

Welcome to the Church of Saint Richard of Chichester

Rev. Eric N. Tolentino, Pastoral Administrator
Rev. Joseph T. Whalen, Pastor Emeritus
Deacon John A. Setlock (Retired)

799 Barnesville Drive, Barnesville, PA 18214
Phone: 570-467-2315 ☎ Fax: 570-467-2462
Website: www.strichard.org

January 3, 2020 The Epiphany of the Lord

The parish plans to continue live-stream and recording Sunday, Holy Days, and other special liturgies on the parish's YouTube channel as indicated by the " * " in the weekly liturgy schedule.

Parish YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5YO_SqC1KeZsvFjO4vpw3Q

Mon. 1/4, 8:00am—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Michael Olenek by Tomasko Family

Sat. 1/9, Confessions @ 3:30 pm

Tues. 1/5, 8:00am—St. John Neumann, Bishop (USA)
Living & deceased members of the Cumers, Brandewie,
& O'Brien families by Mary Cumers

**Sat. 1/9, Vigil
Mass @ 4:00pm**
Bill Walinchus Jr. by Ed & Florence Nolan

Wed. 1/6, No Mass
Christmas Weekday;
St. Andre' Bessette, Religious (USA)

***Sun. 1/10, The Baptism of the Lord
Mass @ 8:30am**
(Also continued to be Live-Streamed)
Kenneth Karlavage by
Suzy Sweeney & Maggie

Thurs. 1/7, No Mass
Christmas Weekday;
St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

**Sun. 1/10
Mass @ 10:30am**
People of the Parish

Fri. 1/8, No Mass
Christmas Weekday



Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptisms are usually celebrated after the 10:30am Sunday Mass. Parents need to be registered parishioners and attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. At least one Godparent must be a practicing Catholic for a valid reception of Baptism and also obtain a Certificate of Eligibility from their parish.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should be made at least one year prior to the proposed wedding date to begin pre-nuptial instructions before making any arrangements. Please call the parish office for more information and schedule an appointment with the Pastor.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays @ 3:30pm in the vestibule or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

Sponsor Eligibility:

Certificates of Eligibility for Baptism and Confirmation require the sponsor to be a registered & active member of the parish. Please call the parish office to schedule an appointment with the Pastor.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ~ 9:00am—12:00noon

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:
Ms. Wendy S. Krisak (800) 791-9209
victimassistance@allentowndiocese.org

Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection:
Pamela Russo (610) 871-5200 Ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service:
If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service @
www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 800-276-1562.

The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children, and survivors of sexual abuse are invited & encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more info about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown's Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, & Code of Conduct, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org & click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right hand corner of the page.

Dear Parish Family of St. Richard of Chichester,

The Church began the new liturgical year with the celebration of Advent and now we have just celebrated Christmas, The Nativity of the Lord. I have been praying for you all daily and will continue to do so especially during the Church's celebration of Christmas.

Often times in our culture, the world often leaves out Jesus Christ in Christmas and substitutes a generic mish-mash of a "holiday season." Christmas literally means, "Christ coming" into the world, his Incarnation. Jesus is the reason for the season towards whom the whole world is drawn, not the tinsel and shopping. As Catholics, we of course are celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ.

In all of the hustle and bustle and worldly challenges of daily life, I encourage you to avail yourselves of God's grace during this grace-filled Christmas celebration of our Lord Jesus Christ's incarnation and birth, in whom we hope and find real joy for all of mankind since the Fall of Adam and Eve. "Our hope is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

The following is an excerpt from the Catechism of the Catholic Church regarding the Church's celebration of Christmas (#525-256):

"525 Jesus was born in a humble stable, into a poor family. Simple shepherds were the first witnesses to this event. In this poverty heaven's glory was made manifest. The Church never tires of singing the glory of this night:

*The Virgin today brings into the world the Eternal
And the earth offers a cave to the Inaccessible.
The angels and shepherds praise him
And the magi advance with the star,
For you are born for us,
Little Child, God eternal!*

526 To become a child in relation to God is the condition for entering the kingdom. For this, we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become "children of God" we must be "born from above" or "born of God." Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us.²⁰⁷ Christmas is the mystery of this "marvelous exchange":

