

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

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time • February 7, 2021



Mass Intentions

Monday, February 8

9:00 a.m. Albert & Regina Schmidt

Tuesday, February 9

9:00 a.m. Thomas Letko
(M/M John J. Carroll)

Wednesday, February 10

9:00 a.m. Philomena Loeper
(John Lieberman Family)

Thursday, February 11

9:00 a.m. Joseph Brahler
(Family)

Friday, February 12

9:00 a.m. Scott Glunz
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, February 13

5:00 p.m. Virginia /Barney Comfort
(Chris & Jared Black)

Sunday, February 14

8:15 a.m. Wellington Daubert
(Janet Daubert)

Sunday, February 14

10:30 a.m. Joseph Sninski
(Mary Zambo & Family)

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

The book of Job was written about 400 to 500 years before Christ. At that time, Jews did not know about reward or punishment in the next life. In their view, the spirits of the dead simply dwelled in a place called Sheol where they were neither happy nor unhappy. Having no concept of happiness or unhappiness in the next life, they could only conclude that good people would be rewarded in this life, and bad people would be punished by God. They reasoned that if someone was successful and prosperous, they must be good people because God was rewarding them. If they were suffering in some way, they must be bad people even if their evil deeds were only known by God.

But their theology was not reality. Good people do suffer and bad people often get by with murder. That is the issue in the book of Job this Sunday as he tries to deal with this situation. Job is introduced to us as a genuinely good person. Even God says what a good man he is. Initially he is prosperous and successful in every way. But a number of catastrophes come along and destroy his fortune. Today we hear Job expressing his despair describing life without hope or happiness.

In the second reading for this Sunday, St. Paul writes that he has no reason to boast; that preaching the Gospel is an obligation. Thus, he offers the Gospel free of charge and has become "all things to all to save at least some." In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus touches and cures Simon's mother-in-law as well as many others throughout the whole of Galilee.

Despair and grief are part of the human condition and are often brought on because of loss or suffering. In Christ however, we experience hope and healing. As disciples working to build the kingdom of God on this Earth, let us, like St. Paul, take the Gospel to others and willingly share our hope with them.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dave

Next Week's Readings

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(February 13/14)

Reading I: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45



Then the fever left her
and she waited on them.

Praise

the Lord, who

heals

the broken

hearted.

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 • *Ty Daubert*

Upcoming Events

February

7	9:00 a.m.	CCD Classes	School
11	7:00 p.m.	Christ Life: Sharing Christ series begins	L.H.
14	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class	L.H.
15	7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour/Adoration and Confession	Church
17		Ash Wednesday	
19	4:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinner pre-order pickup (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	



Grow + Go

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

I remember taking my oldest son on a tour of a technical theater program at a state university. He had been considering an IT field – he’s everyone’s go-to whenever a technical issue arises. The theater professor said, “Enroll in our program only if you can’t do anything else.” The implication was clear: Choose this field if you love it so much you can’t imagine pursuing a different career. My son tried a more practical direction, but ultimately came back to theater, where he thrived! I thought of this story when listening to Paul’s Letter to the Corinthians: He preached the Gospel because he had to – excuse the double negative, but he could not “not” share the Good News with everyone he met! Once he encountered Jesus, he willingly devoted his life to sharing the story of love and salvation to all those who he encountered – the weak and the powerful, rich and poor, saints and sinners. Let us pray that God helps us recapture the wonder the crowds must have felt in Jesus’ presence – wonder that compels us to share the Good News, too.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Wherever you happen to live, imagine “the whole town gathered at the door.” Even in the smallest of villages, that would be a big deal! So it was with Jesus, where crowds seemed to follow him wherever he went, wanting to catch a glimpse of this carpenter’s son who cured the sick and drove out demons. When the disciples found him off by himself, praying, and told him “everyone is looking for you,” Jesus tells them they need to move on to nearby villages. I sense an urgency in Mark’s account of Jesus’ movements, showing Jesus as compelled to reach as many people as possible during his public ministry. As I hear this, I think how easy it is for us Catholics to remain in our comfort zones – whether a favorite pew, the same core group of “parish friends,” or even sticking with one ministry or one Mass time. But, as Jesus shows us, preaching the Good News – witnessing to the power of God in our lives – means we cannot stand idly by. We must share this news.

WITNESS: What if we tried to emulate Jesus, albeit in a small way, by reaching beyond our “circles” to greet someone new at our parish, volunteer for the first time or in a different way, or – yes – sit in a different spot! In doing so, we can challenge ourselves to “stretch” a bit and welcome others into our world.



Weekly Collection

January 30/31\$N/A
Catholic Relief\$N/A
 Thank you for your sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Thank you for your generous support of this collection and for helping *Jesus in disguise*. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections for more information on how to give.

Catholic Women’s Union

The February meeting has been cancelled. \$5.00 dues for 2021 are now due. Please drop in the collection basket or mail to the rectory.

Cemetery Regulations

All Christmas decorations should be removed from the cemetery as soon as possible.

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Ronald C. Kriston by Eleanor Kriston & Family
2. IMO Jeanette Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly

St. Joseph

1. IMO Alfred Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly
2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Sanctuary

For Erika Lee Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy
- 3&4. IMO Debbie Bowers by Joan Bowers



Thank you to our Mass Volunteers!

