

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*

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
NOVEMBER 17TH, 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,

The theme that revolves around our readings for this Sunday is the fact that God is our anchor and our strength.

In the first reading from the prophet Malachi, he proclaims the coming judgment where the proud and the evildoers will face destruction while those who fear the Lord will be healed.

In the second reading for this Sunday, Paul reminds believers to behave in an orderly way.

And in this Sunday's gospel Jesus paints a picture of a time when there will be wars and earthquakes and famines. Yet he offers hope and says, "Do not be terrified." We must know that our security cannot rest in anything of this world but on God alone who will sustain us in times of suffering.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO R.J. Post by Bob & Irene Post

St. Joseph - IMO Charlie Sharockman
by Fred & Hilda Maley

Tabernacle – Special Intention

Sanctuary

1. IMO Francis J. King by Grace King

2. For Tanner Gerchak by Denise Gerchak

3&4. IMO Ernest Zambo by Mary Zambo

Guardian Angels

1. IMO R.J. Post by Bob & Irene Post

2. Special Intention by Chris Black

SCHEDULE

CHRIST THE KING

5 p.m. – Saturday – November 23rd

Reader: Robert Wollyung

Euch.Min.: Hermine & Danny Murphy

Servers: Vincent, Spencer, Michael Prestileo

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – November 24th

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: George Forney, Bobby Rienzo

Servers: Jackson Daubert, Ellie Forney,
Samantha Heenan

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – November 24th

Reader: Susan Hahner

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace, Justina Majestic

Servers: Landon Trout, Macie Rushannon,
Isabelle Myers

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

*All things were made by Him, and without Him was not
any thing made that was made. John 1:3*

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 18 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN HELLER (William Smith & Family)

Tuesday, November 19 – 9:00 a.m.

KATHY NORKUS (John Lieberman)

Wednesday, November 20 – 9:00 a.m.

DOROTHY PROKOP (M/M Thomas J. Toth)

Thursday, November 21 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN B. LIEBERMAN IV (Eleanor Schaeffer)

Friday, November 22 – 9:00 a.m.

THOMAS J. CUSICK (living intention)

(Joseph D. McGraw Jr.)

Saturday, November 23 – 5:00 p.m.

**LIVING & DECEASED OF ST. JOHN'S
BENEFICIAL SOCIETY**

Sunday, November 24 – 8:15 a.m.

DOROTHY ELISON (Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Sunday, November 24 – 10:30 a.m.

ANNETTE LIEBERMAN (Robert & Irene Post Fam.)

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: *Beth Thomas Resnick, Doug Broughton.*

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III – Michele Poleschak & Steven Compomizzi

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Is there persecution of Catholics today in your neighborhood? In the world?

Next Week's Readings

CHRIST THE KING (Nov. 23/24)

Reading I: 2 Samuel 5:1-5

Reading II: Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

CHOSEN, BLESSED, SHARED

Thank you to those who have given so generously to the "Chosen, Blessed, Shared" annual fund. If you haven't given, it isn't too late to support the retired priests of our Diocese by making a gift to the Endowment Fund for the Care of Retired Priests. This special fund is used to directly support retired priests in good standing including the future costs of their healthcare, insurance, and housing and sustenance. Please return your gift using the envelope you received in the mail or from the brochures in the narthex. These envelopes may be returned in the mail or in the collection basket at Mass. Your generosity supports retired priests from all 5 counties of our Diocese!

THE AMAZING PARISH

St. John's Parish Mission:

.. *To encounter Christ and make disciples* ..

The leadership team wants to thank everyone who stopped by after Mass last weekend to enjoy the refreshments and to learn a little more about the Amazing Parish. Many thanks to all who set up, organized and served the food and drinks. We received many good suggestions and comments about what parishioners want to see the parish do in the future.

The suggestion box will be in the back of church and everyone is always welcome to contact the team or the rectory with your ideas and critiques.

Please prayerfully consider becoming a minister at the altar or joining our new greeter ministry for the good of St. John's Parish. More to come!

