

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

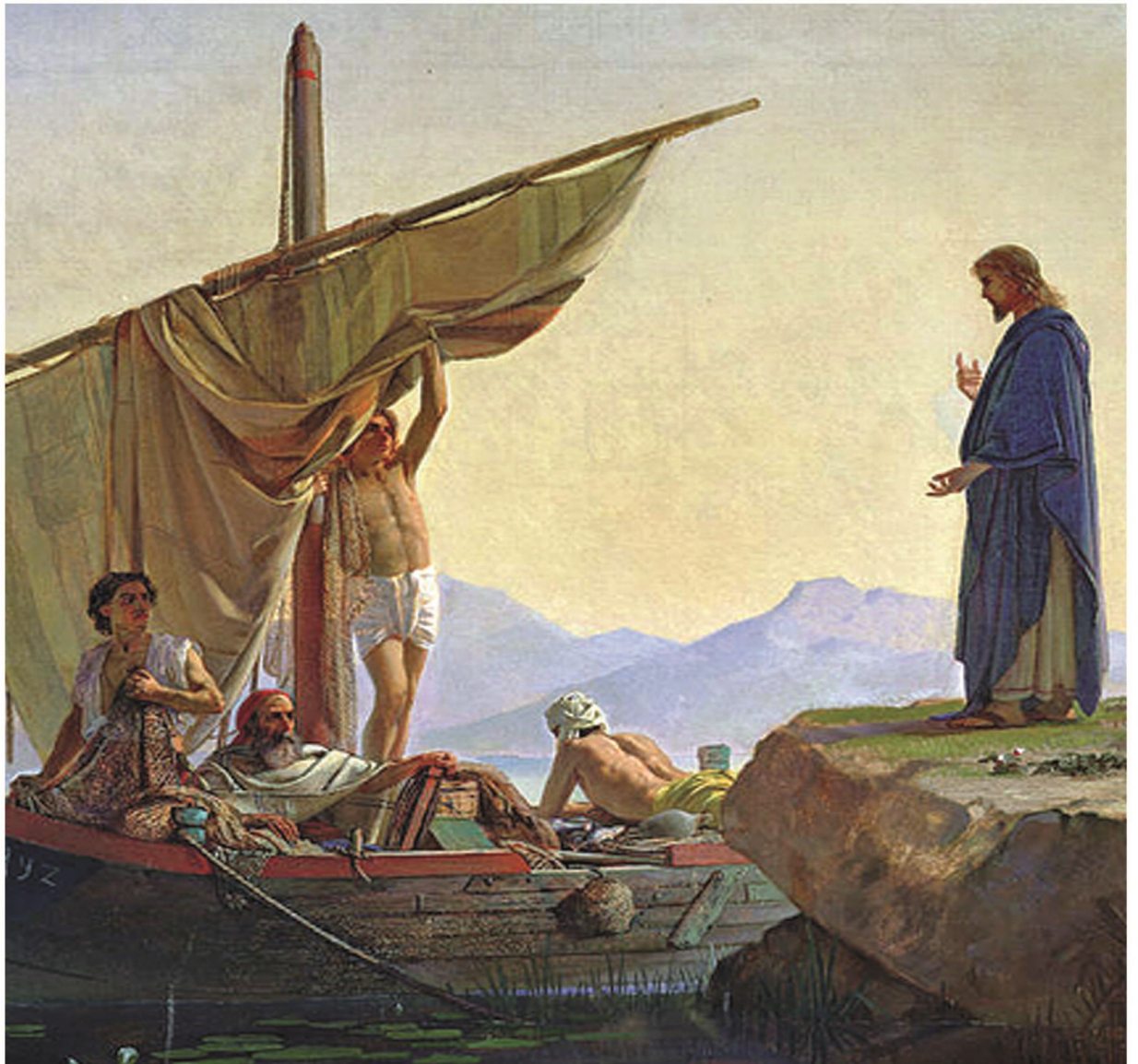
10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

January 21, 2024

## 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James,  
the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.  
They too were in a boat mending their nets.  
Then he called them.

