

**July 7, 2024 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday – July 6th – Vigil Mass**

5PM: Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

**Sunday – July 7th – Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30: Special Intentions (Ted/Janet Achuff)

**Monday – July 8th – Weekday –**

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Tuesday – July 9th – Weekday – St. Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest & Companions, Martyrs**

9AM: Protection of the Unborn

**Wednesday – July 10th – Weekday –**

9AM: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament  
Blessing for Expecting Mothers

**Thursday – July 11th – Weekday – St. Benedict, Abbot**

9AM: No Mass - Readings and Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – July 12th – Weekday –**

9AM: Theresa Ballek (Ted/Janet Achuff)

**Saturday – July 13th – Weekday – St. Henry, BVM**

9AM: Those Who Suffer From Addiction

**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

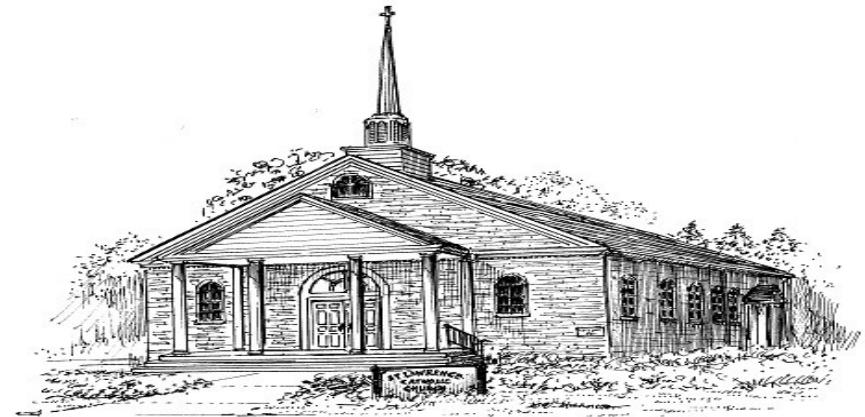
**Church of Saint Lawrence**

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

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**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 7, 2024

This weekend should be a time of celebration within our Country, yet the message of all three of this weekend's Scripture readings is sobering. Nevertheless, the examples of the Prophet Ezekiel, St. Paul, and Our Lord are exactly what we need to hear for those who love their Country. Who of us likes challenging or criticizing someone we love? Who of us are attracted to the risk of being misunderstood by those we love? All three men [Ezekiel, Paul, and Jesus] love their people and are proud of the country's traditions and spiritual history. Yet, all three recognized that their countrymen were compromising their relationship with God to the point that it was destructive to themselves and to their spiritual community. They recognized that many of their people had become dishonest with God about their relationship with Him and expected God to cooperate with their lies. On the surface, everything looked kosher, but within, they had become seriously dysfunctional. Ezekiel, Paul, and Our Lord knew that out of love, they needed to confront them, and it would cost them. Naturally, one would immediately think that I am referencing the upcoming Presidential Election in November, and I am. However, I am also referencing every elected position regardless of its place in government: Federal level, State level, and Local level. Both major parties accuse each other of "weaponizing" the elections to

achieve their political goals. The American people deserve better than that. All these issues are resolvable, but only if there are honorable and morally centered leaders within all levels of Government: Federal, State, and Local. Those leaders, both presently in place and those who aspire to serve our Country in Elected Civil Service, need both our direction, correction, and our support.

During this week, when we celebrate the birth of our Country and all that the Founding Fathers tried to anticipate as they composed our *Declaration of Independence* and the *Constitution* {with its division of powers between the three branches of government}. Each day, between now and *Election Day*, I encourage each of you to take a moment to pray; specifically, pray for three things. **#1** Pray for every woman and man who presently serves us on the Federal, State, County, and local levels. Civil Service is an honorable and challenging calling. It asks a lot of those who represent us. It requires a variety of talents; however, the most important gift of all is *character*. **#2** Pray for all candidates who will be running for Office. Pray that each day, they seek the guidance and strength of God's *Holy Spirit* to always do what is best for us, regardless of whether their decisions are understood and appreciated or misunderstood. **#3** Pray for yourself as a voter that you use this precious

gift to do what is best for our Country and for our Countrymen.

I don't know about you, but as dark as these days have been and as pessimistic as many are about our Country's future, I am convinced that there will be more than enough conscientious Americans who will elect the kind of selfless leaders our Countrymen need, but only when they look to God's Holy Spirit to guide them. There are many democratically governed nations in the world, and they make their version of democracy work. However, there is not one of them that still doesn't marvel at America. For all its shortcomings and sins, it still is the template for all democratic nations and the envy of all those peoples who are not neither a Democrat nor a Republican or an Independent; He is a Father who, close to 250 years ago, gave the world children who look to Him to guide them and who continue to make *The Great Experiment* work permitted to govern themselves. God is. Your brother in Christ,



**Collections:** June 30 Parish @ \$2515, Mission Sunday @ \$150 Thank You.

**Special Collection:** Campaign for Human Development, July 6 & 7

**Coffee & Donuts:** Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup> in Cedar Hall following 9:30AM Mass. All invited to this free Parish activity.



### 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: July 10, 2024 See flyer in the back of the church.**

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