

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's gospel calls to mind a joke. A man appeared before Peter at the pearly gates. Peter checked the man's records and said: "I am sorry, but there is nothing on your record that indicates love of neighbor nor helping the poor." The man reminded Peter of the time he gave a quarter to a homeless man. "Please, St. Peter, check again." Peter found a footnote that he had overlooked but said, "I will have to check this upstairs." When he returned, the man said: "What did he say?" