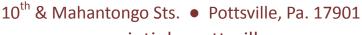
St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family



www.saintjohnpottsville.org

Pastor	'
Pastoral Assistant	Robert BechtelDavid Derbes
Rectory	stjbparish@comcast.net (570) 622-8110 (570) 622-4589 (570) 622-0106 (570) 628-3002
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.

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday prior to publication

New Parishioners

Please call the Rectory for an appointment to register.

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays		4:15 to 4:45 p.m
Sundays	. 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	11:30 a.m.
Second Sunday	10:30 a.m. Mass
Baptismal Preparation for Parents m	ust precede the Baptism.
Please contact Father Dave for an ap	pointment.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

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

Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection

& Catholic Human Services

Office of Safe Environment Pamela Russo, MSW, MS 610-871-5200, Ext. 2204 prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent ● December 20th, 2020



Mass Intentions

Monday, December 21

9:00 a.m. James & Emma Burns

(Joe & Ann Burns)

Tuesday, December 22

9:00 a.m. Robert Lotz

(Rita Lotz)

Wednesday, December 23

9:00 a.m. Ted Casey

(Sally & Bill Casey)

Thursday, December 24

All Masses Parish Family of St. John's

Friday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Parish Family of St. John's

Saturday, December 26

5:00 p.m. Kathleen, Matt, & Mark

Norkus

(Norkus Family)

Sunday, December 27

8:15 a.m. Lambert Pauly

(Margaret Pauly)

10:30 a.m. Gerry Mehling

(Mary Beth Harvey)

FOR EVER I WILL SING THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD

Next Week's Readings

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (December 26/27)

Reading I: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 **Reading II:** Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

In the first reading for this Sunday from the second book of Samuel, the Lord reminds King David that He the Lord chose him. He tells David that a kingdom will be established in his name and endure forever. David worries that the ark of God dwells in a tent. God is not bound by human constraints and He asks us to participate with Him and cooperate with His grace that the Ark of the Covenant and the arc of salvation history may be made available to all.

In the gospel for this Sunday the angel Gabriel tells Mary that she will conceive and bear a Son and the Holy Spirit will be with her. Mary responds, "May it be done to me according to your word." Mary doesn't hesitate to allow the Ark of God to dwell in her.

"God is not bound by human constraints"

As we come close to the Feast of Christmas, let us allow the Lord to dwell among us.

Yours in Christ, Father Dave



Holiday Food Sale

Get your homemade Fish Dinner favorites to-go for this holiday season! Our lump crab cakes are frozen and ready-to-bake (\$5 each), halupkis by the half -dozen (\$6) and dozen (\$12), quarts of macaroni and cheese (\$7), and quarts of our clam chowder (\$8) are available after Mass until sellout at the Russell Building.

Pray

We remember in prayer those who are ill or recently deceased. We commend to our Divine Lord all of our aged people and those residing in nursing homes.

For Our Sick

Helen Hufnagle • Isabelle Myers

For Our Deceased

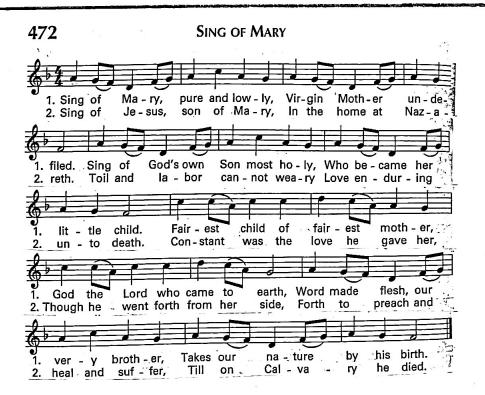
Noel Glunz

ENTRANCE





OFFERTORY





December 20, 2020

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16 | Rom 16:25-27 | Lk 1:26-38

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

During Advent, we await the One who is perfect grace, light, and joy. The Christ Child's arrival during a time when darkness has been increasing each day, and our anticipation of that arrival, emphasize his salvific role. For if even the smallest light is a glimmer of hope in the night, how much more is Christ's perfect and all-consuming light a life-saving flare in the darkness of sin and death. As we hear the angel Gabriel say of Christ, in his visitation to Mary: "He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High ... and of his kingdom there will be no end." Emmanuel, God with us, is the reason for our hope, and the reason for our joy.

