

July 21, 2024 – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – July 20th – Vigil Mass

5PM: Holy Spirit Guidance for Those Considering Joining the Catholic Church (Fr. Benn)

Sunday – July 21st – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30: Asking Guidance of All Candidates & Voters in The Upcoming Elections (Fr. Benn)

Monday – July 22nd – Weekday – St. Mary Magdalene

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Tuesday – July 23rd – Weekday – St. Bridget, Religious

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

Wednesday – July 24th – Weekday – St. Sharbel Makhuf, Priest

9AM: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
Intentions of Donna Schulz (Lay Carmelite Community)

Thursday – July 25th – Weekday – St. James, Apostle

9AM: No Mass - Readings and Communion Distribution Only

Friday – July 26th – Weekday – St. Joachim & Anne, Parents of the Blessed Mother

9AM: Intentions of Dolores Bonk (Lay Carmelite Community)

Saturday – July 27th – Weekday –

9AM: Intentions of Stephanie Marlin (Lay Carmelite Community)

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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

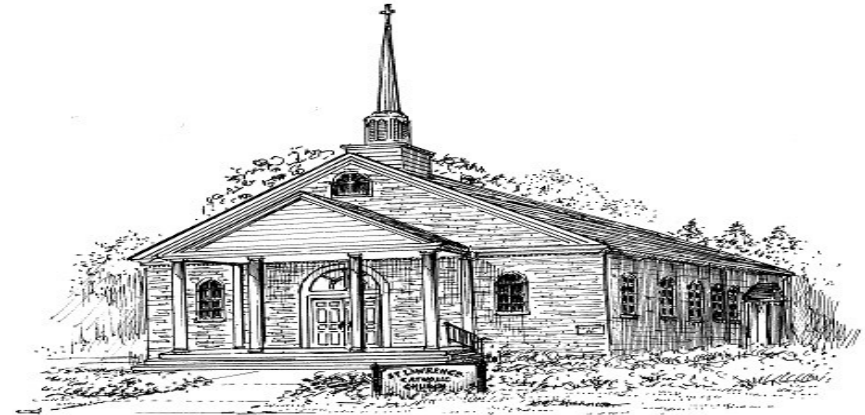
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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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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! July 21, 2024

Who of us cannot help but identify with Our Lord and the Apostles in this weekend's Gospel? Today's Gospel picks up where last week's left off. In last week's Gospel, Our Lord had sent the Apostle off to preach and heal on their own for the first time. In today's Gospel Reading, the Apostles have returned from a long and exhausting time away, no doubt filled with many stories and anxious to share their experiences. Wisely, Our Lord suggests that they need to take a few days off in seclusion so they can sort all of this out. However, when they reach a location on the Sea of Galilee where they are confident that they will enjoy some privacy, they discover the consequence of doing God's work, namely, a huge gathering of people whose needs are immediate and exhausting.....So much for their exhaustion. Ironically, this experience is a part of the lesson Jesus wanted them to learn as disciples. If they are going to be representatives of God the Father, they must be ready to love with the love of God the Father; they must be ready to empty themselves out for all people, all the time, under all conditions. This is the love that daughters/sons offer when they

choose to care for a parent who can no longer care for themselves; the love that parents provide for a child who seems to have non-stop issues, year in, year out; parents who regularly must handle everything going on at home, while their spouse is regularly away for multiple days on work-related trips; for single persons, who have no one available to help them deal with their numerous needs and obligations; yet, are asked to give more of themselves. One might say, "This isn't fair!" "I have no life!" and that is true. Yet, this is how radical God's love for each of us is. And, as recipients of that caliber of love, He asks us to share it just as unconditionally. In truth, there is an understandable fear that if I get caught up in such a love, it will impoverish me, that it is not survivable, or at the very least, I will be completely unhappy. Therein lies the great discovery: the more I give of myself, the richer I become. Notice, I didn't say "the less exhausted I become" or "the less stressed I become." Yet, as the old spiritual cliché goes, "God will provide," and He does! Initially, it is infuriating, or at least it is for me, because the experience is such a contradiction. He asks so much of us, but we can no longer get angry at Him after a while. Why? Because He had involved us

in introducing so much of His love to someone whose heart was a desert before we made the choice to write them blank checks with our heart.....He always seems to cover the overdrafts!

My Sisters and Brothers, I know that most of you have lived and loved through such experiences, and if not in the past, are presently going through them now. I am sure that there are many moments you feel alone, including from Our Lord. I encourage you to trust in your original spiritual instincts. Know that you are living the kind of discipleship that Christ sought to inspire in the Twelve. It might take a long time, but the time will come when you will discover how your Faith in the goodness of God and your effort to embody it in your choices inspired another to draw closer to Our Lord and want to become just like you!

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: July 14 Parish @ \$2400, Candles @ \$97, Poor Box @ \$60, Campaign for Human Development @ \$45. Thank You.



Catholic Women's Conference 2024

Join Catholic women from the greater Philadelphia area for a day of fun, friendship, faith formation and prayer at the Catholic Women's Conference. The 2024 theme is "The Joys of Womanhood, Sacred, Beloved, & Beautiful." Throughout the day, we will learn how we as women are daughters of God with unique gifts that when cultivated will bring joy to ourselves and others. Speakers include: Father Stephen DeLacy, Emily Wilson, Kimberly Cook, Dominique Brutus, De Yarrison, and the Sisters of Life. Saturday, October 19, 2024, 9am-4:00pm, at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. Tracks available in English, Spanish and American Sign Language. *Early sellout is expected.*

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