

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

A smoker for 35 years had successfully quit his bad habit. He had been smoke-free for twenty years; damage done during his nicotine addiction had begun to reverse.

Recently he was talking to a woman who was smoking and ask if he could “take a hit” from her cigarette. It was an evil urge that he allowed himself. No harm can come from one puff. The old pressure rewarded his mind. That first puff opened the flood gates of an old addiction and within about four weeks he was buying his own pack of cigarettes at about \$9.00 per pack.

Like Adam and Eve and the forbidden fruit, it is each person’s own responsibility to resist the powerful evils and the slick, satanic salesman that lurks within us.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – September 3 – 9:00 a.m.

REGINA DOUGHERTY (Ed & Mary Hauck)

Tuesday, September 4 – 9:00 a.m.

KATHY NORKUS (John & Mary Jean Morgalis)

Wednesday – September 5 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH & SARAH FRY

Thursday, September 6 – 9:00 a.m.

WILLIAM ELISON

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Friday, September 7 – 9:00 a.m.

VERONICA WENTZ (John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick)

Saturday, September 8 – 5:00 p.m.

JOSEPHINE KOCHOL (Conceda Krell)

Sunday, September 9 – 8:15 a.m.

JOSEPHINE & PHILOMENA RYAN

(Donna & Jim Pugh & Family)

Sunday, September 9 – 10:30 a.m.

LORETTA & HARRY BOYER (Pat & John Kutch)

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Tuesday – September 4

at York Terrace Nursing Home

JOHN CALLAHAN (Staff & Residents)

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: Angela Pfeil Hamm, Theresa Tuite, Joe Brahler, Helen Hufnagle, Peggy Ebling, Carl Wiest, Florence Yeager.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

II— Samantha Johnson & Christian Gardner

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Philomena Carroll by Family

St. Joseph – IMO Joseph Hudak by Becky Weiss

Tabernacle - IMO John Ayello by Mary Ayello

Sanctuary

1,2,3. IMO Bill Flynn by Flynn Family

4. IMO Anna Maguire Melincharick by Becky Weiss

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Mr. & Mrs. Richard Weiss by Becky Weiss

2. Health of a friend by Mr. & Mrs. Munster

SCHEDULE

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – September 8th

Reader: Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: Mary Jean Morgalis, Gerry Schwartz

Servers: Patrick Ryan, Joshua Steffan, Jillian Guzik

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – September 9th

Reader: Dave Smith

Euch.Min.: Paul & Debbie Herb

Servers: Madison & Caden Wright, Kaitlin Painter

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – September 9th

Reader: Susan Hahner

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic, Janet Daubert

Servers: Kathryn & Ronald Yourey, Aidan Cassidy

Cantor: Dave Derbes

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How does your parish help you to
keep your heart close to God?

Next Week’s Readings

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (September 8/9)

Reading I: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Reading II: James 2:1-5

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

R. C. I. A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming Catholic or in updating and deepening their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Are you interested in deepening your own faith? Or do you know anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Please invite them to join us. Have them call St. John’s Rectory, **622-5470**, to register for the RCIA sessions. All are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions!

WEEKLY COLLECTION

August 25/26: \$ 4,607.78

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.



CULTURE OF ENCOUNTER "FAMILY HOLY HOUR"

On **Sunday, September 9th beginning after the 10:30 Mass**, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a 'Family Holy Hour' held here at St. John the Baptist Parish. This is one of the twelve monthly holy hours throughout Schuylkill and Carbon counties since last November.

It is a good time to take a break from the business of everyday life and allow ourselves to be filled with God's grace, to come before the Blessed Sacrament and to adore Christ truly present in the Eucharist and to thank him, to offer our petitions to him, and to make reparation for our sins and the sins of the whole world. This is a great opportunity to make ourselves and our families fully present to God so that we are better able to hear his voice and respond to him.

The Holy Hour will conclude at 1 p.m. with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us!

PRAYER GROUP

Our Prayer Group meets on the second Sunday of each month after the 10:30 Mass in the Chapel.

Please consider joining us as we lift up those in need of prayer. It will take only a few minutes of your time.

Prayer request can be placed in the box on side of confessional. Thanks and God bless!

For more information or questions, please contact one of the following:

Bob Hahner 570-640-4448

John Corbacio 570-640-5038

My Prayer Request

Please place in box on side of Confessional.

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 Michael Scheidel 739-1808 or Bill Gianfagna 573-0105 with any questions.

