

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

Established in 1841

10<sup>th</sup> & 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**

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**February 16, 2020**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

In this Sunday's readings, the first reading from Sirach tells the people they can choose to follow the Commandments or not. But keeping the Commandments will save them. In St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians, he writes of the greatest of greatness prepared for those who love God.

In today's gospel Jesus came to fulfill the law so that heaven could be open to the righteous. In Matthew's gospel Jesus teaches about the law. He says that he has come to fulfill the law and that those who keep it will be called the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus' teachings are not primarily about the joys and the easiness of the Christian life, but rather about the Commandments that our loving God gives to us for our freedom and good. He who is perfect love, made us in love and sent his son out of love to teach us what it means to partake in his life – both here and forever.

Yours in Christ,

*Father Dave*

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### WEEKLY COLLECTION

**February 8/9: \$ 4,165.13**

**Parish Improvements & Repairs: \$ 1,648.00**

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.*

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### 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 17 – 9:00 a.m.**

**PETER KOSTICK** (Anne Guscow)

**Tuesday, February 18 – 9:00 a.m.**

**RITA TROUTMAN** (Joe Orłowsky & Family)

**Wednesday – February 19 – 9:00 a.m.**

**MARY HAHNER** (Ed Hahner)

**Thursday – February 20 – 9:00 a.m.**

**JOHN B. LIEBERMAN IV** (Tony & Lucilla Kochol)

**Friday, February 21 – 9:00 a.m.**

**ELIZABETH BAMBRICK BURNS**

(Ron & Pat Lombel)

**Saturday, February 22 – 5:00 p.m.**

**JOHN & LORRAINE TASSO**

**Sunday, February 23 – 8:15 a.m.**

**JOSEPHINE TOOMEY, 29<sup>th</sup> Anniv.**

(Sons, Dan, Jim, John)

**Sunday, February 23 – 10:30 a.m.**

**DOROTHY BLUM** (Connie Brown)

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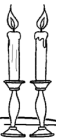
### **PRAY FOR OUR SICK / DECEASED**

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: James Campion. Deceased: Joseph Brahler*

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**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.



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### **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 Richard H. Weiss by Becky Weiss  
**Tabernacle** IMO George L. Klassen Jr.  
by Fred & Hilda Maley

#### Sanctuary

1. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family  
2. IMO Alice Crosby by Fred & Hilda Maley  
3. M/M Joseph Hudak by Becky Weiss  
4. IMO Anna Melicharik by Becky Weiss

#### Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO George L. Klassen Jr. by Family

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### SCHEDULE

#### 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

##### 5 p.m. – Saturday – February 22<sup>nd</sup>

**Reader:** Patty O'Neill

**Euch.Min.:** Bill Gianfagna, Carol Lasco,  
(Larry Lonergan)

**Servers:** Finley, Bennett, Lukas McNamara

**Cantor:** Lucilla Kochol

##### 8:15 a.m. – Sunday – February 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Reader:** Michelle Ambrose

**Euch.Min.:** Jeff Naffin, Michael Ambrose,  
Bobby Rienzo

**Servers:** Evan & Gavin Woodward, Cooper Chiplonia

**Cantor:** Debbie Purcell

##### 10:30 a.m. – Sunday – February 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Reader:** Mary Matulevich

**Euch.Min.:** Justina Majestic, Frank Murphy

**Servers:** Noah & Helena Fredericks, Ava Orlowsky

**Cantor:** Ensemble

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### Next Week's Readings

#### 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (February 22/23)

**Reading I:** Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

**Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

**Gospel:** Matthew 5:38-48

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### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

To what does the Gospel ask you to say yes?

To what does it ask you to say no?

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### MEN'S GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

*Men's Gospel Reflection Group* meeting will take place on Tuesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Rectory Fellowship Room. This group is open to any men interested in reflecting on how the Gospel impacts their lives. All are welcome! Please call the rectory with any questions 570-622-5470.

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*A friend owes kindness to one in despair ... Job 6:14*

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## DRAMATIC STATIONS

St. John's Dramatic Stations of the Cross recreates on stage and through song, the final days of the life of Jesus Christ.

We need men, women and children for the cast. There are many non-speaking parts for those who do not wish to assume a speaking role. People are also needed for the stage crew (props, lighting, sound, etc.) or to help distribute the costumes, etc. If you are a veteran of the Dramatic Stations Presentations, we are looking forward to your return and we ask that you please invite someone new to join you for this year's presentation. If you are new to the parish, we invite you to join us. In addition, it is a great way to meet new people. Many veterans tell us that their participation in the Dramatic Stations is a very meaningful and spiritual way for them to observe the Lenten Season. It is a wonderful family activity as well.

For further information or questions,  
please call the **Rectory 622-5470.**

#### REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

**Tuesdays & Thursdays – 7 to 8:15 p.m. – in church**  
**Beginning Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.**



### FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

**Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7**  
**p.m. Longinus Hall**

**Parents are required to attend this meeting.**

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### 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.**

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*Happy the people who know You, Lord,  
who walk in the radiance of Your face.*

*Psalm 89:16*

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## LENTEN DINNERS

Our Lenten Dinners will begin February 28<sup>th</sup>.

