

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 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."

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



4th Sunday of Lent

March 14th, 2010



**Stations of the Cross
Fridays during Lent**



St. John	7:00pm	Stations
St. Lawrence	7:00pm	Stations & Mass
St. Martin	7:00pm	Stations

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.

Great Adventure Bible Study

St. John	Tuesdays after 8:30am Mass
St. Lawrence	Mondays after 7:00pm Mass
St. Martin	Sundays after 11:00am Mass

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.

Gospel: In the parable of the *prodigal son*, we know only of the decision of the younger son, who accepts the fullness of the father's embrace. The elder "faithful" son, filled with resentment at the father's lavish forgiveness of his brother, remains in the field. We are not told whether the father's message of extravagant love for both sons will move him to enter into the celebration of eternal life. In this holy season, whether we are distant or close to home, we are invited to fuller life.

Daily Practice:

Unconditional Forgiveness

This is a very difficult practice because as human beings we put conditions on everything. I'll forgive but it better not happen again. I'll forgive this time because I got a good apology. I'll forgive later when he or she really means "sorry." I'll forgive if he changes and when she makes restitution... Make an effort today to forgive with no conditions.

Prayer:

*When I hold anger in my heart,
forgiving God, help me to let it go
and to forgive others as you have
forgiven me. May I open my heart to
others, especially those who have
hurt me, and may I forgive as un-
conditionally as the father
of the prodigal son.
In a word, may I forgive
As you forgive. Amen*

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

Today is known as *Laetare* Sunday, a day that marks the halfway point of Lent and that celebrates our joy in being that much closer to the Resurrection of Christ, the day of our salvation. The name of the day comes from the first word of today's Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice, Jerusalem!"

Emergency number at St. Lawrence Rectory: 267-1366

Weekend Masses

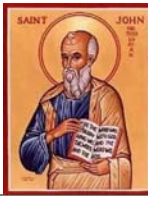
**Listen to Catholic Radio
JMJ 750 AM**

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

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

*ST. JOHN

THE EVANGELIST



The **Pro-Life collection** will be taken up after this weekend's Masses.

Also, the **Second Collection** this weekend is for the **Catholic Social Services**.

Things are looking better and better. Thank you to all those who are volunteering their time to improve the sanctuary and maintain the beauty of the Church!

Fr. Dave

The **CCD classes** will be collecting boxes of cake mix and icing, now till Sunday, March 28th. To help the Churches of Susquehanna County and Interfaith, who will be preparing Easter dinners for the needy in our county. We will have a box marked CCD Easter Dinner in the back of the churches. Thank you

St. John's Weekend Mass Change—starting the weekend after Easter, **April 10 & 11th**, Mass at St. John will be 5:30pm on Saturdays, and 8:30am on Sundays.

St. John's Men's Club Raffles:

Beef Bonanza—1/4 lb of Steer cut & frozen
Drawing is April 25, 2010. \$1.00 a ticket

Also, a hand-made man's sweater and a woman's sweater by Nancy Passitti \$1.00 each. Ruffled off after the Mother's Day Breakfast. Please see any of St. John's Men's Club members.

Welcoming Committee Greeters:

Sat., March 13, 6:00pm	Mary Mazikewich Liz Keller
Sun. March 14, 8:00am	Carol Bushong Toni Romanofski
Sat., March 20, 6:00pm	Kelly Kane Jackie Gow
Sun. March 21, 8:00am	Rose Curtis Alice Evans

MINISTRIES—ST. JOHN'S

Sat. March 20th- 6:00 PM

Ben & Matt Kane, Brandon Gow (Altar Servers)
Mike DeWitt, Carol Barnes, Joe King (Eucharistic Min.)
Jeffrey Keyes (Lector)
Folk Group (Cantors)

Sun. March 21st 8:00 AM

Justin & Jonathan Banko, Logan Burdick (Altar Servers)
Mary Jo Weaver, Vickie Mulligan, Bob Burns (Eucharistic Min.)
Clay Weaver (Lector)
Kay Pacifici (Cantor)

*STEWARDSHIP—ST. JOHN'S

Sat./Sun. Mar. 6-7, 2010

Offertory Envelopes	\$1,950.00
Loose	159.00
Candles	52.00
Dues	15.00
Religious Ed	3.00
Fuel	43.00
Improvements	38.00
Easter Flowers	422.00
Care & Education of Priests	361.00
<i>Total:</i>	<i>\$3,043.00</i>

*ST. MARTIN

OF TOURS



Lenten Mass Acclamations:

Kyrie 122, Gospel Acc. 125, Sanctus 185,
Memorial Acc: Brown (in book),
Amen 184, Agnus Dei 187

St. Martin's Choir—Practice for Holy Week is on Wednesdays, 7:00pm. New members are welcome!

