

The cold, chilly temperatures were just the right feel for our Annual Christmas Bazaar. The Bazaar was filled with many beautiful crafts, baked good, and theme baskets. There was definitely something for everyone. A big thank you goes out to our Christmas Bazaar Committee who works very hard throughout the year to make sure that the Bazaar is always something special. This year was no different. The Bazaar was another great success. The hours they spend in coordinating various volunteers and crafts, putting together over 80 themed baskets made this annual event run very smoothly and well planned.

A very special thank you to **Mr. Christy Joy** and our **Food Committee**. Christy did a fantastic job preparing all the food items for the Bazaar. He made sure everyone's appetite was met. A special shout out to those who helped with the preparation of the food and transported the food back and forth to the Russell Building and Longinus Hall. Everything was done to perfection and in a timely manner.

Finally, let us not forget all those who donated any items, basket, gift card, monetary donations, crafts, served the food, and helped to set up and take down Longinus Hall. And of course, all those who patronized the Bazaar. To you a very special thanks cause without YOU the Bazaar would not be what it is. Also, a special thanks to Santa Claus. He definitely put us in the Christmas spirit! May God's blessings be with you all. Again, thank you for all your hard work and support.

Father Dave

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with this year's Christmas Bazaar. The wonderful support and hard work from all of our parish family was overwhelming. We all had a great time and we look forward to working with everyone again next year.

St. John's Christmas Bazaar Committee

Special thanks to ...

- The **Sponsors** who generously supported our efforts.
- The **Bakers** who made all the delicious treats.
- **Everyone** who helped in the kitchen preparing food.
- **Everyone** who donated those beautiful **Themed Baskets**.
- **Everyone** who donated the many **Gift Cards & Lottery Tickets**.
- **Everyone** who donated the very generous **Specials**.
- The **volunteers** who worked at the Bazaar.
- The **volunteers** who helped to transport the food and supplies.
- **Kathy Vicic** who donated the delicious Pulled Pork.
- **John & Chrissy Eagan** for making the Santa pictures such a success.
- **Students** from Assumption BVM School for carrying the baskets and supplies to church.
- **Guers Dairy** for their donation of the ice tea products.
- **Carl & Tony Wiest** for their donation of the cake which was chanced off.
- **All** who attended the Bazaar and supported it in any way.

**2017 Christmas Bazaar
Profits
\$ 10,780.39**

Our Many Volunteers

Katie Blackwell	Tom Heenan	Ed Leffler	Jason Prestileo	Rosann Sitkus
Mary Bound	Debbie Herb	Charlene Leshar	Carole Quirin	Dave Steffan
Mia Bowers	Paul Herb	Frances Lorenz	Reene Reddington	Jackie Steffan
Cooper Chipлонia	Sue Jochems	Patty Markovich	Mike Rizzardi	Diane Stoudt
Julian Chipлонia	Maeve Ketner	Kevin McNamara	Joanie Scheetz	Kathy Vicic
Janet Daubert	Pat Klassen	Bennett McNamara	Pat Scheetz	Luis R. Visot
Joan Deiter	Bob Kline	Judy Meseravage	Sue Scheetz	Taylor Welsh
Millie Fredericks	Joan Kline	Sharon Miller	Barb Schoenauer	Carl & Toni Wiest
Sandy Frinzi	Lucilla Kochoł	Frank Murphy	Gerry Schwartz	Jessica Wiscount
Karla Garland	Joe Kurtek	Hermine Murphy	Emma Seiger	Robert Wiscount
Joyce Gerace	Pat Kutch	Joe & Eleanor	Ryan Seiger	Joanne Wood
Mary Beth Harvey	Carol Lasco	Orzechowski	Tina Seiger	Ralph Wood

Our Bakers

Kate Blackwell	Millie Fredericks	Pat Kutch	Barb Munster	Pat Scheetz
Michelle Darhun	Sandy Frinzi	Frances Lorenz	Hermine Murphy	Sue Scheetz
Janet Daubert	Mart Beth Harvey	Ann Lowe	Mary Porter	Rosann Sitkus
Joan Deiter	Sue Jochems	Hilda Maley	Carole Quirin	Peggy Stoppi
Marie Doyle	Melody Kirk	Maria McMurtrie	Missv Scheetz	Janet Thomas

*Despite our very best efforts, we invariably misspell, misplace or omit the name of an important person ... YOU!
We apologize if we have done this.*

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

In this Sunday's gospel, the Son of Man comes in kingly glory to judge our lives. Using the sheep as a symbol, we hear the sheep doing his bidding. They will inherit the kingdom God prepared for them.

It's bad news for the goats. They didn't see Jesus in the various opportunities for compassion and care. When we only think about our own agenda, we are blind to the needs of others. This is where we can hear our future selves protesting: "Lord, when did we see you hunger and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?"

The opportunities are there. The Lord asks us to see them.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 27 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY HAHNER (Eddie Hahner)

Tuesday, November 28 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY O'DONNELL (John & Kathryn Carroll)

Wednesday, November 29 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPHINE PEYUS

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Thursday, November 30 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY BROKHOFF

Friday, December 1 – 9:00 a.m.

