

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

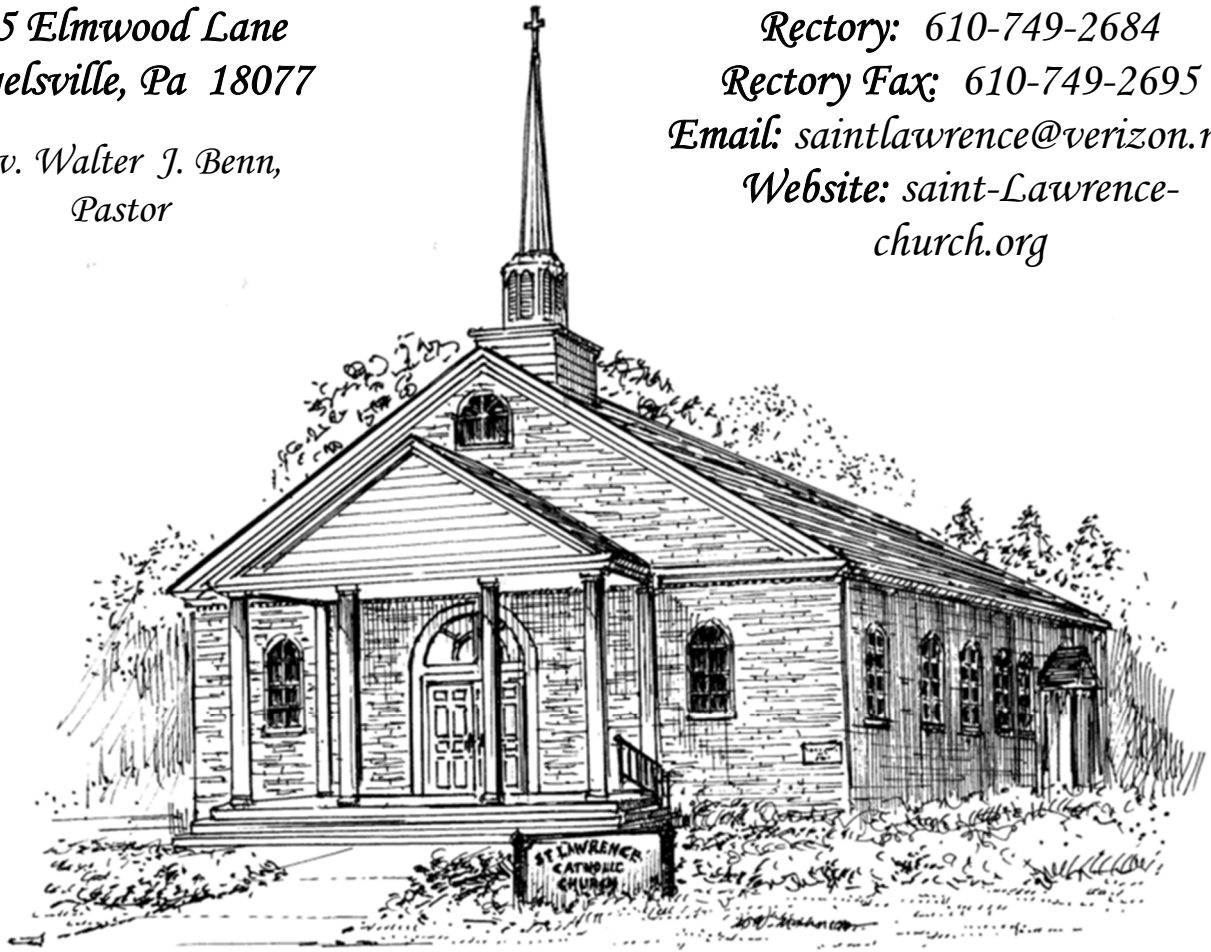
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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! January 17, 2021

Today's 1st Reading and Gospel both deal with *discipleship* and how it begins in a person's life. As we see in the 1st reading, which recounts the beautiful story of the young boy, Samuel's vocation. It began when God personally calls him in the middle of the night. God's calling comes under ordinary circumstances and without fanfare. In fact, Samuel needs the guidance of Eli to help him understand. One does not initiate their relationship with God; rather, they respond to a call, which God initiates with them. In the Protestant Tradition a person is "called" to God's ministry. In the Catholic Tradition, we are fond of using a variation of the Latin word for "to call", namely, *vocatio*, which we translate as *vocation*. The ancient Israelites were "called" by God to reveal to the world that there is only one God, that this God loves all his children; that He calls them to be like him; that there was a vocation or "calling". When the people of Israel were faithful to God, they were faithful to their vocation through their morals, charity and faithfulness which revealed to the rest of the world what they were called be. Within our Catholic Tradition we believe that every person receives a vocation or calling from Our Lord. It is either to the single lay life, the married life or the religious life. All are important and precious. God's purpose in "calling" us is so He could reveal to those in our lives what He calls them to be like. When they see each of us living our vocation, by striving to faithfully live out our understanding of the Master's life and teachings, we are evangelizing those people; we are faithfully answering His "Call".