Queen of Heaven: Mary's Battle for You

"Embark on a journey that begins before time itself, when Mary was only an eternal thought in the Mind of God, and extends into her life in Scripture. Discover Our Mother throughout centuries of Church history, as she intervenes at pivotal periods, especially at her most famous apparitions, when she made roses bloom on a hillside in Mexico, when she made a miraculous spring of water rise from the ground in Lourdes, and when she made the sun dance at Fatima. See the maternal care she has given to humanity and the battle she has waged against the evil one, the one she has put in enmity for all time. After seeing how she pursues us in love, learn how to grow closer to Mary, Our Mother, by making devotion to her a part of our daily life."

Please come and join others as we share in this educational program planned by the Adult Faith Formation Committee and developed by the St. Benedict Publishers. The course is open to all members of the parish from high school age on up. We will meet on **Sunday's beginning on September 16 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** The cost of the associated workbook is \$15. It's an **8 week program** but each presentation is independent of the others. We believe that once you experience the bond of like-minded sons and daughters of Mary, you will not want to miss a session. But if you do, for some reason, a streaming code is available for those that register.

*A sign-up sheet can be found on the table
at the back of the church.*

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Where there is faith in My real presence, there will be adoration; and where there is adoration, there will also be an efficacious radiance of My presence..."

Words of Our Lord, **IN SINU JESU**

We need adorers for the following hours:

Tuesday 9 a.m.; Thursday 4 a.m. & 5 a.m.;

Friday 12 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.

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

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED Eligibility ... male or female, 4th grade (in Fall) to 12th grade ... if interested, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

*Every day I bless You; I will praise Your name forever.
Psalm 145:*

PARISH COUNCIL

St. John's Parish Council will meet

Monday, September 10th – 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
John Consugar
Paul Datte
Joseph Gerchak
Heidi Gorski **
Christy Joy
Alicia Kleman
Eric Lieberman **
Kevin McNamara
Al Norkus
Patty O'Neill
Josette Peckman
John Pfluger **
John Powers
Nick Quinn
Melissa Scheetz **
Martin Smith **

Appointed Members

Lucilla Kochol
Patty O'Neill
Connor McNamara
Joe Rehnert

Ex-Officio

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

****denotes new members**

Please Note – No Voting: The Parish Council voting process was adjusted this year as the amount of accepted nominations met the need of the open positions.

CCD Registration

Please make sure your child is enrolled in a Religious Education Program.

\$60.00 – First Child;

\$55.00 – additional Child

Please register ASAP

Registration forms are available at the rectory during the week or at the church exits on weekends.

..... Attention Parents

CCD Begins

**Sunday, September 9th at 9:00 a.m.
in School Building.**

FLOWER DONATIONS



If anyone wishes to memorialize flowers in the sanctuary for the weekend Masses for a living or deceased intention, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP ??

For September 2018 we need help with

Pre-School & Children's Liturgy

A Mom to help out on Sunday's during the first half of 10:30 Mass.

CCD Teachers / Substitutes / Aides

If interested please fill out the form below and return to the rectory or call 622-5470.

I am interested in:

- _____ helping with the **Pre-School / Children's Liturgy** on Sunday's during the first half of the 10:30 Mass.
- _____ teaching during **Sunday's CCD** from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
- _____ helping the **CCD teachers** on Sundays from 9 to 10:15 a.m.

SUNDAY PRE-SCHOOL

Sunday Pre-School will begin soon. Classes are held in Longinus Hall during 10:30 a.m.

Mass each Sunday. All parish children ages 3 to 6 (and not yet in 1st grade) are eligible for this program. The children

are given an opportunity to interact with other children while learning about God through stories, music, activities and games. The children will also be provided with a small snack each week.

We would like to broaden and expand our program, so we need greeters, storytellers, musicians, as well as those who want to aid in these areas.

A **\$12.00 Registration Fee** to cover the costs of the lessons, supplies, and snacks is required for each child upon registration. ***All children attending classes must be registered.*** Any questions, please contact the Rectory 622-5470.

Please drop Registration Form and Fee in the collection basket or send to the rectory as soon as possible.

PRE-SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Allergies, please list _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Parent's Response: I can help in the following ways:

_____ Teacher _____ Aide _____ Greeter

_____ Musician _____ Snacks _____ Storyteller

*** \$12.00 Registration Fee must accompany form***

LITURGY of the WORD

The Children's Liturgy takes place at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in Longinus Hall. During this time, children in grades 1, 2, 3 listen to the Sunday Readings in words they understand and try to apply the words of Jesus to their own lives.

They return to their families after the Prayer of the Faithful (Offertory) to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist with the entire community.

