

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

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

---

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time • January 31, 2021

---



## Mass Intentions

### Monday, February 1

9:00 a.m. Francis & Verna Sauers

### Tuesday, February 2

9:00 a.m. Kimberly Purin Cornelious  
(M/M John J. Carroll)

### Wednesday, February 3

9:00 a.m. Thomas Letko  
(Pat Klassen)

### Thursday, February 4

9:00 a.m. M/M Robert Becker  
(Bob & Mary Porter)

### Friday, February 5

9:00 a.m. Vincent Gargano  
(Joe & Ceil Burns)

### Saturday, February 6

5:00 p.m. Linda Shomoskie  
(Smith Family)

### Sunday, February 7

8:15 a.m. Mary Chiplonia  
(M/M Jake Wartella)

### Sunday, February 7

10:30 a.m. Dot Ryan & Mary Louise  
Hornberger  
(Crystal Pugh)



## Next Week's Readings

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(February 6/7)

**Reading I:** Job 7:1-4, 6-7

**Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

**Gospel:** Mark 1:29-39

## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Moses led God's people from slavery in Egypt. Moses remained with God's people in the desert for a generation before they were ready to enter the Promised Land. Moses himself knew that he would die before the people crossed the Jordan to enter the Land. In the first reading for this Sunday in the book of Deuteronomy, Moses is speaking to God's people shortly before he dies. He assures them God would not leave them without direction or leadership. God would send them another prophet like Himself who would speak God's word to them.

This reading prepares us for the Gospel where Jesus speaks God's word with power and authority. He enters Capernaum and those who heard his teaching and witnessed him drive out an unclean spirit are astonished. Their amazement is due to the authority of Christ who is God Himself. Are we too in awe of the work of God in our lives?

Sincerely in Christ,

*Father Dave*

---

**First Friday Adoration this week  
from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Church**

---



## 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 • *Marie Flynn*

# Upcoming Events

## January

30/31		CRS Rice Bowls available	
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	
19	4:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinner take-out only (until 6:00 p.m.) .....	R.B.
21	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross .....	Church

**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 23/24 .....\$4,102.33**  
**Christmas .....\$18,002.00**

Thank you for your sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

## Catholic Relief Services Collection

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help *Jesus in disguise*. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at [www.usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://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&2. IMO Cathy Bowers  
by Joan Bowers

### St. Joseph

1. Special Intention  
by Stanley & Heidi Gorski & Sons
2. IMO Charles Bowers  
by Joan Bowers

### Sanctuary

IMO Scott Bowers  
by Joan Bowers

### Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Christine Bowers  
by Joan Bowers
3. IMO Charles Bowers  
by Joan Bowers
4. IMO Rita Mae Switzler  
by Stanley & Heidi Gorski & Sons



## Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Forty days after the birth of a child, the people of Israel presented the newborn to the Temple. The gospels say that the parents of Jesus obeyed this law. Forty days after our celebration of the birth of Jesus, the Church remembers His Presentation in the Temple on February 2.

January 31, 2021

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20 | 1 Cor 7:32-35 | Mk 1:21-28

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

When was the last time you were “astonished” and “amazed”? Parents might point to the birth of their child. Space enthusiasts might recall Neil Armstrong’s walk on the moon. Perhaps we felt that sense of amazement the first time we saw the Grand Canyon or another natural wonder. For the people of Capernaum, Jesus had that effect. He taught with authority. He commanded an unclean spirit. In our modern society with the constant bombardment of news and social media, it can be easy to become numb to the wonder that surrounds us. Perhaps we think we’ve seen it all. Even Jesus and the words that turned ordinary people into extraordinary disciples of the early Church can be something we take for granted or only think about for 20 minutes on Sunday. Our Gospel challenges us to quiet the noise, and Paul encourages us to seek “adherence to the Lord without distraction.” Let us pray that the Lord rekindles our faith, so that we may hear his words again as if for the first time and engage ourselves anew in living according to his teachings.

