

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

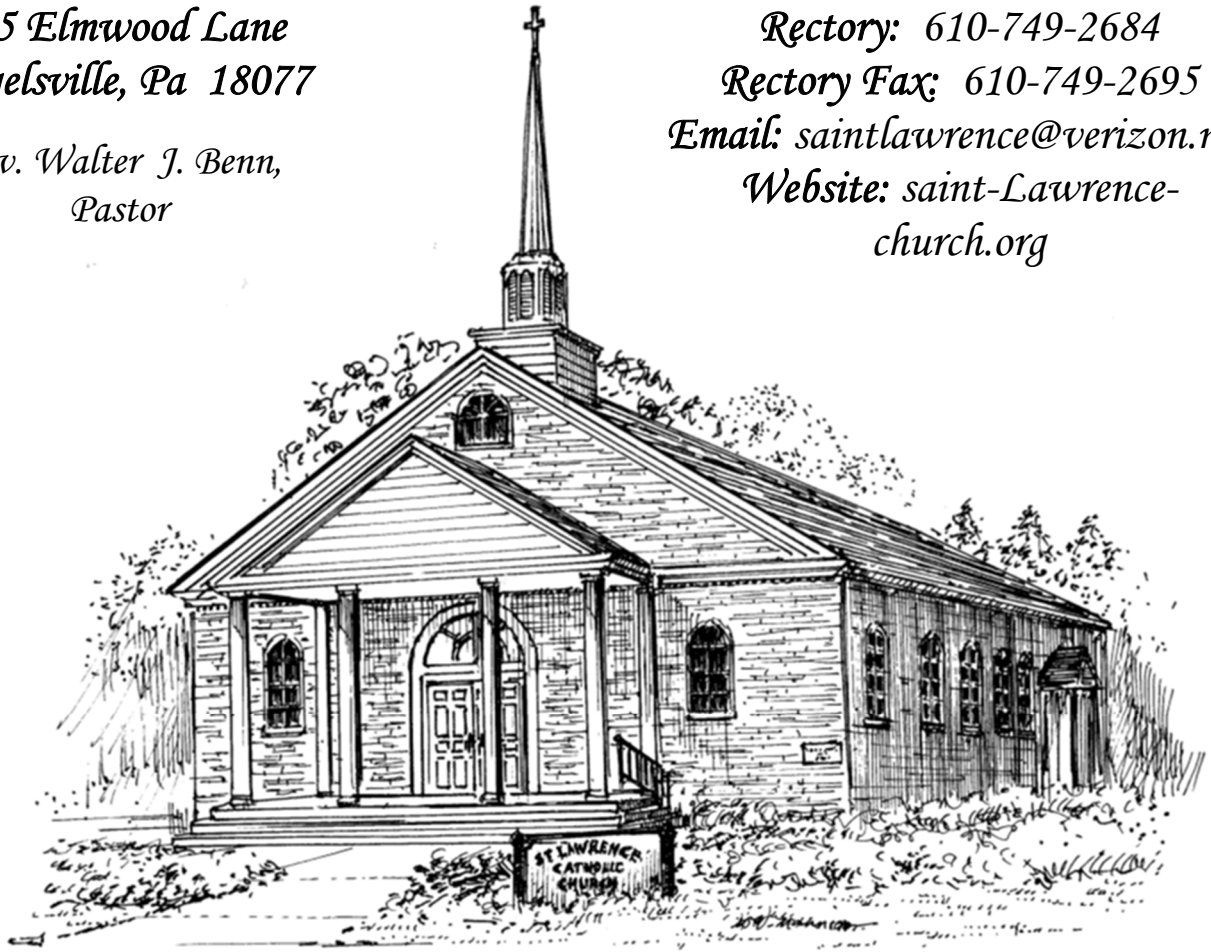
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org



Mass Schedule

Saturday Evenings @ 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning @ 9:30 a.m.
Holy Days @ 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat. @ 9AM
Thurs, 9AM No Mass, Communion Distribution Only

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesdays 9:30AM to 11AM.

