

**The Holy Family  
of Jesus, Mary, and  
Joseph  
December 30, 2018**

Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.



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

Joint Parish Office located at:

15 E. Church St., Susquehanna, Pa. 18847

Phone Number 570-853-4634 Office Email: jointoffice3@gmail.com

Fax: 570-853-3356. [www.saintslawrencemartinjohn.com](http://www.saintslawrencemartinjohn.com)

**JOINT Website: [www.saintslawrencemartinjohn.com](http://www.saintslawrencemartinjohn.com)**

**Emergency Phone Number at St. Lawrence Rectory: 570-267-1366 or Fr. Dave at 570-604-0819**

**BAPTISM:** The Church, as a norm, celebrates baptism on Sunday, the Lord's Day. Please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** We always welcome new members to our parishes. Registration is important so that we may serve your spiritual needs. Call the office to register. You must be registered to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage or be granted letters of eligibility for sponsoring a Baptism or Confirmation.

**MARRIAGE:** Couples contemplating marriage should contact the parish office at least six months before the anticipated date. This allows for proper preparation for this sacrament of commitment.

**PENANCE:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday at St. John's after Mass, St. Lawrence at 4:15PM, and at 3:15 to 3:45PM at St. Martin's. Individual Confessions can also be arranged at another time by calling the parish office for an appointment.

**HOSPITALS/NURSING HOMES AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Please notify the parish office of anyone in the hospital, nursing home or seriously ill anticipating an operation or advanced in age. Members of the parish are available to bring communion to the sick and the homebound each Sunday.

**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 stipend is \$10.00 per Mass.

**CHURCH NEWS DEADLINE:** Information for our weekly bulletin, inserts, and church announcements should be submitted to the parish office by **TUESDAY 11:00 AM**. If you or your organization has an announcement or prayer request to be read by the lector at mass, please have it to the parish office by our Tuesday deadline as well.

Like us on Facebook: @stlawrencemartinjohn check it out and don't forget to "Like & Share"

**Joint Mission Statement**

We, the Roman Catholic Parishes of St. John the Evangelist, St. Lawrence and St. Martin of Tours, are committed to enriching our faith in Jesus Christ and our Catholic heritage through prayer, the celebration of the Sacraments, and devotion to the Eucharist. We joyfully proclaim the Gospel to all through word and deed and encourage our faith community to share God's gifts by serving others in works of hospitality and love.

Rev. David Cramer, Pastor  
Deacon Ron Maida  
Mrs. Vickie Mulligan, Pastoral Associate/ DRE  
Mrs. Judi Salinkas, Secretary

**Bible Study:** Is off for the winter months. We will start up in April.

**Divine Mercy Service** Wednesday's at 3PM at St. Lawrence Church.

**Email Prayer Chain**, please send us your email! This prayer chain is not replacing the phone chain, it's just getting the prayers said to more people! jointoffice3@gmail.com

**Eucharistic Devotions:** Are held at St. John's on Sunday's at 2:30PM. All are welcomed.

**Grief Support Group:** Call the parish office for more information.

**Holy Hour:** Will be held after the Thursday morning Mass at St. Martin's. The hour will include the Mass and 30 minutes of private adoration. At 8:45 the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be recited.

**Nigerian Mission Collection:** Will take place on the 3rd weekend of each month.

**Novena at St. Lawrence:** Every Monday evening at St. Lawrence there will be a Novena and Adoration after the 7:00PM Mass.

**Patriotic Rosary** is said at St. John's Chapel every Thursday at Noon. All welcome to join us.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** If you know of anyone who is in need of one of these special lap shawls/quilts please call Toni Romanofski @ 853-4715 (St. John's), RoseMary Cosentino @ 756-2557 (St. Martin's) and Cheryl Tomeo: @ 879-4364 (St. Lawrence) or call the parish office at 853-4634. **Next meeting is March 7, 2019**. We have given out over **250** quilts/shawls. We make these for our joint baptisms as well! Quilters and knitters always needed.

**Pro-Life Ministry:** Call parish office for more information.

**Special Novena:** On Thursday mornings at the 8:00 AM Mass at St. Martin of Tours there is a special novena after Mass to St. Peregrine, patron saint of cancer victims and those suffering from serious illness. There is a prayer box by St. Peregrine's statue where you can enter the name of a suffering loved one or yourself to be remembered. The box is emptied January 1st and July 1st. You are welcome to reenter names for those still suffering. Anyone in need of the Sacrament of anointing can receive the anointing that evening by calling the rectory at 570 853-4634.

**THE GREATEST NEED**

The world's greatest need is not more Christians but more Christians who practice their Christianity.

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

## Food Bank Collections (Susq. Food Pantry)

Items may be left in the vestibule. All monetary gifts may be placed in an envelope marked "FOOD BANK" (cash only) and dropped in the collection. Canned veggies, soup & cereal.

