

Church of Saint Lawrence

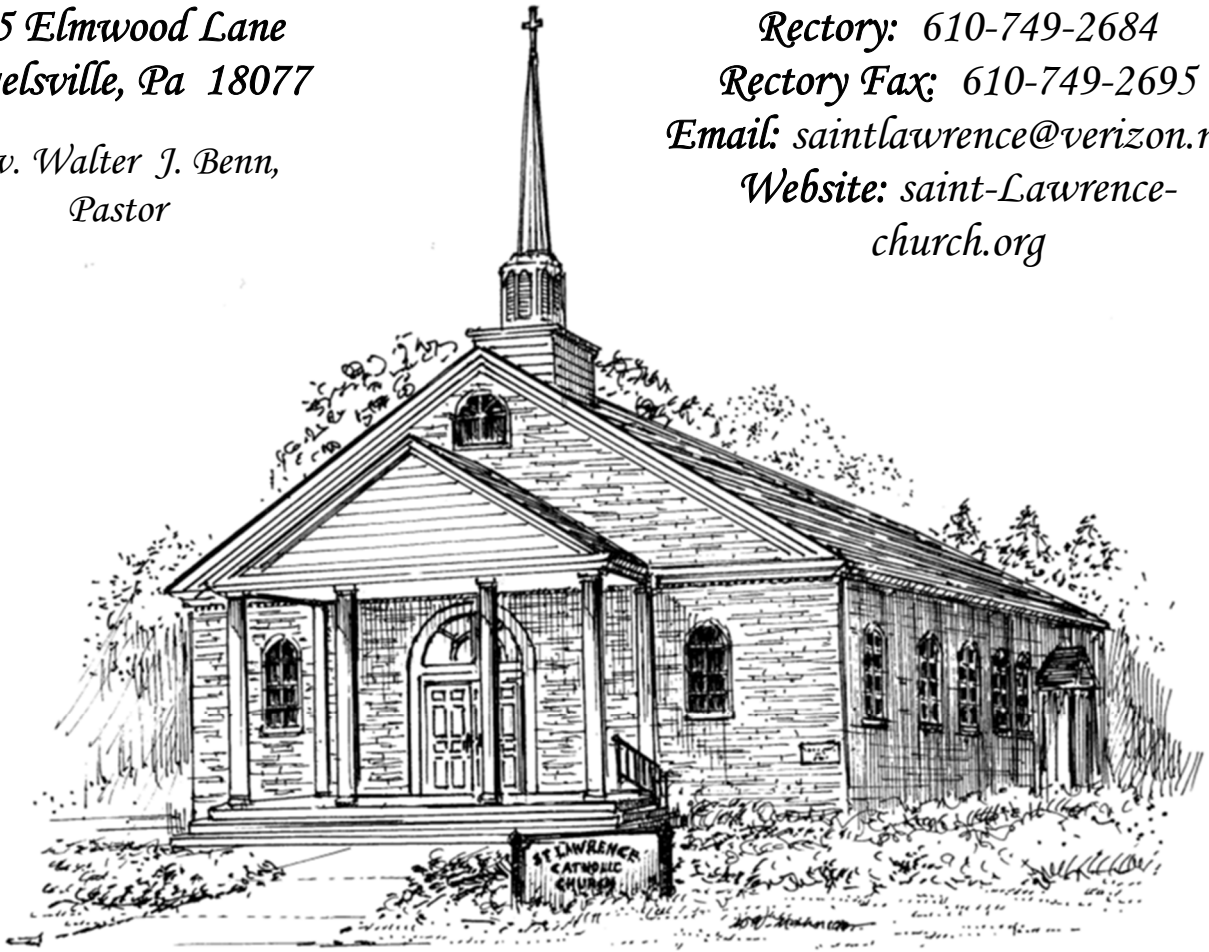
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

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 31st, 2020

Pentecost Sunday!

Today is Pentecost Sunday, one of the crucial events in God's plan for our redemption. We are so use to thinking of Our Lord's Birth {Christmas} as that crucial moment, or Jesus's public teaching as that moment, or his Passion & Death as that moment, or Easter as that moment. Others would argue that it was when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles which was *the* critical event. The *Ascension* of Our Lord into Heaven was critical event. The truth is that, it was the combination of all of these events, which were critical. Remove one of the events from the equation, and God's process of our Redemption would have failed.