REV. FREDERICK LONGINUS

Saturday, December 2 – 5 p.m.

LOUISE DELANEY (Kathleen Williams)

Sunday – December 3 – 8:15 a.m.

ELVIRA CRIVELLI (DeColli Family)

Sunday – December 3 10:30 a.m.

BETTY GUSTITIS (Bill & Diane Haney)

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, Carl Forster, Ray Dee, Dorothy Prokop, Beth Resnick, Robert Lynn, Natalie Setlock, Carol Heacock, Mark Sitcoske, Caitlyn McGarri.* **Deceased:** *Rev. James Burdess*

2018 CALENDARS: Church calendars for the New Year are available at the church exits. Please feel free to take one, but please make sure they are not wasted. We wish to thank the **James E. Humphrey Funeral Home** for taking care of this expense.

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - Special Intention by Anonymous

St. Joseph – IMO Mary Hahner by Family

Tabernacle – Parishioners of St. John's

Sanctuary No Intentions Requested

Guardian Angels

1&2. Special Intention

SCHEDULE

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – December 2nd

Reader: Patty O'Neill

Euch.Min.: Molly Zwiebel, Donna Connors

Servers: Connor, Bennett, Lukas McNamara

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – December 3rd

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Dave Smith, Jeff Naffin

Servers: Madison & Caden Wright, Kaitlin Painter

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – December 3rd

Reader: Evielyn Hower

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, Justina Majestic

Servers: Maggie Brennan, Ava Orlowsky,
Grant Lapachinsky

Cantor: Dave Derbes

ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **January & February** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call or e-mail the rectory by Sunday, December 11th** to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus asks us to care for the "least" as we would care for him. Who are considered the "least" in your neighborhood?

Next Week's Readings

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (December 2/3)

Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

WEEKLY COLLECTION

November 18/19: \$ 4,617.47

Poverty Relief: \$ 1,387.15

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

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 by the weekend of **December 9/10**. 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 BY DECEMBER 9/10 WEEKEND

If you can help with gift distribution 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.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Everyone is welcome! Come as a family...bring your friends...all ages. We'll gather in Longinus Hall on **Sunday, December 16th** following 5 p.m. Mass for pizza, and leave for caroling at 6:15 p.m. Children and teens are encouraged to participate. This is a great way to get into the Christmas spirit and bring Christmas joy to others. If you would like to join us, please call Darren DeArment at **570-573-4321** or email at **dbd269@gmail.com**.



THANKSGIVING DINNER

Thank You

Because of your overwhelming generosity during the Thanksgiving Food Drive we were able to provide **14 families** with a Thanksgiving Dinner complete with a turkey and all the trimmings. Thank you to **Gerry Schwartz** and her helpers who organized this event ... **Bernadette Gombola, Barbara Schoenauer, Joanne & Ralph Wood**. Special thank you to everyone who donated food items, turkeys and monetary donations. Many of those less fortunate will be nourished because of your kindness!



ADVENT-URE

Please join us to celebrate the start of Advent

Date: Sunday, December 3rd

Place: Russell Building

Time: 9:15 a.m.

"The Puppet and Story Works" presents

A "Venty" Merry Puppet & Story Christmas!

Crafts will be completed and holiday entertainment is all part of the activities planned by the Family Guild to help your family prepare for the feast of the Birth of Jesus – Christmas. The children will also receive a special treat to help them wait.

All children ages **grades Pre-K to 4th** are welcome to participate. Please consider joining us to share a fun time with fellow parishioners. Thank you and we hope to see you there.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER SPONSORS

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Wednesday, April 25th**. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for one or more candidates. Papers containing the names of the candidates are located at the church exits. 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!



DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Open Hours with Jesus

"And that which only appears to be bread will burst forth one day in radiant splendor to reveal the lovable features of Jesus Christ in glory. He will embrace you and thank you for all eternity for loving Him on earth in the Blessed Sacrament and for making perpetual adoration possible by your spending this hour with him."

... Meditations by Fr. Martin Lucia, SS.CC.

We need adorers for the following hours:

Wednesday 12 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m.

Friday 10 a.m. & 7 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.
Please call Aleece 449-7678.

2016 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL- UPDATE

Total Goal: \$ 35,309.04

Amount Collected: \$ 16,306.00

Number of Donors: 119

Participation: 17.63%

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION CHRISTMAS PARTY

When: Wednesday, December 6th



Where: The Lodge at Sharp Mountain
Time: 6 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00
Menu: Stuffed Chicken Breast or Baked Haddock with Dill & Butter.

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 **Dorothy Hahner Stangl, 1343 W. Norwegian St., Pottsville 17901 (phone 570-624-7106).**

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

Homemade Christmas Cookies to benefit St. John's Catholic Women's Union, will be available in Longinus Hall on the following dates.



