

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The movie "Passengers" opens in outer space with the starship Avalon on auto pilot heading to a new colony world. On board the mammoth ship are 5,000 passengers who are all in hibernation pods for the 120-year journey. They are part of the mass exodus of earth's population.

This exodus reminds us of Noah and the giant wooden ark filled with all God's creatures. When the rains pelted down, the ark lifted on the rising waters, simply floating free. Meanwhile, the great flood engulfed the world and washed it away. It was a new beginning.

God's promise to Noah links us to that dramatic event. Despite our concerns about rising sea levels and global warming, there will never be a Great Flood ever again.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – February 19 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY HAHNER (Sr. Mary Jane Hahner)

Tuesday, February 20 – 9:00 a.m.

BERTHA BULLOCK

Wednesday, February 21 – 9:00 a.m.

FRANK HOCK

Thursday, February 22 – 9:00 a.m.

IAN NELSON (Mary Ann Holley & Deborah Purcell)

Friday, February 23 – 8:00 a.m. TIME CHANGE

JOHN & LORRAINE TASSO

Saturday, February 24 – 5 p.m.

M/M DOMINIC MACCARONE

(Natalie Setlock & Family)

Sunday – February 25 – 8:15 a.m.

BETTY GUSTITIS

(Frank, Ann, Marie, Aaron Tranquillo)

Sunday – February 25 - 10:30 a.m.

JOSEPHINE TOOMEY, 35th Anniv.

(Dan, Jim, John Toomey)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Dorothy A. Rosenberger

by Paul Rosenberger

St. Joseph - IMO Harry, Kathryn, Harold,

Carl Bartholomew by Ellen & Rita Foley

Tabernacle - IMO Anthony Zanis by Toni & Carl Wiest

Sanctuary

1&2. Special Intention

3. IMO Mary Hahner by Family

4. IMO Dawn Wiest by Toni & Carl Wiest

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO George Klassen Jr. by Family

SCHEDULE

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – February 24th

Reader: Patty O'Neill

Euch.Min.: Molly Zwiebel, Robert Wollyung,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Connor, Bennett, Lukas McNamara

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – February 25th

Reader: Michelle Ambrose

Euch.Min.: Jeff Naffin, Michael Ambrose,
Bill Gianfagna

Servers: Evan & Gavin Woodward, Luke Schane

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – February 25th

Reader: Mary Matulevich

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic, Joyce Gerace, (Dr. Visot)

Servers: Noah & Helena Fredericks, Alisha Weiss

Cantor: Ensemble

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, Viola Dizenzo, Wayne Herring, Joseph LeBlanc, Sofia Gabrielle, Paul Burns, Addelyn & Elicia Major.*

FAMILY MATTERS

Be Reconciled. As we approach the sacrament of reconciliation during this Lenten time we reflect on how God willingly forgives and pardons us. In our families, we ask for the grace to forgive and to ask for forgiveness. We especially ask for this grace with family members where there have been long term unresolved issues.

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

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What does conversion mean to you?

Next Week's Readings

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (February 24/25)

Reading I: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Reading II: Romans 8:31b-34

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 10/11: \$ 5,088.64

Improvements & Repairs: \$ 1,831.00

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 - 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

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Open Hours with Jesus

"There is more time in a day than what is measured by hours and minutes. I am the Lord of all time, and time given in tribute to Me is of greater worth than time invested in the most wearying labors. I do not ask that you stop doing the tasks that are before you, but only that you put Me before all else, giving the best of your time and the greater portion to me."

Words of Our Lord In Sinu Jesu

We need adorers for the following hours:

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

Thursday 4 a.m. & 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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesdays during Lent

@ St. John's - 7 p.m. - Chapel

Please join us each Wednesday (except Ash Wednesday) during Lent

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament,
Stations of the Cross, followed by
Benediction.



Your faith is second time.

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."

DRAMATIC STATIONS

St. John's Dramatic Stations of the Cross recreates on stage and through song, the final days of the life of Jesus Christ.



