



# St. John the Baptist

## Roman Catholic

### Parish Family

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901

Pastor: *Rev. David J. Loeper*

Deacons: *Luis R. Visot / Lawrence Lonergan*

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EASTER SUNDAY  
APRIL 12, 2020

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Rectory (570) 622-5470  
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589  
Russell Building (570) 628-3002  
Website – [SaintJohnPottsville.org](http://SaintJohnPottsville.org).

Parish Council President: *Robert Bechtel*  
Choir Director/Organist: *David Derbes*  
CCD Coordinator: *Lucilla Kochol*  
E-mail – [stjbparish@comcast.net](mailto:stjbparish@comcast.net)

Nativity BVM High School (570) 622-8110  
Assumption BVM Elementary (570) 622-0106  
St. Joseph Center for Special Learning (570) 622-4638

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#### 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.

#### Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office

#### 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.

#### Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

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

#### Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection

Pamela Russo, MSW, MS  
610-871-5200, Ext. 2204  
[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

(Holy Week Services are not open to the public --- services will be streamed on Website/Facebook)

Holy Thursday – April 9<sup>th</sup>

Mass – 5:00 p.m.

Church will open from 6 to 10 p.m. for private adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday - April 10<sup>th</sup>

Liturgy - 3:00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross – 6:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday – April 11<sup>th</sup>

Mass -- 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 12<sup>th</sup>

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Please use the upper side door of the church where the ramp is located.

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Rosary prayed on Facebook

Divine Mercy prayed on Facebook

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR, FR. DAVE

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS:

Please know that all of you, as parishioners of St. John's, were greatly missed over the weekends. Our seminarian Bobby Rienzo and I remembered all of you in the Masses we celebrate not only for the intentions that were scheduled but for all the parishioners of the parish.

Continue to stay safe and healthy and know that our prayers are with you. As of now, there is no indication as to when Mass and other activities in the parish can resume. Pray the prayer below for all those who are in any way affected by this whole situation. Know that God will bring good and blessings out of all this. Now is a good time to quiet our spirits and turn to God and allow him to work in our lives. If there is anything we can help you with, please do not hesitate to call the rectory. 570-622-5470.

*Father Dave*

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### ATTENTION ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

PLEASE NOTE

**Church will not be open for visitation on Holy Saturday or Easter.**

A reminder to all parishioners that the church will be open for private prayer and time before the Blessed Sacrament on the following days and times:

**Saturday --- 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.**

**Sunday --- 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

Confessions will be heard on the following days and times:

**Saturday --- 10:30 to 11 a.m. and 4 to 4:30 p.m.**

**Sunday --- There will be no confessions.**

Please use the upper side door of the church where the ramp is located.

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate this Easter Sunday, we know the significance of this solemnity is the triumph of God over earthly evil. The death from which our Savior arose assures us that we will conquer sin. His rising reassures us that we too shall rise from the dead to reap the reward of that conquest.

However, this Easter seems as though we are still in the tomb – the tomb of the Corona-virus! As we are stuck in our homes unable to travel where we want and when we want, the celebration of this day can seem to be dimmed. Even the fact that we cannot attend church and celebrate the Lord's Resurrection in a sacramental way through the Eucharist, it seems as though Easter has come and gone without the joyful celebration it deserves.

At this time, however, we need to have great faith and not be fearful as were the disciples who were locked in the Upper Room. Let us allow the Lord to walk through our home just as He came through the door of the Upper Room appearing to His disciples. Let us allow the peace of the Risen Lord to enfold in our lives and His peace to settle in our hearts and homes especially during this time of crisis.

Let us continue to pray for an end to this virus and continue to pray for all those who are on the front lines helping us get through this time ... our medical staff, first responders, and those who work in our stores. They put their lives on the line for each one of us as we try to live a normal life.

Happy Easter to all of you and hopefully we will get to see you soon during the Easter Season to celebrate this time of the Lord's Resurrection.

Yours in Christ,  
Father Dave

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### 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:** *Joseph Wollyung*

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### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

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## MASS INTENTIONS

(Services are not open to the public)

Monday – April 13 – 9:00 a.m.

MARIE GERACE (Joan Grapsy)

Tuesday, April 14 – 11:00 a.m.

SUE KERN (Kevin & Bernadine McNamara & Family)

Wednesday, April 15 – 11:00 a.m.

ESTHER SMITH (Mike & Sue Dougherty)

Thursday, April 16 – 11:00 a.m.

FRANCIS & VERNA SAUERS

Friday, April 17 – 11:00 a.m.

CATHERINE BORTZEL

Saturday - April 18

GEORGE & DOLORES LYNN

(David, Tony, Joan Marie & Bob Lynn)

Sunday, April 19

DOROTHY ELISON (David Petrozino)

Sunday, April 19

ANNA ORLOWSKY (Joe Orlowsky & Family)

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## CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM–IMO Mary & Charlie Kutch by Pat & John Kutch

St. Joseph –IMO Loretta & Harry Boyer

by Pat & John Kutch

Tabernacle –\_IMO Matt Dudish by Pat & John Kutch

Sanctuary

1.IMO Dorothy Steidle by Pat & John Kutch

2,3,4.IMO Paul, Betty & Mona Boyer

by Pat & John Kutch

Guardian Angels

1.IMO Gunk Steidle by Pat & John Kutch

2.Health of Irene Post by Bob, Sandi, Sheri, R.J. Post

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## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

... has been cancelled until  
further notice ...

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### QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What “stones” block people's rising to new life?

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### ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **May & June** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call or email the Rectory by Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. Thank you.

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### 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 during private adoration times.

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## EASTER FLOWERS

Because we did not publicly celebrate Holy Week and Easter this year, we are reducing the Easter flower order. However, we will provide special flower arrangements for the sanctuary during the Easter Season which will be part of the Easter Flower Memorials. You may still memorialize the Easter flower arrangements during the Easter season by using the Easter Flower Envelope that was in your envelope packet. The memorial envelopes can be dropped off or mailed to the rectory anytime during the month of April.

## HOLY LAND COLLECTION

In light of the restricted celebration of Holy Week, Pope Francis transferred the annual collection for the Holy Land to another date. Normally the collection is taken up on Good Friday but this year it will be transferred to **Sunday, September 13, 2020**. This Sunday is the closest to the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

## 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.

### Lord-Bixler Funeral Home, Inc.

1818 Mahantongo Street

Pottsville, PA 17901

**570-622-0230**

Terry L. Bixler, Supv.

## Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

- \* It's inexpensive Advertising
- \* It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
- \* It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Neighborhood
- \* It Develops Good Community Relationships
- \* It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

## FAMILY MATTERS

**Easter.** The Paschal mystery – Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again – reminds us that we are called to live a new life in Christ this Easter season. As a family we too can embrace the Paschal mystery – by dying and rising to new life in loving our neighbor – the ones we live with. Have a joy-filled Easter with your family!

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

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

**April 4/5: \$ 6,002.13**

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes off at the rectory, by mail and online giving.*

## A CORONAVIRUS PRAYER

*Loving God, Your desire is for our wholeness and well being.*

*We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.*

*We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.*

*We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future.*

*We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.*

*Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.*

*Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.*

*Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,*

*You, the God who does not abandon.*

## 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 1<sup>st</sup>**
- Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden.
- All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in receptacles at Cemetery.