

September 20, 2026 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – Sept 19th – Vigil Mass –

5:00PM Intentions of Rex & Mariann Helfant (Helfant Family)

Sunday – Sept 20th - Mass is Streamed Live –

9:30AM Intentions of Rex & Mariann Helfant (A Friend)

Monday – Sept 21st – Weekday – St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9:00AM Edward Krankowski (Dolores Bonk)

Tuesday – Sept 22nd – Weekday –

9:00AM Erin Taylor (Dominik Angione)

Wed. – Sept 23rd - Weekday – St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

9:00AM Frieda Wojcik (Dolores Bonk)

Thurs. – Sept 24th– Weekday –

9:00AM Reading & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – Sept 25th – Weekday –

9:00AM Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Saturday – Sept 26th – Weekday – St. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs

9:00AM Harold Rick (Dolores Bonk)

Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life!

Lynda Stefanski, Peter Libasci, Joseph Bonk, Tom Trotter, Dave Blessing, Jeff Olimpo, Matt Sebastiano, Maria Middleton, Fern & John Gibson, William Merkle, Russ Funkhouser, Joseph Jones, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Andrew Schlotter, Bethany Steinberg, Joann Thaler, Julie Petry, Steven Fusco, Greg Gambino, Patrick D. Brown, Douglas Defreest, Jr., Benny LoScalzo, Steve Ombalski, Jane Burger, Ginny LaBar, Michael Gawronski, Marciano Alves Viera, Bernadette Maszczak, Shawn Kelly, Beth Collins, Nikia Helfant Messier, Anthony Libasci, Louis Cortese, Faith Marie Messier, Ann Lewis, Alvin LaBar, Emma Jones, **Bernie Boylan, Elizabeth Ohle**

Church of Saint Lawrence

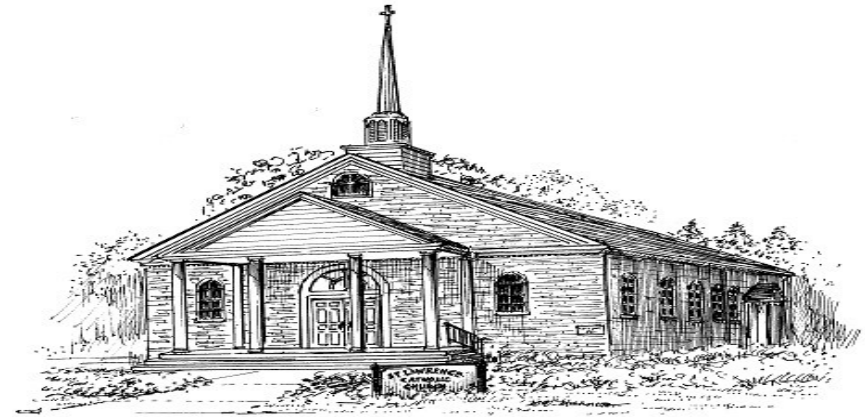
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org



Mass Schedule: Saturday Evenings @ 5PM; Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM; Holy Days @ 9AM, 12 Noon & 7PM; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday @ 9AM, Thursday Readings & Communion Distribution Only.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday @ 9:30AM – 11AM

Confessions: Saturday @ 3:30PM - 4:30PM @ Church. Via Appointment - Contact Rectory

Holy Name Society: Meets Monthly; Second Monday @ 7PM @ Ceader Hall (Sept – May)

Altar Rosary Society: Meets Monthly; Second Thursday @ 7PM (Sept – May)

Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes: Meets Monthly, First Saturday Following the 9AM Mass in Ceader Hall.

Marthas & Marys Ministry: Faith based group, meets First Friday @ 11:30AM @ Ceader Hall

Weddings: Contact Rectory for Details. Plans Preferred Minimun 6 Months in Advance.

Parish PREP Classes & New Parishoners: Contact Rectory via Phone or email.

