

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
Rectory Fax(570) 622-4589
E-mail stjbparish@comcast.net
Russell Building.....(570) 628-3002
Nativity BVM High School(570) 622-8110
Assumption BVM Elementary ... (570) 622-0106
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

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 12

9:00 a.m. Sara Blackwell
(Tony & Lucilla Kochol)

Tuesday, April 13

9:00 a.m. Richard J. Krasnitsky
(Eric & Jennifer Lieberman)

Wednesday, April 14

9:00 a.m. Ted Casey
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Thursday, April 15

9:00 p.m. Thomas Letko
(Pat Klassen)

Friday, April 16

9:00 a.m. Sue Louise Klem Moore
(Joe Moore Jr.)

Saturday, April 17

5:00 p.m. John D. Dalton
(Hoy & Dalton Family)

Sunday, April 18

8:15 a.m. Charles J. Lorenz
(Frances C. Lorenz)

Sunday, April 18

10:30 a.m. Marie Fitzpatrick
(Donna Bound Steidle)

Next Week's Readings

Third Sunday of Easter
(April 17/18)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

Reading II: 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Give thanks to the Lord
for he is good,
his love is
EVERLASTING.

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

In our readings today on this Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday as it is well known, St. Luke (the author of the Acts of the Apostles), describes the life of the early community of believers as being of one heart and one mind, whose witnesses to the Resurrection of Jesus brought favor upon them. In the second reading from the first letter of St. John, the author assures his community that faith in Jesus and obedience enable believers to conquer the world. And in John's gospel today, the famous story of the doubting Thomas, the Risen Christ appears at two different times to his disciples offering them peace and giving them the authority to forgive sins. Thomas, after seeing Jesus, acknowledges Christ's divinity, saying, "My Lord and My God!"

All of these three readings show the transformative power of belief in Jesus' Resurrection. St. John tells us that we become children of God through this belief. Thomas acknowledges Jesus' as Lord and God in the gospel and he and the other apostles go on to create an ideal community by proclaiming His Resurrection in Jerusalem.

For us, faith in Jesus' Resurrection has the power to transform our lives and the lives of all those around us.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dave



Holy Hour/Adoration, Music, and Confessions

Join us on Monday, April 19th from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. for an evening of worship before the Blessed Sacrament. Light piano instrumental worship music will be interspersed with periods of prayerful silence. Confessions will be available for the first half hour. We invite you to make this monthly event part of your prayer life.

Pray

For Our Sick

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.

Peggy Ebling

Upcoming Events

April

- 11 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class L.H.
- 15 7:00 p.m. Catholic War Veterans L.H.
- 19 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour/Adoration, Music, Confessions..... Church
- 21 7:00 p.m. Catholic Women’s Union ‘Spring Auction’ L.H.
- 25 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes School
- 25 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Rehearsal Church
- 29 4:30 p.m. Confirmation Church

May

- 1 5:00 p.m. First Holy Communion Church

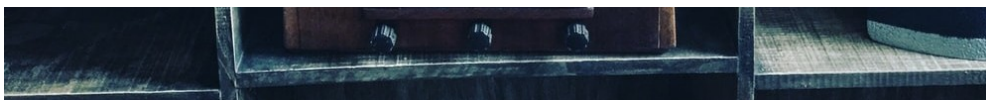
L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building

- Tues. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Men’s GroupZoom
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



Street Evangelization

We are partnering with St. Paul Street Evangelization (SPSE), a grassroots, non-profit organization to respond to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking the Catholic Faith to the streets. Christ’s call to evangelize was made to every Catholic Christian, and the Second Vatican Council reiterated this need, urging each of the baptized to bring the Gospel, found fully in the Catholic Church, to a culture that has largely reverted to paganism. As an on-the-street Catholic evangelization organization, St. Paul Street Evangelization provides an avenue for people to share the Person of Jesus Christ and the truth and beauty of the Catholic Faith with a hungry culture. For more information, check out <https://streetevangelization.com/>. If you are interested in this new ministry opportunity, please contact the rectory.



Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop

Look around your home for any items you wish to donate to our next Yard Sale. You’d be surprised what you might find . Here are some suggestions:

Decorations for Fall, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Puzzles, Knick Knacks, Kitchen Items, Purses, Small Appliances, Candles, Religious items, Toys, Games, Jewelry, Tablecloths, CD’s, DVD’s, Bake ware, Phones, Vintage items.

DO NOT donate the following: Plastics, VHS tapes, Glasses, Cups, Televisions, Bedding, Computers, Monitors, Keyboards, Books, Clothing, Large Furniture, Stuffed Animal Toys, Large Christmas Trees.

ONLY ONE DROP-OFF DATE on **Saturday, April 17 from 9 a.m. to noon** at the Russell Building. No items will be accepted before or after this date. Do not leave articles at the door or in the parking lot. Call the parish office 570-622-5470 ext. 3 for more information.



