

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

Established in 1841

10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901



The front cover of our bulletin this weekend is a sketch by the late Dr. David Marshall.

Pastor: Rev. David J. Loeper

Deacons: Dr. Luis R. Visot and Larry Lonergan

Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
Russell Building (570) 628-3002
Website – SaintJohnPottsville.org.

Parish Council President: *Robert Bechtel*
Choir Director/Organist: *David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator: *Lucilla Kochol*
E-mail – stjbparrish@comcast.net

Nativity BVM High School (570) 622-8110
Assumption BVM Elementary (570) 622-0106
St. Joseph Center for Special Learning (570) 622-4638

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 19, 2020

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday we celebrated the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. With Jesus being baptized, it's a reminder too of our own baptism. By virtue of our baptism we are called to be servants of the Father's mission.

In today's first reading God reminds Isaiah that Israel is the Lord's servant. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, announces that he has been called an apostle. He too is a servant. And in the gospel of John for this weekend, John announces Jesus as the Lamb of God.

As followers of Jesus we are dually bound to bring the good news of salvation to a world that is in very much need of saving. As disciples of the one true God, we must find our voice and speak his holy truth even when it may be inconvenient or unwanted.

**Yours in Christ,
Father Dave**

WEEKLY COLLECTION

January 11/12: \$ 4,204.25

Dues: \$1,355.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

2019 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

You can request a copy of your 2019 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.

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

St. John's Rectory 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.

New Parishioners

Please call the Rectory for an appointment to register.

Bulletin Deadline – Tuesday prior to publication

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – January 20 – 9:00 a.m.

PATRICK MURPHY (Linda Mandell)

Tuesday, January 21 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY BETH LYNN (Bob & Jeanne Lynn & Family)

Wednesday – January 22 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN HELLER (Babe Murphy)

Thursday – January 23 – 9:00 a.m.

THOMAS LAZUR JR. (Pat & Ron Lombel)

Friday, January 24 – 9:00 a.m.

LORETTA GRUBBS (John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick)

Saturday, January 25 – 5:00 p.m.

ROBERT NORKUS (Dan & Hermine Murphy)

Sunday, January 26 – 8:15 a.m.

JULIAN J. & CHRISTINE CHIPLONIA

(Julian D. Chiplonia)

Sunday, January 26 – 10:30 a.m.

ERNEST ZAMBO (Joe Orłowsky & Family)

Next Week's Readings

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (January 25/26)

Reading I: Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can you testify to Jesus Christ in your words, actions, and decisions this week?

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

Direct Phone (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

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

(610) 332-0442 ext. 2019

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM – Special Intention by Mary Jean Morgalis

St. Joseph -IMO Jacob Viduszynski

by M/M Stan Viduszynski

Tabernacle – Deceased of Bowers Family

by Joan Bowers

Sanctuary

1. IMO Austin Smith by M/M Stan Viduszynski

2. IMO Jack Pavlock by M/M Stan Viduszynski

3. IMO Joseph W. Cook by Susan Cook

4. IMO John E. Cook by Susan Cook

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Debbie & Christine Bowers by Joan Bowers

SCHEDULE

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – January 25th

Reader: Heidi Gorski

Euch.Min.: Bobby Rienzo, Molly Zwiebel

Servers: Stanley & Aleksander Gorski, Reese Ketner

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – January 26th

Reader: Dave Smith

Euch.Min.: George Forney, Brian Forney,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Elly Forney, Samantha Heenan,
Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – January 26th

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder, Debbie Guers,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Justice, Leah, Jude Scheidel

Cantor: Ensemble

MARCH FOR LIFE

Join pro-life America at the **2020 March for Life** to be a voice for the voiceless! It's not too early to start thinking about attending the March for Life in Washington DC. It will be held **Friday January 24th 2020**. Teens are especially encouraged to attend! Bus will leave from St Ambrose. For more information contact Dana Seisler or Heather Smalley or St Ambrose rectory 570-385-1031

FAMILY MATTERS

Being Pro-Life Daily. Every time we promote the dignity of a human being we are pro-life. God, grant us the courage to choose life in our words and our actions. May our families reflect the importance of promoting the goodness of life in the ordinariness of their daily activities.

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

... A NOTE OF THANKS ...

Thank you to everyone
for your Cards, Gifts, and Goodies
during the Christmas Season.

Your kindness and thoughtfulness
is always appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave & Bobby Rienzo

DISCOVERING CHRIST

Join us for this exciting new 7-series where we gather to share a delicious dinner, listen to a dynamic teaching, and explore answers to some of the most important questions worth asking about God and finding ultimate purpose in life.

