



DAN DE MATTE

Dan is an international speaker and best-selling Catholic author of *Holiness Revolution*. Dan starred in A&E's reality TV show, *God or the Girl*, as well as defended the teachings of the Catholic faith on *Larry King Live*, *The View*, and the *Today Show*. Dan is the host of EWTN's Global Catholic radio show called *Encounter*. He and his wife live in Ohio with their 4 children where Dan is the Founder and Executive Director of Damascus Catholic Mission Campus, a 500-acre mission campus that ministers to thousands of youth each year through programs like Catholic Youth Summer Camp. Dan has a MA in Evangelization from the Pontifical College Josephinum.

PARISH MISSION



Sunday, Monday, Tuesday
March 24, 25, 26
7 to 8:15 p.m.

THEME

Day 1 ----- Be Empowered

Day 2 ----- Be Healed

Day 3 ----- Be Transformed

NIGHTLY TIME SCHEDULE

6:45 p.m. -- Music Prelude

7:00 p.m. -- Welcome

7:10 p.m. -- Mission Talk

8:00 p.m. -- 1st Night .. Adoration

2nd Night .. Confessions

3rd Night .. Prayer Ministry

8:15 p.m. – Fellowship & Hospitality

Light refreshments will follow

in Longinus Hall

Please see inside today's bulletin for the
"Mission Talk Descriptions".

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's gospel parable challenges us to reflect on patience and forgiveness. Among our families and friends, there may be someone we have given up on. The divide is too wide. They have continually failed to meet our expectations. The grudge may be permanent or the injury may have cut so deeply, that amputation seems to be the only resolution.

Although the fruitless tree had yielded nothing in three years, the gardener implores: "Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future." This gospel provides new hope and invites us to always try again. Forgive the past and look to the future.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – March 25 – 9:00 a.m.

MARIAN TERRY (Tom Siro)

Tuesday, March 26 – 9:00 a.m.

CHARLES & MATILDA SCHAEFFER
(Eleanor Schaeffer)

Wednesday, March 27 – 9:00 a.m.

CHARLES LORENZ (Jack & Pat Lorenz)

Thursday, March 28 – 9:00 a.m.

CLAIR & MARGARET FRY

Friday, March 29 – 9:00 a.m.

PATRICK J. MURPHY

(Deacon & Mrs. Larry Lonergan)

Saturday, March 30 – 5 p.m.

EDWARD SMITH (Grandchildren)

Sunday – March 31 – 8:15 a.m.

THERESA MARY RINALDO

(Mr. & Mrs. David Wartella)

Sunday – March 31 – 10:30 a.m.

JOHN SCHEIDEL (Dirk Berger)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO George Holley by Mary Ann Holley

St. Joseph – IMO Joseph Lescavage

by Linda & Martin Smith

Tabernacle IMO George Holley by Mary Ann Holley

Sanctuary

1.Liv. & Dec.of St.John's Catholic Women's Union

2.IMO George Hahner Sr. by Hahner Family

3&4. IMO George Holley by Mary Ann Holley

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO George Holley by Mary Ann Holley

WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 16/17 \$ 4,107.80; Imp.&Repairs: \$1,649.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

SCHEDULE

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

5 p.m. – Saturday – March 30th

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

Euch.Min.: Bob Wollyung, Mary Jean Morgalis,
(Dr. Visot)

Servers: Vincent & Michael Prestileo, Patrick Ryan

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 31st

Reader: Dave Smith

Euch.Min: Paul & Debbie Herb, (Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Gavin & Evan Woodward, Gabriella Quinn

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 31st

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, John Ventura,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Kathryn, Ronald, John Yourey

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: Theresa Tuite, Joe Brahler, Tom Jefferson, Jean Hill, Paul Connors, Fred Maskerines, Dorothy Parsick, Frederick Hossler, Toni Wiest, Ernest Zambo, Paul Burns.

Deceased: Robert Norkus

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.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What “cultivating” do you need to do in order to bear fruit as Jesus’ disciple?

Next Week’s Readings

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (March 30/31)

Reading I: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Reading II: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-12

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.



DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

At the Last Supper, words of Jesus to the Father.....*"Few hours of my life are left: who would have the heart to leave my children orphaned and alone?O please, I supplicate You to let Me stay in each Host...I cannot leave my children, nor do I want to."*.....

24 Hours of the Passion by Luisa Piccarreta
(The Little Daughter of the Divine Will)

We need adorers for the following hours:

Monday 3 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m.

Wednesday 10 p.m.; Thursday 4 a.m.;

Friday 12 a.m. & 6 a.m., 6 p.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.