Confessions

Saturday 3:30pm to 4:30pm
Or by appointment other days/time. Contact Rectory

Holy Name Society

Meets second Monday of the month (Sept-May) at 7:00 p.m.

Altar & Rosary Society

Meets second Thursday of the month (Sept-May) 7:00p.m.

Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes

Meets First Saturday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Parish Registration

We welcome all new members to our Parish family. Please register when you move into the parish. Please notify us if you are moving.

Weddings

Couples are asked to contact the Rectory and make arrangements at least six months prior to their intended

Catholic Elementary School

Children may attend Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist School, Ottsville; for further information call: 610-847-5523.

Parish PREP Classes

Parish children attending public or private school, may receive Catholic Faith instructions on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall from October to May. Registration is published in the Parish Bulletin.

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m. to Noon

Pastor's Corner! May 10th, 2020

I can't help it. I want to go back to the 1st Reading, which comes from the *Acts of the Apostles*. Although, we should never take any of the books of the Bible as history, we can draw a lot of historical information from the Sacred Scriptures. If there is any one book, among the Sacred Scripture, from which we can draw a lot of history, it is the *Acts of the Apostles*. It is from *Acts* that scripture scholars have learned a lot of what the baby church was like; how it handled its many challenges and most importantly, how it began to understand the teachings of Lord and itself. Keep in mind, that at this time, the early Christians fully believed that Our Lord would return to them in their life-time, and that when he did, the Judgement of the World would take place. They did not understand, that he was not returning soon, and that he intended that the Church would be become his presence in the World and to the World. That is why there is such an urgency among the Apostles to delegate responsibility for the task of serving at table during their Sacred Meal {Eucharist}. The Church was growing at an incredible rate and wonderfully, it was enjoying many converts from outside Judaism. Ethnicity was as much an issue in ancient Palestine then as it is in all parts of the world today. To all Jews and Jewish converts of Peter's time, non-Jews were referred to as Greeks or Hellenists. The Greek culture had the same profound influence on the peoples of the Mediterranean as American culture has had in our world since the end of World War II. Apparently, the early non-Jewish converts, referred here as "Hellenists", didn't enjoy the same status as the original Christians. As so often happens among all peoples, the new comers had to wait at the back of the line; thus, their justified complaint. As any devoted mother of a family will tell you, you can only multi-task so far and bi-locate in so many places. The Apostles no longer had the time or energy to serve at these communal meals or to care for the spiritual needs of those members who were home-bound, **and** preach, celebrate the Eucharist and prepare for those celebrations with the proper amount of prayer which they deserved. The Church was no longer just in Jerusalem; it was all over Palestine. Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they came to

realize that their understanding of Priesthood needed to be re-understood into what we know today as the Diaconate. Decades later, it would need to be expanded again when the distinction between Bishop {successor of the Apostles} and Priest would be made. The successor of the Apostles; namely, the Bishop, was recognized as having the *priesthood* of Our Lord in its fullest sense, while those, we know as Priests & Deacons have a less-sense of Christ's Priesthood, which reveals itself in more limited authority.

