

# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

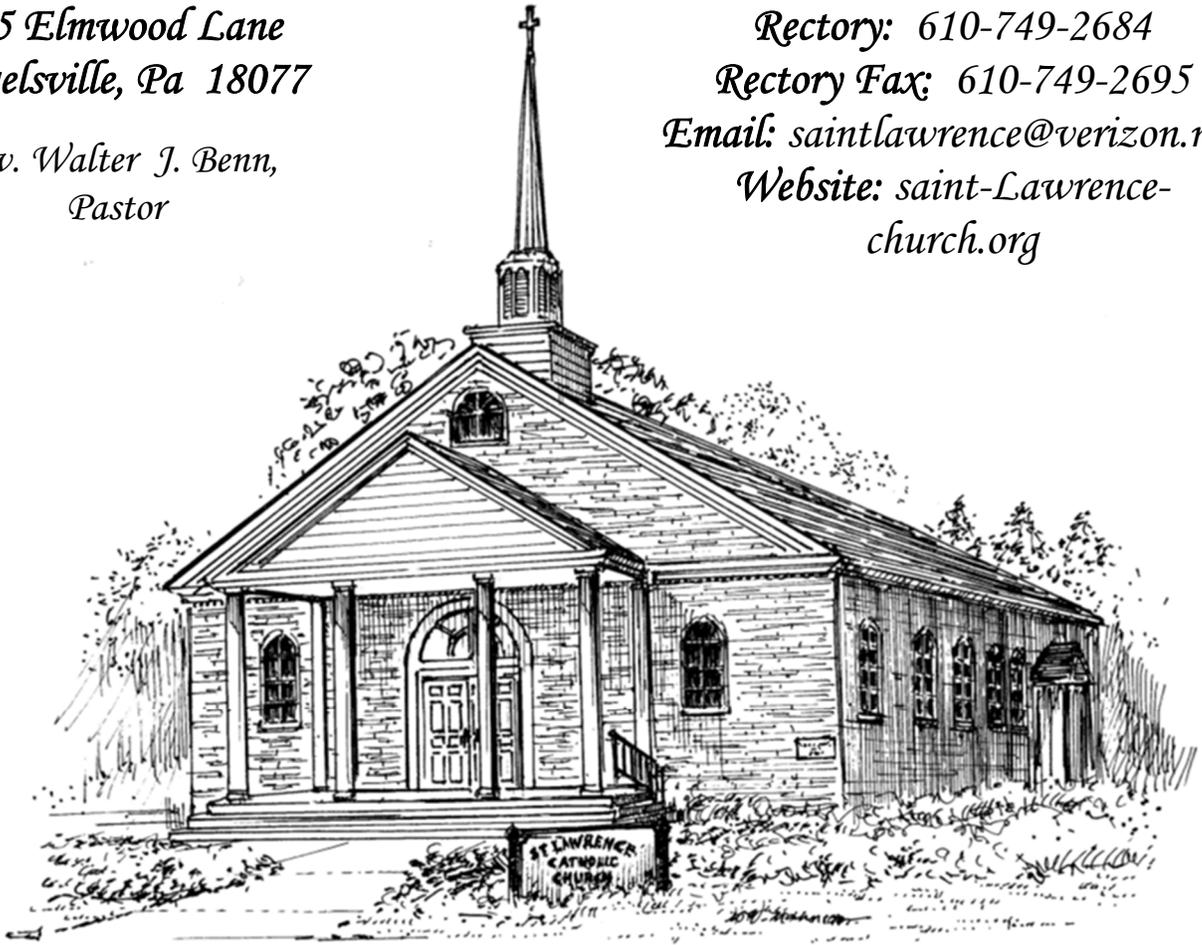
Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695

Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

Website: [saint-Lawrence-church.org](http://saint-Lawrence-church.org)



## Mass Schedule

Saturday Evenings @ 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Morning @ 9:30 a.m.  
Holy Days @ 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat. @ 9AM  
Thurs, 9AM No Mass, Communion Distribution Only

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesdays 9:30AM to 11AM.

## Confessions

Saturday 3:30pm to 4:30pm  
Or by appointment other days/time. Contact Rectory

## Holy Name Society

Meets second Monday of the month (Sept-May) at 7:00 p.m.

