-512-3645 if you can help.

The Cake Walk is needing cakes, brownies, muffins, cookies, ect. for prizes. The items do not need to be homemade. Contact Michelle Benke at the Parish Office if you can donate to the Cake Walk.

Your donations are greatly appreciated.



SPECIAL EVENTS!

September 29th—Blue Mass for law enforcement and first responders at 6:00 pm in OKC

October 1st—Parish Festival/Carnival-Parish Hall 12:00 pm—7:00 pm

October 4th—Young Adult Mass and Social-Church 6:00 pm Mass, 7:00 Social until 9:00

October 16th—Milestone Anniversary Mass at 3:00 pm in OKC

October 22nd—Medical Mass for medical Professional at 10:00 am in OKC

October 29th-Together in Holiness Conference Series Christ the King Church, Nichols Hills, OK

February 17th—Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine Dedication

For more information about events in OKC go to archokc.org.

Welcome to *The Search* a Parish-wide Faith Study

The Search is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

Whether you're a practiced inquirer or a jaded skeptic, *The Search* will speak to you. You may be reassured by some parts, and challenged by others. Either way, you'll find a lot here to think about. And when all is said and done, life's questions demand to be answered.

Are you ready for *The Search*? [Join us for seven Sundays from Sep 18 - Oct 30, 3PM-4:30PM in the Parish Hall.](#)

Register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E45AEAB2BAAFAC61-thesearch> or contact Deacon Bob for more information at (580) 583-0271, deaconbob@lawtoncatholic.com



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
ARCHDIOCESE OF
OKLAHOMA CITY

20 ANNUAL APPEAL
22 COLECTA ANUAL

Today's responsorial psalm says,
"The Lord lifts up those who are poor."
Help Catholic Charities lift the poor, by donating to Catholic Charities' Annual Appeal at givetocc.org or you can **text "providing" to 41444** to support the Annual Appeal as you are able.

www.lawtoncatholic.com

September

Birthdays

September 19 Christopher Fuselier and Carlos Rivera

September 20 Stephen Veit

September 21 Samantha Atchley, Andrew Benke, Michael Gonzales, Angelica Hubbard, Jennifer Owens and Noah Quinnett

September 22 Geoffrey Green, Marisol Lopez, Julieta McAllister, Jeannie Meyer and Cristina Rosado

September 23 Rantz Codopony, Holden Crouch, Jeanette Goodman, Marco Ibarra, Gregory A. Jung and Christopher Moors

September 24 Clinton Busse, Jackie Campbell, Michael Glanzer, Kerry Huffer and Shania Martin

September 25 James Apriesnig, Tori Codopony, Jay Fertig, Juan Garcia, John Hammond and Dianna Quezada

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

WELCOME TO BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

We are glad you are here today!



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon." - Lk 16:8b, 13

Monday, September 19

7:30 am—No Daily Mass

10:00 am—Thrift Shop open until 2:00 pm

Tuesday, September 20

No Daily Mass

6:00 pm—St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, in Parish Hall

Wednesday, September 21

7:30 am—Daily Mass (+Daniel Conway by Angie and Angelo Tortora)

10:00 am—Thrift Shop open until 2:00 pm

6:30 pm—Family Faith Formation Family Night

6:30 pm—Rosary in Church

Thursday, September 22

7:30 am—Daily Mass (+Angela Macy and Kimberly Fisher)

6:30 pm—Holy Hour, in the church, followed by confessions until everyone in line has had an opportunity

6:30—Bible Study Girls 8th-12th Grade until 8:00 pm

Friday, September 23

7:30 am—Daily Mass (+Clara De Young by Family and Friends)

Saturday, September 24

7:30 am—Daily Mass (+Mary Ann Morrow by the Furtado Family)

3:00 pm—Confessions until 4:30 pm in the Church

5:00 pm—Mass (+Bruce Huffer by Marilyn Ketch)

Sunday, September 25

8:00 am—Mass (+John Walsh, Sr. by Florence Hergenrether)

9:45 am—Mass at St. Patrick in Walters (For the People of the Parish)

11:30 am—Bilingual Mass (For the Volunteers of St. Vincent de Paul Society and Those They Serve)

Mass Attendance September 3 and 4, 2022

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 pm had 130 in attendance.
Sunday Morning at 8:00 am had 155 in attendance.
Sunday Morning at 11:30 am had 218 in attendance.
Total Attendance 503

Daily Readings: www.usccb.org/bible/readings

www.lawtoncatholic.com

Thank You FOR GIVING GENEROUSLY

Our Weekend Mass Offerings September 3 and 4, 2022

General Fund—Envelopes & Cash	\$5,479.75
Parish Improvement Fund(464646)	\$2,334.13
General Fund Online Giving(464646)	\$1,214.91
Parish Improvement Fund—Online Giving	\$48.22
Catholic University	\$153.00

Second Collection Next Week:
St. Vincent de Paul

We want to extend our deepest thanks for your continued support. Your generous contributions help sustain our Parish.

St. Patrick Catholic Church in Walters Weekend Mass Attendance and Offerings

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Operating Fund	\$627.50
Building Fund	\$100.00
Attendance	20

If you would like to send a card or letter to our seminarian, his addresses is:

Mr. Robert Blaschke
Conception Seminary College
P.O. Box 502
Conception, MO 64433-0502