### 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 welcome ....perhaps 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.

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> 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.**



## 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.

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

## LENTEN DINNERS

Full course dinners including the best home-made New England Clam Chowder, freshly baked Haddock or Salmon, or Lump Crab Cakes, a wonderful Salad Bar, choice of Macaroni & Cheese, Baked or Mashed Potatoes, choice of Vegetables, Beverages, and of course, our Delicious Homemade Desserts.... 4 to 7 p.m. at the Russell Building ... Fridays during Lent.

(No dinner on Good Friday)

### Adults

**Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 15.00**

**1 Lump Crab Cake \$ 15.00**

**2 Lump Crab Cakes \$ 18.00**

### Adult Special

**Lump Crab Cake & Choice of Fish \$ 18.00**

### Children (under 12 only)

**Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 8.00**

**1 Lump Crab Cake \$ 8.00**

### TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE

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### HOMEMADE DESSERTS NEEDED

*"St. John's is famous for  
their delicious homemade desserts"*

St. John's Food Committee is in need of your baking talents. Each year we could not succeed without your delicious desserts. If you would like to make Jello, Pudding, Pies, Cakes, or anything you can dream up, we will greatly appreciate it. Please make your favorite dessert and bring it to the Russell Building on Thursdays or Fridays during Lent.

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## 50 / 50 CHANCES

Every Friday during Lent the Catholic Women's Union will sell 50/50 Chances at the Lenten Dinners. Drawings will take place at 7 p.m. each week.

## 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!

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## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** Couples, do you have a desire for your good marriage to be even better? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will help you discover new ways to refresh your Marriage. For information call 610-449-1859 or visit [www.wvme.org](http://www.wvme.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 29<sup>th</sup>**. 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](http://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](http://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 14<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality) . Deadline is March 7<sup>th</sup>. *Sponsored by the Commission for Women of the Diocese of Allentown.*

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## WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Christopher & Angie Fowler** to St. John's Parish Family. Christopher is employed at Merck Co. and Angie is a Spanish teacher at Gillingham Charter School. Warmly embrace the Fowler's into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 15 Yorktowne Road, Pottsville, Pa. 17901



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## CATHOLIC CHARITIES GALA

There is still time to support this year's Catholic charities Gala honoring Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin and Anthony & Mary Martocci.

*If you win, the parish wins too!*

**First Prize:** An evening in Manhattan which includes two exclusive tickets for the March 16<sup>th</sup> Broadway Preview performance of a musical based on the life of Princess Diana, limousine service and a pre-show reception with New York Luminaries.

**Plus!** Winner's Parish will receive a \$300 cash prize!

**Second Prize:** Diamond Bracelet

**Plus!** Winner's Parish will receive a \$300 cash prize!

**Third Prize:** Hotel Bethlehem Getaway.

**Plus!** Winner's Parish will receive \$200 cash prize!

**Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20** which can be purchased from the parish office or by contacting Lucia DeMarco at 610-871-5200 ext. 2113.

*Winners will be drawn at the Gala on March 8<sup>th</sup>.*

*You do not have to be present to win.*

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## ST. JOSEPH CENTER FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

**POSITION AVAILABLE** ... We are 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. 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](mailto:rgiba@stjosephctr.com).

**29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC** ... hosted by St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on **Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://www.stjosephctr.com). Discover why St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is truly a special place for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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## 2019 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

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

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**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS** Get your blood pressure checked in Longinus Hall after all Masses next weekend, **February 22/23.**



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## UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

### February

- 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.  
27 Dramatic Stations practice 7-8:15 p.m. - Church  
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
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## **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 10<sup>th</sup> Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

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## **NEIGHBORING EVENTS**

**DESIGNER PURSE BINGO** on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.



## **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.”*

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## **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.**

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## **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.

**Roma** Pizzeria & Restaurant  
116 West Market St Pottsville, PA  
**570-628-5551**  
*Private Dining Area*  
*Catering For all Occasions*  
**Best Pizza In Schuylkill County**  
[www.RomaPizzaPottsville.com](http://www.RomaPizzaPottsville.com)

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  - \* It’s Advertising Concentrated in Your Own Neighborhood
  - \* It Develops Good Community Relationships
  - \* It’s Good For Developing Loyal Customers
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**HEALTHY NOTES ... Want to know how big of an impact you’re making on the environment?** Use the carbon footprint calculator at [CoolClimate.org/calculator](http://CoolClimate.org/calculator). A carbon footprint is a measure of the greenhouse gases released in the production, use, and disposal of everything you consume. This includes emissions from transportation, household energy, waste, water, food, goods, and services. Developed by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, with financial support from the California Air Resources Board, this online tool helps you quickly compare your household carbon footprint to similar households in your zip code, city, or state, and

then prioritize the things you can do to reduce your climate impact. Also see [CoolClimate.org/maps](http://CoolClimate.org/maps) to compare the carbon footprint of different zip codes in the U.S.

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*A friend owes kindness to one in despair ... Job 6:14*

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