

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

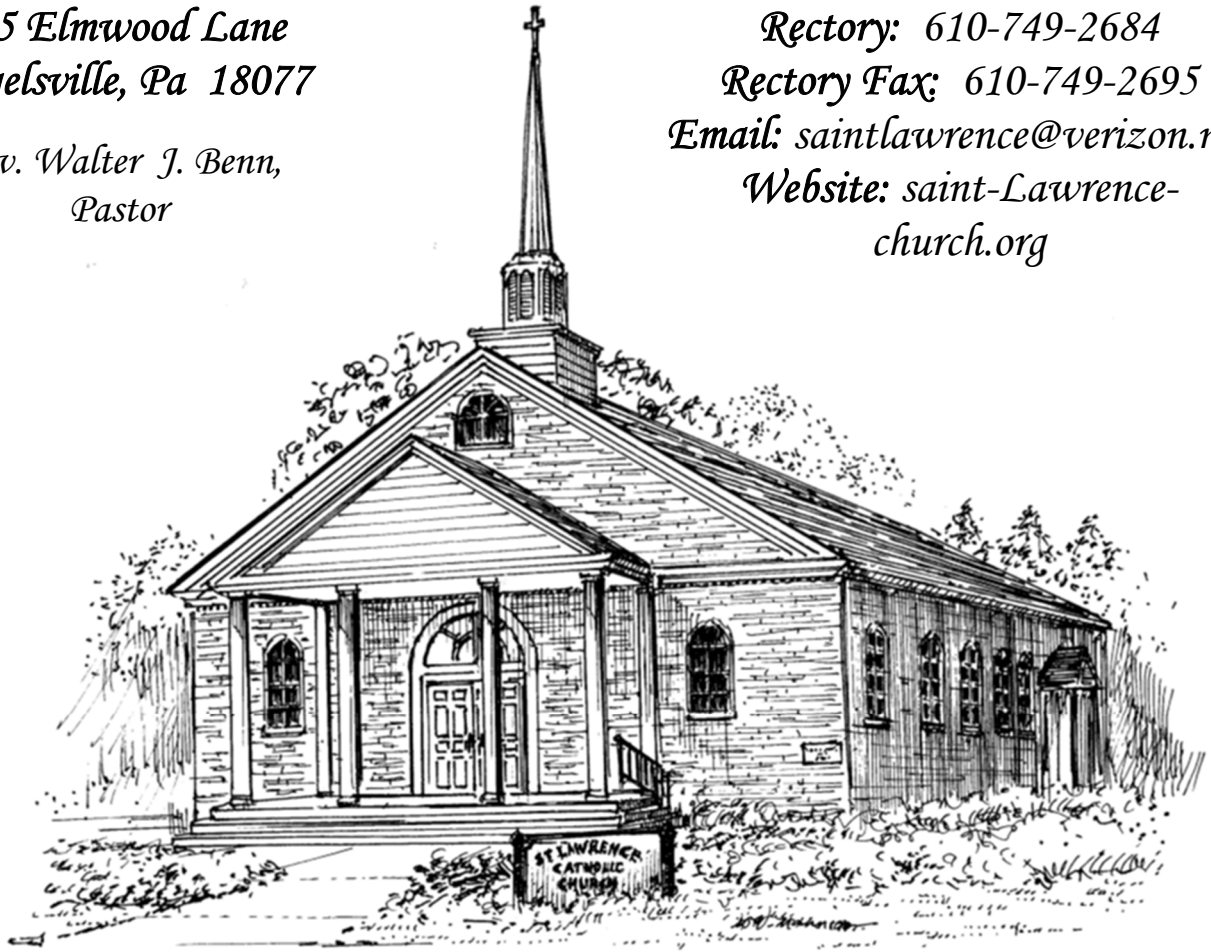
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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! February 14, 2021

During a "renovation" of a 60+ year old caboose I own, I was hoping that we could address a few specific areas of the caboose that could no longer be ignored. In my mind, this would be a cosmetic project. I was hoping to generate as little dirt and dust as possible. The first couple of work sessions, we were constantly spending time moving stuff around because it was in the way of various work areas. Finally, a friend helping me with this project confronted me with what was becoming obvious, but which I just couldn't bring myself to do; namely, that the whole car needed to be gutted and that we needed to start from scratch. I was not happy about this because the project was no longer a cosmetic job; it had turned into a rebuild job. Consequently, everything that wasn't welded down to that 25+ton car needed to be removed, including its original oak floor. The more we stripped, the more damage within the car was revealed. The car was in serious shape. It needed a lot of its internal framework replaced and re-welded. So many things needed to be replaced, including the car's electrical wiring, sections of its plumbing and that oak floor. More than once, heat from welder's torches started small fires within the walls of the car. It was one dirty job. It lasted an entire summer and autumn. There were so many days that it didn't seem we had made any progress or that we would find the solutions to additional issues that the stripping of the car would reveal. Nevertheless, over time, my feelings shifted from discouragement to satisfaction and relief. It was not only the right thing to do, but it was the healthy thing to do.

