

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

www.saintjohnpottsville.org

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
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 Service..... 800-276-1562

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. 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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time • January 24, 2021



Mass Intentions

Monday, January 25

9:00 a.m. Joseph Wollyung
(Dave & Deb Shelcusky)

Tuesday, January 26

9:00 a.m. Philomena Loeper
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Wednesday, January 27

9:00 a.m. William Stoppi
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Thursday, January 28

9:00 a.m. Mary LeBlanc
(Tom Bosack)

Friday, January 29

9:00 a.m. Josephine Cavanaugh
(Rick Cavanaugh))

Saturday, January 30

5:00 p.m. Matthew & Mark Norkus
(Al Norkus)

Sunday, January 31

8:15 a.m. Christine Chiplonia
(Julian Chiplonia)

Sunday, January 31

10:30 a.m. Noel Glunz
(John & Barbara Powers)

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Most if not all of us never really stop on a daily basis to think about the end of our earthly lives. Yet, when we think about it, we should be preparing each day for that end. There is an ancient practice of reflection on mortality that goes back as far as Socrates: "Memento mori" or Remember, thou art mortal.

This Sunday's Scriptures are perfect for the Christian's spiritual practice of thinking about our life and eventual death.

At God's command, Jonah goes to Nineveh, prophesying destruction. The citizens of Nineveh repent and are spared. St. Paul urges the Corinthians to act in a way that reflects the passing away of this world. And in this Sunday's gospel from Mark Jesus arrives in Galilee proclaiming the time of fulfillment has arrived and that all are to repent and believe in the gospel. The apostles Simon, Andrew, James and John leave their lives as fishermen to follow Him.

We need always to remember that our ultimate goal in faith is to live with God after this life. Awareness of our own mortality should spur us to act righteously each day.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dave

"Awareness of our own mortality should spur us to act righteously every day."

Next Week's Readings

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(January 30/31)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

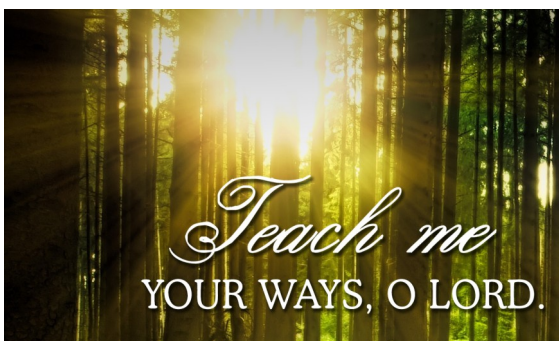


Pray

For our Sick/Deceased

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 • Ty Daubert
For Our Deceased • Helen Hufnagle



Upcoming Events

January

- 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\$5,636.00
Parish Monthly Dues.....\$1,238.00
January 16/17\$4,109.24
Improvements & Repairs..... \$800.00
 Thank you for your sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ’s love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to this collection and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

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. Deceased of Tamburelli Family by Herb Tamburelli
2. IMO John J. Carroll Sr. by Family

St. Joseph

1. IMO Carolyn Tamburelli by Herb Tamburelli
2. IMO Eleanor O’Brien by John & Susan Minnichbach

Sanctuary

IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Howard Minnichbach by John & Susan Minnichbach
2. IMO Ruth Minnichbach by John & Susan Minnichbach
3. IMO Scott Bowers by Joan Bowers
4. Living & Deceased Members of St. John’s Catholic Women’s Union



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 from 7:00 to 8:45 p.m.

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.



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.

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 IMO Edward Christ
 Mildred A. Fredericks
 Fr. Don Henry
 IMO M/M Herbert Henry
 IMO Joanne Hepler
 IMO Clare & Linda Houser
 IIMO Philomena Loeper
 MO Charles Lorenz
 IMO Dorothy Parsick
 IMO Jeanne Rehnert
 IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
 IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
 IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
 IMO Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our
 bulletin this month!*

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our parishioner and Nativity BVM senior forward, Samantha Heenan, on recently scoring her 1,000th career point in basketball. She is pictured below with her father, Tom, and her mother, Michelle.



Lent 2021

CRS Rice Bowl

Rice bowls will be available starting next weekend. 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. 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. This weekend is the last chance to reserve a copy by signing the sheet in the back of church.



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

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

January 24, 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10 | 1 Cor 7:29-31 | Mk 1:14-20