All children attending classes must be registered.

The Gospel **needs you** -- will you say yes? For more information, call the **Rectory 622-5470**.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Allergies, please list _____

Parents _____

*** \$10.00 Registration Fee must accompany form***

Please drop in the collection basket or send to the rectory as soon as possible.

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL ...

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED

Please consider hosting an international student for the school year. We are in need of host families for students who have already been accepted at Nativity BVM High School. Please contact **Mrs. Holly Brutts, @ 570-628-2620** or **570-691-8816** or **Mrs. Casey Turner @ 570-294-3547**, our Education Coordinators or **Eduardo Achach @ 570-691-8816**. These coordinators can provide all of the necessary information including stipends that are available for host families. Thank you.

FAMILY MATTERS

School Year Beginning. . As we begin this new school year our parish prays that parents will support their children's efforts to reach their full potential. We pray that their children give their best effort in their studies, to develop their relationships with friends, and grow in their faith life.

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

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

This year's net profit ... \$ 16,363.75

Once again, a special "Thank You"
to all who made the Festival a huge success!

St. John's ENSEMBLE

The purpose of this ministry is to serve the parish at Mass, singing liturgical hymns, using contemporary instruments like the guitar, keyboard, drums or other instruments, and using contemporary music arrangements.

We invite **ANYONE** in the parish wanting to share his or her voice and musical gifts whether you are a beginner or more experienced. Arrangements are not complicated and songs are familiar. You do not need to know how to read music to join us. We will teach anyone who has a willing heart.

Our goal is to play/sing once a month at one of the weekend Masses. Practices will be one or, at most, twice a month for ONE HOUR, to prepare for music at Mass that week. This is a great way to participate in parish life and have fun with only a small commitment of your time.

Why not give it a try and give back to your parish family by sharing the gifts God has given to you?

If interested call **Bill Gianfagna 570-573-0105** or **Bob Hahner 570 622-0223** or the **Rectory 622-5470**.

Our next practices are:

Wednesday, September 5th and 12th.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

September

- 5 Christmas Bazaar Meeting – 6:30 p.m. – R.B.
- 9 Fatima Holy Hour after 10:30 Mass – Church
- 9 CCD Begins
- 10 Parish Council Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 11 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 12 St. John's Beneficial Soc. Mtg. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 10 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 15/16 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 16 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 16 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 18 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 19 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 21/22 Yard Sale – Russell Bldg. – details to follow ...
- 23 Adult Faith Formation - 4:30-6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 25 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 30 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 30 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

But I can enter Your house because of Your great love.

*I can worship in Your holy temple because of my
reverence for You, Lord.*

Psalms 5:8

CURIOSITY SHOP / YARD SALE

THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who donated items for the August Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale. Thank you also to all those who purchased items, donated baked goods, or volunteered to work at the sale. We are very grateful for

all your support.

Thank you to **Ann Marie DeFrank** for preparing all the food for our menu. It was delicious and a big hit!

Also, thank you to **Carl & Toni Wiest** for donating the cake that was chanced off (chocolate/banana).

Volunteers

Chris Black

Aliyah Peckman

Mary Bound

Josette Peckman

Ann Burns

Carole Quirin

Millie Fredericks

Reene Reddington

Pat Klassen

Patty O'Neill

Lucilla Kochol

Pat Scheetz

Maureen Kurtek

Theresa Skrobak

Carol Lasco

Linda Smith

Bernie Lecher

Toni Wiest

Charlene Leshner

Bakers

Mary Bound

Charlene Leshner

Millie Fredericks

Carole Quirin

Bernie Lecher

Pat Scheetz

Linda Smith

Total Profits: \$ 994.85

St. John's Catholic Women's Union Kauffman's Chicken Barbeque

Tickets: \$8.00 --- includes ½ Chicken, Baked Potato, Applesauce and Roll.

Date: Saturday, September 29th

Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: Former Pizza Hut Parking Lot, Yorkville

Pre-Sale: after all Masses on September 15/16 and September 22/23.

REMINDER: to all CWU members --- **deadline** for ticket sales or returns is **September 14th**.

Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or call **Sharon Miller 622-0516** or **Joan Deiter 622-1381**.

2018 CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Mark your Calendars

Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11

(Preview weekend – November 3 & 4)

An organization meeting to plan this year's Christmas Bazaar will take place

Wednesday, September 5th at 6:30 p.m.

at the Russell Building. All are welcome!