Mk 1:19-20



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, January 20

5:00 p.m. Karen Comfort  
(Christine Black  
& Brian Comfort)

### Sunday, January 21

8:15 a.m. William & Marie Flynn

### Sunday, January 21

10:30 a.m. Bob & Sandra Orlowsky  
(Orlowsky Family)

### Monday, January 22

6:30 p.m. Clara Rose Fahim  
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

### Tuesday, January 23

9:00 a.m. Charles & Elizabeth  
Tamburelli  
(Herb Tamburelli)

### Wednesday, January 24

9:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

### Thursday, January 25

9:00 a.m. Anthony S. Gaburick  
(Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

### Friday, January 26

9:00 a.m. James Pauly  
(John & Joyce Gerace)

### Saturday, January 27

5:00 p.m. Ann Lowe  
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

### Sunday, January 28

8:15 a.m. Mary Ann Holley  
(Mark & Deborah Purcell)

### Sunday, January 28

10:30 a.m. Nancy Centra  
(Lieberman Family)

## Next Week's Readings

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(January 27/28)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

This week we are reminded of our responsibility to work for the protection of all human life. In the United States, January 22 is to be observed as "a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations of the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

The overturning of the *Roe vs. Wade* decision obviously does not restore the "legal guarantee of the right to life." Rather, the battle for the restoration of this right now continues in states and localities. Legal and judicial action is important and necessary to protect life, but such action will only come about if it supported by enough people. This requires a *change of heart* on the part of many more people.

This January 22 and throughout the week, pray that more people in our society and throughout the world have a change of heart with regard to abortion. Pray that more people grasp the inherent dignity of every human being and learn the truth about abortion: that it is never the answer to someone's problem.

In Christ,  
Fr. Bobbin



## Eucharistic Adoration

We offer opportunities to spend time in prayer with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament ...

- ◆ A holy hour in the **chapel every Monday evening** (unless announced otherwise) from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** This is a simple holy hour without any formal prayer or Benediction. It is not necessary to come for the entire hour. Just stop by as you desire.

## 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

Sheri Post • Robert Kline • Tony Kochol • Josephine Gallagher  
Tom Jefferson • Dominic Maccarone • Drew Schaeffer Shawn Matz •  
Miriam Tirjan • John Bernetsky

### For our Deceased

Sue Mengle • Christine Kurtek



## Upcoming Events

### January

21	9:15 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg .....	L.H.
21	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
25	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
25	7:30 P.M.	Summer Festival Mtg.....	L.H.
27	after Mass	Dramatic Stations Mtg.....	L.H.

### February

4	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg. ....	L.H.
4	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
4	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
8	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
14	9:00 a.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass.....	Church
14	5:15 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Mass.....	Church
15	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
18	9:15 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg.....	L.H.
18	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
18	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
21	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross.....	Church
21	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg.....	L.H.
22	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
28	7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross.....	Church

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

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men's Group ..... F.R.



## Weekly Collection

**January 13/14 .....\$4,709.00**

**Dues.....\$1,259.00**

**Christmas .....\$20,783.80**

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

**Please do not use tape or staples to seal your offertory envelopes**

## Candles

### BVM

1&2. IMO Mary Ann Holley  
by Mark & Deborah Purcell

### St. Joseph

1&2. IMO Pat Mason Sr.  
by Maria Mason

### Sanctuary

IMO Eugene & Kathleen Tray  
by Chris Tray

### Guardian Angels

1. Health of Sheri Post  
by Bob & Irene Post
2. IMO Marjorie Angelo  
by Frank Angelo
- 3&4. IMO Chase Snyder  
by Rick, Michelle, Ricky, Patrick Stone

# SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:** will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on Jan. 25, Feb. 8, 15, 22, March 7, 14, 21, April 11, 18, May 16, 23.** Join us in person in Longinus Hall or at home on Zoom (\*Please email Father for the Zoom link: [kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org)). Fr. Bobbin's Scripture study attempts to give an overview and background for the books of Sacred Scripture to be of help with personal reading and study, Bible study groups, and getting more out of hearing the Word proclaimed at Mass. All are welcome.

