

February 11, 2024 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – February 10th – Vigil Mass

5PM: Fr. Henry, Pastor, Deceased (Tom Labant)

Sunday – February 11th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Monday – February 12th – Weekday

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Tuesday – February 13th – Weekday

9AM: Protection of The Unborn

Wednesday – February 14th – Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins – Holy Day of Obligation

[Exposition of Blessed Sacrament – 9:30AM – 11AM](#)

9AM: Intentions of Joseph Papiernik (Dolores Bonk)

12 Noon: Wounded Warriors of Our Armed Services

7PM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Thursday – February 15th – Weekday

9AM: No Mass – Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – February 16th – Weekday

9AM: Intentions of Miriam Martin (Lay Carmelite Community)

Saturday – February 17th – Weekday

9AM: Health & Wellness of Expecting Mothers

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, Louis Cortese III, Patrick D. Brown, Douglas Defreest, Jr., Benny LoScalzo, Steve Ombalski, Jane Burger

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

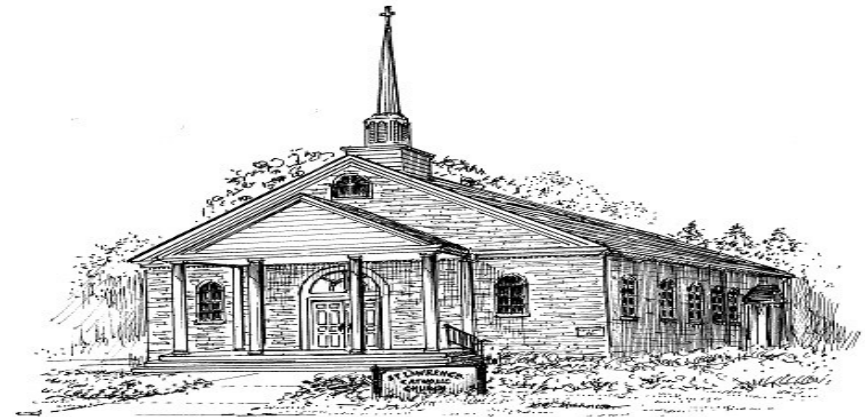
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org



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! February 11 2024

During a “renovation” of a 60+ year old caboose I own, I was hoping that we could address a few specific areas of the caboose that could no longer be ignored. In my mind, this would be a cosmetic project. I was hoping to generate as little dirt and dust as possible. The first couple of work sessions, we were constantly spending time moving stuff around because it was in the way of various work areas. Finally, a friend helping me with this project confronted me with what was becoming obvious, but which I just couldn't bring myself to do; namely, that the whole car needed to be gutted and that we needed to start from scratch. I was not happy about this because the project was no longer a cosmetic job; it had turned into a rebuild job. Consequently, everything that was not welded down to that 25+ton car needed to be removed, including its original oak floor. The more we stripped, the more damage within the car was revealed. The car was in serious shape. It needed a lot of its internal framework replaced and re-welded. So many things needed to be replaced, including the car's electrical wiring, sections of its plumbing and that oak floor. More than once, heat from

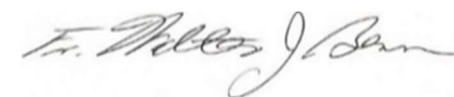
welder's torches started small fires within the walls of the car. It was one dirty job. It lasted an entire summer and autumn. There were so many days that it did not seem we had made any progress or that we would find the solutions to additional issues that the stripping of the car would reveal. Nevertheless, over time, my feelings shifted from discouragement to satisfaction and relief. It was not only the right thing to do, but it was the healthy thing to do.

This Wednesday is **Ash** Wednesday which marks the beginning of the sacred Season of Lent. Lent is that 7-week period, when the Church encourages us to do something that we really do not want to do; namely, initiate a spiritual “renovation” of our relationship with Our Lord. That is right. During Lent, we pull out our grungy clothes and begin stripping ourselves down to the frame. We do it not so much because we like it, but because after a long time, we have probably covered over spiritual damage to our relationship with Our Lord, which is no longer cosmetic; rather, it is structural.....stuff that should no longer be ignored. Like any serious “renovation”, Lent involves activities that are not very attractive. Lent asks for personal time such as prayer, which often

does not seem very productive, but gives Our Lord an opportunity to reveal to us to what degree we have become or failed to become Christ-like. Our willingness to sacrifice things that we honestly enjoy by fasting or abstinence also reveals our spiritual maturity. Lent involves activities, that on the surface seem unimportant, stuff that you already know about such as Stations of the Cross. In other words, Lent is not about a cosmetic relationship with Christ; rather, it is about investing ourselves in the relationship He invited us into at our Baptism.

In these days before Ash Wednesday, I encourage you, to ask Our Lord to help you make this time productive. Start thinking about things that you can do that will enrich your relationship with Our Lord. Ask Him to help you risk being more transparent about yourself than you ever have before; allow Him to reveal to you, things that should no longer be ignored or excused. Ask Him to help you see those structural members within your life that need replacing or his welding. Ask Him to help you to be patient and to trust that the **time** and **ways** in which you invest yourself with Him during the Season of Lent, will not be regretted.

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: Feb 4 – Parish @ \$3217, Aging/Infirmed Priests @ \$298, Catholic Foundation @ \$1441. Thank you!

Catholic Charities Appeal 2024 begins in February. Direct mail from AOP will be sent. Also, in pew donation envelopes available. More details later.

Coffee & Donuts: Sun, Feb 11 following the 9:30AM Mass @ Ceader Hall. All are welcome to this free Parish activity.

Holy Name Society: meeting Feb 12 @ 7PM @ Ceader Hall.

E-BLAST - Fr. Benn/Parish: if you are not receiving it means your email is not current or provided. There are ~ 12 folks that are “non-deliverable” (address not current). Update is needed to receive. Thank you.

The **Knights of Columbus** Council 4545 are selling **Captain Chucky's Crab Cakes** just in time for lent. Order forms with details are in the back of the church. Knights will be accepting order forms after mass on January 27 & 28, February 3 & 4, February 10 & 11. Thank you for your support!!



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 registered parishioners of St. Lawrence only!!