

# Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane  
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

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

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## 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

**February 28, 2016**

## **Third Sunday of Lent**

**Saturday—February 27th**

5PM: Living & Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

**Sunday—February 28th Third Sunday of Lent**

8AM: Living & Deceased Members of St. Lawrence

10AM: John W Senior (Bob & Joann Seren)

**Monday— February 29th**

**Weekday:**

9AM:

**Tuesday—March 1st**

**Weekday:**

9AM:

**Wednesday —March 2nd**

**Weekday:**

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament – 6-7:30PM*

7:30PM:

**Thursday— March 3rd**

**Weekday: Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin**

9AM: Margaret Durns (Janet Davis)

**Friday—March 4th**

**Weekday: Saint Casimir, Abstinence**

6:00PM Stations of the Cross

6:30PM Mass

**Saturday, March 5th**

**Weekday:**

9AM: John Pavlica (Irene Pavlica & Janet Davis)

5PM: Knights of Columbus

### COLLECTIONS:

February 21st \$2813.00

### **Fast and Abstinence and Other Acts of Penance for Lent 2016**

The Bishops of the United States prescribe, as minimal obligation, that all persons who are 14 years of age and older are bound to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. Further, all persons 18 years of age and older, up to and including their 59th birthday, are bound to fast by limiting themselves to a single full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, while the other two meals on those days are to be light.

All the faithful are encouraged, when possible, to participate at Mass and to receive the Holy Eucharist daily, to celebrate frequently the Sacrament of Penance, to undertake spiritual reading, especially the study of the Sacred Scriptures, and to participate in parish Lenten devotions as well as Lenten education programs. Adorations of the Blessed Sacrament is especially recommended.

All are encouraged to participate in “Operation Rive Bowl”, which has aided countless hungry persons here in the Archdiocese as well as throughout our nation and our world.

### **“I AM”**

Kindness and mercy are what the enslaved people of Israel needed, and they came in the form of deliverance. They came through a leader, Moses, who was once plucked from the Nile River and was now herding his father-in-law’s sheep in the land of Goshen. The bush that burned but was not consumed shows us that God is inexhaustible mystery.

Moses’ awe and deference are mixed with a touching conversational tone as he seeks to learn God’s name. And God sweetly responds. The somewhat abstract “I AM” distinguishes the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob from the minor gods in the territory who “are not.” They are helpless, powerless, and useless. Moses is to step out into an amazing future, and God will be there with outstretched arm. Just go and see, God seems to say.

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### **TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The LORD God appears to Moses and directs him to go and deliver the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15) *or Exodus 17:3-7.*

**Psalm** — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103) *or Psalm 95.*

**Second Reading** — We are not to grumble like the people with Moses in the desert (1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12) *or Romans 5:1-2, 5-8.*

**Gospel** — If you do not repent, you will all perish (Luke 13:1-9) *or John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42].*

### **TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Ash Wednesday is not observed by Eastern Christians, perhaps because, at least in Orthodox practice, weekdays are not proper days for the Divine Liturgy. Typically, “Great Lent” has a bit of a prelude. On “Meatfare Sunday” the faithful have their last chance to eat meat for the entire period of Great Lent. A week later, “Cheesefare Sunday” has dairy on the menu for the last time until *Pascha* (Easter). At twilight on Cheesefare Sunday, officially called “Sunday of Forgiveness.” the church gathers for “Forgiveness Vespers.” The faithful identify with Adam and Eve, forgiving one another in order to experience God’s forgiveness.

The desire to set aside all bitterness, and to achieve harmony and reconciliation in the family and with one's neighbors gives a remarkable energy to the transition into the days of penitence. At the end of the vespers liturgy, the décor of the church is changed to reflect the new season.

How is your Lenten fast going? Imagine the Eastern tradition. No meat, no fish, no dairy, no wine or oil. Some traditions permit vegetable oil; everyone goes without olive oil. Happily, strict fasting is not permitted on the Sabbath or the Lord's Day, so on Saturday and Sunday the fast is somewhat mitigated, and wine and oil are allowed. If the Feast of the Annunciation falls during Great Lent, then fish may be served.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## FORGIVENESS

Those who cannot forgive others break the bridge over which they themselves must pass.

—Confucius

**Fish Fry for Lent:** Riegelsville Fire Company every Friday night starting February 12th to March 25th

**Saint Lawrence Night at the Races:** The Night at the Races will be held on Saturday, February 27th. Doors open at 6:00PM and the event starts at 7:00PM. This event is open to everyone and is a family activity. Donations of door prizes and baked goods are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your continued support.

**Catholic Cruises and Tours:** cruise to the Western Caribbean on a 7-night sail September 10th to 17th on Carnival Freedom out of Galveston, Texas. Ports of call; Montego Bay (Jamaica), Grand Cayman and Cozumel. Contact Doug or Eileen at 860-399-1785

**Mother Boniface Spirituality Center** in northeast Philadelphia is offering a Celtic Spirituality Retreat, March 4-6. Contact 267-350-1830

**Girl Scout Cookies:** Sunday March 13th after the 10AM Mass. Celebrating 103 years of service making our world a better place and the cookies are great:>

**MANUP Philly:** Spirituality Conference, March 12th, St. Joseph's University. Transforming men & families. 8th Annual. Info: ManUpPhilly.com

**Lenten Retreat for Women:** Saturday, March 19th, 8:30AM—1:15PM @ St. Magdalen de Pazzi church, Flemington, NJ. Info: [www.ComeIntotheWord.com](http://www.ComeIntotheWord.com)

## ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

### Lectors for:

3/5 5PM: Linda Krager  
3/6 8AM: Martin Piccinich  
10AM: Ells Cheeseman

### Altar Servers for:

3/5 5PM: Andrew Benner, Gregory Deer-Haverlach  
3/6 8AM: Anna Holmgaard  
10AM: Anthony DeArmas, Eric Senior

### Extraordinary Ministers:

3/5 5PM: Russell Benner  
3/6 8AM: Jackie Crocetti, Bernadette Maszczak  
10AM: Joe Affuso, Alvin LaBar, OFS

**Please Pray for Our Sick and housebound, deceased members, and for an end to abortion and a respect for all life!** John Gibson, Steve Ombalski, Jean Krenitsky, Raymond Meehan, Mary Grube Fritchman, Joan Sheeran, Robin Hults, William Merkle, Jay Johnson, Irene Peiffer, Lori Liskowacki, Cynthia Diaz, special intention, Susan Wires, David Grasso, Adrian Steinberg, Joseph Jones, Mary Jane Bernat, Gus Trincheria, Ann Nanni, Keith Marks, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Daniel Steinberg, Jack Latorre, Joann Thaler, Amy Hessenthaler, Calvin, Wilson & Frank Ryan, Eva Zelle, Roger Brahler, Gavin (age 3), Bill Miller, Caitlin, Steven Fusco, Charles More, Jeff & Bonnie, Baby Matthew Royer, Rose Romeo, 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

### **Official Prayer for the Jubilee of Mercy**

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!" You are visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

INFORMATION SHEET

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