

April 7, 2024 – Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday – April 6th – Vigil Mass

5PM: Stephen & Mary Benn (Fr. Benn)

Sunday – April 7th – Mass is Streamed Live- Easter Sunday

9:30: Joseph Benn (Fr. Benn)

Monday – April 8th – Weekday – The Annunciation of the Lord

9AM: Dennis Ryan (Helfant Family)

Tuesday – April 9th – Easter Weekday –

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Wednesday – April 10th – Easter Weekday –

9AM: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament – 9:30AM – 11AM
Special Intention (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Thursday – April 11th – Easter Weekday – St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr

9AM: No Mass – Reading & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – April 12th – Easter Weekday –

9AM: Rocco & Julia DellaCroce (Helfant Family)

Saturday – April 13th – Easter Weekday – St. Martin, Pope & Martyr

9AM: Carol Pfander (Helfant 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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

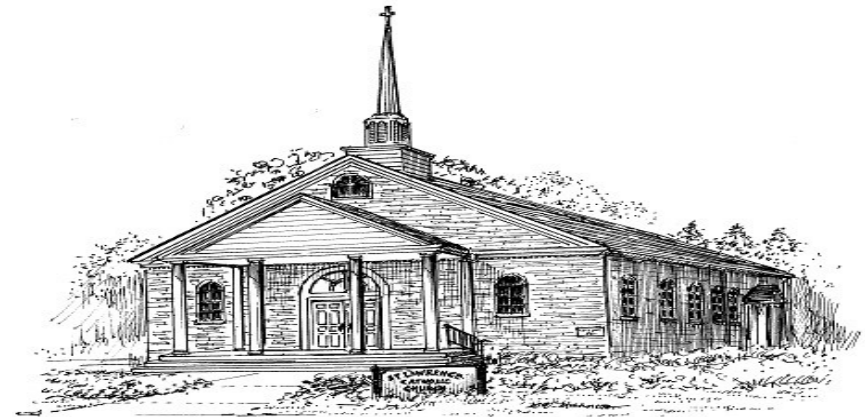
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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

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[Website: saint-lawrence-church.org](http://www.saint-lawrence-church.org)



Mass Schedule: Saturday Evenings @ 5PM; Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM; Holy Days @ 9AM & 7PM; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday @ 9AM, Thursday No Mass, Communion Distribution Only @ 9AM

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! April 7, 2024

Even until the moment of His death, Our Lord was offering the Father's love to those around Him. Recall the *Good Thief* who defended the innocence of Jesus when the criminal on the other side of Jesus was berating Him for not getting the three of them out of their execution. "*Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!*" Our Lord's response to the Good Thief was, "*This day you will be with me in Paradise.*" Earlier, Jesus had beseeched the Father, "*Forgive them Father! They know no what they do!*" What is the first thing the Resurrected Jesus did on Easter morning? He sought out the Apostles who were still hiding in shame and guilt in the Upper Room. The very first words He speaks to the Apostles are words of forgiveness and healing. "*Peace be with you.*" Later on, He repeats these words of love and compassion. He didn't need to be asked. He didn't humiliate them by making them wait or beg for His forgiveness. Because He loved them, He had no intentions of prolonging their suffering. Our Lord preempts any more suffering, with words which every person who has wounded another craves to hear from their victim "*Peace be with you.*"

My brothers and sisters, if Easter Sunday is about the Father's love for His Son, and by extension to us, His wayward children; then this Sunday, *Divine Mercy Sunday*, is the Father's challenge to us to be like the healed Apostles whom He made whole in the Upper

Room on Easter Sunday morning. We can only do this by refusing to wound ourselves and others by our acts of selfishness, cruelty, or dishonesty. We also can contribute to their and our own healing by acknowledging our wrong and expressing our regret for the wound we caused them. These humble and courageous acts are all that Our Lord need to complete the healing of both the wounded and the wounder. It's not even about justice; rather, it is about **choice**. As Jesus stopped the cycle of destruction in my life by forgiving me of my sins, am I going to share His forgiving love with those around me who need it? Regardless of how undeserving they might seem to be of God's love, am I going to make the personal effort to presume they have a right to it? Am I going to want it for them? Am I going to trust that Our Lord won't let my love be wasted? This is how radical God's love is for each of us. This is how reckless he is with His love. As recipients of such love, Christ expects us to share it and never hoard it. This sounds great in theory, but we all know, that for the person who dares to love this radically, it can be painful. At such moments, all we need to do is look back at the Cross. In the glow of last week's Easter Sunday, as a wife, husband, mother, father, daughter, son, or friend, can we say that we are working at becoming such a disciple?

A week after the Resurrection, when the crushed and broken-hearted Thomas

finally joined the Apostles in the Upper Room, Our Lord also returns. He takes Thomas to task over his hesitancy to believe his brother Apostles. "*Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.*" My brothers and sisters, our wounded and wounding world craves the healing that only Our Lord can provide. Guess whom Our Lord has given the responsibility for the healing of those wounds?

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: March 31 Easter @ \$7954, Holy Land @ \$110, Candles @ \$46. Thank You.

Holy Name Society: meeting April 8 @ Ceader Hall @ 7PM

Coffee & Donuts: April 14 @ Ceader Hall following the 9:30AM Mass.

Night at the Races: Saturday, April 27. Doors open @6PM. Races start @ 7PM



being held on Saturday, April 27th. Doors open @ 6PM with races starting @ 7PM. This is a family friendly event open to everyone. Consider inviting friends & neighbors. Donation of door prizes & backed goods are greatly appreciated. Horses available for purchase @ \$10 each with a 1 in 10 chance of

winning \$50. Thank you for supporting this annual Holy Name Society fund raiser providing a helpful hand to those in need throughout our Parish Community.



Financial Assistance: Action Item: Forms now available in vestibule for the Fall 2023/Spring 2024 school year provided by the Ceader Trust Trustees. Time sensitive, act now. **Deadline April 7, 2024.** For previously registered parishioners of St. Lawrence only!!

Divine Mercy Sunday: All are invited to pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy on Saturday, April 6th and Sunday Morning, April 7th. The Chaplet begins immediately following the singing of the closing hymn at Mass.

To fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should:

+Celebrate the Feast on Sunday after Easter + Sincerely repent of all our sins. + Place our complete Trust in Jesus. + Go to Confession before Sunday + Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast or at the Vigil Mass + Venerate the image of the Divine Mercy + Be Merciful to others; through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf. + To venerate a sacred image performing some act or gesture of deep religious respect towards the person whom the image represents – in this case, our Most Merciful Savior