

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

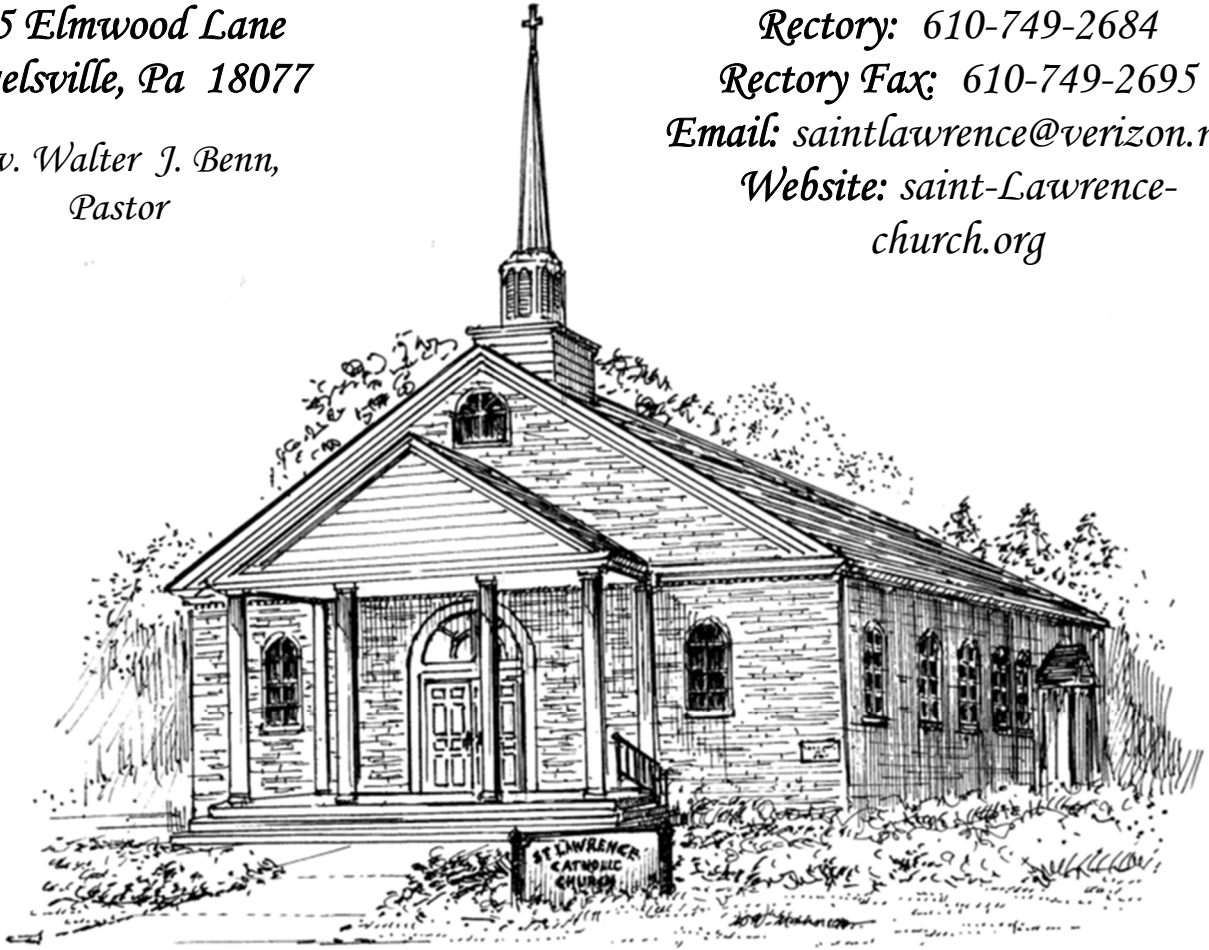
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

Website: 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 on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall from October to May. Registration is published in the Parish Bulletin.

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Pastor's Corner! April 26, 2020

Today, I would like to focus on this weekend's 1st Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. It takes place weeks after the Resurrection and the Pentecost experience, when Our Lord returned to his followers in the form of the Holy Spirit. Do you notice the difference in the Apostles? Night and Day, right? They have moved from being men frozen with fear, guilt and shame, to dynamos who boldly go to the very places they were terrified to visit, lest, and speak openly, confidently and joyfully about Jesus Christ. What do you think brought about this difference in the Apostles? The stock explanation is that "they received the Holy Spirit"; "that the Holy Spirit descended upon them." That's true, but such expressions make it sound as if they didn't have any choice in the matter, or that they were ambushed by the Holy Spirit, as if they didn't have a chance to get out of the way. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Apostles [and the other followers of Our Lord] received the Holy Spirit for two reasons. #1 In humility, they admitted to themselves their short-comings; that they would never ever be capable of doing the slightest good until they tossed overboard their pride and all of the baggage that was entangled with it; this would take place during their time in the Upper Room. #2 Once they made a completely empty space within their hearts & souls; they needed to invite Our Lord in to remake it, which would take place on Pentecost Sunday. Many things needed to be brought to bear for them to do this, but I believe the two most important things they needed to exercise were **Courage** and **Humility**. Until they exercised these two powerful virtues, they would remain their own worst enemies. Once they did, Jesus's love would literally wash over them, and they in turn would be agents of Christ grace that could wash over everyone, including, every threatening and seemingly impossible situation they would be drawn into.