## Altar & Rosary Society

Meets second Thursday of the month (Sept-May) 7:00p.m.

## Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes

Meets First Saturday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

## Parish Registration

We welcome all new members to our Parish family. Please register when you move into the parish. Please notify us if you are moving.

## Weddings

Couples are asked to contact the Rectory and make arrangements at least six months prior to their intended

## Catholic Elementary School

Children may attend Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist School, Ottsville; for further information call: 610-847-5523.

## Parish PREP Classes

Parish children attending public or private school, may receive Catholic Faith instructions via our Parish Religious Edu. Program. Morning instructions one week during the summer (8/16-8/20/21 for the 2021-2022 year. Also required is attendance at one Sunday per month session 10:30AM-12PM, October-April. Open registration published in bulletin & posted on Parish Wb site.

## Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m. to Noon

## Pastor's Corner! July 11, 2021

In today's 1<sup>st</sup> reading {Book of the Prophet Amos} and in the Gospel, we hear stories of *send-ing*. Amos is a person called by God to do something he feels totally unqualified for and totally out of place. Amos is a shepherd; he's an uneducated man; he has absolutely no training in theology, and worst of all, he is from the Southern Kingdom of Juda. Yet, God calls this man who has no credentials to confront the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel with their unfaithfulness. That is like asking a non-sport person from Dallas to travel to Philadelphia and lecture Eagles fans on why their team "are losers". Trust me, the leaders & people of the Israel {Northern Kingdom} didn't just Boooo Amos after he spoke to them. I am sure that before Amos got through the front door of his home as he began his journey, he was convinced that this was a very bad and doomed idea. Yet, because Amos is a man of deep faith, he is faithful to God's request.

In today's Gospel, we hear how "Jesus summons the Twelve and began to send them out two by two, giving them authority over unclean spirits." In the background of these stories is the reality that there are people in the world who are receptive to God, and flawed as they might be, do their best to be faithful to Him. Then, there are other peoples who drift away from God or flat out reject Him. Not discouraged by their unfaithfulness, God perseveres in reaching out to them through their peers. Some respond to these gestures of love from God and turn back to Him; others, regrettably, reject Him. It is one of the basic cycles in life which will conclude when we reach life's final stage, Eternity. It is important that we notice in these stories, that God employs mankind to assist Him in gathering His scattered sheep. He uses both the laity and in the case of the Apostles, the future clergy. All are called to share in the responsibility of gathering the sheep into one flock. On the surface, neither Amos nor the Twelve appear qualified for this task. Nevertheless, in the spirit of last week's *Parable of the Mustard Seed*, we see that credentials are not an issue for God. What is critical for God is that Amos, Peter, James, John, et al have the love of God in their hearts. For God, their knowledge of theology or the level of their education is so much Mustard Seed. It is important that we not miss God's message to you and me in these readings. Each of us have a responsibility to invite those in

our lives to turn to God; to recognize that He has been inviting them into a relationship with Him. Sometimes that takes the form of an *invitation* such as the Twelve exercised; sometimes it takes the form of humble *correction* as we see in the Prophet Amos. I suspect that, like Amos, most of us feel ill-equipped, unworthy or even hypocritical accepting God's request. It might sound harsh, but the fact of the matter is that in God's mind that's not good enough. In God's wisdom, He sees some of His children self-destructing, and He knows that they might change if only their peers speak for Him. So, my sisters and brothers, let us always keep this responsibility in mind when family, friends or even our Countrymen need to be challenged to be honest about themselves, their priorities and their choices. Like Amos, we must always ask God for the wisdom of what to say, the courage to speak it, the faith to trust that he will protect our hearts as we go about his work inviting the spiritually wounded among us to allow Him access to their hearts. You might find it unnerving, but as sure as God made cicadas, He has also *sent* you into the lives and hearts of the people in your life.

Your Brother in Christ,



### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Does the scene of the disciples being sent out two by two bring to mind any other scripture? After the flood, Noah opens the door of the ark and sends his passengers out to renew the face of the earth. Certainly, Jesus has the same purpose. The purpose is fulfilled in your communion in the Body of Christ today, and in your being sent from the Eucharist into the world. The sending is so important that our word "Mass" derives from it. In Latin, the last words of worship are *Ite, missa est*, which means "Go, you are sent." From that, people began to call Catholic worship the *missa*, or in English, the "Mass." Our English words dismissal, missal, emissary, and mission are all related. We are not sent into the workaday world alone, but in relationship to one another.

