

# Welcome to the Church of Saint Richard of Chichester

Rev. Eric N. Tolentino, Pastoral Administrator 799 Barnesville Drive, Barnesville, PA 18214  
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Deacon John A. Setlock Website: [www.strichard.org](http://www.strichard.org)

## March 29, 2020 Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Weekday and Weekend Masses have been suspended until further notice.**

**Father Tolentino will celebrate Private Mass for the daily & weekend intentions of the parish.**

### **Mon. 3/30—Lenten Weekday**

Jer Tracy by wife Pat

### **Tues. 3/31—Lenten Weekday**

Priest Intention

### **Wed. 4/1— Lenten Weekday**

Mary & Ed Halkiewicz by sister Vicky Karnish

### **Thurs. 4/2— Lenten Weekday**

Michael Sniscak by daughter Mary Helen

### **Fri. 4/3— Lenten Weekday**

Deceased diocesan priests

### **Sat. 4/4—April 4th Vigil**

People of the Parish

### **Sun. 4/5— Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

Daniel F. Guinan Jr. by Estate

### **Sun. 4/5**

Daniel Sleva Jr. by Dad, Mom & Sister

### **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 Reconciliation:**

Saturdays @ 3:30pm or call the Rectory to schedule an appointment.

### **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.

### **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.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:  
Ms. Wendy S. Krisak (800) 791-9209  
[victimassistance@allentowndioocese.org](mailto:victimassistance@allentowndioocese.org)

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator:  
Sister Meg Cole (610) 332-0442 Ext. 2019  
[mcole@allentowndioocese.org](mailto:mcole@allentowndioocese.org)

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.allentowndioocese.org](http://www.allentowndioocese.org) & click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right hand corner of the page.

**Readings for Sunday Mass, April 5th**  
IS 50:4-7; PS 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24;  
PHIL 2:6-11; MT 21:1-11

**Sunday Collection:** Regular: \$766 ~ Candles: \$78  
Operation Rice Bowl:

**Mass Attendance:**

All Masses suspended until further notice.

**Second Collections:** March 28th & March 29th  
April 4th & April 5th  
~ Operation Rice Bowl

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25, 2020

Dear parish family,

During this time of pandemic and social distancing, I would like you to know that I am praying for all of your families daily and am here for you. I plan to record and Live stream on the internet the private celebration of Sunday Mass, Exposition of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Week. Please refer to the parish website ([www.strichard.org](http://www.strichard.org)) and bulletins (available on our website and in church) for YouTube recording and live stream videos, as well as, updated parish information and news. On March 26, 2020, the Bishop announced that he regretfully informed us that the Suspension of Public Masses will continue to be in place for the entirety of Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum.



While I am permitted and able, please see the schedule below:

Fridays of Lent (excluding Good Friday):

Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Saturdays:

Confessions 3:30 pm – 4:00 pm (longer if needed) and by appointment in the church

Sundays of Lent (excluding Easter Sunday):

Church closed 7:00 am – 9:00 am

Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

I understand that many of our parish families may be experiencing financial and economic difficulties during the pandemic. Thank you for continuing to share your treasure according to your ability to do so. Our parish now features “Online Giving” so that you can give your parish offering via internet from the comfort and safety of your home. Many thanks to those parishioners who have already dropped off their offering envelopes in church or sent them by mail to the parish.

I am celebrating daily Mass privately for the intentions of our parish family and praying the Liturgy of the Hours and holy rosary daily for you too. If you or someone whom you know needs some support during this time of crisis, especially the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, please contact me.

Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us.

Immaculate Heart of Mary pray for us.

Blessed St. Joseph her spouse pray for us.

May God bless you and keep you all,

Father Eric Tolentino

The Church will continue to be open daily for your private prayer and reflection.

**Please Lift Up in Prayer those in need of Healing and Encouragement:** Ann Balas, William Bednar, Bob Blue, Joe Bones, Steve Chakan, Marge Coassolo, Paul Curley, Nina Day, Eddy Freer, William Godanis, Jr., Joe Goodrich, Mike Grigalonis, Peg Grigalonis, Bob Harvan, Dee Harvan, Dr. Francis Kane, Kenny Karlavage, Francis Keiser, Joseph Klatka, George Koval, George Kufrovich, Joe Kufrovich, Linda Light, Theresa (Tess) McManus, Dan Metzger, Bonnie Morgan, Bobby Moucheron, Joel Rivera, Dorothe Schmerfeld, Gene Soult, Dominic Streisel, Elaine Sweeney, Marilyn Tolan, and Celia Zukoski.

**ALL activities have been suspended until further notice.**

**Since there is no public Daily and Sunday Mass because of the COVID-19 pandemic, would you please kindly drop your envelopes in the bin at the rectory or sey mail. We are glad you stayed home to stay safe; however, we need your assistance to pay the bills of our parish.**

**Online-Giving:** The “Online Giving” feature is now available on our parish website so you are able to give your offering from the safety and comfort of your home. If you would like to use Online Giving, please go to our church website and click on the link. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the parish office hours Monday through Friday, 9:00am—12:00pm. Thank you.

