

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Albert Einstein famously said: *“Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.”* He’s certainly right, except for this Sunday’s gospel story. Jesus teaches us that, regardless the frequency, we should always offer forgiveness. We are challenged to forgive over and over again – no matter how many times the offender sins against us.

This goes against our human nature. An old Italian proverb states: *“He that deceives me once, it’s his fault; but twice, it is my fault.”* This implies we could forgive once, but never twice.

When we fail to forgive we carry a grudge against the offender. Five hundred years before Christ, the great Chinese philosopher Confucius wisely said: *“To be wronged is nothing unless you continue to remember it.”*

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – September 18 to September 22

NO MASSES

Saturday, September 23 – 5 p.m.

DOROTHY A. ROSENBERGER

(Paul Rosenberger)

Sunday – September 24 – 8:15 a.m.

JOSEPH & PHILOMENA RYAN

(Donna & Jim Pugh Family)

Sunday – September 24 – 10:30 a.m.

JOSEPHINE PARSICK

(Joanne Schultz & Dorothy Parsick)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Amelia (Minchoff) Androsko by daughter

St. Joseph – IMO Dorothy A. Rosenberger
by Paul Rosenberger

Tabernacle – IMO Dorothy A. Rosenberger
by Paul Rosenberger

Sanctuary

1. IMO Dorothy A. Rosenberger by Paul Rosenberger

2. IMO Rita Mae Switzler

by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons

3. IMO Raydell Wychunas by Helen Heimbaugh

4. IMO Albert Wychunas by Helen Heimbaugh

Guardian Angels

1&2. For Debbie & Christine Bowers by Joan Bowers

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED Eligibility ...

male or female, 4th grade (in Fall) to 12th grade ...

if interested, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

SCHEDULE

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – September 23rd

Reader: Christine Disabella

Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy, (Dr. Visot)

Servers: Vincent Prestileo, Mark Disabella,
Kaitlin Painter

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – September 24th

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: Jeff Naffin, George Forney,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Ty & Hayden Daubert, Samantha Heenan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – September 24th

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Phil Markovich, Sharon Snyder,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Alisha Weiss, Evelyn Datte, Victoria Wagner

Cantor: Melody Newhard Kirk

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: Fred & Magdalene Maskerines, Mary Connell, Jerry Schoenauer, Dorothy Blum, Toni Wiest, Carl Forster, Ray Dee, Doug Broughton, Dorothy Prokop, James Pauly, Michelle Ambrose, Jaimie Brahler, Charles Daubert. **Deceased:** Kathy Buehler.

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!

2016 BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL- UPDATE

Total Goal: \$ 35,309

Amount Collected: \$ 14,854

Number of Donors: 107

Participation: 15.85%

As long as the earth lasts, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, Summer and Winter, and day and night shall not cease. ... Genesis 8:22

WELCOMING MASS

The Schuylkill Deanery will welcome newly ordained **Bishop Alfred Schlert** as our new Bishop of Allentown with a **Welcoming Mass** on **Monday, October 2nd at 7 p.m.** in **St. Clare of Assisi Church**, Mill & Hancock Sts., St. Clair. There is a parish parking lot at Mill & Carroll Sts, half a block from church. Church is handicap accessible and an attendant will be on duty to assist people on the lift.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

For what do you seek forgiveness?
Whom do you need to forgive?

Next Week's Readings

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (September 23/24)

Reading I: Isaiah 55:6-9

Reading II: Philippians 1:20c-24,27a

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR MEN

As Christian men we are called to live out the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is especially hard to do it alone and to keep our lives in balance. We invite all men in the parish to come and give this program a try. The format is a Gospel Reflection, a reading of the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday, afterwards a brief moment of reflection, spontaneous discussion of how that reading impacts each of us at that moment and in our lives today. **This is NOT a Bible study group** ... the Holy Spirit will be the teacher! We will also pray for your intentions at the end of each session.

When: Tuesdays --- 7 to 8 p.m.

Subject: the impact of the Gospel reading for each man's heart, mind and life expressed in his own words.

Preparation: bring a copy of the Gospel Reflection Sheet from website ... Stewardshipmission.org

For any question or more information, please contact Bill Gianfagna (573-0105) or Luis R. Visot (622-8798).

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Open Hours with Jesus

"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent in sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. When you want to find me, come near the tabernacle." ... Padre Pio

We need adorers for the following hours:

Tuesday 4 a.m.; Wednesday 12 & 1 a.m.

Friday 7 p.m.; Saturday 12 p.m., 1 p.m., 11 p.m.

Sunday 12 & 4 a.m.

