

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Our nation was founded and flourished as we declared "In God We Trust." As we turn away from God, trouble begins within our lands. It has happened before.

The hand of God is traced in the great events of history. In 589 BC King Nebuchadnezzar of the Babylonian Empire destroyed Jerusalem and leveled the temple. The Jews were taken to Babylon and placed in captivity. They grew old, dreaming of their lost land. After half a century, the Lord anointed Cyrus, King of Persia, grasping his right hand. In 539 BC, Cyrus marched towards Jerusalem. There, he took and rebuilt the city. He restored the temple, fulfilling the words of the prophet Jeremiah. God still sends messages to us today.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – March 12 – 9:00 a.m.

ROBERT MCCLAY

(York Terrace Staff & Residents)

Tuesday, March 13 – 9:00 a.m.

ALBERT & REGINA SCHMIDT

Wednesday, March 14 – 9:00 a.m.

VERNA MACCARONE (Nancy King & Family)

Thursday, March 15 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN HEACOCK (Pat Lombel)

Friday, March 16 – 9:00 a.m.

TIMOTHY GRICKIS (Gene & Peggy Ebling)

Saturday, March 17 – 5 p.m.

EDWARD SMITH (Grandchildren)

Sunday – March 18 – 8:15 a.m.

NANCY & DONALD DOYNE & JANE SUNDAY

(Don & Joanne Doyne)

Sunday – March 18 - 10:30 a.m.

JOHN DALTON SR.

(Cal & Janet Hoy. Jack & Lois Dalton Families)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler

by Frances Brahler Mickey

St. Joseph - Health & Welfare of

Bill & Mary Ann Schweikert

Tabernacle - IMO Carol Siegle by Millie, Ellen & Barb

Sanctuary

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Family

2. In honor of Marie Fitzpatrick

by James & Kathleen Scheibelhut

3. IMO Theresa Sencak by Frances Lorenz

4. IMO Tim Murphy by Babe Murphy

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Edward Smith by Grandchildren

SCHEDULE

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – March 17th

Reader: Chris Disabella

Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy, (Dr. Visot)

Servers: Luke & Lindsay Garvey, Mark Disabella

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 18th

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: Mike Ambrose, John Corbacio,

(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Gabriella Quinn, Ethan & Ryan Grabowski

Cantor: Eileen Forney

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 18th

Reader: Evielyn Hower

Euch.Min.: Debbie Guers, Janet Daubert,

(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Izabelle, Bethany, Trinity Reedy

Cantor: Dave Derbes

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: *Mary Connell, Jerry Schoenauer, Dorothy Blum, Doug Broughton, Paul Burns, Addelyn & Elinia Major, Mary Lou Roeder, Eric Neifert, Laverne Yackel*

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What do you find loveable in the world today?

Next Week's Readings

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (March 17/18)

Reading I: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Reading II: Hebrews 5:7-0

Gospel: John 12:20-33

WASHING OF FEET

The ritual of "Washing of the Feet" is a powerful symbol of our identity as a servant people. It is a visual extension of the homily. This action so profound, yet simple and ordinary, serves to remind us all of the immense love of God for us visible in Christ Jesus.

If any parishioner would like to participate in the

"Washing of the Feet" on Holy

Thursday (you can remain in your pew

and Father Dave will do the washing

there). Please call the **Rectory 622-**

5470 or sign up in the back of church.



While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, cold and heart, and Summer and Winter, day and night shall not cease. ... Gen.8:22

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

Dr. Robert DeColli at 640-1910
or the **Rectory 622-5470.**

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays – 7 to 8:15 p.m. – in church.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Words of Our Lord...In Sinu Jesu *"The practice of adoration is not difficult. It is a gentle abiding in My presence, a resting in the radiance of My Eucharistic Face, a closeness to My Eucharistic Heart....Ask, then for the gift of adoration."*

We need adorers for the following hours:

Monday 10 p.m.

Wednesday 11 a.m.

Thursday 4 a.m. & 8 p.m.

Friday 10 a.m.

Saturday 4 a.m. & 12 p.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.

Please call Aleece 449-7678.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Encounter Andrise. We encounter Andrise, a teacher in Haiti who knows the importance of forming young people who will give back to the young people who will give back to the community – and their country. Reflect on the role teachers have played in bringing you closer to God and your community. How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities?

Visit csrcricebowl.org for more.

PARISH COUNCIL

St. John's Parish Council will meet

Monday, March 12th – 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.

There are two ways that any parishioner may raise a question or concern or make recommendations.

1. Parishioners may approach any Parish Council Member listed below and ask that a question, concern, etc. be brought up at the meeting.
2. Parishioners may write their concerns, etc. and put it (them) in the suggestion box provided in the rear of the church. These may be signed or unsigned. They will then be brought up at the Council meeting.

