

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

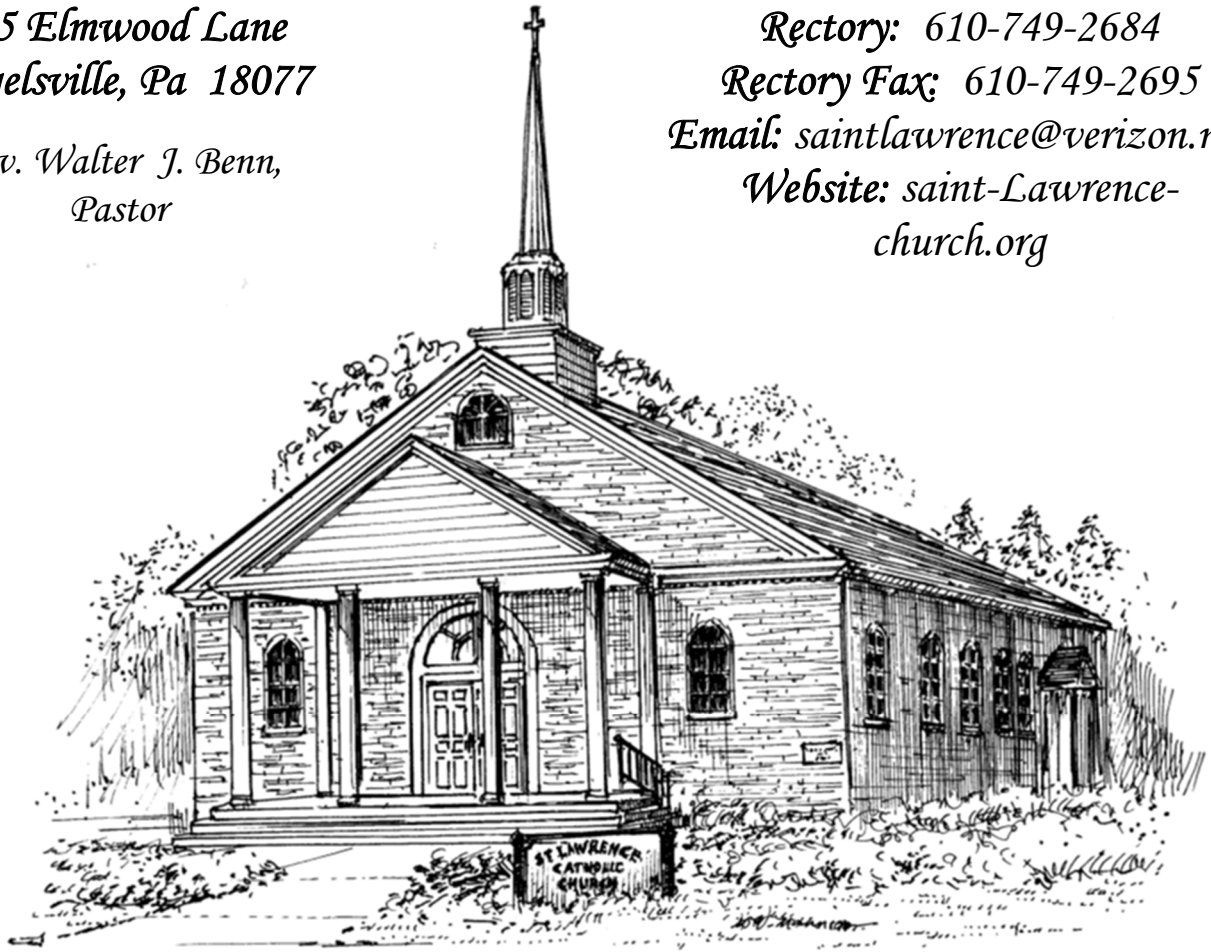
Rev. Walter J. Benn,
Pastor

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 3rd, 2020

If the Gospels of the Easter Season traditionally include stories of The Resurrected Lord interacting with the Apostles & Disciples; then the 1st Readings of the Easter Season traditionally comes from the *Acts of the Apostles*. The reason for this, is that the early chapters of the *Acts of the Apostles* cover that time immediately following the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven and his return to his followers in the form of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Truly, that first generation of Christians were impressive. I suspect, they would have scared us. Scared us not because they were religious fanatics, but scared us with their deep, deep, deep faith in Our Lord. The result of which was that they were unafraid to live out his teachings. That freedom from fear, extended from their personal lives, to their communal lives. They had each other's backs and were unafraid of the costs or how they were perceived by their extended family, friends, peers or Countrymen. Today's 1st reading is a prime example of it.

"Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know, for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus who you crucified..... Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and then ask Peter and the other apostles, 'What are we to do, my brothers?' Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you,'"

To this day, I find this story troubling. I find Peter's decisiveness and transparency, both intimidating and inspiring. Peter denied Our Lord, because he had been dishonest with himself as to what grounded his spiritual character. Previously, he had convinced himself, that his strength was grounded in the Lord, when in fact it was ground in his strengths, which he discovered very quickly, were quite shallow. Our Lord's arrest and the cruelty of Our Lord's enemies, exposed the shallowness of Peter's spiritual character. The pain of Peter's conversion must have been terrible; nevertheless, because of his essential goodness and because of his true love of Our Lord, Peter placed all of his failings at the feet of Our Lord and emerged liberated and transformed. This is the consequence of trusting in the power of Our Lord's love; because of it, Peter is unburdened! Working through his new found *Humility*, and its twin sister *Honesty*, Our Lord walked Peter through his conversion.

Today's 1st Reading is a stark example of this conversion. With the gloves off, Peter confronts his Jewish sisters & brothers with their own dishonesty; this not out of meanness or vengeance, but out of love. I'm sure he sees himself in them and like Our Lord, when he went to the Apostles in the Upper Room on Easter morning, is performing an *Intervention*. He is going to do everything he can to prevent them from perpetuating their destructive behavior. What was the result of Peter's painful act of love? As St. Luke {the author of the *Acts of the Apostles*} reports, "and about three thousand persons were added that day."

My brothers & sisters, through the wounded and healed person of St. Peter, Our Lord challenges us. He challenges us to own our own weaknesses and faults.....all of them! In their place, he offers himself and his Love! Do you trust him? Like St. Peter, can you & I say that we are striving to be transparent, while placing those false strengths at the feet of Our Lord? And, having been reborn as a result of those choices, are you & I willing to share that love, by challenging the people in our lives, who are still substituting their wisdom, their sense of right & wrong, and their strengths to do good, by exercising the same courage and the same humility? Your bother in Christ,



Live Streaming the Celebration of Mass - St Lawrence, Riegelsville:

Go to our website: see photo in upper left hand corner> click on the smaller photo> select videos in left hand column> select the date/event you want. Video will begin to play.

Remember to visit the Archdiocese of Phila Web site and CatholicPhilly.com

COUNTING SHEEP

When at night you cannot sleep, talk to the Shepherd and stop counting sheep.

MUCH-NEEDED LOVE

No one needs love more than someone who doesn't deserve it.

Collections: *We need your continued financial support. Mail to or put in Rectory door mail slot.* April 13 to April 24 Parish @ \$1870, Residual Easter Receipts @ \$1055, Holy Land @ \$25 Thank you.

Special Collection: Catholic Home Missions May 2nd & 3rd.

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.

Catholic Charities Appeal 2020: *Make checks payable to Catholic Charities Appeal not St. Lawrence.* Thank you.

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 3rd, 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

Saturday - May 2nd -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: No Public Mass - Souls in Purgatory
(Helfant Family)

Sunday - May 3rd -

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

Monday - May 4th – Easter Weekday

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

Tuesday - May 5th - Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass - Eugene & Theresa
DellaCroce (Helfant Family)

Wednesday - May 6th – Easter Weekday

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Postponed

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

Thursday - May 7th - Easter Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass or Readings & Communion

Friday - May 8th - Easter Weekday

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

Saturday - May 9th - Easter Weekday

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

ASSIGMENT 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