Call or text Aleece for information 570-449-7678.

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.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

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

Tuesday, April 30, 2019



PARISH MISSION

Holiness Revolution

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

March 24, 25, 26 --- 7 to 8:15 p.m.

MISSION TALK DESCRIPTIONS

Day 1: Be Healed This evening is a powerful reflection on the crippled beggar at the healing waters of Bethesda. The night leads the audience in a powerful reflection of being healed through the power and the love of Jesus Christ.

Day 2: Be Empowered There are ultimately two very different ways to live your life. Either we can embrace a lifestyle with a will-powered spirituality or we can live with a spirit-powered spirituality. Will-powered spirituality creates a spiritual life that is all about trying whereas Spirit-powered spirituality is all about trusting in the power we've received from Holy Spirit.

Day 3: Be Transformed The last message is meant to

give the practical steps on how to allow our ordinary lives be transformed by Christ into extraordinary lives of Holiness. This message focuses on teaching the audience how to form a personal prayer life, how to have a deeper encounter with the Lord at the Holy Mass, and an urgent appeal to return (regularly) to Confession. It also focuses on the importance of the Holy Spirit in our lives of holiness, moving from lives of self-reliance to lives of Spirit-reliance.

This **Parish Mission** is really for everyone.

- Whether you are advanced in your faith and hungry to be taken deeper, or if you are a person with a lot of questions about God and religion - this Mission is for you.
- Whether you are male or female, single or married, young or old, middle school or high school – this Mission is for you.
- Whether you've been to a parish mission before, or never stepped foot at a retreat – this Mission is for you.
- Maybe invite your middle school or high school teenagers to attend with you.
- Maybe you invite a co-worker who is hungry for more, even if they aren't catholic.
- Maybe invite someone in the parish or the school who you know doesn't come to Mass each week and could really use an invitation back to the Church.
- Whoever it is, please just extend a heart-felt invitation!

LENTEN DINNERS

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.

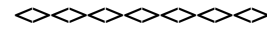
Winners: March 8th --- Mary Ann Filiac
March 15th --- Kay Mattea Wollyung



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WEDNESDAYS

**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.

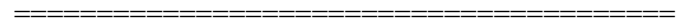
Waitresses & Waiters needed 3:45 to 7 p.m.

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

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

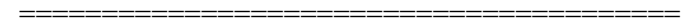
Just call our Scheduler

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



OPERATION RICE BOWL

Encounter the Dhathcroos Family. The Dhathcroos family returned home, after fleeing violence in their country, to build a prosperous farm and become a vital contributor to their community. How can you assist refugees in your community to rebuild their lives? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.



DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

SPONSORS

Beehive	Nativity BVM High School
Crimson House	Bob & Mary Porter
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Friends of St. John's	Rosenberger Plumbing&Heat
Guzick Family	Schlitzer,Allen,Pugh Funeral
Headquarters Styling Salon	Dr.Michael Smink
Hidden River Credit Union	Martin & Linda Smith
Kochol Family	St. Clair Auto Supply
Lieberman, Tamulonis&Hobbs	Luis R.&Virginia Visot
Charles Miller Family	Joanne & Ralph Wood
Victor E. Muncy Inc.	Z & M Painting & Papering

Winners:

March 6:	Siket
March 7:	Robert McCabe
March 8:	Mim Tirjan
March 9:	Anne Lowe
March 10:	Brian & Sue Eckley
March 11:	Grace King
March 12:	Angela & Rick Oswald
March 13:	Mary Jo Laslow
March 14:	Marie Miske
March 15:	Donna Ditzler
March 16:	Alicia Kleman
March 17:	Fred Maley
March 18:	Virginia C. Visot

FAMILY GUILD "LENT-EVENT"

St. John's Family Guild will host the annual Lent-Event for children of the parish, ages 3 to 11. 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 31st**.