Wednesday evenings, February 12th to March 25th

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Longinus Hall.

(Dinner and program are offered at no cost.)

For more information or to register,
call the Rectory at 570-622-5470.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER SPONSORS

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Wednesday, April 29, 2020**. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for one or more candidates. Cards containing the names of the candidates are located on the table in back of church. 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!



MEN'S GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

Men's Gospel Reflection Group meeting will take place on **Tuesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Rectory Fellowship Room**. This group is open to any men interested in reflecting on how the Gospel impacts their lives. All are welcome! Please call the rectory with any questions 570-622-5470.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Anthony Weltmer** to St. John's Parish Family. Warmly embrace Anthony into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 360 N. 8th St., Lebanon, Pa. 17046.



**FAMILY GUILD
GIFT CARD CALENDAR**

The **Family Guild** will be sponsoring the **Gift Card Calendar Raffle** for **March 2020**. 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 Salon**
- CACL Financial**
- DiCello Chiropractic**
- Fellows & Smink Dental Assoc.**
- Friends of St. John's**
- Guzick Family**
- William Hauptly Electrical & Plumbing**
- Headquarters Styling Salon**
- Heenan Family**
- Kochol Family**
- Charles & Patricia Miller**
- Bob & Mary Porter**
- Noble & Jule Quandel**
- Carole Quirin**
- Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating Inc.**
- Schlitzer, Allen, Pugh Funeral Home**
- St. Clair Auto Supply**
- Ralph & Joanne Wood**
- Ellen & Jay Zane**

CRASE

(CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS)

Please join us on **Monday, January 27th at 7:00 p.m. in Longinus Hall** for a class titled **Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)**. This class will be taught by parish member and Pottsville Police Chief Richard Wojciechowsky and will be one to two hours in length. **CRASE** was developed by the FBI and provides strategies, guidance, and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, civilian response options, medical issues, and considerations for conducting drills. Parish Council members and ushers are strongly encouraged to attend. All are welcome!

*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth ...
But store up treasures in heaven ...
For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.
Matt. 19:21*

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

January

- 25/26 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 28 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

February

- 3 Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – F.R.
- 4 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 9 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 11 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 12 Discovering Christ – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 12 St. John's Beneficial Soc. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 17 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 18 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 19 Discovering Christ – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 20 First Eucharist Parent Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 22/23 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 23 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 25 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 26 Ash Wednesday – Masses – 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
- 26 Discovering Christ – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 28 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 28 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel

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

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.

**Rosenberger Plumbing
& Heating, Inc.**

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Phone: (570) 622-6541

John & Mike Wollyung, Owners

www.rphservice.com

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ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL

Open House on **Sunday, January 26th** from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Faculty and Staff welcome you to visit, tour and meet our ABVM Family. We welcome visitors and new students to our loving, nurturing and academically excellent school. For more information please call 570-622-0106. All are welcome at ABVM.

ST. PATRICK'S PRE-SCHOOL

Open House on **Sunday, January 26th** from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Accepting registrations for the 2020-2021 school year at this time. We offer 2, 3, and 5 day programs both full and half days. Before and After School Care offered as well. For more info, contact us at 570-622-0106 or saintpatricks.prek@gmail.com. Check out our Facebook page ... Saint Patrick's Pre School @ Assumption BVM.

St. John's ENSEMBLE

The purpose of this ministry is to serve the parish at Mass, singing liturgical hymns, using contemporary instruments like the guitar, keyboard, drums or other instruments, and using contemporary music arrangements.

We invite **ANYONE** in the parish wanting to share his or her voice and musical gifts whether you are a beginner or more experienced. Arrangements are not complicated and songs are familiar. You do not need to know how to read music to join us. We will teach anyone who has a willing heart.

Our goal is to play/sing once a month at one of the weekend Masses. Practices will be one or, at most, twice a month for ONE HOUR, to prepare for music at Mass that week. This is a great way to participate in parish life and have fun with only a small commitment of your time.

Why not give it a try and give back to your parish family by sharing the gifts God has given to you?

If interested call **the Rectory 622-5470**.

Our next practice is: Wednesday, January 22nd

(Will play on **Sunday, January 26th** at 10:30 a.m. Mass)

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Valentine's Day is coming! Do you have a "heart" for romance? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend provides a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one you've decided to spend your life with! For information about call 610-449-1859 or visit www.wwme.org.

