

**August 25, 2024 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday – August 24th – Vigil Mass**

5PM: Intentions of Paulin Dowd (Stefanski Family)

**Sunday – August 25th – Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30: Intentions of Jeanette Talese (Dolores Bonk)

**Monday – August 26th –Weekday –**

9AM: Intentions of Pauline Dowd (Stefanski Family)

**Tuesday – August 27th – Weekday – St. Monica**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Wednesday – August 28th – Weekday – St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor of the Church**

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

**Thursday – August 29th – Weekday – The Passion of St. John the Baptist**

9AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – August 30th – Weekday –**

9AM: Intentions of Steve Ombalski – Hospice Care (Parish Community)

**Saturday – August 31st – Weekday –**

9AM: All Students Returning to School

**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

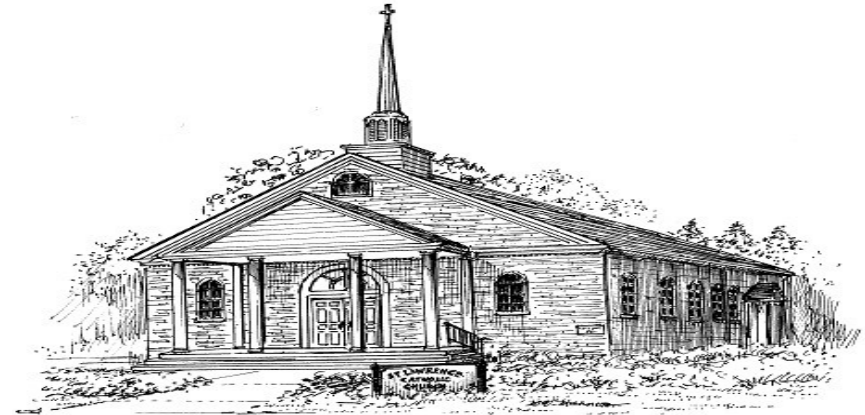
**Church of Saint Lawrence**

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

Rectory: 610-749-2684  
Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto: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 25, 2024

In today's Scripture Readings, we see something that most Christians find unpleasant, and to a fault, try to avoid; namely confrontation. One is always hoping that a painless solution can be arrived at, or that the party who has been compromising or flat-out wrong, will own their wrong. Often, it does not turn out that way. When all the alternative solutions have been exhausted and the destructive "one's" refuse to own their behavior, they must be confronted and given their options. In the First Reading, after leading the Israelites through many years of hardships while working their way to the Promised Land, and leading them through many desperate battles in the process of taking over the land from the Canaanites, Joshua speaks to the people, before they journey to the specific sections of the Promised Land which each of the twelve tribes were given. By this time, Joshua is very old. Like a good parent, he reminds them how often and in how many ways God was faithful to them. God was faithful to His Covenant to them. Now that Peace and Prosperity are within their grasp, Joshua challenges them not to suffer from a short memory and to be faithful to their God. God was faithful to them during their bad times; they need to be faithful to Him during their good times. The Israelites haven't done anything wrong, but Joshua understands human nature and that they will now be

without his strong leadership and must become mature in their relationship with God. And so, He challenges them directly with the choice we hear. It must have been frightening for Joshua to do this, because he loved them and always wanted to be on good terms with them; however, being faithful to the Covenant they made with God was more important than anything else. We see how they responded.

In the Gospel, Our Lord has been gradually speaking of Himself more frequently in terms that infer He is the Son of God. This is very risky, because He knows this could be misunderstood as blasphemy. Until this point in His public life, He has cultivated the people's trust. When He speaks more boldly in terms of the mystery of the Eucharist, of eating his body and drinking His blood, He knows that people will become uncomfortable with it; nevertheless, it is the Truth. *"For this reason, I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father.....As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him."*

My brothers and sisters, we live in such times and in such a culture. As the Master's disciples, we too must make choices between being faithful to Our Lord and his teachings, or give in to the pressure of family members, friends and our Countrymen who are uncomfortable with those Truths. Let us stay close to Our Lord in prayer, in the His

Word, in the Eucharist and in the shared Faith of each other, so that we can be faithful to Our Lord. Your brother in Christ,



### Pastoral Council Elections

This September, two positions on the *Parish Pastoral Council* will need to be filled. You will have the opportunity to make your Nominations beginning the weekend of September 7<sup>th</sup>/ 8<sup>th</sup> and conclude Sunday evening [7 PM] September 15<sup>th</sup>. Nomination forms will be made available in church on those weekends. You are encouraged to reflect on potential candidates in preparation for the Nomination period. All candidates must be registered in St. Lawrence Parish; a practicing Catholic and active in the life of our parish.

**Collections:** August 18 reporting next week. Thank You.

### 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}.

### [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](mailto: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 25, 2024 See flyer in the back of the church.**

**Questions: Mariann Helfant, 908-892-8663; [principal46@gmail.com](mailto:principal46@gmail.com)**

**Coffee/Donuts:** following Sunday Mass on Sept 8