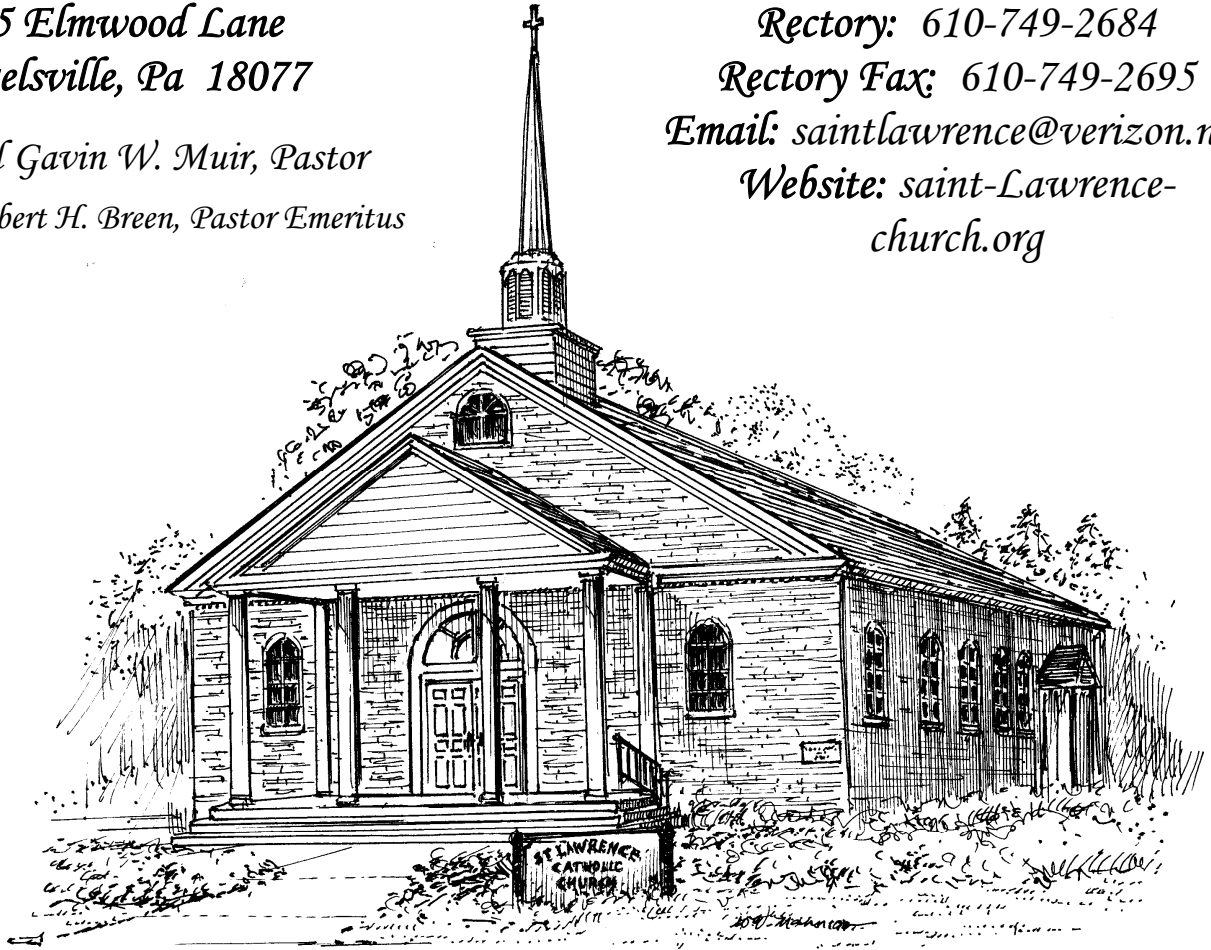


Church of Saint Lawrence

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.

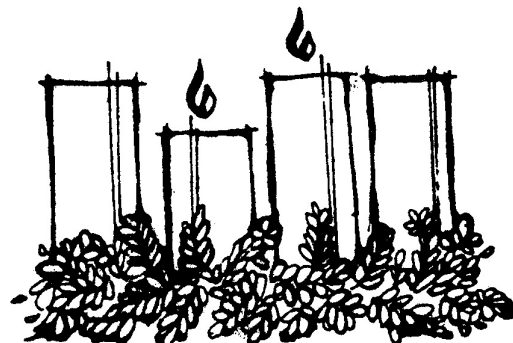
Parish CCD Classes

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

Second Sunday of Advent
December 6, 2015
God has commanded
that every lofty mountain be made
low.
— Baruch 5:7



Saturday, December 5th

Sunday Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent

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

Sunday, December 6th

Second Sunday of Advent

8AM: for the intentions of Mariann & Rex Helfant by the Jones family

10AM: Living & deceased members of Saint Lawrence Parish

Monday, December 7th

Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

9AM:

Tuesday, December 8th*

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9AM: for the intentions of Robert Gillespie by the Lay Carmelite Community

7:30PM: Living & deceased members of St. Lawrence Parish

Wednesday, December 9th

Advent Weekday/St. Juan Diego

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

7:30PM: Kenny Kirkwood by Rex & Mariann Helfant

Thursday, December 10th

Advent Weekday

9AM:

Friday, December 11th

Advent Weekday/St. Damasus I, Pope

6:30PM: Catherine Walsh by the Jones family

Saturday, December 12th

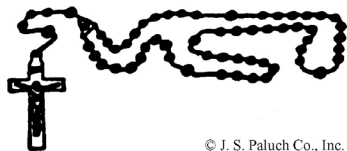
Our Lady of Guadalupe

9AM: Michael Haney by the Patton family

Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

5PM:

***Tuesday, December 8, 2015 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** and it is a holyday of obligation. Masses on Tuesday are at 9am in the morning and 7:30pm for your convenience.



© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 10am, **we will pray the Rosary for Peace at Routes 611 & 212.** The Immaculate Conception is Our Lady's Title as Patroness of the United States. Mass is at 9am so please join us for the Rosary at 10am.

PUT ON JOY

Today, Baruch speaks of the splendor that lies ahead for the city of Jerusalem and for all of us, regardless of where home is for us. Throw off strife, he tells us, and put on joy. Like a favorite old sweatshirt, joy fits, and how warm it keeps us, even when the winds blow cold.

Paul knows of this joy as he pens his letter to the Philippians, praying that they may grow in their ability to discern what is righteous and good. And Luke speaks to us of John, who was foretold by Isaiah and who sings a similar song—"Prepare the way of the Lord," for salvation is at hand.

A man ahead of his time, Baruch spent his days joyfully awaiting a distant glory. On this Second Sunday of Advent, Paul and John know that this glory is upon us.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, trees are beginning to appear in living rooms throughout the parish. To a complete outsider to our culture, it must seem an odd thing indeed. The "roots" of this custom are in liturgical drama: religious plays performed in the churches and town squares of medieval Europe. The favorite theme for this time of year was the "Paradise Play," a dramatic history of the human race from the Garden of Eden to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The language and music varied from place to place, but one feature was always in place: a great tree decorated with apples. As a prop, it provided lots of material for the actors: the temptation, shelter for the manger, and a reminder of the wood of the cross. Soon people began to bring "paradise trees" into their homes, decorating them with gifts and lighted candles.

Many Germans give credit to Martin Luther for transforming the "Paradise Tree" into the evergreen Christmas tree. Walking home on a starry Advent night, he was so awed by the beauty of the night that he hauled a pine tree inside and decorated it with lighted candles. Americans were holdouts. It took until 1856 for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to decriminalize Christmas decorations, the old Puritan dislikes falling before the waves of Irish and German immigrants with traditions firmly in hand!

—Rev. James Field

Retirement Fund for the Religious

This Collection offers the faithful an opportunity both of appreciation for the service rendered over the years by our religious, and also of assistance for their present needs. We recognize that our American Catholic Church owes a debt of sincere gratitude to our religious men and women for their manifold labors and success. Acknowledging the limitations of their financial resources, this collection has become increasingly important and necessary. Please give generously as you can to this Collection on December 5 & 6.

Adult Choir—Singers needed for Christmas

Anyone interested in singing with the Choir for Christmas, please join us at Sunday rehearsals beginning November 29th at 9am in the choir loft. All adults are welcome.

Altar & Rosary Society Fundraiser

The Altar & Rosary Society is selling chances for a *Gift Card Tree* valued at over \$200.00. The Drawing will be held on December 20th. Tickets are now on sale in the vestibule for \$2.00 each. Thank you in advance for your support.

GIVING TREE

Gifts bought for patron names on the Giving Tree must be returned by Wednesday, December 9th for distribution at The Lord's Pantry. Please put the tag on your wrapped gift and return it to the vestibule by Wednesday December 9th. Gift cards can be put in a Christmas card and the tag on the envelope. Thank you for your generosity to those in need this Christmas Season.

CONSECRATION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER WITH MISSIONARY IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

To celebrate the *Jubilee Year of Mercy, December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016*, St. John the Baptist Parish is beginning this sacred year with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Mother of Mercy. There is a schedule on our bulletin board in the vestibule of events scheduled which they have invited our parishioners to attend.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The 2016 Collection Envelopes have arrived. They are alphabetically arranged on a table in the back of church. Please pick up your box as soon as possible. If you wanted envelopes and did not find some with your name on them, please let us know in the rectory so we can give you blank ones and make sure you get a box next year. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

12/12 5PM: Linda Krager
12/13 8AM: Martin Piccinich
10AM: Alvin LaBar, OFS

Altar Servers for:

12/12 5PM: Andrew Benner & Francis Reinhart
12/13 8AM: Anna Holmgaard
10AM: Peter & Matthew Gambino

Extraordinary Ministers:

12/12 5PM: Kathie Weiss & Frank Hyland
12/13 8AM: Mariann Helfant & Jackie Crocetti
10AM: Joe Affuso & Bernie Boylan

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

Mary Grube Fritchman, Dave Blessing, 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.

Archbishop Wood High School Events:

Performing Arts Department Presents *Mary Poppins* on December 6 at 2PM. For information and tickets contact abwtickets@gmail.com.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be a Community Blood Drive on Friday, December 18th from 2-7PM at St. John United Church of Christ, Riegelsville, PA. Register at www.redcrossblood.org. Sponsor code: Riegelsville; call 1-800-redcross or email: nancy.taylor@redcross.org.

COLLECTION:

November 29th: \$2,680.00

PARISH SECRETARY POSITION will be open soon. Need computer skills, bookkeeping and people skills. Please submit resume to the parish office.