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the sacred Season of Lent. Lent is that 7-week period, when the Church encourages us to do something that we really don't want to do; namely, initiate a spiritual "renovation" of our relationship with Our Lord. That's right. During Lent, we pull out our grungy clothes and begin stripping ourselves down to the frame. We do it not so much because we like it, but because after a long time, we have probably covered over spiritual damage to our relationship with Our Lord, which is no longer cosmetic; rather, it is structural....stuff that should no longer be ignored. Like any serious "renovation", Lent involves activities that are not very attractive. Lent asks for time that often doesn't seem very productive like personal prayer which gives much indication of progress and choosing the sacrifice of things that we honestly enjoy by fasting or abstinence. Lent involves activities, that on the surface seem unimportant or stuff that you already know

about such as Stations of the Cross. In other words, Lent is not about a cosmetic relationship with Christ; rather, it is about investing ourselves in the relationship He invited us into at our Baptism.

In these days before Ash Wednesday, I encourage you, my brothers & sisters, to ask Our Lord to help you make this time productive. Start thinking about things that you can do that will enrich your relationship with Our Lord. Ask Him to help you risk being more transparent about yourself than you ever have before; allow Him to reveal to you things that should no longer be ignored or excused. Ask Him to help you see those structural members within your life that need replacing or his welding. Ask Him to help you to be patient and to trust that the time and ways in which you invest yourself with Him during the Season of Lent, won't be regretted.

Your brother in Christ,



Paul the People Pleaser

Last week we heard St. Paul saying that he was all things to all people. This week, we hear that he tried to please everyone. To modern ears, that sounds more like a people-pleaser. But that wasn't what Paul meant. The key to Paul's way of life is the last line of the second reading: "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." (1 Cor 11:1)

When Jesus spoke to Paul in his conversion, he asked why he was persecuting Jesus. Paul later began to understand that all Christians make up the body of Christ. As members of that body, we can show others what Jesus is like, by our example. That seems to be a two part process.

First, to show Christ, we have to know Christ. We can do that by reading the scriptures and praying with them. We can receive the sacraments regularly, especially Reconciliation, where we experience his forgiveness and love, and the Eucharist, where Jesus unites himself with us, so that we can become more like him.

The second part is acting like Jesus. Forgive people who hurt us, care for the sick, the dying, the poor. Don't be afraid to tell people what God has done for you; encourage others to be grateful for what God has done for them.

Paul obviously didn't please everyone, or he wouldn't have ended his life in prison. He was more interested in imitating Christ. If we can imitate Paul in that way, we can't go wrong.

Collections: January 31 Parish @ \$1879, residual Christmas @ \$4050. BIG Thank You. February 7 Parish @ \$2066, Catholic Charities @ \$55.

Special Collection: Care of Aging & Infirm Priests of the Archdiocese, Feb 13th & 14th

Catholic Charities 2021 has begun. In pew donation envelopes are available. Direct mailings from the AOP will be received at your home. **Checks are payable to Catholic Charities, not St. Lawrence.**

Knights of Columbus: meeting Feb 15th in Cedar Hall @ 7:30PM

Pope Francis Proclaims Holy Year to St. Joseph
On the 150th 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. Amen.

COMPASSION AND GENEROSITY

Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse.

—George Washington

HOLY UNION

The union of man and wife is from God.

—St. Augustine

E-Giving: does not replace what you currently do. It merely provides an additional option. To E Give go to: www.TheCFGP.org/stlawrencepsi 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: saintlawrence@verizon.net to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

February 14, 2021 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday - Feb 13th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: Intentions of Barbara Weeks (St. Lawrence Parish Community)

Sunday - Feb 14th - Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Catherine Culichia (Culichia Family)

Monday - Feb 15th – Weekday

9AM: Intentions of Sharon Affuso - Get Well Soon (Altar Rosary Society)

Tuesday - Feb 16th - Weekday

9AM: Intention of Andrew Benner - Get Well Soon (Altar Rosary Society)

Wednesday - Feb 17th – Ash Wednesday

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

12Noon: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

7PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Ashes Distributed Only at Mass

Thurs. - Feb 18th - Weekday

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday - Feb 19th - Weekday

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

Saturday - Feb 20th - Weekday

9AM: Poor & Hungry of the World

Fast & Abstinence : persons 14+ years old abstain from meat on Ash Wed., all Fridays of Lent & Good Friday. Persons 18+ years to 59 inclusive, fast by limiting themselves to one full meal on Ash Wed. & Good Fri. while other meals are light in nature.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Lectors, Altar Servers & Extraordinary Ministers:
NO assignments till future notice. You are welcome to volunteer. Thank you for your consideration.

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

INFORMATION SHEET

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St. Lawrence

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Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net

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