Some people have acquired the unhappy habit of leaving worship as soon as they receive Communion and therefore miss the prayer, the dismissal, and the solemn blessing that are essential parts of the Mass. The dismissal is a seal on our Communion and reveals its purpose. Thanks be to God!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

**Collections:** July 4 Parish @ \$2272, Campaign for Human Development @ \$106, In Memory of Matteo Sebastiano @ \$75. Thank you.

**Holy Name Society Meeting:** Monday, July 12 in Cedar Hall @ 7PM.

**CCD - Prep 2021-2022: LAST CHANCE** registration forms are available in the vestibule for the upcoming sessions. Posted on Parish web site. **Deadline was July 2nd**

### **Saturday Summer Dinners!**

They're back! With the lifting of Covid restrictions, we have decided to return to our *Saturday Summer Dinners!* Here's the remaining 2021 schedule: **7/31/21** and **8/28/21**. All dinners begin following the conclusion of the Saturday Vigil Mass. All will be BYOB. There will be no charge. Although free-will offerings will be accepted. Details will follow shortly. It's been a long time since we have been able to gather in a relaxed setting; we hope you can attend!

**Special Mass: Year of St. Joseph.** Mass will be celebrated @ **7PM on 8/2, 9/6, 10/4, 11/2/21** in Honor of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In addition to the 9AM Weekday Mass.

### **Pope Francis Proclaims Holy Year to St. Joseph**

On the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope Pius XI's proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church, Pope Francis declared a Holy Year dedicated to St. Joseph 12/8/20 to 12/8/21.

**Prayer:** Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer > Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary > To you God entrusted His only Son > in you Mary placed her trust > with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too > show yourself a father > and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us, grace, mercy and courage > and defend us from every evil.

**EGiving:** does not replace what you currently do. It merely provides an additional option. To E Give go to: <https://thecfgp.org/donate/st-lawrence-parish-riegelsville> which takes you directly to the donation page. Click on Donate under Parish Support Initiative. Select/enter your \$ amount to be donated. Enter your credit/debit card info and submit. There are no fees charged to donator. There is also a link on our Parish web site.

**New Parishioners –WELCOME!!** No need to feel shy. We are happy you are here. To register Please contact Fr. Benn via Parish office 610-749-2684 or email: [saint-lawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saint-lawrence@verizon.net) to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

## **July 11, 2021 - Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday - July 10th -**

**Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm**

5PM: Russel Funkhouser (Funkhouser Family)

**Sunday - July 11th - *Mass is Streamed Live***

9:30AM Matteo Sebastiano (Anna Fusco)

**Monday - July 12th – Weekday**

9AM: Peter Hudec (Ann Lewis)

**Tuesday - July 13th - St. Henry**

9AM: Julia Ferguson (Jones Family)

**Wednesday - July 14th – St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin**

***Exposition of Blessed Sacrament***

9AM: Irene Pavlica (Dave/Mary Blessing)

**Thursday - July 15th - St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution

**Friday - July 16th - Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

9AM: Intentions of Mary Gambino - Birthday (Lay Carmelite Community)

**Saturday - July 17th - Weekday**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

### **INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION**

God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us.

—St. Augustine

### **UNFINISHED MISSION**

Here's a simple test to find out whether your mission on earth is finished: If you're alive, it isn't.

***Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life!*** Tom Trotter IV, John Sonder, Dave Blessing, Jeff Olimpo, Matt Sebastiano, Maria Middleton, Virginia Lohmeyer, Fern & John Gibson, William Merkle, Barbara and Ells Cheeseman, Julie Petry, Eve Zelle, Steven Fusco, Russ & Ann Funkhouser, Joseph Jones, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Andrew Schlotter, Bethany Steinberg, MaryLou VonDohlen, Lucy Herman, Mary Ann & Roger Brahler, Sue & Beach Wires, Joann Thaler

INFORMATION SHEET

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Special instructions: Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684  
Or email [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

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