## Lenten Dinners – Kitchen Coordinators Needed

This past year we were fortunate to bring back our Friday Lenten Dinners at the Russell Building, with the option of dining in or taking out. We are grateful to all the people who took charge and organized the dinners, and to the many volunteers. Unfortunately, some of our key people are no longer able to help organize the dinners because of changes in their personal circumstances. Therefore, future Lenten dinners will depend on one or more persons stepping forward to fill the role of kitchen coordinator(s). This is a leadership role, which would involve taking charge of the kitchen, planning the menu and determining what foods and supplies must be purchased, and delegating responsibilities to the volunteers. This role can be shared by two or three people working together. Please call

## VOLUNTEER



## Liturgical Min. Schedule

### January 27— 5:00 p.m.

**Reader:** Heidi Gorski

**Euch.Min.:** Dan & Hermine Murphy

**Server:** Aleksander Gorski

**Cantor:** Lucilla Kochol

### January 28— 8:15 a.m.

**Reader:** Janet Daubert

**Euch.Min.:** Bob Bechtel, John Crane

**Servers:** Luke Schane

**Cantor:** Tina Seiger

### January 28— 10:30 a.m.

**Reader:** Mary Matulevich

**Euch.Min.:** Mary Modesto

John Matulevich

**Server:** Jude Scheidel

**Cantor:** Ed Braham

## Church Cleaning Crew

We thank our Church Cleaning Group for doing a wonderful job cleaning our beautiful church including Longinus Hall and the Chapel. Everything looks just perfect!

Those volunteering their time and talent this month:

*Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Phyllis Hess, Debbie Kubilus, Ray Petrilla, Lisa Schlitzer, Theresa Skrobak, Beth Smith.*

If you would like to volunteer, join us on the second Saturday every month.

## Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew  
IMO Harold Bartholomew  
IMO Robert Berger  
John & Mildred Fredericks  
Fr. Don Henry  
IMO M/M Herbert Henry  
IMO Joanne Hepler  
IMO Kathleen Hohman  
IMO Clare & Linda Houser  
IMO Charles Lorenz  
IMO Dorothy Parsick  
IMO Erika Stangl Seacock  
IMO Margaret Zelinsky  
Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!*

## Welcome to St. John's

This week we welcome **Charles and Kathleen Reber.**

Warmly welcome the Reber's into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's hospitality.

## 2023 Contribution Record

You can request a copy of your 2023 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.

## St. John the Baptist will be participating in a parish-wide survey!

St. John The Baptist Church will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute! We need your help!

**Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online.**

The survey can be accessed through an online link from **February 14<sup>th</sup> until March 31<sup>st</sup>**, and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole. We will share the link with you a bit closer to the launch of the survey.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Father Bobbin and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

### If you prefer a paper copy

You may pick up a paper copy of the survey after daily and Sunday Masses. They will be located at Longinus Hall. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off **your completed survey after Saturday or Sunday Mass, during the survey date's shown above. You can give the survey to either Father Bobbin or John Crane.** To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact either John Crane at 570-292-0904, or the rectory office 570-622-5470 ext.3

## Dramatic Stations of the Cross

Join us on **Saturday, January 27th** in Longinus after 5:00 mass (6:00 approximately) for a pizza planning get together. We look forward to seeing past, present and future members to join this prayer through drama that we offer to our community. RSVP - text or call Debbie at 570.691.8874.



## Diocesan Events

**Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage.** Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held **February 16-18, 2024** at the Family Life Center in Malvern. For more information, or to

## Thank You Dept.

St. John's Parish Family Giving Tree — thank you for continuing to support the boys at Cloud Home. They had a great Christmas. We truly appreciate all you do. Thank you!