Weekly Collection

April 3/4.....\$5,110.33
Good Friday\$2,806.00

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

Rice Bowl Boxes

The Rice Bowl boxes can be dropped off at the rectory or placed in the boxes by the upper side door of church.

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Ronald C. Kriston by Eleanor Kriston & Family
2. Health of Sheri Post by Bob & Irene Post

St. Joseph

1. IMO Frank & Josephine Brozana by Don & Joanne Doyne
2. In Thanksgiving by Sandi Post

Sanctuary

IMO Charles Bowers by Joan Bowers

Guardian Angels

1-4. IMO of Charlie Schaeffer by Maria Schaeffer

Volunteers Needed

Please join fellow parishioners and families helping to deliver boxes of food to Meals on Wheels consumers on the following Saturdays: April 24, May 22, and June 12. Please contact the rectory if you can help.



Welcome New Parishioners

This week we welcome the following to St. John's Parish Family:

Nancy Lescavage is a retired Rear Admiral and is currently the Executive Director of the Pa. Military Community Enhancement Commission.

Bernard Myro is enjoying retirement and likes the friendliness of St. John's.

Warmly embrace **Nancy** and **Bernard** into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality.

Neighboring Events

Roast Beef Dinner

Holy Family Parish of Minersville

Eat in or Take Out

Sunday, April 18 from Noon to 3 p.m.

at the Parish Center at Hillcrest, 631 Minersville-Llewellyn Hwy.

Adults \$12.00; Children (under 10 yrs.) \$6.00

Includes Roast Beef, Corn, Mashed Potatoes, Coleslaw or Applesauce, Roll, Beverage & Dessert

Advanced orders recommended by April 11—Walk-in orders limited

Call the parish office 570-544-4741 to place your order.



Divine Mercy

PRAYER

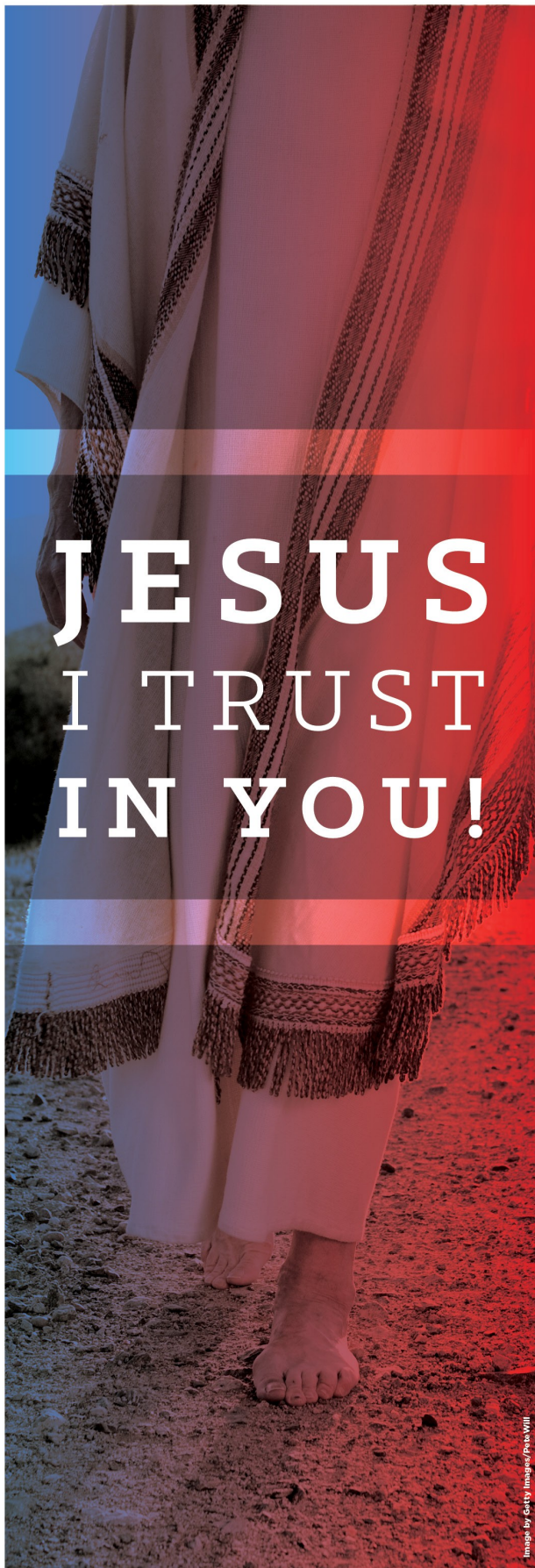
You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!
[Repeat 3x]

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

[Repeat 3x]
Amen.

Jesus, King of Mercy, We trust in You.