Saturday, December 9th
after 5 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 10th

after 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Masses

Prices: \$4.00 and \$5.00 per dozen

Peanut Rolls - \$10 per pound

FIRST RECONCILIATION

On **Saturday, December 2nd at 10 a.m.**, our third grade children will celebrate the *Sacrament of Penance* for the first time. Please remember them and their families in your prayers as they learn to grow in acceptance of the great gift of God's forgiveness given to us in this important sacrament.

First Reconciliation Practice is scheduled for:
Friday, December 1st at 7 p.m. in church.

WELCOME NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Maggie Brennan
Jackson Daubert
Ryan Grabowski
Caroline Hobbs
Reese Ketner

Michael Prestileo
Izabella Reedy
Ava Orlowsky
Macie Rushannon
Andrew Smith

FAMILY MATTERS

Honesty is the Best Policy. Do you remember your mom and dad telling you to always tell the truth? What about those white lies or half-truths that sometimes slip out so easily? This week we pray for a respectful honesty in all of our dealings, especially within our own family. May we always model the truth, spoken in love to those around us!

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

November

28 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

December

1 First Reconciliation Rehearsal – 7 p.m.

- 2 First Reconciliation – 10 a.m.
- 3 Advent-ure – 9:15 a.m. – R.B.
- 3 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 5 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 6 Catholic Women's Union Christmas Party
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Mass times: 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
- 9/10 Christmas Cookie Sale – after Masses – L.H.
- 12 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 16 Christmas Caroling after 5 p.m. Mass – L.H.
- 16/17 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses – L.H.
- 19 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL ...

POSITION AVAILABLE ... accepting applications for a **Head Track & Field Coach**. Head Coaching experience preferred for Track & Field.

Interested candidates should send résumé, certifications and all clearances to:

Nativity BVM High School

Attn: Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal

One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901

lsabol@nativitybvm.net

ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL ...

POSITION AVAILABLE ... **First Grade Teacher**

Assumption BVM School is seeking a qualified applicant for a first grade teaching position. Requirements can be found on www.allentowndiocese.org. Please send all information to Mrs. Teresa Keating at Assumption BVM School.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Starting your Christmas shopping this weekend? Golf weekend for him or shopping spree for her!! The gift of a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend to each other – PRICELESS! For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

The memory of the just will be blessed ...

Proverbs 10:7

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshiping with us today.

If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have any question or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the Rectory 570-622-5470.

MARRIED IN CHRIST

We extend our warmest congratulations to **Tyler Hauptly and Cheyan Lipshaw** who were joined in Holy Matrimony on November 18th. They are called now to total dedication to each other. May their love each day draw them closer to God and to each other.



POSITION AVAILABLE: Care Net of Schuylkill County is hiring! Our team is growing! Care Net is hiring a **Teen Health Presenter**, who will be responsible for sexual risk avoidance presentations and will work with the Center Director to implement and facilitate the educational programs in schools, churches and community organizations. This position is part-time. To request an application, please email carenetofsch.co@comcast.net or call (570) 728-2135.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ... A healthy lifestyle may substantially reduce the risk of dying from prostate cancer, according to a new analysis of two studies involving 63,000 male health professionals (ages 40 to 84) in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. The researchers followed the men for at least 10 years, looking at six lifestyle habits that have been linked to reduced risk of advanced prostate cancer: exercising vigorously; not smoking (at least 10 years); maintaining a healthy weight; eating fatty fish (at least once a week); eating tomato products (rich in lycopene) most days; and limiting processed meat (no more than three servings a week). Men who had at least five of these healthy habits were about half as likely to die from prostate cancer as those who had only one or none. The biggest benefit appeared to come from vigorous exercise.

STEWARDSHIP LIBRARY

Stewardship Displays are located at the church exits. There are many items available including CD's, Rosaries, Self-help and Informational Booklets, etc. **New Items include:** Music (lower door); Divine Mercy (main church), in addition to other great CD's or books. Donations are accepted.

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.

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NEIGHBORING EVENTS

ST. PAULINE VISINTAINER ... You are invited to take part in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on **Monday, February 27th at 5 p.m.** followed by Veneration of the first-class relic of St. Pauline Visintainer, Patron Saint of Diabetics and of all who are sick at Our Lady's Chapel in St. Patrick's.

SPAGHETTI DINNER: sponsored by St. Patrick Church on **Sunday, December 3rd** from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Parish Center, 313 Mahantongo St., Pottsville. Eat in or Take out ... All-you-can eat ... Adults \$8.00; Children \$3.50.

CHRISTKINDLMARKT: (Christmas Market) on **Saturday, December 9**, 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, 526 North Street, Jim Thorpe. Free admission. Food, baked goods, new and used Christmas crafts and ornaments, basket raffle, and garage sale. Live Nativity at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Concert at 2:00 p.m. in the church, Joyful Music of Advent and Christmas, by organist Michael Seroka and members of St. Joseph Parish Choir, followed at 2:45 p.m. by a tour of the Church building's visual artwork and architecture led by Fr. Francis Baransky. Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m. For more information: 570-325-3731.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? ... Psalm 27:1

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THANK YOU