

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 – stjbparrish@comcast.net

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 9, 2020

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Light is an important image in our readings today.

In the first reading from Isaiah, the Lord says to care for others and then your light shall break forth like the dawn. In the second reading, St. Paul writes to the Corinthians of Christ crucified.

In the gospel Jesus tells his disciples they are salt of the earth and light for the world. We are called to be salt of the earth and light for the world. True disciples of Jesus witness to others and help illuminate their way to God. As salt of the earth our deeds must always lead others to Christ or else we are like flavorless salt.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 1/2: \$ 4,080.59

Parish Dues: \$ 1,415.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

SECOND COLLECTION

NEXT WEEKEND ... FEBRUARY 15/16

... will be taken up for the victims of the earthquake in Puerto Rico.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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 – February 10 – 9:00 a.m.

DR. WILLIAM SHIPTON (Pat Lombel)

Tuesday, February 11 – 9:00 a.m.

RANDY ZAGAR (Dr. Edward Gaydos)

Wednesday – February 12 – 9:00 a.m.

ANNETTE LIEBERMAN (John & Kathryn Carroll)

Thursday – February 13 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN C. LEWIS (William C. Smith Jr.)

Friday, February 14 – 9:00 a.m.

WELLINGTON DAUBERT (Janet Daubert)

Saturday, February 15 – 5:00 p.m.

MAURICE & HELEN MIRABELLA

(Christine Maccarone)

Sunday, February 16 – 8:15 a.m.

DONALD & NANCY DOYNE (Don & Joanne Doyne)

Sunday, February 16 – 10:30 a.m.

BETTY GUSTITIS (Eugene Gustitis)

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, Joseph Brahler

BLESSED CANDLES are available in the sacristy after weekend Masses or at the rectory during the week. Box of 2 for \$5.00. Please call the Rectory.



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 – Special Intention by Mary Jean Morgalis
St. Joseph – IMO Pauline Zanis by Carl & Toni Wiest
Tabernacle IMO Anthony Zanis by Carl & Toni Wiest
Sanctuary
1. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family
2. IMO David Zanis by Carl & Toni Wiest
3. In Honor of Carl & Toni Wiest 60th Wedding Anniv.
by Carl & Toni Wiest
4. IMO Gail Morris by Fred & Hilda Maley
Guardian Angels
1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

SCHEDULE

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – February 15th

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz, Sharon Snyder

Servers: Dylan Bohorad, Andy & Brandon Smith

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – February 16th

Reader: Dave Smith

Euch.Min.: George Forney, Nick Quinn

Servers: R.J. Post, Olivia Tokonitz, Nathan Peckman

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – February 16th

Reader: Mary Matulevich

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace, Debbie Guers

Servers: Ethan & Ryan Grabowski, Madison Ryan

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.

Next Week's Readings

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (February 15/16)

Reading I: Sirach 15:15-20

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What satisfies your spiritual hunger?

How can you share the nourishment of your faith with someone today?

But I can enter Your house because of Your great love.

*I can worship in Your holy temple
because of my reverence for You, O Lord.*

Psalm 5:8

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

February

- 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.
- 16 Coffee & Pastries after Sunday Masses – L.H.
- 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

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

What separates YOU from committing to a holy hour of adoration? We need adorers for all 168 holy hours and subs for the open holy hours so that our dear Lord is never left alone! Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of Love! Examine your priorities! Are you indifferent or just too busy? We have a treasure in having our dear Lord present 24/7 in our adoration chapel. Don't let this treasure go to waste in your life!

We need adorers for the following hours:

Wednesday 10 a.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.

COFFEE & PASTRIES

Sunday, February 16th after Masses

Wrap up your Valentine weekend with coffee and conversation with your fellow parishioners after 8:15 or 10:30 Mass on February 16th. Coffee and pastries will be provided in Longinus Hall. Juice, milk and some healthy snacks will also be available.



If you would like to assist with this parish fellowship or your parish group would like to provide information on your parish ministry during this Sunday morning get together, please contact the rectory 622-5470.

LENTEN DINNERS

Our Lenten Dinners will begin February 28th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THURSDAYS

Preparation for Lenten Dinners
Anytime between 9:30 a.m. & 12 p.m.
at the Russell Building
Please call the Rectory: 622-5470



FRIDAYS

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

If you can help on Fridays during Lent, please let us know when you are available.

Students (12 and over) always welcome (excellent idea if you need service hours).

New faces always welcomeperhaps you are new to the parish and are looking for a way to get involved.

Waitresses & Waiters needed 3:45 to 7 p.m.

Help Loading Dishwasher ... 4 to 8 p.m.

Clean-up ... 6:45 to 8 p.m.

Just call our Scheduler.....

Maeve Ketner at 570-624-1452 or 570-573-8769.

FAMILY MATTERS

Valentine's Day – engaged and married. Valentine's Day – Ain't love grand! On this year's Valentine's Day, we are asking you to give to each other the gift that lasts – your total love and commitment to each other. We ask the Lord Jesus to also give the grace to sustain all married couples in their commitment to each other.

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

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION

*Women of all ages are invited to join
the Catholic Women's Union.*

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE

Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Monday, February 17th at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** Meet the members and learn how you can be part of this unique organization. We share ideas and light refreshments are served. We work to raise money for our parish and have fun doing it. We also share in fellowship by sharing in a Spring and Fall Auction, Christmas Party, and the Spring Covered Dish Party. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed.

For more information call St. John's Rectory: 622-5470.



NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

GIFTS FOR ME BINGO sponsored by the Nativity Green & Gold Booster Club on **Sunday, February 9th** at the high school. Cost \$20 ... refreshments available ... for more information please call Nativity 622-8110.

ST. JOSEPH CENTER FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

POSITION AVAILABLE ... St. Joseph Center in Pottsville is seeking a motivated, enthusiastic and caring person to conduct all phases of comprehensive development and marketing programs. The individual will provide strong leadership and work in collaboration with the Administration, Board of Directors and volunteers. This person must be passionate about advocating for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This is a full-time, year-round position with benefits. The Center is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified candidates should send résumé and references to Robert Giba, Principal, rgiba@stjosephctr.com.

29TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC ... hosted by St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on **Friday, May 15th** at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Sponsor and/or join us for an adventurous day of food, fellowship and, of course... golf! For more information, please visit www.stjosephctr.com. Discover why St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is truly a special place for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

St. John's ENSEMBLE

The purpose of this ministry is to serve the parish at Mass, singing liturgical hymns, using contemporary instruments like the guitar, keyboard, drums or other instruments, and using contemporary music arrangements.

We invite **ANYONE** in the parish wanting to share his or her voice and musical gifts whether you are a beginner or more experienced. Arrangements are not complicated and songs are familiar. You do not need to know how to read music to join us. We will teach anyone who has a willing heart.

Our goal is to play/sing once a month at one of the weekend Masses. Practices will be one or, at most, twice a month for ONE HOUR, to prepare for music at Mass that week. This is a great way to participate in parish life and have fun with only a small commitment of your time.

Why not give it a try and give back to your parish family by sharing the gifts God has given to you?

If interested call **the Rectory 622-5470.**

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Today we celebrate World Marriage Day honoring the lifelong commitment of husbands and wives to each other. Make your marriage a priority by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. For information call 610-449-1859 or visit www.wwme.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

WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION: His Wounds, Our Healing ... A Lenten Reflection on our identity as beloved to be held **Saturday, March 14th** from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux in Nesquehoning, with Fr. John Frink, Pastor, St. John XXIII Parish in Tamaqua. Registration: \$15 (includes breakfast) | allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality. Deadline is March 7th. *Sponsored by the Commission for Women of the Diocese of Allentown.*

ST. JOHN'S BENEFICIAL SOCIETY will meet on **Wednesday, February 12th at 8 p.m.** in the Rectory Fellowship Room.