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

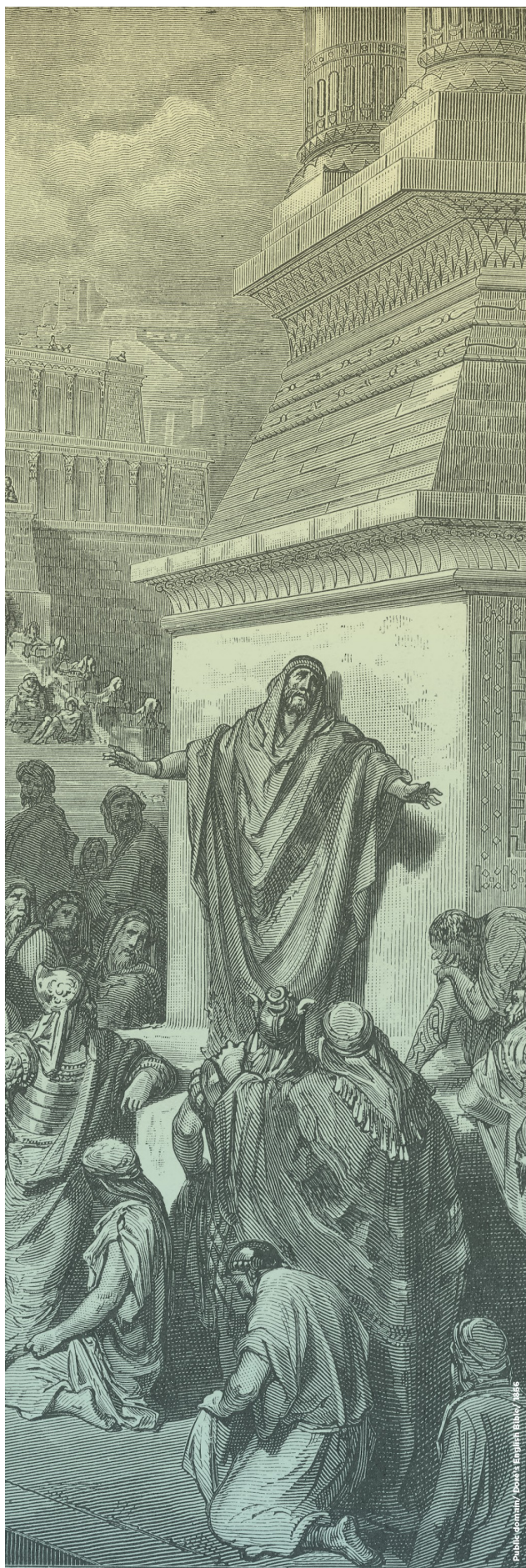
On first hearing, Jonah's warning to the city of Nineveh seems a bit extreme for my modern ears: Get your act together in 40 days or your city will be destroyed! Yet, rather than panic or rail against him, the people believed and turned away from evil. We hear a similar theme in Mark's Gospel: "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Listening to the readings today, I hear these words not as a threat but as an invitation to get our lives back on track. We may not don sackcloth like the people of Nineveh, but we may need to fast from the distractions and skewed priorities that prevent us from loving God and one another. With the psalmist, we pray, "Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I never understood why the middle-school track coach had my son, the shortest kid on the team, run hurdles. I'd shut my eyes and cringe a bit when he'd approach each one, occasionally catching his toe but fearlessly pressing forward. Sometimes the Christian life can feel that way - while I've never tried hurdles, I'm known to trip on the slightest crack in a sidewalk. Likewise, I often trip up on the path to becoming a better person - blurting out unkind words, spending more time online shopping than praying ... well, I won't make *you* cringe by oversharing my "sin list." In today's readings, the Lord invites us to repent - to turn away from bad habits and choices. By turning to the Lord, we can overcome the obstacles that hold us back from living our Gospel values and sharing them with others through the witness of our lives.

INVITE Through the sacrament of reconciliation, the Church offers us a standing invitation to experience God's unconditional love and mercy. Whether you go regularly or it's been awhile, consider participating in the sacrament and inviting others to do the same.



GLORY AND PRAISE TO OUR GOD

574

Refrain




Glo - ry and praise to our God, who a - lone gives light to our days.



Man - y are the bless - ings he bears to those who trust in his

Verses 1-3



ways.

1. We, the daugh - ters and sons of him who
2. In his wis - dom he strength - ens us, like
3. Ev - 'ry mo - ment of ev - 'ry day our




1. built the val - leys and plains, praise the won - ders our
2. gold that's test - ed in fire. Though the pow - er of
3. God is wait - ing to save, al - ways read - y to



to Refrain

1. God has done in ev - 'ry heart that sings.
2. sin pre - vails, our God is there to save.
3. seek the lost, to an - swer those who pray.

Verse 4



4. God has wa - tered our bar - ren land and spent his mer - ci - ful rain.



to Refrain

4. Now the riv - ers of life run full for an - y - one to drink.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9



R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

578

ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING



1. All crea-tures of our God and King, Lift
 2. Great rush-ing winds that are so strong, White
 3. Swift flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, Make



1. up your voice and let us sing; Al - le - lu - ia!
 2. clouds a - bove that sail a - long, O — praise him!
 3. mu - sic for your Lord to hear, Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn-ing sun with gold - en
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing morn, in praise re -
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Fierce fire so mas - ter - ful and



1. beam, Pale sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,
 2. joice; O stars of eve-ning, find a voice!
 3. bright, Pro - vid - ing us both warmth and light,



1-7. O praise him! O praise him! Al - le - lu - ia!



1-7. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

598

SING A NEW SONG



Sing a new song un-to the Lord; let your song be sung from



moun-tains high. Sing a new song un-to the Lord, sing-ing



al - le - lu - ia. 1. Shout with glad-ness! Dance for joy!
 2. Rise, O chil-dren, from your sleep;
 3. Glad my soul for I have seen



1. O come be - fore the Lord. And play for God on
 2. your Sav - ior now has come. He has turned your
 3. the glo - ry of the Lord. The trum - pet sounds; the



1. glad tam - bou-rines, and let your trum - pet sound.
 2. sor - row to joy, and filled your soul with song.
 3. dead shall be raised. I know my Sav - ior lives.