

St. John the Baptist

Roman Catholic

Parish Family

10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901

Pastor: *Rev. David J. Loeper*

Deacons: *Luis R. Visot / Lawrence Lonergan*

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 15, 2020

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

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 (570)-449-1675
St. John's Rectory (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.

New Parishioners

Please call the Rectory for an appointment to register.

Bulletin Deadline Tuesday prior to publication.

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 (570)-622-5470

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC,LPC
Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
(610) 332-0442 ext. 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The goodness and mercy of Jesus is life-giving.

In this Sunday's readings we hear in their fear and need, the Israelites grumble against Moses and the Lord. God responds by meeting those needs with water flowing from the rock, that they may continue to have life. St. Paul writes to the Romans that we have been justified by faith through Jesus. His death gives us life.

In the gospel Jesus encounters a woman who had a long history of brokenness and isolation. This Samaritan woman at the well experiences Jesus' life-changing mercy. So, too, can we receive new life and living water from the Word and Sacrament which we encounter Christ.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – March 16 – 9:00 a.m.

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

Tuesday, March 17 – 9:00 a.m.

JAMES CAMPION (M/M David Wartella)

Wednesday, March 18 – 9:00 a.m.

TIMOTHY GRICKIS (Peggy & Gene Ebling)

Thursday – March 19 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH & JESSIE RITZEL (Joan Ritzel)

Friday, March 20 – 9:00 a.m.

THERESA RINALDO (Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, March 21 – 5:00 p.m.

TIMOTHY SWAIN (A Friend)

Sunday, March 22 – 8:15 a.m.

DOROTHY ELISON (Eleanor Schaeffer)

Sunday, March 22 – 10:30 a.m.

ERNEST ZAMBO (Mary Zambo & Family)

SCHEDULE

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

5 p.m. – Saturday – March 21st

Reader: Bill Gianfagna

Euch.Min.: Bob Wollyung, Molly Zwiebel,
Bobby Rienzo

Servers: Bennett, Lukas, Finley McNamara

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 22nd

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: Brian Forney, George Forney

Servers: Jackson & Hayden Daubert, Elly Forney

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 22nd

Reader: Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace, Janet Daubert

Servers: Isabella, Bethany, Trinity Reedy

Cantor: Ensemble

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM – In thanksgiving by Carol Forster

St. Joseph –IMO Carol Rockford

by Anne Marie & Dan Wachter

Tabernacle – IMO Babe Heller

by Joe & Barbara Wollyung

Sanctuary

1. IMO Jane Sunday by Don & Joanne Doyne

2. Sr. Mary Heffron IHM by Paul & Bernie Gombola

3. IMO Paul & Mary Gombola by Paul & Bernie Gombola

4. IMO Martin & Anna Heffron

by Paul & Bernie Gombola

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

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.

Deceased: *Erika Seasock*

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 if picking up at the Rectory 570-622-5470.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The Samaritan woman immediately asked Jesus for the water he offered. For what do you need to ask Jesus?

Next Week's Readings

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (March 21/22)

Reading I: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Reading II: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



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

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

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.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 7/8: \$ 3,992.88

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

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.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Encounter Lent. Join our faith community – and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States – in a life-challenging Lenten journey of encounter with CRS Rice Bowl.

Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl located at the back or front exits.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Sundays during Lent

@ St. John's – 6:30 p.m. – in Church

Please join us each Sunday during Lent.

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Stations of the Cross, followed by Benediction.

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.

Saturday 12 a.m., 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 3 a.m., 4 a.m. 12 p.m.

Sunday 12 a.m., 4 a.m., 12 p.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.

