

St. John's Church
15 E. Church St.
Susquehanna, PA 18847
570-853-4634
miriamsj@echoes.net

St. Lawrence's Church
380 Franklin St.
Great Bend, PA 18821
570-267-1366
slcoffice@echoes.net

St. Martin's Church
State Rts. 92 & 492
Jackson, PA
570-853-4634
miriamsj@echoes.net

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. John the Evangelist Mission Statement

"The parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Church, in conjunction with the Diocese of Scranton, are committed to maintaining the rich Catholic heritage handed down by our past priests, religious sisters, and ancestors in the greater Susquehanna area. Imitating the love of Jesus Christ and based on the foundation of the twelve apostles, we recognize that we are called to proclaim the Gospel by word and deed in our daily lives, to celebrate the Eucharist, and to devote ourselves to prayer and education so as to promote an arena of grace, justice, and peace for all of our brothers and sisters."

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 3rd, 2010



Gospel: In their search for the newborn king of the Jews, the Magi are assisted by Herod, who assembles the priests and scribes to unfold the meaning of the scriptures. Bethlehem, the least of the cities of Judah, is the birthplace of the shepherd of God's people, of the one who comes in humility to save the poor of the earth. The Magi lay their precious gifts before God's anointed who has emptied himself for our salvation.



St. Lawrence Mission Statement

We are a family of faith in union with Christ and His Church to grow in holiness through the celebration of the inspired Word of God and the reception of the Sacrament. We are called through our Baptism to share in the ministry of Jesus Christ and glorify God through proclaiming the Gospel in our community.

St. Martin of Tours Mission Statement

We, the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Martin of Tours are a faith community of rich, diverse talents and cultures. We are called to encourage all to share God's gifts, in partnership with Him, for the good of the Body of Christ.

We are a worshipping, Eucharistic Community, united with the Holy Father, our bishop and our Pastor, to make Christ present in our world, through the Mass, and united in Him, to proclaim the Word of God in works of hospitality, charity, and mercy. We are committed to serving one another in the name of Jesus Christ, so that the Kingdom of God becomes more visible in our world today.

Today is the solemnity that celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the nations, the showing forth of the glory of God, a past event, a present reality, and an object of hope

The story of the Magi coming from the East is only reported in Matthew (2:1-12). Matthew's account of the Gospel says nothing of their home country, their status, their religion, their number, or their names. So where did the traditions and folklore originate? Three Magi have prevailed because of the three gifts mentioned, and the names of Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar persist because they appeared in a ninth-century Italian manuscript. The representation of these Magi as kings comes from the references in both the First Reading from Isaiah and today's psalm, Psalm 72.

This solemnity, which dates to the third century, was the original feast of Jesus in the East, and one of the two dates for the initiation of catechumens in the early Church.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Feast Monday, January 4th

Elizabeth Seton was raised Episcopalian in a prominent New York family. She married at the age of 19. They went to Italy, and after her husband died there, she and her 5 children were taken in by an Italian family where she was exposed to Catholicism. She converted in 1805 and to support her children, she started a school in Baltimore which failed. Later, she founded the Sisters of charity in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the first such community founded in the U. S. In 1975, she became the first native-born citizen of the U.S. to be canonized. She is patroness of the Catholic schools.

St. John Neumann
Feast, Tuesday, January 5th

John Neumann emigrated to the U.S. from Bohemia and entered the Redemptorists. He was the 4th Bishop of Philadelphia (1852-1860), where he founded the first Catholic diocesan school system in the US.

Rev. David Cramer, Pastor

Rev. Alfhonse Perikala, Assistant Pastor

Mrs. Eileen Hartman, St. John, St. Martin Parish Secretary
Ms. Judi Salinkas, St. Lawrence Parish Secretary

Ms. Virginia Phillips, St. John
Mr. Mark Lipschutz, St. Martin Bookkeepers

Mr. Fred Huyck, Mr. Mark Matis Maintenance

Mrs. Vickie Mulligan, DRE

Mr. Jeffrey Keyes, Organist
Mrs. Susan Lee, Organist

Parish Office: 853-4634
Fax 853-3356
St. John Parish Center
853-4787

Emergency number at St. Lawrence Rectory: 267-1366

Weekend Masses

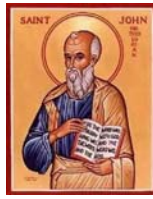
	<u>St. John</u>	<u>St. Lawrence</u>	<u>St. Martin</u>
Sat.	6:00 PM	5:00 PM	4:00 PM
Sun.	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM

Listen to Catholic Radio
JM7 750 AM

Men/Women Wounded By Abortion 1-800-5-WE-CARE
Pregnancy Counseling 1-800-550-4900

*ST. JOHN

THE EVANGELIST



We have the **Oplatek Wafers** available at St. John's for the cost of a \$1.00 in the back of the Church.

