

June 16, 2024 – Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – June 15th – Vigil Mass

5PM: Brezina Family (Mary Scolavino)

Sunday – June 16th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30: Intentions of Fr. Benn (Bernie Boylan)

Monday – June 17th – Weekday –

9AM: Souls in Purgatory (Mary Scolavino)

Tuesday – June 18th – Weekday –

9AM: Ernest DeAngelis (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Wednesday – June 19th – Weekday – St. Romuald, Abbot

9AM: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament – 9:30AM – 11AM
Special Intention (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Thursday – June 20th – Weekday –

9AM: Readings and Communion Distribution Only

Friday – June 21st – Weekday – St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Saturday – June 22nd – Weekday – St. Paulinus of Nola, St. John Fisher, Bishops; St. Thomas More, Martyr

9AM: Increased Participation of Members of Our Catholic Faith

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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

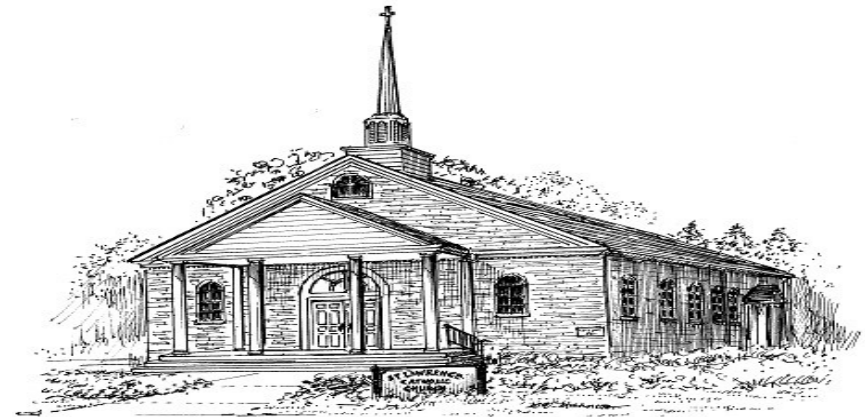
Church of Saint Lawrence

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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! June 16, 2024

June 16, 2024 / 11th-OT

Although St. Mark tells us that Our Lord is sharing this parable with *“the crowds,”* I suspect that the primary audience that Jesus had in mind was the Apostles, primarily because they would be the leaders of the baby Church within a short time. They would need to understand that *discipleship* isn't just about building an argument to convince a person to trust and commit to God. Contracts are built that way, but not love relationships. Love relationships are the product of transparency, selflessness, utter honesty about us, and, finally, the desire to be the source of joy for someone else. The inspiration of all love relationships is the well-being and joy of the other, not of the self. Partners in a love relationship don't care about the cost of loving the other; the only thing they care about is the happiness of the other. This is what the Apostles and the original disciples experienced in Jesus, leading to their conversion. It became a liberating experience for every one of them and defined their choices for the rest of their lives. They didn't understand how it worked, but like the farmer who knows how to prepare the soil for his

crops and what and when to plant his crop's seed, the farmer also knew that the final ingredient for a successful harvest was something beyond his power; namely, he has to learn to wait and let something that was beyond his understanding work its goodness, which would manifest itself at harvest time. *“It is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day; through it, all the seed would sprout and grow; he knows not how. Of its own accord, the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.”* All of our theology is both important and profound; however, its primary job is to lead us to make a fundamental choice: Do I surrender my heart to His heart, or do I turn from Him and return to this world? Only when we surrender to His heart will we discover, without a doubt, the depth of His love for us and His desire for us to be reunited with Him for all eternity? Isn't this the same dynamic that two people who love each other take? Each party cannot prove their love for the other ahead of time; they can only inspire the other by giving them the only set of keys they have to their own heart without hesitation, without condition. When they do that, then the clarity comes! The person who is

unwilling to make an act of faith in all the things we believe about God, who wants to see the videotapes ahead of time, will wait for eternity. The burden is not on God to prove His goodness; He has revealed His love for each of us many times and in many ways. If people are not centered on themselves, they will discover this, eventually discovering that the only source of all the goodness /they experience in life is God, and/or will want to be part of that dynamic; more importantly, **they will want to contribute to that dynamic.**

Because Jesus Christ is their inspiration, true Christians are risk-takers, but they are risk takers without the anxiety. Why? Because they are inspired by their model, Jesus Christ, the original risk-taker. Jesus could embrace Calvary, because of His belief in the Father's love. The light of Easter Sunday, would reverse the darkness of Calvary.

My brothers and sisters, we are a people tasked by Our Lord to be both Disciple and Missionary; to be Missionary Disciples who emulate the farmer by being persons who prepare the spiritual ground of the people around us, who plant the Good news in those sisters and brothers; and then, who patiently wait

while God works {*“we know not how”*} the soil of those people. Does each of us understand that true missionary disciples are never passive? It is not enough for a missionary disciple to benefit from their conversion experience and then withhold the same opportunity from those who are searching. By its nature, the gift they received from God has always been intended to be shared. Within the parable of today's Gospel, Our Lord is reminding all His disciples that they have a great responsibility to offer everyone the opportunity to be a part of God's harvest; that they should not feel overwhelmed or inadequate to this task but ready to do their part, confident that His *Holy Spirit* will share in the work even though *“they know not how.”*

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: June 9 Parish Reporting June 23. Thank You.

Special Collection: Peter's Pence, June 15-16



Mission Sunday: June 22-23 with guest speaker, *Fr. Andrew Torma*. You may recall Fr. filled-in several times for Fr. Muir during his illness.



St. Lawrence Annual Parish Dinner: all adults of the Parish are invited to attend. Venue is The Meadows of Saucon Valley @ 1770 Meadows Rd., Hellertown, PA 18055. Wednesday, June 26 @ 7PM. Cost \$15 pp, Cash bar @ 6PM. RSVP by Sunday, June 9. Flyers available in Vestibule.



Altar & Rosary Trip to Philadelphia

Wednesday, June 19, 2024, Depart St. Lawrence 7:30 am return approx. 5:00 pm
Visit Chapel of Divine Love
Private guided tour of Cathedral Basilica Saints Peter & Paul prior to Mass at 12:05
Lunch at Con Murphy's Irish Pub: Lunch Paid by Individual
Transportation Cost: Approx. \$60.00 pp Several seats still available. RSVP to Mary Senior email: mmaryisd@aol.com or text 267-882-5586

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

Gravesites for sale at Riegelsville Union Cemetery. Spaces for 4 full bodies and 6 cremains or 7 full bodies. Please contact owner, Beverly Thatcher VanHook, at (813) 720-1968, to leave message with contact information. Private Sale by owner.