Elected Members

Bob Bechtel
Nora Chiplonia
John Consugar
Paul Datte
Janet Daubert
Robert DeColli Jr.
Paul Filiac
Joseph Gerchak
Christy Joy
Alicia Kleman
Kevin McNamara
Al Norkus
Patty O'Neill
Josette Peckman
John Powers
Nick Quinn

Appointed Members

Darren DeArment
Lucilla Kochol
Patty O'Neill
Connor McNamara
Joe Rehnert

Ex-Officio

Ed Brahler
Deacon Larry Lonergan
Deacon Luis R. Visot
Father Dave Loeper



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



Confirmation will be conferred
at St. John's -- 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25th, 2018

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesdays during Lent

@ St. John's – 7 p.m. - Chapel

Please join us each Wednesday during Lent
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament,
Stations of the Cross, followed by
Benediction.



Jesus falls a second time.

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

JULY 20 + 21, 2018

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !

LENTEN DINNERS

... WELCOME ...

We are pleased to welcome new parishioners,
Ann Marie & Dominic DeFrank,
 who will be overseeing our Lenten Dinners this year.

Our Original Recipes are back!!!

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)

Better prices for all of this cannot be found anywhere!

Adults

Baked Haddock or Salmon	\$ 14.00
1 Lump Crab Cake	\$ 14.00
2 Lump Crab Cakes	\$ 17.00

Adult Special

Lump Crab Cake & Choice of Fish \$ 17.00

Children (under 12 only)

Baked Haddock or Salmon	\$ 8.00
1 Lump Crab Cake	\$ 8.00

TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE



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.



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.



Winners: February 16 – Miriam Tirjan
 February 23 – Mr. Hanzok

2017 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

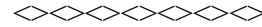
You can request a copy of your 2017 Contribution Record by calling the rectory ... 622-5470 ext 3.

LENTEN DINNERS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THURSDAYS

Preparation for Lenten Dinners
 Anytime between 9:30 a.m. & 2 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 GUILD GIFT CARD CALENDAR

SPONSORS

BeeHive	Sharon & Larry Lonergan
Dr. Tom & Kay Boran	Victor E. Muncy Inc.
Charlie's Pizza & Subs	Nativity BVM High School
DiCello Chiropractic	Bob & Mary Porter
Eastern Press	Ed & Carole Quirin
Brian & Sue Eckley	Noble & Jule Quandel
Friends of St. John's	Rosenberger Plumbing&Heat.
Dr. Richard A. Greco	Schlitz-Allen-Pugh Funeral
Jim & Lori Guzick	St. Clair Auto Supply
Bob & Susan Hahner	St. John's CYO Program
HeadQuarter's Styling Salon – Bobbi Murray	
Heaven & Earth Salon	Luis R. & Virginia C. Visot
Tony & Lucilla Kochol	Joanne Wood/Jackie Szeliga
	Z&M Painting & Papering
Zimmerman, Lieberman, Tamulonis, Hobbs Law Offices	

Winners:

March 1:	Mark Purcell
March 2:	Catherine Cooper
March 3:	Carolyn Soponis
March 4:	Stephanie Viduszynski
March 5:	Donna Connors
March 6:	Mary Jo Laslow

But he knoweth the way that I take, and when He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold. ... Job 23:10

CONGRATULATIONS

St. Patrick's Varsity Girls' Basketball team finished in 2nd place this past weekend in the 2017-2018 Diocese of Allentown CYO Championship Tournament. The team is comprised of girls from both **St. Patrick's** and **St. John's** parishes. It was a great season for these girls. They worked hard and finished with a season record of 14-1. Their only loss was to St. Thomas More in the championship game Sunday.



Top Row: Coach Dennis Siket, Livia Hable, Brooke Siket, Taylor Welsh, Gillian Blankenhorn, Alex Blum, Julia Plachko, Coach Ron Abdo

Bottom Row: Kamryn Abdo, Maya Golden, Alex Hall, Jillian Guzick

NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL ...

POSITION AVAILABLE ... accepting applications for a **Head Track & Field Coach**. Head Coaching experience preferred for Track & Field. Interested candidates should send résumé, certifications and all clearances to: **Nativity BVM High School**

Attn: Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal
One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901
lsabol@nativitybvm.net

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS ...

Get your blood pressure checked in Longinus Hall after all Masses next weekend, **March 17/18**.

ST. JOHN'S BENEFICIAL SOCIETY will meet on **Wednesday, March 14th at 8 p.m.** in the Rectory Fellowship Room.

