

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)

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Website: www.strichard.org

December 20, 2020 Fourth Sunday of Advent

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. 12/21, 8:00am—Advent Weekday;
St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
Joseph Kufrovich by DiBuo & Morris Family

Tues. 12/22, 8:00am-Advent Weekday
Joe Kandrot by wife Gerry

Wed. 12/23, 8:00am—Advent Weekday;
St. John of Kanty, Priest
Jer Tracy by wife Pat

Thurs. 12/24, 6:00pm—Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
4:00 pm—People of the Parish
6:00 pm—People of the Parish
12:00 midnight—Living & Deceased members of the Bruni
& DiCasimirro Families by Bernard & Felicia Bruni &
Family

***Fri. 12/25, 8:30am—The Nativity of the Lord**
People of the Parish

Sat. 12/26, Vigil
Mass @ 4:00pm
Frank & Marge Morris by Family

***Sun. 12/27, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph**
Mass @ 8:30am
(Also continued to be Live-Streamed)
John Goshiney by wife Niki

Sun. 12/27
Mass @ 10:30am
People of the Parish

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 in the vestibule or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

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.

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.

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 few days left before we celebrate 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":

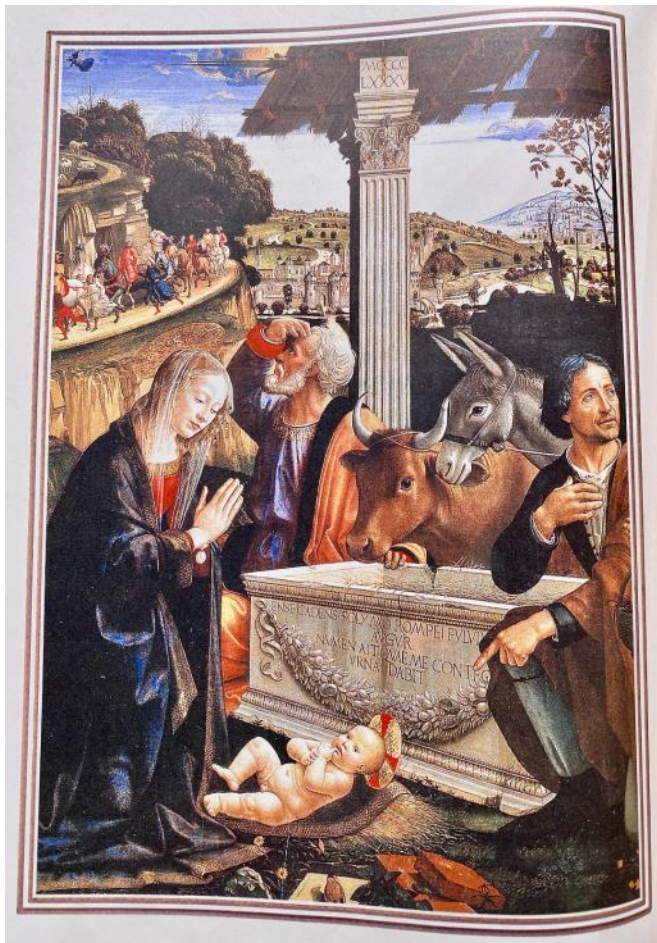
O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity."

At the celebration of Christmas Masses for the Nativity of the Lord, we will once again be praying 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 have a blessed, merry and happy Christmas! Please be safe and holy out there.

Yours in Christ,
+Reverend Eric Tolentino



Readings for Sunday Mass, December 27th:
SIR 3:2-6, 12-14 or GN 15:1-6, 21:1-3;
PS 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9;
COL 3:12-21 or COL 3:12-17 or HEB 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;
LK 2:22-40 or LK 2:22, 39-40

Responsorial Psalm:
Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Sunday Collection: Regular: \$2,044 ~ Candles: \$76

Second Collections: 12/6~Monthly Supplement;
12/8~Immaculate Conception; 12/13~Retired Religious;
12/20~Parish Utilities; 12/25~Christmas; 12/27~Parish Utilities

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: The missals are still available. Please see Stanley after any Mass, contact the parish office during business hours or email at stichard@frontiernet.net. The suggested donation is \$5 per missal. Thank you.

