

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

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May 3, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Easter

While the public celebration of Sunday and weekday Masses is suspended during the pandemic, the Sunday and Weekday Masses will be celebrated privately. The parish plans to live-stream and record Sunday, Holy Day, and other 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. 5/04—Easter Weekday

Marion & Charles Kost by David & Donna Kost

Tues. 5/05—Easter Weekday

Stanley Schodowski by Maynard Family

Wed. 5/06 — Easter Weekday

Priest Intention

Thurs. 5/07—Easter Weekday

Mary Sniscak by loving daughter Mary Helen

Fri. 5/08—Easter Weekday

Priest Intention

Sat. 5/09—May 10th Vigil

(included with Sunday Live-Stream Mass)

Ellen Bross by Fazio Family

*Sun. 5/10—5th Sunday of Easter

Live-stream Consecration of Mary @ 8:00 am

Live-stream Mass @ 8:30 am

Mary Senglar & Alice Campbell by Family

Sun. 5/10

People of the Parish

(included with Sunday Live-Stream Mass)

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

Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection:
Pamela Russo (610) 871-5200 Ext. 2204
prusso@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 & click on "Youth Protection" in the upper right hand corner of the page.

Readings for Sunday Mass, May 3rd:

**ACTS 6:1-7; PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 PT 2:4-9;
JN 14:1-12**

Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020

Dear parish family,

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia, alleluia! May all of you and your families have a blessed and Holy Easter Season. We are blessed this Easter Season to have the opportunity to receive and to cooperate more with God's grace as through our Lord's divine mercy.

“Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.”
(Ps 66:1-2)

This past week, I had a conversation with a local businessman. He noted that these are quite strange times. We spoke about losing track of time and which day of the week it was because of the disruption in our daily routines due to the pandemic precautions. In many ways we are like the two disciples of Jesus who were on the road to Emmaus when they encountered Jesus after his resurrection from the dead (Lk 24:13-35). Before recognizing the resurrected Jesus, these disciples told this apparent stranger about who they hoped Jesus to be, the wonderful works he had done, how he was crucified and died, and the mystery of the empty tomb of Jesus. We are celebrating that same paschal mystery. Jesus Christ is revealing to us those same mysteries about his passion, death and resurrection to us now who may have difficulty recognizing Him during these difficult times.

I am praying especially for you and your families as the Church celebrates the Easter season. Please refer to our parish website (strichard.org) for the updated parish schedule for live-streaming and recording of Sunday Masses and Holy Day Masses, online-giving, weekly bulletins (also available in the church) and parish news. Our parish has a YouTube channel; click on the YouTube Channel link on our parish website.

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, Marilyn Tolan, and Celia Zukoski.

Sunday Collection: Regular: \$1,330 ~ Candles: \$52

While the celebration of public Masses is suspended, I plan to live-stream broadcast and record on our parish YouTube Channel: Sunday Masses and Holy Day Masses. As of April 10, 2020 he Bishop of the Diocese of Allentown is continuing the suspension of Masses with the presence of the faithful until further notice.



Thank you so much for continuing to share your treasure according to your ability to do so, during this difficult economic and financial time caused by the pandemic. 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 or sent them by mail to the parish and/or contributing via the parish online giving link on our parish website (www.strichard.org).

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,
Rev. Father Eric Tolentino

PARISH NEWS and UPDATES:

No public Mass or Eucharistic Adoration until further notice.

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

Confessions are by appointment only in the church.

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 offering envelopes in the bin at the rectory or send by mail. We are glad you stayed home to stay safe; however, we need your assistance to pay the bills of our parish.

