

**June 22, 2025 – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**

**Saturday – June 21<sup>st</sup> – Vigil Mass**

5:00PM Special Intention (Senior Family)

**Sunday – June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30AM: Rogelio Orgelio Mendez Flores (Mendez Family)

**Monday – June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Weekday**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Tuesday – June 24<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist**

9AM: Intentions of Eric Senior – Birthday (Senior Family)

**Wednesday – June 25<sup>th</sup> – Weekday**

9:00AM: Intentions of Nancy Courtney (Dolores Bonk)

**Thursday – June 26<sup>th</sup> – Weekday**

9:00AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – June 27<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

9:00AM: Special Intention (Ted/Janet Achuff)

**Saturday – June 28<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9:00AM Intentions of Our Neighboring Parish Members @ St. John the Baptist (WB)

**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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

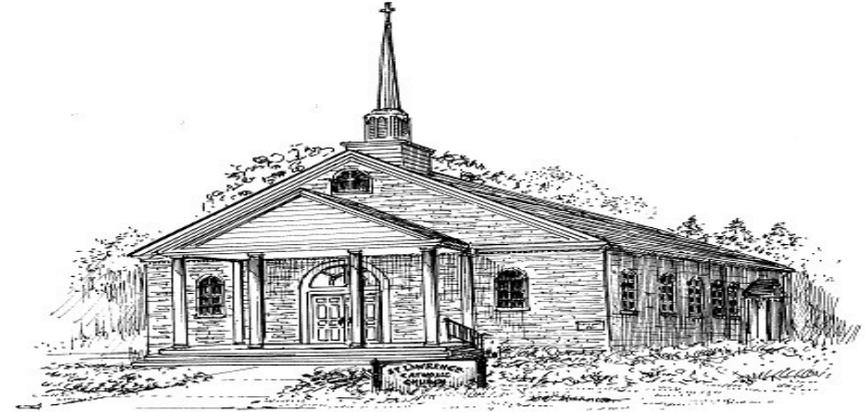
**Church of Saint Lawrence**

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

Rectory: 610-749-2684  
Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

[Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org](http://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 Thurs. @ 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! June 22, 2025

Over the last two weekends {*Memorial Day* & the *Feast of the Holy Eucharist*} the notion of **sacrifice** and the notion of **blood** have been our focus. Instinctively, most people are uncomfortable with the experiences behind these two events; virtually no one likes the sight of blood, and the notion of **sacrifice** carries with it a sense of loss. Yet, the great irony is that Christians, especially those who believe in the sacrament of the Eucharist, understand it in just the opposite way. For true Christians, the example of Our Lord's choice to accept the bloody sacrifice on Calvary centers our conscience. "He did that for me?" He did that for everyone, in the hopes that at least some of them would come to believe how much the Father loves them and is anxious for them to turn from their sinful ways and toward Him. In our spirituality, **sacrifice** is the ultimate gesture of love. Over the last 2,000+ years, how many millions of people have been so inspired to make similar choices, choices that involved the sacrificing of our time, our treasure, our blood, our life for the betterment of another? While we would never deny the pain of making a sacrifice for another, it is God's promise that He not only has the power to reverse

one's loss, but He has the Love to replace that loss on a scale we can't imagine.

Four weeks ago, we celebrated Memorial Day. On that weekend, we highlighted the obvious sacrifices of millions of men and women in the Armed Services who made those choices over the last two centuries. However, there are others who have made decisions to sacrifice themselves for the sake of others, many of them not as high-profile, but fueled with just as much love and conviction: police officers, firefighters, the courageous neighbor who confronts members of gangs in their neighborhood, the child or relative who confronts a violent parent/in-law where domestic violence occurs. It might not involve the spilling of blood, but certainly involves the breaking of hearts, namely, those who have stood up and alone to oppose things that were wrong, things that everyone else did not have the courage to call out. These sisters and brothers paid for it with their careers, their standing in their family, among their friends, in their political party, and it pains me to say it, sometimes within the Church, which we love so much. Then, there are those women, who are confronted with a pregnancy they did not want or expect. Perhaps it was a pregnancy involving a baby that had no

chance of survival, or who could contribute to its mother's death. Those women were and are under tremendous pressure from those around them, sometimes including their doctors, to "terminate" the pregnancy. Yet, like St Gianna Molla who embraced her child and all of the unknown experiences that would be a part of their future, these mothers accepted their risks. Perhaps these examples will help us put our own experiences into perspective each time we celebrate the Eucharist. When confronted with terrible choices, which will involve personal sacrifice on our part, can we follow the example of Our Lord by embracing our Cross and walking that stony road to Calvary? Even though we feel completely alone, will we trust that the Father will be with us just as much as He was with His son on Good Friday? Is our faith strong enough and heart big enough to believe that whatever our Calvary, the Father will make certain that it concludes with an Easter experience? This is the reason why we need to seek out Our Lord in the Eucharist each Sabbath; when we do, we give Him a chance to be our partner in any Calvary experience we choose to embrace. Your brother in Christ,



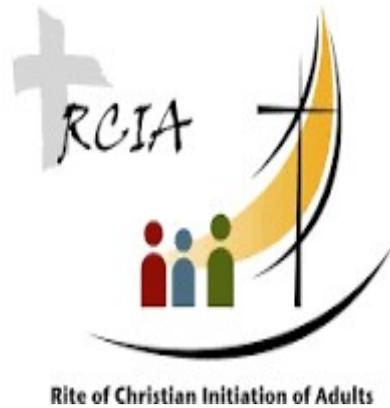
**Collections:** June 15<sup>th</sup> Parish @ \$2303, Peter's Pence @ \$175, Mother's Day Pro Life Flowers @ \$115. Thank You.



**Annual Parish Dinner:** Tuesday, June 24 @ LaBella Via, 41 Third St., Phillipsburg, NJ. Cost \$20pp payable to: "The Holy Name Society", cash bar, soft drinks provided. RSVP by June 15. Forms in vestibule of Church.



**Taco Night** @ Ceader Hall: Saturday, June 28 following the 5PM Mass. All invited.



People from all walks of life, background and education have participated in RCIA. Every candidate starts out on the same level, regardless of whether they come from an active religious background in another tradition or are a person who doesn't know the first thing about Jesus Christ. It is very important that one participates in the entire program. Because of this, no one will be accepted into the program after **September 20, 2025**. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Benn so that he can assist you in making this decision. You can reach him through the Parish Office [610] 749-2684 or e mail him through the Parish Office at [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net). A brief description of what an RCIA program is all about, along with the **2025-26 schedule** of classes can be found on **orange** hand-outs in the vestibule of the church. N.B. If you know of a person who is interested in pursuing participation in St. Lawrence's RCIA program but feel that their personal schedule won't be able to accommodate the program's schedule, please encourage them to contact Fr. Benn; we will do our best to work something out.

### **Who wants to become a Catholic?**

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Catholic, St. Lawrence Parish has just what you need: "RCIA" {*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*}. This is also a program for those who were baptized as a Catholic, but never received any formation in the Faith; another words, they have never received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation or participated in the sacrament of Reconciliation. St. Lawrence's RCIA program runs from **September 9, 2025 to March 31, 2026**. With the exception of holidays & foul weather, classes are every Tuesday evening, 7-8 PM. The classes are conducted in the Ceader Hall [beneath the church]. All materials are provided.