

August 18, 2024 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – August 17th – Vigil Mass

5PM: Intentions of Pauline Dowd (Stefanski Family)

Sunday – August 18th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30: Rogelio Mendez Flores (Lilian & Family)

Monday – August 19th – Weekday – St. John Eudes, Priest

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Tuesday – August 20th – Weekday – St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

9AM: Irene & Joseph Moninghoff (Barbara Itterly)

Wednesday – August 21st – Weekday – St. Pius X, Pope

9AM: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
Maryann Segletes (Jim Segletes)

Thursday – August 22nd – Weekday – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – August 23rd – Weekday – St. Rose of Lima, Virgin

9AM: Intentions of Pauline Dowd (Stefanski Family)

Saturday – August 24th – Weekday – St. Bartholomew, Apostle

9AM: Intentions of Pauline Dowd (Stefanski 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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

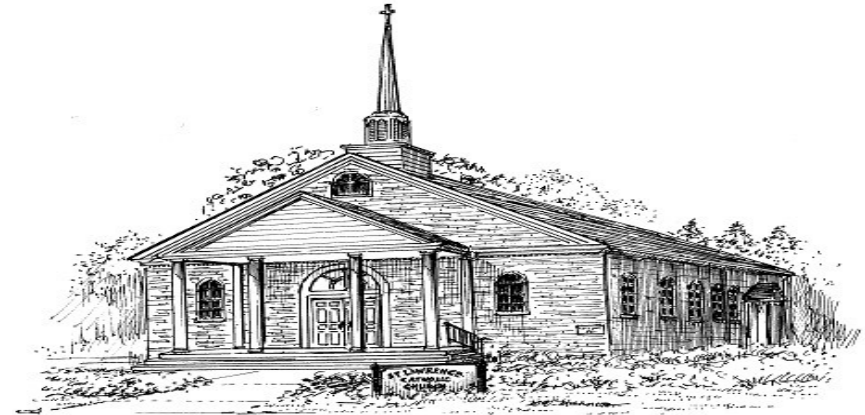
Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684
Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

[Website: saint-lawrence-church.org](http://www.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 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! August 18, 2024

I'm sure many of you have heard someone, who, is so in love with another person, remark that, "*I love her-him!*" "*I can't get enough of him-her!*" These are not the words of someone who is infatuated with another person. These are the words someone who is dead-serious and unapologetic in their declaration. These are the words of someone who has discovered the essential goodness of another person, and who now realizes that that person recognizes and treasure their essential goodness. It is a very liberating moment in their relationship. It is the consequence of finding someone with whom you not only share so much, but a person who also has come to know all your flaws, all your faults; yet, who also knows that they will always be incomplete if that person is not an essential part of their life. Only the goodness of the other will give value to their life; only their life can give meaning to the life of the other. They are at Peace, and they are at Peace because no matter whatever else which is important to them in Life, it is insignificant compared to the bond they now share. There is only one source of such a love, and that is God. He loves each of us so much that He came

among us in the person of Our Lord. We need only to listen to Jesus' words and reflect on His life to realize that "He can't get enough of us" either. Such love is not only mystery; it is spiritual.

The words of Our Lord in today's Gospel, might seem like a strange way of saying "*I love you*" "*I can't get enough of you*" but they are. They are His way of saying what it takes to be in such love with Him. The analogy he relies on is that of *eating*, specifically, of *ingesting*. If it is true that we are what we eat, i.e. **ingest**, then Jesus is teaching his listeners, that if you want to be in eternal relationship with the Father, you and I must take Him into ourselves... we must ingest Him. How often have we heard a mother or father remark about their new child that "*I could just eat her-him alive.*" "*Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.*"

My brothers and sisters, over the centuries, many people have struggled to become comfortable with this section of St. John's Gospel, and it is understandable. We tend to take the written word, literally. To the careless,

Our Lord's words suggest the revulsion of cannibalism. But, when Our Lord spoke them, he knew that His audience heard them against the background of His countless acts of compassion, healing, reconciling. All these acts were life-giving and never selfish. So, for those who feel that Christianity in general, and Catholicism in particular are extreme, they are right. They are extreme, because the love of the Father for us is extreme, and he makes no apologies for it. Patiently, He waits for us to discover Him and His love. When that happens, He knows, that we will discover who completes us; who makes us whole; who is our only source of Peace and who gives meaning to our life. Right now, in this world, there are only four basic ways in which we can encounter Him, and **all** of them must be used: 1) His Sacred Word [Scriptures]; 2) in the shared faith of each other [Community]; 3) in our willingness to risk loving others [Charity]; 4) in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist [both celebrated and lived], along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation]. No matter how challenging these might be for each of us, it is important that we enter them with confidence, that somewhere along our life-long journey, the joyful experience of encountering Our

Lord will happen, and when that does, we'll know that "*I just can't get enough of Him*". Your brother in Christ,



Scripture Study - Autumn, 2024

St. Lawrence's next Scripture Study will focus on the *Book of Exodus!* The Book of Exodus is filled with Old Testament Stories which many people are familiar with. It covers the early history of Israel: their time of slavery in Egypt; God's liberating them from that slavery through the leadership of Moses; and most importantly their becoming a nation through the hardships of the Exodus and entering into a Covenant with God. You are sure to enjoy this 9-week Study, as well as the brothers and sisters with whom you will participate in during it. Basic Info:

- Tuesday mornings [10:30 AM – 12 PM] – Ceader Hall Refreshments provided

Dates: **9/10/24 > 12/3/24** Cost of materials \$30.00 {please let Fr. Benn know if this expense would prevent you from participating}.

Collections: August 11 Parish @ \$1461, Catholic University @ \$143 Thank You.

Bulletin Insert August 18, 2024

[Altar & Rosary Fundraiser Paint & Sip Event](#)

Friday Sept. 20 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm

Cost \$40.00 Contact Kathy Twomey to

reserve your canvas

Cell: 610-564-7706

Email: kathyamaccarthy@gmail.com

Detailed Flyers in church vestibule

[Catholic Women's Conference 2024](#)

Registration Available through the Saint Lawrence Altar Rosary Society. Group registration will reduce fee to \$50.00!

Deadline: August 17, 2024 See flyer in the back of the church.

Questions: Mariann Helfant, 908-892-8663; principal46@gmail.com



**Discover Your Vocation:
Permanent Diaconate
Information Session**

Are you being called to serve? Join us for an informative evening exploring the Permanent Diaconate.

Date: Thursday, September 19, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Location: Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary
1400 Evans Road, Ambler, PA 19002

This session is open to Catholic men (and their wives, if married) aged 29 to 55. Engage with a panel of clergy and learn about discerning a vocation to the Permanent Diaconate and the School for Diaconal Formation program.

Ready to take the next step? Scan the QR code to register and secure your spot!

We look forward to seeing you there!