Pierogi Sale:

More Pierogi are on the way! We want to thank all the "pinchers" for their hard work for the parish!! *Fr. Dave*

We will be making more pierogies on March 27, if anyone would like to help! For orders, call Boyd Manzer at 756-3047 or fill out the insert in today's bulletin.

Welcoming Committee Greeters:

Sat. March 13th	Maureen & Anthony Maloney
Sun. March 14th	David Lee
Sat. March 20th	Rachael Gilleran
Sun. March 21st	Betty & Frank Kwader
Sat. March 27th	Diane Frye
Sun. March 28th	Eileen Hartman

Charismatic Mass—Thursday, **March 18**, 7:00pm at St. Martin's

The Endless Mountains Children's Choir is taking orders for Easter flowers - 5+ bloom lilies-\$9; - 6"mums-\$8; 6"hyacinths-\$8; 6"tulips-\$8; 6" azaleas-\$12; 3+bloom hydrangeas-\$15; To order flowers, please contact any choir member or Christine Sezer - 756-2729 or 756-2961 -By MARCH 15. All orders will be delivered to church on March 27 at the 4PM Mass.

All children who love to sing are invited to join the choir- rehearsals are Thursdays 6PM to 8PM at the South Gibson United Methodist Church. If interested please contact Dr. Christine Sezer -756-2961 or 756-2729 - email- drcsezer@yahoo.com.

MINISTRIES—ST. MARTIN'S

Sat. March 20th, 4:00 PM

Michael Lingobardo (Altar S.)
Diane Frye (Euch. Min.)
Martina Lingobardo (Lector)

Sun. March 21st, 11:00 AM

Katherine Kempa, Anja Whitehead (A S.)
Charlene Kempa (Eucharistic Min)
Eileen Hartman (Lector)

Operation Rice Bowl—please pick up the Lenten Catholic Relief Services' boxes provided in the back of the Church.

*STEWARDSHIP—ST. MARTIN'S

Sat./Sun. Mar. 6-7, 2010

Offertory Envelopes	\$1642.75
Loose	175.00
Candles	16.00
Initial Offering	10.00
Dues	62.00
Care & Education of Priests	212.00
Easter Flowers	53.00
Rice Bowl	10.00
Holy Land	10.00
Social Services	15.00
Easter Remembrance	45.00
Building Fund	50.00
Ash Wednesday	10.00

Total: *\$2,310.75*

March Church Cleaning Team:

The Charlene Kempa Family

We are In need Of more volunteers For Church Cleaning!!

* PARISHES' MASSES

*MASS INTENTIONS—ST. JOHN Mar. 13-21, 2010

Sat. 3/13	6:00 PM	All Parishioners
Sun 3/14	8:00 AM	Janice Medynec (Joe & Pat King)
Mon 3/15	8:30 AM	Albert & Louise Kane (William & Delores Kane)
Tues. 3/16	8:30 AM	Mary Stout (Ted & Amy McDonald)
Wed. 3/17		No Mass
Thurs. 3/18	8:30 AM	Anna Pavelski (Mary E. Snyder & Family)
Fri 3/19	8:30 AM	Jim Luciana (Chris & Millie Herbert)
Sat 3/20	6:00 PM	All Parishioners
Sun. 3/21	8:00 AM	Victoria Space (Vickie & Family)

MASS INTENTIONS—ST. LAWRENCE Mar. 13-21, 2010

Sat. Mar. 13	4:15 PM	Confession
Sat. Mar. 13	5:00 PM	John and Bob Franks req. by the Franks Family
Sun Mar. 14	9:30 AM	For our parish community
Mon Mar. 15	7:00 PM	Helen Lashinski req. by Pat Kechah
Tues. Mar. 16		NO MASS
Wed Mar. 17	8:00 AM	Rocco Marchese
Thur. Mar. 18		NO MASS
Fri. Mar. 19	7:00 PM	Theresa Bognet
Sat. Mar. 20	4:15 PM	Confession
Sat. Mar. 20	5:00 PM	For our parish community
Sun. Mar. 21	9:30 AM	Franks-Edgell families by Barbara Edgell Franks