We are still collecting rosaries for our troops. Please place them in the back of church.

**Need a lift to Church?** St. John's has a transportation Committee to help out parishioners who need a ride to church. Call JoAnn Barnes at 570-647-0833.

The **SANCTUARY LIGHT** burns for our 3 parishes becoming one.



## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

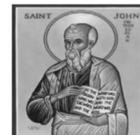
Today's feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom. In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life's journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind!



**Blood Drive: Wednesday, January 2nd, 2019 at St. John's hall 12:30-5:30PM.**

15 E. Church St.  
Susquehanna, PA 18847



## Stewardship—St. John's

December 15th & 16th 2018

Offering: \$ 2,136.00 Loose: 103.00 Imm. Conception: 10.00  
Christmas: 25.00 Flowers: 20.00 Fuel: 100.00 Ret. For Rel: 15.00 **Total: \$ 2,517.00.** Nigerian Mission: \$ 108.00



**IMPORTANT: Online Giving is NO longer available.**

**As of January 1st, 2019 all checks are made payable to Most Holy Parish**

## Ministries—St. John

**Saturday, Dec. 29th, 2018 5:30PM**

J. Burke (Servers)  
B. Stone (Lector) (EM) C. Walker, M. Snyder, L. Stone

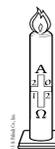
**Sunday, Dec. 30th, 2018 8:30PM**

M. Matis, L. Hilling (Servers)  
M. Cook (Lector) (EM) B. Cook, L. Norris, S. Decker

**JOINT FACEBOOKPAGE: @stlawrencemartinjohn**  
check it out and don't forget to "Like & Share"

The Susquehanna Community Chorus needs you! Do you like to sing? Do you live in the community or close by? Have you ever wanted to make friends who share the same interest? If you answered yes to these questions, this Chorus is for you. Accompanied by Jeffrey Keyes and directed by Brenda Tiffany, this Chorus will sing a wide variety of Choral works. Practices will begin on Thursday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's Church. The concert will be held on Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 p.m. at the Susquehanna Community High School auditorium. We are very excited to have this group and fill the community with music. However, the existence of the chorus depends on YOU! We need at least 25 singers in order to have a concert. If we do not have enough people, we will not be able to have a concert. Anyone wishing to sing must contact Jeffrey Keyes or Brenda Tiffany via phone or text. You have until the first practice to commit to this group. Join us! You'll be glad you did!

*Remember in your prayers  
Mary Baglino Weaver  
who passed away last week.*



**"Individual commitment to a group effort-- that is what makes a team work, a company work, a church work, a society work, a civilization work." ..**

# ST. LAWRENCE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

380 FRANKLIN STREET GREAT BEND, PA. 18821



We at St. Lawrence ask you to PLEASE pray for those who have been placed on our prayer chain:

*Jerry Stahl, Lorraine Smith, Karen Hartt, Cathy Johnson, Barry Corrigan Jr. J. Gill, Kathy Roe, Cheryl Butchta, Jim Malonis, John Vasina, Eddie Reddon, Nancy Rychlewski & Carla Larson.*

*\*\* when adding a person to the prayer list, **PLEASE** let us know when we should remove their name.*

**Food Pantry:** You can leave non perishable food items in the cry room for the Great Bend Food Pantry. All items are needed and greatly appreciated.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Is *not* scheduled for the winter months. We will resume in April.

**Divine Mercy** Wednesday's at 3:00PM at St. Lawrence Church during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The service will include hymns, prayers from St. Faustina's diary. Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, as well as Veneration of the relic of St. Faustina. Please join us.

## Meals on Wheels Drivers Needed

B/S/S/T Area Agency on Aging, Inc. delivers hot, nutritious meals out of the Lanesboro Senior Center five days a week, Monday through Friday. A volunteer can choose as little as one day or all five days to deliver meals to those in the community. Delivery hours are usually between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Volunteer drivers are reimbursed \$.50 per mile and training is provided. B/S/S/T Area Agency on Aging, Inc. humbly asks that you consider serving your community by becoming a volunteer Meals on Wheels driver. For more information or to become a volunteer, please call Kelly Allen at 1-800-634-3746.

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS, LECTORS & ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Have you ever thought about becoming a Eucharistic Minister, Lector or Altar Server?? Now is the time to act! It remains clear that there is a growing need for participants in these ministries. Criteria towards becoming an EM is to be 18 yrs of age and taking a training class before starting. Prayerfully consider serving! If you would like to take part in ANY of the special ministries, call the parish office to be put onto the upcoming training session schedule. 570-853-4634.