Whenever you are unable to cover your Holy Hour, for whatever reason, we are always able to get a sub.

Please call Aleece 449-7678.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

TRUE REFORMERS

THE SAINTS OF THE CATHOLIC REFORMATION
Looking for something a little different? St. John's Adult Faith Formation is offering a Sunday afternoon study about the true reformers of the Catholic Reformation.

When: beginning September 24th (for six weeks)

Time: 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Where: Longinus Hall

Cost: \$14.00

This Ignatius press DVD series introduces you to six great saints and how they spearheaded the Church's rebirth after the Protestant Reformation 500 years ago.

We will learn about one woman and five men and how their individual lives were touched by divine grace. Their stories will inspire you today just as they did 500 years ago.

Sunday, September 24th

St. Thomas More ... the Age of the Author

Sunday, October 1st

St. Ignatius of Loyola ... Soldier for Christ

Sunday, October 8th

St. Philip Neri ... The Apostle of Joy

Sunday, October 15th

St. Charles Borromeo ... the Good Shepherd

Sunday, October 22nd

St. Teresa of Avila ... A study in Perseverance

Sunday, October 29th

St. Francis De Sales ... Pastor of Souls

Sign up for this series in the back of church or call the Rectory 622-5470.

... St. John's Adult Faith Formation Committee

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

GOLF TEAM OUTING on **Sunday, September 30th** at 7:30 a.m. (Breakfast); shotgun start at 9 a.m. at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Cost is \$90 per golfer. Cost includes Breakfast Buffet, Green Fees, Gifts, Beverages, Mountain Valley Picnic. To register or sponsor please contact Athletic Director Josh Muldowney 622-8110 or Coach Al Bobinas 728-1389 or email: NativityGolfTeam@gmail.com All proceeds benefit the Nativity BVM Hill Topper Golf Program.

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.



If they obey and serve Him, they spend their days in prosperity, their years in happiness. ... Job 36:11

CCD PROGRAM

We thank the following parishioners for accepting the challenge of spreading the "Good News" to our parish children:

CCD

Sarah & Darren DeArment
 Barbara Riccio, Lori Reedy
 Lucilla Kochol
 Farrah Benart
 Beth & Rick Smith
 Jennifer Hower
 Dr. Robert DeColli
 Robert Hahner, Josette Peckman,
 Camden Deibert
Pre-School / Children's Liturgy
 Melissa LeBlanc, Lucilla Kochol

Grade 1
 Grade 2
 Grade 3
 Grade 4
 Grade 5
 Grade 6
 Grade 7
 Grade 8

Catechist's Prayer

Gracious and all-loving Father, out of love for all people you spoke your Word who became flesh for our salvation. May your Word transform me so that the message of your Son, our Lord, may be echoed through my teaching. Allow me to guide the hearts of those whom I teach in such a way that they will enter more deeply into your way of truth and salvation. Grant me the insight needed to lead them to know, love, and serve you. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, may they become hearers and followers of your Word, so that they might help transform the world to follow the way of life to which your Son has called us all, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will take place ...

Saturday and Sunday, November 11 & 12

'View & Drop' Preview weekend is November 4th & 5th.

We are asking families to donate a **Theme Basket** with a suggested value of at least **\$25.00** in merchandise or gift certificates. If you would like to donate the items, we would be happy to put a basket together and wrap it for you. Be creative and come up with your own unique idea!

Homemade craft items are also very welcome.

So many families donated baskets last year --- it was wonderful to see the spirit of St. John's shine through.

Baskets should be dropped off before October 24th.

Our '**Lottery Baskets & Frames**' are always a huge success. If you would like to donate **lottery tickets** (any amount), please drop tickets off at the rectory or place in the collection basket at Mass.

As always, **Monetary donations** are greatly appreciated. and helping hands at the Bazaar are always welcome. If you can help or you have questions, please call the **Rectory 622-5470 ext. 3**

Gift Cards / Certificates are especially needed.

In addition to our many various **THEME BASKETS**, there will be beautiful **CRAFTS**, many of which are handmade, **SPECIALS**, and of course, delicious **FOOD** and our famous homemade **BAKED GOODS**.

PICTURES WITH SANTA will be available as well.

This is a great way to get involved in a fun fundraiser for the parish and to meet other people. Join us !!!

*Items Needed for the
 Christmas Bazaar*



We are looking for donations of large baskets, and various new gift items for baskets. For questions or more information, please call the **Rectory 570-622-5470 x 3** or email.... stjbparish@comcast.net.

WINE / CHEESE / SNACK BASKETS



If you would like to donate **Wine, Cheese, or Snacks** for our **Wine/Snack Baskets** for this year's Christmas Bazaar, please drop your donation off at the rectory during the week.

