

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

In our readings this Sunday, just as He did when he came in dreams to Samuel, God reveals Himself to us and offers an invitation to follow him. Our response allows God to bless us with His great power and so the kingdom may advance.

Today the voice of God comes to each one of us, inviting us to respond with the words of Samuel: "Speak, for your servant is listening."

When there is no reply, or a "busy" signal, God will come again. God's patience is infinite.

Yours in Christ,

*Father Dave*

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### CANDLE DONATIONS

**BVM** - IMO R.J. Post by Bob & Irene Post

**St. Joseph** - Parishioners of St. John's

**Tabernacle** - IMO Frank & Rose Boris  
by Keith & Margaret Naffin

#### **Sanctuary**

1. IMO Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Doyle by Marie Doyle

2. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Family

3&4. Special Intention

#### **Guardian Angels**

1&2. IMO Raymond Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

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### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday Evening – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning – 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

### **Weekday Mass Schedule (in Chapel)**

Monday thru Friday – 9:00 a.m.

### **Cemetery Information**

John Consugar 622-2389

George Smith 544-3294

### **C.C.D.**

All children preparing to receive any sacrament must be in a Religious Education Program for two consecutive years immediately prior to receiving a Sacrament. The child must also be a practicing Catholic.

### **Certificates of Eligibility**

Certificates to act as sponsors, Godparents, etc. will only be issued to parishioners who are formally registered with the church and attend Mass on a regular basis.

### **New Parishioners**

Please call the Rectory for an appointment to register.

**Bulletin Deadline** – Tuesday prior to publication

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday – January 15 – 9:00 a.m.**

JEAN SMITH (Harold, Cindy, Scott Seltzer)

**Tuesday, January 16 – 9:00 a.m.**

JOSEPHINE CAVANAUGH (Hahner Family)

**Wednesday, January 17 – 9:00 a.m.**

HENRY UCKELE (Missy & Amy Scheetz)

**Thursday, January 18 – 9:00 a.m.**

FRANK HOCK

**Friday, January 19 – 9:00 a.m.**

LUCILLE SPOTTS (Barbara Kasper)

**Saturday, January 20 – 5 p.m.**

MATT & MARK NORKUS (Al & Kathleen Norkus)

**Sunday – January 21 – 8:15 a.m.**

WILLIAM ELISON (Dr. Kenneth & Michelle Boyle)

**Sunday – January 21 – 10:30 a.m.**

JOHN J. MINCHHOFF FAMILY (Margaret Pauly)

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### PRAY FOR OUR SICK / DECEASED



We remember in prayer those who are ill. We commend to our Divine Lord all of our aged people and those residing in nursing homes.

**Sick:** *Mary Connell, Jerry Schoenauer, Dorothy Blum, Carl Forster, Dorothy Prokop, Beth Resnick, Doug Broughton, Mackenzie Miller, Fred Montag, Viola Drenzo, Wayne Herring.*

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### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday afternoon – 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.

Sunday – 7:45 to 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 to 10:15 a.m.

or by appointment

### **Sacrament of Marriage**

Please call the Rectory one year in advance.

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

First Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.

Second Sunday during 10:30 a.m. Mass  
Baptismal Preparation for Parents **MUST**  
precede the Baptism.

Please contact Father Dave for an appointment.

### **Outreach Program**

Rectory 622-5470

### **Sick Calls**

Please notify the parish office

### **Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator**

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC

Confidential Phone (800) 791-9209

### **Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator**

Sr. Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT

(610) 332-0442 ext. 19

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus asked "What are you looking for?"

How would you answer?

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## Next Week's Readings

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** (January 20/21)

**Reading I:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10

**Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

**Gospel:** Mark 1:14-20

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## **CONFIRMATION PRAYER SPONSORS**

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for one or more candidates. Papers containing the names of the candidates are located at the church exits. Please take one and during this time of preparation, please pray for that person in a special way and write notes of encouragement. Our parish will be doubly blessed!