*No treasure greater than a healthy body;
no happiness, than a joyful heart!
Sirach 30:16*

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

SOUP & HALUSHKI SALE sponsored by St. Patrick Church on **Saturday, January 25th** from Noon to 6 p.m. and **Sunday, January 26th** from 8 a.m. to sell out at the Parish Center, 319 Mahantongo St.

RED DRESS – RED TIE EVENT Join Lehigh Valley Hospital – Schuylkill Auxiliary for an evening of education, empowerment and fun. Take control of your heart health! Proceeds benefit LVH - Pottsville

When: Friday, February 7th from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

(Snow date is Saturday, February 15th)

Where: St. Nicholas Hall, 855 Sunbury Road, Route 901, Primrose

Cost: \$55 per person in advance; \$60 at the door (dinner includes wine, beer, coffee, soda & tea)

Entertainment : DJ Paul Zaharis/

Keynote Speakers: Ghulam Akbar, M.D.

Orlando E. Rivera, DNP, MBA, RN, RCIS

Please respond by January 24th to Mary Bardel, LVH-Schuylkill, 700 E. Norwegian St., Pottsville 17901.

SPAGHETTI DINNER sponsored by St. Patrick Church on **Sunday, February 9th** from 11:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Parish Center, 319 Mahantongo St. Adults \$8.00; Children \$3.50 ... Eat in or Take out.

OPEN ARMS MINISTRY

If you have good used furniture that you would like to donate, *Open Arms Ministry* is in need for these items for their transitional housing. If you would like more information about this organization, check out their website at www.openarmshelp.org, or email Pastor Vincent Murray at Oathmainoffice@gmail.com.

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 10th Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshipping 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.

WHY DO WE GENUFLECT IN CHURCH?

In medieval Europe, one demonstrated respect for a king or noble by going down on one knee. Building on that tradition, we bend on the right knee to show reverence for Our Lord in the Eucharist when it is on the altar, in the tabernacle, or in the monstrance. (We also genuflect before the cross from Good Friday through the Easter Vigil.)

Note: While the right knee is reserved for Jesus, we genuflect on the left knee before the pope, cardinals, or bishops.

STEWARDSHIP LIBRARY

Stewardship Displays are located at the church exits. There are many items available including CD's, Rosaries, Self-help and Informational Booklets, etc. **New Items include:** Music (lower door); Divine Mercy (main church), in addition to other great CD's or books.



ARE YOU PLANNING A CHANGE ??

If you are making a change in ... **address, parish affiliation, e-mail, or phone number**, please call the Rectory Office. We strive to keep our records

up to date.

MISPLACED YOUR BULLETIN ???

We encourage you to visit our parish website:

<http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org>

for the latest information.

Click the bulletin tab for any information you might have missed.



BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Get your blood pressure checked in Longinus Hall after all Masses next weekend, January 25/26.

PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS AROUND THE WORLD

"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."

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

If you or someone you know has been ill or in the hospital and unable to attend Mass, please call the Rectory and inform Father of your condition. We don't always know if a person has been ill or hospitalized until after the fact! We are willing to visit and or make arrangements for Holy Communion once your condition is known. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and helping us be of service to you.



HEALTH NOTES ... Cholesterol-lowering statin drugs may benefit people over age 75 as much as their younger counterparts, according to a recent analysis of 28 clinical trials, published in the *Lancet*. Because this age group has been under-represented in statin studies for primary prevention (that is, for people who have not had a previous heart attack or stroke), there have been questions about the benefits, but this analysis included more than 14,000 people over 75. It found that statins reduced cardiovascular events similarly for all age groups, by about one-fifth for each 40-point drop in LDL cholesterol. In absolute numbers, the benefit is greater for older people, since cardiovascular risk rises with age. For example, for primary prevention, about 200 people age 63 would have to take a statin for a year to avert one major cardiovascular event, while only about 125 people age 78 would have to be treated, according to the researchers. For people who have had a prior cardiovascular event, the risk reduction would be even greater.

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

January 2020

IMO Carl Bartholomew	M/M James Loeper
IMO Harold Bartholomew	IMO Charles Lorenz
IMO Robert Berger	IMO Felix & Agnes Narog
IMO Edward Christ	Dorothy Parsick
Mildred A. Fredericks	IMO Jeanne Rehnert
Fr. Don Henry	IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
IMO M/M Herbert Henry	IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
IMO Joanne Hepler	IMO Marcie Schnerring
IMO Clare Houser	IMO Stephen Sitkus
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**