Cloud Home Boys & Staff



## Food Collection for Pantry

Thank you for doing the small things, like feeding your neighbors, with great love. God bless.

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

**PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS**





January 21, 2024

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Sometimes I feel like I need a Jonah in my life: someone who will come along and shake things up; someone who will nudge me and say, *hey, you're doing it wrong!* No one wants to be criticized, but I know I need loving guidance to help me when I am not at my best. It's easy to get caught up in the swirl of life and neglect (even if unintentionally) what's important. Jonah was given the unpleasant task of pointing out to the people of Nineveh their failings. Unlike many communities who resisted God's words, by the end of the first day of Jonah's anticipated three-day trek across the city, "the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth." For all the evil they had done, and the rebellion they had demonstrated, the people there weren't irredeemable. They simply needed Jonah to point out how they had gone astray, and the grace of open ears and hearts to receive the message. Who has the Lord placed in our lives in the role of Jonah? How has he blessed us with the ability to receive, and repent where necessary?

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We don't seem to have obvious prophets like Jonah nowadays, but that doesn't mean God has left us without guides. We have the Church, Christ's body on earth, and the ever-present help of the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel, we hear how Jesus selected his first followers: men who would become the Twelve Apostles, anointed to spread his word and speak in his stead even after Jesus left the earth. We know that there were other followers: men, women and children who became his disciples; Jews and Gentiles who were baptized. We are part of that apostolic tradition, each one of us baptized into the common priesthood "exercised by the unfolding of baptismal grace – a life of faith, hope, and charity, a life according to the Spirit." (CCC 1547) The call to holiness can be hard to hear in the din of today's busy and secular world, but it is not impossible. We can pray for the grace to hear how God is asking each of us to live out his commands and proclaim the Good News to the world.

**PRAY** Today's psalm (Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9) is a wonderful way to ask God for this favor. Make it part of your morning or evening prayer for the next week. "Your ways, O Lord, make known to me; teach me your paths."



## Catholic Schools Week Prayer

God of all creation, we know you care for all of us and desire only what is good for us. Please guide those who make policy decisions and laws that affect all of us, that these decisions will work for the good of the most vulnerable in our society. Help us to have the courage to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## Nativity BVM High School Happenings:

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jennifer Daubert in the Development office with any enrollment questions.

**OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION:** Registration for the 2024-2025 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the school. Faculty, staff, administration and coaches will be available to answer questions. Tours of the school will be given and tuition assistance drawings will be available that afternoon for those who register. Please contact Jennifer Daubert @ 570-622-8110 with any questions.

### **Sunday, January 28, 2024 – Celebrating Our Future**

We celebrate the future of our school with our Open House and Registration for the 2024-2025 school year. School tours, presentations and displays will begin at 1 PM. Members of the entire Nativity community will be available to answer questions. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome!

### **Monday, January 29, 2024 - Celebrating Our School Community**

We celebrate our community by bringing it together to celebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass as we open the week. There will be doughnuts distributed to bus drivers, van drivers, and parents to thank them for their help with our students during the school year.

### **Tuesday, January 30, 2024 - Celebrating Our Wonderful Students**

We will be celebrating the gift of our wonderful students by treating them to a free dress down day. There will be activities scheduled for the students in the afternoon including games and a movie.

### **Wednesday, January 31, 2024 - Celebrating Our Nation**

We will be celebrating the United States and our Nativity Nation by having a special flag raising ceremony with our new flag donated by Student Council and singing of our National Anthem. There will be a free dress down day themed with the colors of your country for all students, faculty and staff. In the morning, we will unite as a school family to watch a basketball game between our Nativity Hilltoppers and St. Joseph Center students.