*Father Dave, Josette Peckman, Tara DeStefano,
Bob Hahner, Bill Gianfagna.*

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

(Ushers, Greeters, Refreshment Committee)

Looking for a way to become involved? Have a desire to serve to your community? Please join St. John's on our endeavor towards becoming an *Amazing Parish!* We are looking for parishioners to join our Ministry of Hospitality. We are in need of Ushers, Greeters and members of the Refreshment Committee. Please contact the St. John's Rectory, 622-5470, or a Parish Leadership Team member with your interest. We look forward to you becoming a Minister of Hospitality!

CONFIRMATION

SPONSORS

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for one or more candidates. Cards containing the names of the candidates are located on the table in back of church. Please take one and during this time of preparation, please pray for that person in a special way and write notes of encouragement. Our parish will be doubly blessed!

PRAYER



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 the rectory with any questions 570-622-5470.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

November

- 17 Coffee & Muffins after Masses – L.H.
- 17 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 18 Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – F.R.
- 19 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 20 Catholic Women's Union – 7 p.m. – L.H.
- 21 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 23/24 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 24 Advent-ure – 9 a.m. – R.B.
- 26 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 28 Thanksgiving Day Mass – **8 a.m.**

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room


** R.B. – Russell Building

THE GIVING TREE

Next weekend a barren tree is placed in the front of church adorned with gift tags. The gift tags will have suggestions for our shut-in parishioners and needy moms and children in the area. If you are able, please take one. Return your gift wrapped with the gift tag on the outside, attached to the ribbon. Please return the package under the tree before the weekend of December 7/8. The tag is very important because it has the person's identity number on it.

Please Note: If you are not able to purchase the item on the gift tag, please return it to the tree.

PLEASE DO NOT TAPE TAG TO THE PAPER


 Our gifts each year to our shut-in friends and the needy of the area are our way of reaching out to those who have meant so much and saying we love them and wish them the blessings of Christmas.

**GIFTS ARE DUE BACK before
DECEMBER 7/8 WEEKEND**

If you can help with gift distributions, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

PLEASE NOTE: If more than one item is listed on the tag ... You are asked to get one item ONLY.

THANKSGIVING DAY MEAL

 The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will deliver a Turkey Dinner complete with Turkey, Filling, Yams, Gravy, Vegetable and Dessert to all residents of Schuylkill County who are in need of a meal for this Thanksgiving Day. If you or someone you know is in need of a meal, please call 570-628-3333 or contact us at KofC431@yahoo.com. **Closing date to order is November 22nd at 5 p.m.**

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, November 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 St. John's Rectory: 622-5470.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION CHRISTMAS PARTY

When: Wednesday, December 4th
Where: Blu Tavern
Time: 6 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00



Menu: Stuffed Chicken Breast with filling or Broiled Haddock with Lemon.

We will also exchange a \$5.00 gift, wine or snack item you would serve for the holidays – please wrap the item. For more information please call the Rectory at 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

FOOD COLLECTION for Pantry

Thanksgiving is fast approaching! Our parish is collecting food items now for Thanksgiving Baskets

Items Needed:

Stuffing Mix	Cranberries
Broth	Spaghetti's
Coffee/Tea (instant)	Instant /Canned Potatoes
Hot Chocolate	Ravioli
Beef Stew	Gravy
Soups	Cake Mixes
Icing	Baked Beans
Canned Vegetables	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Canned Fruit	Macaroni & Cheese
Apple Sauce	Spaghetti
Spaghetti Sauce	Jelly



Needed Items: Jelly, Soup, Canned Vegetables, Stuffing

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the bottom 10th St. side entrance of church.

Gift cards to purchase turkeys will be gladly accepted. Thank you.

