#### **June 15, 2025 – The Most Holy Trinity**

Saturday – June 14<sup>th</sup> – Vigil Mass

5:00PM William & Mary Curran (Fr. Benn)

Sunday - June 15th - Mass is Streamed Live -

9:30AM: Sara & William (Benn 9Fr. Benn)

Monday – June 16th – Weekday

9AM: US Army 250 Year Anniversary (Parish Community)

Tuesday – June 17th – Weekday

9AM: World Peace (Parish Community)

Wednesday – June 18th – Weekday

9:00AM: Intentions of Debbie DeAngelo (Dolores Bonk)

Thursday – June 19th – Weekday – St. Romuald, Abbot

9:00AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – June 20th – Weekday -

9:00AM: Special Intentions (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Saturday – June 21st – Weekday – St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

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

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: <a href="mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net">saintlawrence@verizon.net</a>

## 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)

<u>Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes:</u> 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! June 15, 2025

"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth." Most modern-day Christians do not realize that even the ancient Israelites understood God in terms of a Holy Trinity. Their concept of the Trinity was not as balanced or developed as Christianity's understanding of the Holy Trinity, but still, their understanding of God included three aspects: Father, Son and Spirit. Since their experience of God was as life-giver, protector, as one who nourished, corrected, forgave, one who renewed His relationship with them when they were unfaithful or disobedient, one who affirmed them when they were discouraged or overwhelmed; it was instinctive for them to think of God as Parent / Father. When Jesus appears on the scene, and people begin to understand His teachings and witness his miracles, they came to understand that somehow he was of God. Once these experiences take place against the ultimate experiences of the Crucifixion and Resurrection it didn't take long before, with the help of the God's Holy Spirit, they connected the dots and recognized Jesus Christ as Divine. Since all of these events took place in that time in world history when Tribal Chiefs and Kings were the only form of government, which included a culture that was steeped in the belief that if you were dealing with the King's son, you were dealing with the King; it was natural for them to understand Jesus's relationship with God, the

Father, in those terms; namely, Jesus was God the Son.

In today's Gospel, Our Lord speaks to the Apostles during the Last Supper "....but he [the Son] will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He [the Father] will glorify me [Jesus – Son], because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason, I told you that he [Father] will take from what is mine and declare it to you." You might find this a bit challenging to follow, but it is John's way of arguing for Jesus Christ as Son of God; it is a constant theme in his Gospel. John's message to his parishioners is that all you need to do in order to understand the will and desires of God the Father, is to reflect on and embrace the teachings and life of Jesus the Son. Why? Because, the two are one and the same.

The next challenge: The followers of Jesus had just experienced God's love, clarity, strength and direction through the person of Jesus [Son of God]. After Jesus ascends into heaven to return to the Father, the legitimate question arises. "What about us?" "What are we to do?" "We are totally unequipped to deal with the pagan world?" The Father's / Jesus' response is what Jesus promises the Apostles during the Last Supper. Basically, Jesus returns among them on Pentecost Sunday in the mysterious form of the Holy Spirit [the 3<sup>rd</sup> Person of the Trinity].

He Church makes it a point to emphasize its belief in God as Triune, i.e., as a Trinity, three Persons in one Nature, and this weekend's Feast is one of the ways in which it does it. At the risk of sounding heretical, I would suggest to you that each of us has a place in the Holy Trinity, especially, the *Third Person* of the Holy Trinity; namely, as agents of the Holy Spirit. Would you not agree that our world is not in a very good place in our life time? There is violence, hatred, lack of respect towards anyone which differs from another and is routinely approved or emulated. There is absolute disrespect for human life or the environment. The environment of mistrust and presumption of another person's character or agenda. All of this has piled up to create a sense of hopelessness for many of the peoples of our world. How much our people need the direction hope and life that only God's Holy Spirit can give? If the peoples of our world {and that includes our Countrymen) are ever to be inspired to come out of their bunkers of cynicism, distrust, anger and reluctance to trust in Our Lord's call to be loving; then they need to be inspired. That inspiration can only come from one group and they are all people of faith. They must see Christ in our choices, our refusal to be pessimistic, our willingness to take risks as being people who are

transparent, selfless, kind, respectful and whose first instinct is always to trust, to presume the goodness in the people around them. When they experience this, they will be experiencing God's Son Jesus and Jesus' Father....God. Your brother in Christ,

Collections: June 8<sup>th</sup> Parish @ \$2697, Ascensions Thursday @ \$20. Thank You.

**Special Collection**: Peter's Pence, June 14-15. Contributions support the Vatican.



Altar Rosary Trip to Philadelphia: Save the date Friday, June 20. Visiting: Old St. Mary's Church, Old St. Joseph's Church, Tour & Mass at the National Shrine of St. Rite of Cascia. Details will follow.



Annual Parish Dinner: Tuesday, June 24 @ LaBella Via, 41 Third St., Phillipsburg, NJ. Cost \$20pp payable to: "The Holy Name Society", cash bar, soft drinks provided. RSVP by June 15. Forms in vestibule of Church.