

**February 22, 2026 – First Sunday of Lent**

**Saturday – Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – Vigil Mass**

5:00PM Fr. Robet Breen, Pastor, Deceased (Tom Labant)

**Sunday – Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> – Mass is Streamed Live**

9:30AM All Young People Seeking Vocation Guidance to Answer God's Calling

**Monday – Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> – Lenten Weekday – St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr**

9:00AM Isola Dillon (Tom Labant)

**Tuesday – Feb 24<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday –**

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

**Wed. – Feb 25<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday –**

9:00AM Gary Edwards (Affuso Family)

**Thurs. – Feb 26<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday –**

9:00AM Readings & Communion Distribution Only

**Friday – Feb 27<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday – Abstinence – St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot**

9:00AM Intentions of Bernie Boylan (Lay Carmelite Community)

**Saturday – Feb 28<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday –**

9:00AM People Suffering from Depression & Financial Worries

**Please Pray for Our Sick and Housebound, Deceased Members, for an End to Abortion and Respect for all Life! People Suffering from Depression & Financial**

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**

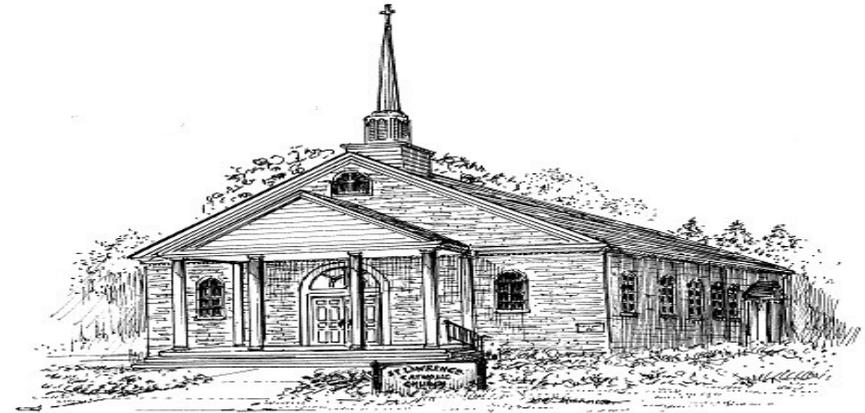
**Church of Saint Lawrence**

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, PA 18077

**Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor**

Rectory: 610-749-2684  
Email: [saintlawrence@verizon.net](mailto:saintlawrence@verizon.net)

[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 February 22, 2026

This weekend's *Scripture Readings* are the perfect Readings for us to reflect on as we begin the Season of Lent. Why? Because they show us what is at the heart of all sin; namely, **Pride!** Pride is the engine that drives all sin. There is absolutely nothing good about sin, because it is the absence of Good. Notice the lie with which the Evil One tempts Eve & Adam and Our Lord; it is the same one with which He tempts us. It is the falsehood that they, as well as you and I are equal to God the Father, the Creator; that our wisdom is equal to God's; that we have a right to make our own decisions, even though we're not ready to handle the consequences of those decisions. And because of that, we're under no obligation to respect God's greatness, God's wisdom or even God's love for us. Notice too, how immediately after they have eaten of the fruit of the Tree of Good and Evil, they immediately hide their nakedness and hide from God when He comes to visit them. Because of their Pride, and their refusal to humble themselves to trust their loving Creator, they have lost control of the world, which in His love, God had gifted them. Their way ruined everything. Evil, which is just another name for Chaos, loves this.

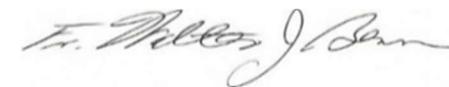
It is stunning, that many of the people of today's world are shocked at how violent, how dark, frightening and tragic their world is; yet, without hesitation, they insist that they have a right to do whatever they want,

even though their history shows that the arrogance of their values is predisposed to be destructive and characterized by death. In their mind, the tragedies, deaths, falsehoods, and contradictions that characterize our world have nothing to do with them and their values. Reversing all of this has been the great battle that God has urged us to fight. Not surprisingly, our personal lives are at the center of this war, this struggle to return to the Garden with Our Creator. And as it was for Adam & Eve, so it is for us. The Power of Evil is out there, anxious to victimize us, the children of Eve and Adam; not surprisingly with the same lies, the same appeal to our Pride.

Starting with the People of Israel and on to the entrance of His Son Jesus into our world, God has stood with those children who trust Him, trust His wisdom, trust His Love, and who trust the Grace He offers us to make the faith-filled Life choices. Making those choices isn't easy, it requires humility, courage and the effort to counter Pride with **Trust** and its twin sister **Faith**.

The spiritual season of Lent, offers us a wonderful opportunity for each of us as individual children of God, but also as a Community of God's children rally around the Father. To quiet ourselves for 7 weeks so that we can become familiar with His voice, and listen to Him, giving Him an opportunity counsel us, encourage us, inspire us and to rediscover the Truth of His love for us. We do this by reflecting on the stories of His Children, the Children of Israel, on the words,

deeds, teachings and death of His Son. This is what the Power of Evil dreads, because living the Season of Lent with its call to repentance is toxic to Evil and his eternal agenda turn us from our heavenly Father. So, I encourage you my brothers and sisters, throw yourselves into this season as best as you can. Spend time in personal prayer. No matter how difficult it might be to make that time, no matter how often you might fail to make that time; start all over again! Make the time! Consider coming to the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. Reflect on the Scriptures you hear on the Sabbath. Discuss them with others. Make the decision to place yourself in the Presence of the master in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Reject Evil's agenda and choose to admire the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil from afar, trusting in the love which the Father has always had for you, since the moment He made you, His child.



**Collections:** February 15 Parish @ \$????, Catholic Charities @ \$?????? Thank You.

**Religious Education Financial Assistance:** forms available in vestibule for Fall 2025 & Spring 2026. Provided by the Ceader Trust Trustees. Time sensitive, act now. Deadline March 1, 2026.

**Catholic Charities Appeal 2026** begins **February 21-22**. In-pew donation envelopes will be available. Please remember to make checks payable to: Catholic Charities Appeal, not St. Lawrence.



**Food Drive:** with focus on Children's Lunch Box items, Feb 28 – Mar 1. See flyer in vestibule.

**Lenten & Easter Season + Abstinence** flyer available in vestibule.

**Lenten Soup Supper:** every Friday of Lent from 6PM to 7PM prior to Stations of the Cross.

**Confessions:** in addition to our regular schedule on Saturdays @ 3:30PM – 4:30PM; also, during Lent immediately following Stations of the Cross and a Special Evening Confessions Wed., April 1 @ 7PM-8PM.



**Night at the Races:** will be held on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. Doors open @ 6PM with races starting @ 7PM. This is a family friendly event open to everyone. Consider inviting friends, family & neighbors. Donations of door prizes & backed goods are appreciated. Horses available for purchase @ \$10 each with a 1 in 10 chance of winning \$50. Thank you for supporting this annual Holy Name Fund Raiser providing a helpful hand to those in need throughout our Parish Community.