An important point that we should take away from the today's reading is that all followers of Christ are called to serve the Community of Believers. **Very early in its life, the young Church needed to understand that "Ministry" is not just an ordination-thing; it was also a Laity-thing!** All members have a responsibility to represent the Master through the gifts he has given them. Some are more hi-profile than others, but that is not to infer that they are not important and valued. That is true of you my sisters & brothers of St. Lawrence Parish. You have gifts that Our Lord has given you to use for the Church at large and for the community of St. Lawrence Parish. We barely have enough people to cover the ministries of Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Altar Server, Choir Member and Catechist for our PREP program, **but we need more!** The *Altar & Rosary Society* and *Holy Name Society*, women and men societies known for their responsibility for our wonderful social activities, but quietly, they also do a lot of pastoral work behind the scenes. When they do this, they are living in the tradition of that first generation of Deacons, who saw a need and made themselves available to help the community meet it. We need 2-3 adults to get our *Children's Liturgy of the Word* off the ground! I would love to offer additional forms of religious music. Are there any women or men among you who have those instrumental or vocal gifts? The time will come when we attract adults to join the Catholic Faith through our RCIA program. When this happens, I will need to put together a small team to assist me. Are there any among you willing to commit the time it will take to help these Candidates & Catechumens take this 9-month journey? I would love to host a *Catholics Coming Home Program* {6 weeks}; is there any among you willing to help brothers & sisters who are trying to find their way back to the Faith? I know each of you have gifts to contribute to the building up of St. Lawrence Parish; do you have the humility and unselfishness to make

those gifts available for our brothers & sisters? Do you realize that your name is *Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmeas and Nicholas of "Riegelsville"*?

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: *We need your continued financial support. Mail to or put in Rectory door mail slot.* April 25 to May 1 Parish @ \$725, Residual Easter Receipts @ \$0, Catholic Home Missions @ \$10 Thank you.

Mass Intentions: Fr. Benn will be privately celebrating Mass throughout the week and all Mass intentions will be honored as previously scheduled.

Confessions: contact Fr. Benn @ rectory or via email to make arrangements.

Parish Web Site: is up and running. Log on and take a cruise about to see what's happening and access streaming of Mass services.

Parish email blast: "Official" blasts have been sent with Parish content. If you are not receiving it means we don't have your email address. Please send to us via email to saintlawrence@verizon.net and we will copy/paste into our data base. Thank you.

Parish Social Activities: ALL activities are suspended till further notice. Will keep you posted. Check out the Parish web site at saint-Lawrence-church.org Keep in mind we are still under construction so there may be a glitch or two:> Thank you.

Reciting the Rosary: suspended till further notice. Suggested you say at home. The Rosary is said every Monday starting @ 8:40AM prior to the 9AM Mass. All are welcome to join in when you arrive.

CatholicPhilly.com is the official news website of Archdiocese of Phila. Sign up for free bi-weekly emailed newsletters or just visit the web for Catholic happenings & current events.

New Parishioners –WELCOME!! No need to feel shy. We are happy you are here. To register Please contact Fr. Benn via Parish office 610-749-2684 or email: saintlawrence@verizon.net to make arrangements to meet him. Thank you. We are ready to welcome you.

May 10th, 2020 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday - May 9th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: No Public Mass - Mary Scobo (Powell Family)

Sunday - May 10th -

9:30AM: No Public Mass - Steve Salva (Altar & Rosary Society)

Monday - May 11th – Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass - Fr. Breen (Tom Labant)

Tuesday - May 12th - St. Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass - Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Wednesday - May 13th – Our Lady of Fatima Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Postponed

9:00AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

Thursday - May 14th - St. Matthias, Apostle

9AM: No Public Mass or Readings & Communion

Friday - May 15th - St. Isidore

9AM: No Public Mass - Fr. Gavin Muir (Altar & Rosary Society)

Saturday - May 16th - Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Lectors, Altar Servers & Extraordinary Ministers: no assignments till future notice.

Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life! Maria Middleton, Virginia Lohmeyer, Fern & John Gibson, William Merkle, Barbara and Ells Cheeseman, Julie Petry, Eve Zelle, Steven Fusco, Russ & Ann Funkhouser, Joseph Jones, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Andrew Schlotter, Bill Chabot, Bethany Steinberg, MaryLou VonDohlen, Lucy Herman, Mary Ann & Roger Brahler, Mel Dion, Fran Reavey, Sue & Beach Wires, Joann Thaler

INFORMATION SHEET

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St. Lawrence

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Special instructions:

Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684
Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net