

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

First Sunday in Lent • February 21, 2021



Mass Intentions

Monday, February 22

9:00 a.m. Lucky Mulqueen
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Tuesday, February 23

9:00 a.m. John & Lorraine Tasso

Wednesday, February 24

9:00 a.m. Josephine Toomey
(Sons, Dan, Jim, John)

Thursday, February 25

9:00 a.m. Francis Blum
(Joey Kurtek)

Friday, February 26

9:00 a.m. George Klassen Jr.
(Family)

Saturday, February 27

5:00 p.m. Helen Hufnagle
(Catholic Women's Union)

Sunday, February 28

8:15 a.m. Nancy & Donald Doyne
(Don & Joanne Doyne)

Sunday, February 28

10:30 a.m. John B. Lieberman IV
(Friends of John)

Next Week's Readings

Second Sunday of Lent
(February 27/28)

Reading I: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Reading II: Romans 8:31b-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

As we begin our season of Lent, in the readings we are going to hear the word 'Covenant' quite often over the next few Sundays.

Today's first reading is about the covenant God made with Noah and his descendants which included all of us too, the entire human race. A normal covenant would include promises to parties made to one another and expectations that the separate parties had of one another. The covenant made with Noah, however, is one-sided. God simply promises that He would never destroy the world by a flood again and He asks nothing of Noah in return.

St. Peter in the second reading reminds us of the covenant God made with us at baptism. God would share his home life with us and parents promise for us or we ourselves promised if we were old enough that we would be obedient and faithful sons and daughters of our Father, God. If we were too young to make those promises ourselves, as we grow older we have to make our own personal commitment to God if we hope to share in the blessings of God's covenant with us.

Jesus brought us a new covenant. And in the gospel for this Sunday He begins his public ministry after being tempted by Satan in the desert.

As we move into the season of Lent, it is an end into itself. We go into the desert with Jesus in order to advance in holiness and in our spiritual life. All the blessings and trials in our lives are not closed events. They are precursors to more. Greater trust in God, being part of his covenant, a deeper union with Him, and a greater sense of our mission to proclaim the Kingdom of God to others.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dave

Stations of the Cross

6:00 p.m. Sundays during Lent

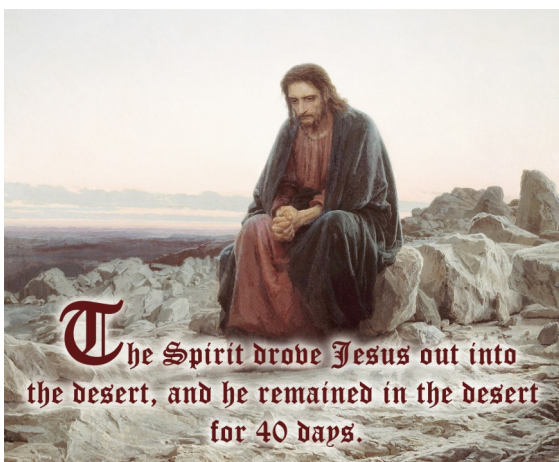


Pray

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 • *Mary Ellen Cross*

For Our Deceased • *Scott Glunz and William Schmitt*



The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for 40 days.

Upcoming Events

February

| | | | |
|----|-----------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 21 | 6:00 p.m. | Stations of the Cross | Church |
| 25 | 7:00 p.m. | Sharing Christ: Week 3..... | L.H. |
| 28 | 6:00 p.m. | Stations of the Cross | Church |

March

| | | | |
|----|-----------|--|--------|
| 4 | 7:00 p.m. | Sharing Christ: Week 4..... | L.H. |
| 5 | 9:30 a.m. | First Friday Adoration | Church |
| 5 | 4:00 p.m. | Lenten Dinner pre-order pick-up (until 6:00 p.m.) | R.B. |
| 7 | 6:00 p.m. | Stations of the Cross | Church |
| 11 | 7:00 p.m. | Sharing Christ: Week 5..... | L.H. |
| 14 | 9:00 a.m. | CCD Classes | School |
| 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Confirmation Class..... | L.H. |

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

February 13/14\$5,534.13
Improvements & Repairs . \$828.00

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

Special Collection

Next weekend members of the Schuylkill Council Knights of Columbus will be present to take up a collection for Saint Joseph Learning Center.

Catholic Home Missions

Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territory, because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
2. Health of Hilda Maley by Fred & Hilda Maley

St. Joseph

1. IMO Babe Heller by Barbara Wollyung
2. IMO Frances & Thelma Maley by Fred & Hilda Maley

Sanctuary

IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
3. IMO Mary Adams by Fred & Hilda Maley
4. IMO Baby Robbie Doyle by Family

3 Pillars of Lent

PRAYER

WHAT IS IT? **PRAYER** is the action that leads people to God. We take time away from the distractions of the world, **to turn to God**, to contemplate, to listen and talk to Him, to read His words and meditate on them, to be one with Him. Prayer gives meaning to Lenten practices, which should draw us closer to Him.



FASTING

WHAT IS IT? **FASTING** is restricting consumption, depriving yourself of both good and bad things for the glory of God. This means normally watching what you eat, on a day that it is practiced, one regular meal and two small ones. During Lent, we fast on **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday**. **ABSTINENCE** is practiced all Fridays of Lent.



ALMSGIVING

WHAT IS IT? **ALMSGIVING** is the action that leads us Christians to see others, love them, listen to them and them our time, help, advice, money, shelter, company, affection. It is not limited to giving material goods, it is the gift of self. It is based on **CHARITY**, to love God and others as oneself. To give alms is to be united to Christ in his poverty.