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 **Wednesday, September 20th 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: Joan Deiter at 622-1381 or St. John's Rectory: 622-5470.

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 30th

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

Place: Former Pizza Hut Parking Lot, Yorkville



Pre-Sale: after all Masses September 23/24.

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

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

BOSCOV'S is helping out St. John's by giving us **Shopping Passes** to sell for \$5 each: these proceeds benefit the church. Boscov's **HELPING YOU** and **ME**

- By bringing that shopping pass to Boscov's on **Tuesday, October 17th** 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-AWAY** Purchases too, so great for early Christmas shopping!

**PASSES ... \$5.00 each ... ARE AVAILABLE
AT THE RECTORY OFFICE**

PRE-SALE for St. John's will also be available at Boscov's every Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (except October 5 & 6).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Friends Helping Friends! Let us help you!
Won't you help us?

CURIOSITY SHOP / YARD SALE

Friday – September 29th – 4 to 7 p.m.

Saturday – September 30th – 8 a.m. to 12 noon



at the Russell Building

Don't miss it !!! If you like yard sales this is the place to be. Various items including ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, jewelry, holiday decorations, framed prints, Wii, special Vintage Section and much, much more, plus foods are available for purchase. Something for everyone!! Join us!! (Questions... call the Rectory 622-5470 ext.3.)

DESSERTS/BAKED GOODS NEEDED ...

If you would like to donate a dessert item for our **Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale**, please drop off at the times listed above or call the rectory 622-5470 ext.3. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



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.



Voted Best Bank

FINANCIAL

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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."

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

September

- 16/17 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 19 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 20 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 24 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 24 Adult Faith Formation - 4:30-6:00 p.m. – L.H.

- 26 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 29 Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale – 4 - 7 p.m. – R.B.
- 30 Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale – 8 a.m.-12 .m. – R.B.

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

ST. JOSEPH CENTER FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

POSITION AVAILABLE ... Transition Coordinator

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning, Inc. is seeking a caring and motivated individual to coordinate and oversee its program for transition learning and assessment for students with special needs in simulated work settings and community based jobs. This is a part-time 29 hour/week position with the potential for full-time depending on the education and qualifications of the candidate. Applicant must be willing to transport students to various worksites using either their personal or school vehicle. Please come to the school (2075 West Norwegian Street, Pottsville) during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (Monday through Thursday only) or email stjosephcenter@comcast.net to provide your resumé, or request an application.

No phone calls please.

POSITION AVAILABLE Director of Development

Are you passionate about helping all students reach their potential? Do you love working in a bright, active, positive environment? Are you interested in joining an organization that's taking it to the next level? We are looking for a motivated, enthusiastic person to take the journey with us. The Director will coordinate all phases of development for the center and will work in collaboration with the Principal and Administrative Office. This person will provide leadership and direction to staff, Board of Directors and volunteers to create and implement the development, marketing and outreach plans for St. Joseph Center for Special Learning. This is a full-time, year-round position, including benefits. The ideal applicant will have the following qualifications: Bachelor's degree; significant experience in development and marketing; demonstrate leadership skills; proficient in computer skills; able to communicate effectively with staff, Board members and donors; team player; attention to detail; and high degree of initiative. Please email your resumé and references to altssjc@ptd.net.

No phone calls please.

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

September 2017

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| IMO Carl Bartholomew | M/M James Loeper |
| IMO Harold Bartholomew | IMO Charles Lorenz |
| IMO Robert Berger | IMO Felix & Agnes Narog |
| IMO Edward Christ | IMO Carol Nygren |
| Millie Fredericks | Dorothy Parsick |
| Fr. Don Henry | IMO Jeanne Rehnert |
| IMO M/M Herbert Henry | IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert |

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Joanne Hepler | IMO Dorothy Rosenberger |
| IMO Clare Houser | Marcie Schnerring |
| IMO Francis King | IMO Margaret Zelinsky |
- Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program

What is a Bulletin Booster?? Some of our newer parishioners have asked what it means to be a Bulletin Booster. We have a wonderful bulletin – it is timely and keeps us informed of what is going on within our parish family and its surroundings. Paper and supplies are needed on a weekly basis to continue this family tradition. So, if you'd like to donate toward the supplies. **\$1.00 and up ... you too can be a ... Bulletin Booster**

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ...

Make your grocery basket and your plate as colorful as you can. The darker and richer the colors of fruits, vegetables, and beans, the better. There are almost 2,000 known plant pigments, including more than 800 flavonoids, 340 carotenoids, and 150 anthocyanins. Not only do they make food appealing, but many have potential health benefits. There are other beneficial compounds besides pigments, so even pale plant foods are worth eating.