The Altar & Rosary has sent over 500 rosaries to our servicemen and women. We can continue to send them all year or you may mail them to:

Archdiocese for Military
PO Box 4469
Washington, DC 20017

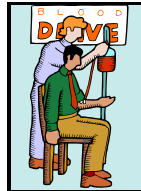
Painting of St. John's Church will begin on January 4th and will continue through the month. We will also begin the process of fundraising so that we do not deplete our parish savings.

St. John's Men's Club Meeting, Tuesday, January 5, 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

St. John's Finance Council Meeting—Wednesday, January 6th, 7:00pm

Roast Pork Dinner—Saturday, January 16, sponsored by the Men's Club. More details in the coming weeks.

Red Cross Blood Drive, Wednesday, January 6th from 1:30 to 5:30pm in the Parish Hall. To schedule an appointment, please call 278-1427.



Annual March for Life, Washington, DC, January 22, 2010

This year, more than ever, the people of America need to stand up and speak out for 'Life'. Please join us on the Bus trip to Washington in January by calling St. John's Rectory, 853-4634, or Nancy Pelicci, 853-3909 to make your reservation.

St. John's Pro-Life Organization

Psalm Bites—brief prayers for busy people

(When you're overwhelmed or stressed)

Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. (Psalm 69:2)

*ST. MARTIN

OF TOURS



Oplatek Wafers (Christmas Wafers) will be available in the back of the church for a \$1.00 donation. The blessed Oplatek wafer is a Polish, Slovakian, and Lithuanian tradition to share with the family and friends on Christmas Eve, or during the Christmas Season.

Holy Hour Schedule at St. Martin's

Every Thursday (except the 3rd Thursday) of the month will be the Holy Hour at 7:00pm. The next Holy Hour will be Thursday, **Jan. 7th**.

The **third Thursday** of the month will be the Charismatic Mass at 7:00pm

Note: We are in need of new Lectors, especially for the Saturday evening Mass.

New Home Addresses—Many of our parishioners addresses have not been changed to the assigned 911 addresses. Please call 853-4634 to update our parish system, or you can write on your new address the sheet provided in the lobby of St. Martin's or place on your weekly envelopes.

LifeLine

"Abortion is Not Health Care"

"Gather the children unto Me".

His coming served to say;

"Bid them come to my cradle crude:

All soft and strewn with hay".

Welcome them with joy;

As with a rare and precious gem;

For they are come from God on High.

*MINISTRIES—ST. MARTIN'S

Sat., Jan. 9th - 4:00 PM

(Altar Servers)

(Eucharistic Min.)

(Lector)

Sun. Jan. 10th- 11:00 AM

(Altar Servers)

(Euch. Min.)

(Lector)

*MASS INTENTIONS—ST. MARTIN December 19-28, 2009

Sat.	01/02	4:00 PM	All Parishioners
Sun.	01/03	11:00 AM	Helen Marichak (Estate)
Sat.	01/09	4:00 PM	All Parishioners
Sun.	01/10	11:00 AM	Vincent Giunta (Bill Leahy)

PRAYER:

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them
as they protect us. Bless them and
their families for the selfless
acts they perform for us in our time of need.
I ask this in the name
of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen

Colleen Rafferty	Scott T. Ball
Gregory C. Nixon	William G. Emmons
Chad M. Kovitch	Jack Kilcoyne
Christopher Emmons	Lynne Norris
Richard Kilcoyne	Justin Mascenik
Steve McNamara	Michael Herbert
Jed Stewart	Joan Valdes
Adam Schiffer	Ben Barnard

If anyone would like to add a troop's name to our prayer list, please contact the office.

