

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

Established in 1841

10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901

Pastor: *Rev. David J. Loeper*

Deacons: *Luis R. Visot / Lawrence Lonergan*

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
Russell Building (570) 628-3002
Website – SaintJohnPottsville.org.

Parish Council President: *Robert Bechtel*
Choir Director/Organist: *David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator: *Lucilla Kochol*
E-mail – 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

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning – 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Weekday Mass Schedule (in Chapel)

Monday thru Friday – 9:00 a.m.

Cemetery Information

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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday afternoon – 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.
Sunday – 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 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.

Outreach Program

Rectory (570)-622-5470

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

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

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT
(610) 332-0442 ext. 2019

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

In our readings this weekend, the prophet Amos comes with a warning to the people of the northern kingdom of Israel, that God sees those who take advantage of or mistreat the poor and needy and he will not forget a thing they have done. In the gospel for this weekend from Luke, Jesus tells a parable of the dishonest steward and says that a person must be trustworthy in matters both big and small, for no one can serve both God and money.

Jesus instructs us to serve only one Master. But there are many things competing for our attention on a daily basis. Some of the things we do, we do in light of our faith and in the service of God. But other things may draw us away from both. Jesus tells us to pay attention to our actions and our motives, for we cannot serve both God and the things of this world.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 23 – 9:00 a.m.

BILL SCHWEIKERT SR. (Bill Schweikert)

Tuesday, September 24 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPHINE KOCHOL (Ned & Nellie Hummel)

Wednesday, September 25 – 9:00 a.m.

THEODORE “TED” CASEY (Elise & Ian Turner)

Thursday – September 26 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH TOOMEY, 40th Anniv.

(Sons, Jim, Dan, John Toomey)

Friday, September 27 – 9:00 a.m.

FRANK HOCK

Saturday, September 28 – 5:00 p.m.

ELEANOR POTHERING, 6th Anniv.

(George Pothering)

Sunday, September 29 – 8:15 a.m.

THOMAS & HELEN DE STEFANO

(Tom & Jane DeStefano)

Sunday, September 29 – 10:30 a.m.

DECEASED OF THE JOHN & GRETCHEN

LIEBERMAN FAMILY (Lieberman Family)

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: *Tom Jefferson, Paul Burns, Lorelei Oswald, Sue Klem Moore, Pat Thomas, John Whelski, Gary Bradley, Beth Thomas Resnick.*

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III – Joshua Clauser & Kelsey Amos

SCHEDULE

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – September 28th

Reader: Heidi Gorski

Euch.Min.: Molly Zwiebel, (Dr. Visot)

Servers: Vincent & Michael Prestileo, Noah Fredericks

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – September 29th

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: Dave Smith, Mike Ambrose,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Caroline & Christopher Hobbs,
Dylan Schreffler

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – September 29th

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Bobbi Murray, Justina Majestic,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Ethan & Ryan Grabowski, Isabelle Myers

Cantor: Dave Derbes

ATTENTION - SCHEDULE

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **November & December** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call or email the Rectory by Monday, October 14th** to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. Thank you.

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO George & Theresa Holley
by Mary Ann Holley

St. Joseph - IMO George & Theresa Holley
by Mary Ann Holley

Tabernacle – IMO George & Theresa Holley
by Mary Ann Holley

Sanctuary

1. IMO Living & Deceased of

St. John's Catholic Women's Union

2. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

3&4. IMO George & Theresa Holley

by Mary Ann Holley

Guardian Angels

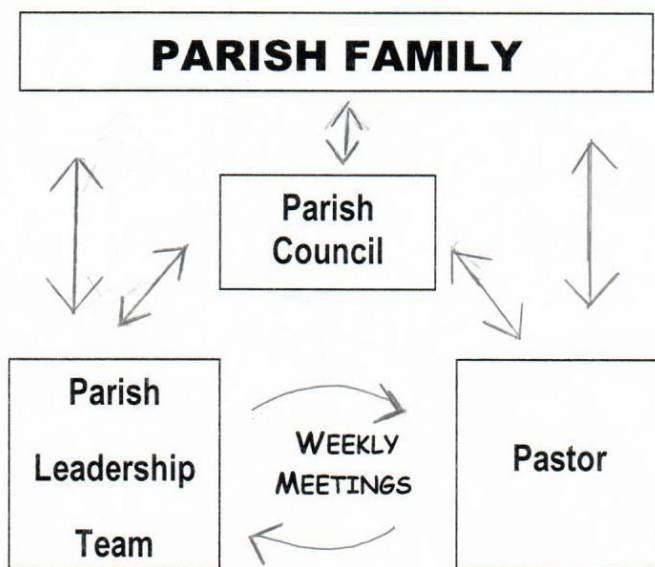
1&2. IMO George Klassen Jr. by Family

MARRIED IN CHRIST

We extend our warmest congratulations to **Kyle Kurtek and Jacqueline Bell** who were joined in Holy Matrimony on **September 7th** in the presence of Father Dave. They are called now to total dedication to each other. May their love each day draw them closer to God and to each other.