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## SCHEDULE

**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**5:00 p.m. – Saturday – January 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Reader:** Ray Petrilla

**Euch.Min.:** Robert Wollyung, Joe Rehnert

**Servers:** Vincent & Michael Prestileo, Patrick Ryan

**Cantor:** Lucilla Kochol

**8:15 a.m. – Sunday – January 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Reader:** Bob Bechtel

**Euch.Min.:** Jeff Naffin, John Corbacio

**Servers:** Ryan & Emma Seiger, Allegra Hossler

**Cantor:** Tina Seiger

**10:30 a.m. – Sunday – January 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Reader:** Janet Daubert

**Euch.Min.:** Joyce Gerace, Phil Markovich

**Servers:** Victoria Wagner, Caroline Hobbs, Macie Rushannon

**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

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## **DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS**

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** – Are you worn out from the holidays? Why not give yourselves a get-away weekend! Meals prepared! Time away from it all! A chance to talk to and listen to that special someone who loves you! For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org).

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## **WEEKLY COLLECTION**

January 6/7: \$ 4,429.10; Christmas: \$ 21,041.00

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.*

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## **LENTEN DINNERS**

### **ATTENTION / ATTENTION**

### **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED**

We are in desperate need of someone to oversee and coordinate our Lenten Dinners. We are fortunate to have a wonderful Food Committee who will help in all areas. Our Lenten dinners have always been a huge success in the past and we want to continue providing the parish and community with the delicious dinners during the Lenten season.

**If interested, please call Father Dave no later than January 29<sup>th</sup>.**

If there is no response, we have no choice but to cancel the Lenten Dinners.

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## **SIGN OF PEACE SUSPENSION**

In light of the heightened cases of influenza/pneumonia being reported in our five-county area and the change in the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Influenza Status from "sporadic" to "widespread," Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert directs that the Exchange of the Sign of Peace and the Reception of Holy Communion from the Chalice be suspended. This suspension will be in effect until further notice is given when the incidence of influenza/pneumonia subsides in our region.



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## **BAPTISMAL PREPARATION**



Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. It is preferable that this be done **before** your baby is born. Please call Father Dave to arrange for this important preparation.

**Baptisms are celebrated the First Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.; Second Sunday during 10:30 a.m. Mass.**

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*Trust in the Lord forever,  
for in the Lord God you have an everlasting tock.  
... Is. 26:4*

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## **FAMILY GUILD GIFT CARD CALENDAR**

The Family Guild will be sponsoring the Gift Card Calendar Raffle for **March 2018**. The members of the Guild would like to extend the opportunity to all



parishioners to sponsor any type of **Gift Card** or make a monetary donation to purchase a gift card. If you are interested, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

**Those who have donated to date:**

**BeeHive**  
**Charlie's Pizza & Subs**  
**Dr. Tom & Kay Boran**  
**DiCello Chiropractic**  
**Eastern Press**  
**Brian & Sue Eckley**  
**Friend of St. John's**  
**Dr. Richard A. Greco**  
**Jim & Lori Guzik**  
**Bob & Susan Hahner**  
**HeadQuarter's Styling Salon**  
**Heaven & Earth Salon**  
**Tony & Lucilla Kochol**  
**Victor E. Muncy Inc.**  
**Nativity BVM High School**  
**Bob & Mary Porter**  
**Ed & Carole Quirin**  
**Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating, Inc.**  
**Schlitz Allen Pugh Funeral Home**  
**St. John's CYO Program**  
**Joanne Wood & Jackie Szeliga**  
**Z & M Painting & Papering**

**GIVING TREE THANK YOU**

**From Care Net** ....The staff, clients, and families of Care Net of Schuylkill County would like to thank St. John the Baptist Parish Family for the generous Christmas gifts. Many new mothers and fathers were celebrating their first Christmas with their child, and many stated that your gifts were some of the only they would receive. Your generosity and kindness has helped so many in our community. Here is a note from a client and her six-month-old daughter: *"You all are such wonderful people and we appreciate how much you have helped us - and continue to."* Thank you again for opening your hearts to those in need this Christmas season, and God bless you!

**From the Cloud Home** ... Thank you for all you do. The boys had a great Christmas!

**NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL ...**

**POSITION AVAILABLE** ... accepting applications for a **Head Track & Field Coach**. Head Coaching experience preferred for Track & Field. Interested candidates should send résumé, certifications and all clearances to:

**Nativity BVM High School**  
**Attn: Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal**  
**One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901**  
**[lsabol@nativitybvm.net](mailto:lsabol@nativitybvm.net)**

**SURF & TURF BINGO** ... sponsored by Nativity Green & Gold Booster Club on **Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**. Doors

open 11:30; Bingo begins 1 p.m. Refreshments available. Questions call 570-294-0551.

**OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION** ... on **Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**. School tours, presentations and displays begin at 1 p.m. No pre-registration required. All are welcome! For more information and questions, please call 622-8110 or [jldaubert@nativitynbm.net](mailto:jldaubert@nativitynbm.net).

**ST. JOSEPH CENTER ...**

**POSITION AVAILABLE** ... St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is seeking a full-time **Secretary/Office Manager**. A year-round position including benefits. Applicant must have strong interpersonal skills, proficiency in word processing, spreadsheet and database software and organizational skills. Must be sensitive to individuals with disabilities. Minimum of Associate degree **or** comparable experience required. If contacted for an interview, applicant must be able to provide the following three (3) clearances: Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check (PATCH), Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Certificate, Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Fingerprint Check. Please email [altssjc@ptd.net](mailto:altssjc@ptd.net) or come to the school (2075 West Norwegian Street, Pottsville) to provide your résumé and request an application.

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

Assumption BVM School is looking for your help in collecting "Box Tops." Many of the products you already have in your home, has a BOX TOP on it. All you need to do is clip them out and place them in the drop-off box in the rear of the church. With each box top collected our school earns cash to update needed materials. We are no longer collecting "Campbell Soup" labels.

**FLOWER DONATIONS**

If anyone wishes to memorialize flowers in the sanctuary for the weekend Masses for a living or deceased intention, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

**CARENET OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY**

A pregnancy decision can create feelings of confusion and uncertainty. Care Net of Schuylkill County is here, ready to help, empowering the women, men, and families of our community through life-affirming education and compassionate care. We are a pro-life, non-profit crisis pregnancy center located in Pottsville. We rely 100% on funding from churches and community donors like you. Each year, we celebrate **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** (January 21st, 2018) by distributing baby bottles in our churches. These baby bottles are to be taken home by YOU, filled with spare change, and returned to the same bin in the back of St. John's by February 25, 2018. 100% of your change will help families right here in our community. Please take a

baby bottle home today. It can be filled with change, cash, and checks. If you have any questions, please contact **Sarah DeArment at (570) 617-8418**.

Thank you!

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

We appreciate advertisers who support St. John's by advertising in our bulletin. Please patronize their business and let them know you saw their ad in our bulletin.

**Christy Joy CPA, CFE**  
 Tax Preparation, Attest,  
 Fraud Investigation  
**(570) 490-2814**  
 christyjoycpa@gmail.com

**Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?**

- \* It's inexpensive Advertising
- \* It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
- \* It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Own Neighborhood
- \* It Develops Good Community Relationships
- \* It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

**2017 CONTRIBUTION RECORD**

You can request a copy of your 2016 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.

**MOVING ? RELOCATING ? LET US KNOW!**

Have you moved, changed your phone or email address? If so, would you please contact the Rectory Office at 622-5470 ext. 3. Help us update records!



**UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS**

**January**

- 15 CYO Board Mtg. – 5:45 p.m. – L.H.
- 17 Cemetery Committee Mtg. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 21 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 23 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 30 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

**February**

- 3/4 Blessing of Throats after Masses
- 6 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 11 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 13 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 14 Ash Wednesday – Masses 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
- 14 St. John's Beneficial Society – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 15 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 17/18 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 20 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 20 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 21 Catholic Women's Union – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 22 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church

- 25 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 27 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 27 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 28 First Eucharist Parent Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.

