

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

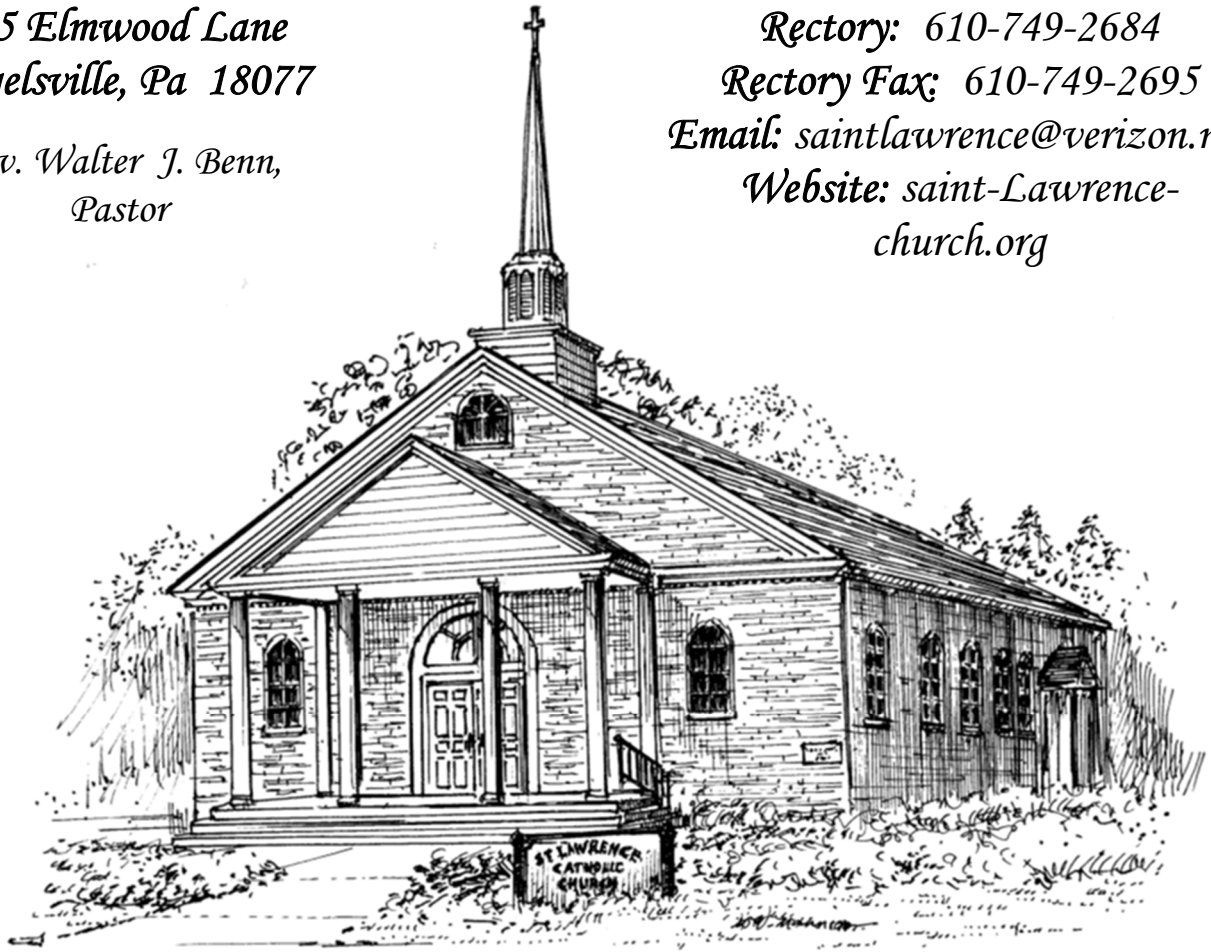
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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! March 7, 2021