## Stewardship- St. Lawrence

Dec. 15th & 16th, 2018

Offering Env: 1,355.00 Loose: 790.00 Care & Edu: 10.00 Maint:28.00 Christmas: 20.00 Xmas Flowers: 30.00 Fuel: 178.00 Holy Day: 352.00 Ret. For Rel:22.00. **Total: \$ 2,678.00.**  
Nigerian Mission: \$ 245.00

**As of January 1, 2019, all checks are to be made payable to Most Holy Parish**

Online Giving is no longer available to our parishes.

## MINISTERIES-ST. LAWRENCE

*"A Disciple's Response of Time and Talent"*

**Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018 5:00PM**

F. O' Connor (lector) S. O'Connor (EM)

**Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018 8:00AM**

K. Mead (lector) D. Horn, B. McGuire (EM)

**Greeters: 12/29:** I. McCarthy **12/30:** R. Parkinson.



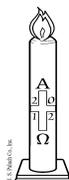
The **SANCTUARY LIGHT** burns for our 3 parishes becoming one.

## God Is Eternal Children, it is the last hour. 1 John 2:18

This passage feels so appropriate for new year's Eve! At the close of the year, let us remember that our time is short. The end is always near. We have only so long to fulfill our calling on this earth and to live as disciples of Christ.

Yet our God is not a God of endings. The dawn of a new year is also an opportunity to show reverence for he who is, who always was and who always will be. Word..."(John 1:1). Even as time marches forward for us, our God is eternal. God is endless love for us and all creation. May the knowledge of God's love humble and embolden us to love and serve the Lord in the new year! *Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.*

**COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.**  
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.  
COUNT YOUR  
**MANY BLESSINGS**  
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.



*Remember in your prayers  
Bernard Kovitch  
who passed away. Bernard is Irene  
McCarthy's brother.*

The Knights of Columbus meetings are still on the first Sunday of the month after the 9:30AM mass.

# ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

State Rts. 92 & 492



## St. Martin of Tours Mission Statement

United with the Holy Father, our Bishop, and our Pastor, we, the parish community of St. Martin of Tours, bring the Word of God alive through our Eucharistic celebrations and Works of Charity.



The **SANCTUARY LIGHT** burns for our 3 parishes becoming one.

The St. Peregrine prayer box: If you have a loved one who remains in need of prayer you are welcome to put your request in the prayer box.

**PLEASE JOIN US:** Each First Saturday Mass at 8:00AM at St. Martin of Tours.

First Saturdays in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary include the following elements, performed with the intention of reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Heart, for at least five consecutive months: Confession (Father will be available) Holy Communion received on the first Saturday of each month; the Holy Rosary, five decades recited sometime during the day; meditating for 15 minutes on the Mysteries of the Rosary.



**IMPORTANT Online Giving Information:**  
Online Giving is **NO** longer available

## *ST. MARTIN OF TOURS CHRISTMAS BASKET RAFFLE*

*\$2.00 PER CHANCE OR 3 FOR \$5.00  
Take a chance today Drawing will be New Year's*

## **HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS**

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents.

## STEWARDSHIP ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

December 15th & 16th, 2018

Offering Env: 493.00 Loose: 91.00 Holy Day: 10.00  
Christmas: 10.00 New Yr: 5.00 Care & Edu: 5.00 Fuel:  
5.00 Flowers: 15.00 Ret. For Rel: 5.00 **Total: \$ 682.00.**  
Nigerian Mission: 43.00

**As of January 1st, 2019 All checks are payable to  
Most Holy Trinity Parish**

JOINT FACEBOOK PAGE: @stlawrencemartinjohn  
check it out and don't forget to "Like & Share"

*Time, Talent & Treasure: Think of giving  
not as a duty but as a privilege.*

## MINISTERIES-ST. MARTIN'S

**Saturday, Dec. 29, 2018 4:00PM**

R. Gilleran (Lector) M. Bier (EM)

**Sunday, Dec. 30, 2018 11:00AM**

G. Whitehead (server) B. Corrigan (Lector) B. Kwader,  
B. Supancik, K. Kempa (EM)

St. Martin of Tours has an **Emergency Prayer Request** team that is ready to pray for the needs of her parishioners. Prayer requests can be made to Annette Corrigan at [corrigan@echoes.net](mailto:corrigan@echoes.net) 570 280-2264 or Betsy Supancik at [grannybets68@yahoo.com](mailto:grannybets68@yahoo.com) 570 756-2586.

**Holy Hour:** will be held after the Thursday morning Mass. The hour will include the Mass and 30 minutes of private adoration. At 8:45 the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be recited.

**Special Novena:** On Thursday mornings at the 8:00 AM Mass at St. Martin of Tours there is a special novena after Mass to St. Peregrine, patron saint of cancer victims and those suffering from serious illness. There is a prayer box by St. Peregrine's statue where you can enter the name of a suffering loved one or yourself to be remembered. The box is emptied January 1st and July 1st. You are welcome to reenter names for those still suffering. The box is emptied, please resubmit your names of loved ones for prayers.