Today's Gospel includes another beautiful "Calling" story. The same basic dynamic is in play. Through what seems to be an off-handed comment by John the Baptist, God "calls" the future Apostle Andrew to learn more about Jesus Christ. After his encounter with Jesus, what happens? He goes to his brother Simon Peter to share what he has experienced, and Peter moves to Our Lord. In another part of the Gospel, we see another "calling" through Phillip, who in turns shares his experience with Nathaniel. As we see from these stories, God is not a screamer; He does not yell; He does not rely on pyrotechnic or drama. Rather, he acts quietly. Notice he had to call Samuel 4 times before Samuel would even begin to understand what was happening.

As we reflect on these stories, I hope that each of you reflects on your own vocations and how you have answered the Lord's calling of you. Your spouse will experience the Lord in you as their soul mate. Your children will discover the

Lord in your relationship with them as their father or mother. Those of you, who are living the single lay life, a vocation that is not always appreciated, but certainly has an equal place in the life of the Church, you draw our attention to the mission of Our Lord through the quality of your faith-life and your service within the Church. Each of us may not have heard God calling us to His service as Samuel did, or have a John the Baptist in our lives as Andrew did, but God's "Call" is there for those who listen and who are receptive. When we are, the Journey begin!
Fr. Walter Benn



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Ordinary" is not always a desirable adjective. Who would not be insulted to receive a thank-you note for your "ordinary birthday gift," or "the ordinary hospitality at the dinner party"? No restaurant advertises its "ordinariness," no car dealer seats a customer at the steering wheel and whispers, "Look how ordinary it is!" Yet here we are in "Ordinary Time." The word carries a different meaning here: it does not mean these days are dull, boring, pedestrian, uninteresting. It means "ordinal," or "numbered" Sundays, a season of the year when we follow the story of Jesus' life and ministry in an ordered way, with each Sunday assigned an ordinal number.

You can amaze your friends with this example of Catholic arithmetic: the "Ordinary Sundays" begin with the last Sunday of Christmas, the Baptism of the Lord, continue until the Sunday before Ash Wednesday, and resume after a cluster of feasts following Pentecost Sunday. The numbers are calculated by counting backwards from the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Thirty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Now you know there is nothing "ordinary" about "Ordinary Time!"

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

Collections: January 10 Parish @ \$2332, Residual Christmas @ #1000, Candles @ \$215 Thank You!!!

Special Collection: Catholic Relief Service, January 16th-17th

Winter Scripture Study!

St. Lawrence Parish will be hosting its next Scripture Study starting Tuesday, January 5, 2021. This is a 7-week Study on St. Paul's ***Second letter to the Corinthians***. Like the children within every family, the various churches of the baby Church had their own personalities, quirks and needs. This Study will help us understand how St. Paul helped the Christians in Corinth to navigate those challenges. We encourage all of you to consider participating in this study. Please consider inviting a friend or family member. Materials are provided and cost #16.00. Location: Ceadar Hall. Time: 10:30AM – 12 PM. Newcomers, might refer to the Parish website [saint-lawrence-church.org] for additional info.

Chili Cook Off: Jan 16 Postponed to further notice.

Holy Name Society: meeting on Jan 11th @ 7PM in Ceadar Hall.

Knights of Columbus: meeting January 18th @ 7:30PM @ Ceadar Hall.

JOY

The fullness of joy is to behold God in everything.
—St. Julian

WORRIES

The greatest of worries can't pay the smallest of debts.

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.

January 17, 2021 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday - Jan 16th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Sunday - Jan 17th - Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Intentions of Jim Eckrich (Bernie Boylan)

Monday - Jan 18th – Weekday

9AM:

Tuesday - Jan 19th - Weekday

9AM: Protection of all from COVID-19 Virus

**Wednesday - Jan 20th – St. Fabian, Pope/Martyr
*Exposition of Blessed Sacrament***

9AM:

Thurs. - Jan 21st - St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday - Jan 22nd - Weekday

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

Saturday - Jan 23rd - St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

9AM:

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

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

Pastor Al®



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"You took the choir to Mexico? I said that with the organ broken you should go to a cappella, not Acapulco!"

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
Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net

Quantity for print @ 150 each