April 11, 2021

Sunday of Divine Mercy

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 4:32-35 | 1 Jn 5:1-6 | Jn 20:19-31

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

Do you ever have times – at the dinner table or at a gathering of friends – where all seems right with the world? I often hold my breath, conscious of the fragility of those moments, fearful that saying something might jinx things. It’s a little like rooting for a pitcher cruising into the bottom of the ninth with a no-hitter – that feeling that we are on the verge of perfection. Well, as Christians, we are on that verge, although perfection will not come in this life but the next. And so, as fleeting as these human moments feel, and can actually be, we are reminded in today’s psalm: “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting ... Let those who fear the Lord say, ‘His mercy endures forever.’” As we celebrate this Divine Mercy Sunday, and enter the second week of Easter, let us give thanks for the gift of God’s great mercy, and pray for the grace to be as loving and merciful to others.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I’m taken by the story of doubting Thomas. For a long time I’ve focused on the “doubting” part of his name, the fact that he demanded to place his fingers in the nail marks and his hand in Jesus’ side. However, when Jesus addresses Thomas, Thomas’ response is immediate and unqualified: “My Lord and my God!” Thomas has recognized the divine nature of Jesus; he sees him not just as the man he has followed, but as God. As Catholics, we may sometimes face questions about how the Church has come to believe and teach certain things. Thomas’ ultimate affirmation encourages us to be steadfast in our faith, and to be patient with any of our own and others’ questions. That is because Christ will come to meet us where we are. As the Incarnation of God’s divine mercy, Jesus Christ is the one who hears our doubts and insecurities, and he answers them: “Here I am. Look at me. Touch me. Feel my presence.” Thomas was not afraid, and we need not fear either. God’s mercy is upon us, “and the victory that conquers the world is our faith.” Let us witness to our faith as Thomas did to his.

PRAY Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, a day when we are reminded of God’s immense love and mercy for us. Learn more about this day and how to recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet: usccb.org/prolife/divine-mercy-sunday.

Image by Gerty Images/Peter Will

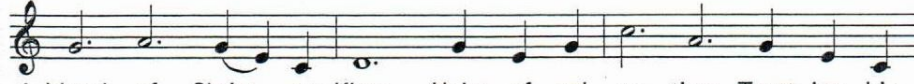
ENTRANCE

BAPTIZED IN WATER

516



1. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Cleansed by the
2. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Dead in the
3. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Marked with the



1. blood of Christ our King: Heirs of sal - va - tion, Trust-ing his
2. tomb with Christ our King: One with his ris - ing, Freed and for -
3. sign of Christ our King: Born of one Fa - ther, We are his



1. prom - ise, Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
2. giv - en, Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
3. chil - dren, Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

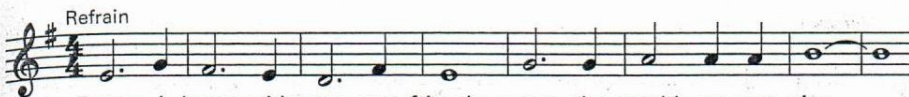


℣. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is ev-er-last - ing.

OFFERTORY

PEACE

700



Peace I leave with you, my friends, peace the world can-not give.



Peace I leave with you, my friends, so that your joy be ev-er full.



1. The Fa - ther's love I came to give,
2. Take ___ his gift and be at peace;
3. By ___ this love which you should have,
4. Take ___ my words of life to heart,
5. All ___ I have I give to you;
6. I came so that you may have life,
7. If ___ you love me, keep my word,



1. to be the hope for all who live.
2. the Spir - it of our love I bring.
3. all ___ will know you are my friends.
4. and you will live with hope and joy.
5. I share with you the Fa - ther's love.
6. and have it to ___ the full.
7. and ___ our home we'll make with you.

RECESSIONAL

461

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS



1. Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his
2. Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the
3. Crown him the Lord of love, Be - hold his hands and
4. Crown him the Lord of peace, Whose pow'r a scep - ter
5. Crown him the Lord of years, The ris - en Lord sub -



1. throne; Hark! how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All
2. grave, And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For
3. side, Rich wounds yet vis - i - ble a - bove In
4. sways From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Ab -
5. lime, Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, The



1. mu - sic but its own. A - wake, my soul, and sing
2. those he came to save. His glo - ries now we sing,
3. beau - ty glo - ri - fied. No an - gel in the sky
4. sorbed in prayer and praise. His reign shall know no end,
5. Mas - ter of all time. All hail, Re - deem - er, hail!



1. Of him who set us free, And hail him as your
2. Who died and rose on high, Who died, e - ter - nal
3. Can ful - ly bear that sight, But down - ward bends his
4. And round his pierc - ed feet Fair flow'rs of Par - a -
5. For you have died for me; Your praise and glo - ry



1. heav'n - ly King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
2. life to bring, And lives that death may die.
3. burn - ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.
4. dise ex - tend Their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
5. shall not fail Through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Rejoice!
He Is Risen!