

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.

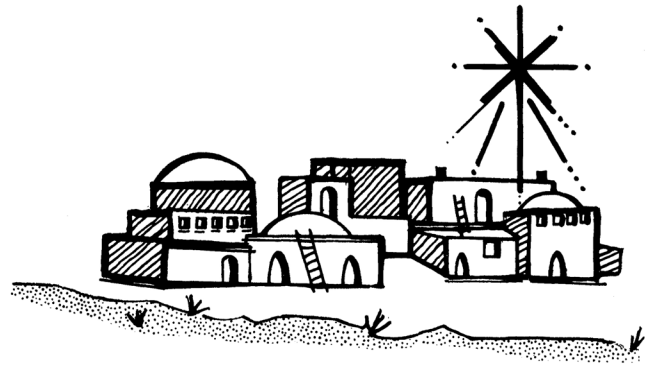
Parish CCD Classes

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

**The Epiphany of the Lord
January 3, 2016
Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!
Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon
you.
— Isaiah 60:1**



Sunday Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

5PM: Living & deceased members of the Knights of Columbus

Sunday, January 3rd

The Epiphany of the Lord

8AM: Margaret Durns by Janet Davis

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

Monday, January 4th

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

9AM: Eileen Rothenberg by Mary Ann McKeon

Tuesday, January 5th

St. John Neumann, Bishop

9AM:

LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACES

“Appearances can be deceiving,” as the saying goes. As we celebrate the *epiphania*, the “appearing” of the eternal Word of God on earth, this is still true.

What rapturous foresight must have filled Isaiah as he wrote the words we hear today. How, for four hundred years, they must have filled the hearts of the people of Israel with hope for the day when God’s glory would shine on them. How deceived some must have felt when the glory of God came to them in the lowliest and humblest of human lives.

We have many expectations about how the divine presence will appear among us. But we can also set ourselves up, through these expectations, to miss the divine glory when it truly appears. We get caught up in looking for the star, forgetting that the star is not the divine sign, the babe is. It may take a persistent journey for us to come upon the true appearance of God’s glory in our lives: Jesus Christ.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over the next few weeks, if you were to stroll around Prague or Budapest or Kraków, you might see curious graffiti scratched in chalk over some doorways: “20 + C + M + B + 16.” The families dwelling behind those doors have celebrated the Epiphany door blessing. They have gathered before the feast-day meal, probably after Mass, and the head of the family has traced the sign of the cross on the piece of chalk. Standing on a ladder, the leader traces the numbers for the new year, and the letters C M B for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, Latin for “May Christ bless this house.” The letters also point to the names that tradition has assigned to the mysterious magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar—although scripture tells us nothing of their number, their country, or their names.

The blessing speaks of journeys ended and journeys begun at the doorway, and prays that all journeys be as satisfying as was the magi’s. It prays that the house beyond the door have the quality of love and peace that the magi marveled at when they at last arrived in Bethlehem. In some countries where the Soviet Union tried to impose a harsh atheism, the vigor of this household custom survived all efforts to erase Christian customs. In the years of struggle, the chalked blessings were a pervasive sign of defiance, and now in the light of new freedoms, they are a sign of the resilience of our tradition and the fulfillment of the magi’s quest for meaning and peace.

—Rev. James Field



Wednesday, January 6th

Christmas Weekday

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

7:30PM:

Thursday, January 7th

Christmas Weekday/St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

9AM: Robert Kasporn by Jane & Larry Burger

Friday, January 8th

Christmas Weekday

6:30PM:

Saturday, January 9th

Christmas Weekday

9AM:

Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord

5PM:

Flame of Love Movement of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

An introductory Conference will be held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 235 E. State Street, Doylestown on January 23, 2016. Beginning with the 8am Mass three talks follow and conclude at 11AM. All are invited. Free of charge. This special day will open up for you the riches that are contained in the Flame of Love. A free Flame of Love Book will be handed out at this conference to everyone attending.

Men's Club Meeting: The monthly meeting of the Saint Lawrence Men's Club will be held on Monday, January 11th at 7PM in the parish hall. All members are asked to attend as we have much business to discuss. All men of the parish are invited.

Altar & Rosary Society Annual Christmas Dinner: Thursday, January 7 at 6PM; Cost \$25/person at the Villa Richard Restaurant. All women of the parish are invited. Look for the flyers in the vestibule.

Congratulations!

Thank you to all who donated to the Altar & Rosary Fundraiser. The winner of the gift card tree was Cathey Jones.

DECORATIONS

Will be taken down after the 10am Mass on Sunday, January 10th. Many hands will make the job go quickly. If you can give us some help, it will be greatly appreciated.

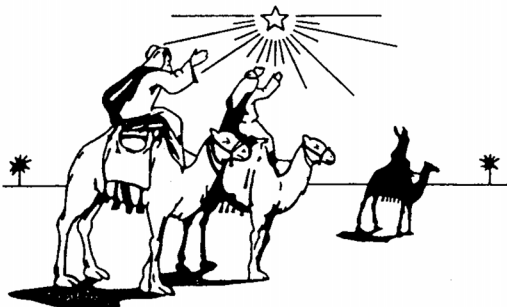
COFFEE & DONUTS

Sunday, January 10th, there will be coffee and donuts in the social hall after the 10am Mass. Please plan to join us for some relaxation, good coffee and delicious donuts.

Thank you for your generosity in the Christmas Collection. Without your support, we could not keep up with our expenses. Again, thank you!

December 20th: \$2,652.00

Religious Retirement: \$15.00



ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

01/09 5PM: Linda Krager

01/10 8AM: Bernie Boylan

10AM: Ells Cheeseman

Altar Servers for:

01/09 5PM: Andrew Benner & Francis Reinhart

01/10 8AM: Anna Holmgaard

10AM: Jack & Ann Salva

Extraordinary Ministers:

01/09 5PM: Kathie Weiss & Frank Hyland

01/10 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!

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.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Frank Crocetti.

Official Prayer for the Jubilee of Mercy (12/8/2015)

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.