Today's 1st Reading is a prime example of it. Peter, along with the Eleven, stands up to confront their brother & sister Jews, for their resistance and refusal to see Jesus as the Son of God. As happens frequently, when one is confronted with their faults, his words must have stung them to the bone. He does not do this out of anger or self-righteousness; rather, he does this out of love. Surely, he sees in them himself from only a few weeks before. Surely, he understands that they need the same act of love on his part, as he needed after he denied the Lord.....3x's! It is not included in this Reading, but on that occasion, thousands respond to his challenge.

There are a number of things that we must take from Peter's act of love. #1 We will never grow close to Our Lord if we continue to make excuses for our weaknesses and faults. #2 Contrary to what our guts tell us, we won't die when we choose to become transparent before the Lord; actually, Our Lord will unburden us and we will know a kind of clarity & joy, we never thought possible. #3 As a person so loved, we must become an agent of such freedom and Divine Love. We must have the confidence that regardless of how hostile or misunderstood our efforts to draw others towards Our Lord, we have an obligation to offer it to them, and never withhold it from them. So often, Christians see their discipleship as a "personal thing", which infers that no one has the right to interfere with their version of Discipleship. Wrong! There is only one version of Discipleship and that is defined by Our Lord, not us. To those, who disagree with this, I would refer them to the Holy Thursday Apostles. To those who agree, I would refer them to the post-Pentecost Apostles of this morning's 1st Reading. No doubt, each of us are frightened and discouraged because we see only the Holy Thursday Peter in ourselves. Fear not! Just like Peter, we are a work in progress and our Lord will be as patient and compassionate with each of us, as he was with the Peter and the Apostles. We need only to imitate Peter and the Apostles, by giving him our willingness to be **courageous** and to be **humble**. Can each of us say that we do?

Your brother in Christ,



Live Streaming

the Celebration of Mass - St Lawrence,

Riegelsville: Go to our website: see photo in upper left hand corner> click on the smaller photo> select videos in left hand column> select the date/event you want. Video will begin to play.

Remember to visit the Archdiocese of Philadelphia Web site and CatholicPhilly.com



Collections: *We need your continued financial support. Mail to or put in Rectory door mail slot.*
To be posted @ later date: April 19 Parish @ \$, and Easter+ @ \$

Special Collection Good Friday: supporting Shrines in the Holy Land has be moved to Sept 12-13 do to the non public celebration of Mass.

Mass Intentions: Fr. Benn will be privately celebrating Mass throughout the week and all Mass intentions will be honored as previously scheduled.

Confessions: contact Fr. Benn @ rectory or via email to make arrangements.

Parish Web Site: is working; however still under construction. Make a visit & be patient:>

Parish email blast: “Official” blasts have been sent with Parish content. If you are not receiving it means we don’t have your email address. Send to us via email to saintlawrence@verizon.net and we will copy/paste into our data base. Thank you.

Parish Social Activities: ALL activities are suspended till further notice. Will keep you posted. Check out the Parish web site at saint-Lawrence-church.org Keep in mind we are still under construction so there may be a glitch or two:> Thank you.

Reciting the Rosary: suspended till further notice. Suggested you say at home. The Rosary is said every Monday starting @ 8:40AM prior to the 9AM Mass. All are welcome to join in when you arrive.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2020: *Make checks payable to Catholic Charities Appeal not St. Lawrence.* Thank you.

CatholicPhilly.com is the official news website of Archdiocese of Phila. Sign up for free bi-weekly emailed newsletters or just visit the web for Catholic happenings & current events.

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: saintlawrence@verizon.net to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

April 26, 2020 - Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday - April 25th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: No Public Mass

Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Sunday - April 26th -

9:30AM: No Public Mass - William Currie

(Sebastiano Family)

Monday - April 27th – Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

Tuesday - April 28th - St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest

9AM: No Public Mass - Steve Salva (Culichia Family)

Wednesday - April 29th – St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Postponed

9:00AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

Thursday - April 30th - St. Pius V, Pope

9AM: No Public Mass or Readings & Communion

Friday - May 1st - St. Joseph the Worker

9AM: No Public Mass - Intentions of Rex Helfant (Lay Carmelite Community)

Saturday - May 2nd - St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9AM: No Public Mass - Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Lectors, Altar Servers & Extraordinary Ministers: no assignments till future notice.

Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life! 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, Bill Chabot, Bethany Steinberg, MaryLou VonDohlen, Lucy Herman, Mary Ann & Roger Brahler, Mel Dion, Fran Reavey, Sue & Beach Wires, Joann Thaler

INFORMATION SHEET

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St. Lawrence

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Special instructions:

Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684
Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net