We need men, women and children for the cast. There are many non-speaking parts for those who do not wish to assume a speaking role. People are also needed for the stage crew (props, lighting, sound, etc.) or to help distribute the costumes, etc. If you are a veteran of the Dramatic Stations Presentations, we are looking forward to your return and we ask that you please invite someone new to join you for this year's presentation. If you are new to the parish, we invite you to join us. In addition, it is a great way to meet new people. Many veterans tell us that their participation in the Dramatic Stations is a very meaningful and spiritual way for them to observe the Lenten Season. It is a wonderful family activity as well.

For further information or questions, please call

Dr. Robert DeColli at 640-1910
or the **Rectory 622-5470.**

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Tuesdays & Thursdays - 7 to 8:15 p.m. - in church.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Encounter MAJD. In Iraq, we encounter Majd and his family, people forced to flee violence, searching for stability. How are we called to welcome the stranger in our midst? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl
located at the back or front exits.

CHILI COOK-OFF

Attention All Parishioners!! Enter your favorite Chili recipe in our second Chili Cook-Off!! To register call the rectory 570-622-5470.

When: Saturday, February 24th

Time: between 3 and 5 p.m.

(Chili should be hot - temperature-wise)

Where: Longinus Hall

Judging: after 5 p.m. Mass

Bring a crock pot of chili (and the recipe if you desire) to Longinus Hall on Saturday, February 24th between 3 and 5 p.m. Our judges will begin taste testing and judging after 5 p.m. Mass. Prizes will be awarded after judging. Join the fun! Samples will be available for parishioners after the winners are announced (after 5 p.m. Mass until chili is gone).



LENTEN DINNERS

... WELCOME ...

We are pleased to welcome new parishioners,
Ann Marie & Dominic DeFrank,
who will be overseeing our Lenten Dinners this year.

Our Original Recipes are back!!!

Full course dinners including the best home-made New England Clam Chowder, freshly baked Haddock or Salmon, or Lump Crab Cakes, a wonderful Salad Bar, choice of Macaroni & Cheese, Baked or Mashed Potatoes, choice of Vegetables, Beverages, and of course, our Delicious Homemade Desserts.... 4 to 7 p.m. at the Russell Building ... Fridays during Lent.
(No dinner on Good Friday)

Better prices for all of this cannot be found anywhere!

Adults

Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 14.00
1 Lump Crab Cake \$ 14.00
2 Lump Crab Cakes \$ 17.00

Adult Special

Lump Crab Cake & Choice of Fish \$ 17.00

Children (under 12 only)

Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 8.00
1 Lump Crab Cake \$ 8.00

TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE



HOMEMADE DESSERTS NEEDED

*"St. John's is famous for
their delicious homemade desserts"*

St. John's Food Committee is in need of your baking talents. Each year we could not succeed without your delicious desserts. If you would like to make Jello, Pudding, Pies, Cakes, or anything you can dream up, we will greatly appreciate it. Please make your favorite dessert and bring it to the Russell Building on Thursdays or Fridays during Lent.



50 / 50 CHANCES

Every Friday during Lent
the Catholic Women's Union
will sell 50/50 Chances at the Lenten Dinners.
Drawings will take place at 7 p.m. each week.



FIRST EUCHARIST - PARENT MEETING

Wednesday, February 28th
7 p.m. in Longinus Hall

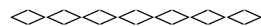
... PARENT MUST ATTEND ...

LENTEN DINNERS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

THURSDAYS

Preparation for Lenten Dinners
Anytime between 9:30 a.m. & 2 p.m.
at the Russell Building
Please call the Rectory: 622-5470



FRIDAYS

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

If you can help on Fridays during Lent, please let us know when you are available.

Students (12 and over) always welcome (excellent idea if you need service hours).

New faces always welcomeperhaps you are new to the parish and are looking for a way to get involved.

Waitresses & Waiters needed 3:45 to 7 p.m.

Help Loading Dishwasher ... 4 to 8 p.m.

Clean-up ... 6:45 to 8 p.m.

Just call our Scheduler

Maeve Ketner at 570-624-1452 or 570-573-8769.

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, February 21st at 7:30 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.



DUES FOR 2018 ARE NOW DUE - \$5.00

For more information call: Joan Deiter at 622-1381 or St. John's Rectory: 622-5470.