THE AMAZING PARISH
THE FLOW OF COMMUNICATION DIAGRAM



GOALS:

1. Better serve the needs of the parish.
2. Increased lay participation in decision making.
3. More openness to the ideas of the parish family.
4. Better communication between Pastor/Parish Leadership Team and the Parish Family.
5. More focus on the parish's unique mission.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

As we strive to make our parish even more *Amazing* we will be meeting with all our ministry groups. Our first meeting will be with our **Ministers of Hospitality** on **Monday, October 7 at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.**

A letter will be sent to our Ministers of Hospitality in the near future. Please RSVP by calling the rectory and invite anyone you think would be interested in being part of our Hospitality Ministry.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

If you were to give an account of your stewardship, what would you include?

Next Week's Readings

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Sept.28/29)

Reading I: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Reading II: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

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

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Mr. Matthew Kuna** (the seminarian who was with us here at St. John's this past summer) on receiving the Ministry of Lector on Saturday, September 14th at St. Charles Seminary in Philadelphia. This is the first of the ministries that the theology seminarians receive as they progress towards priesthood. This Ministry of Lector makes Matthew an official proclaimer of the scriptures (excluding the gospel) at liturgies. Please continue to pray for Matthew and all our seminarians as they continue their studies.

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!

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

We need adorers for the following hours:

Wednesday 12 a.m., 1 a.m.

Thursday 3 a.m., 4 a.m.;

Friday 6 a.m., 5 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 St. Patrick's Rectory 570-622-1802.

SCHUYLKILL CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

FALL SCHEDULE – 2019

Sunday – September 29th – 2 p.m.

Hike Sharp Mountain – meet at Longinus Hall

Sunday – October 6th – 2 to 6 p.m.

'Anchored in Peace' Retreat – Saylorsburg

Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/anchored

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL ...

GIFT CARD BINGO sponsored by the Green & Gold Boosters on **Sunday, September 22nd** at the high school. Doors open 11:30 a.m.; Bingo starts at 1 p.m. Food & Refreshments available for purchase. Questions call Nativity BVM High School 570-622-8110.

BUS TRIP – N.Y. CITY sponsored by Nativity Alumni Assoc. on **Saturday, November 2nd** ... only \$45.00 ... For more information or reserve your seat, call Nativity BVM High School at 570-622-8110.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will take place ...

Saturday and Sunday, November 9 & 10

'View & Drop' Preview weekend is November 2nd & 3rd.

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.

Our 'Lottery Baskets & Lottery 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 !!!

Baskets should be dropped off before October 21st at the Russell Building on the following dates:

October 2, 9, 14, 16, 21

4:30 to 5:30 p.m. ONLY

**Baskets / Items for baskets
CANNOT
be dropped off at the Rectory.**

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 **Russell Building on the dates and times listed above.**

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We wish to thank the following for their donations ...

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Manus Family | \$25.00 |
| Eleanor Schaeffer | Donna Sharp Bskt. |
| St. John's 8 th Grade Class of 1964 | \$50.00 |

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 28th

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

Place: Former Pizza Hut Parking Lot, Yorkville

Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or St. John's Rectory -570-622-5470.



FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

25% OFF

SHOPPING PASS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019

- Bring your shopping pass to **BOSCOV'S** on **Wednesday, 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 ... available after all Masses the weekends of October 5/6 and October 12/13.

PASSES are also available at the Rectory Office during the week.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 14/15: \$ 4,158.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

SECOND COLLECTION

NEXT WEEKEND ... SEPT. 28/29

... will be taken up for the victims of Hurricane Dorian. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock. Is. 26:4

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE Calling All Women! The Diocese of Allentown is hosting its third annual women's conference on **Saturday, October 5th** at **DeSales University** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. beginning with a Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Alfred A. Schlert. \$40/Adult, \$10/High School Students, \$15 College Students and Vowed/Consecrated Religious. The theme "**Women: Chosen for A Purpose**" will feature presentations by nationally known speakers **Dr. Edward Sri, Sarah Christmyer, Sr. Sophia Marie Peralta, S.C.C. (Spanish Track), and Martha Fernández-Sardina (Spanish Track)**. Continental breakfast, lunch, Confession, Adoration, and Exhibitors included. For more information: visit www.allentowndioocese.org/womens-conference. Questions call 610-289-8900 x 2021 or email adultformation@allentowndioocese.org Hope to see you there!

TEEN RETREAT Teens in grades 6 through 12 are invited to join us for a relaxing day of faith and fellowship, including Eucharistic Adoration, opportunities for Confession, talks by Fr. Mark Searles, and other activities. The Anchored in Peace Teen Retreat is on **Sunday, October 6th** from 2 to 6 p.m. at Stone Lake Inn, 407 Greenview Dr., Saylorsburg. Lunch will be included and there is no cost to attend. More information allentowndioocese.org/anchored.

