

April 12, 2026 – Divine Mercy Sunday

Saturday – April 11th – Vigil Mass

5:00PM Kevin Comerford (LaBar Family)

Sunday – April 12th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM Rocco & Julia Della Croce (Helfant Family)

Monday – April 13th – Easter Weekday – St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr

9:00AM Nathan Burke – USN – Training Casualty (Ted/Janet Achuff)

Tuesday – April 14th – Easter Weekday –

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

Wed. – April 15th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Thurs. – April 16th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM Readings & Communion Distributions Only

Friday – April 17th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM World Peace

Saturday – April 18th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM Veterans & Active Armed Service

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**

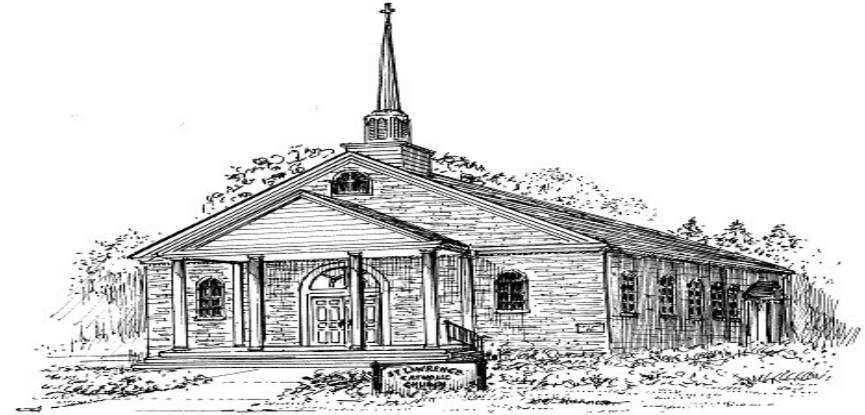
Church of Saint Lawrence

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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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[Website: saint-lawrence-church.org](http://www.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 April 12, 2026

As joy-filled as Easter Sunday's Readings were, I find this weekend's Scripture Readings even more uplifting, more promising, and filled with more Joy. However, much of it will be lost on each of us if we don't return to them, read them, re-read them, and finally talk with Our Lord about them. The First Reading sets the tone; it is the early chapter in the Acts of the Apostles that recounts the Pentecost event and the results of the Holy Spirit's descent upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus. I encourage you to read all of Chapter 2, then read it again, because it reflects what should be happening in our personal lives: namely, that we must seek out Our Lord. We must also understand that part of the experience of seeking Our Lord out is waiting. During the first part of their lives with Our Lord, they were passive; Jesus did all the teaching; performed all the miracles, initiated all of the encounters with the needy, took all the risks, endured all of the non-stop hatred and slander generated by religious authorities, did all of the advocating for the powerless and those cruelly stereo-typed as unworthy of God's love. Finally, Jesus would do all of the dying! Shamefully, the Apostles and other followers of the Lord did all of the hiding. Now, after the Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven, plus His return to them in the form of the Holy Spirit, the time had come for them to put on their Big Boy pants and Big Girls skirts. It was time for them to be active; time for them

to trust the Father, to exercise courage; to inspire the people with their own conviction about Jesus and His Gospel. All of this comes together beautifully in the last section of Chapter 2. You can't help but rejoice with the Apostles and other followers, to be happy for them. It wasn't so much that they had the monkey of immaturity off their backs. It was because they exercised the humility to own their shortcomings, their fears, their cowardliness, and their spiritual laziness, which manifested itself in always waiting for the Master to make the first move and take the first risks. Now, there was conviction in their hearts about Jesus and His mission; with their lives and hearts, they were pointing humanity to the opportunity Jesus had made available to them.

The final 5 verses of Chapter 2 seem impossible, improbable, and almost fabricated. "They devoted themselves to the apostle's instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers....Those who believed shared all things in common; they would sell their property, dividing everything on the basis of each one's needs....With exultant and sincere hearts, they took their meals in common..." And what was the result of these monumental choices? They won "the approval of all the people. Day after day, the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." God was able to accomplish this because, for the first time in their lives, like Jesus, they were humble, transparent, genuine, and

they took risks. My sisters and brothers, this is what Our Lord calls us to and expects of us. No wishy-washing discipleship stuff. No approaching Him like He's a buffet, where we take what we like and refuse what we're uncomfortable with. How can we be disappointed with many of the people of the world if they don't experience conviction in our persons? The spirit of these early Christians can also be found in the 2nd Reading from St. Peter's 1st Letter and in the Gospel, which shares St. John's version of Easter Sunday, including the moment when Thomas returns to the Upper Room for the first time since Good Friday.

My brothers & sisters, I urge you not to waste these stories, but to allow them to do what most of us fear: risk, so that through them, Our Lord will move you to change, to be a more engaged disciple, not a couch disciple.
Your brother in Christ,

Collections: April 5 Easter Parish @ \$7402, Easter Flowers @ \$25, Holy Land Good Friday @ \$394. Thank You!!

Holy Name Society: meeting Monday, April 13 @ 7PM @ Ceader Hall.



Divine Mercy Sunday: All are invited to pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy on Saturday, April 11th and Sunday Morning, April 12th. The Chaplet begins immediately following the singing of the closing hymn at Mass.



- 1) What goes up & down but doesn't move?
- 2) What do you get when you cross a fish and an elephant?
- 3) Why can't a nose be 12 inches long?
- 4) Why did the belt go to jail?
- 5) How do rabbits travel?

Stairs – swimming trunks – because then it would be a foot – it held up a pair of pants – hareplanes