

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

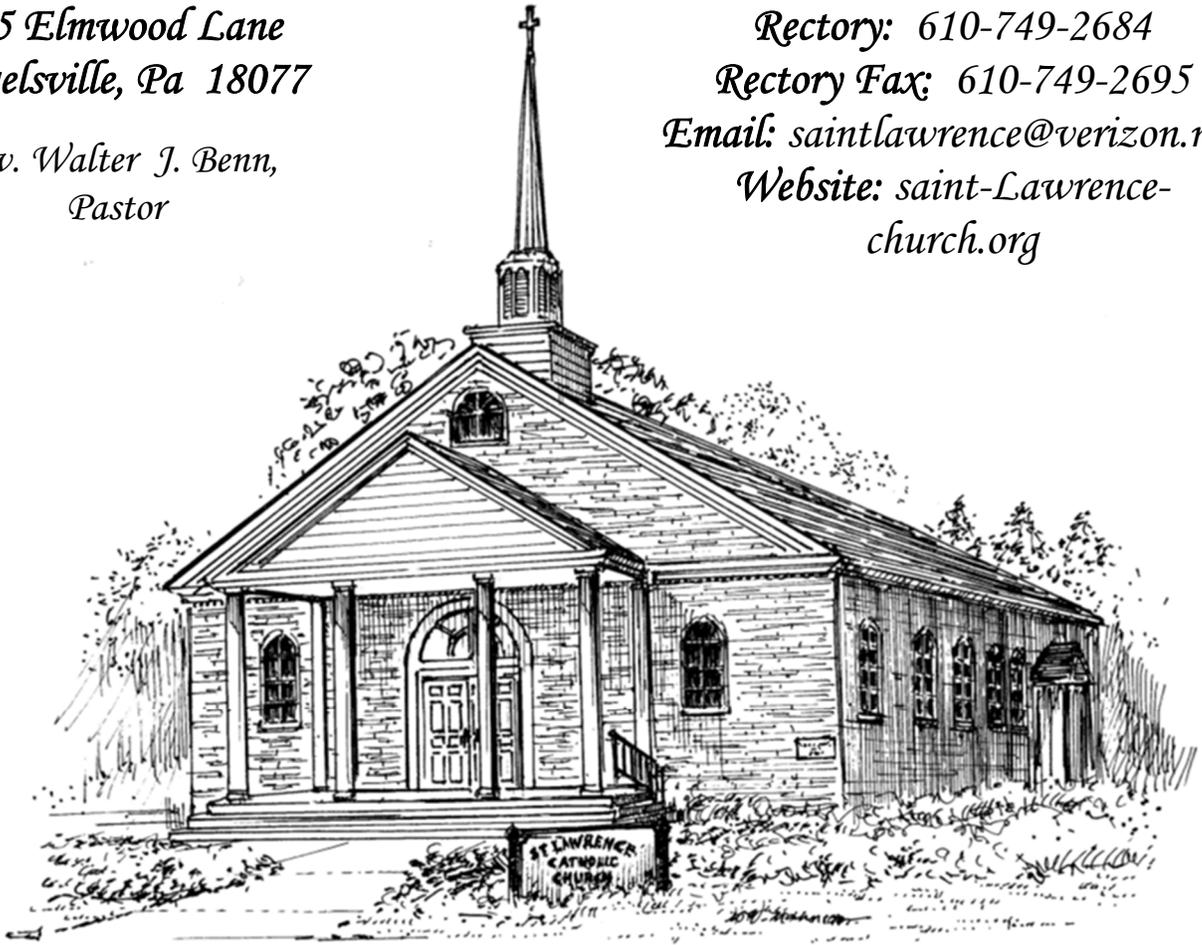
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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 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! May 2, 2021

Two Sundays ago, at the 9:30 AM Mass, 8 of our PREP children received the *Sacrament of Confirmation*. It is quite appropriate, that since then, both the weekday readings and the Sabbath readings are filled with references to the **Holy Spirit**. From the time of Our Lord's Resurrection, but particularly following their reception of the *Holy Spirit* at Pentecost, the Apostles and followers of Our Lord grew in larger and larger numbers, and with greater and greater confidence and boldness. Their lives were characterized by **Joy**; the *Joy* of someone who has experienced a great unburdening. These were truly liberated people, and they had no intention of returning to their old way of life. With confidence and joy, they publicly invited anyone who would listen to them in the Temple to follow the teachings of Our Lord. They did this every day. They invited anyone who had the courage to associate with them to participate in their communal life, where the members sold their belongings, which often included their homes, lands, etc., and made the proceeds available to anyone who was in need of assistance. The religious authorities were furious, and no matter how many times they arrested them, hauled them before their tribunal, threatened them or whipped them, they boldly explained, not only what they were doing, but why. Also, they always declared that there was no way they would silence the truth about Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit, which was driving this message. At one point in the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke remarks that there were large numbers of other people who were attracted to them and rejoiced in their words, deeds and faith, but "were afraid" to be associated with them publicly. In their hearts, they knew that what the Apostles and followers of Jesus were preaching was authentic, and how they should re-understand their Judaism, but they just weren't ready to publicly live this giant leap of faith. Eventually, many would.

