

## February 2, 2025 – The Presentation of The Lord

### Saturday – Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> – Vigil Mass

5PM: Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

### Sunday – Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Rudy – USMC – Vietnam Causality (Ted Achuff)

### Monday – Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> –Weekday – St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

### Tuesday – Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – Weekday

9AM: Joseph Papiernik, Jr. (Dolores Bonk)

### Wednesday – Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

9:00AM: Joseph Papiernik, Sr. (Dolores Bonk)

### Thursday – Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

### Friday – Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> – Weekday –

9AM: Persons Suffering from Emotional Issues

### Saturday – Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. Jerome Emiliani; St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

9AM: Protection of the Unborn and Their Expecting Mothers

### Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life!

Lynda Stefanski, Peter Libasci, Joseph Bonk, Tom Trotter, Dave Blessing, Jeff Olimpo, Matt Sebastiano, Maria Middleton, Fern & John Gibson, William Merkle, Russ Funkhouser, Joseph Jones, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Andrew Schlotter, Bethany Steinberg, Joann Thaler, Julie Petry, Steven Fusco, Greg Gambino, Patrick D. Brown, Douglas Defreest, Jr., Benny LoScalzo, Steve Ombalski, Jane Burger, Ginny LaBar, Michael Gawronski, Marciano Alves Viera, Bernadette Maszczak, Shawn Kelly, Beth Collins, Nikia Helfant Messier, Anthony Libasci

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

## Church of Saint Lawrence

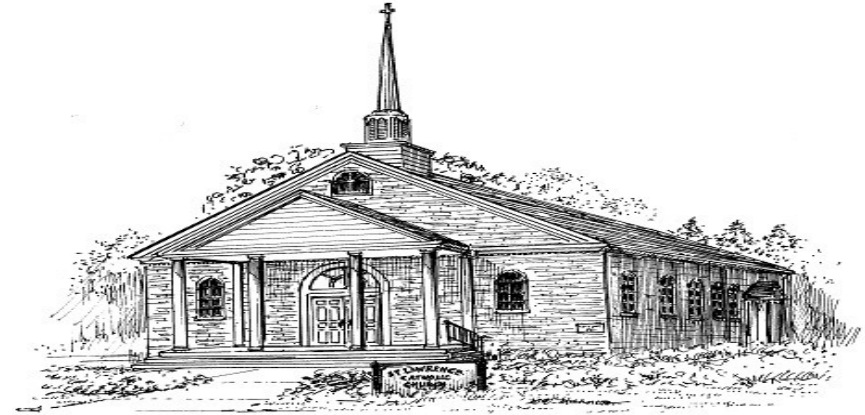
345 Elmwood Lane  
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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

[Website: saint-lawrence-church.org](http://www.saint-lawrence-church.org)



**Mass Schedule:** Saturday Evenings @ 5PM; Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM; Holy Days @ 9AM, 12 Noon & 7PM; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday @ 9AM, Thursday Readings & Communion Distribution Only.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesday @ 9:30AM – 11AM

**Confessions:** Saturday @ 3:30PM - 4:30PM @ Church. Via Appointment - Contact Rectory

**Holy Name Society:** Meets Monthly; Second Monday @ 7PM @ Ceader Hall (Sept – May)

**Altar Rosary Society:** Meets Monthly; Second Thursday @ 7PM (Sept – May)

**Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes:** Meets Monthly, First Saturday Following the 9AM Mass in Ceader Hall.

