

August 10, 2025 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday – Aug 9th – Vigil Mass

5:00PM Intentions of Rita Pyrratt (Mary Scolavino)

Sunday – Aug 10th – Mass is Streamed Live

9:30AM All Archdiocesan Parishes Guidance in Strategic Planning (Fr. Benn)

Monday – Aug 11th – Weekday – St. Clare, Virgin

9AM: Clare Voigt (Voigt Family)

Tuesday – Aug 12th – Weekday – St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

9AM: Living/Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Wednesday – Aug 13th – Weekday – St. Pontian, Pope & Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

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

Thursday – Aug 14th – Weekday – St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

9:00AM: Readings & Communion Distribution Only

Friday – Aug 15th – Weekday – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Holy Day

9:00AM: Intentions of Mary Scolavino – Birthday

12 Noon: World Peace (Parish Community)

7PM: All Suffering from Depression (parish Community)

Saturday – Aug 16th – Weekday – St. Stephen of Hungary, BVM

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

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

Please Update the Above Prayers If Needed. Contact Parish Office

Church of Saint Lawrence

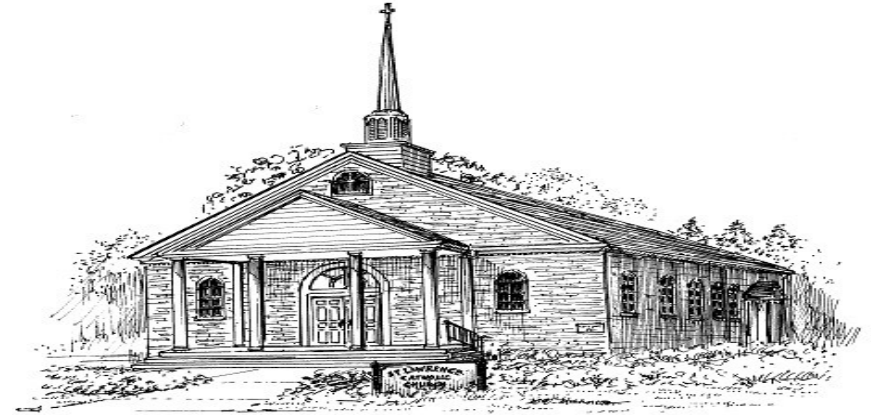
345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, PA 18077

Rev. Walter J Benn, Pastor

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net

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 Minimum 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! August 10, 2025

In His efforts to teach about humanity's relationship with God the Father, Our Lord turns to an experience common to all peoples of His day; namely, the relationship between the wealthy [who had the power of their status and wealth], and the ordinary person of their society, which constituted a good 95+% of their society. Keep in mind that the ancient world was a **class society**. There were the "*haves*", and then there were the "*have-nots*". The *haves* had absolute power, influence, and authority over the *have-nots*. Many of the *have-nots* might have been free persons, but the lives of most were often influenced and affected by the *haves*. Status was everything! For us, who have never known any political culture but that of a democracy, this is difficult for us to understand and to incorporate into our appreciation of the societies of their time. That is why many of us have a difficult time appreciating Our Lord's choice to use this life experience as an analogy for being in relationship with the Father. Many of us probably wished Our Lord had turned to another analogy to make His point, but He didn't. So, where is the wisdom of Our Lord hidden in this story? The answer to that is that it is found in the very human experience where what starts as a professional relationship, over the combination of a long time, coupled with faithful, genuine and loyal effort on the part of the servant/steward the two parties

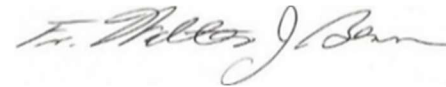
come to appreciate the respect, trustworthiness and loyalty to the priorities of the master, to the point where the master never has to look over his shoulder or double check on the efforts of the servant/steward. The master realizes that his servant/steward behaves this way because he respects the master and shares his best interest and that of his family. Crazy as it sounds to some, a bond develops between the two of them and their families. One does something for the other, not because they have to or because that is what society insists on, but because they want to.

"Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.....You must also be prepared for an unexpected hour. The Son of man will come."

Our Lord is telling everyone that when we live, God's love reverses everything; it transforms everything in a way that society is afraid to trust. It is essential to acknowledge that God's love is **not** instantaneous. It's an oxymoron, but God's love is like a corrosive, but a *good* corrosive. When offered again and again to the same person or group, it corrodes the bad, the non-God-like. It transforms that relationship into something it was always meant to be: one characterized by the freedom that comes with both parties *offering* God's love and both parties *receiving* God's love.

My sisters and brothers, let us begin each day with a prayer asking Our Lord to give us the courage and humility to love those around us with His love. Regardless of how scary or useless it might seem, let us ask Him to help us trust in the subtle power.....the "corrosive" power of His love.

Your brother in Christ,



Collections: Aug 3rd Parish @ \$2602, Air Conditioning @ \$50. Thank You.

Special Collection: Aug 9-10, Catholic University.

Coffee & Donuts: Aug 10th following the 9:30AM Mass @ Ceader Hall.

Catholic Women's Conference: see handout.



It's a big decision!

It sounds so elitist but isn't intended to be. Choosing to become a Catholic is a Big Decision. It is a big decision because it involves a *commitment*, a word that usually scares the bejeebes out of people. Today,

when most people hear the word *commitment* they usually think "entrapped"; which is regrettable. We enter into relationships not only because of what we will receive from the other, but also, because of what we can bring to the other. We make a commitment to another because we believe in the goodness of the other, and because we believe they will treasure and nourish our goodness.

If you are a person who has considered becoming a Catholic, Great! You need to pray over it; to be informed about the Church and to know that we will be committed to you throughout the initiation process. The process itself is referred to as **RCIA** {*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*}. A brief description of the program can be found in yellow hand-outs in the vestibule of the church. To assist you in making this decision, please contact Fr. Walter Benn through the Parish Office at **[610] 749-2684**; consult the **orange** hand-outs in the vestibule of the church; visit St. Lawrence's website **saint-lawrence-church.org**; or email Fr. Benn through the Parish Office at **saintlawrence@verizon.net**. For planning purposes, it is important that you inform us of your intentions before the first Class on **2025-09-09 [7PM -8 PM]**. **Final Class is 2026-03-31**. Know that throughout the remainder of this summer & coming autumn, we will be holding you up to Our Lord for His guidance.