For many weeks, Theresa Skrobak and Ralph Wood, Larry Kelly and Maria Mason, and Annette and John Lisowski have been generous with their time in greeting our parishioners upon entrance to our weekend Masses! Thank you!

Friday Lenten Dinner Pre-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 _____

Orders are due the Monday prior to each Friday dinner
Pickup is **4 to 6 p.m.** on 2/19, 3/5, and 3/19 at the Russell Building
Call/mail/deposit 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 _____

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I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS



1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's



1. rest; Lay down, thou wea - ry one, lay down Thy head up -
2. give The liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, Stoop down, and
3. light; Look un - to me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy



1. on my breast." I came to Je - sus as I was, So
2. drink, and live." I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of
3. day be bright." I looked to Je - sus, and I found In



1. wea - ry, worn and sad; I found in him a
2. that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my
3. him my star, my sun; And in that light of



1. rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.
2. soul re - vived, And now I live in him.
3. life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

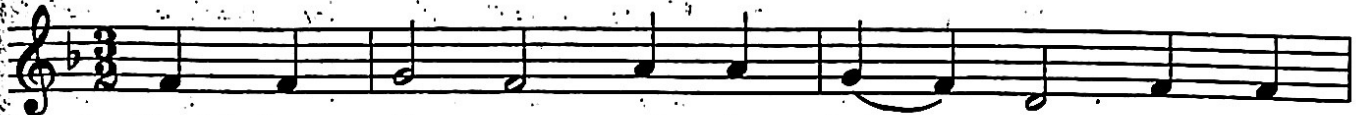
Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6



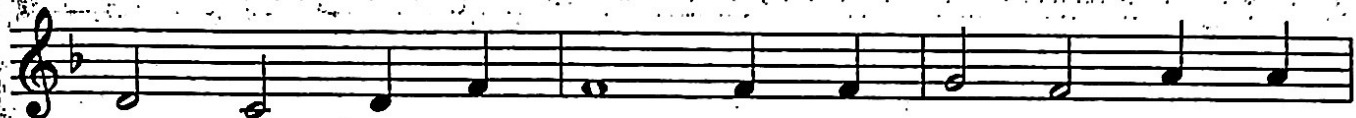
R. Praise the Lord, who heals the bro - ken - heart - ed.

HEALING RIVER OF THE SPIRIT

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1. Heal - ing riv - er of the Spir - it, Bathe the
 2. Well - spring of the heal - ing Spir - it, Stream that
 3. Liv - ing stream that heals the na - tions, Make us



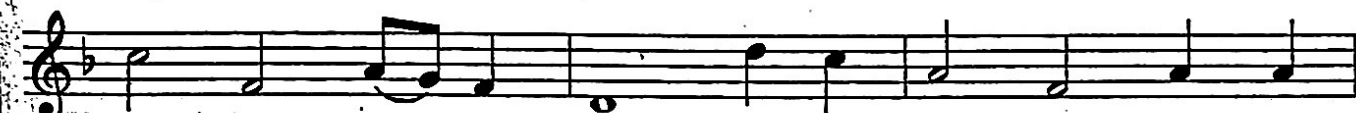
1. wounds that liv - ing brings. Plunge our pain, our sin, our
 2. flows to bring re - lease, As we gain our selves, our
 3. chan - nels of your pow'r. All the world is torn by



1. sad - ness Deep be - neath your sa - cred springs.
 2. sen - ses, May our lives re - flect your peace.
 3. con - flict; Wars are rag - ing at this hour.



1. Wea - ry from the rest - less search - ing That has
 2. Grate - ful for the flood that heals us, May your
 3. Sav - ing Spir - it, move a - mong us, Guide our



1. lured us from your side, We dis - cov - er in your
 2. church en - act your grace. As we meet both friend and
 3. wind - ing hu - man course, Till we find our way to -



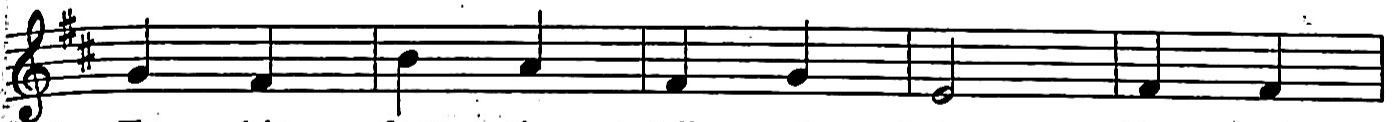
1. pres - ence Peace the world can - not pro - vide.
 2. strang - er, May we see our Sav - ior's face.
 3. geth - er, Flow - ing home - ward to our Source.

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PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN



1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en;
 2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor
 3. Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us;



1. To his feet thy trib - ute bring; Ran - somed,
 2. To his peo - ple in dis - tress; Praise him
 3. Well our fee - ble frame he knows; In his



1. healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, Ev - er - more his
 2. still the same as ev - er, Slow to chide, and
 3. hands he gent - ly bears us, Res - cues us from



1. prais - es sing:
 2. swift to bless:
 3. all our foes. } Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



lu - ia! } Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
 Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.