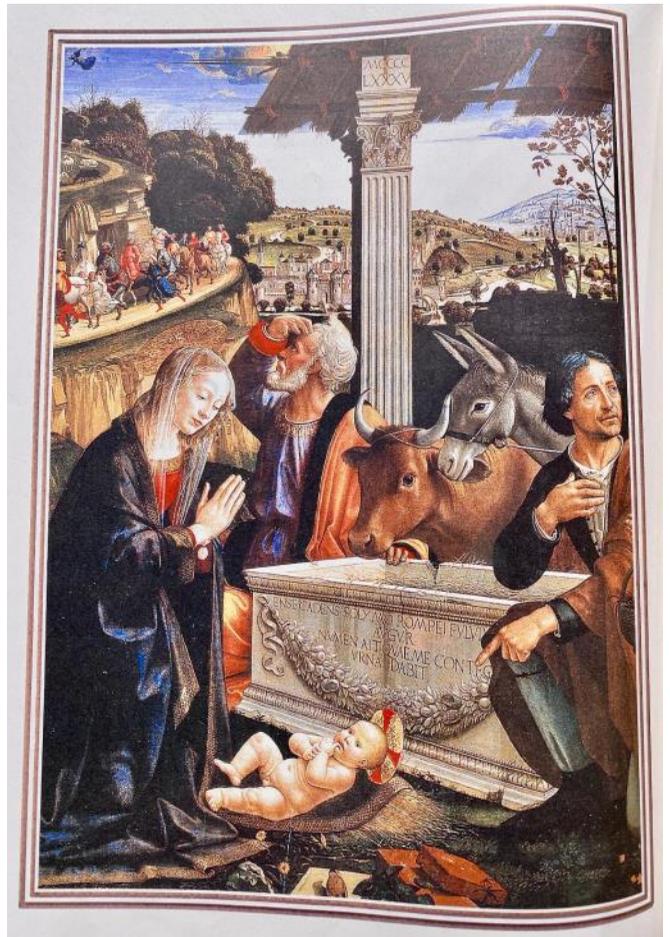
O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity."

At the celebration of Christmas Masses for the Nativity of the Lord, we once again be prayed the Gloria at Mass after a brief pause during Advent, and we will join in the singing of the angels who gave glory to God at the time of Jesus' being born of the most Blessed Virgin Mary in Bethlehem:

*"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to people of good will." (Lk 2:14)

I hope and pray that you and your families had a blessed, merry and happy Christmas! Please be safe and holy out there.

Yours in Christ,
+Reverend Eric Tolentino



"Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christus Natus Est!
Christ Is Born!

This ancient Christmas greeting fills our hearts with great joy at a time when such a message is needed most in our world so beleaguered by a devastating year of pandemic, civil violence, coarse words, and natural disasters.

It would be good to remind ourselves that Mary and Joseph also faced many challenges and uncertainties as they became the Holy Family of Nazareth. Both lived with the uncertainty of receiving a Child from God under circumstances they could not completely comprehend. They desperately searched for a suitable place to give birth to their Child on the dangerous journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. They were filled with wonder at the visit to their Son by the Magi. And, they knew the fear of having to flee to Egypt to protect their Child from the murderous Herod.

In many ways, this Christmas, perhaps more so than any we have experienced, we live amid much uncertainty and bewilderment. Exactly for this reason, we can see ourselves in the example of Mary and Joseph, finding joy in the birth of a Child, despite the swirling anxieties around us.

Like these Holy Parents, we also find hope: Hope in the salvation Christ's birth brings us; hope in a vaccine for the Coronavirus (which was administered for the first time on December 8th, the Immaculate Conception); hope that gradually we can fill our churches again, gather as families again, return to school again, and be fully employed again; hope for a better, calmer 2021.

At Christmas, we cannot allow 2020 to pass without expressing deep gratitude to all the persons who heroically provide health care, public safety, essential services, and the daily work that allows our society to function. We have taken you for granted for too long. God bless you for going to work every day, stocking shelves, delivering mail and parcels, mopping floors and cleaning door knobs, responding to emergency calls, donning PPE and going directly into the front lines of COVID, teaching in classrooms, and administering the Sacrament of the Sick to the dying.

Despite the agitation in the streets and the political shouting, the pandemic has forced us to realize that we are created in God's image and likeness, redeemed by the Infant Savior, and, from the stable of Bethlehem, that we rely deeply on one another as a human family

May God bless us with good health, renewed spirit, and a true realization and respect for the humanity of our neighbors in 2021. Our hope is in the realization that Christus natus est!

