

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Reverend Gavin W. Muir, Pastor
Reverend Robert H. Breen, Pastor Emeritus

Rectory: 610-749-2684
Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695
Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net
Website: saint-Lawrence-church.org



Mass Schedule

Saturday Evenings at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Sat. at 9:00 a.m.
Wed., at 7:30 p.m. & Fri. at 6:30 p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday evenings from 6-7 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday afternoon at 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday evening at 7:10 p.m.

St. Lawrence Men's Club

Meets on the second Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Altar & Rosary Society

Meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Lay Carmelite Community of St. Teresa of Jesus of Los Andes

Meets First Saturday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Parish Registration

We welcome all new members to our Parish family. Please register when you move into the parish. Please notify us if you are moving.

Weddings

Couples are asked to contact the Rectory and make arrangements at least six months prior to their intended wedding date. They are required to attend Pre-Cana sessions.

Catholic Elementary School

Children may attend Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist School, Ottsville; for further information call: 610-847-5523.

Parish CCD Classes

Parish children attending public or private school, may receive Catholic Faith instructions on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall from October to May. Registration is published in the Parish Bulletin.

Rectory Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m. to Noon

December 25, 2016

The Nativity of the Lord, Christmas

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

On this day of gifts and gift-giving, it seems appropriate that we take a moment to reflect on the great gift of God's Word. Because it is creative, God's Word always points to its author, always calls us to respond. Because it is powerful, God's Word can link the sublime with the ridiculous, the transcendent with the immanent, the divine with the human. Because it is graceful, God's Word establishes a relationship of deep intimacy between us and God.

At the heart of God's Word lies a tantalizing tension between the mysterious and the mundane. In our liturgical celebration, this unresolved tension both reveals the meaning of life for us and calls us to respond, to act upon that meaning.

Once accepted and opened, the gift of God's Word is a gift that keeps on giving and keeps on calling us to give in return. It dares us to be like the gift-giver and to become gifts for others, not only at Christmas, but at every moment of life.

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Saturday - December 24th - Christmas Eve
NO Confessions: Mass @ 4PM & 6PM see schedule details.

Sunday - Dec 25th - Christmas Day, The Nativity of the Lord
9AM: Intentions of the Helfant Family (Rex & Mariann Helfant)

Monday - Dec 26th - St. Stephen, The First Martyr
Weekday:
9AM: Special Intentions

Tuesday - Dec 27th - St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
Weekday:
9AM: Joan Mantalos (Jones Family)

Wednesday - Dec 28th - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Weekday:
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - 6-7:00 PM
Confessions 7:10PM
7:30PM:

Thursday - Dec 29th - 5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr
Weekday:
9AM:

Friday - Dec 30th - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Weekday:
6:30PM:

Saturday - Dec 31st - New Years Eve Day, St. Sylvester I, Pope
Weekday: 9:00AM

Saturday, Dec 31st - New Years Eve Night
5 PM: Beatrice Griffaton (Kathie Weiss)

COLLECTIONS: December 18, Parish @ \$3608, Poor Box @ \$197, Religious Retirement Fund @ \$50, Christmas Flowers @ \$30

Christmas Week Schedule

Saturday, Dec 24, Christmas Eve - 4:00PM
Incense Not used; No Confessions; Living & Deceased Members of St. Lawrence
Saturday Dec 24, Christmas Eve - 6:00PM
Incense IS used; No Confessions, Living & Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

Sunday Dec 25, Christmas Day - 9:00AM

Saturday, Dec 31, New Years Eve - Mass 5PM

Sunday, January 1, 2017 - New Years Day, Mass
8AM & 10AM

LOVE

Let those who never loved before,
love now:
Let those who always loved,
love the more.
—Anonymous

LEARNED AT HOME

The mind of Christ is to be learned in the family. Strength of character may be acquired at work, but beauty of character is learned at home.

Winners Altar Rosary Fundraiser Raffle

Name: Janice Sebastiano wins Gift Card Tree and Artwork by George J Donovan
Name: Kathy Twomey wins Gift Basket
Thank you one and all for supporting this worthy cause.

Archbishop of Philadelphia, Most Rev. Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., expressed his sincere gratitude for our Parish support of the recent donations to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary. We are all in his prayers. Thank you

2017 Calendars available to all Parishioners in vestibule of church.

Flame of Love books in pews and vestibule are free for the taking.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