### **Thursday, February 1, 2024 - Celebrating the Gift of Vocations**

We will celebrate vocations with a special gift of thanks to our chaplain, Fr. Kevin Bobbin. There will be visiting religious speaking to the theology classes about the gifts of their vocations. We will join together in the afternoon for Nativity's version of Family Feud

### **Friday, February 2, 2024 - Celebrating our Faculty and Staff**

We will be treating all of our devoted faculty and staff to donuts and coffee in the morning and to lunch during their lunch periods to thank them for their hard work and dedication to Nativity. Faculty and staff will also be able to have a dress down day and have a good day sticker. Throughout the day there will be an ongoing Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament with the finals of the tournament being held in the afternoon.

## Open House

**Open house is Sunday, January 28th 12 to 2 pm** - St. Patrick Preschool @ Assumption BVM in Pottsville is accepting registrations for the 2024-2025 school year. We offer 2, 3 and 5 day programs both full and half days. Contact us for more information at 570-622-0106 or [saintpatricks.prek@gmail.com](mailto:saintpatricks.prek@gmail.com). Check out our Facebook page Saint Patrick's Preschool @ Assumption BVM.

## Family Matters

**Youth.** It might be hard for you to imagine ... but, the teens of our parish today are the future of our church. We pray this week that the Lord guide them during their years of change and growth.



**Pastor** ..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*  
**Deacon** ..... *Lawrence Lonergan*

**Parish Council President** ..... *Darren DeArment*  
**Choir Director/Organist** ..... *David Derbes*  
**CCD Coordinator** ..... *Lucilla Kochol*  
**Rectory** ..... (570) 622-5470  
**Rectory Fax** ..... (570) 622-4589  
**E-mail** ..... [stjbparish@comcast.net](mailto:stjbparish@comcast.net)  
**Nativity BVM High School** ..... (570) 622-8110  
**Assumption BVM Elementary** ..... (570) 622-0106  
**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**

Monday 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**

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.  
 Baptismal Preparation for Parents must precede the Baptism.  
 Please contact Father Bobbin for an appointment.

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

Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., N.C.C., L.P.C. .... (800) 791-9209

#### **Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection & Catholic Human Services**

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)

## **Assumption BVM School Happenings**

### **Sunday, January 28th—OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION**

Student Council members will be present to assist in giving tours to prospective families; members of our Home and School Association will be present to answer questions and show families around, faculty & staff will be available to talk with new families and begin the enrollment process

### **Monday, January 29th - Rock Paper Scissor Challenge**

Students will challenge each other in class until there is one winner per class; then it will be class vs class, and then the student winner vs the teacher winner! Bring a can of soup today (no tomato soup) for the "Souper Bowl" and dress down by wearing your favorite sports team shirt, colors, or jersey. Vote on the team most likely to win the Super Bowl!

### **Tuesday, January 30th - Student Appreciation Day**

Students will enjoy Philadelphia Pretzels today. Twin Day! Twin Day! Plan to dress like a friend or two today as you plan your dress down wardrobe! No homework! 8:30-9 a.m. Teacher Swap for Religion lesson with a fun make and take project. 8/K, 7/1, 6/2&4, 5/3 9:30-11 a.m., K-4 students will take part in an Art collaboration with Nativity Youth Summit Students.

### **Wednesday, January 31st—School Mass with Bishop Schlert**

9:30 a.m. at St. Patrick's. Please join us afterwards for coffee and donuts in appreciation for all that our parents do for our school. Thank you cards for bus drivers, crossing guards, parents.

### **Thursday, February 1st - Crazy Hair / Crazy Hat Day / Scavenger Hunt**

For Sale: Dress Down Day Passes! \$2.00 Dress Down Day Pass to be used throughout the remainder of this school year. Maximum purchase per student is 10 tickets for \$10.00. Cannot be used on Student Council Dress Down Days, Mass days, or any other school selected dress down days. Must adhere to the dress down code policies. Last day to purchase 50/50 tickets.

### **Friday, February 2nd - Teacher Appreciation Day**

Students — dress like your teachers! Teachers—dress like your students! Winner of the 50/50 raffle chosen. Last day to purchase dress down tickets. Noon dismissal with no extended care.