REMEMBERING VOCATIONS IN YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Third Sunday of Lent: "... do not tire of proclaiming to a world hungry for truth the living Christ, our sole salvation. He alone is our peace, he alone is that richness from which we can always receive strength and inner joy." We pray for priests to lead our celebration.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our diocese and our families. Inspire men to imitate Christ, the Eternal High Priest, in sacrificial service to your Church. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to You in poverty, chastity and obedience. Send them as laborers for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayers and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to your call. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

FAMILY GUILD - "LENT-EVENT"

St. John's Family Guild will host the annual Lent-Event for children of the parish, ages 3 to 10. Come enjoy light refreshments, receive an Easter craft and participate in a special Egg Hunt. (Bring a basket or bag to hold the collected eggs.) **Registration is a must!!** Please complete this form and return to the rectory or place in the collection basket **no later than March 29th**.

Date: Sunday, April 15th

Time: 9 a.m.

Place: St. John's Russell Building

Family Name _____

Child's Name _____ Age _____

Child's Name _____ Age _____

Child's Name _____ Age _____

(Please circle whether child is ... Male/Female)


FAMILY MATTERS

St. Patrick's Day. The Irish certainly have their day to celebrate. You would think all of us are Irish on St. Patrick's Day. Consider learning more about your own ethnic heritage and share it with your family and parish.

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

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. **Many New Items are available.**

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS Get your blood pressure checked in Longinus Hall after all Masses next weekend, March 21/22. 

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

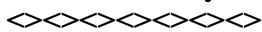
TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE



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.



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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

March

- 15 Stations of the Cross – 6:30 p.m. – Church
- 15 Christ Life Retreat – 3 to 6 p.m. – L.H.
- 16 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 17 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 17 Dramatic Stations practice 7-8:15 p.m. - Church
- 18 Discovering Christ – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 19 Dramatic Stations practice 7-8:15 p.m. – Church
- 19 R.C.I.A. – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 20 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 21/22 Blood Pressure Screenings – after Masses
- 22 Stations of the Cross – 6:30 p.m. – Church
- 24 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 24 Dramatic Stations practice 7-8:15 p.m. – Church
- 25 Discovering Christ – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 26 R.C.I.A. – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 26 Dramatic Stations practice 7-8:15 p.m. – Church
- 27 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 29 Stations of the Cross – 6:30 p.m. – Church
- 31 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 31 Dramatic Stations Dress Rehearsal – 7 p.m.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

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.

March 6th --- Winner: Maryann Schweikert

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

GREEN WAVE ASSOC.

25th Annual Alumni Reunion & Golf Outing

When: Sunday, May 24th

Where: Mountain Valley Golf Course, Barnesville

Why: To have a great time and support all Nativity Athletic Programs

\$100 to cover entire day of festivities' \$30 Picnic only. Check-in for the golf tournament begins at 9:30 a.m. Shotgun start at 12 p.m. For more information and sponsorship, please contact Eric Lieberman at 570-622-1988.

2019 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

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

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION

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

Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Monday, March 16th 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.**

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!

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

- **Please note ... all Christmas Wreaths & Decorations must be removed as soon as possible**
- All decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day and 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 receptacles at Cemetery.

FAMILY GUILD GIFT CARD CALENDAR

SPONSORS

Beehive	Charles & Pattie Miller
CACL Financial	Nativity BVM High School
Daubert Family	Nativity Volleyball
DiCello Chiropractic	Bob & Mary Porter
Fellows & Smink Dental	Noble & Jule Quandel
Brian & Sue Eckley	Carole Quirin
Friends of St. John's	Rosenberger Plumbing&Heat.
Guzick Family	Schlitzer, Allen, Pugh Funeral
Wm. Hauptly Electrical	St. Clair Auto Supply
Headquarters Styling Salon	St. John's Family Guild
Heenan Family	Luis R. & Virginia C. Visot
Kochol Family	Ralph & Joanne Wood
Lieberman, Tamulonis, Hobbs	Ellen & Jay Zane

Winners

March 3: Pat Scheetz
March 4: B. Lecher
March 5: Angela Urban
March 6: Carol Rehnert
March 7: Rita Krue
March 8: Dave & Armila Steffan
March 9: Major Family

