

**October 18, 2026 – Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday – Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Vigil Mass –**

5:00PM Frances Heinrick (Tom Labant)

**Sunday – Oct 18<sup>th</sup> - Mass is Streamed Live –**

9:30AM Intentions of Wanda Bickel (Dolores Bonk)

**Monday – Oct 19<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. John de Brebeuf & Issac Jorgues, Priests**

9:00AM Special Intentions (Ted/Janet Achuff)

**Tuesday – Oct 20<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. Paul of the Cross, Priest**

9:00AM Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Mahony (Dolres Bonk)

**Wed. – Oct 21<sup>st</sup> - Weekday –**

9:00AM Intentions of Steve Danford (Dolores Bonk)

**Thurs. – Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>– Weekday – St. John Paul II, Pope**

9:00AM Reading & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Weekday – St. John of Capistrano, Priest**

9:00AM Rich Sweeny (Dolan Family)

**Saturday – Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Weekday – St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop, BVM**

9:00AM Joseph A Nowicki (Senior Family)

**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, Bernadette Maszczak, Shawn Kelly, Beth Collins, Nikia Helfant Messier, Anthony Libasci, Louis Cortese, Faith Marie Messier, Ann Lewis, Alvin LaBar, Emma Jones, Bernie Boylan, Elizabeth Ohle, **Mary Senior**

**Church of Saint Lawrence**

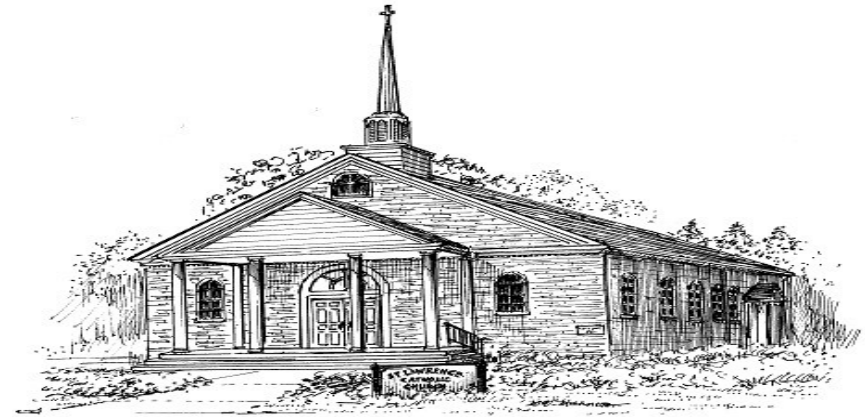
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Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

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[Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org](http://Website: 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 Friday @ 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 October 18, 2026

This Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, as a Church, we celebrate 8 men known as the *North American Martyrs* or *Canadian Martyrs*. Jean Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, René Goupil, Jean De Lalande, Antoine Daniel, Gabriel Lalemant, Charles Garnier. They were 8 Frenchmen, mostly Jesuits, who, over the course of their lives, decided to sail to *New France* (present-day Canada) and parts of upstate New York. They did not arrive as a single group or form a single community, nor did they reach out to Native Americans from one location. Rather, they journeyed to Canada in small parties over time. No doubt, they were aware of each other and must have met and supported each other from time to time. All were wonderfully dedicated to Native American peoples, particularly the Huron-Wendat tribe, ministering to them over 20 to 24 years in the mid-1600s—for example, St. Jean Brebeuf composed catechisms and a dictionary in Huron for the Huron people. Life in the wilds of North America was extremely difficult, particularly in the winter, which always came early. At the time, the only non-native people lived in small, isolated Trading Posts. It was also a violent time among the major tribes, particularly among the Hurons, Iroquois, and Mohawks. They waged violent war with each other and were highly suspicious of anyone different from themselves and their traditions. You can only imagine the impression of strangely clothed white men in black robes, who came to offer their spirituality within their centuries-old religious traditions. By nature, the Hurons were the most peaceful of the tribes, so it is not surprising that these missionaries spent the most time and energy

among them. The Iroquois and Mohawks tended to be aggressive and war-like.

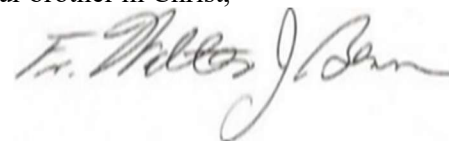
As an example, the Jesuits were blamed for the deadly outbreaks of smallpox and influenza that broke out among the tribes. Native medicine men accused them of being evil people who came to cast curses on them. Things came to a head in the mid-1660s, when, despite their best efforts and Peace-filled ways, various Tribes became hostile to the French missionaries. Between 1642 and 1649, these 8 missionaries died extremely violent, agonizing, and prolonged deaths. Rene Goupil, a missionary companion of Isaac Jogues, was tomahawked to death for making the sign of the Cross over a child. Lest I leave anyone with the impression that the Native Canadian and American peoples of this time period were bad people or unreceptive to Our Lord's Holy Spirit, that would be untrue. One must keep in mind that for centuries their lands, traditions, beliefs, and power were the only things they knew. For people who were different from them and from a land they couldn't conceive of, that was asking a lot... they were truly foreign.

I focus on these 8 martyrs because of their beautiful faith in Our Lord and their readiness to heed His call to share His *Good News with people everywhere*. They departed France with very little intention of returning home. They had no idea of the hardships that lay before them. They would be strangers; with no guarantee they would be received with trust in their goodness or suspicion because they were different. The only thing they had was what every missionary carries with her and him; namely, an absolute faith in the goodness of Our Lord as they left all of the comforts and safety of France to travel to

a wildness and a wilderness people to offer them Our Lord's *Good News*. Yet, through the lives and deaths of these 8 missionaries, Our Lord would accomplish much. Large parts of French Canada would become Catholic. This, in turn, would spill into what became the upper American Midwest, when French Canadian Missionaries accompanied trappers down the great rivers of our Country, most notably the Mississippi, establishing missionary communities. The great irony of their deaths is that ten years later, St. Kateri Tekakwitha would be born in the same village that St. Isaac Jogues and St. Rene Goupil were martyred.

As a parish priest, I recognize that being a missionary is a vocation all in its own right. I encourage you, my brothers & sisters, to remember to pray for all missionaries regularly. They are an extraordinary group of women and men because of their extraordinary hearts and Faith.

Your brother in Christ,



**Collections:** Oct 11<sup>th</sup> Parish @ \$2488, Choir Program @ \$100. Thank You!!

**Special Collection:** World Mission Sunday, October 17-18

**Altar Rosary Fund Raiser:** Glass Painting. Create your own floral-inspired glassware. Friday, November 6 @ Ceader Hall @6PM- 9PM. See flyer in vestibule.



**Octoberfest:** Saturday, Oct 17 following the 5PM Mass @ Ceader Hall. Ends ~ 9PM

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual Donum A Deo Gala – Gift from God:** presented by St. John The Baptist Parish on Friday, Oct 30 @ the *Doylestown Country Club*. Tickets @ [www.rasjb.org](http://www.rasjb.org) See flyer in vestibule.



**IMPORTANT ACTION ITEM:** 2027 weekly contribution envelopes. If you currently are not receiving envelopes and would like to in 2027 or something needs to be updated on your current 2026 envelopes inform the Parish office. Action planned to be completed on or before October 21.