

Church of Saint Lawrence

345 Elmwood Lane
Riegelsville, Pa 18077

Rectory: 610-749-2684

Rectory Fax: 610-749-2695

Reverend Gavin W. Muir, Pastor

Reverend Robert H. Breen, Pastor Emeritus

Email: saintlawrence@verizon.net



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 6-9 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 first 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

The Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2015

All you who are thirsty, come to the
water!

- Isaiah 55:1



Saturday, January 10th

Sunday Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord

5PM:

Sunday, January 11th

The Baptism of the Lord

8AM:

10AM: Living & deceased members of St. Lawrence Parish

Monday, January 12th

Weekday (First Week in Ordinary Time)

9AM: Safety for Travelers

Tuesday, January 13th

Weekday

9AM: For the intentions of Constance Karg by the Lay Carmelite Community

Wednesday, January 14th

Weekday

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

7:30PM: for the health of Lilah Durr by Mary Geremia

Thursday, January 15th

Weekday

9AM: for the Nowicki & Senior families

Friday, January 16th

Weekday

6:30PM: Peace among races

Saturday, January 17th

Saint Anthony, Abbot

9AM: Special intention

Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5PM: Special intention

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AN ANCIENT BAPTISTERY

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistery, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.

—Rev. James Field

THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this “knits” the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he “knit” himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary’s womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life. For us, as for Jesus, it is also the waters of baptism that inaugurate our mission to proclaim the Good News.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the 1560s, the Council of Trent attempted to standardize the widely variant customs for the pastoral care of the sick and dying. We had inherited a practice called “extreme unction,” from the Latin words meaning anointing at the point of death. The deeper tradition, however, is about the prayer of faith that will heal and restore the sick person, and is straight from the Letter of James. The Fathers went back to the beginning, and while not discarding the “extreme unction” name, made a plea for the proper use of this sacrament. As soon as a person is in danger of death from sickness or old age, they reasoned, the time for the sacrament had already arrived.

As a result of this desire, the next ritual text for anointing contained an innovation: a rite for visiting the sick that included readings from scripture, psalms, and prayers. Old customs fade slowly, however, and the quality of pastoral care languished for centuries while people delayed the celebration of a consoling and effective sacrament, sometimes missing the opportunity completely. A priest ministering to a dying and unconscious patient alone in a room has never been the desire of the Church. Our tradition is far too rich for this sacrament to be celebrated in such a diminished and ungenerous manner.

—Rev. James Field



COFFEE AND DONUTS SUNDAY

Sunday, January 11th there will be coffee and donuts in the church basement after the 10am Mass. Sunday is a day of rest so don't feel guilty about taking some time for relaxation in the New Year to enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners.

St. Lawrence Men's Club Meeting: Monday, January 12th at 7PM in the Parish Hall. All men of the parish are most welcome to attend.

Flower Donations: It is a new year so there are openings every month to remember your living and deceased family members by placing flowers on the Altar. The information envelopes and sign up sheets are in the vestibule.

Holy Redeemer Health System is a non-profit organization that has an emphasis on providing continuum of care services guided by our mission to care, comfort and heal. Holy Redeemer Health System offers different levels of care including Independent Living, Personal Care, Nursing, Dementia Care, and Rehabilitation Services at three locations: Holy Redeemer St. Joseph Manor (Montgomery County); Holy Redeemer Lafayette (Philadelphia County); and Holy Redeemer D'Youville Manor (Bucks County). For more information, please contact Lucia Maglio, Outreach Coordinator for Residential Sales, at 267-626-0676.

COLLECTIONS:

Christmas: \$10,900.00

December 28th: \$3,213.00

New Year's: \$2,733.00

January 4th: \$2,008.00

Flower Donations:

Main Altar: Living & deceased members of St. Lawrence Parish

Barnabite Heart to Heart Project—Vitamin Collection

Assist the Barnabite Fathers in helping the children of the Philippines still suffering the affects of Typhoon Haiyan by donating multi-vitamins and low dose vitamin C. Please leave your donation in the box in the vestibule.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

01/17 5PM: Jane Burger

01/18 8AM: Bernie Boylan

10AM: Alvin LaBar, OFS

Altar Servers for:

01/17 5PM: Gregory Derr-Haverlach

01/18 8AM: Reilly & Brielle Comiskey

10AM: Anthony DeArmas & Eric Senior

Extraordinary Ministers:

01/17 5PM: Russell Benner & Frank Hyland

01/18 8AM: Suzanne & Gerald DeMara

10AM: Mary Gambino & Joseph Affuso

Please Pray for Our Sick and housebound, deceased members, and for an end to abortion and a respect for all life!

Cynthia Diaz, Margaret Durns, Baby Achuff, Fran Torgerson, Susan Wires, David Grasso, Loretta Rodin, Adrian Steinberg, Joseph Jones, Mary Jane Bernat, Gus Trincheria, Ann Nanni, Keith Marks, Lilah Durr, Elizabeth Ann Schlotter, Daniel Steinberg, Jack Latorre, Joann Thaler, Amy Hessenthaler, Calvin, Susan Serpico, Peggie Esposito, Wilson & Frank Ryan, Ted Peiffer, Eva Zelle, Roger Brahler, Gavin (age 3), Jennie Aquilino, Bill Miller, Caitlin, Steven Fusco, Charles More, Jeff & Bonnie, Baby Matthew Royer, Rose Romeo, baby Ely, Max Ours, Father Breen, Fr. Henry Graf, Paul Beach, Anthony Bonnano, Barbara and Eells Cheeseman, Nick Sciss, Summer Heddleston, Maria Steinberg, Elwood Ditmer, Dan Schiavello, Tom Peterson, Special intention, Carol Stahley, Maria King, Irene & Al Breiner.

Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist Open House—Annual Spaghetti Dinner by the Home and School Association

Open House Saturday, January 24, 2015 from 4-7PM. Please bring a family that you believe is interested in our Faith filled, Catholic Liberal Arts Curriculum. Come for the Open House at 4PM and stay for the Annual Spaghetti Dinner. All Open House attendees can dine free of charge.

St. Theresa School—Hellertown

St. Theresa School will be accepting admission applications for Pre-K 3, Pre-K 4, Kindergarten and transfer students grades 1-8 on Sunday, January 25, 2015 from 10AM—1PM during the school's Open House. Packets for prospective students will be available then. A \$50 registration fee must accompany the admission application to complete the new student registration. Please call Mrs. Linda Schiller, Principal, at 610-838-8161 with any questions.

Have you read Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel"?

Are you inspired by the Pope's dream for a missionary transformation of the Church? Come and meet others who share this dream and want to implement the Pope's vision! Join us for five consecutive Saturday evenings starting January 17th through February 14th, at the Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul, 1723 Race Street in Philadelphia after the 5:15PM Mass. Register today by email: JoyoftheGospel@comcast.net or call Michael Campbell at 215-407-7402.