

**March 22, 2026 – Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Saturday – Mar 21<sup>st</sup> – Vigil Mass**

5:00PM Joseph Papiernik (Lay Carmelite Community)

**Sunday – Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30AM Safety & Protection of All Armed Service Members

**Monday – Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> – Lenten Weekday – St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**

9:00AM All Those Suffering from Dementia (Lay Carmelite Community)

**Tuesday – Mar 24<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday – St. Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr**

9:00AM Protection of the Unborn & Their Expecting Mothers

**Wed. – Mar 25<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday – The Annunciation of the Lord**

9:00AM Protection of All First Responders

**Thurs. – Mar 26<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday –**

9:00AM Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – Mar 27<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday – Abstinence**

9:00AM Blessing & Comfort to All Clergy & Religious

**Saturday – Mar 28<sup>th</sup> – Lenten 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, Emma Jones, **Bernie Boylan**

**Church of Saint Lawrence**

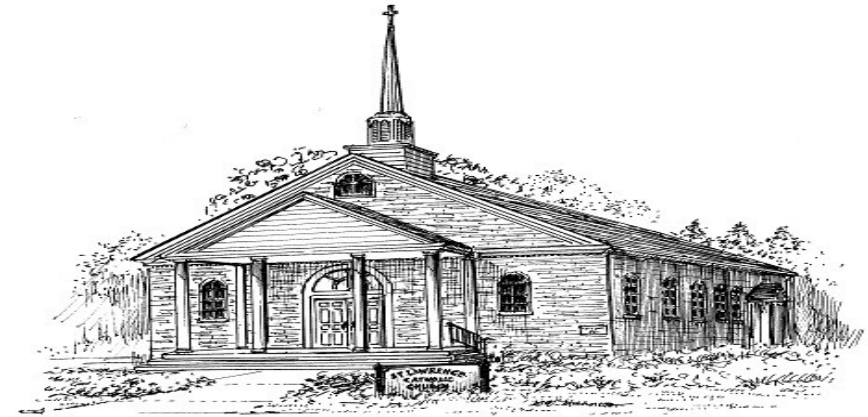
345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

Rectory: 610-749-2684

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

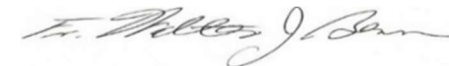
## Pastor's Corner March 22, 2026

Today, we reflect on the well-known story of Jesus' raising Lazarus from the dead! This is the event that sealed Jesus' fate with the religious authorities. Until now, the religious authorities had been doing their best to discredit Jesus whenever they could; recall last week's story of the healing of the man born blind on the Sabbath. However, once he brought someone back from the dead in a public setting, they had no way of discrediting Him any longer. He was the real deal and the people knew it. The religious authorities had no other choice but to come up with a scheme that would result in His death. Jesus' raising Lazarus from his death is the focus of this story as it should be. It anticipates Jesus' own death and resurrection; notice the numerous similarities between the Lazarus story and Jesus Resurrection story {e.g., 3 days between their deaths and their resurrections: women who love these men, feeling helpless to prevent their deaths; requests for the Divine intervention, tombs made out of rock, large stone rolled across their entrance; the Apostle's reluctance to get involved with these deaths}. However, I believe there is another facet of this story that deserves our reflection and that is the almost universal lack of faith in Jesus'

ability to reverse Lazarus' suffering & death. The Apostles, the grieving crowd of relatives, friends and neighbors, even Mary and Martha. These were good people, women and men of faith, but their faith wasn't of the caliber of Our Lord's faith. They responded to Our Lord's repeated expressions of what he intended to do, with complete misunderstanding or cynicism. This must have been extremely deflating to Our Lord; yet, out of love for Lazarus and for all who would be a part of that moment, Our Lord brought the full power of **His** Faith to that moment.

Brothers and sisters, this should challenge us to reflect on the caliber of our own faith, especially when we are going through a long traumatic experience; one where we ask God to intervene; yet, we experience silence. What is our response to those terrible hours then? This is not to say that it is wrong for us to grieve, doubt, feel terribly alone, hopeless or even angry. But, it is to ask the question: "Am I willing to persevere, to trust in Our Lord's solution, and to wait for it to play out?" When we were children, our parents, grandparents and religious teachers always impressed upon us to pray. Basically, they were encouraging us to develop the priority of staying close to Our Lord; of placing

ourselves in His presence each day through personal prayer, not because we had to, but because we wanted to. That intimacy which we would develop with Our Lord would prepare us for those times when we would have our own Lazarus experiences; regardless, of whether we were the Lazarus or we were the Mary, Martha or one of those in the crowd. As you reflect on your life during this Lent, and you realize that you have been careless in your daily prayer life; ask Our Lord to help you restart that discipline. When you are around your children and grandchildren, don't lose an opportunity to impress upon them the importance of prayer in their lives by allowing them to see you in prayer and/or hear you in prayer. Let them see and come to understand, that the burden of our relationship with God is not on God's part; **it is on our part**. This is how those who love each other stay in love. Your brother in Christ,



**Collections:** March 15<sup>th</sup> Parish @ \$2006, Church in Central/Eastern Europe @ \$45, Thank You!!

**Lenten & Easter Season + Abstinence** flyers available in vestibule.

**Lenten Ecumenical Service:** Sunday, March 22 @ 3PM @ St. John's United Church of Christ.

**Lenten Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross:** every Friday of Lent from 6PM to 7PM prior to Stations of the Cross @ 12 noon & 7PM each Friday of Lent.

**Confessions:** in addition to our regular schedule on Saturdays @ 3:30PM – 4:30PM; also, during Lent immediately following Stations of the Cross and a Special Evening Confessions Wed., April 1 @ 7PM-8PM



**Music/Choir:** seeking a Trumpet player for Easter Masses. Contact parish office if available. Thank you

**IS THIS YOU??** Action item as the following addresses are not current and undeliverable. Advise parish office:

[Adream4u@rcn.com](mailto:Adream4u@rcn.com)

[Jueli.pason@gmail.com](mailto:Jueli.pason@gmail.com)

[powerstein@ptd.net](mailto:powerstein@ptd.net)

[pimoriarty@rcn.com](mailto:pimoriarty@rcn.com)

[racela@ptd.net](mailto:racela@ptd.net)

[cook-rebecca@msn.com](mailto:cook-rebecca@msn.com)

**R-Ville Cemetery Plots for Sale:** by owner who relocated. Interested? Contact: Frank Podlasinski @ 610-217-3116