

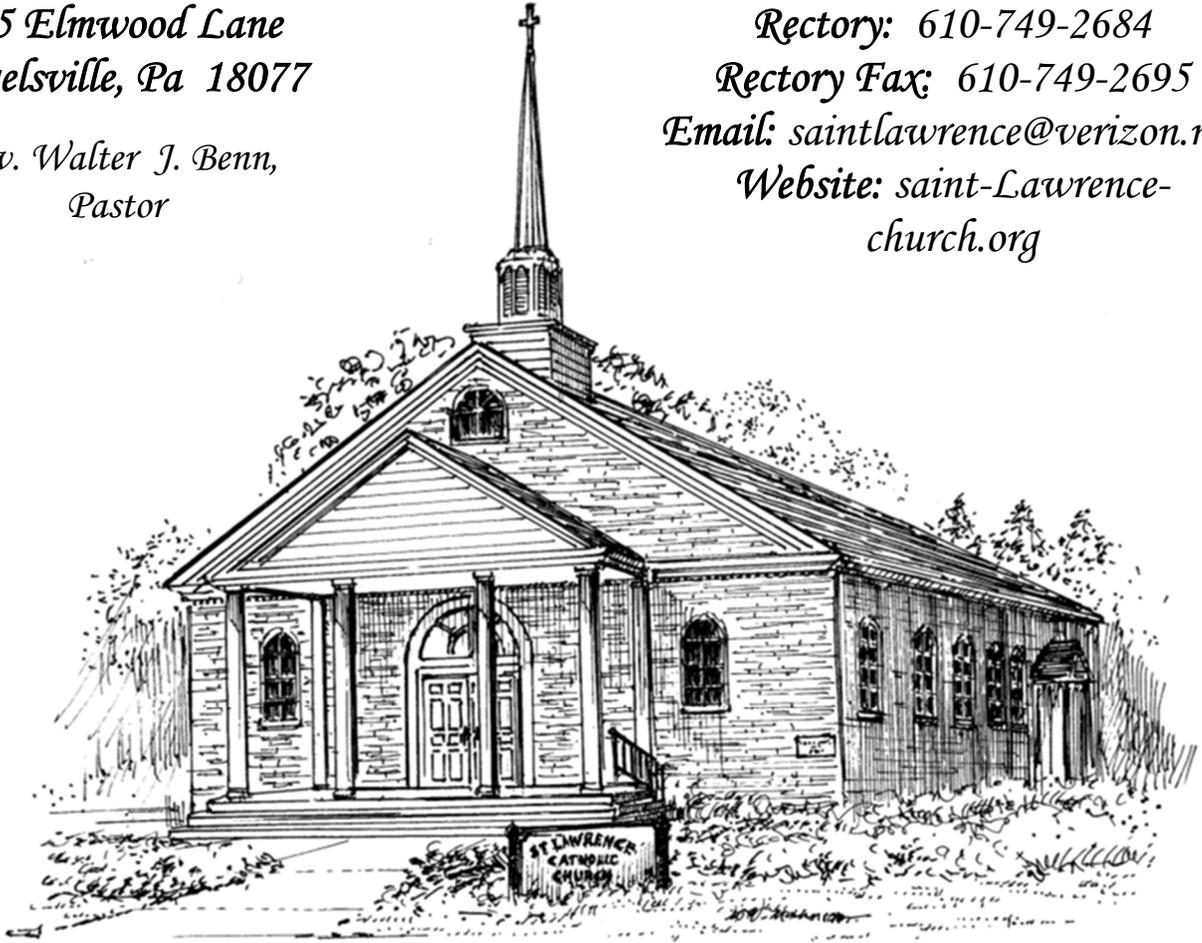
# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684  
Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695

Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](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 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! July 18, 2021

During the summer, numerous families or groups of friends will often host a summer "Christmas" celebration. Most people enjoy them, because it is novel. Call me Old School, but those celebrations don't attract me, because Christmas is so special to me that I associate it not only with December, but with the weather, the climate and the darkness of the winter. Somehow, celebrating Christmas during a heat-wave or on a deck in shorts and flip-flops just doesn't do it for me. However, that's me and I don't want to be a downer on any of you who enjoy these summer celebrations. What triggered this little editorial was today's First Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah. The quotation he includes with his prophecy is an important one that is invoked during the Season of Advent. "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up a righteous shoot to David, as King he will reign and govern wisely, he shall do what is just and right in the land." All of Christianity interprets this quote as a reference to the coming Messiah; namely, Our Lord, Jesus Christ. It is a foretelling of the transformative effect which the Messiah will have on the Israel and the peoples of the world. Regrettably, many of the religious peoples of the world misinterpret this quote, in that they presume that the Messiah will accomplish all of this on His own; that, as God's children, we need only to stay out of the way and watch. Is that how love-relationships work: one party does all of the giving, all of the sacrificing, all of the initiating; while the other party does all of the receiving, all the enjoying, never getting off their spiritual couch to respond and share the other's selflessness? If we seriously reflect on Our Lord's actions from last week's and this week's Gospels, we must realize, that as Messiah, this is not His vision of how people are to be in relationship with their God...their spiritual parent! What does He do? Last week, he impresses upon the Apostles {who represent us} that they must cultivate the compassionate love within their own hearts, which he exercises with all of the people whom they encounter each day. Today's Gospel is a perfect example of it. Our Lord and the Apostles are exhausted by the marathon pace which Jesus has set for them over the preceding weeks. They need a break and some time to be refreshed. As they get off their boat, thinking that their mini-vacation is about to begin, they encounter hundreds of people, who literally walked around the shores of the