- \*\* L.H. – Longinus Hall
- \*\* F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room
- \*\* R.B. – Russell Building

**BULLETIN BOOSTERS**

**January 2018**

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| IMO Carl Bartholomew   | M/M James Loeper          |
| IMO Harold Bartholomew | IMO Charles Lorenz        |
| IMO Robert Berger      | IMO Felix & Agnes Narog   |
| IMO Edward Christ      | IMO Carol Nygren          |
| Millie Fredericks      | Dorothy Parsick           |
| Fr. Don Henry          | IMO Jeanne Rehnert        |
| IMO M/M Herbert Henry  | IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert |
| Joanne Hepler          | IMO Dorothy Rosenberger   |
| IMO Clare Houser       | Marcie Schnerring         |
| IMO Francis King       | IMO Margaret Zelinsky     |
- Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program

**What is a Bulletin Booster??** Some of our newer parishioners have asked what it means to be a Bulletin Booster. We have a wonderful bulletin – it is timely and keeps us informed of what is going on within our parish family and its surroundings. Paper and supplies are needed on a weekly basis to continue this family tradition. So, if you'd like to donate toward the supplies. **\$1.00 and up ... you too can be a ... Bulletin Booster**

**NEIGHBORING EVENTS**

**MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE:** April 4<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> to Krk Island, Croatia and Medjugorje, BosniaHerzegovina, the sight of the reported apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to six visionaries since June, 1981. Total cost is \$2999. Deposit of \$500 required with full payment due by February 1, 2018. For more information and itinerary, contact Susan Fletcher at: 570-875-8936 or susan.marie.fletcher@gmail.com.

**BASKETBALL FREE THROW COMPETITION:** ... sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Pottsville and St. Clair on **Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.** at Nativity High School. Registration begins at 4 p.m. Boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 are eligible to participate. Participants must be residents within the Blue Mountain, Minersville, Pine Grove, Pottsville, Saint Clair or Schuylkill Haven School Districts.

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation and other prizes. For further information call Free Throw Coordinator Tom Kurtek at 570-617-1714, or call 570-628-3333 and leave a message. Winners will move on to regional and state-wide competition."

## FAMILY MATTERS

**For Those Struggling to Find God in Their Families –** God is in the ordinary events of our family life. All we need to do is look. We ask that the Spirit of God enlighten our families to see His presence in our loved ones and in the quiet or tumultuous moments of family life.

*You pray for my family and I'll pray for yours.*

**FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ...** If you have asthma, a vitamin D supplement, taken along with standard medication, may help prevent attacks, according to a new Cochrane review, which looked at nine clinical trials involving children or adults, most with mild to moderate disease. It found not only that people who took the supplements had fewer asthma attacks than those taking a placebo, but also that they were one-third less likely to have an attack requiring steroid medication, and two-thirds less likely to have an attack requiring a trip to the hospital. However, vitamin D was not associated with improved lung function or day-to-day symptoms. It's not known what dose is optimal (dosage ranged from 400 to 4,000 IU a day, or 60,000 IU a month, in the studies) nor how baseline vitamin D status affected the results. Moreover, the benefits were seen mainly in adults, so more research is needed, particularly involving children with arthritis.

*But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased. ... Ps. 115:3*

## WELCOME VISITORS

**Thank you for worshiping with us today.**

**If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!**

**If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.**

## FOOD COLLECTION for Pantry

Thank you for doing the small things, like feeding your neighbors, with great love. God bless.

### Items Needed:

Stuffing Mix	Canned Fruit
Broth	Macaroni & Cheese
Coffee/Tea (instant)	Hot Chocolate
Hot Cereal packages	Apple Sauce
Cereal – boxed	Vegetable - Canned
Beef Stew	Spaghetti
Soups	Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Canned Gravy	Canned Sweet Potatoes

### PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS

**Please Do Not donate any nutritional drinks (Ensure, etc.)**

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

## ROSARY REPAIR

Parishioner, **Paul Gombola**, repairs rosaries on a case by case basis and each situation offers its own unique challenges. A damaged rosary can be dropped off at the Rectory or at Paul's home. If you have all the parts, a very simple repair is usually **FREE**. When the repair is more complex and requires additional parts or rewiring, this can be accomplished with minimum cost for \$5 or \$10. In extreme cases where parts need to be ordered the repair cost can be \$20 or over. Feel free to call Paul and discuss your problem over the phone. If your rosary is missing a piece of chain, a crucifix, centerpiece or several beads, Paul has several on hand and will attempt to match them as closely as possible. This service is provided **FREE**. Paul can be contacted at 1535 W. Norwegian St. here in Pottsville or by calling **622-4162**.



*This is why you must know, and fix in your heart, that the Lord is God in the heavens above and on earth below, and that there is no other.*

*... Deuteronomy 4:39*