What is the importance of Pentecost? The answer to that can be found at the beginning of the Scriptures, which speaks of the beginning of mankind; namely, the story of Adam & Eve, and more specifically the "Fall of Adam & Eve" a.k.a. Original Sin. God gave mankind many many gifts, but the most precious of them was the gift of *Free Will*. Basically, God loved and loves humankind so much that he gave them the freedom to reject him. He did this because he was confident, that if man & woman trusted in God's love & wisdom; appreciated God's love & wisdom, woman & man would never do the slightest thing to wound themselves, creation or their relationship with Him {God}. As all of those from the Judeo-Christian traditions agree, mankind *chose* to act selfishly, dishonestly and arrogantly. Woman & man chose to think of themselves as equal to God. The violence and suffering within human history is one gigantic record of the consequences of our choices. To this day, mankind perpetuates and renews Adam & Eve's choice. There was and never will be anything that humanity can do to reverse this condition on its own; yet, many, within each generation believe they can fix humanity's problem; heal its wounds; "create a better world" without God. They are filled with good intentions; but they are also filled with *pride*; the bad kind. That is why we needed God to come among us; to save us from our disfunction. God goes about this like all loving parents, by challenging us to rely on the power of his Love, and not good intentions. Through the teachings of his Son; the inspiration of his earthly life, and the Son's willingness to suffer and die for us, God trusts that we will learn from our *Original Sin*; connect the dots and once again trust him to lead us back to the Garden. Buttttttt, he will not violate that greatest gift he gave us; namely,

our *Free Will*. It might be damaged, but it still works, and he insists that we use it. These choices are something that only you & I can make. Strange as it sounds, for Jesus to remain in the world in his human form, would be an unhealthy thing for us; it would be counter-productive. Look at the pre-crucifixion Apostles. As long as the Master was among them, they were just coasting; it was always easier for them to let Our Lord initiate things and to challenge everyone. They would never ask Jesus for the keys to car, because quite frankly, they were very content with him doing the driving. In God's plan for mankind's salvation, the time had come for man & woman to take responsibility for their relationship with God. Basically, it was time for them to put Big Boy pants on. Like all children challenged to grow up, they were convinced "that they couldn't do it". Of course, they couldn't without his help. Enter the Holy Spirit! Over the last 2 months, have we not heard Jesus promise regularly to provide a "Gift", the "Advocate", the "Paraclete"? It was essential for the person of Jesus Christ to exit our world, so that he could return in the form of the Holy Spirit. Then, through hundreds of thousands of Disciples, under the direction of his Holy Spirit, Christ would accomplish, what he could not have done as one person. In a little over two centuries, the pagan Roman Empire would become Christian! The harsh, self-centered and arrogant culture of the Romans would breakdown under the *in-spired* witness of humble and Christ-centered followers of the Master. Today, we live in an identical culture; and like the seemingly powerless Christians of ancient times, Christ tasks us to transform our world through lives lived under the direction of his same Holy Spirit. Can we say that we have surrendered to that same Spirit?

Your brother in Christ,



Call to Action from Pa Catholic Conference: FYI:

Gov. Wolf & the PA Dept of Edu. plan on diverting \$47 million away from Catholic & non-public school students by NOT following Federal guidelines and creating their own procedures directing opposing the Gov't intent to fund education. This action directly harms Catholic & non-public students & their families from this CARES Act funding. Express your thoughts via: https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/R_EYF60cmCEIHGvzjZPvOA or to Gov. Wolf at: www.governor.pa.gov/contact#Online Form

Collections: *We need your continued financial support. Mail to or put in Rectory door mail slot.*
May 16 to May 22 Parish @ \$3866, Catholic Home Missions @ \$20 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. There is also a link on our Parish web site.

Seeking a Miracle: your prayers for Maria Middleton 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.

May 31st, 2020 - Pentecost Sunday

Saturday - May 30th -

Confessions: 3:30pm to 4:30pm

5PM: No Public Mass - Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Sunday - May 31st - Mass is Streamed Live

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

Monday - June 1st – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

9AM: No Public Mass - Dolph & Stella Ell (Helfant Family)

Tuesday - June 2nd - St. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs

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

Wednesday - June 3rd – St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament - Postponed

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

Thursday - June 4th - Weekday

9AM: No Public Mass or Readings & Communion

Friday - June 5th - St. Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

9AM: No Public Mass - For protection of all providing services during the Coronavirus

Saturday - June 6th - St. Norbert, Bishop, BVM

9AM: No Public Mass - Souls in Purgatory (Helfant Family)

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