GO EVANGELIZE | PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I don't know about you, but despite my best intentions, I have been known to get a little swallowed up in the commercialism of Christmas. But this last week of Advent feels like a chance to reorder my mind and heart. One way to do this is by focusing on the "O Antiphons," prayed during the Church's evening prayer from December 17-23. Each antiphon begins with the word "O," and is followed by a title for the Messiah, found in Scripture, and a petition for him to come and save his people. Although this may sound overly complicated, you most likely know of these without realizing it: they have been transposed into the verses of the hymn, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. Today's first reading speaks of David, who thought he could build a place for God to dwell, but he can't. Instead, for us, whom God created and fashioned in his own image, God created a dwelling for his Son, so that he might enter into our human history as one of us; and in doing so, dwell among us and within us forever. Come, Lord Jesus.

RECESSIONAL

287 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING King Our thoughts must_ The ad-vent of our now em - ploy; The co - e - ter - nal Son A maid - en's __ off-spring see: Daugh-ter of Si - on rise To greet thine_ in - fant King; 1. Then let us meet him on the road With songs of ho - lv ser-vant's form Christ put - teth on, To set his peo-ple Nor let thy stub-born heart de-spise The par-don he doth bring. (570) 622-5470

Upcoming Events

Decemb	<u>oer</u>	
19	3:00 p.m.	Holiday Food Sale (until 6:30 p.m.)R.B.
20	9:00 a.m.	Holiday Food Sale (until sell out)R.B.
20	4:00 p.m.	Confession Church
21	7:00 p.m.	Confession Church
22	6:00 p.m.	Confession Church
24		Christmas Eve Masses (2 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m.)
25	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass
31	5:15 p.m.	Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
<u>Januar</u> 1	10:00 a.m.	Holy Day Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building		
Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Weekly Men's GroupZoom Meeting ID: 824-780-6433 Password: men
Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Weekly Rosary Facebook
Sat.	7:00 p.m.	Weekly Rosary Facebook Facebook Page: St. John The Baptist Catholic Parish Family

Additional Advent Confession times will be offered this Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday



2021 Calendars

2021 church calendars sponsored by the James E. Humphrey Funeral Home are now available for pickup in Church. Please feel free to take one but make sure that they are not wasted.



Weekly Collection

December 12/13......\$ 5,709.13
Religious Retirement\$ 970.00
We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

Christmas Envelopes

The Christmas envelope again this year can be found in your recent envelope packet for December and January. There will be no special mailing of the Christmas envelope. If you do not receive regular envelopes or did not receive a Christmas envelope in the mail, they are available on the tables in the rear of church. Once again, we ask for your generous support in the Christmas collection. May we suggest a \$35.00 Christmas donation to the parish. If you can afford to give more, it is greatly appreciated. Once again, thank you for your continued generosity.

Retirement Fund for Religious

"We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." Thank you for donating to last week's second collection.

Candle Donations

BVM IMO Cathy Bowers

(Joan Bowers)

St. Joseph IMO Charles Bowers

(Joan Bowers)

Tabernacle IMO Dorhty & Leo Lotz

(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Sanctuary IMO Scott Bowers

IMO Lorraine & John

Tasso

IMO Debbie Bowers
IMO Christine Bowers

(Joan Bowers)

Guardian Angels Special Intentions (2)

Starting January 1, 2021, the candle arrangements will be as follows: BVM (2), St. Joseph (2), Sanctuary (1), Guardian Angels (4) due to our new arrangement.