### **GO** EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It is very hard to keep exciting news to ourselves. We have an innate desire to share important information and extraordinary events with those whom we love. It could be the call to parents to announce an engagement. Or perhaps telling a friend that you have landed a job or been accepted to college. While these milestones are significant, they pale in comparison to what Jesus has done for us. Through him, we have experienced God’s love, mercy, and redemption, not to mention the direction and means to attain a good life: on earth and with him forever in heaven. Why not share that Good News as well? We don’t have to stand on a street corner to be effective. We can simply let our faith lives enter our conversations, just as our work and other interests do. It could be as simple as, “our priest said something Sunday that really stuck with me,” or “I just finished a remarkable book about Dorothy Day.” As we begin to talk about our faith and listen to others share their insights, we not only grow closer to one another, but can grow in faith together.

**WITNESS** Today’s psalm struck a chord: “If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.” Next Sunday, make a conscious effort to listen to the readings and music with an open heart (and ears). If something strikes you, consider sharing that with others – be it around the dinner table, on a walk with friends, or during a video call.



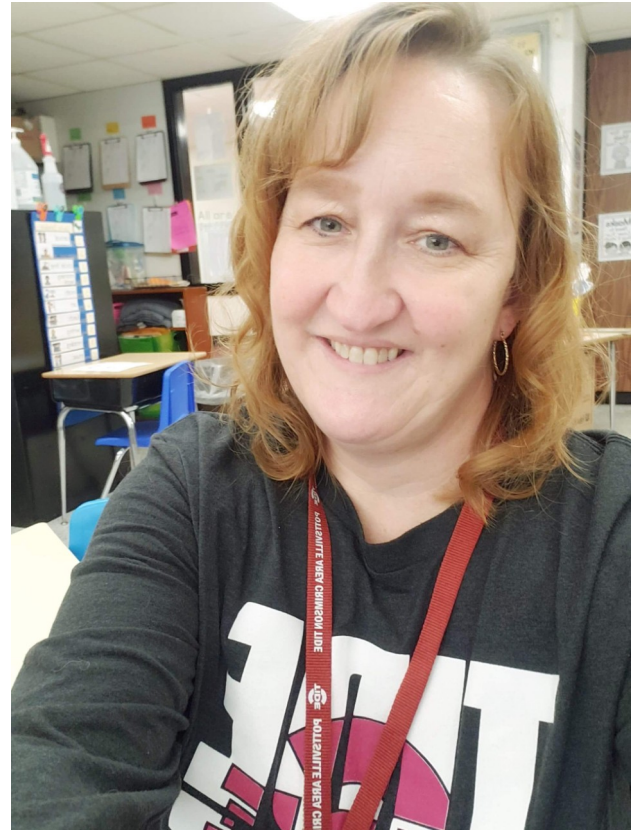
### Parish Profile

#### Tina Seiger

Tina has been teaching Confirmation classes to our eighth grade students for six years. She and her husband Mark have been married for over 23 years and they have two children, Ryan and Emma. In addition to teaching Confirmation, Tina is part of our Ensemble and adult faith formation programs, cantors at Mass, and volunteers with her family at the Mid-Summer Festival and the Christmas Bazaar. In her free time, she enjoys reading, gardening, crafting and painting. In this month's parish profile, Tina explains how she got started teaching the Confirmation program.

My son, Ryan, was a year away from receiving the sacrament and I stumbled upon Dynamic Catholic's Confirmation program Decision Point. I got a free copy of the program and then asked Fr. Dave if I could teach it. I wanted my own children to receive a program that would answer questions they may have about the faith and explain how to practice daily prayer and how to apply the faith in their lives. Because I am a teacher, I was willing to volunteer my talents to all Confirmation students. I also asked other parishioners to help me teach the classes with me because I wanted other adults to help by sharing their experiences with Catholicism. It makes the faith come alive for the students when they hear our own personal stories.