Date: Sunday, April 7th

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)

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN at Nativity High School on **Wednesday, March 27th from 6:00-9:00 p.m.** Please call Margie at 570-622-8110 to register. Remember this is a mandatory training for all volunteers and employees.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER During Lent, make *special sacrifices* for each other daily and watch your love grow. Keep your love growing by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. For more info call 732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org

GOD'S MYSTERIOUS LOVE A Lenten evening of reflection for the separated and divorced will be offered on **Tuesday April 2nd** at 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis Retreat House in Easton. The presenter will be Deacon Christopher May. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required to help with planning. For questions, please call 610-289-8900 ext. 2028. For more info or to register visit www.allentowndiocese.org/separated-divorced

DANGERS OF NEW AGE PRACTICES Have you ever been asked or wondered... What is dangerous about tarot cards, ouija boards, and other New Age or occult practices? Are there dangers in watching TV shows or movies that involve mediums? Join us as **Msgr. John Esseff** discusses how a Catholic should respond to these questions and more about the dangers of New Age practices! This free event will take place on **Wednesday, April 3rd** from 7 to 9 p.m. at **St. John XXIII Parish** — 307 Pine Street, Tamaqua. There is no charge for attending *TRUTH: What the Catholic Church Really Teaches*. For questions contact the Office of Adult Formation by email at adultformation@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-289-8900, Ext. 2021.

RETRouvaille Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage! Tens of thousands of couples have healed their Marriages through Retrouvaille (Retro-VIE). If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program please pass it on. Couples learn to build communication skills and rediscover intimacy. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. **The next program begins on the weekend of April 26 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.** Another weekend will be held in August. For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our website at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

HOLY CROSS FRATERNITY, ORDER OF FRANCISCAN SECULARS (OFS)

*"ONE OF THE BEST KEPT SECRETS
IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH"*

We are a recognized "Secular Order" sanctioned by Papal authority, canonically established, and called to follow Jesus by following Saint Francis in our secular state. We are men and women, married and single and diocesan clergy who live in Franciscan fraternal union with each other, the Church and the world around us. So what is this fraternal union? When we speak of this union we mean spiritually, with each other and the Church. We encourage each other to continually move more deeply in union with Christ, the Church, the Franciscan Family and the communities we live in with the goal of "Renewing the Church"! We meet at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Parish, 104 E. Bertsch St. in Lansford on the Third Sunday of the month at 1 p.m. for prayer, learning and fraternal fellowship. We pray that God will add brothers and sisters to our Franciscan family who desire to seek and serve God with us.

For more information, please contact Shirley Ritzko, OFS at 570-628-2225 or sunshine6749@comcast.net or on the web or on the web on the Saint Joseph of the Panther Valley website under organizations. More information is also available on the web at:

www.holycrossfraternity.wordpress.com

(local Fraternity of Carbon & Schuylkill Counties).

FAMILY MATTERS

Couples in Conflict. Sometimes couples really struggle in their marriages. We ask that you pray for our couples that are facing serious challenges in living out the vocation of their sacramental marriage. Pray that the graces of this sacrament sustain them during their struggles. For information about Retrouvaille, a weekend for troubled marriage relationships, see the website www.retrouvaille.org.

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

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Assumption BVM School is looking for your help in collecting "Box Tops." Many of the products you already have in your home, has a

BOX TOP on it. All you need to do is clip them out and place them in the drop-off box in the rear of the church. With each box top collected our school earns cash to update needed materials. We are no longer collecting "Campbell Soup" labels.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

March

- 24 Last Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 24/25/26 Parish Mission – 7 to 8:15 – L.H.
- 27 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 26 Dramatic Stations rehearsal – 7 p.m. - Church
- 28 Dramatic Stations rehearsal – 7 p.m. - Church
- 28 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 29 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 31 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.

April

- 2 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 2 Dramatic Stations Rehearsal – 7 p.m. - Church
- 3 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 4 Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 4 Dramatic Stations practice – 7 p.m. – Church
- 4 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 5 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 7 Lent Event – Easter Egg Hunt – 9 a.m. – R.B.
- 7 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.
- 9 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 9 Dramatic Stations Dress Rehearsal – 7 p.m.
- 10 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 10 St. John's Beneficial Soc. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 11 Dramatic Stations Dress Rehearsal – 7 p.m.
- 11 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 14 Dramatic Stations Presentation – 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 17 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. 7 p.m. – L.H.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

ST. PAULINE VISINTAINER ... You are invited to take part in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on **Monday, March 25 at 5 p.m.** followed by Veneration of the first-class relic of St. Pauline Visintainer, Patron Saint of Diabetics and of all who are sick at Our Lady's Chapel in St. Patrick's.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – MEMBERSHIP

DRIVE The Knights of Columbus is an International Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. Our Local Council 431 will be holding a membership drive on the weekend of **March 30th & 31st**. Whether you become an individual member or a member of our council you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you would like to join today simply go to KofC.org/join us and enter Council 431 for local information.

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)	

Items of the Month Needed: Jelly, Coffee & Tea

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 12th.**

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

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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- * It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

*May the Lord give might to
His people, may the Lord
Bless His people with peace!
Psalm 29:11*