STEWARDSHIP LIBRARY

Stewardship Displays are located at the church exits. There are many items available including CD's, Rosaries, Self-help and Informational Booklets, etc. **New Items include:** Music (lower door); Divine Mercy (main church), in addition to other great CD's or books.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

March

- 11 Family Guild 'Lent Event' – 11:30 a.m. – R.B.
- 11 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 11 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 12 Parish Council – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 13 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 13 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 14 St. John's Beneficial Society – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 15 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 16 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 17/18 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses – L.H.
- 18 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 18 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 20 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 20 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 21 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7:30 p.m. -L.H.
- 22 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 23 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 25 Dramatic Stations Presentation – 7:30 p.m.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

The following are guidelines established by St. John's Cemetery Committee:

- Shrubs are not permitted on cemetery grounds except those authorized by cemetery authorities.
- Flowers or plants may be planted in the ground, but must remain within 12 inches of base of memorial.
- All artificial decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Christmas.
- All decorations except those flowers or plants planted in the ground, must be removed by **July 1st**
- Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden.
- All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in receptacle in Cemetery.

... I was exceedingly glad when some of the friends came and testified to your faithfulness to the truth

3 John 1:2

EASTER 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
Cold Cereal	Vegetable - Canned
Beef Stew	Spaghetti
Soups	Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Canned Gravy	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Macaroni (box)	

Items of the Month Needed: Canned Soups / Canned or Jarred Fruit, Hot or Cold Cereals

PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS

Please Do Not donate any nutritional drinks (Ensure, etc.)

If anyone wishes to donate a **Ham** for this collection, please call the Rectory 622-5470. **Donations will be accepted until March 24th.**

Giant Gift cards to purchase hams will be gladly accepted.

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10th Street entrance at the bottom of the steps

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

HOMEMADE EASTER CANDY: ... sponsored by St. Anne Guild of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Ashland. Easter Eggs for \$1.00 each, and a dozen for \$12.

Flavors are: Peanut Butter, Cherry, Butter Cream and Coconut Cream. Orders can be placed by calling the Parish Office at 570-875-1521.

EASTER FOOD & CRAFT FESTIVAL: ... sponsored by St. Mary's Church, 94 Walnut Rd., Hamburg on **Saturday, March 24th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Easter candy, breads, flowers, pysanky eggs, handmade rosaries; kitchen will be open serving breakfast & lunch. For more info call 610-562-7657 ext.0.

OLDIES DANCE ... sponsored by St. Mary's Church, 94 Walnut Rd., Hamburg, on Saturday, **April 14th** at 6:30 p.m. Doors & kitchen open 5:15 p.m. Tickets \$10 pre-purchase; \$12 at the door. For more info call 610-562-7657 ext. 0.

HALUPKI & HALUSKI SALE ... sponsored by St. Michael's Ukrainian Church, 300 W. Oak St., Shenandoah on **Saturday, April 21st.** Taking orders until April 10. Halupki \$2.00 each; Haluski \$6.00 quart (Pre-Orders only) Pick-up from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Call Theresa at 570-467-3894, leave message including phone number or email tmyk@ptd.net.

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.

**HAUPTLY ELECTRIC -
PLUMBING - CARPENTRY**

New Services: Re-wire / Appliance Install / Bathrooms
/Furnaces / General Home Repair

Call Bill Hauptly (570) 691-8700

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- * 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

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER – *Tired of winter? Wishing it was spring?* SHAKE OFF THOSE WINTER "BLAHS" and put the freshness of romance back into your relationship on a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND. For info call 732-904-9636 or www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

LENTEN RETREAT FOR WOMEN The Diocese of Allentown Commission for Women invites all women to the *Preparing Our Souls for Our Savior Lenten Retreat* held at the Diocesan Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, 1 Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning on **Saturday, March 24th** from 9 a.m. until NOON. Cost is \$10.00. Includes Mass, continental breakfast, spiritual reflection with Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross. Retreat presenter is Rev. Allen J. Hoffa, Rector of the Shrine. Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality or call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021. Questions may be directed to Joanie Norelli at 917-406-4879 or email cfw@allentowndiocese.org Hope to see you there!

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE CONFERENCE – Early Bird Registration is now open for the Diocesan Marriage Conference on **Saturday April 14th** at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sinking Spring. Sign up soon for the discount! Child Care is available. Visit the website www.togetherinholiness.org to learn more. For any questions call 610-289-8900 ext 2028.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

BUS TRIP: ... to Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown from **May 14 to 18**, sponsored by St. Matthew's Travelers ... \$649 per person ... For more information and reservations call Julie 544-5231 or Millie 628-5413.

34th Annual
DRAMATIC STATIONS OF THE
CROSS
2018

St. John the Baptist Church
10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville

Palm Sunday, March 25
Good Friday, March 30
7:30 p.m.

Doors open 6:30 p.m. Preludes begin 7:15 p.m.



Journey on the Road to Calvary
Experience the Risen Lord !

All are welcome -- please invite family and friends