MASS INTENTIONS—ST. MARTIN Mar. 13-21, 2010

Sat. 3/13	4:00 PM	All Parishioners
Sun 3/14	11:00 AM	Janeina Swistro (M/M Mike Panasevich)
Mon 3/15		NO Mass
Tues. 3/16	8:00 AM	Helen Marichak (Estate)
Wed. 3/17	8:00 AM	Poor Souls in Purgatory
Thurs. 3/18	8:00 AM	Helen Marichak (Estate)
Fri 3/19		NO MASS
Sat 3/20	4:00 PM	Poor Souls in Purgatory (J.B.Z.)
Sun. 3/21	11:00 AM	All Parishioners

Reminder—If there is a School Delay/Closing due to inclement weather, the daily morning mass time will follow the School Delay time or Closing.

*ST. LAWRENCE



****PLEASE take home a Lenten Coin Folder. You will find them in the back of church. Return them into the collection basket at your convenience through out our Lenten season.**

The Knights of Columbus

Spaghetti Supper—Saturday, March 13th, 4-7pm, KC hall, \$7 pp, \$3 age 6-13

St. Lawrence Ham & Cabbage Dinner:

THANK YOU! The dinner was a success!! Thank you to all who supported this dinner by purchasing a ticket, selling a ticket, donating items, preparing the food and cleaning up after. Thank you all! St. Lawrence made **\$1100.00!!!!!!!** We couldn't have done it with out you!! A special thank you to the dinner's committee who put so much time and energy into this fund raiser. It is greatly appreciated.

The Ham & Cabbage dinner was a real success. Thank you to Dixie and all those who gave their time and effort for the dinner! Fr. Dave

Sunday Morning Social:

Coffee and donuts will be held in the Trinity Center **EVERY 1st Sunday morning** after 9:30 A.M. mass. Stop in and warm up with coffee and good company. Last month was very successful so we are hoping for an even bigger crowd this month.

Easter Dinner Basket Raffle:

Tickets were passed out last weekend for our annual Easter Dinner Basket Raffle. Envelopes of tickets are in the back of the church. PLEASE take as many as you would like. The basket will be full of fantastic Easter foods to feed a whole family. If you have any questions **OR** would like to donate something to the basket call Sean & Danielle Mills at 879-8097 or call Judi at the rectory 267-1366. Thank you for your continued support.

Quilt Raffle: PLEASE turn in **ALL** Quilt Raffle Tickets by March 28th. Call Dixie at 879-4894 if you want more tickets before then. The drawing will be April 4, EASTER SUNDAY.

St. Lawrence is in need of one more person or team to clean the church once a month. Your choice of the 2nd or 4th weekend of each month. PLEASE call Judi at 267-1366, leave a message is necessary.

****When Mass is over, kindly place your Breaking Bread missal back in the pew holder. The pages are getting bent and torn.**

St. Lawrence Church Greeters

March 20th K. Ragard
March 21st M & J. Riecke

March 27th F. O'Connor
March 28th D. Maida

Divine Mercy at St. Lawrence:

Sunday, **April 11**, at 2:00 P.M. will be mass followed by refreshments in the Trinity Center.

MINISTRIES—ST. LAWRENCE

Sat. Mar. 20th, 5:00 PM

Sun. Mar. 21st, 9:30 AM

P. MacConnell, A. Stanley (A..S.)
F. O'Connor (Euch. Min.)
C. Tomeo (Lector)

T. & K. Carlsen (Altar Serv.)
L. James (Eucharistic Min.)
I. McCarthy (Lector)

***STEWARDSHIP- ST. LAWRENCE**

Sat./Sun. Mar. 6-7, 2010

Offertory Envelopes	\$1,742.00
Fuel	10.00
Insurance	60.00
Diocesan Assessment	106.00
Maintenance	10.00
Easter Flowers	60.00
Care & Education Priests	288.00
Catholic Social Services	264.00
Total:	\$2,540.00

St. Lawrence Church Needs Lectors and Altar Servers!!!!

PLEASE consider serving your church. Call the rectory as soon as possible!

* PARISH CLUSTER NEWS

Days of Abstinence: (All Fridays in Lent)
All who have reached their 14th year are bound to abstain totally from meat. Good Friday is a day of Abstinence and Fasting.



The Eucharistic—we are back to distributing Communion under both species.

Catholic Social Services Collection—second collection this weekend.

Joint Pastoral Council Meeting—Wednesday, March 17th, 7:00pm, St. John.

Implementation Team Meetings—Tuesday, March 16th, 7:00pm in Peckville.