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 |
| Cereal – boxed | Vegetable - Canned |
| Beef Stew | Spaghetti |
| Soups | Spaghetti Sauce |
| Peanut Butter | Jelly |
| Canned Gravy | Canned Sweet Potatoes |

NEEDED Item of the Month

Canned Vegetables & Canned Fruit

PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS

Please Do Not donate any nutritional drinks

(Ensure, etc.)

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10th Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

COME DANCE WITH ME Swing (Jitterbug) – Waltz – Cha Cha – Fox Trot – and a little bit of Country every **Friday night from 6:30 to 9 p.m.** beginning Friday, **September 8th** at the Goodwill Fire Co. (second floor), Washington St., Port Carbon. Come learn new steps, meet new friends, share favorite dance moves, and most of all, have fun... **LET'S DANCE.**

FALL YOUTH PROGRAMS at the Pottsville Free Public Library. The Fall program session began

September 11th. There are story times for toddlers and preschoolers; a Builders' Bonanza program featuring Legos and other educational toys for school age kids; and a writing club, a drawing club, and teen advisory board for young adults. Please call 570-622-8880 or visit www.pottsvillelibrary.org.

WINE FESTIVAL sponsored by St. Ambrose Parish on **Saturday, September 23rd** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 302 Randel St. in Schuylkill Haven. Tickets \$25.00; Advance tickets \$20.00; Designated Drivers \$5.00. Fabulous Wineries, Delicious Food Vendors, Awesome Craft Vendors ... Call the Rectory for Tickets and information 570-385-1031.

HARVEST FEST at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Road, Hamburg on **Friday, October 6** (4-9 pm) and **Saturday, October 7** (12-9 pm). Ongoing entertainment both days; Saturday – Polka Mass 4:30. Homemade food, fun, activities and games for all ages, corn hole tournament. Free admission, rain or shine, plenty of parking, no coolers. 610-562-7657, www.stmaryhamburg.org

BLUE ARMY SHRINE PILGRIMAGE Celebrate the Fatima Centennial in Asbury, New Jersey, on **Friday, October 13th**, sponsored by St. Matthew's Traveler's ... Cost \$25.00 ... For more info and reservations, please call Julie 570-544-5231 or Millie 570-628-5413.

RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR sponsored by St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish on **Wednesday, November 29th**; Matinee at 11 a.m. Cost - Show & Bus \$107.00. For more info and reservations, call Julie 570-544-5231 or Millie 570-628-5413.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 9/10: \$ 4,952.14

Dues: \$ 1,500.00

Hurricane Harvey Relief: \$ 2,763.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Now that the children are back in school, how about a refresher course for Mom and Dad? WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER is an enrichment weekend to help make good marriages even better. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

DESIRE: FULFILLING OUR DEEPEST LONGING

Are you looking for something more in your life? We all have a longing deep in our hearts that isn't satisfied by the things of this world. Many people search for fulfillment in a variety of ways, but are left with a sense of emptiness. Join us on **Saturday, September 30th from 7 to 9 pm** for some wine and cheese as the Office of Adult Formation for the Diocese of Allentown hosts national presenter **Bill Donaghy** who will explore what and who we are made for so that we can finally attain

our desire and fulfill our deepest longing. This event will take place at St. Thomas More Family Center in Allentown and will cost \$10 per person. Find more information at www.allentowndiocese.org/desire.

*Master Catechist Certificate continuing education credits are available for this event!

DIVINE MERCY & 100 YEARS OF FATIMA Join us on **Tuesday, October 10th** from 6:30 to 8:30pm at **Vito's Coal Fired Pizza and Restaurant** in Saint Clair as **Rev. Rick James** explores what the messages of Fatima and Divine Mercy have to do with us today. What are the messages of Divine Mercy and Our Lady of Fatima? What do the messages of Divine Mercy and Fatima have to do with each other? These questions and more will be discussed. There is no cost to attend and no registration is required. Vito's is located at 400 Terry Rich Blvd., Saint Clair and they will have menus available for ordering food and drink at your expense. For more info or questions, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/faith-and-spirits or contact the Office of Adult Formation by email at adultformation@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021

HEALING MASS will take place **Monday, October 23rd at 6:30 p.m.** for those individuals who have experienced trauma. All are invited to join in prayer at this Mass with The Most Reverend. Alfred A. Schlert as Celebrant and Msgr. Walter Schaeffer as homilist at Sacred Heart Parish, 117 Washington Street, Bath. Following Mass there will be a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for confession. The evening will conclude with Benediction at 8:30 p.m.
