

# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Rev. Walter J. Benn,  
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684  
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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 26, 2021

For me, one of the blessings of the Jewish Scriptures, known to us as the Old Testament, is that we see how people have not changed much in 3,000 + years. In today's readings, we witness human nature's continual struggle to draw closer to God; it is also our struggle. Unlike the characters in many of our Sabbath readings, where there is some person or group who resists the spirit of God's love, that is not so in today's readings. All of the characters in today's reading are good people, people who are trying to draw closer to God, be faithful to God and who are trying their best to invite others to be in good relationship with God. Unfortunately, in their sincere efforts to be faithful to God, they unwittingly fail to recognize someone who might not be on the same theological page as they are, but certainly striving to be on the same spiritual page as they are. Joshua complains to Moses that Eldad & Medad should be silenced because they are *prophesizing* in the camp because they had not joined the other Elders at the base of the mountain when God shared a portion of His Holy Spirit with them. They ignored the fact that what Eldad & Medad are speaking about is the Holy Spirit's truth to the people. They also fail to understand that the Holy Spirit is not going to be restricted to operate in one strict way or through one avenue.

In today's Gospel, we see the Apostles fall into the same trap. Someone, not of their company or with Jesus' approval is "driving out demons in your name". Like the Elders who came to Moses to complain about Eldad & Medad, the Apostles come to Jesus to complain about this unidentified exorcist. This becomes another moment in the spiritual formation of the Apostles as they learn the deeper implications of being a *disciple*. Notice Our Lord defends the unidentified exorcist because he is performing an act of love; he seeks to liberate someone suffering from some form of evil by invoking the name and goodness of Jesus; he counters evil with the goodness of Christ, not himself. All of this is that person's effort to offer "*a cup of water*" to another who is badly in need of it. Notice, too, who Our Lord identifies as evil and as deserving of being disciplined. "*Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea.*" It is the person who leads people away from the teachings of Our Lord and His Gospel of Love who are the true threats and who should be treated that way. The Apostles fail to recognize that the unidentified exorcist leads people to Christ.

This is a very important gospel for each of us to hear and reflect on. It is tragic that many in our society have embraced a spirit of intolerance to anyone over any issue that does not agree with their view on the numerous hot button issues of our times, and they are quite proud of themselves regardless of how destructive their beliefs are. Certainly, there are times and issues in which Our Lord calls us to stand against true evil, even at the cost of our lives, but those issues should be judged in the light of what he calls us to stand for, and those will always be able to be identified by His call to Love: to be selfless, to forgive, to stand-up for the powerless, to share with those in want or who are unwanted, to own our own sinfulness. When we understand our relationship with Our Lord in those terms, then identifying those who are *good guys* and those who are the *bad guys* will become not only easier, but also easier to stand with.

Your Brother in Christ,



**Learning:** it's difficult to learn when your lips are moving; try listening instead.

### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Did you ever notice how often the angels are referred to during Mass? We commonly meet them in the Confiteor ("I ask blessed Mary, every virgin, all the angels and saints"), prefaces ("with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven"), the Roman Canon ("we pray that your angel may take this sacrifice"), and Eucharistic Prayer IV ("countless hosts of angels stand before you to do your will"). Last week and this week angels abound as we celebrated Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael yesterday and will honor the Guardian Angels on October 2.

September 29 was originally the feast day for Michael alone. Gabriel and Raphael joined him in the 1969 reform of the Church calendar. The celebration of the Guardian Angels has been observed since the sixteenth century in Spain. Pope Clement X assigned the feast to the first free day after St. Michael's in 1670, and there it has remained. Take some time this week to reflect on these, God's messengers and our protectors, and maybe even celebrate with a little angel food cake!

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

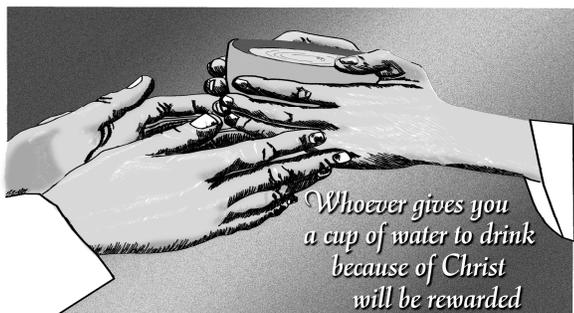
**Collections:** Sept 19th Parish @ \$2149,  
Air Conditioning @ \$50, Catholic Foundation @  
\$920. Thank you.

**Coffee & Donuts:** Sunday, October 10th following  
the 9:30AM Mass. All are invited.

**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 addi-  
tion 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 procla-  
mation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal  
Church, Pope Francis declared a Holy Year dedicat-  
ed 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.



**St. Peter's Rummage, Soup & Cookie Sale:**  
will be held on Thursday 10/7 @9AM - 6PM;  
Friday 10/8 @ 9AM - 5PM & Saturday 10/9 @  
9AM - 12PM in Riegelsville. All are welcome.

**New Members**

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**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 arrange-  
ments to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to  
welcome you.

## September 26, 2021 - Twenty– Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday - Sept 25th -**

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

5PM: Deceased Members of the Maddaloni &  
Resenbaum Families ( Fr. Benn)

**Sunday - Sept 26th - *Mass is Streamed Live***

9:30: Walter & Sara Benn (Fr. Benn)

**Monday - Sept 27th – St. Vincent de Paul, Priest**

9AM: Intentions of Irene Pavlica (Ted &  
Janet Achuff)

**Tuesday - Sept 28th - St. Wenceslaus, Martyr;  
St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs**

9AM: Walter Bonk (Dolores Bonk)

**Wednesday - Sept 29th – St. Michael, Gabriel &  
Raphael, Archangels**

***Exposition of Blessed Sacrament***

9AM: Jim & Sharon Huntington (Helfant Family)

**Thursday - Sept 30th - St. Jerome, Priest &  
Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution

**Friday - October 1st - St. Therese of the Child  
Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church**

9AM: Rocco & Julia DellaCroce (Helfant Family)

**Saturday - Oct. 2nd - The Holy Guardian Angles**

9AM: Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

## **THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

In all our thoughts and actions we ought to  
remember the presence of God, and account all lost  
in which we think not of God.

—St. Bernard of Clairvaux

## **Fall began on Sept 22; Daylight Savings Time Ends November 7th**

*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:

Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684  
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