

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

*Established in 1841*

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts. • Pottsville, Pa. 17901

[www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time • January 17, 2021

**Pastor** ..... *Rev. David J. Loeper*  
**Deacons** ... *Luis R. Visot and Lawrence Lonergan*

**Pastoral Assistant** ..... *Bobby Rienzo*  
**Parish Council President**..... *Robert Bechtel*  
**Choir Director/Organist**..... *David Derbes*  
**CCD Coordinator** ..... *Lucilla Kochol*

**Rectory** ..... (570) 622-5470  
**E-mail** ..... [stjbparish@comcast.net](mailto:stjbparish@comcast.net)  
**Nativity BVM High School** ..... (570) 622-8110  
**Rectory Fax** ..... (570) 622-4589  
**Assumption BVM Elementary** .... (570) 622-0106  
**Russell Building**..... (570) 628-3002  
**St. Joseph Center** ..... (570) 622-4638

**Cemetery Information**..... (570) 622-5470

#### **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.

#### **Bulletin Deadline**

Tuesday prior to publication

#### **New Parishioners**

Please call the rectory for an appointment to register.

#### **Sick Calls**

Please notify the parish office.

#### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays..... 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.  
Sundays 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 .....11:30 a.m.  
Second Sunday ..... at 10:30 a.m. Mass  
Baptismal Preparation for parents must precede the Baptism. Please contact Father Dave for an appointment.

**Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting** 800-276-1562

#### **Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator**

Wendy S. Krisak, N.C.C., L.P.C. .... 800-791-9209

#### **Office of Safe Environment**

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.  
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services

P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538

610-871-5200 ext. 2204

[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" – which is translated Peter.

Jn 1:42



## Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 18

9:00 a.m. Joseph Ballat  
(Ed & Mary Hauck)

### Tuesday, January 19

9:00 a.m. Michael Harig  
(Family)

### Wednesday, January 20

9:00 a.m. Frank Hock

### Thursday, January 21

9:00 a.m. Patrick Murphy  
(Vicki & Rich Robbins)

### Friday, January 22

9:00 a.m. Philomena Loeper  
(Pat Klassen)

### Saturday, January 23

5:00 p.m. Christopher Figueiredo  
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

### Sunday, January 24

8:15 a.m. Joseph Ferraro  
(John & Joyce Gerace)

### Sunday, January 24

10:30 a.m. Mary Steffan  
(Steffan Family)

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

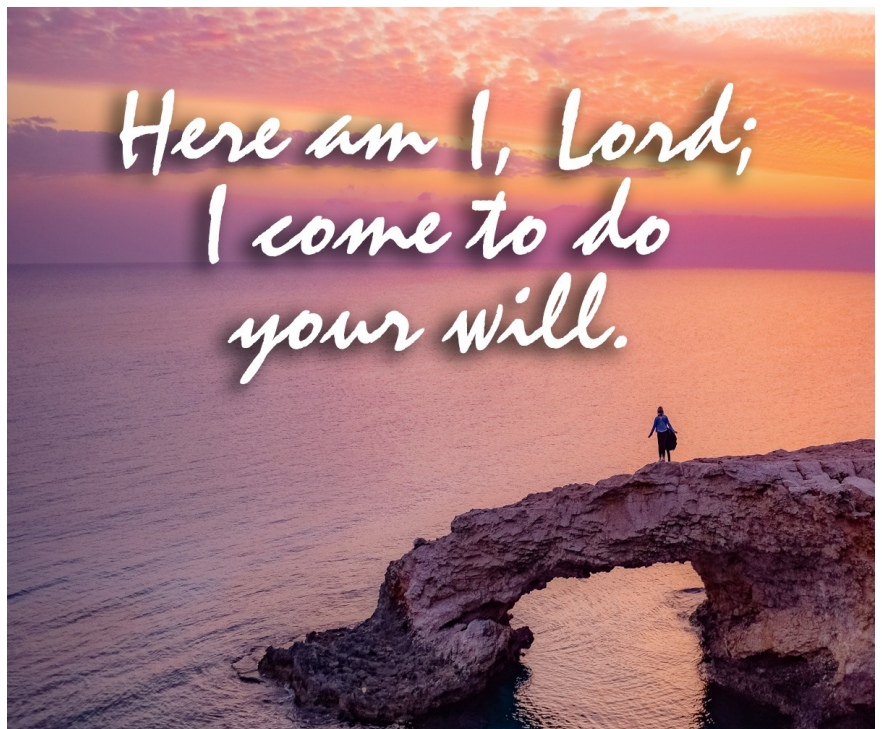
In this Sunday's first reading and gospel, we hear how God calls his people to serve. In the first reading from the first book of Samuel, the Lord keeps calling Samuel who does not answer him until Eli advises him how to respond to the next time he hears the Lord. The youth Samuel hears God's voice but doesn't recognize him as being God. God keeps calling and with Eli's help Samuel is finally able to hear God's word.

