

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Our first reading this weekend comes from the book of Jonah. Jonah's warning that the unfaithful city of Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days inspired the people to repent. God saw this and spared the city.

Today, our conflicts have again brought us to the brink of destruction. The specter of nuclear holocaust looms from the horizon. And yet, the Noble Peace Prize for peace was awarded in October 2017 to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons.

It is a time for us to profess our belief in God and put on spiritual sackcloth – and yet to remember there is always room for hope.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Hilda Burns by Peggy Smith

St. Joseph - IMO Thomas Burns by Peggy Smith

Tabernacle - IMOTimothy Grickis

by Peggy & Gene Ebling

Sanctuary

1. IMO Timothy Grickis by Gene & Peggy Ebling

2. IMO Magdalena Fleischhutt by Mary & Bob Porter

3&4. Parishioners of St. John's

Guardian Angels

1. Special Intention

2. Special Intention by Mary & Bob Porter

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

John Consugar 622-2389

George Smith 544-3294

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – January 22 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY KRITAK (Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Tuesday, January 23 – 9:00 a.m.

ANNA EIPPERT (Staff & Residents of St. John's)

Wednesday, January 24 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPHINE CAVANAUGH (Hahner Family)

Thursday, January 25 – 9:00 a.m.

ALBERT & REGINA SCHMIDT

Friday, January 26 – 9:00 a.m.

HARRY DEICHERT

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Saturday, January 27 – 5 p.m.

VIRGINIA COMFORT (Christine & Jared Black)

Sunday – January 28 – 8:15 a.m.

CHARLES LORENZ (Barbara Kasper)

Sunday – January 28 – 10:30 a.m.

ANNA KURTEK (M/M Michael Galavage)

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: *Mary Connell, Jerry Schoenauer, Dorothy Blum, Carl Forster, Beth Resnick, Doug Broughton, Mackenzie Miller, Fred Montag, Viola Dizenzo, Wayne Herring, Dorothy Elison.*

Deceased: *Dorothy Prokop.*

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 622-5470

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., NCC, LPC

Confidential Phone (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

Sr. Meg Cole, S.S.J., M.S., LMFT

(610) 332-0442 ext. 19

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

When have you experienced the kingdom of God?

Next Week's Readings

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (January 27/28)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

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:

Monday 10 p.m.; Wednesday 11 a.m.;

Thursday 8 p.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.

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 Michael Scheidel 739-1808 or Bill Gianfagna 573-0105 with any questions.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

January 13/14: \$ 5,015.30;

Dues: \$ 1,343.00

Christmas: \$ 21,451.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

JOURNEY THROUGH LENT SERIES

*Make this Lent about what you do,
not what you don't do!*

Have you ever wished you had more time to think about the more important things in life? Why not make that

time this year during Lent. Join fellow parishioners who will meet once a week for six weeks.

Sundays of Lent

beginning **February 11th from 4:30 to 6 p.m.**
in Longinus Hall

This experience will provide more than you can imagine; it could make this the most memorable Lent in your life. The materials for the study are free. All are welcome! Sign up this Sunday at the back of the church or by calling the rectory 570 622-5470.

St John's Adult Faith Formation Committee

SCHEDULE

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – January 27th

Reader: Heidi Gorski

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

Servers: Stanley & Aleksander Gorski, Reese Ketner

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – January 28th

Reader: Jenn Daubert

Euch.Min.: George & Brian Forney, (Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Ty, Hayden, Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Eileen Ward

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – January 28th

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder, Debbie Guers,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Anna, Emma, Livia Lieberman

Cantor: Ensemble

ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **March & April** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call or email the Rectory by Sunday, February 11th** to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. Thank you.

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Vincent Lutchkus** to St. John's Parish Family.

Warmly embrace **Vincent** into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 1132 Mahantongo St., Pottsville 17901.



LENTEN DINNERS
ATTENTION / ATTENTION
YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

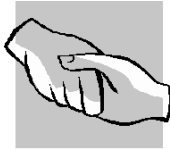
We are in desperate need of someone to oversee and coordinate our Lenten Dinners. We are fortunate to have a wonderful Food Committee who will help in all areas. Our Lenten dinners have always been a huge success in the past and we want to continue providing the parish and community with the delicious dinners during the Lenten season.

**If interested, please call Father Dave
no later than January 29th.**

If there is no response, we have no choice but to cancel the Lenten Dinners.

SIGN OF PEACE SUSPENSION

In light of the heightened cases of influenza/pneumonia being reported in our five-county area and the change in the Pennsylvania Department of Health's Influenza Status from "sporadic" to "widespread," Most Rev. Alfred A. Schlert directs that the Exchange of the Sign of Peace and the Reception of Holy Communion from the Chalice be suspended. This suspension will be in effect until further notice is given when the incidence of influenza/pneumonia subsides in our region.



DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER – Valentine's Day is coming! Do you have a "Heart" for romance? A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend provides a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one you've decided to spend your life with! For info call 732-904-9636 or www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD – Are you carrying the emotional hurt associated with a past abortion? God in his mercy wants you to experience forgiveness and peace. Come to a *Rachel's Vineyard* retreat sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Allentown. The retreat will be the weekend of March 9th-11th. Please call 610.332.0442 (x2019) or 1-866-3Rachel or email at: projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org Registration **deadline is Feb. 26.**

SPONSORS

- BeeHive
Dr. Tom & Kay Boran
Charlie's Pizza & Subs
DiCello Chiropractic
Eastern Press
Brian & Sue Eckley
Friends of St. John's
Dr. Richard A. Greco
Jim & Lori Guzick
Bob & Susan Hahner
HeadQuarter's Styling Salon – Bobbi Murray
Heaven & Earth Salon
Tony & Lucilla Kochol
Victor E. Muncy Inc.
Nativity BVM High School
Bob & Mary Porter
Ed & Carole Quirin
Noble & Jule Quandel
Rosenberger Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Schlitzer Allen Pugh Funeral Home
St. Clair Auto Supply
St. John's CYO Program
Luis R. & Virginia C. Visot
Joanne Wood & Jackie Szeliga
Z & M Painting & Papering
Zimmerman, Lieberman, Tamulonis, Hobbs Law

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.