***MASS INTENTIONS—ST. JOHN**

Jan. 2-10, 2010

Sat.	1/02	8:30 AM 6:00 PM	Mary Stout (M/M Carmen Cosentino) Leona Perrotti (M/M Joseph Schell)
Sun.	1/03	8:00 AM	All Parishioners
Mon.	1/04	8:30 AM	Thomas Lyden (M/M Robert Romanoski)
Tues.	1/05	8:30 AM	Jim Luciana (Joan Battisti)
Wed.	1/06	8:30 AM	Buddy Nordenberg (Virginia)
Thurs.	1/07	8:30 AM	Elizabeth Dennis (Doris Deakin)
Fri.	1/08	8:30 AM	Frank Borowicz (M/M Bronchella)
Sat.	1/09	6:00 PM	Howard Rood (Rena & Family)
Sun.	1/10	8:00 AM	Frank Scarola (The Family)

***MINISTRIES—ST. JOHN'S**

Sat. Jan. 9th - 6:00 PM

Logan Burdick, David Armitage, Miranda Romanofski (Altar .S.)
Carol Barnes, George Napolitano, Mary Snyder (Euch. Min.)
Tiffany Maby (Lector)
Men's Choir (Cantors)

Sun. Jan. 10th - 8:00 AM

Austin & Peyton Cowperthwait, Aaron Cook (A.S.)
Carol Bushong, Jane McNamara, Bev Norris (E. Min.)
Linda Norris (Lector)
Barb Wolf, Carolyn Rinker (Cantors)

*** MINISTRIES—ST. LAWRENCE**

Sat. Jan. 9th - 5:00 PM

D. Maida, C. Lake (Altar Servers)
R. & D. Maida (Eucharistic Ministers)
F. O'Connor (Lector)

Sun. Jan. 10th - 9:30 AM

C. & J. Mills (Altar Servers)
S. Brown (Eucharistic Minister)
S. Mills (Lector)

PARISHES' CALENDAR

Sun.	1/03	No CCD Classes G. B. Knights of Columbus meeting, after 9:30am Mass.
Mon.	1/04	RCIA Meeting, St. John's Hall, 7:00pm
Tues.	1/05	St. John's Men's Club meeting, 7:00pm
Wed.	1/06	Susquehanna Red Cross Blood Drive, 12:30-5:30pm St. John's Parish Hall St. John Finance Council Meeting, 7:00pm
Thurs.	1/07	Holy Hour at St. Martin, 7:00pm
Sat.	1/09	Great Bend Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Supper, 4-7:00pm
Mon.	1/11	St. John's Altar & Rosary Meeting, 6:30pm RCIA meeting, 7:00pm at St. John's Parish Hall
Wed.	1/13	St. John's Pro-Life Meeting after morning Mass. Joint Pastoral Meeting, 7:15pm at St. John's Parish Hall
Sat.	1/16	St. John's Men's Club Roast Pork Dinner
Mon.	1/18	RCIA Meeting, St. John's Parish hall, 7:00pm.
Wed.	1/20	SNF Mass, Barnes Kasson, 2:00pm
Thurs.	1/21	Charismatic Mass at St. Martin, 7:00pm
Fri.	1/22	Pro-Life March on Washington bus trip



***STEWARDSHIP—ST. JOHN'S**

Sat/Sun., Dec. 26-27, 2009

Offertory Envelopes	\$1,612.00
Loose	186.00
Candles	32.00
Religious Ed	7.00
Improvements	261.00
Fuel	115.00
Eastern Europe	20.00
Christmas Flowers	5.00
Care & Education of Priests	3.00
National Religious Retirement	40.00
Immaculate Conception	53.00
Solemnity of Mary	26.00
Total:	\$2,360.00

Christmas \$5,854.00

***STEWARDSHIP—ST. MARTIN'S**

Sat/Sun. Dec. 26-27, 2009

Offertory Envelopes	\$1,697.50
Loose	551.00
Fuel	60.00
Church Dues	49.00
Care & Education of Priests	21.00
Christmas Flowers	20.00
Christmas Remembrance	45.00
National Religious Retirement	3.00
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Solemnity of Mary	15.00
Total:	\$2,466.50

Christmas \$3,375.00

***STEWARDSHIP—ST. LAWRENCE**

Sat/Sun. 26-27, 2009

Offertory Envelopes	\$1,840.00
Fuel	50.00
Candles	25.10
Holy Day	135.00
Maintenance	10.00
Insurance	200.00
Christmas Flowers	5.00
Retirement for Religious	48.00
Care & Education of Priests	20.00
Assessment	2.00
Total:	\$2,335.10

Christmas \$3,473.38