It is very easy for each of us, to slip into the mindset, that all of this is impressive, "but"..... Do any of us excuse ourselves, by rationalizing this disconnect, because this involved Palestinians living 2,000+ years ago on the other side of the planet? Wrong! Wrong! Wrong! For any of us to do so is to ignore the Lord's *Holy Spirit*, who is speaking to each of us as individuals, as a Church and as a Parish, just as he did to those Palestinians of 29 AD! Like the "large numbers" of people who felt the pull of the *Holy Spirit* as they were exposed to the actions and words of the

original Christians, we must ask ourselves the uneasy question: "As a Catholic Christian, am I like those post-Pentecost followers of Our Lord? Or, is my Catholicism more like the "large numbers" of religious people of the Apostle's time, who felt the pull of Our Lord's *Holy Spirit*, because of the values, teachings and actions of the original Christians, but basically didn't have the spiritual courage to follow through with it?" Put another way, "Is my daily life an inspiration to those around me, to follow Christ.....to live Christ.....to publicly commit to His Life?" Can I, without apology or embarrassment, declare to those in my life, "Yes, I am a Christian; I am a Catholic!"

Your brother in Christ,



Holy Name Society: meeting on May 10th @ Ceader Hall.

Easter Lilies: from Altars are free for the taking on first come basis.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The season of First Communions is here, and invitations pour in as the new communicants, mostly seven years old, gather extended families for their first reception of the Eucharist. Recently, the celebrations are often on Sundays, in the regular gatherings of the faith community. There, it becomes clear that First Communion is meant to initiate a regular pattern of reception, and that there is to be a second, third, hundredth, thousandth celebration. Eastern Catholics and Orthodox children follow a different plan, since they are given a taste of the consecrated wine at their baptism as infants. We Western Christians delay until "the age of reason," but many years ago, Communion was not for children at all. Twelve to fourteen was the typical time for Roman Catholics to receive for the first time, and in those days this was a transition into the adult world of work and marriage. The custom did not begin to shift to childhood until reforms set in place by Pope St. Pius X began to take hold in the 1920s. If you are going to a First Communion, you can give thanks that the table of the Lord is today open so much more lavishly than before.

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

Collections: April 25 Parish @ \$2192, Thank you.

Special Collection: Catholic Home Mission, will be held on May 1st & 2nd.

May Procession: following the 9:30AM Mass on Sunday May 2nd.

Special Mass: *Year of St. Joseph.* Mass will be celebrated @ **7PM on 5/4, 6/7, 7/5, 8/2, 9/6, 10/4 & 11/2/21** in Honor of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In addition to the normal 9AM Weekday Mass.

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.

Crab Cake Sale: benefiting St. John the Baptist, Ottsville initiative to replace their school building roof. Order forms in vestibule taken May 8 & 9 + 15 & 16 with pick up on 5/22 between 1PM & 4PM at SJB.

PRIDE

What better proof of your pride could you have given than to claim you were not proud?

—St. John Climacus

Free Free Free: we have 5 windows from the previous exterior church entrance leading to Ceadar Hall. Frames are 7ft 10in by 2ft 5in. Interested? You provide your own transport. Contact Steve @ 908-229-2220

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: saint-lawrence@verizon.net to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

May 2, 2021 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday - May 1st -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: Intentions of Rex Helfant - Birthday - (LCC)

Sunday - May 2nd - Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Monday - May 3rd – St. Philip & James. Apostles

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

Tuesday - May 4th - Easter Weekday

9AM: Food & Clothing for the Poor

7PM: **Special Mass; Year of St. Joseph**

Wednesday - May 5th – Easter Weekday

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

9AM: Eugene/Theresa DellaCroce (Helfant Family)

Thursday - May 6th - National Day of Prayer

9AM: Readings & Communion Distributions Only

Friday - May 7th - Easter Weekday

9AM: Prevention Worldwide Religious Persecution

Saturday - May 8th - Easter Weekday

9AM: Personal Intentions for those in Need

CHRISTIANITY

Christianity is the spirit of Jesus Christ at work in the world.

HOLIEST FLOWER

Mary is the lily in God's garden.

—St. Bridget of Sweden

Pastor Al™



"You're extremely generous, Joseph, but you should only donate eyeglasses you aren't using anymore."

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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Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684
Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net

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