HOPING AGAINST HOPE Living the Gospel where it is **unwelcome** – The Diocesan Commission for Men is offering a men's morning of reflection on **Saturday, October 19th** at Queenship of Mary in Northampton. An optional Holy Mass will be offered at 8:00 AM followed by refreshments. Presentations by Rev. Eric Gruber, Rev. Patrick Lamb, and Rev. David Anthony will begin at 9:15 AM. To register for this free offering visit www.allentowndioocese.org/cfm-spirituality

SCAM ALERT

The Diocese of Allentown is alerting parishioners about an apparent scam. Recently, a number of people from several different parishes have notified the Diocese that they received a text message on their cell phone from someone pretending to be a Diocesan priest or Deacon asking them to purchase gift cards for him.

These are not legitimate requests and are not from a Diocesan priest. No Diocesan priest will ever solicit funds by text message

The Diocese is not aware that anyone has fallen victim to this scam. But it does want to remind everyone if you are concerned about a text message you receive, always verify it before you take any action.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

September

- 21/22 Kauffman BBQ – Presale tickets after Masses
- 24 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 28 CWU Kauffman Chicken BBQ Sale
- 29 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 30 Festival Wrap-Up Mtg. - 7 p.m. – F.R.

October

- 1 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 2 Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop-off – 4:30 – R.B.
- 7 Ministers of Hospitality Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 8 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 9 Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop-off – 4:30 – R.B.
- 10 Parent Mtg. 1st Reconciliation – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 12/13 Parish Food Sale after Masses – R.B.
- 13 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 14 Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop-off – 4:30 – R.B.
- 15 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 16 Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop-off – 4:30 – R.B.
- 16 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 19 Wine & Cheese Social – after Mass – L.H.
- 19/20 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses-Chapel
- 21 Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop-off – 4:30 – R.B.
- 22 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 27 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 29 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

November

- 1 All Saints Day – Masses 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
- 2 All Souls Day – Mass 9:00 – Chapel

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

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

Our Festival Wrap-Up Meeting
will take place
Monday, September 30th – 7 p.m.
in the Rectory Fellowship Room.
All are welcome!

PARISH FOOD SALE

St. John's will host a food sale
Saturday and Sunday, **October 12th & 13th**
at the Russell Building after Masses.

Food Items include: (take out only)
Clam Chowder Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup,
Bleenies, Halushki.
More details to follow next week.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

GAME NIGHT ... sponsored by Lehigh Valley Hospital - Schuylkill Auxiliary on **Thursday, September 26th** from 6 to 8 p.m. at 700 E. Norwegian St., 1st Floor; **\$5.00 per person** includes dinner - assorted hoagies, chips & water. Refreshments & desserts available for purchase.

Join us to play old classic games including Mahjong, Catch Phrase, Trivial Pursuit, Dominoes, Cards. Feel free to bring your own games as well. **Please RSVP** by contacting Mary Bardell at 570-621-4242 or Mary.Bardell@lvhn.org. **Proceeds benefit LVHN Cancer Services.**

BASKET AUCTION ... sponsored by St. Charles Borromeo Church, 1115 Walnut St., Ashland on **September 29th**. Shop & Drop Saturday, Sept. 28th noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Auction starts at 3 on Sunday. For more information, call Parish Office at 570-875-1521.

HARVEST FEST '19 ... at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Road, Hamburg on **Friday, October 4** (4-9 p.m.) and **Saturday, October 5** (12-9 p.m.). Friday music - Oldies Band; Saturday music includes a Polka Band 1 p.m.; Polka Mass at 4:30 p.m.; more music until 8:30 p.m. Homemade ethnic foods, fun, rock wall and bungee jump, hayrides, bingo, theme baskets, corn maze and escape rooms. Free admission, plenty of parking, no coolers. Held rain or shine. For information call 610-562-7657 or visit www.stmaryhamburg.org.

AMERICAN GIRL DOLL BINGO ... at Divine Mercy Hall, 400 block of W. Cherry St., Mt. Carmel on **Saturday, October 12th**; Doors open 11 a.m.; Bingo starts 1 p.m. Tickets \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door. Food available for purchase. Bring your doll and be eligible for a prize. Tickets available at the Divine Redeemer Church Office, 438 West Ave., Mt. Carmel.

PASSION PLAY 2020 ... visiting France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland: Trip runs **July 3 - 16, 2020**. Bus transportation (departs from Holy Guardian Angels Church) to PHL airport. 12 nights in Superior First Class hotels, daily buffet breakfast, full dinner daily, admission to the Passion Play, tickets for "The Glacier Express Train" across the alps, Tyrolean Dinner Show in Innsbruck, Alpine excursions in Interlaken area, plus more. All ground and airfares are included. Price is \$5,790 / person. For more information please contact Les White at 610-929-1833 or montanatours@hotmail.com.

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 |

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.

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.

Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
High Efficiency Gas Boiler Installation
Oil to Gas Conversions
Ductless Air Conditioning / Heat Pumps
Phone: (570) 622-6541
John & Mike Wollyung, Owners
www.rphservice.com
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- * It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
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- * It Develops Good Community Relationships
- * It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

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."