*Our parish profile is published monthly and highlights parishioners' lived experience of the Catholic faith through a parish ministry.*



### Friday Lenten Dinner Take-out Order Form

All entrees include New England Clam Chowder, garden salad, choice of starch and choice of vegetable

#### Choice of entrée

- Baked Haddock .....\$13
- 1 Lump Crab Cake .....\$13
- 2 Lump Crab Cake .....\$16
- Lump Crab Cake & Haddock Special .....\$16
- Children's Haddock .....\$8
- Children's Lump Crab Cake .....\$8

#### Choice of Starch

Macaroni and cheese or baked potato

#### Choice of Vegetable

Stewed tomatoes or vegetable of the day (green beans/corn)

Date(s)    \_\_\_ 2/19            \_\_\_ 3/5            \_\_\_ 3/19

Number of Dinners \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Pickup is **4 to 6 p.m.** on 2/19, 3/5, and 3/19 at the Russell Building  
Mail/drop off this form at the rectory or drop in the collection basket  
Need extra dinners? Attach a separate sheet of paper to this order form

Dinner 1

Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Starch \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner 2

Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Starch \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner 3

Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Starch \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner 4

Entrée \_\_\_\_\_

Starch \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetable \_\_\_\_\_

## 674

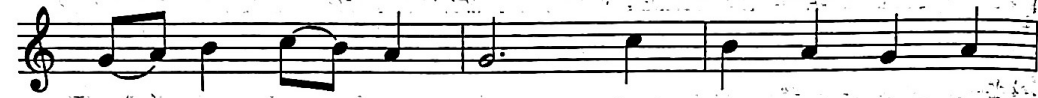
## A MIGHTY FORTRESS



1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A
2. No strength of ours can match his might! We
3. Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All
4. God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No



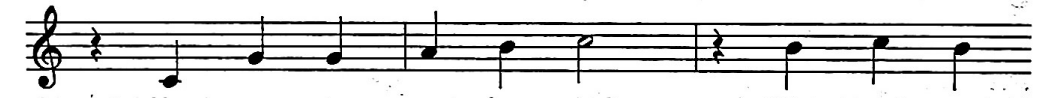
1. sword and shield vic - to - rious; He breaks the
2. would be lost, re - ject - ed. But now a
3. threat - 'ning to de - vour us, We trem - ble
4. thanks to foes, who fear it; For God him -



1. cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal - va - tion
2. cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God him - self e -
3. not, un - moved we stand; They can - not o - ver -
4. self fights by our side With weap - ons of the



1. glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
2. lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
3. pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
4. Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



1. Has sworn to work us woe! With craft and
2. The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus,
3. In bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is
4. Goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, Though life be



1. dread - ful might He arms him - self to fight.
2. might - y Lord, God's on - ly Son, a - dored.
3. doomed to fail; God's judg - ment must pre - vail!
4. wrenched a - way, They can - not win the day.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9



℞. If to - day you hear his voice, hard - en not your hearts.

608

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING



1. Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks - giv - ing To  
 Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us, By  
 2. His law he en - forc - es, The stars in their cours - es, The  
 The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains, The



1. God our Cre - a - tor tri - umphant - ly raise;  
 guid - ing us on to the end of our days. God's ban - ners are  
 2. sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine,  
 depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine. We, too, should be



1. o'er us, Pure light goes be - fore us, A pil - lar of fire shin - ing  
 2. voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a



1. forth in the night: Till shad - ows have van - ished And dark - ness is  
 2. song let us raise: Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks -



1. ban - ished, As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.  
 2. giv - ing, To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise

RECESSIONAL

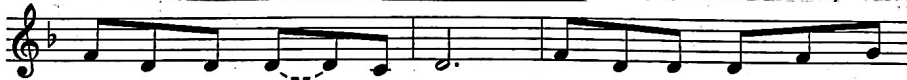
629

WE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Verses



1. Bless - ed are they who are poor in spir - it,  
 2. Bless - ed are they who are meek and hum - ble,  
 3. Bless - ed are they who will mourn in sor - row,



1. Theirs is the king - dom of God. Bless us, O Lord, make us  
 2. They will in - her - it the earth. Bless us, O Lord, make us  
 3. They will be com - fort - ed. Bless us, O Lord, when we



1. poor in spir - it; Bless us, O Lord, our God.  
 2. meek and hum - ble; Bless us, O Lord, our God.  
 3. share their sor - row; Bless us, O Lord, our God.

Refrain



We are the light of the world, - may our light shine be - fore all,



That they may see the good that we do, and give glo - ry to God.