

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 – stjbparish@comcast.net

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
January 26, 2020

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday our readings call us to come into the light and follow Jesus who is light from light.

In this Sunday's first reading Isaiah writes of the day when all gloom will be gone, light will come to the people who have walked in darkness and they will rejoice. St. Paul urges the Corinthians to have no divisions among them. And in Matthew's gospel for this Sunday, Jesus walking by the Sea of Galilee calls Simon, Andrew, James and John to follow him. And these brothers left everything to follow Jesus.

Jesus fulfills all prophecy and brings light into our darkness. He calls his disciples out of their way of life – from fishermen to fishers of men. He calls us to follow him too so as to bring light, truth, and goodness into a world that needs repentance.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

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: Robert Kline

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 27 – 9:00 a.m.

DOLORES MAZZUCA (Ron & Pat Lombel)

Tuesday, January 28 – 9:00 a.m.

LOREEN GARRITY (John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick)

Wednesday – January 29 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPHINE CAVANAUGH (Rich Cavanaugh)

Thursday – January 30 – 9:00 a.m.

FRANCIS & VERNA SAUERS

Friday, January 31 – 9:00 a.m.

SETH KNARR (Gardner Family)

Saturday, February 1 – 5:00 p.m.

PATRICK MURPHY (John & Patty O'Neill)

Sunday, February 2 – 8:15 a.m.

DOROTHY ELISON (Eleanor Schaeffer)

Sunday, February 2 – 10:30 a.m.

KATHY CASE (Michelle, Joie Lynne & Peggy)

Next Week's Readings

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (February 1/2)

Reading I: Malachi 3:1-4

Reading II: Hebrews 2:14-18

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In what ways is your faith a "light" to you?
Where is there darkness that needs light?

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 – IMO John J. Carroll Sr. by Family

St. Joseph – IMO Peggy Carl by Susan Cook

Tabernacle – IMO A. Martha Cook by Susan Cook

Sanctuary

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

2,3,4. IMO Dorothy Rosenberger by Paul Rosenberger

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Andrew Cook by Susan Cook

2. IMO Frances Murton by Susan Cook

SCHEDULE

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

5 p.m. – Saturday – February 1st

Reader: Patty O'Neill

Euch.Min.: Bobby Rienzo, Robert Wollyung

Servers: Luke Garvey, Noah Lecher, Joshua Steffan

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – February 2nd

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla, Bobby Rienzo

Servers: Ryan & Emma Seiger, Dylan Schreffler

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – February 2nd

Reader: Mary Matulevich

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic, Charlie Miller

Servers: Ronald & John Yourey, Evelyn Datte

Cantor: Dave Derbes

ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **March & April** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call or email the Rectory by Sunday, February 10th** to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. Thank you.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Although St. Joseph never adored our Lord under the Eucharistic species and never had the happiness of receiving Holy Communion, he did possess and adore Jesus in human form. We must beg for good adorers; the Blessed Sacrament needs them to replace St. Joseph and to imitate his life of adoration."St. Peter Julian

We need adorers for the following hours:

Tuesday 5 a.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m., 12 p.m.

Thursday 3 a.m., 4 a.m., 10 p.m.;

Saturday 12 a.m., 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 3 a.m., 4 a.m.;

Sunday 12 a.m., 4 a.m.

Whenever you are unable to cover your Holy Hour, for whatever reason, we are always able to get a sub.

Call St. Patrick's Rectory 570-622-1802.

DISCOVERING CHRIST

Join us for this exciting new 7-week 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.

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!

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.

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."

**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**
- Daubert Family**
- DiCello Chiropractic**
- Fellows & Smink Dental Assoc.**
- Brian & Sue Eckley**
- Friends of St. John's**
- Guzick Family**
- William Hauptly Electrical & Plumbing**
- Headquarters Styling Salon**
- Heenan Family**
- Kochol Family**
- Lieberman, Tamulonis, Hobbs Law**
- Charles & Patricia Miller**
- Nativity BVM High School**
- Nativity Volleyball**
- Bob & Mary Porter**
- Noble & Jule Quandt**
- Carole Quirin**
- Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating Inc.**
- Schlitzer, Allen, Pugh Funeral Home**
- St. Clair Auto Supply**
- St. John's Family Guild**
- Luis R. & Virginia C. Visot**
- Ralph & Joanne Wood**
- Ellen & Jay Zane**

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!



UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

January

- 25/26 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 27 CRASE – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 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

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR OPENINGS!

St. John's Choir is welcoming new members to the choir to sing Saturday 5:00 PM Masses and special Masses. This is a very rewarding experience for anyone seeking to become more involved in our Parish Family. No prior singing experience or reading of music is required. Practices are held **Tuesday's at 7:00 in Longinus Hall**. Contact St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 for more information. Hope to see you Tuesday!



WEEKLY COLLECTION

January 18/19: \$ 2,216.87

Improvements & Repairs: \$ 749.00

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.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Valentine Quiz: Valentine's Day is just a few weeks away. Do you remember what you gave each other last year? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend would be the perfect gift for married couples in love. The effects will last longer than anything you can buy. For information about call 610-449-1859 or visit www.wvme.org.

HOMESCHOOL FAMILIES

of the Diocese of Allentown are invited to a First Friday gathering on **Thursday, February 6th** at St. Ambrose Church, 201 Randel Street, Schuylkill Haven. Mass at 6:00 p.m. by Father Kevin Bobbin, Chaplain to the Homeschooled Community. Mass will be followed by a period of Adoration and Confessions until 7 p.m. and then an informal social. Please join us for this opportunity to meet each other as we come together for prayer and fellowship. (Questions: Fr. Bobbin: 610-866-0791x332 or kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org)

L/E/A/D: THE FOUR MARKS OF FATHERLY

GREATNESS This one-day retreat will inspire men to embrace God's purpose and plan for their life. Explore the spirituality of Saint Joseph with presenter Rob Longo at St. Mary, Kutztown on **Saturday, February 29th**. A Daily Mass will be offered by Bishop Schlert during the retreat and there will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession as well. This retreat is sponsored by the Diocesan Commission for Men. For more information or to register, visit allentowndiocese.org/LEAD

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion to be held **March 6 to 8**.

In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For *registration information contact:

**Sr. Meg Cole, 1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free)
610-332-0442 Ext. 2019 or**

mcole@allentowndiocese.org

*** Deadline for Registration is March 1st**

For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: www.rachelsvineyard.org

FAMILY MATTERS

Families with Children with Disabilities. Often those children with disabilities in our families give to us the gifts of great love and warmth. We ask you Lord to shower your blessings on these children of our parish and their families.

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

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

ST. PAULINE VISINTAINER

... You are invited to take part in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on **Monday, January 27th at 5 p.m.** followed by Veneration of the first-class relic of St. Pauline Visintainer, Patron Saint of Diabetics and of all who are sick at Our Lady's Chapel in St. Patrick's.

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.

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.

DO REMEMBER

Do remember your parish in your last will and testament ... an act of thanksgiving for all God's gifts to you. Future generations will be the beneficiaries of your kindness, even as we have benefited from our generous ancestors.

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.

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.

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.

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OUT OF COURTESY



to other parishioners who are here to worship, you are reminded to silence cell phones and refrain from texting while in our sacred worship space.

HEALTHY NOTES ... Avoid storing medicines in the bathroom cabinet. That's probably the worst place to keep them. Most medicines last longer if kept in a cool, dry place – a closet shelf in the bedroom may be ideal. Exposure to heat and humidity from the shower or sink can diminish the potency of many drugs. If you have medication that you take with meals, the kitchen is probably the best storage place, unless it, too, is hot and humid. Many people store medicines in the refrigerator, which is probably okay, though very few items except certain antibiotics and insulin actually need to be kept cold. Wherever you store medications, keep them out of the reach of children.

CANDLE DONATION

Please list intentions

\$5 - Blessed Mother's Statue _____

\$5 - St. Joseph's Statue _____

\$5 - Tabernacle Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Guardian Angel _____

\$5 - Guardian Angel _____

Donor's Name _____

The week I wish the above is _____ or write "any" if it doesn't matter. We shall try to schedule your intention as close to the date requested as possible. Please put

FLOWER DONATIONS



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

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.