An old joke asks, "What time is Midnight Mass?" The answer is not really obvious, since Christmas is unique in having several distinct celebrations. The readings and prayers vary greatly from hour to hour. The Vigil Mass hinges on the family heritage of Jesus and his origins. The concept of "midnight" predates clock time, and really has to do with a celebration in the hours of darkness. Years ago, it was not possible to receive Communion without fasting for a full day, so the late hour of this Mass made it possible for the people to receive. The first Mass after sunrise, the Mass at Dawn, was once known as "The Shepherds' Mass," and later Masses set aside stories of Jesus' birth to focus on the key to the day's celebration: John the Evangelist's majestic theology of Christ's identity as the Word made flesh, dwelling among us. One feast, four separate Masses. Only monasteries manage the whole round. Parishioners typically take just one entry point into the mystery. Yet there is much to savor and celebrate in the coming of Christ into the world. Christmas is not a day, but a season. You still have two weeks to send those Christmas cards before you're officially late!
—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Altar Rosary Christmas Dinner save the date, January 5th at the Villa Richard starting @ 6:00PM. All women of our Parish welcome. Sign sheet and entrée choice details in vestibule. Treat yourself to a pleasant evening with women of our Parish at this annual event.

CPR/AED Training Class is scheduled for Sunday, January 29th following the 10AM Mass. This service is provided free of charge and an opportunity for anyone to learn these most valuable life saving procedures. This is a convenient opportunity to participate in something that you may have interest in but have been putting off for years. Now is the time to act. You will be glad you did:>

Nativity Stable: The St. Lawrence Men's Club has approved funds for the construction of a new Nativity Stable to be utilized for Christmas 2017. We seek someone who has the ability and is willing to donate their time & talent to fabricate same. All materials for this initiative will be funded by the Men's Club with no expense to you. Interested?? Contact Joe Affuso @ 610-258-1621

The Lord's Pantry thank you for \$78 donation in September 2016 helping needy families in our area.

New Parishioners –WELCOME!! No need to feel shy. We are happy you are here. To register see an usher, or just fill out form in vestibule of church, or call 610-749-2684 or email: saintlawrence@verizon.net We are ready to welcome you.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

12/31	5 PM:	Frank Hyland
1/1	8 AM:	Joseph Keeney
	10 AM:	Bernie Boylan

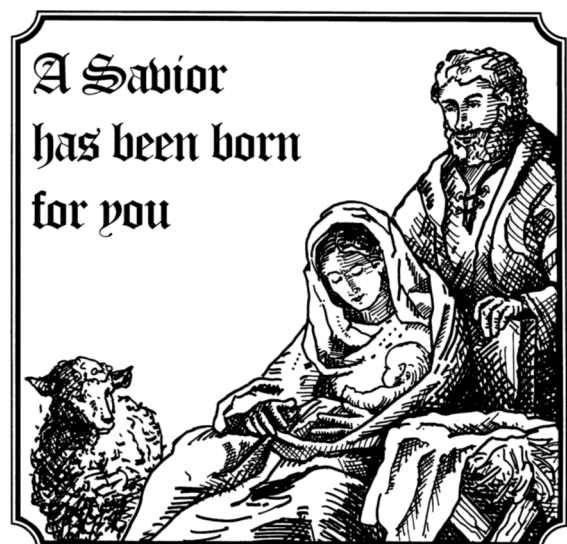
Altar Servers for:

12/31	5 PM:	Andrew Benner, Gregory Derr-Haverlach
1/1	8 AM:	Anna Holmgaard, Amy Wydner
	10 AM:	Conor, Darafin, Shane Twomey

Extraordinary Ministers:

12/31	5 PM:	Russell Benner, Kathy Weiss
1/1	8 AM:	Jackie Crocetti, Bernadette Maszczak
	10 AM:	Joe Affuso, Mary Gambino

Please Pray for Our Sick and housebound, deceased members, and for an end to abortion and a respect for all life! Joan McArdle, Tim McHenry, Molly Worner, Kelly Aubrey & Family, Lorraine Wallace, Liz Casterline, Julie Petry, Lucy Herman, John Gibson, Steve Ombalski, Raymond Meehan, Mary Grube Fritchman, Joan Sheeran, Jay Johnson, Irene Peiffer, Lori Liskowacki, Cynthia Diaz, special intention, Susan Wires, David Grasso, Adrian Steinberg, Joseph Jones, Mary Jane Bernat, Gus Trincheria, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Daniel Steinberg, Jack Latorre, Joann Thaler, Amy Hessenthaler, Calvin, Wilson & Frank Ryan, Eve Zelle, Roger & MaryAnn Brahler, Gavin (age 3), Bill Miller, Caitlin, Steven Fusco, Charles More, Jeff & Bonnie, Baby Matthew Royer, baby Ely, Max Ours, Father Breen, Paul Beach, Anthony Bonnano, Barbara and Ells Cheeseman, Summer Heddleston, Maria Steinberg, Elwood Ditmer, Dan Schiavello, Tom Peterson, Special intention, Carol Stahley, Maria King, Irene & Al Breiner, Jeremy Hewens, MD



INFORMATION SHEET

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St. Lawrence

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Special instructions:

Please call Tom @ 610-749-2684
Or email saintlawrence@verizon.net