During Lent, the Church offers us the option of choosing from two sets of Readings: The 1st set is the traditional readings established for Lent. The 2nd set are readings are geared for those participating in RCIA programs. As we did last year, we will do this year and reflect on the 2nd set of Readings, the Readings geared for those in the RCIA. These Readings, especially the Gospels, are rarely heard during the normal cycle of readings; yet, they are moving stories, because they reflect on people, who were on their own journey of *conversion*. This year there is no one from St. Lawrence Church preparing to be received into the catholic Church. I am excited to report that a young woman approached me a few weeks ago and expressed her desire to become a Catholic and will be enrolled in our 2021-22 RCIA program. All of us should be so excited for her. If you know of anyone who has shown an interest or inclination towards becoming a catholic, encourage them to look into it. Encourage them to give me a call, and I can offer them both information about our RCIA program, in admission to our approach to their journey should they choose to enter into it. There are hand-outs in the vestibule of the church that offer "starter" information. Let us return to the today's Gospel, the story about *Jesus and the Woman at the Well*. There are many subtle insights into this story, but I would suggest that we focus on the following:

Mark tells us that she is a Samaritan; someone who has a prejudice against Jews; a people whom Jews are just as prejudiced against. They won't even acknowledge the presence of each other, never-mind speak to one another. She expects to have a negative experience with Jesus, simply because "he is one of them". She is also a person who has a lot of spiritual baggage, in terms of having had multiple relations/spouses over the years. This is why she comes to the well during the hottest time of the day. She doesn't want to deal with the prejudices of her own people. Because of all of this, chances are she doesn't have much self esteem and probably doesn't think God does either. All of this argues for the belief that she is beyond reach of God's love. Because she has not lived in a way that is acceptable to either God or her people, she would appear to be a hopeless person. It would also seem that she has spent years building a spiritual wall around herself that neither she or Jesus can break-down.

Notice that Our Lord succeeds in this, because He doesn't allow his heart to be prejudice against anyone; regardless of how perfect or imperfect they are. When he encounters her, he sees a sister in need of healing; he is not distracted by things that aren't important; namely, that she is a Samaritan, a woman, a person who has spent a good part of her life ignoring her religious beliefs and morals. Jesus only sees her wounds, and knows that with patience, wisdom and a respect she can be inspired to contribute to the healing of those wounds, if only she just make the effort to be honest with herself and cooperates with Our Lord as he guides her through this conversation.

Notice too, that once she allows Jesus to help her to unburden herself of all the junk in her life; she instinctively becomes a disciple. Liberated, she goes back into town and tells everyone who will listen of her experience and she invites them to join her as she returns to Jesus.

My sisters and brothers, the *Woman at the Well* story is not just her story; nor is it the story of anyone who is not a Christian or Catholic; it is everyone's story. It is our story because, like her, each of us are still on our journey to the Father, with the help of His Son. At the heart of that journey is the call to *conversion*. This is the purpose of Lent. It is a time when we look for Our Lord and allow him to draw us into conversations we probably don't want to have. Yet, if we respond with the humility of the unnamed woman at the well in Sychar, we will discover how He alone has the Love to unburden us of our troubles. It is the 3rd week of Lent. Let each of us look for Our Lord and be ready when He asks us for that drink of water.
Your brother in Christ,



HEAVEN

Heaven is at present out of sight, but in due time, as snow melts and discovers what it lay upon, so will this visible creation fade away before those greater splendors which are behind it.

—John Henry Newman

REMINDERS

People more frequently require to be reminded than informed.

—Samuel Johnson

Collections: February 28 Parish @ \$2228, Ageing Priests @ \$25, Rice Bowl @ \$61, Catholic Foundation of Phila. @ \$598.50. Thank you.

Special Collection: March 7th; Church in Africa; March 14th Church in Latin America. These are different collection. Do your best to help. God Bless.

Knights of Columbus: meeting on March 15 @ 7:30PM @ Ceader Hall

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 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.



March 14th Daylight Savings Time Begins

EGiving: 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.

March 7, 2021 - Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday - Mar 6th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: Frank Gambino (Senior Family)

Sunday - Mar 7th - Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Joe Lavalle (Senior Family)

Monday - Mar 8th – St. John of God, Religious

9AM: Marlene Saxman (Jones Family)

Tuesday - Mar 9th - St. Frances of Rome, Religious

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Wednesday - Mar 10th – Lenten Weekday
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

Thurs. - Mar 11th - Lenten Weekday

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday - Mar 12th - Lenten ABSTINENCE

9AM: Blessings for the Poor & Downtrodden

Saturday - Mar 13th - Lenten Weekday

9AM: Feed the 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

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