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

**FAMILY GUILD
GIFT CARD CALENDAR**

SPONSORS

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Charlie's Pizza & Subs

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Dr. Richard A. Greco

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HeadQuarter's Styling Salon – Bobbi Murray

Heaven & Earth Salon

Tony & Lucilla Kochol

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Victor E. Muncy Inc.

Nativity BVM High School

Bob & Mary Porter

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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

ST. JOHN'S FAMILY GUILD



The **Family Guild** is a small organization which sponsors activities for the elementary school students of the parish.

Through our fundraising efforts we sponsor two spiritual based programs throughout the year. The programs are the Lent Event and the Advent-ure.

The **Family Guild** also strives to make the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation a little more special for our children by purchasing gifts and providing flowers for these joyous occasions.

If you would like to become more involved within the parish and be a positive influence in the spiritual lives of our parish youth, consider joining the **Family Guild**. We always welcome a new face among us.

If interested please call the Rectory 622-5470 or just come to our next meeting which is scheduled for ...

Wednesday, February 21st

6:30 p.m. – Rectory Fellowship Room

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

February

- 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 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. - Chapel
21 Catholic Women's Union – 7:30 p.m. – L.H.
21 Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – F.R.
22 Dramatic Stations Practice – 7 p.m. – Church
23 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
24 Chili Cook-Off – after 5 p.m. Mass – L.H.
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 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. - Chapel
28 First Eucharist Parent Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Mary Ann Hedges** to St. John's Parish Family. Mary Ann is employed as a speech therapist at Pine Grove School District.

Warmly embrace **Mary Ann** into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 4 Sunset St., Pottsville 17901



BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

This month we celebrated the glorious baptism days of

Perrin Sue Peters,

daughter of Jonathan and Aubrey Peters.

Carter Regis Kastroba,

son of Stephen & Misty Kastroba.

They became new creations in Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism and are now joined to us by the gifts of faith, hope and charity. We warmly welcome them into our parish family.



2017 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

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

PLEASE NOTE

The Rectory Office will be closed on the following day:

Monday, February 19th.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

— God said: “I set my bow (rainbow) in the clouds to serve as a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth,” (today’s first reading). You can deepen your Covenant of Marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. 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. 26th**.

EASTER 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
Macaroni (box)	

Item of the Month Needed: Canned Soups

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

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.



Dr. Christina DiCello
622-1170
www.dicellochiropractic.com
1825 W. Market St., Pottsville

Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

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- * It’s Effective in Catching New Neighbors’ Attention
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NEIGHBORING EVENTS

PIEROGI SALE

... (Cooked with butter & onion, cooked with butter only, or uncooked frozen) will be held at St. Clare of Assisi Church, St. Clair, Fridays in Lent and Holy Thursday. Cost: \$7.50/dozen. **Advance orders only** to be placed by Wednesday prior to the pickups for Fridays. Pickups will be from 11 am to 2 pm. Use Hancock Street Entrance to basement. Call 429-0863, 429-0512, 429-0343, or 429-1942 to place your order.

HOMEMADE EASTER CANDY

... sponsored by St. Patrick’s Parish, Pottsville. Butter Cream, Coconut Cream or Peanut Butter Eggs - **\$10 per box**. *Sorry, no mixed boxes.* Orders due by March 5th by calling the parish office 622-1802, ext 0, Mon-Thurs 8:30 am-4:30 pm or Fri 8:30 am-12:00 pm. Candy may be picked up in our Parish Center during the Palm Sunday Weekend Bake Sale on Saturday, March 24th from 1:30-6:00 pm or Sunday, March 25th from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.

BORN FOR THIS

... A musical production detailing the final hours of Jesus Christ, sponsored by St. Ambrose Church on **Sunday, February 25th at 6 p.m.** This is a prayerful way to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. Perfect for families and youth groups. Performed by: *Lift Your Spirits Performing Arts*. Tickets and special pricing please call 385-1031.

BUS TRIP

... to the Philadelphia International Flower Show on **March 5th** ... sponsored by St. Matthew’s Travelers’ Adventures. \$60 per person; free day in Philly \$30 ... For reservations call Julie 544-5231 or Millie 628-5413.