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

25% OFF*
SHOPPING PASS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2018

- Bring your shopping pass to Boscov's on **Tuesday, October 16th** to receive **25% off** on most purchases.
- Deposit registration form on your Pass in the ballot box to win prizes.
- Receive free food and fellowship.
- Shopping Passes are good towards LAY-A-WAY Purchases too, so great for early Christmas shopping!

**PASSES ... \$5.00 each ... are available
at the Rectory Office during the week.**

PRE-SALE for St. John's will also be available at Boscov's on the following dates:

September 6, 8, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28

October 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 15

October 16th from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

(Thursdays & Fridays & Monday --10 a.m. to 1 p.m.;
Saturdays -- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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.



KidsPeace®

Make a difference in the life of a child...

Become a foster parent!

For more information:

Contact the Pottsville Office

570-516-9987
www.fostercare.com

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- * It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Own Neighborhood
- * It Develops Good Community Relationships
- * It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

*In green pastures You let me graze;
to safe waters You lead me. Psalm 23:2*

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER The demands of a new school year are upon us. Take time to get in tune with each other at a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend before routines become hectic once again. For more information, call 732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

NATIONWIDE NOVENA Each Friday, August 3–September 28, answer the U.S. bishops' call to education, fasting, and prayer for the legal protection of human life. Join at www.usccb.org/pray !

RED WHITE & BLUE MASS All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, & their Families are invited to join Bishop Alfred A. Schlert as he celebrates the First

RED WHITE & BLUE MASS

Tuesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm

at Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, 18th and Turner Sts. in Allentown. Please wear your uniforms.

Reception to follow in the Parish Activities Center

RSVP: rwbmass@gmail.com

AN INVITATION TO WOMEN The Diocese of Allentown Commission for Women invites all women to a “Come & See” event being held at **St. Thomas More Family Center**, 1040 Flexer Ave., Allentown, from 9 a.m. til noon on **Saturday, September 15th**. Please register at www.allentowndiocese.org/comeandsee. Questions may be directed to 610-289-8900 ext. 2021 or e-mail cfw@allentowndiocese.org.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY MASS

will be held **Sunday, September 23rd** at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner St., Allentown at 3:00 p.m. We cordially invite couples celebrating 1-5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 or fifty plus years of marriage to this special event. Please register online at www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass request a form by email at MFLF@allentowndiocese.org. The form must be completed and returned to the Office of Marriage & Natural Family Planning, 2121 Madison Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18017. **The registration deadline is September 13, 2018.**

HEALING MASS on **Monday, September 24th at 6:30 p.m.** for those who have experienced trauma. Mass with The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert as celebrant and homilist at St. Clare of Assisi Parish, 250 E. Hancock St. in St. Clair. Holy hour to follow before the Blessed Sacrament. And Confessions; Benediction at 8:30 p.m.

POSITION AVAILABLE Real Options, formerly Care Net of Schuylkill County, is hiring! The Office Assistant is responsible for performing administrative duties related directly to the operations of the pregnancy center. Major duties involve ensuring efficient office procedures, including data entry, clerical procedures, and computer operations. The office assistant will also promote a positive first impression of the ministry by greeting clients and visitors, handling phone calls, and scheduling clients. This position is 30 hours/week. Please contact Sarah DeArment at carenetdirector@gmail.com for more information.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

FOOD FAIRE & FLEA MARKET ... sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Church, Mill & Hancock Sts. in Saint Clair on **Saturday, September 8th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Homemade Foods, Baked Goods; Eat in or take out. 50/50 Chances, Flea Market, Lottery Boards, Crafts, Religious Items. Everyone welcome!

9TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING ... sponsored by St. Patrick Parish, Pottsville on **Saturday, September 15th** on the Mountain Course at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville. Registration begins at 9 a.m. Registration fee is \$75 Students at high school or lower grade level fee is \$50. For more information and reservations contact ...

Golf Outing Director, Dave Donlin at 570-573-1841, or by e-mail at dadmatd515p@comcast.net

SPIRITUALITY DAY ... sponsored by St. Michael the Archangel Parish, Minersville, on **Saturday, September 29th from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Cost \$10.00. Our theme is “*Who Are We; What Shall We do?*” directed by Rev. Eric Gruber, Pastor at St. John Fisher Church in Catasauqua. Pre-Registration required by contact Jean at 570-544-6853.

CHAIR YOGA ... Come join us We have a St. John's Group ... every Thursday from 6 to 7 p.m. on the first floor of the old Pottsville Hospital School of Nursing building, presented by Michelle D'Agostino, Penn State Yoga Instructor.



PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS AROUND THE WORLD

“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior.”