

October 12, 2025 – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – Oct 11th – Vigil Mass

5:00PM Intentions of Diane Nowicki (Senior Family)

Sunday – Oct 12th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM Special Intentions (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Monday – Oct 13th – Weekday – Columbus Day

9AM: **NO MASS**

Tuesday – Oct 14th – Weekday – St. Callistus I, Pope & Martyr

9AM: **NO MASS**

Wednesday – Oct 15th – Weekday – St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

9:00AM: **NO MASS**

Thursday – Oct 16th – Weekday – St. Hedwig, Religious

9:00AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – Oct 17th – Weekday – St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr

9:00AM: **NO MASS** – Intention moved to 10/20

Saturday – Oct 18th – Weekday – St. Luke, Evangelist

9:00AM **YES MASS** – Hank Perella (Dolan Family)

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, Emma Jones

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

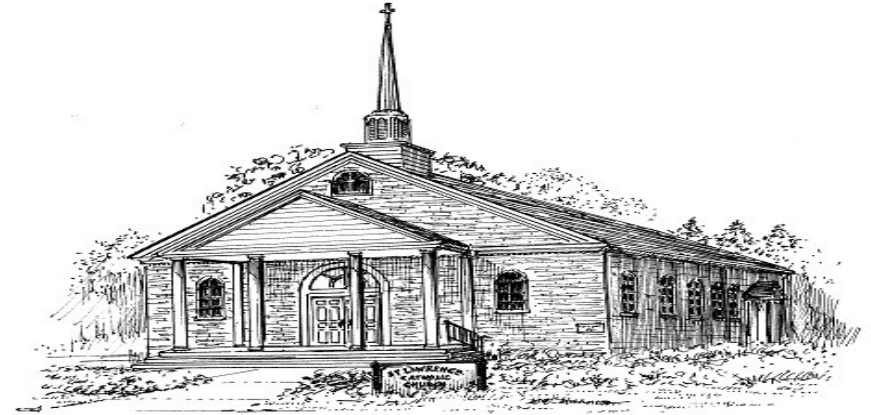
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org



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 Friday @ 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! October 12, 2025

Sometimes, as Catholics I'm afraid we come across to people who aren't Catholic or Christian as elitist, inflexible, condescending, unreasonable and/or judgmental. I can understand why this happens. At the core of our beliefs is the understanding that we are called to be in a love relationship with God; a love-relationship that carries exactly the same intensity and responsibility of marriage. Our model for marriage is the relationship which Ancient Israel entered into with God at the conclusion of the Exodus. Because God has given His heart completely to us without any reservations; we believe we have an obligation to give ourselves without reservation to Him. As all persons, whose marriage is grounded in such love, we come to know that such love is something we must work on every day of our lives, our Soul Mate deserves it. We might not like it; it might not be very convenient; we might fear the cost to ourselves in doing it; but with each act of such love, we will also come to the spiritual realization that she/he needs it.....he/she deserves it. The cost? It doesn't matter! Their peace; their wholeness; their happiness is all that matters to me. This is why God loves us; this is why we need to work at discovering why God deserves my

love. Talk to any couple who has been married for a long time; they might joke about it; they might roll their eyes; they will definitely have the scars to show for it; yet, they would never trade it for anything. They might have been digging, digging, digging for that treasure, but now, they have found it and they'll never let go of it, and always be grateful to God for it. Recall the experience of the People of Israel after escaping slavery in Egypt. They wandered through the desert for 40 years before they reach the promised Land. Running out of water and food was the least of their problems. The real challenge of the *Exodus* was themselves and their mistaken perceptions of their Soul Mate. In the Church, we refer to this great love as *Covenant Love*. It is eternal! It is eternal, not because it has to be; but, because we finally reach a stage where we come to appreciate the profound Love and Goodness of our Soul Mate.

This is what is behind our perception of Christ, His Gospel and our responsibility to live it. It is not easy and for most of us, it might seem to mirror our spiritual ancestors experience of the Exodus. Nevertheless, we embrace it asking for God's patience, His forgiveness and his Grace to persevere in loving Him on His terms.

All of which brings us to today's 1st Reading and the Gospel. Both stories challenge us, but also should inspire us to humility and courage because of two individuals who were challenged to profound conversion experiences, which were provoked by profound experiences of God's love. Who are they? First: There is Naaman, the great Syrian General who soundly defeated the Israelites and was just as proudly convinced of the greatness of his pagan gods. For all of his greatness, Naaman was poor, in that he was afflicted by the terrible disease of leprosy, for which there was no cure. Naaman was desperate to be whole, and found his chance in the innocent Faith of a little Jewish slave girl. Second, there is the unnamed leper, a Samaritan among 9 Jews, who returned to Jesus to thank Him for His love by curing him of his leprosy, and acknowledging its connection to God the Father.

My sisters and brothers, the moment God created us, He "proposed" His love to each of us, and expressed His desire to be engaged to us for all eternity. Fortunately, He gives us a life-time to say "Yes". Like Naaman, like the Israelites during their Exodus in the desert, like the Samaritan leper, we will all have our chance to discover God's love; to share God's love; to act on God's love. Like

every potential Soul Mate, what we must ask ourselves is the question, "*Do I have the humility and the guts to be transformed by that love.....forever?*"

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: October 5 Parish @ \$3218, World Mission @ 5, Black & Indian Mission @ \$10 Thank You.

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, Oct 12 following the 9:30AM Mass. All invited. Sponsored by the Altar Rosary Society.

Special Collection: October 18/19, [Mission Sunday](#). In pew envelopes available.



Altar & Rosary Fundraiser

Please join on Friday, Nov. 14, 2025 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm @ Cedar Hall. Paint your own 2 Christmas glass ornaments Mary Reshetar, a professional artist will show how to paint on glass Christmas ornaments. \$25.00 per person Snacks will be provided. BYOB Contact Kathy Twomey by Nov. 7, 2025 to reserve your spot. Cell 610-564-7706 Kathyamaccarthy@gmail.com