**COUNT YOUR  
BLESSINGS.  
NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.  
COUNT YOUR  
MANY BLESSINGS  
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.**

# PARISH CLUSTER NEWS

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** We are taking our winter break. Next meeting will be held on March 7, 2019. We use Baptism blankets/quilts as well as regular sizes and colors are appreciated. We have given away over 250!

**NEW TIME: Eucharistic Devotions** are held at St. John's on Sunday's at 2:30PM. All are welcomed.

If you cannot serve on your scheduled mass, please do your best to find a substitute. If you are a server, lector or EM, at one of our other two churches, please don't hesitate to help. After all, we are all *One Body of Christ*.

**HELP NEEDED:** St. Martin's is in need of a person to shovel sidewalks this winter. This is for morning and weekend masses. PLEASE call the parish office ASAP is interested.

If you or a loved one are in the hospital *or* you are unable to attend Mass due to advanced age or sickness/disability and would like a home visit, please call the parish office at 853-4634. Fr. Dave is more than happy to pay you a visit!

**THANK YOU** to all who came out to our Turkey Dinner last Friday evening. We served over 100 people and the help was overwhelming! Thanks to everyone for their dedication.

**Philadelphia Flower Show:** Thursday, March 7th 2019. The theme is Flower Power and how flowers affect peoples lives. Contact Dee Shreffler :570-434-3029, Irene McCarthy:570-789-1837 or Maria Cina 607-242-4239.

Our parish office has a grey desk unit ( 60" x 21 1/2 x 29") " for anyone who is willing to just come get it out of our way! Call the office or just stop by. **FREE** Very good condition.



*There will be no mass on  
January 8th, 9th and 10th.*

As of January 1st, 2019 please make **all** checks payable to Most Holy Trinity Parish.

## NO HARSHNESS

Fight all error, but do it with good humor, patience, kindness, and love. Harshness will damage your own soul and spoil the best cause.

|                                      |               |  |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Sat. Dec. 29</b><br>St. Martin's  | 4:00PM        | Robert Klein req. by his son R.J. Klein                                  |
| St. Lawrence                         | 5:00PM        | Cubby Brown req. by Suzanne Brown  |
| St. John's                           | 5:30PM        | Charles Snyder Sr. req. by Mary Snyder                                   |
| <b>Sun. Dec. 30</b><br>St. John's    | 8:30AM        | Rex and Mary Keyes req. by Bob, Gay, Mike and Lenore Keyes               |
| St. Lawrence                         | 9:30AM        | Col. Frank McKetta req. by Barbary McKetta                               |
| St. Martin's                         | 11:00AM       | Poor Souls in Purgatory  |
| <b>Mon. Dec. 31</b><br>St. Lawrence  | 7:00PM        | For our parish community   |
| <b>Tues. Jan. 1</b><br>St. John's    | 8:00AM        | <b>Solemnity of Mary</b><br>Catherine Battisti req. by the Kilmer family |
| St. Martin's                         | 11:00AM       | Monica Klein req. by the Klein family                                    |
| <b>Wed. Jan. 2</b><br>St. Lawrence   | 8:00AM        | Ann McKetta req. by Barbara McKetta                                      |
| <b>Thurs. Jan. 3</b><br>St. Martin's | 8:00AM        | Ray and Mary Behanna req. by Barbara McKetta                             |
| <b>Fri. Jan. 4</b><br>St. John's     | 8:00AM        | David Scales req. by Chris and Millie Herbert                            |
| <b>Sat. Jan. 5</b><br>St. Martin's   | 8:00AM        | Poor Souls in Purgatory  |
| St. Martin's                         | 4:00PM        | Robert Klein req. by is daughter Olivia Klein                            |
| St. Lawrence                         | 5:00PM        | Fr. Tom Crowley req. by Joe Persons                                      |
| St. John's                           | 5:30PM        | Ann Salvato req. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Schell                                 |
| <b>Sun. Jan. 6</b><br>St. John's     | 8:30AM        | Deceased members of the Healey, Fay and Rafferty families                |
| St. Lawrence                         | <b>9:30AM</b> | Thomas Maholick req. by Al and Marcy Maholick                            |
| St. Martin's                         | 11:00AM       | Lillian Jannini req. by Alfred Jannini                                   |

## Confession:

St. John: Saturday's after Mass  
St. Lawrence: Saturday's 4:15-4:45PM  
St. Martin: Saturday's 3:15-3:35PM

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings: Saturday evenings at 7:30PM in St. John's Hall. Call 1-800-640-7545 or TEXT: NEPAIG to # 85100 for more information.