In this Sunday's gospel John the Baptist sees Jesus and declares him to be the Lamb of God. Andrew, the first called disciple, leaves John to follow Jesus and brings his brother Simon Peter.

We often come to serve the Lord through the invitation of others. We can offer that same invitation to those who have not yet heard God's message.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Father Dave*



## Next Week's Readings

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(January 23/24)

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

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

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

## Pray

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

For Our Sick • *Helen Hufnagle*  
For Our Deceased • *David Musket*



## Upcoming Events

### January

18	7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour/Adoration and Confession.....	Church
31	9:00 a.m.	CCD Classes .....	School
31	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.

### February

5	9:30 a.m.	First Friday Adoration .....	Church
11	7:00 p.m.	Christ Life: Sharing Christ series begins .....	L.H.
15	7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour/Adoration and Confession.....	Church
17		Ash Wednesday	

**L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building**

Tues. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group .....Zoom  
Meeting ID: 824-780-6433

Password: Mary

Wed. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Rosary ..... Facebook

Sat. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Rosary ..... Facebook

Facebook Page: St. John The Baptist Catholic Parish Family



## Weekly Collection

**January 9/10 .....\$3,433.00**

**Parish Monthly Dues ..... \$835.00**

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

## 2020 Contribution Card

You can request a copy of your 2020 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday at 622-5470 ext 3.

## Candle Donations

### BVM

1. Health of Tony Gaburick Jr. by Anne & Tony Gaburick Sr.
2. IMO Regina A. Laughlin by Sharon Miller

### St. Joseph

1. IMO Raymond Frank by John & Susan Minnichbach
2. Souls in Purgatory by Robert & Margaret Daniels

### Sanctuary

IMO Pat Mason Sr. by Maria Mason

### Guardian Angels

1. Special Intention by Chris Black
2. Health of Tony Gaburick Jr. by (Anne & Tony Gaburick Sr.)
3. IMO Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler by Frances Mickey
4. Sick of the Parish

**Holy Hour/Adoration and Confessions**  
**Monday, January 18 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
**Come and pray for our country**  
**and for your intentions!**



## Christ Life: Sharing Christ

The third series in our Christ Life parish mission will begin Thursday, February 11 and runs for seven consecutive evenings through Thursday, March 25.

This series is open to those who completed the Following Christ series in the fall. Please call or email the rectory to sign up by Monday, January 25.



## Lent 2021

### CRS Rice Bowl

Rice bowls will be available starting the weekend of January 30/31. We are asking all parishioners to participate in our parish mission to benefit Catholic Relief Services around the world.

### Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 17.

### Friday Fish Dinners

Our Fish Dinners will be take-out only beginning Friday, February 19.

### Sunday Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross with Exposition and Benediction will begin Sunday, February 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.

### Lenten Companion Journal

Similar to Advent, we are offering a Lenten Companion Journal from Ascension for your spiritual enrichment. [Please signup on the sheet in the back of church to reserve a copy by January 24.](#)

The *Ascension Lenten Companion: A Personal Encounter with the Power of the Gospel* is 224 pages long, featuring daily entries, each offering a word, a scripture passage, a short meditation, prayers, original sacred artwork, and a journal prompt.



## HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE

January 28, 2020  
6:30PM  
Cathedral of  
St. Catharine of Siena



## Diocesan Holy Hour for Life

Please join the Diocese of Allentown for a Holy Hour for Life in honor of March for Life event typically held in Washington, DC. The Holy Hour will be a time to pray together for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death; for those who have been wounded by abortion; for those facing death; and for increased holiness in the Church.

The Holy Hour will be held at Saint Catharine of Siena Cathedral in Allentown on January 28, 2020 at 6:30pm and will be live-streamed to the Diocese of Allentown Facebook page, to AD Today, and to the Diocese of Allentown YouTube channel.