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.

*... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,
neither have entered into the heart of man, t
he things which God hath prepared
for them that love him. ... 1 Cor. 2:9*

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

OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION ... on **Sunday, January 21st**. School tours, presentations and displays begin at 1 p.m. No pre-registration required. All are welcome! For more information and questions, please call 622-8110 or jldaubert@nativitybvm.net.

ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL ...

OPEN HOUSE & REGISTRATION ... on **Sunday, January 28th** from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. All are welcome!

ST. JOSEPH CENTER ...

POSITION AVAILABLE ... St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is seeking a full-time **Secretary/Office Manager**. A year-round position including benefits. Applicant must have strong interpersonal skills, proficiency in word processing, spreadsheet and database software and organizational skills. Must be sensitive to individuals with disabilities. Minimum of Associate degree **or** comparable experience required. If contacted for an interview, applicant must be able to provide the following three (3) clearances: Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check (PATCH), Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Certificate, Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Fingerprint Check. Please email altssjc@ptd.net or come to the school (2075 West Norwegian Street, Pottsville) to provide your résumé and request an application.

FAMILY MATTERS

Parents of Young Children. We pray for parents of young children --- that they can survive today's challenges well and that God continue to strengthen them in responding to the ever-changing needs of their little ones

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

2017 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

You can request a copy of your 2017 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.

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 questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

CARENET OF SCHUYLKILL COUNTY!

A pregnancy decision can create feelings of confusion and uncertainty. Care Net of Schuylkill County is here, ready to help, empowering the women, men, and families of our community through life-affirming education and compassionate care. We are a pro-life, non-profit crisis pregnancy center located in Pottsville. We rely 100% on funding from churches and community donors like you. Each year, we celebrate **Sanctity of Human Life Sunday** (January 21st, 2018) by distributing baby bottles in our churches. These baby bottles are to be taken home by YOU, filled with spare change, and returned to the same bin in the back of St. John's by February 25, 2018. 100% of your change will help families right here in our community. Please take a baby bottle home today. It can be filled with change, cash, and checks. If you have any questions, please contact **Sarah DeArment at (570) 617-8418**.

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.



KidsPeace®
Make a difference in the life of a child...
Become a foster parent!
For more information:
Contact the Pottsville Office
570-516-9987
www.fostercare.com

Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

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- * 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

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

January

- 21 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
23 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
30 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

February

- 3/4 Blessing of Throats after Masses
6 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
11 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
11 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
13 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
14 Ash Wednesday – Masses 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
14 St. John's Beneficial Society – 8 p.m. – F.R.
15 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
17/18 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
18 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
20 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
20 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
21 Catholic Women's Union – 7 p.m. – L.H.
21 Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – F.R.
22 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
25 Confirmation Class – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – L.H.
25 Adult Faith Formation – 4:30 p.m. – L.H.
27 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
27 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
28 First Eucharist Parent Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

BASKETBALL FREE THROW COMPETITION: ...

sponsored by the Knights of Columbus in Pottsville and St. Clair on **Sunday, January 28th at 5 p.m.** at Nativity High School. Registration begins at 4 p.m. Boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 are eligible to participate. Participants must be residents within the Blue Mountain, Minersville, Pine Grove, Pottsville, Saint Clair or Schuylkill Haven School Districts.

All participants will receive a Certificate of Participation and other prizes. For further information call Free Throw Coordinator Tom Kurtek at 570-617-1714, or call 570-628-3333 and leave a message or 617-1578 (Knights of Columbus, St. Clair Council).

Council winners will continue on to compete in District Level the same night. District Level can compete at Regional Level and perhaps at State Level. Age based on age of child on January 1st, 2018. Written parental consent must be supplied on form provided by the Knights of Columbus. Contestants can only participate in one competition.

ALL rulings by judges and scorers will be final.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE April 4th to 15th to Krk Island, Croatia and Medjugorje, BosniaHerzegovina, the sight of the reported apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to six visionaries since June, 1981. Total cost is \$2999. Deposit of \$500 required with full payment due by February 1, 2018. For more information and itinerary, contact Susan Fletcher at: 570-875-8936 or susan.marie.fletcher@gmail.com.

WINTER/SPRING YOUTH PROGRAMS ... available at the Pottsville Free Public Library **beginning January 22nd**. There are story times for toddlers and preschoolers; Creative Corners, a STEAM-themed education program school age kids; and teen advisory board and maker space for young adults. Please call 570-622-8880 or visit www.pottsvillelibrary.org.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ... Nearly half of all deaths from heart disease, strokes, and type 2 diabetes in the U.S. are associated with ten dietary factors, according to estimates in a recent NIH-funded study in the *Journal of American Medical Assoc.* The factors include low intakes of fruits, vegetables, nuts/seeds, seafood, and whole grains, along with excessive intakes of sodium, processed meats (like bacon), and sugary beverages. More deaths among men (49%) than women (42%) were linked to these factors, primarily because of men's, "generally unhealthier dietary habits," the researchers suggested.

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.

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.