Bishop Schlert, after consultation with public health officials, announced that the Public Celebration of Mass has been suspended in all parishes, schools, and diocesan institutions, until further notice. As the Diocese enters this unprecedented time in the life of our nation and the Church, the following liturgical guidelines are provided:

- (1) Celebration of Public Mass - Both daily and Sunday Masses in public are not permitted. Priests will celebrate Mass privately for the intention of the health and well-being of the flock entrusted to their care. Also, in an effort to fulfill the Mass Intention of the day, the Priest is encouraged to celebrate the Private Mass for the daily intention of his parish.
- (2) Open Church - While the public celebration of Mass is not permitted at this time, the Bishop asks Pastors to have their Church open for extended hours of private prayer so that the faithful can make visits. Adoration is encouraged during this time, with simple reposition.
- (3) Confessions - All Penance Services or communal gatherings for the Sacrament of Penance are cancelled. Individual Confessions should be heard, but must take place in the church, not in any rectory office.
- (4) Communion Calls - Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are not permitted to bring Communion to the sick during this temporary suspension. A priest may bring Holy Communion to the homebound, if the priest enjoys good health and the homebound person is comfortable with the visit.
- (5) Hospital Visits - All major hospital networks in our region are only permitting clergy visits to patients in danger of death.
- (6) Stations of the Cross — The public recitation of the Stations of the Cross is not permitted during this time of suspension. The faithful are encouraged to pray the Stations of the Cross individually.
- (7) Weddings - Weddings scheduled during this period of suspension are permitted to take place. However, Pastors are granted permission to celebrate all Weddings using the "Order for Celebrating Matrimony without Mass." In addition, only family members are permitted to attend the Wedding (CDC guidance—no more than 10 people).
- (8) Funerals— Funerals are permitted during this period of temporary suspension. Only family members are permitted to attend (CDC guidance - no more than 10 people). Pastors may also encourage the family to wait until the threat of the virus has passed for a Memorial Mass.
- (9) Baptisms - The Sacrament of Baptism is permitted only for one child at a time. Parents, godparents, and immediate family only are permitted to attend (CDC guidance - no more than 10 people). Water for the celebration of the Sacrament should be refreshed for each baptism.

A plan for the celebration of Holy Week is currently under study. Additional information on this matter will be available in the near future.

15 March 2020  
Third Sunday of Lent

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Over the past few days, our Diocese has responded quickly and proactively to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As I listen to the concerns of the faithful, I want to assure you that I have great concern for each of you.

As we take these measures, please be assured of my closeness in prayer. We are in a period of uncertainty and rapid change. This can be unsettling. Many are experiencing feelings of worry, panic, fear, and doubt. Please join me in taking a moment to be still and remember Jesus' promise that He will be with us always. Let us approach the Heart of Christ and, like Saint John the Beloved, rest there for a moment. Let us surrender our fears and our worries as we pray: *Jesus, we trust in You. Jesus, we hope in You. Jesus, we love You.*

First and foremost, I want each of us to respond to this pandemic with prayer. Let us speak to God who longs to hear our voices! We ask God to heal those who are sick, to comfort those who are anxious, and to bless all those who provide care to the infirmed. We ask God to protect our Nation and to stop the rapid spread of the disease. Our response is first a response with prayer. *Jesus, you are the Divine Physician. You are with us. We ask for healing and deliverance.*

While there is currently no obligation to attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, our devoted priests will continue to offer Mass. The Holy Eucharist is our Source, our Strength and our Hope! As we recall the truth that Christ's Presence provides for us a safe resting place, a place of comfort and stillness, a place of rest and healing, let us pray: *Jesus, thank you for your Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. We draw near to You and unite our hearts with your Sacred and Eucharistic Heart. We turn to you for comfort and healing. Be with us now Lord in our time of need.*

Just as Saint Joseph protected the Holy Family, we turn to Saint Joseph to protect us at this time of uncertainty and pandemic. We turn to Saint Joseph and entrust ourselves, our families, and our Diocese to his care and intercession. *Saint Joseph, we entrust to you all people in the Diocese of Allentown. We seek your intercession and protection. Saint Joseph, pray for us!*

We can also use this time as an enhanced aspect of Lenten penance. With arms open and a loving gaze, He calls us to repentance. We can take comfort that He looks on us with nothing but Love. *Jesus, we come to you and repent of our sins.*

During this time when the obligation to attend Mass is lifted, if you are not attending Mass, I encourage you to pray the Rosary and read the Sunday Scripture.

*Holy Mary we, your children, turn our eyes to you and trust in your maternal care and protection. Please watch over the faithful of the Diocese of Allentown and lead us closer to Your Son. Protect us from evil and come speedily to our aid. Please bring healing and comfort to those who are suffering. We seek your protection, O holy Mother of God; Graciously hear our petitions and protect us from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin Mary. Amen. Mary, our Mother and our Confidence, pray for us.*

## **Intercessory Candles**

**Blessed Virgin Mary:** Special Intention by Duke & Joan

In Loving Memory of Steve Hercek  
In Loving Memory of Charlotte M. Bowman

Speedy Recovery for All  
Spring Blessings by The Zoba's