The Church of St. Richard of Chichester will be CLOSED during the times below to privately celebrate:	
* Sunday Masses (*watch on Parish YouTube channel)	Sundays 8:00 AM to 9:50 AM * Prayer of Consecration to Mary Live-stream @ 8:00 AM * Mass Live-stream @ 8:30 AM
Weekday Masses	MON.-FRI. 8:00 AM to 8:50 AM
Masses for * Holy Days and Other Liturgies as noted in Bulletin & on the Parish Website	

Renewal of the Consecration of the United States of America to the Blessed Virgin Mary

May 1, 2020

This prayer of consecration will be offered on behalf of the entire country by the Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The prayer of consecration incorporates language used in consecrations of Popes Pius XII, John Paul II, and Francis, and also from prayers from Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



The World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on Sunday, May 3, 2020. The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10.2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

April 27, 2020

“My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has been three weeks since I wrote my Easter message to you, and so, I wanted to check in with you again. Certainly since our last conversation, there have been many more pandemic deaths, infections, lay-offs, and economic hardships. At the same time, we are in the midst of the most joyful, hopeful time of the year, the Easter Season. The Liturgy proclaims that during this Season, we are “overcome with paschal joy.” We should make that sentiment our goal in these sullen times. Jesus, the Conqueror of sin and death, has suffered and triumphed over the Evil One for you and for me.

I am painfully aware that many will not truly feel this paschal joy until they can return to the Sacraments, especially the reception of Holy Communion. I have received so many encouraging letters that beautifully express a sincere desire to be able to receive Our Lord again. This inability to receive Our Lord has strengthened the faithful’s belief in the Real Presence and has heightened their awareness of what a privilege it is to receive Holy Communion. It breaks my heart as a shepherd to see the flock in such sacramental want and distress.

If the truth be told, across my desk are also coming letters — in smaller numbers — that express great anger with me and the hierarchy of the Church for the public health measures that we have adopted. For some, bitterness is seeping into their hearts for not having access to the Holy Eucharist. The Evil One is usurping this distance from the Holy Eucharist to divide members of our Family of Faith. In its most extreme expression, there is the thought that somehow the Church timidly is cooperating with the State to deprive the faithful of their Religious Liberties. We are doing this not because we are being directed by the government, but because it is the most prudent approach for the safety of the faithful.

Allow me to assure you that the policies that are in place in the Diocese of Allentown were implemented solely for the protection of the health of the faithful. We are called to be good citizens and to participate in the public good. From the earliest days of the Church, Christians understood their primary duty was to God, but also to cooperate in good citizenship when legitimate directives were given by those who govern us.

To be sure, our churches are still open for private prayer, the Sacrament of Penance is still available, funerals continue, and the Anointing of the Sick is still given to those in danger of death, observing the precautions in place. My desire is to return to public worship as soon as it is safe to do so. However, I must be clear: my preference will be for “safe rather than soon.” I will follow the health guidelines of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in determining the level of precautions needed and allowable public gatherings. This means that some counties in our Diocese might be back to public worship before others. I ask for your patience and good will.

My office is already working on the process of returning to full public worship and parish life. I call this planning “from couch to pew” since all of us long for the day when we will find ourselves at Mass in the pew rather than on the couch. I ask you to please collaborate with me and our priests as this process unfolds in the various regions of the Diocese.

In so many ways, this has brought out the best in our Family of Faith, and I am so grateful for the beautiful and heroic acts that are being done by members of our Catholic community and so many people of good will. It truly is a time for unity and Christian charity as we live this Season of paschal joy.

My prayers every day are for the deceased, the sick and dying, their families, health professionals, and care-givers; likewise for those who are anxious due to job loss and economic uncertainty; for our young people who are missing school, extracurricular activities, graduations, and championships; for the elderly who feel even heightened loneliness and anxiety due to the illness around them; for young adults who are facing hardship for perhaps the first time; for parents who are adapting their family lives and married lives to the exigencies of protecting and providing for their families; and for my fellow priests, deacons, seminarians, and consecrated men and women who are striving each day to be near their people and often heroically are bringing the Light of Christ to them. God bless you all!

Asking the Lord to bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to Everlasting Life, I

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert
Bishop of Allentown"

Intercessory Candles

Blessed Virgin Mary: Special Intention by Duke & Joan

For those in need by a parishioner
Prayers needed for Jeff Weaver & Lori White
Prayers for the Soul of Mr. James Bambulsky

Special Intention for Mitchell & Ricky Curran
by Regina & Jeff
Special Intention by Sue & Jay