Bulletin Boosters

- IMO Carl Bartholomew
- IMO Harold Bartholomew
- IMO Robert Berger
- IMO Edward Christ
- Mildred A. Fredericks
- Fr. Don Henry
- IMO M/M Herbert Henry
- IMO Joanne Hepler
- IMO Clare & Linda Houser
- IIMO Philomena Loeper
- MO Charles Lorenz
- IMO Dorothy Parsick
- IMO Jeanne Rehnert
- IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
- IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
- IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
- IMO Margaret Zelinsky
- Living & Deceased of St. John's
- CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!



Christ Life Recap: Called to Share Christ

Our third Christ Life course called Sharing Christ began February 11. The goals of this course are: to foster a faith environment that renews our thinking and behavior, to teach practical ways of sharing our faith, and to encourage one another that evangelization is a joy and an adventure. We learned that Christ came on a search and rescue mission to seek and save the lost. We can choose to perish or to have eternal life. The Church exists to share this Good News through the task of evangelization. Evangelization is helping others to enter into personal relationship with Jesus Christ, becoming his disciples, as members of his Church. There is an urgent need for evangelizers in the world today.

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) ____ 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 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 _____



February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 9:8-15 | 1 Pt 3:18-22 | Mk 1:12-15

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Even amid the forced slowdown of a pandemic, distractions abound: Netflix bingeing, online shopping, even positive pursuits like home organizing and personal fitness. I confess I indulge in all of these (except for home organizing). Lent challenges me to let go of the unnecessary distractions and dare to make friends with solitude, which can be a daunting proposition because it means keeping company with my own thoughts. Jesus, our human and divine Savior, faced the desert and was tempted by Satan. But he also emerged *from* the desert, and announced himself and the Gospel to the people of Galilee. He goes on to accept his death on a cross for the sake of our salvation, the fulfillment of the covenant between God and his people. As we enter Lent, as we enter *our* desert, we pray for the fortitude to forego temptation, opening our hearts to God's will for us, and ready to proclaim it to the world.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

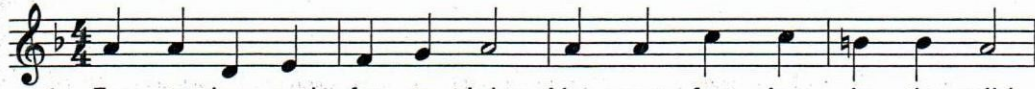
What are you doing for Lent this year? I ask our kids that every Ash Wednesday around the dinner table, and one or more of us often scramble for a plan. "Umm ... candy! I'll give up candy except Snickers." "No Netflix!" Or we take the "do good" route: "I'll pray more." "I'll help with chores." "I'll volunteer or donate to charity." All good things. Whatever "the plan," however, today's Gospel challenges me to be quiet and listen. While a plan gives us accountability and can lead to growth, sometimes less truly can be more. This year, I'd like to spend less time planning and more time listening for God's voice in the silence, which I find personally challenging. For others, the desert may look quite different. However we decide to approach Lent, let us pray that these 40 days bring us closer to God and our lives more in line with his will for us.

PRAY "One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." The verse before today's Gospel caught my attention. What can I pare away from my daily life to make room for the word of God? For those of us whose minds tend to wander when praying silently, perhaps listening to the daily readings can be a good way to start or end the day.

ENTRANCE

FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS

350



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights You were fast - ing in the wild;
2. Shall not we your sor - row share And from world - ly joys ab - stain,
3. Then if Sa - tan on us press, Flesh or spir - it to as - sail,
4. So shall we have peace di - vine: Ho - lier glad - ness ours shall be;



1. For - ty days and for - ty nights Tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.
2. Fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, Strong with you to suf - fer pain?
3. Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, Grant we may not faint nor fail!
4. Round us, too, shall an - gels shine, Such as served you faith - ful - ly.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

℣. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to

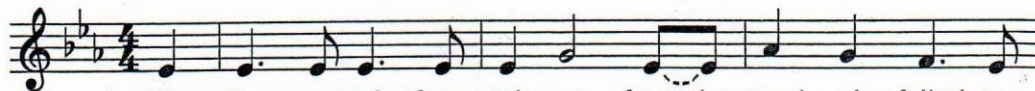


those who keep your cov - e - nant.

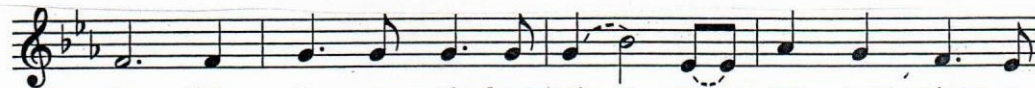
OFFERTORY

339

ASHES



1. We rise a - gain from ash - es, from the good we've failed to
2. We of - fer you our fail - ures, we ___ of - fer you at -



1. do. We rise a - gain from ash - es, to cre - ate our - selves a -
2. tempts, the gifts not ful - ly giv - en, the ___ dreams not ful - ly



1. new. If ___ all our world is ash - es, then ___ must our lives be
2. dreamt. Give our stum - bl - ings di - rec - tion, give our vi - sions wid - er



1. true, an ___ of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.
2. view, an ___ of - fer - ing of ash - es, an of - fer - ing to you.

RECESSIONAL

LENT

JESUS WALKED THIS LONESOME VALLEY

356



1. Je - sus walked this lone - some val - ley;
 2. We must walk this lone - some val - ley;
 3. You must go and stand your tri - al;



1. He had to walk it by him - self.
 2. We have to walk it by our - selves.
 3. You have to stand it by your - self.



1. Oh, no - bod - y else could walk it for him;
 2. Oh, no - bod - y else can walk it for us;
 3. Oh, no - bod - y else can stand it for you;



1. He had to walk it by him - self.
 2. We have to walk it by our - selves.
 3. You have to stand it by your - self.