2019 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

You can request a copy of your 2019 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshiping 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.

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

1. Eucharist literally means "come together to break bread."
True / False
2. When a baby is baptized, who speaks for the child until they can profess their faith for themselves at the sacrament of Confirmation?
(a) priests (b) grandparents (c) altar servers (d) parents
3. In the sacrament of Matrimony, the couple vows to be open to what?
(a) wedding presents (b) having children (c) moving for a better job (d) volunteering in the parish
4. Jesus' first miracle was the Wedding at _____.
(a) Cana (b) Jerusalem (c) Bethlehem (d) Nazareth
5. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles like tongues of what?
(a) doves (b) cows (c) incense (d) fire
6. Only mortal sins should be confessed to a priest.
True / False

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.

Cerullo, Datte & Burke, P.C.	
Attorneys at Law	
Martin J. Cerullo (mcerullo@cdblaw.net)	Garfield Square 450 West Market St. P.O. Box 450
Paul J. Datte (pdatte@cdblaw.net)	Pottsville, PA 17901
Stanley J. Burke (sburke@cdblaw.net)	570-622-0767 FAX 570-622-0798

Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

- * It's inexpensive Advertising
- * It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
- * It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Own Neighborhood
- * It Develops Good Community Relationships
- * It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

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.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

DESIGNER PURSE BINGO on Sunday,

February 23rd at Divine Mercy Hall, 400 Block of W. Cherry St. in Mt. Carmel. Doors open 1 p.m.; Bingo starts 2 p.m. Cost \$20 if purchased ahead; \$25 at the door. Foods available for purchase. For more information and tickets please call 570-975-5613.



HEALTHY NOTES ... Exercise is an important – and often overlooked – strategy for both preventing and treating depression, according to a research review in *Current Sports Medicine Reports*. The research cited included a meta-analysis of 49 cohort studies, which followed nearly 267,000 people who were not depressed at baseline for a year or longer. After adjusting for factors that could influence depression risk, it found that higher levels of physical activity and exercise reduced the chance of developing depression by 17% overall. Another meta-analysis cited in the review, which looked at 25 randomized, controlled trials testing the effects of exercise in people who already had depression, found that exercise training had a “very large and significant antidepressant effect” compared to various control interventions. Finding an enjoyable activity, having support from friends and family, and being supervised by a fitness professional all increased the likelihood of starting and sustaining an exercise program, the authors noted.

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.”

ANSWERS TO WHAT’S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

- 1.False.** It means “thanksgiving.” The Mass is when Catholics express “gratitude to God for all ... that he has accomplished through creation, redemption, and sanctification.”
 - 2. (d)** Baptism releases the child from original sin, welcomes him/her into the Church, and makes the baby an adopted child of God. Why would parents wait until Confirmation to give their child these gifts?
 - 3. (b)** Catholic couples vow to be faithful to each other, be open to having children, and stay together until they die, no matter what life brings.
 - 4. (a)** in John’s Gospel, this miracle marked the beginning of Jesus’ ministry.
 - 5. (d)** The Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost, described in Acts 2:3 as tongues of fire resting on each disciple. Fire symbolizes “the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit’s actions.” While the Spirit is present in every sacrament, we identify the gifts of the Spirit at Confirmation, in the anointing of oil, and the laying of hands, as being “sealed” with the Holy Spirit.
 - 6. False.** Mortal sins must be confessed to repair our relationship with God. Monthly confession, however, is a good practice even if we don’t have any mortal sins because it gives us God’s grace to avoid sin.
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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.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

If you or someone you know has been ill or in the hospital and unable to attend Mass, please call the Rectory and inform Father of your condition. We don't always know if a person has been ill or hospitalized until after the fact! We are willing to visit and or make arrangements for Holy Communion once your condition is known. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and helping us be of service to you.



*Those whose steps are guided by the Lord;
whose way God approves, may stumble,
but they will never fall,
for the Lord holds their hand.
Psalm 37:23-24*