## Neighboring Events

### Homemade Soup and Haluski Sale

Church of St. Patrick Parish Center, 319 Mahantongo St., Pottsville  
Saturday, January 30—Noon to 6 p.m. • Sunday, January 31—8 to 11:30 a.m. or sellout  
Soup Choice of: Vegetable, Bean, Potato, or Italian Wedding

### Take Out Stuffed Chicken Breast Dinner

Church of St. Patrick Parish Center, 319 Mahantongo St., Pottsville  
Saturday, February 13—4 to 6 p.m.  
Meal includes: Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Roll/butter  
\$10 per platter • Advance orders only by February 5 at Noon  
Please call Debbie at 570-622-1802, ext. 1



## HERE I AM, LORD

818



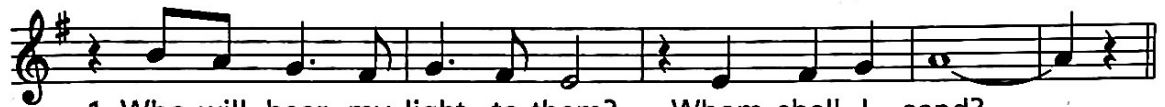
1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



1. All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save. I, who  
 2. I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way. I will  
 3. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Fin-est



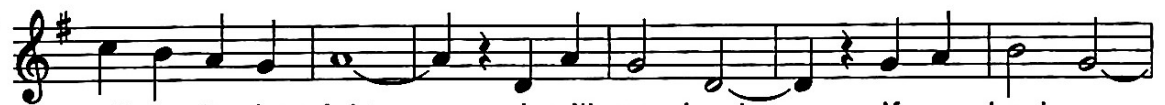
1. made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 2. break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 3. bread I will pro-vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



1. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 2. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 3. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.



I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10



R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

## 673

## BE NOT AFRAID


Verse 1



1. You shall cross the bar-ren des-ert, but you shall not die of



1. thirst. You shall wan-der far in safe-ty though you do not know the



1. way. You shall speak your words in for-eign lands and all will un-der-



1. stand. You shall see the face of God and live. to Refrain

Refrain




Be not a-fraid. I go be-fore you al-ways. Come fol-low




me, and I will give you rest. 1, 2 to Vss 2, 3 Final 2

Verse 2




2. If you pass through rag-ing wa-ters in the sea, you shall not



2. drown. If you walk a-mid the burn-ing flames, you shall not be




2. harmed. If you stand be-fore the pow'r of hell and death is at your



2. side, know that I am with you through it all. to Refrain

Verse 3



3. Bless-ed are your poor, for the king-dom shall be theirs. Blest are you that



3. weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh. And if wick-ed tongues in-sult and



3. hate you all be-cause of me, bless-ed, bless-ed are you! to Refrain



January 17, 2021 | Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 | 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 | Jn 1:35-42

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

**GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE**

Have you ever seen *The Good Place*? While clearly not theologically accurate, it is a thought-provoking Netflix comedy that focuses on four good but flawed characters who meet in the afterlife. I can relate to the character of Chidi, who strives to live a moral life but is crippled by indecisiveness. Do I buy the brown shoes or the black ones? Should I order the salad or the salmon? And I still can't decide on a career! So I'm amazed at John and the disciples in today's Gospel. John immediately recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God. Hearing this, do the disciples ask for a second opinion or draw up a pros and cons list? Nope. They follow him. They recognize the Messiah and act. Their response of faith challenges me to think less and do more, to worry less and pray more. We may not see Jesus in his human form walking by, but we can see his image in others, and hear him through the Scriptures and at Mass. Let us pray for the grace to respond wholeheartedly.

**GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Everyone loves an invitation, though perhaps we've forgotten what those are like during these months of pandemic. Today's readings remind me that, pandemic notwithstanding, we all have a standing invitation from God; it's up to us to respond. When Samuel heard God's voice in the night, he listened. In today's responsorial psalm, we hear, "Here I am Lord; I come to do your will." And the Gospel tells us how the disciples dropped everything to follow Jesus. Through prayer, we, too can listen for God's voice and respond. And, just as Eli realized God was calling Samuel and John encouraged the disciples, we can accompany others. By sharing our experience and inviting others to share the way Jesus has spoken to them, we can encourage one another as we seek to turn our lives over to God.

746

**THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION**



1. The Chur-ch's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
4. Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three-in - One,



1. She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word:
2. Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, "One Lord, one faith, one birth!"
3. She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more,
4. And with the saints, com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



1. From heav'n he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
2. One ho - ly Name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
3. Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
4. O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



1. With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
2. And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
3. And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
4. Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee.