

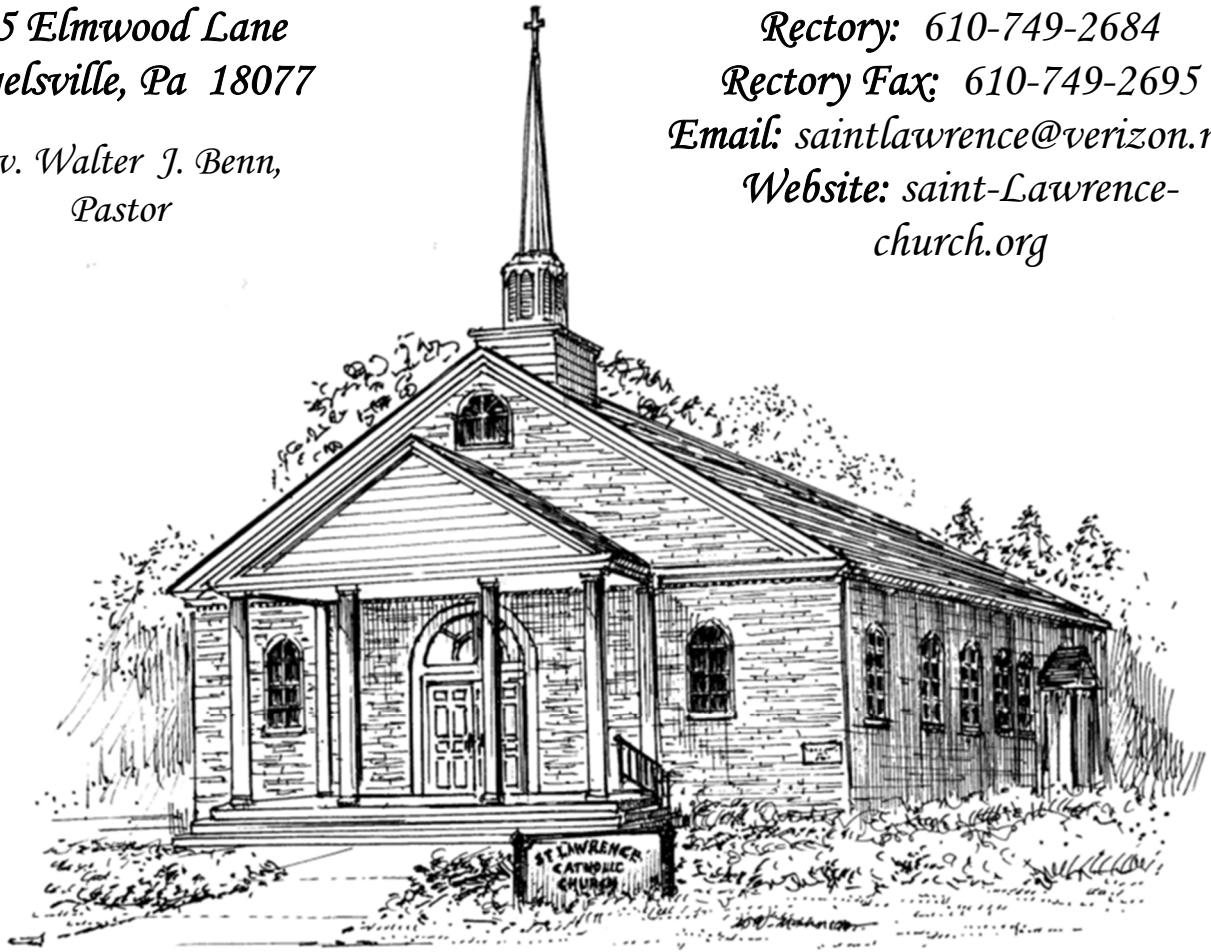
Church of Saint Lawrence

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 24th, 2020

Memorial Day Weekend

It's the 7th Sunday of Easter. We're still dealing with the danger of the Coronavirus Pandemic. It's Memorial Day Weekend. All three involve powerful and life changing experiences. Are these three experiences related? It might seem to some, that to infer that they are, is a stretch; however, in a wide-view, they are not. They can be approached from a couple of angles; I would like to approach them from one of those angles. All three were occasioned by Evil, and all three were also characterized by the response of Love to Evil. What was that Evil which occasioned them? In the case of Easter, it was and is God's response to save mankind from Evil, which mankind unleashed upon itself through Original Sin. It might sound a bit dramatic, but Original Sin is the spiritual Pandemic that mankind is responsible for and as God had warned, could never be cured. Every experience that humankind has ever experienced, which is a contradiction to their sense of innocence & good, is the experience of Evil which we have unleashed. The two most frequent areas in Life in which we experience Evil is in *human health* and *human conflict*. In our lifetime and the lifetime of our grandparents, are we not wrestling with these issues at this very moment? Does the horror and killings of tens of millions of people during WWI, WWII & the Cold War ring a bell? Do we remember the dozens of smaller wars that were fought between and after them, such as Korea, Viet Nam, the Gulf Wars, the countless acts of violence by generations of Terrorists in the Middle east, Europe, in the United States, and the generations of military personnel who to this day serve as peacekeepers overseas? Certainly, we are aware of current threats, which include nuclear threats by the governments of North Korea, China, and those among the terrorist states who are doing their level best to acquire such weapons. Hopefully, we haven't forgotten the tens of millions of people over the last century who have suffered terribly from hunger or the most basic need of all, clean water. Are we alarmed that there seems to be a resurgence of racism among our countrymen, its determination to protect abortion, or what we continue to do to the environment! Of course, there are those thousands of people who just can't bear the poverty and injustices that their corrupt leaders inflict on them and desperately stream to our borders, or risk sailing in a leaking boat to reach our shores in order to escape it. On the *human health side*, I'm sure that any person who has lost a loved one to any form of addiction, Cancer, Diabetes, heart disease, childhood

diseases, the various forms of mental illness, such as Depression, Bipolar disorder, Schizophrenia, etc. don't need to be convinced that they are the product of evil. They violate not only individuals, but entire families. Sadly, we can now add Coronavirus to the list of the most recent pandemics in our lifetime such as SARS, Ebola and whatever might come next. These are the obvious manifestations of evil; certainly, there are many, many more. What is stunning is how throughout history, mankind takes up where their ancient parents, namely Adam & Eve, left off as God was showing them the door in the Garden of Eden. These are the manifestations of Evil. Is there any answer to Evil? What we celebrate on this weekend proves that there is. At the heart of this "answer" is what we have been celebrating since Holy Week, namely Our Lord's teachings, Death & Resurrection. His refusal to allow Evil to overcome people's hunger for justice, forgiveness, hope