**November 3, 2024 – Thirty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday – Nov. 2nd** – **Vigil Mass**

5PM: Rogelio Mendez Flores (Lilian & Family)

**Sunday – Nov. 3rd** – **Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30: Intentions of Victoria Leigh Babson (Dolores Bonk)

**Monday – Nov. 4th –Weekday – St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop**

9AM: Guidance for All Voters on Election Day (Ted/Janet Achuff)

**Tuesday – Nov. 5th – Weekday –**

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

**Wednesday – Nov. 6th – Weekday –**

 Exposition of Blessed Sacrament – 9:30AM – 11AM

9AM**:** Robert Kaspern (Jane Burger)

**Thursday – Nov. 7th – Weekday –**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – Nov. 8th– Weekday –**

9AM: Expecting Mothers & Their Babies

**Saturday – Nov. 9th – Weekday – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

9AM: World Peace

 **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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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Riegelsville, PA 18077 Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

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**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! Nov. 3, 2024

Today's Gospel is the Gospel of what I call the Double Answer. A religious scribe asks Our Lord a legitimate question, a question whose answer he should know without asking. "Which is the first of all the Commandments?" Our Lord's response is equally predictable: "Hear O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." Then, Our Lord attaches an addendum to the First Commandment; "You shall love your neighbor as yourself!" In doing this, Our Lord insists that one cannot love God without loving one's neighbor. Our Lord challenges the spiritual leaders of His time to move from the theological and hypothetical to the concrete. They might start off as theoretical, but as Our Lord insists, theology must ultimately be lived. It is not easy to take something idealistic and perfect while molding it within our very imperfect and flawed humanity; nevertheless, it can be done with God's help. It requires effort, courage, humility, and trust, none of which are easy, painless, or risk-free. I do not know about you, but I have found that often, they involve people we know whose needs might be long-term and/or who might misunderstand our motives, especially if the Love needed is in the form of correction.

 You and I will never know how many lives Our Lord reversed with His healing miracles or inspired to conversion through His perseverance and compassion. With their proclivity to judge, jump to conclusions, publicly humiliate, isolate, and wound with their slander, how many people do you think the religious authorities, with their correct theology, succeeded in turning back to God?

I know it sounds corny, but being in a relationship with God is about Love, not only seeking the joy of His Love but, more importantly, taking on the responsibility of sharing His Love by personally extending it to those who need it. It involves remembering the many times when we desperately needed His Love when He extended it to us through another person, a person we did not expect or know. When you reflect on those moments, I bet you will discover that it was not a good or convenient time for them to drop everything to be available for you, listen to you, and stand beside you. Perhaps, only later, you or I would learn that they were going through a tough time themselves but made themselves available for you because your troubles [including those that were self-inflicted] were heavier, more painful. One cannot argue for God-like Love; one can only believe in its essential goodness and understand that it is wrong to withhold it, horde it, and break God's heart.

 My sisters and brothers, you and I will never be convinced of the importance of loving our neighbor until we come to understand that for God, you and I have always been the First Commandment of His heart and how much He has already loved us with all His heart, with all His soul, with all His mind, and with all His strength.

Your brother in Christ,

**IMPORTANT ACTION ITEM**: 2025 weekly contribution envelopes process has begun. If you currently are not receiving and would like to in 2025 or something needs to be updated on your current 2024 envelopes inform the Parish office. Those who were issued envelopes for 2024, but did not pick up by February 2024, have been dropped from the 2025 production. Those who did pick up remain for 2025. Dead Line November 4. Once the process is completed no changes/updates will happen till 2026. Thank you.

**Collections:** Oct 27 Parish @ $2904, Mission Sunday @ $20. Thank you.



The **Knights of Columbus Council 4545** and The Regina Academy of St. John The Baptist Church are selling Captain Chucky's Crab Cakes. Just in time for Thanksgiving. Order forms with details are in the vestibule of our church. Knights will be accepting order forms after mass on November 2 & 3, November 9 & 10, and November 16 & 17. Please do your best to support this delicious fund-raising annual event. Thank you. KOC



See Bulletin Insert for Additional Information.