

# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor

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## 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! September 12, 2021

You have heard me comment that we should always be on guard not to take the scriptures literally. Unless we take the time to research the background and circumstances of the events and words of what we read in the Scriptures, we risk misunderstanding them and come to erroneous conclusions. This doesn't mean we shouldn't pick up the Bible and be enriched, encouraged, corrected and guided by God's word; we just need to be careful not to be naïve as to what God is telling us. This cannot be said of today's Second Reading, the *Letter of Saint James*. "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says, he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day. And one of you says to them. 'Go in peace, keep warm and eat well', but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? **So also, faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead!**" No confusion there! St. James is insisting with his parishioners as well as with you and me, that there is a fundamental linkage between what we say and what we do as disciples of Our Lord. Notice that St. James does not say we should help only Christians who are in need of clothing or Jews who are hungry or Americans who are in want. He says **anyone** who is in need; that includes strangers as well as family, people who will be unable to repay us; people who are homeless or who are refugees from foreign lands, children struggling to maintain their dignity because they are poor, who arrive at school in clothes that are embarrassing or begin the school day with in hunger because they had no breakfast and won't have much to eat at dinner time that evening. It also refers to those who hunger for forgiveness. It's a terrible thing to be in want and we would serve Our Lord well by remembering all of the times and all of the ways and all of the moments when we were in want and somehow someone he addressed that want or need

May we be always ready to show how much we love our Lord by how quickly we are to be available to help those who are vulnerable. Most of the times we will never know them. We may be even skeptical as to the causes of their want, but we should never be guilty of offering them sympathetic words. Let our lives always be grounded in St. James' instructions: "*Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.*"

Your Brother in Christ,



## St. Lawrence's Autumn Scripture Study!

The first session of our parish Scripture Study started last Tuesday; however, there is still time for those who wish to participate in this Study to join us. This is a 11-session Study of the Gospel of St. Luke. All sessions take place on Tuesday morning, 10:30 AM -12 PM, in Cedar Hall. St. Luke's Gospel is popular with many people because it contains many of the stories of Our Lord that many people have held on to, particularly his narratives concerning the events leading up and including the Birth of Our Lord. Cost of materials+ \$20.00. No pre-registration, just arrive 10-15 minutes before we start. Don't underestimate what you can bring to this study and what it can bring to you.



## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In this country, we don't name our churches "The Fourth Avenue Catholic Church," but rather seek a patron saint or mystery of faith. We inherit this tradition from an old Roman custom via medieval England. Interestingly, that has not been the practice elsewhere, and parishes abroad often do carry just the name of the neighborhood. In Ireland, the Roman (English) practices didn't take hold, and so churches are known simply by the street they are on, or by a nickname. Saint Francis of Assisi in Dublin is often called "Adam and Eve" after a pub in the same street. The pub sign is an interesting carving of our first parents, so they become patrons by default. Increasingly in the United States, we are seeing a familiar European pattern emerge when a few churches, each bearing the name of a patron saint or mystery, are gathered into one parish that bears a different name. Thus, we might hear of a parish of "Midvalley City" comprised of Saint Mary, Saint Francis, and Saint Ursula churches. Once a church has been consecrated, its name may not normally be changed. Therefore, when parishes are merged, a new name is given to the parish, which may or may not be that of a heavenly patron, but the church buildings retain their names. In the process, we have lost sight of some worthy patrons of old, but have also seen new parishes open dedicated to twentieth-century saints like Edith Stein, Katharine Drexel, and Mother Teresa.

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

**Collections:** Sept 5th Reporting next week. Thank you.

**Coffee and Donuts:** Sept 12th following the 9:30AM Mass. All are invited to this free activity.

**Holy Name Society:** meeting Sept 13th in Ceadar Hall @ 7PM

**Knights of Columbus:** meeting Sept 20th @ 7:30PM in Ceadar Hall.

**March for Life:** in Harrisburg, PA with Knights of Columbus; bus trip departing from @ St. John the Baptist, Ottsville. Sign up sheets in vestibule. Cost dependent upon level of response.

**Special Mass: Year of St. Joseph.** Mass will be celebrated @ **7PM on 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.

**Blessings:** Are received when one gives to another.

**What to Say:** if you are not sure.... then just listen.



**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](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net) to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

## September 12, 2021 - Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday - Sept 11th -**

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

5PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Sunday - Sept 12th - Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30: Protection of Our Armed Forces

**Monday - Sept 13th – St. John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Blessing for All Married Couples

**Tuesday - Sept 14th - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

9AM: Blessings for All Returning Students in the School Year

**Wednesday - Sept 15th – Our Lady of Sorrows Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

9AM: Protection of the Unborn - Pro Life

**Thursday - Sept 16th - St. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution

**Friday - Sept 17th - St. Robert Bellamine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Peace of Mind & Comfort for the Aged & Infirm

**Saturday - Sept 18th - Weekday**

9AM: Blessings for the Hungry of the World

### **THE CROSS TO BEAR**

If you bear the cross gladly, it will bear you.

—Thomas à Kempis

### **A GRANDPARENT RECIPE**

A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend.

*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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