

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

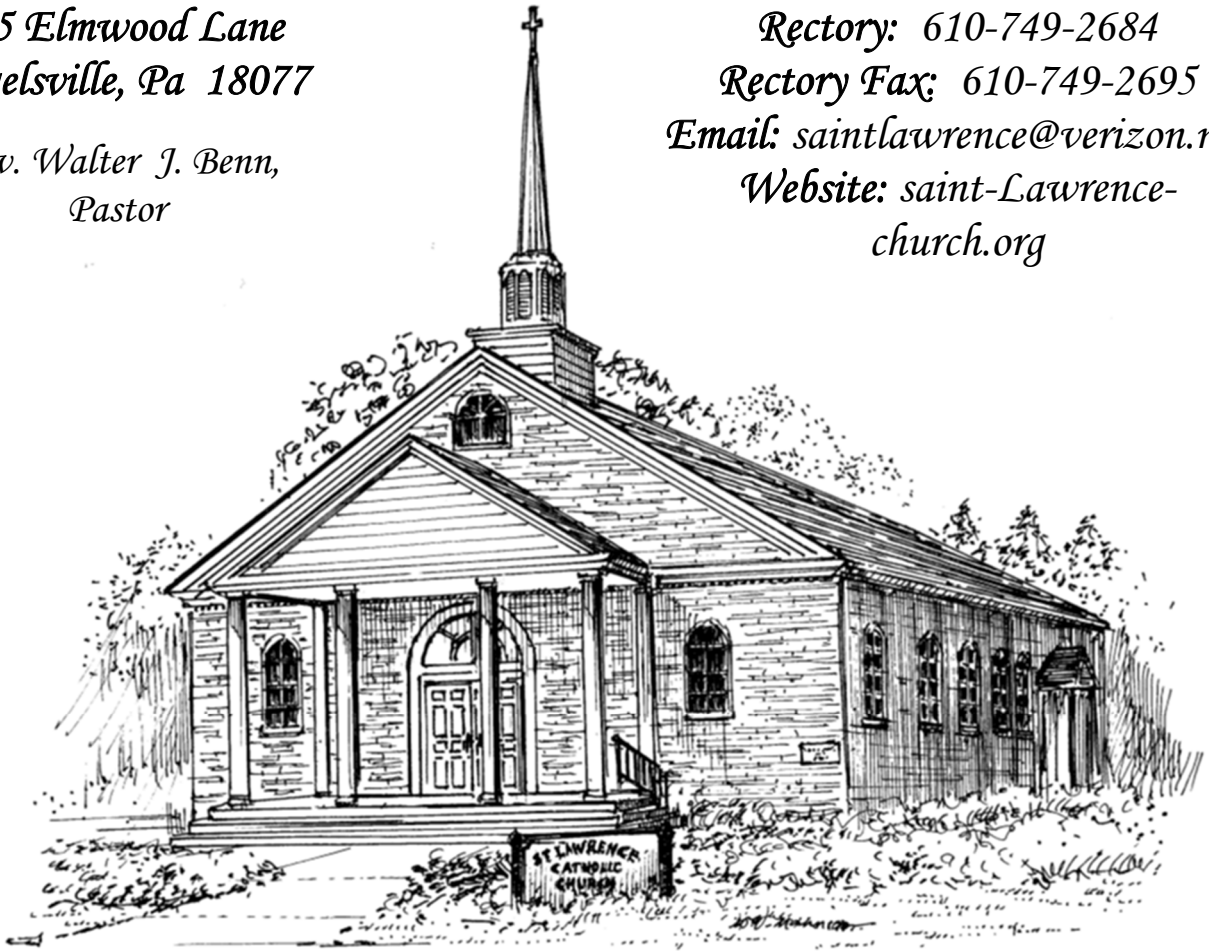
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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! November 15, 2020

"We do not want you to be unaware, brothers & sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep...." These are words from Last week's 2nd Reading; they are words of encouragement written by St. Paul with love and affection, to the Christians in Thessolonica, a Christian community he founded and formed. It is most likely the first letter written by St. Paul, making it the oldest writing of the New Testament. The Thessolonians weren't the first community which St. Paul established, but they were a community that he felt very close to, because they trusted his teaching and enthusiastically embraced the teachings of Our Lord. It showed in their daily life and in their relationships with each other. What makes the extent of the Thessolonians conversion to Christianity so extraordinary is that it took place within the very pagan culture of the ancient Greeks, which was characterized by philosophies which promoted the existence of multiple gods and that these gods had no intention of sharing eternity with them. For all of its sophistication, Greek culture was also very *hedonistic*, which saw no wrong in any form of self-gratification. Christianity was not different from the pagan culture of the Greeks; it was the opposite. In truth it stood in opposition to the culture of the Greeks. So, you can imagine the kinds of spiritual pressure the Christian converts were constantly exposed to by their countrymen. One of those issues which they were constantly confronted with was the Christian belief in the Resurrection and God's desire for them to be with Him for all eternity. Thus, we shouldn't be surprised that St. Paul includes these loving words of encouragement in an effort for them to have confidence in the teachings about Our Lord's Resurrection, and in how Christ's Resurrection represents the Father's promise to us, that as He has done for the Son, so shall He do for all of those who emulate the faithfulness of his faithful Son.

