

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 Epiphany of the Lord
January 4, 2015
All kings shall pay him homage, all
nations shall serve him.
- Psalm 72:11

Saturday, January 3rd

Sunday Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

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

Sunday, January 4th

The Epiphany of the Lord

8AM:

10AM: Living & deceased members of Saint Lawrence Parish

Monday, January 5th

St. John Neumann, Bishop

9AM:

Tuesday, January 6th

Christmas Weekday

9AM:



Wednesday, January 7th

Christmas Weekday

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

7:30PM: Robert Kaspern by Jane & Larry Burger

Thursday, January 8th

Christmas Weekday

9AM:

Friday, January 9th

Christmas Weekday

6:30PM:

Saturday, January 10th

Christmas Weekday

9AM: for the health of Lilah Durr by Mary Geremia

Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord

5PM:

THE HOLY STAR

O Father, may that holy star
 Grow every year more bright
 And send its glorious beams afar
 To fill the world with light.

—William Cullen Bryant



PARTNERS IN THE PROMISE

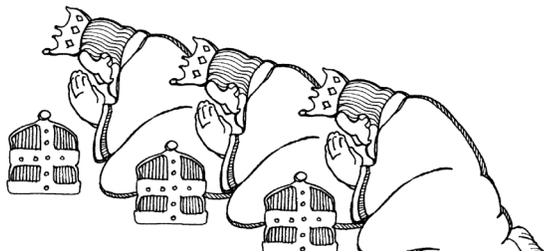
As a society, during these days we can be in something of a “postpartum” depression. Our celebrations of Christmas and the New Year are over, and after today many of us will put away the decorations and the last visible remnants of the celebrations of the past weeks. The apostle Paul today uses the expression “partners in the promise.” This is an uplifting phrase for us to reflect upon, and to think of as our own calling in these days following the birth of the Lord. What is this promise? We can find it in the gifts the magi bring: it is a promise of being a royal priesthood (gold), a holy nation (frankincense), a people set apart for self-giving (myrrh). We find more of the promise in Isaiah—a light shines upon us! In the psalm we know a promise of a world of flowering justice, profound peace, the poor rescued, pity for the lowly and the poor. This is the promise; and one of the best ways for us to lift ourselves out of any possible low spirits we may be suffering is to live out our partnership in this promise each and every day.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Epiphany celebrates the wake-up calls of life, the showings of God’s majesty and power in the person of Jesus. The feast alerts us to look for signs of the Lord’s grace and action in our lives today. In this context, the call of the Second Vatican Council to reform the sacramental life of the Church, including our pattern of care for the sick, is indeed a holy awakening.

Prior to the 1960s, our care for the sick had collapsed in the popular imagination into something everyone called “last rites.” An immensely complicated ritual, with anointing accompanied by quickly muttered Latin prayers, was enacted for a marginally conscious person at “death’s door.” By the time a priest was called, the sick person might not be able to receive viaticum, or derive much personal benefit from the ritual. The healing effects of the sacrament, investing suffering with the dignity of a link to Christ’s cross, and the immense assurance of forgiveness for a person reviewing the life journey, were hidden. Suddenly, an epiphany swept through the Church, and the way we care for the sick was utterly transformed. It took several centuries, however, for the Church to reach that moment of renewal.

—Rev. James Field



ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

01/10 5PM: Frank Hyland
 01/11 8AM: Joseph Keeney
 10AM: Bernie Boylan

Altar Servers for:

01/10 5PM: Andrew Benner
 01/11 8AM: Anna & Nadia Holmgaard
 10AM: Peter & Matthew Gambino

Extraordinary Ministers:

01/10 5PM: Ann & Russ Funkhouser
 01/11 8AM: Janet Davis & Mariann Helfant
 10AM: Mark Culichia & 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, 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, Irene 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 Ells Cheeseman, Nick Sciss, 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 Fran Torgerson.

Church Decorations

We will be taking down the stable and un-decorating the church on Sunday, January 4, 2015 after the 10am Mass. Some strong gentlemen are required as the stable is quite heavy. We will greatly appreciate any help you can give. Thank you!

COLLECTIONS:

December 14th: \$2,802.00
 Immaculate Conception: \$522.00
 Religious Retirement: \$176.00
 December 21st: \$3,991.00



Reflecting on God's Word

What are the major attractions in your area? Are they natural wonders, spectacular buildings, engaging activities, powerful people, works of art? We expect people to stream to see rock stars and queens, the Eiffel Tower and the Grand Canyon. In today's scriptures, however, we see "tourists" attracted to two very lowly and humble "sights."

Jerusalem was a sorry sight when the scripture from Isaiah was written. The prophet's vision must have seemed impossible to those who heard this message. And yet, today Jerusalem is a major tourist attraction. We also know that through the Jews many other people—Christians and Muslims—have been attracted to the one Lord.

Jesus himself must have seemed very weak and insignificant in comparison to the rich and powerful King Herod, and later on compared to the priests and Pharisees. Yet, even from his birth, people streamed to him. Like the "tourists" in today's Gospel, people saw something in him that led them to worship and serve the Lord. And through him they came to understand what God intended for their life journeys.

—Virginia Stillwell

Altar & Rosary Society

Our next get together is our ladies dinner which will be **Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 6:30PM at the Villa Richard.** The cost of the dinner will be \$25 per person. The Altar & Rosary Society will supply dessert. Please fill out the form found in the vestibule and place in an envelope with cash or check payable to the St. Lawrence Altar & Rosary Society. Place the envelope in the flower box by Sunday, January 4, 2015. Payment is needed to reserve your seat. Thanks! Contact Mary Senior 267-882-5586 for further information.



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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.