

February 15, 2026 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – Feb 14th – Vigil Mass

5:00PM All Suffering Hunger & Severe Cold (Fr. Benn)

Sunday – Feb 15th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM All Suffering Hunger & Severe Cold (Fr. Benn)

Monday – Feb 16th – Weekday –

9:00AM Gerry Primavera (Angione Family)

Tuesday – Feb 17th – Weekday – The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

9:00AM Joseph Papiernik (Dolores Bonk)

Wed. – Feb 18th – Weekday – Ash Wednesday – Holy Day of Obligation

9:00AM Intentions of Joseph Papiernik, Jr. (Dolores Bonk)
12 Noon: Fr. Joseph Henery, Pastor, Deceased (Tom Labant)
7PM: Intentions of Christine Arbour (Dolores Bonk)

Thurs. – Feb 19th – Weekday –

9:00AM Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – Feb 20th – Weekday –

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

Saturday – Feb 21st – Weekday – St. Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9:00AM Intentions of Bernie Boylan (Senior 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**

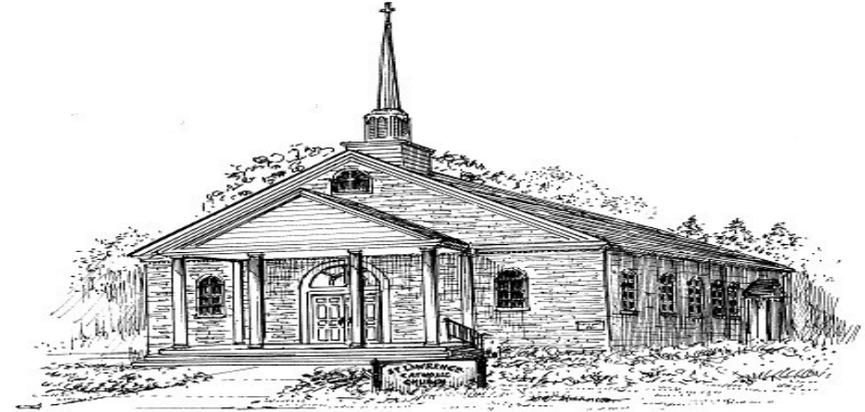
Church of Saint Lawrence

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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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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 Minimum 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 February 15, 2026

All three of today's Scripture Readings reference the fact that the Wisdom of God is much greater than we can ever hope to understand, when we are first asked to embrace it. It is humbling, but compared to God, our capacity to appreciate the goodness behind those values is lost, simply because we have not had a fingernail's worth of the life-experiences which are behind that wisdom; we are truly children. Initially, our response must be to **trust**...to trust that our parents would not ask certain difficult things of us, if they weren't for our own good. Our parents wanted not only what was good for us in the short-term, but they also wanted us to cultivate values that in the years to come would lead to true happiness. They were at a disadvantage because they had no way of conveying the *experiences* (both Good and Bad; what helps us to be whole vs what wounds) that they have had. They could only appeal to us that they wouldn't ask these things of us if it weren't serious, for our own good, and because above all they loved us. We, on the other hand were at a disadvantage because we had never personally experienced or witnessed the terrible wounds that they were trying to protect us from; failure to do this, would result in serious harm to ourselves, as well as to those involved in our lives.

As we reflect on each of these Readings, we can sense the urgency behind God's words and we can see the same

dynamic in play, particularly in His reference to the 10 Commandments. The Israelites are emerging from 400 years of slavery in a very pagan world. They don't know it yet, but through them, God intends to introduce to the peoples of the ancient worlds *Morals* and what is involved in a love relationship. But at that moment in their history, they were spiritual children. They didn't have a clue of the moral sophistication which God would lead them to, and which the World would need to learn from them. In time, they would become the world's moral parents. But, when God started out, like all parents trying to teach their children right from wrong, good from bad, God needed to keep things simple; so, He gives them ten basic values. Like our parents did with us, God's intention was to ween them on to more and more special food, but that would take time, which wasn't a bad thing. It would take time for the Israelites to understand that there is the *Letter of the Law*, and then there is what spiritual adults should live by the *Spirit of the Law*. The 5th Commandment is a good example. One does not live the 5th Commandment by just not killing someone. One lives the 5th Commandment when we choose not to kill someone by gossiping about them or by humiliating them in front of others, or by condoning any form of bigotry, racism or bias towards them or about them. **Sarcasm** is a subtle failure to live the 5th Commandment and God's call to love those in our lives. Sarcasm is intended to change a person impression about another in a destructive way.

So, my sisters and brothers, let us reflect on these spiritual *Facts of Eternal Life*, which are referenced by the *Prophet Sirach*, *St. Paul and Our Lord*. Let us be encouraged by the fact that hundreds of generations of the world's people, from the time of Moses, through the life of Our Lord including those who chose to follow him, and on to our present generation have come into the world as spiritual children; were offered the opportunity by God, through their parents and others, the same opportunity, which at first didn't seem very important, necessary or urgent, but which over time has proven itself by its presence or absence in the world's people. Each day, as our divine parent, God asks us to make that choice to trust in His Way! Your brother in Christ,



Collections: February 8 Parish @ \$2599, catholic Charities @ \$82, Fuel @ \$5, Aging Priests @ \$30, Catholic relief @ \$5 Thank You.

The Lord's Pantry: Thank you expressed for the 205 lbs. of food donated October-December 2025. You continued support servers ~ 300 low-income families in our area.

Religious Education Financial Assistance: forms available in vestibule for Fall 2025 & Spring 2026. Provided by the Ceader Trust Trustees. Time sensitive, act now. Deadline March 1, 2026.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2026 begins **February 21-22**. In-pew donation envelopes will be available. Please remember to make checks payable to: Catholic Charities Appeal, not St. Lawrence.

Lenten & Easter Season + Abstinence Schedule in bulletin insert + available in vestibule.

Lenten Soup Supper: every Friday of Lent from 6PM to 7PM prior to Stations of the Cross.

Confessions: in addition to our regular schedule on Saturdays @ 3:30PM – 4:30PM; also, during Lent immediately following Stations of the Cross and a Special Evening Confessions Wed., April 1 @7PM-8PM.



Night at the Races: will be held on Saturday, February 28th. Doors open @ 6PM with races starting @ 7PM. This is a family friendly event open to everyone. Consider inviting friends, family & neighbors. Donations of door prizes & backed goods are appreciated. Horses available for purchase @ \$10 each with a 1 in 10 chance of winning \$50. Thank you for supporting this annual Holy Name Fund Raiser providing a helpful hand to those in need throughout our Parish Community.