Perhaps our reflection on the daily experiences of the Christians of Thessolonica could not come at a better time. Each year, the Church dedicates the month of November to the task of affirming that the Father's love for us is genuine and eternal. We set the tone for this with our dual celebrations of *All Saints Day* {November 1st} and *All Soul's Day* {November 2nd}. *All Saints Day* recalls all those who have gone before us. It celebrates their confidence in the Father's eternal promise and

their choice to live their lives based on that promise. *All Soul's Day* is another reminder of those loved ones who ignored the message of our Society, which can't see beyond itself, and embraced their deaths confident that our loving Father, can and will control what they couldn't.

My brothers & sisters, even by today's standards, we have been exposed to an unrelenting stream of experiences & messages that are characterized by hopelessness. The overwhelming news surrounding the Coronavirus Pandemic: We hear about its deadliness; how unpredictable it can be; the numbers of positive cases & deaths; the extreme limitations within our daily lives, which we must choose to practice in order to protect ourselves, our loved ones and our fellow Americans. The multiple acts within our Country, which verify that *Racism* is an evil which has not been completely eradicated from the soul of our Country. The Presidential Election has been a marathon of sorting through misinformation, slander and lack of respect for one's opponents or our civil systems such as the Postal Service or our time-tested election process. Even watching our beloved *Philadelphia Eagles*, has been a weekly experience of "a death by a thousand cuts". Yet throughout it all, St. Paul assures us that there is reason to trust in the goodness of God and the promise made to us by the Father though the life, death & Resurrection of his Son; namely, that his love will reverse all of these instances of death; all of these reasons to despair; all of these experiences which insist that death is more powerful than his love. As difficult as it is, let us remember last weekend's words of St. Paul to the Thessolonians, and just as importantly, let us remember the good faith of our ancient brothers & sisters who were no different than us and who were exposed to the same hopeless messages of their time and culture. They may have lived in 51 AD and we in 2020 AD, but to a certain extent, nothing has changed. Evil never tires of trying to break us down in despair. Trust that in his love for us, God's promise of his eternal love for us is real! Through us, and all people of Faith, God's Love will reverse whatever evil we are exposed to.

Your brother in Christ,



USE YOUR TALENT

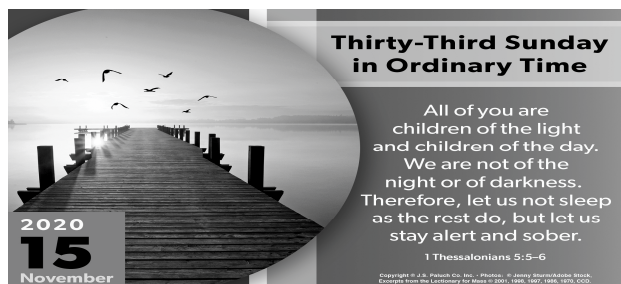
Having only modest talent is no excuse for not using it. Think what the morning would be like if only talented birds sang!

Collections: November 8th Parish @ \$2401, All Saints @ \$35, All Souls @ \$45, Seminary @ \$117, Thank You!!

Special Collection: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Nov 15th.

Knights of Columbus: meeting Nov 16 @ 7:30PM in Cedar Hall.

Raising of the Flag: Nov 15: Veterans Day celebration. We will gather outside around our new Flag Pole, following the Sunday, 9:30AM Mass.

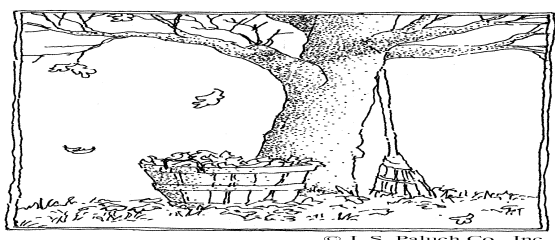


Coffee and Donuts to follow. All Invited.

Catholic Education Financial Assistance: Action Item: Forms are now available in vestibule for the Fall 2020/Spring 2021 school year provided by the Trustees of the Cedar Trust. Time sensitive, act now. Deadline 11/30/20. For registered parishioners of St. Lawrence.

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.



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November 15, 2020 - Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday - Nov 14th -
Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm
5PM: Special Intentions (Ted & Janet Achuff)

Sunday - Nov 15th - Mass is Streamed Live
9:30AM: Special Intentions (Ted & Janet Achuff)

Monday - Nov 16th – St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, Virgin
9AM: Mary McCarthy (Affuson & Pischinger Families)

Tuesday - Nov 17th - St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious
9AM: That all American use the Grace our Lord gives us to defeat Covid 19

Wednesday - Nov 18th – St. Rose Phillippine Duchesne, Virgin
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Thursday - Nov 19th - Weekday
9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday - Nov 20th - Weekday
9AM: Joseph Doyle (Jones Family)

Saturday - Nov 21st – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9AM:

LIVING PRAYER

Who prays as they ought will endeavor to live as they pray.

ASSIGMENT 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

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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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