

May 4, 2025 – Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday – May 3rd – Vigil Mass

5:00PM Raymond Wladyka (Jones Family)

Sunday – May 4th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM: Jack Niederer (Marthas & Mary Ministry)

Monday – May 5th – Easter Weekday –

9AM: Eugene & Theresa DellaCroce (Helfant family)

Tuesday – May 6th – Easter Weekday –

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Wednesday – May 7th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM: Intentions of Mary Senior – Birthday (Senior Family)

Thursday – May 8th – Easter Weekday –

9:00AM Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – May 9th – Easter Weekday –

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

Saturday – May 10th – Easter Weekday – St. John of Avila, Priest

9:30AM Catherine Amatuli (Helfant 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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

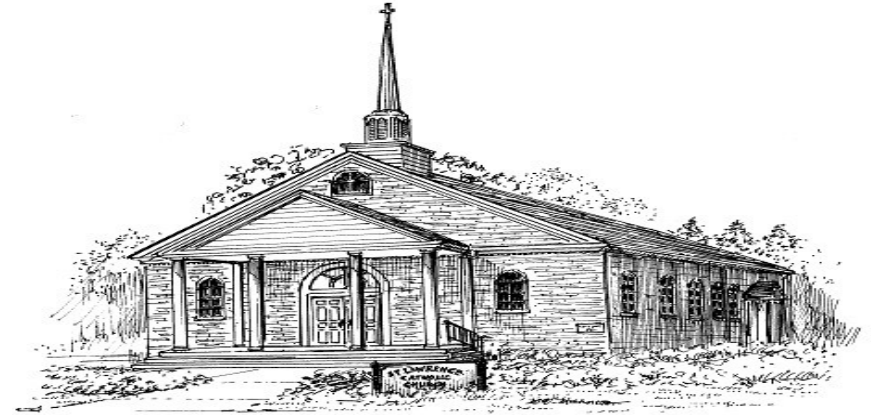
Church of Saint Lawrence

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Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

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Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

[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 Thurs. @ 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! May 4, 2025

“Feed”..... “Tend”..... “Feed”..... “Follow”

Like many of the Gospel stories, especially the Resurrection and post-Resurrection stories, there is much packed into today's Gospel for us to reflect on. We would be right to presume the overwhelming Joy and sense of Victory over Evil that the Father achieves in the Resurrection of His Son. Joy and a sense of victory will strengthen as the days and years pass. The young Church comes to appreciate the significance of what God has done and how God has loved Mankind through the Son's life, teaching, and His outrageous act of Love because of His faith in the Father's love. Yet, today's Gospel also reminds us that being in covenant with the God of Abraham is not a “gimmie.” Instead, it is a process that each of us, as children of the Father, must labor at. It is not so difficult for us to see ourselves in today's Gospel as it is painful. The pre-Pentecost Apostles needed to be reminded that the love relationship they enjoyed with the Master was not a one-way relationship. Instead, they [including each of us] are responsible for God's heart, as much as he has shown His commitment to be responsible for each of their hearts. So, what is happening here? Jesus is making them wait. This is not vengeance on Our Lord's part; He is giving them a “Time Out.” Just as parents need to give a recalcitrant child a chance to reflect on their disruptive, hurtful, or selfish behavior, with a trip upstairs to their room, so do the Apostles and the other followers of the Lord. I believe that this is why the Israelites spent 40 Years wandering around in the isolation of the Desert before God would guide them into the Promised Land. During that time, the Israelites repeatedly complained about their life, repeatedly doubted God's

love, and repeatedly were ungrateful for what God was doing for them each day of their “wandering.” They quickly forgot that he saved them from slavery in Egypt, saved them from the Egyptian Army, provided food and water for them each day, help them when they were threatened and misunderstood by people whose limited grass and water they were using up as they wandered through their land. In today's Gospel, John reminds us that this is the third time they will encounter the Lord. Obviously, Jesus has not given them His post-resurrection plans or a forwarding address. He spends time with them, then departs without knowing when or where they will meet again. They might not like it, but they need to prayerfully reflect on all the Lord had done, taught, and shared with them; until now, they were suffering from a terribly short memory. There were 11 serious cases of short memory, and the people of the Baby Church would need eleven leaders who were focused, committed, and inspired by them because of their own spiritual journey. It is almost comical, looking in on them. They are like children whose “Time Out” is starting to work. Just as our children, during a T-O, start fiddling with the stuff in their room because their silence and isolation have forced them to own their faults, do the same. So, what do they do? They resort to what they are familiar with as fishermen.....they return to the boats; they go fishing. Not surprisingly, even the fish are giving them the silent treatment. Enter Jesus and breakfast. As has often happened with the Master, they share more than food. He spoils them rotten by not making it too tough on them when they are too embarrassed to acknowledge their initial inability to recognize the Lord. But lovingly, the Master gives them a pass on that. The story concludes with one critical issue that the Lord won't

give them a pass on, and that is Peter's denial of the Lord. Remember that when Peter spoke, he often spoke for the rest of the Apostles, who were more sheepish than he was. Each of them needed a way to broach the spiritual elephant in the room and put closure to it, namely, their denial and abandonment of the Lord when he was arrested and put on trial. This leads to Our Lord questioning Peter 3x's if he loved him, which matches the 3x's Peter denied Our Lord. Each of us knows how this concluded. So, my sisters and brothers, this Gospel story is more than a fly-on-the-wall insight into a critical moment in the lives of the Apostles; it is Our Lord's insight into how much He loves each of us, of the responsibility he expects us to take for His unconditional love of each of us and an assurance that His capacity to love no know bounds, is limited by no calendar or clock or any foolishness on our part, but only our pride and an unwillingness to say *“I was wrong”**“I am sorry,”* And before we have the chance to ask, *“Would you forgive me?”* Discover that Our Lord is entrusting us to *“Feed” “Tend” “Feed”..... “Follow me”*

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: April 27 Easter @ \$150 Parish @ \$3028, Debt @ \$150. Thank You.

Special Collection: Catholic Home Missions, May 3 & 4

Crowning of the Blessed Mother: May 4 following 9:30AM Mass with Procession to the Prayer Garden (weather permitting). Continental Breakfast to follow in Cedar Hall. All are Welcome.

Mother's Day: May 11th. Pro-Life Roses sale to support Bucks County Pro-Life Council. Please support this worthy case and get Mom a rose or two in the process:>



Altar Rosary Trip to Philadelphia: Save the date Friday, June 20. Visiting: Old St. Mary's Church, Old St. Joseph's Church, Tour & Mass at the National Shrine of St. Rite of Cascia. Details will follow

Mission Co-Operative Weekend: May 17 & 18 with guest speaker Brother Lucian. Supporting Mission endeavors throughout the world. This is different than Catholic Home Mission on 5/3 & 4.

Coffee & Donuts: Sunday, May 11 following the 9:30AM Mass @ Cedar Hall. All are welcome.