2nd Meeting—Wed., March 24th, 7:00pm, St. Martin's

Joint Parish Lenten Confessions—Tuesday, March 23rd, 7:00pm at St. Lawrence

Don't forget the sign up for our joint pictorial directory begins next weekend. There is a correction in the photography dates. **St. John's will be on Monday, May 3rd, Tuesday, May 4th, & Wed., May 5th. St. Martin's will be on Thursday, June 3rd, Friday, June 4th and Saturday, June 5th. St. Lawrence, Mon. April 26, Tues., April 27th, and Wed., April 28th.**

Joint Living Way of the Cross - Monday, March 29th, 7:00pm at St. John's. Practice on Mondays at 6:00pm. We are in need of your help. If you are in 5th grade to adult and would like to be in this great event, come to the practice on Monday. For more information call Vickie Mulligan at 278-3286.

St. Martin Pierogi Sale— March 21, and March 27. If you are interested in ordering our potato and cheese pierogies, call Boyd Manzer at 756-3047 or return the form insert in today's bulletin. Cost is \$5.00 per dozen.

Joint Youth Group— Any teen interested in forming a Youth Group for the cluster needs to contact Chris Lake at 756-2887. We are planning a meeting for **Sunday, March 21 at 6 PM**, if there is interest among our teens. Please call before **Wednesday, March 17**.

Publicity for the Parishes—please contact **Christopher Lake** for any *publicity* for the Parishes' Organizations at 756-2887.

All the faithful of the Diocese are invited to attend the **Chrism Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, on Tuesday, March 30, 2010 at 4:00pm.** At this Mass priests throughout the Diocese will renew their priestly promises before Cardinal Justin Rigali, Apostolic Admin. Of the Diocese, and the oils to be used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the sick & Holy Orders will be blessed. Participation in the Chrism Mass is a beautiful way to pray for & support the priests of the Diocese.

Food Bank Collections—The following are the suggested weeks for donated items:

- Mar. 8-14 Spaghetti O's, Ravioli
- Mar. 15-21 Cereal, Juice
- Mar. 22-29 Mac & cheese, Soup

Knights of Columbus Council 356, Great Bend, is having a **Spaghetti Dinner**, Saturday, March 13th, 4—7 PM, \$7.00 per person, \$3.00 ages 6-13, under 5 yrs free. Takeouts available. All are Welcome.

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
Michael Banning (Fancher)	Paul Dreater
Travis McArthur	Christopher Serra
Nicholas Ott	

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

PARISHES' CALENDAR

Sat.	3/13	Knights of Columbus Spaghetti Supper, 4-7pm
Sat/Sun	3/13-14	St. Martin's Pierogi Sale after the Masses
Tues.	3/16	Implementation Team meeting, 7:00pm, Peckville, PA
Wed.	3/17	Joint Pastoral Council Meeting, 7:00pm, St. John's
Thurs.	3/18	St. Martin's Charismatic Mass, 7:00pm
Sat/Sun	3/20-21	St. Martin's Pierogi Sale after the Masses
Sun.	3/21	Cluster Youth Group Meeting, 6:00pm .
Tues.	3/23	Joint Parish Lenten Confessions at St. Lawrence, 7:00pm
Wed.	3/24	Implementation Team Meeting, 7:00pm, St. Martin's.
Sat/Sun	3/27-28	St. Martin's Pierogi Sale after the Masses
Sun.	3/28	Palm Sunday
Mon.	3/29	Living Way of the Cross presentation, 7:00pm, St. John's
Tues.	3/30	Chrism Mass, St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, 4:00pm
Thurs.	4/1	Holy Thursday Mass, 7:00pm at each Church
Fri.	4/2	Good Friday Services: St. John at 2:00pm, St. Lawrence & St. Martin at 7:00pm
Sat.	4/3	Blessing Easter Baskets: 10:00am at St. Martin; 11:00am at St. John; 2:00pm at St. Lawrence St. John Easter Egg Hunt at 12 Noon, parish hall Easter Vigil Masses, 8:00pm at all Churches
Sun.	4/4	Easter Sunday Masses, regular Sunday schedule at all Churches



*Happy St. Patrick Day
Wednesday, March 17th*

Mass Intentions: You can honor a deceased relative or friend by remembering them with a Mass intention. Please call the rectory if you would like to have a Mass said for someone. The cost is \$10.00 per Mass.

Last Will and Testament—Our parishes are very important to us all. Please consider remembering your parish in your will.