ST. JOSEPH CENTER FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

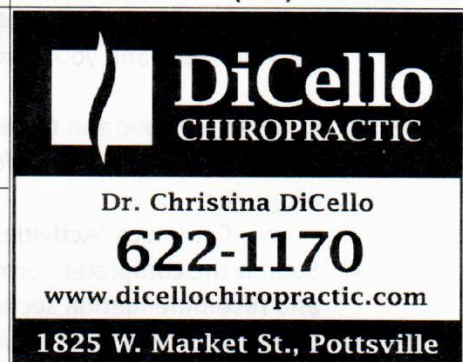
POSITION AVAILABLE We are seeking a motivated, enthusiastic and caring person to conduct all phases of comprehensive development and marketing programs. The individual will provide strong leadership and work in collaboration with the Administration, Board of Directors and volunteers. Must be passionate 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.

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.

*At dawn let me hear of Your kindness, f
or in You I trust. Show me the path I should walk,
for to You I entrust my life. ... Psalm 143:8*

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.



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-
-

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

PYSANKY CLASS ... Ukrainian Easter Eggs ...
Saturday, April 4th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Michael's Hall, 300 W. Oak St. in Shenandoah. Cost is \$35 which includes supplies. Class size is limited so register today. Class must be paid in advance. To register call 570-462-0809.

EASTER FOOD & CRAFT FESTIVAL at St. Mary Church in Ave Maria Hall, 94 Walnut Road, Hamburg on **Saturday, April 4th** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Over 20 craft vendor tables plus Easter Candy, Cakes, Cookies, Bread, Rolls, Meat Pies, Handmade Rosaries, Pysanky Eggs, Easter Flowers, Braided Palm, plus much more. Breakfast & Lunch served as well. For more info contact 610-561-7657 or www.stmaryhamburg.org

LUCKY BUNNY BASKET RAFFLE ...sponsored by St. Michael's Church in Shenandoah. Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. **Drawing is Palm Sunday!** For tickets call 570-462-0809.

MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY *Join us to be a voice for life in Pennsylvania.* Attend the Rally and March for Life in Harrisburg, **Monday, May 18.** Bishop Ronald Gainer, Bishop of Harrisburg and Abby Johnson, of *And Then There Were None* and others will be

speaking at the 11:00 a.m. Rally. The one mile march around the state capitol building will begin at 12:00 noon. If you are interested in attending via bus from St. Ambrose, please contact St. Ambrose Office at 570-385-1031. Cost is estimated to be approximately \$30.00.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

CONFERENCE Join us for the **UNBOUND** -- One Day Conference on **Saturday April 18th**. Everyone is fighting an invisible battle:

- negative thoughts, secret sins and unhealthy relationships
- destructive habits, idols and false identities
- resentments and bitter wounds that never seem to heal

UNBOUND ministry releases the power of **Jesus** into wounded hearts. This one day conference will empower you to break the powerful chains in your life, so that you can walk in the fullness of freedom. Location: St. John XXIII Church, 307 Pine Street, Tamaqua, Register online at www.sj23tamaqua.org/unbound.html

(training for leaders is Friday April 17)

Registration Deadline: March 23rd. Fee: \$50 includes lunch. Late registration March 24~April 10 Fee: \$65

There will be **NO Registration at the door.**

SCOUT ACTIVITY WEEKEND Attn: All Scouters! The Allentown Diocese Catholic Committee on Scouting will have its annual Scout Activity Weekend on **April 17 – 19** at Camp Trexler.

Join us for a **FUN-Filled** camping weekend that includes all meals and a Saturday Vigil Mass.

You don't have to be working on a religious emblem to join us – all Catholic Scouts are welcome. For more information and registration, please visit us at www.adccos.org/bsr.htm

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	Canned Vegetables
Beef Stew	Spaghetti
Soups	Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Canned Gravy	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Macaroni (box)	

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 April 3rd . 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.
