

September 27, 2026 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – Sept 26th – Vigil Mass –

5:00PM Gold Star Mother's Day (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Sunday – Sept 27th - Mass is Streamed Live –

9:30AM Rogelio Mendez Flores (Mendez Family)

Monday – Sept 28th – Weekday – St. Wenceslaus, Marty

9:00AM Walter Bonk (Dolores Bonk)

Tuesday – Sept 29th – Weekday – St. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

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

Wed. – Sept 30th - Weekday – St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

9:00AM Jim & Sharon Huntington (Helfant Family)

Thurs. – Oct 1st– Weekday – St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin

9:00AM Reading & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – Oct 2nd – Weekday – The Holy Guardian Angles

9:00AM Rocco & Julia Della Croce (Helfant Family)

Saturday – Oct 3rd – Weekday –

9:00AM Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

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

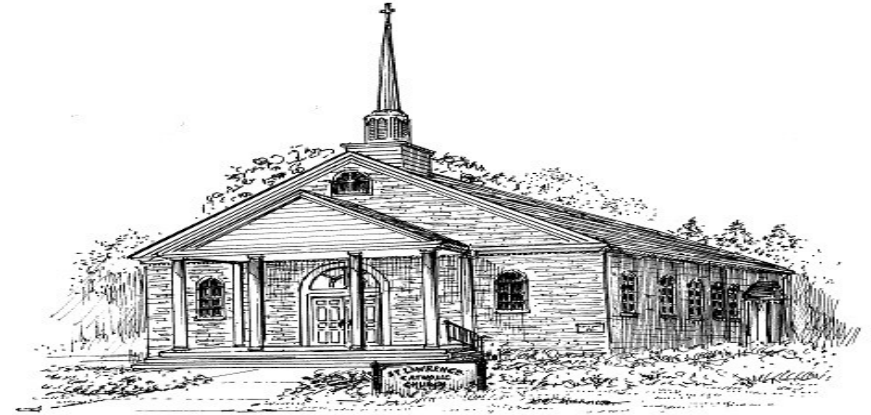
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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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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 27, 2026

After reflecting on Our Lord's parable about the two sons, whose father asks them to work on the family farm, how many of us quickly recalled the many opportunities we had to help our parents or someone else who loved us, someone who had sacrificed for us in the past and told us we wouldn't, only to regret behaving so selfishly and later return to help them? Or, how many of us didn't have the guts to say, "No, I don't want to help you; instead, we gave them the impression that we could be counted on, only to become so lazy that we came up with a lame reason to abandon them at the critical moment of their need?

The parable also exposes God as the loving Being that he has always been. Notice, in the parable, the father doesn't demand that his sons go out and work in the fields. Rather, he asks the sons to share in the responsibility of the family farm. Notice, too, the sons; they struggle with the greatest gift which God-the-Father has given us, namely, our **Free Will**. Both sons must decide if they will be true to their original character, which is to be giving like their Father, or ready to compromise when they are confronted with choices to be either selfish or selfless.

Another lesson in this parable is subtle. Notice that after the sons refuse to take responsibility for their father, the father never says anything to either son;

he has raised them to be adults. By now they should be able to recognize moments of need. By now, they should be able to choose to address that need, regardless of whether it is someone else's need or their own. Although not perfect, the first son shows he is on the right path; awkwardly, he handles his responsibility to love, and he goes out into the fields to work. Regretfully, the second son hasn't moved the *maturity needle* a bit. One hopes that his conscience will come to grips with itself by ignoring the fear of somehow becoming impoverished by loving another.

Finally, and most importantly, notice the ultimate point which Our Lord makes with the religious authorities. Of all the people in Israel, the religious authorities should have known that Israel's God was first and foremost a God of Love....a God of compassion. Like the father of the two sons, the expressions of our Father's love to us often are extended in the form of *patience*. Neither of the two sons wanted to extend themselves for their father or the family farm; they were consumed with themselves and their agenda. However, one son begins to recognize that his life is defined by how he cares for those around him. He learns that there are more important things than himself. After owning his sin, like the Prodigal Son, he **turns back** to the father, and in doing that, he loves his father. He also learns that he will never regret it. The Father's love is powerful! In the ancient world, tax collectors and prostitutes were

seen as so bad that the religious authorities believed they were beyond God's capacity to forgive or heal. Yet, Jesus insists that no fault or sin cannot be healed, even when our sins seem as serious and final as those of the tax collectors and prostitutes of Jesus time.

Every day, as God's daughters and sons, we are challenged to "*go out and work in the vineyard today*". No matter how we initially answer those moments, let us always believe that our Father is a patient and compassionate God.

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: Sept 20th Parish @ \$1446, Poor Box @ \$252, Missions @ \$5. Thank You!!

Lay Carmelite Community: meeting, Saturday, October 3rd @ 9:30AM-12Noon @ Ceader Hall

[ALTAR & ROSARY ANNUAL FALL MUM SALE](#) September 26 & 27 before & after Masses. Please support our fund raising! Thank you!



Bingo Night: Sept 26, Doors open 2 6PM, First Game @ 7PM, \$25PP with 3 cards per game, 12 games total. Additional cards for purchase available. Cash Prizes, 50/50 Raffle & more. KOC Sponsored.

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 do you have to lose...just a penny:>

Prayer for Priests: Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.