

# 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](mailto: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 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

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2015

Let us love not in word or speech but  
in deed and truth.

- 1 John 3:18



APART FROM ME  
YOU CAN  
BEAR NO FRUIT

### BEARING FRUIT

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” John’s words come to us on this day when the Gospel passage presents us with the great image of the vine and the branches. Jesus uses the image as a warning to those who have begun to distance themselves from the way of the Lord. One of the ways this happens is when we love God and others “in word or speech” instead of “in deed and truth.” What does it mean for us to “remain in Christ”? In an extension of the metaphor, the Lord gives us an example. If we remain in him, we will bear much fruit. As the branches, we draw strength from Christ who is the vine. This strength enables us to bear fruit—to do the work of true discipleship.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Over time, the crisis of last illness and the way the faithful met death changed. In earliest times, a sickbed vigil was an occasion for the community to gather and strengthen the dying person with assurances of love. A thousand years ago, in part because of massive upheavals in society, a new emphasis on individual repentance captured the imagination of millions. Death was to be feared, because it was about judgment. The delights of heaven’s banquet dimmed, since most people saw God’s just judgment and inevitable punishment intervening. If a community gathered at all, it was not to express faith in the Resurrection, but to seek forgiveness for those who were powerless to help themselves. The dead couldn’t improve their situation, but their loved ones, by expressing sorrow for sin, could. Better yet, the clergy could, if they intervened in a timely fashion, provide the absolution needed for everyone to relax. Ministry to the sick shifted away from a ministry of consolation toward a challenge to repent before it was too late.

As the sense grew that most people died with their work of repentance incomplete, the color black was reintroduced to funerals. It was the old pagan way of expressing despair. No wonder they call this time in history the “Dark Ages.” Many layers have had to be peeled away to reveal the deepest, most positive expressions of our tradition of care for the dying.

—Rev. James Field

**Saturday, May 2nd**

*Sunday Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter*

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

**Sunday, May 3rd**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

8AM: Margaret Durns by Janet Davis

10AM: Fedor Salva by the Culichia family

**Monday, May 4th**

*Easter Weekday*

9AM: Special intention

**Tuesday, May 5th**

*Easter Weekday*

9AM: Eugene & Theresa Della Croce by Rex & Mariann Helfant

**Wednesday, May 6th**

*Easter Weekday*

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

7:30PM: Special intention

**Thursday, May 7th**

*Easter Weekday*

9AM: Souls in Purgatory by Rex & Mariann Helfant

**Friday, May 8th**

*Easter Weekday*

6:30PM: for the intentions of Cathey & Buford Jones on the occasion of their Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary

**Saturday, May 9th**

*Easter Weekday*

9AM: for the health of Carol Stahley by Frances Nowicki

*Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter*

5PM: Mary Weiss by Kathie Weiss

### FLOWERS:

**Main Altar:** 50th Anniversary of Buford & Cathey Jones

**Blessed Mother:** 50th Anniversary of Buford & Cathey Jones

**St. Joseph:** 50th Anniversary of Buford & Cathey Jones

### COLLECTIONS:

April 26th: \$2,480.00

### CHRISTIANITY

Christianity is the spirit of Jesus Christ at work in the world.

—Anonymous

### SMALL TASKS

Each small task of everyday life is part of the total harmony of the universe.

—St. Thérèse of Liseux

Dear Friends,

As we prepare for the 2015 Catholic Charities Appeal In-Pew Weekend on May 16th and 17th, I ask you to once again reflect on the importance of sharing your blessings with the least fortunate among us. "If we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us" (1 John 4:12). What better way to live our Faith than showing love to those most in need? The In-Pew Weekend gives us the opportunity to come together as parish communities to support the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's single most important fundraising initiative, the Catholic Charities Appeal. To learn more, please visit [www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org). On May 16th and 17th, I ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to the 2015 Catholic Charities Appeal. If you have already shown your support, but are inspired to make an additional contribution during In-Pew Weekend, please accept my heartfelt appreciation. Together we can make sure there is a place at the table for those who have nowhere else to go. For all you have done for the Catholic Charities Appeal in the past, I offer my deepest gratitude. You clearly saw the challenges that so many of our brothers and sisters faced every day, and you chose to extend yourselves to better their lives. I encourage you to support the Catholic Charities Appeal, motivated by love, to *Give Hope* to those who need it most.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

### No Change

The majority were **not** in favor of a change to the Saturday evening Mass so it remains at 5:00PM. Thank you for your help in deciding this.

### Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Lawrence Parish:

This year I am celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. You are invited to the 10AM Mass on Sunday, May 17th, followed by brunch in the hall. Please RSVP on the sign up list in the vestibule of church. Could you bring a **dessert** to share? Main eats and drinks will be provided—Fr. Muir

### CONFIRMATION

The Most Reverend Timothy C. Senior will be here to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 4PM. If there is any adult who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation but would like to, please contact Fr. Muir in the rectory at 610-749-2684.

**Manna Bags** will be distributed at all of our Masses on the weekend of May 9/10. Kindly return your filled bag the next weekend, May 16/17. Canned food items in greatest need are: beef stew, tuna fish, fruit, vegetables, pasta, soups, and pork & beans. Thank you for reaching out to the people in emergency situations. Our donations go directly to The Lord's Pantry in Ottsville.

### ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Lectors for:

05/09 5PM: Linda Krager  
05/10 8AM: Joseph Keeney  
10AM: Alvin LaBar, OFS

Altar Servers for:

05/09 5PM: Gregory Derr-Haverlach  
05/10 8AM: Reilly & Brielle Comiskey  
10AM: Anthony DeArmas & Eric Senior

Extraordinary Ministers:

05/09 5PM: Russell Benner & Kathie Weiss  
05/10 8AM: Suzanne & Gerald DeMara  
10AM: Mary Gambino & Bernie Boylan

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

Robin Hulst, 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), 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 Bonnanno, 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.

### Registration Now Open!

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist has begun registration for Pre-K3 through 8th Grade for the 2015-16 school year. Stop by the Academy for a registration packet or call Geoff Meyer at 610-960-7062 to have a package emailed and to schedule a tour. There is a \$1,700 Transfer Grant available; speak to Mr. Meyer if you are interested in transferring a student to the Academy.

**St. Lawrence Parish** will be hosting a clothing drive to benefit The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, **Saturday, May 30th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be using the services of GreenDrop to support their clothing drive. Look for the **GreenDrop** truck in the church parking lot where an attendant will be available to assist you with your donations. Please place your donations of usable men's, women's and children's clothing in plastic bags or boxes. Household items such as: kitchenware, games/toys, small appliances under 50 pounds, electronics, sporting goods, books, CDs & videos are also accepted. Unfortunately, **furniture, large appliances, TVs or computer monitors cannot be accepted.** For a full list of acceptable items visit [www.gogreendrop.com](http://www.gogreendrop.com)