PLEASE -- NO OUTDATED ITEMS

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

1. The official teachings of the Catholic Church come from both Scripture and Tradition.
True / False

2. When a baby is baptized, who received catechist?
(a) baby (b) grandparents (c) uncles (d) parents.

3. To receive First Communion, a child must be the age of reason, which is about how old?
(a) 2 (b) 7 (c) 18 (d) 21

4. The Catechism uses the Ten _____ to teach about Christian prayer.
(a) Rosary (b) Act of Contrition (c) Hail Mary (d) Lord's Prayer.

5. The Catechism uses the _____ to teach about Christian prayer.

6. A version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church geared for teens and young adults is called YOUCAT.
True / False

7. At Mass, what begins when the priest asks the Holy Spirit to transform the bread and wine into Christ's body and blood?
(a) consecration (b) homily (c) Gospel (d) Sign of Peace

8. If you commit a mortal sin, you should _____?
(a) blame someone else (b) go to Confession (c) avoid getting caught (d) pretend you didn't do it.

9. If God calls you to a vocation, you will know and respond _____.
(a) when you are open and ready (b) at birth (c) when you are old enough (d) next Christmas.

10. "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of _____."
(a) a galaxy far, far away (b) the Milky Way (c) hosts (d) Hogwarts

11. The priests always wear the same clothes with the same colors at Mass all year.
True / False

FAMILY MATTERS

Household Chores. If God is in the ordinary activities of our lives, then He must be around when we are doing the household chores. We pray today for all those engaged in spring cleaning, regular weekend chores and all those mundane activities that make up family life.

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

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER “*I wish we could just sit down and talk!*” Have you ever said that to your spouse? Do you wish you could take your “talk” to a deeper level of listening and understanding? Learn how on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.wvme.org.

ESSAY CONTEST Annual *Stand Up for Life* Essay Contest ... The theme is “*Christ our Hope: In Every Season of Life.*”

Deadline for essay submission is December 2nd.

Opened to all students in grades 7 - 12 in public and private schools in the Allentown Diocese, as well as home-schooled students. Four winners will be chosen in each deanery – a first and second place winner in each division. From these deanery winners, the top four essays will be chosen, and the winners awarded the following prizes at an awards banquet in January:

Grades 7 & 8: \$100 First Prize Second Prize \$50

Grades 9 - 12: \$200 First Prize Second Prize \$100

Information, visit: allentowndiocese.org/essaycontest

DAY OF REFLECTION The Commission for Women will host this on **Saturday, December 14** from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the McGlenn Conference and Spirituality Center, 460 Bernardine St. in Reading. (Adjacent to Alvernia University). Be encouraged as we listen to talks by: Rev. Bernard J. Ezaki, Parochial Vicar, St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish, Easton and Mr. Matthew J. Kuna, Parish Son of St. Thomas More, Allentown and diocesan seminarian. Pray the Rosary together, participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and enjoy great food & fruitful conversation. Register at www.allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality by December 1. Cost \$20.

OPEN ARMS MINISTRY

If you have good used furniture that you would like to donate, *Open Arms Ministry* is in need for these items for their transitional housing. If you would like more information about this organization, check out their website at www.openarmshelp.org, or email Pastor Vincent Murray at Oathmainoffice@gmail.com.

ARE YOU PLANNING A CHANGE ??



If you are making a change in ... *address, parish affiliation, e-mail, or phone number*, please call the Rectory Office. We strive to keep our records up to date.

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL STORE OPEN HOUSE on **Wednesday, November 20th from 6 to 8:30 p.m.** Nativity apparel, all uniform clothing and miscellaneous items will be discounted. Everyone welcome!

Come enjoy an evening of holiday music, refreshments, hors d'oeuvres. In addition, Nativity students will be making homemade baked goods.

Celebrate good times with family and friends to get the holiday shopping off to a wonderful start. A free gift with every purchase and free gift wrapping.

Questions – contact Sue Eckley (school store coordinator) at 570-622-8110.

ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL

GIFT CARD CALENDAR RAFFLE ... will take place during the month of December to benefit the school and its students. Calendars are \$10 each and are good for all 31 drawings during the month. Calendars can be purchased from any ABVM family or from the school. Please contact the school at 570-622-0106 or email tmengel@assumptionbvmschool.net. Thank you for helping make our Calendar Raffle a success.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

HOLIDAY MASS OF REMEMBRANCE ... at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 49 N. Line St., Frackville on **Thursday, November 21st at 6 p.m.** Participants may display a photograph, candle, or memento on the table which will be placed in the sanctuary.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ... at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Rd., Hamburg on **Saturday, November 23rd** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Crafts, gifts, theme basket raffle, homemade Christmas cookies, quilt raffle tickets. Kitchen will be opened for Breakfast & Lunch. For more info call 610-562-7657 or www.stmaryhamburg.org

WEEKLY COLLECTION

November 9/10: \$ 4,220.75

Parish Improvements & Repairs: \$ 1,510.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS ...

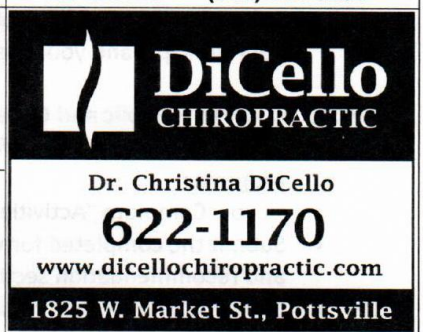
Get your blood pressure checked in Longinus Hall after Masses next weekend, **November 23/24**

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.”

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.



Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

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

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ... Need more reason to eat more fruits and vegetables and cut back on sweets? A higher intake of fruits and vegetables is associated with reduced visceral fat (fat surrounding abdominal organs) and liver fat (triglycerides accumulating in the liver), while a higher intake of sweets such as cakes and candy is associated with increased liver fat. This was confirmed by a study in the Journal of Nutrition, in which 2,300 middle-aged Dutch people reported their intake of various food groups during the prior month and then underwent abdominal MRIs. Visceral and liver fat increase the risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease more than fat stored elsewhere. In addition, excessive liver fat is a sign of fatty liver disease, which can progress to more severe liver disorders.

“OVER 50” CLUB



St. John's "Over 50" Club will be meeting again on **Tuesday, November 19th**. We welcome and encourage new members ... anyone interested in joining our little socials ... just stop by Longinus Hall on Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m...we play bingo, board games, cards, etc. and light refreshments are always available. For more information please call the rectory 622-5470.

*Every day I bless You; I will praise Your name forever.
... Psalm 145:2*

ANSWERS TO WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

1. True. "The Church does not derive her certainty about all revealed truths from the Holy Scriptures alone. Both Scripture and Tradition must be accepted and honored with equal sentiments of devotion and reverence."

2. (d) since a baby cannot understand anything yet, the parents receive instruction in the faith and tips on how to raise the child as a disciple of Christ.

3. (b) "The administration of the Most Holy Eucharist to children requires that they have sufficient knowledge and careful preparation so that they understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity and are able to receive the body of Christ with faith and devotion."

4. (a) The Ten commandments are the basis for faith in God and moral decision-making.

5. (d) The Lord's Prayer is truly the summary of the whole gospel, the "most perfect of prayers". It is at the center of the Scriptures.

6. True YOUCAT stands for "Youth Catechism" and is written in a Q & A format.

7. (a) Under the consecrated species of bread and wine Christ himself, living and glorious, is present in a true, real, and substantial manner.

8. (b) a mortal sin cuts us off from God. Penance restores that relationship. A person who is conscious of a grave sin is not to receive the body of the Lord without prior sacramental confession.

9. (a) Once we are ready to listen to God, we hear his message and are given the courage to follow his invitation to serve others in the special way he created us to do.

10. (c) *Hosts* is a biblical word for "armies". It can relate to God's protection of the people of Israel's armies, but also to the heavenly hosts of angels available at the Lord's command.

11. False. Their vestments change with the liturgical seasons and feasts; purple during Advent and Lent; white during the Christmas and Easter seasons; green in Ordinary Time; and red for feasts related to martyrs, the Holy Spirit, or the cross.
