

# *Church of Saint Lawrence*

*345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077*

*Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor*

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## **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! August 29, 2021

This weekend's 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, focuses on one of the most essential moments in Salvation History, that is when God entered into His Covenant with the People of Israel, and ultimately, with all of humanity. It becomes the template upon which humanity will be in relationship with God. Like all initial covenants, it establishes the basic foundation of humanity's relationship with God, and he with humanity. It doesn't go into the details; that would come later. Through the Ten Commandments, God communicates to them his expectations what is expected of those who accept being His *Chosen People*. "*In your observance of the Commandments of the Lord, your God, which I enjoin on you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations...*" From that moment on, through the centuries the ancient Jews would center their lives on the Commandments and as well as the hundreds of sub-laws which religious leaders such as the Pharisees & Sadducees would extrapolate from them. By the time of Our Lord's ministry, the interpretation of these laws by many of Israel's religious leaders had become inflexible and often characterized as being legalistic. The spirit of God's love, which had always been within the Commandments was lost. Now, the religious laws of Israel were becoming a burden to the people, especially to those who were flawed; who had sinned and were deemed imperfect. They were offered no hope of being reconciled to a compassionate God. Their recourse to resolve their broken relationship with God was a legal one, not a spiritual one. Consequently, the people suffered because of it. That is why, in today's Gospel, we witness Our Lord's outrage over their hypocrisy. They criticize Our Lord, because his disciples failed to observe a religious law dealing with the required ritual purification of washing one's hands before eating a meal. In their arrogance, the Pharisees and scribes refused to recognize the essential goodness of Jesus' disciples because they failed to wash their hands. The essential goodness of Jesus' disciples as faithful and faith-filled Jews was ignored and denied. Technically.....legally, the Pharisees were correct, but they refused to include within their spiritual equation God's love which is also a part of each of His laws.

My brothers & sisters, the religious teachings behind our laws are important; through His Holy Spirit, God gives them to us as a framework within which we begin to love God back in our daily lives. Notice, that most of them involve how we

treat others. Our lives are to reflect as much the *Spirit* of God's love, as they do the *Letter* of those laws. It is a balancing act, which is not always easy to do; yet, it is important that we embrace them and live them with a combination of humility, courage and honesty. Above all, God's compassion should be easily recognized by all as we strive to live them in our personal and public lives.

Your brother in Christ,



### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Labor Day originated in 1882 in New York City under the aegis of the Knights of Labor. Congress made it a legal holiday in 1894. Observing it this week gives us a good opportunity to reflect on the Catholic Church's social teachings for the last century or so. On May 15, 1891, Pope Leo XIII issued the encyclical *Rerum Novarum* on the condition of the working classes and labor. In doing so, he initiated a century in which Catholic teaching became more and more involved in the social issues of the day.

Unfortunately relegated to the shadows while the bright lights of controversy shine on other issues, Catholic social teaching remains largely unknown to many Catholics. It is the Catholic Church that championed such notions as a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and continues to uphold the dignity of the human person against attacks from governments and corporations. Nearly every pope since Leo XIII has issued teachings on the subject. Take some time this Labor Day to familiarize yourself with some aspect of the Church's social teachings. In doing so, you will be taking responsibility as a member of the Body of Christ to commit yourself to the care of your neighbor.

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

### **STOP THE FLYING**

A flying rumor never has any trouble making a landing.

### **THE VALUE OF LABOR**

Heaven is blessed with perfect rest but the blessing of earth is toil.

—Henry Van Dyke

**Collections:** Aug 22nd Parish @ \$1432, Catholic Foundation @ \$920.56, Air Conditioning @ \$147  
Thank you.

**Special Collection:** Black and Indian Missions,  
Sept. 4th & 5th

**Coffee and Donuts:** Sept 12th following the  
9:30AM Mass. All are invited to this free activity.

**Saturday Summer Dinners Last One Tonight**

Our last scheduled dinner is **8/28/21**. Dinner begins following the conclusion of the Saturday Vigil Mass. All will be BYOB. There is no charge. Free-will offerings are accepted. Hope you can make it!!

**March for Life:** in Harrisburg, PA with Knights of Columbus; bus trip departing from @ St. John the Baptist, Ottsville. Sign up sheets in vestibule. Cost dependent upon level of response.



**Special Mass:** *Year of St. Joseph.* Mass will be celebrated @ **7PM 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.



**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.

**August 29, 2021 - Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday - August 28th -**

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

5PM: John Scobo (Jan & Sharon Powell)

**Sunday - August 29th - *Mass is Streamed Live***

9:30: Intentions of Jeanette Talese (Dolores Bonk)

**Monday - August 30th – Weekday**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Tuesday - August 31st - Weekday**

9AM: Protection of the Unborn - Pro Life

**Wednesday - Sept. 1st – World Day of Prayer**

**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

9AM: Intentions of Ann Lewis - Birthday  
(Lay Carmelite Community)

**Thursday - Sept. 2nd - Weekday**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution

**Friday - Sept 3rd - St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Blessings for All Married Couples

**Saturday - Sept. 4th - Weekday**

9AM: Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

**Summer Dinner: Saturday, August 28**

**CARE OF CREATION**

The Church has a responsibility towards creation and she must assert this responsibility in the public sphere.

—Pope Benedict XVI

**Pleasing People**

You can please some people all the time; and all people some of the time; but not all people all the time.

***Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life!*** Tom TrotterIV, John Sonder, Dave Blessing, Jeff Olimpo, Matt Sebastian, 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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