*Sea of Galilee* to find him and place their needs in His hands. "When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things." Regardless of whether it is July or December, this is what Christmas is about and what we are called to extend to all of the people in our lives. My brothers and sisters, we live in a culture, where, most people do not even know they need a Messiah, never mind knowing what kind of Messiah they need. We are the ones whom Our Lord sends. We are the ones whom He asks to get off the boat, when it seems that He and everyone else is asking too much of us. Like the crowds who seek out Our Lord, there are people in our world who are belatedly discovering/owning the truth that there is a God; that He has been loving them, and that the reason for their unhappiness is that they have been letting Him do all of the loving and they have been doing all of the taking. Now, they want to change, but they don't know how to go about, nor do they know what kind of person they need to become in order to keep this glow they experienced when they listened to the words of this holy man from Nazareth. Sometimes, the honor of loving people can be intimidating; it asks so much of us....truly, it asks everything of us. Let us always trust, that when we dare to be like Our Lord; when we dare to love as Our Lord, we will have no regrets, but only the satisfaction of being an extension of him.

Your brother in Christ,



### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

"Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while" must have been chosen for this summer season by a committee eager for a vacation. For the apostles, the promise of rest was foiled by the needs of the people who discovered their hideaway and pressed them into ministry. Some people do indeed use their vacation for ministry and mission, giving an intensity of service otherwise not possible. For most of us, vacation is a time when we can grow more aware of God's plan, and can renew the bonds of love with family and friends in times of play and leisure.

The disciples learn today that there is no place so out of the way that the life of worship and ministry is disengaged. Giving yourself to summer worship will enrich you, delight you, and give you a sense of the word of God's progress in your heart. In today's world, summer is the time when we are most acutely

aware of the beauty of the world. Gratitude and wonder are fertile soils for God's word to take root and prosper. Welcome the visitor today, and resolve that when you travel, you will be faithful to Sunday worship.

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

**Collections:** July 11 Parish @ \$1784,  
Private Donation @ \$5000. Thank you.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY, SCHOOL TEACHER:**

Regina Academy, Ottsville. Pre-K to Grade 8. Details: <https://www.catholicjobs.com/state/pa> then search Ottsville. OR contact Tami Koerber at [tkoerber@rasjb.org](mailto:tkoerber@rasjb.org) or 610-847-5523

**CCD - Prep 2021-2022: LAST CHANCE**

registration forms are available in the vestibule for the upcoming sessions. Posted on Parish web site.

**Deadline was July 2nd**

**Saturday Summer Dinners!**

They're back! With the lifting of Covid restrictions, we have decided to return to our *Saturday Summer Dinners!* Here's the remaining 2021 schedule:

7/31/21 and 8/28/21. All dinners begin following the conclusion of the Saturday Vigil Mass. All will be BYOB. There will be no charge. Although free-will offerings will be accepted. Details will follow shortly. It's been a long time since we have been able to gather in a relaxed setting; we hope you can attend!

**Special Mass: Year of St. Joseph.** Mass will be celebrated @ **7PM on 8/2, 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: [saint-lawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saint-lawrence@verizon.net) to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

**July 18, 2021 - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday - July 17th -**

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

5PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Sunday - July 18th - *Mass is Streamed Live***

9:30AM James Fluck (Olimpo Family)

**Monday - July 19th – Weekday**

9AM: Barbara Polaneczky (Jones Family)

**Tuesday - July 20th - St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr**

9AM: Pro-Life Initiatives, Save Our Children

**Wednesday - July 21st – St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor of the Church**

***Exposition of Blessed Sacrament***

9AM: The Poor & Infirm

**Thursday - July 22nd - St. Mary Magdalene**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution

**Friday - July 23rd - St. Bridget, Religious**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Saturday - July 24th - St. Sharbel Makhlof, Priest; BVM**

9AM: Intentions of Donna Schulz - Birthday (Lay Carmelite Community)

**MISSION**

God has created me to do some definite service. God has committed some work to me which has not been committed to another. I have a mission.

—John Henry Newman

**GOD WITHIN**

God dwells in a secret and hidden way in all souls, in their very substance, for if God did not, they could not exist at all.

—St. John of the Cross

***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 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, 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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Special instructions:

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Or email [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

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