

# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

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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 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 28, 2021

Over the last 3-4 weeks, most of you received two mailings from the Archdiocese soliciting your financial assistance. Both involve two "Collections" that have been taken up long before you and I were born: *Catholic Charities* and *The Annual Seminary Appeal for St. Charles Seminary*. One of the wonderful things that defines the Catholic Church in Philadelphia is the incredible loyalty of its people to the numerous missions of the Philadelphia Church. These two appeals are the poster children of appeals. The Archdiocese of Philadelphia is made up of the five-county area. The people of this five County area were and are incredible. They built and maintained entire school systems on both the primary and secondary level. They built and financed St. Charles Seminary, an institution established for the sole purpose of preparing men for the priesthood who would serve the Church of Philadelphia. Many dioceses could never accomplish this. They built entire health care systems in the form of hospitals. The people of Philadelphia also inspired tens of thousands of their daughters and sons to enter the religious life in various religious orders who on their own built and staffed many of these schools, hospitals, and special care facilities. Religious orders such as the Oblates of St. Francis, the Franciscans, the Jesuits, the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Vincentians, the Sisters of Mercy, the Redemptorists, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Grey Nuns, the Christian Brothers have served our Archdiocese for years. Over the decades, *Catholic Charities*, through the incredible generosity of the people, enabled and empowered the Archdiocese to establish specialized agencies tasked with the responsibility of addressing the needs of dozens of groups who had no one to advocate for them; no one to support them; no one to represent them. They established orphanages for abandoned children and children from broken homes; they founded specialized homes for young people who struggled with disciplinary issues; separate homes for both girls, boys and adults who suffered serious mental issues or physical handicaps from the time of their birth {e.g., the blind and the deaf} and were way beyond the skills of their parents. They did this during a long period when there was very little offered by the State. All of this is part of the heritage of the lay people of the Archdiocese; they were your great grandparents, your grandparents, your parents, and now you! It is your heritage.....your legacy and you should be very proud of it. Through depressions, recessions, World Wars, periods of social unrest and a Cold War, they never failed

to look after those who couldn't fend for themselves. Most of them did this when they were struggling with their own financial problems.

As a person who benefitted from such faithfulness, trust and generosity for ten years at St. Charles Seminary [1967-1977] and as one who has witnessed thousands of vulnerable children, adults and families protected and helped to have a dignified life, **I ask you to be as generous as you can.** Please take advantage of the forms you were mailed; look for extra forms for both Appeals in the vestibule of the Church or visit [CATHOLICCHARITIERSAPPEAL.ORG](http://CATHOLICCHARITIERSAPPEAL.ORG) {Catholic Charities Appeal} and [SCAPPEAL@thecfcp.ORG](mailto:SCAPPEAL@thecfcp.ORG). {Seminary Appeal}.

Your brother in Christ,



### This is A Test

I used to wonder how God could lie to Abraham about sacrificing his son Isaac. But the story begins by telling us God put Abraham to the test. Abraham himself seems to know it's a test. Apparently, I'm the only one fooled by God.

I don't know if I would have passed the test. I would have at least argued with God about it, begging him to spare my son. Yet in our second reading, St. Paul reminds us that God did not spare his own son. (Rom 8:32) He passed his own test. Jesus was sacrificed so that God could show us how much he loved us. If God loves us so much that he gives his Son to die for us, why would he not forgive us? He doesn't. But he is still testing us.

What does that tell us about life? You may have noticed that things don't always go your way. Does that mean those tragedies are our fault? No, God gives everyone free will and some people choose to do wrong. God intervenes sometimes and lives are saved. Other times, God intervenes by saving us after death with our resurrection. As long as people doubt God's love, there will be tests. That's why it is so important to proclaim the Kingdom: so that someday all people will know God's love and not need to be tested.

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**Collections:** February 14 Parish @ \$1449, Ageing Priests @ \$173. February 21 Parish @ \$2504, Care for Ageing Priests @ \$45, candles @ \$127 Thank you.

**Special Collection:** March 7th; Church in Africa

**Parish Office:** will be closed March 1st

### **A NEW IDEA**

Everybody thinks of changing humanity; nobody thinks of changing themselves.

—Leo Tolstoy

### **THE ART OF LISTENING**

If you want God to listen to you when you pray, shouldn't you listen to God when God speaks to you?

**Catholic Charites 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 Charites, not St. Lawrence.**

### **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. Amen.

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

## **February 28, 2021 - Second Sunday of Lent**

**Saturday - Feb 27th -**

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

5PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Sunday - Feb 28th - Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30AM: Catherine Culichia (Culichia Family)

**Monday - Mar 1st – Lenten Weekday**

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

**Tuesday - Mar 2nd - Lenten Weekday**

9AM: Poor & Hungry of the World

**Wednesday - Mar 3rd – St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin**

*Exposition of Blessed Sacrament*

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Thurs. - Mar 4th - St. Casimir**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday - Mar 5th - Lenten ABSTINENCE**

9AM: John Pavlica (Janet Achuff)

**Saturday - Mar 6th - Lenten Weekday**

9AM: Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

**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

CHURCH NAME:

St. Lawrence

BULLETIN NUMBER:

497325.1

Date of publication:  
(Sunday's date)

Number of pages transmitted:

4 including cover

Special instructions:

Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684  
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Quantity for print @ 150 each