**Marthas & Marys Ministry:** Faith based group, meets First Thurs. @ 11:30AM @ Ceader Hall

**Weddings:** Contact Rectory for Details. Plans Preferred Minimun 6 Months in Advance.

**Parish PREP Classes & New Parishoners:** Contact Rectory via Phone or email.

**Rectory Office:** Mon-Fri @ 9:30AM – 12 noon

Pastor's Corner! February 2, 2025

Brothers and sisters! Today, the Church wishes to recall the day when, as proud parents and devout Jews, Joseph & Mary brought the Baby Jesus into the Temple for the first time in His earthly life to fulfill the traditions in Judaism, which called for parents to dedicate their firstborn sons to God. A sign of that dedication would be the circumcision of that child. In a complimentary way, it was a sign of Joseph's & Mary's beliefs that their child was a gift to them and a gift to them as a religious people. It recalled the incredible generosity of God to the Jewish people when he liberated them from slavery and **gifted** them with the *Promised Land*. Their response was to give that gift back to the Father symbolically. At their best, Israel was always aware of God's deep love for them and of their responsibility to love back deeply. Would this not be the theme of everything Our Lord would preach about, teach about, insist on, and embody in His adult life? God created us in Love, forgave us out of Love, and intends to return for us out of Love. What is the connection between this Feast of the Presentation and the blessing of a candle? The short answer is that this is what and why the

Father sent the Son. The Son would become the light of the *World*; *His teaching*, reinforced by the examples of His compassion, would be the Light that the peoples of the world needed to find their way out of the spiritual darkness that our *World* promotes and perpetuates. This is why the first trip to the Temple is so important. From that Temple and Israel, Jesus would spread the Truth....the Good News! The words of the elders, Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, would only compliment the significance of this day in the life of the Holy Family.

On the day of our baptism, our mothers & fathers, grandparents, aunts & uncles, cousins, friends of our family, and the members of the spiritual family of our parish gathered around our parents, who were so proud and happy for us, as well as for our extended family. Like Joseph and Mary, they also brought their children into church and dedicated them to God. They might not have understood the subtleties of the theology of Baptism, but they wanted their child to be in a relationship with the Father by somehow being in a relationship with His Son. Like Joseph & Mary, they were determined to dedicate their lives to inspiring their

daughter and son to trust the Father's Son, Jesus.

The *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord* is more than just going down Memory Lane. It is the Church's effort to play the role of Simeon and the Prophetess Anna by reminding us that, like Jesus, we were baptized for a purpose, namely, to be "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.*"

Your brother in Christ,

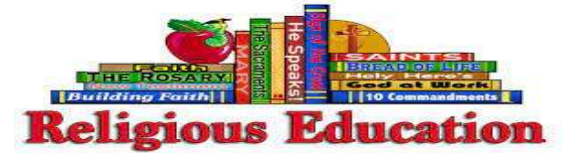


**Collections:** Jan 26 Parish @ \$4346, Catholic Charities @ \$32, Increase Offertory Program @ \$3000, Candles @ \$55. Thank You. **Note:** Increase Offertory Program Revenue to date (1/26/25) = Gross \$8,775 – Expense = Net \$5348 Debt Reduction Program to date (1/26/25) @ \$25,175. Total net both Programs combined @ \$30,523 BIG THANK YOU!

**Coffee & Donuts:** Feb 9 following the Sunday, 9:30AM Mass @ Ceader Hall.

**Special Collection:** Feb 1-2 Care of Aging & Infirm Priests of AOP.

**Marthas & Mary's Thank You:** to the anonymous donor for your generous gift. It will be put to good use.



**Financial Assistance: Action Item:**

Forms now available in vestibule for Fall 2024/Spring 2025 school year provided by the Ceader Trust Trustees. Time sensitive, act now. **Deadline** April 6, 2025 for registered parishioners of St. Lawrence only.

**IMPORTANT:** 2025 weekly contribution envelopes have been in church for pick up and will be removed Feb 2 and not issued for 2026 if not picked up. Thank you



**Knight at the Races:** being held on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> @ Ceader Hall. Doors open @ 6PM with races starting @ 7PM. This is a family friendly event open to everyone. Consider inviting friends & neighbors. Donations of door prizes & baked goods are greatly appreciated. Horses available for purchase @ \$10 each with a 1 in 10 chance of winning \$50. Thank you for supporting this annual Holy Name Society fund raiser providing a helpful hand to those in need throughout our Parish Community.