

July 13, 2025 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – July 12th – Vigil Mass

5:00PM Theresa Ballek (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Sunday – July 13th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM Intentions of Dorothy Stella (Dolores Bonk)

Monday – July 14th – Weekday – St. Kateri Tekawitha, Virgin

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Tuesday – July 15th – Weekday – St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9AM: Texas Flood Victims & Families (Parish Community)

Wednesday – July 16th – Weekday – Our Lady of Mount Carmel

9:00AM: First Responders of Texas Flood (Parish Community)

Thursday – July 17th – Weekday

9:00AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – July 18th – Weekday – St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

9:00AM: Law Enforcement Throughout Our Country (Parish Community)

Saturday – July 19th – Weekday

9:00AM Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

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, Louis Cortese, Faith Marie Messier, Ann Lewis, Alvin LaBar

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

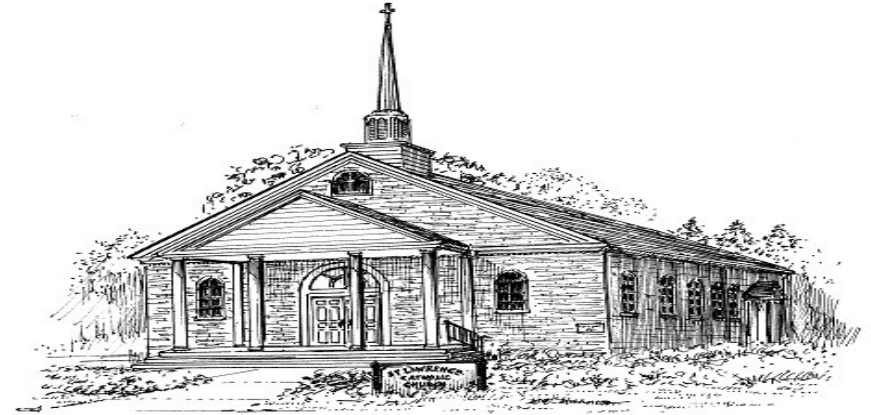
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

[Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org](http://Website: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

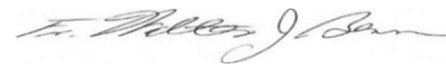
Pastor's Corner! July 13, 2025

Some Scriptures are challenging to understand throughout the Bible, but many more are straightforward and mystery-free—today's Gospel is one of them. The scholar of *Jewish Law* is accustomed to looking for difficulties where there aren't any. On the other hand, our Lord is determined to demystify a person's relationship with God, making it less intimidating, less stressful, and generally revealing the Father exactly for who He is: approachable, generous, and loving. In today's Gospel, Our Lord uses one of His most memorable Parables: *The Parable of the Good Samaritan*. In twelve sentences, He re-institutes the central belief of Judaism, which holds that God is Love, and because He is, He loves all He creates, including Gentiles. Secondly, because He loves each of us unconditionally, He expects that, as His children, we will love each person unconditionally, regardless of how difficult it is. The Samaritan displays this beautifully. In caring for this victim of violent bandits, every minute he spends caring for the victim he exposes himself to the very same danger from the very same criminals, whatever schedule he was on, is ruined when he stops to care for this man; the victims soil his garments

sweat and blood; he gives up the convenience of riding on his own donkey, walking so that the victim does not need to walk in the heat of the day; he must seek out an Inn to put this victim up for a number of days; he pays the Inn Keeper in advance **in cash** for the care of the victim; we never hear one word or gripe of complaint for his inconveniences; he draws no attention to this great act of compassion; and finally, he does all of this for a person whom he was taught to reject, because he was a Jew.

My brothers and sisters, there is no mystery here, and anyone who finds mystery in this teaching is no better than "the scholar of the law". Our Lord's teaching is clear.... we have no right to abandon anyone in need of God's compassion..... **No Right!** It doesn't matter what their background is, their level of education, political party, sexuality, religion, their economic state, what school they attend or graduated from, their ethnic or racial background, whether their pregnancy is outside of marriage, whether they have mocked or rejected our Catholic beliefs, whether they have withheld God's love from others, or what level of inconvenience their troubles cause us. We may not be able to do everything for them, but we always have a responsibility to make

ourselves available to them in whatever way we can, and, we do this because we remember how often and in how many ways, God has loved us. It may not be convenient or pleasant or "clean"; we might feel all alone or abandoned by others who are bystanders. But, if we have the Faith, we say we have, we won't suffer from a short memory, and we will remember Our Lord's words, "Go and do likewise!"



Collections: July 6th Parish @ \$2110, Donation @ \$500. Thank You.



It's a big decision!

It sounds so elitist but isn't intended to be. Choosing to become a Catholic is a Big Decision. It is a big decision because it involves a *commitment*, a word that usually scares the bejeebies out of people. Today, when most people hear the word *commitment* they usually think "entrapped"; which is regrettable. We enter into relationships not only because of what we will receive from the other, but also, because of what we can bring to the other. We make a commitment to another because we believe in the goodness of the other, and because we

believe they will treasure and nourish our goodness.

If you are a person who has considered becoming a Catholic, Great! You need to pray over it; to be informed about the Church and to know that we will be committed to you throughout the initiation process. The process itself is referred to as **RCIA** {*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*}. A brief description of the program can be found in yellow hand-outs in the vestibule of the church. To assist you in making this decision, please contact Fr. Walter Benn through the Parish Office at **[610] 749-2684**; consult the **orange** hand-outs in the vestibule of the church; visit St. Lawrence's website **saint-lawrence-church.org**; or email Fr. Benn through the Parish Office at **saintlawrence@verizon.net**. For planning purposes, it is important that you inform us of your intentions before the first Class on **2025-09-09 [7PM -8 PM]**. **Final Class is 2026-03-31**. Know that throughout the remainder of this summer & coming autumn, we will be holding you up to Our Lord for His guidance

Special Collection: July 12-13; Campaign for Human Development.

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, 7/13 @ Ceader Hall following the 9:30AM Mass.

Catholic Women's Conference: see handout.