Rectory Office: Mon-Fri @ 9:30AM – 12 noon

Pastor's Corner September 20, 2026

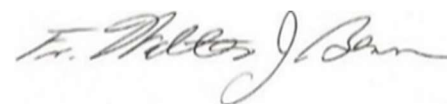
This weekend, I would like to focus on the 1st Reading, from the *Book of Isaiah*. This particular section is from the closing chapters of his Book; it covered a long, tumultuous, offensive, and violent time among the Jewish People. They and their leaders repeatedly were unfaithful to God, behaving in very offensive ways and bringing much hardship and destruction upon themselves. In the midst of all this, God had sent Isaiah and other prophets, like the Prophet Jeremiah, to confront the leaders and the people with their unfaithfulness. Life for Isaiah and these other prophets was one of constant confrontation, rejection, humiliation, isolation, and serious threats to their lives. To be sure, there was a Faithful core of Jews within the kingdom, who would be an inspiration to us as Christians; yet, life for them was no different. It culminated when Israel was defeated by the Babylonians, and Jerusalem was destroyed along with the Temple. Finally, most of the survivors of this war were deported, on foot, to Babylon for about 200 years. During those 200 years, the survivors had plenty of time to own the fact that they had brought all of this on themselves, and all because they were arrogant and ungrateful to God. Because they had behaved so terribly towards God, for so long and because they denied Him, many despaired that no amount of regret, sorrow or contrition, regardless of how genuine, would soften God's heart. Today's *1st Reading* represents God's

attempt to appeal to them not to despair. The writer of these final chapters of Isaiah's Book seeks to convince the people that God's capacity to Love is stunning; it denies reason. In God's heart, there is no wound that cannot be healed. While holding the People of Israel accountable, the writer understands the power of God's Love. "*Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, the wicked his thought; let him turn to the Lord for mercy, to our God who is generous in forgiving.*" Why? How? Could God do this? Why? How would God be willing to do this? God's explanation is in the 1st Reading's final sentence. "*As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.*"

My brothers and sisters, there is not one of us who, at some time in our lives, hasn't betrayed God's love; wasted God's Love; withheld God's Love from another, perhaps seriously. Now, as we look back on that behavior, we have regrets, and like the Israelites in Babylon, we seek not only the freedom of that person's forgiveness, but an opportunity to love God back if only He would give us another chance. The words of God quoted here were spoken over 3,000 years ago. Trust that God speaks them to each of us as much as he did then. Regardless of whether you are at Peace with Our lord, or hunger to be reconciled with Him over something in the past, read and re-read these words. Better still, dig out your

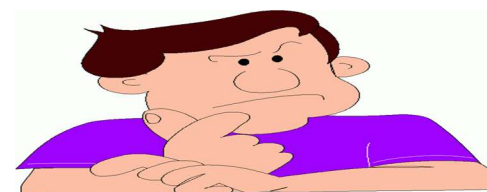
Bible and take the time to read the Book of Isaiah. Through it, God will speak to you and help liberate you from your time in your Babylon. "Seek the Lord while he may be found"

Your brother in Christ



Collections: Sept. 13th Parish @ \$2029, Candles @ \$299, Missions @ \$153, Donation @ \$500. Thank You!!

Knights of Columbus: meeting, Monday, Sept 21 @ 7:30PM @ Ceader Hall.



- 1) Why is it so easy to fall in love with a French chef?
 - 2) I am a nine-letter word that rhymes with perfection. Folks use me as another name for love. Who am I?
 - 3) Where do you take a sick boat?
 - 4) What word in the dictionary is spelled incorrectly?
 - 5) What five-letter word is pronounced the same even if you take away four of its letters?
- 1 They know how to butter you up. 2 Affection, 3 To the dock-tor, 4 Incorrectly, 5 Queue



KOC Penny Party: Wednesday, October 7 @ St. John the Baptist. Doors open 5PM. Action begins 7PM. Admission \$5 includes Coffee & Deserts. BYOB. Food, Snacks, etc. for purchase. If you never attended before....now would be a good time. Each chance to win cost only one penny and you select what you would like to win!! Purchase as many one penny chances you like increasing your chance to win. Put a group together if you like and take over a table with your friends & neighbors. What to you have to loose...just a penny:>