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert
Bishop of Allentown"

Readings for Sunday Mass, January 10th:
IS 42:1-4, 6-7; PS 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10; ACTS 10:34-38;
MK 1:7-11

Sunday Collection: Regular: \$1,634 ~ Candles: \$69

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Collections: 1/1~Solemnity of Mary;
1/3~Monthly Supplement; 1/10~Parish Utilities;
1/17~Parish Utilities; 1/24~Parish Utilities;
1/31~Catholic Relief

Lottery Calendars Winners: (week ending 12/27)

12/21 Mary Ann Zakrewsky, #479, Barnesville
12/22 Rick Pasechnick, #862, McAdoo
12/23 Dick Golden, #042, Mahanoy City
12/24 John Steibler, #712, Barnesville
12/25 Mark & Charlene Valentine, #459, Tamaqua
12/26 No Winner, #998
12/27 Mary Brassington, #235, Barnesville

Many Thanks: On behalf of Father Tolentino and the parish staff, we are grateful to all who sent cards, gifts, and prayers during this Christmas season. Your thoughtfulness was most appreciated.

2021 Offering Envelopes & Calendars: Available by seeing an usher after the weekend Masses or contacting the parish office during business hours. Thank you.

Parish Drop Boxes: There are 2 drop boxes located on the Parish Rectory porch. The larger box is for anything that comes directly to the office, the smaller box will be for all fundraising returns. Both these boxes are locked and will be opened by office personnel. Thank you.

2021 St. Joseph Missal: Missals are still available. Please see an usher after any weekend Mass, contact the parish office during business hours or email at strichard@frontiernet.net. The suggested donation is \$5 per missal. Thank you.

2021 Mass Intention Book: Due to the ongoing COVID19 pandemic procedures and restrictions, the 2021 Mass Book opening will be done by the fully completed request form (1 request per form). The office will try to accommodate your first choices, however; if there are any questions or concerns, the office will contact you. The request forms are located in the church on the table as you enter or on the parish website.

Please note: We are not permitted to accept more than one intention per Mass. Also, some dates are reserved for specific parish intentions, this includes the Saturday Vigil Mass, (for example: People of the Parish).

Mass requests may be submitted in the following ways:
1. Drop your Mass Intention Request form in an envelope marked "Attn: Secretary/Mass Requests" in the collection basket, rectory porch drop box or the mail OR 2. email to strichard@frontiernet.net (please include Mass Requests in the subject line).

The Angelus

V. The angel spoke God's message to Mary,
R. and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Hail, Mary

V. "I am the lowly servant of the Lord:
R. let it be done to me according to your word."
Hail, Mary

V. And the Word became flesh
R. and lived among us.
Hail, Mary

V. Pray for us, holy Mother of God.
R. That we may become worthy of the promises of
Christ.

Priest: Let us pray.

V. Lord,
fill our hearts with your grace:
once, through the message of an angel you revealed to us the
incarnation of your Son;
now, through his suffering and death lead us to the glory of
his resurrection.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

As with Gladness Men of Old 465

1. As with gladness men of old Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward,
beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we Evermore your splendor
see.
2. As with joyful steps they sped To that lowly manger bed,
There to bend the knee before Him, who heav'n an earth
adore;
So may we with hurried pace Run to seek your throne of
grace.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 424

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn
King! Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners
reconciled!"
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting
Lord! Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the
Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Please Lift Up in Prayer those in need of Healing and Encouragement:

Ann Balas, William Bednar, Jim Bialek, Mark BeYoung, Bob Blue, Joe Bones, Steve Chakan, Marge Coassolo, Paul Curley, Nina Day, Pat Firkal, Eddy Freer, William Godanis, Jr., Mike Grigalonis, Peg Grigalonis, Bob Harvan, Dee Harvan, Dr. Francis Kane, Francis Keiser, Joseph Klatka, George Koval, George Kufrovich, Linda Light, Theresa (Tess) McManus, Dan Metzger, Bonnie Morgan, Bobby Moucheron, Joel Rivera, Dorothe Schmerfeld, Gene Sout, Dominic Streisel, Mary Ann Thompson, Marilyn Tolan, Stan Wlodarczyk and Celia Zukoski.

Intercessory Candles

In Loving Memory of my Al, Love Fran
Rest in God's Peace Jer, Love wife Pat
Special Intention by The Mansells
Nuptial Blessings for Bob & Stacy by Beverly Macek
Rest in Peace "Blackie" by Beverly Macek

Prayers for Deb & family by Patty
Prayers for Covid victims by Patty
Merry Christmas to all by Patty
Peace on Earth, soul of Jack Woodring, Mr. Chickley by Seral
In Loving Memory of Jerry Stevens by wife Pat