2021 Offering Envelopes: Since the new year is fast approaching, **starting this weekend**, the remaining offering envelopes will be available before the Masses. Ushers will be distributing them. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 stichard@frontiernet.net (please include Mass Requests in the subject line).



Church Decorating: This Sunday, December 20th after the 10:30 am Mass. Please come on out and give a hand. All volunteers are required to wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Lottery Calendars Winners: (week ending 12/13)

12/7 Joseph & Jessica Rick, #842, Barnesville
12/8 Rick Pasechinick, #862, McAdoo
12/9 Cynthia Burda, #299, Morea
12/10 Nichole Chaump, #072, Mountain Top
12/11 Krissy, #437, Barnesville
12/12 Shannon Masalusky, #708, Delano
12/13 Nichole Chaump, #072, Mountain Top

Updates from the parish office: The **Christmas wafers have arrived** and are available through the office during business hours. The suggested offering is \$4 per packet. The 2021 annual calendars however, are still expected to be delivered the end of the month.

Extended Confession Times: Confession times before Christmas have been extended for your convenience. Please take this opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation..

Sunday, December 13th @ 10:00 am
Thursday, December 17th @ 6:30 pm
Sunday, December 20th @ 10:00 am

The scheduled confessions will resume Saturday, January 2, 2021 at 3:30 pm.

***Christmas Season Mass Schedule:**

December 24
(Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord)
4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 12:00 Midnight
December 25
(Nativity of the Lord) @ 8:30 am
December 31
(Vigil of the Solemnity of Mary) @ 4:00 pm
January 1
(Solemnity of Mary) @ 8:30 am & 10:30 am



* Dates & times listed above are subject to change.

Christmas Season Parish Office Hours:

Open:
Monday, December 21st & Wednesday, December 23rd
Monday, December 28th & Wednesday, December 30th

Closed:
Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th.
Thursday, December 31st and Friday, January 1st

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.

Prayer after Communion: Even though we are leaving
the church after receiving Holy Communion, it is very
important in our spiritual lives for us to pause and recognize
Christ's Eucharistic presence within us. We invite you to
take that time before leaving the church parking lot.

I. Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ,
wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O Good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me. Suffer me not to be separated
from thee.
From the malignant enemy defend me. In the hour of my
death call me.
And bid me come unto Thee, That with all Thy saints,
I may praise thee Forever and ever. Amen.

II. May Your Body, O Lord, which I have eaten, and
Your Blood which I have drunk, cleave to my very soul,
and grant that no trace of sin be found in me, whom these
pure and holy mysteries have renewed.

III. Who live and reign, world without end. Amen. We
humbly beseech You, almighty God, to grant that those
whom You refresh with Your sacraments, may serve you
worthily by a life well pleasing to You. Through our Lord
Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns, world without
end. Amen

O Come, O Come Emmanuel 395

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to your, O Israel.

2. O come, O wisdom from on high,
Who order all things mightily;
T us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her way to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to your, O Israel.

Soon and Very Soon 865

1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

2. No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

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 Sault, Dominic Streisel, Mary Ann Thompson, Marilyn Tolan, Stan Wlodarczyk and Celia Zukoski.

Intercessory Candles

Blessed Virgin Mary: In Loving Memory of my niece Mary Jean Soltis by loving aunt Mary Helen
Sacred Heart: Special Intention by Duke & Joan



Special Intention for Maureen by Susan & Dan
Special Intentions by Sue & Jay
In Loving Memory of my Al, Love Fran

Prayers for Mary Mikalonis from Antonette
Special Intention for good treatment results & health.