and God-given dignity cost Him his life. Out of Love, he freely offered Himself up for them. The Resurrection is the Father's proof that he is greater than Evil; that his Love, in the form of eternal life, is final! The Resurrection is the Father's promise to us, that he will love us for all eternity. Inspired by this promise, people have chosen to live in the spirit of his Son's Love. As difficult as it is, they chose to translate that promise into action in their lives. Have we not been struck with dedication and the courage of so many people using their lives and professions to protect us from the Coronavirus? Spontaneously, we hold them up as heroes, because they are willing to put others before themselves. Likewise, on this weekend, as a Country, we make it a point to remember those, who throughout the history of our Country, were willing to pay the ultimate price for our freedoms. Included among them are the millions who were wounded in body, mind or spirit and their families who grieve for them to this day. Each of these men & women chose to say "No" to Evil. While we may think of them with a weapon in their hands to oppose Evil, what everyone could always see is the invisible weapon they brought with them; namely, God's Love and God's Truth.

My brothers & sisters, while we bear the weight of this current attack by Evil, this weekend becomes a great time for us to celebrate what is truly & only real: The goodness and truth of God's Love. Like those who have gone before us with that inspiration, let us fight the Evils of our day, and defeat it with God's Love and God's Truth.

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: *We need your continued financial support. Mail to or put in Rectory door mail slot.*
May 9 to May 15 Parish @ \$1153, Catholic Home Missions @ \$50 Thank you.

E-Giving: does not replace what you currently do. It merely provides an additional option.
To E Give go to: www.TheCFGP.org/stlawrencepsi which takes you directly to the donation page. Click on Donate under Parish Support Initiative. Select/enter your \$ amount to be donated. Enter your credit/debit card info and submit. There are no fees charged to donator.

Seeking a Miracle: your prayers for Maria Middletown will help. She is a 10th grader with a brain tumor & a graduate of St. John the Baptist School currently in the hospital seeking all the prayers & help she desperately needs.

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 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.

June 2nd Primary Voting can be done by mail if you so choose. See: www.votespa.com for details or call 1-877-868-3722

May 24th, 2020 - Ascension of The Lord

Saturday - May 23rd -
Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm
5PM: No Public Mass - Living/Deceased
Members of St. Lawrence

Sunday - May 24th -
9:30AM: No Public Mass - Living/Deceased
Members of St. Lawrence

Monday - May 25th – St. Bede the Venerable , Priest & Doctor of the Church; St Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene 'de Passi, Virgin
9AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

Tuesday - May 26th - St. Philip, Priest
9AM: No Public Mass - Living/Deceased
Members of St. Lawrence

Wednesday - May 27th – St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Postponed
9:00AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all people from the Coronavirus & those protecting us.

Thursday - May 28th - Easter Weekday
9AM: No Public Mass or Readings & Communion

Friday - May 29th - Ester Weekday
9AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all providing services during the Coronavirus

Saturday - May 30th - 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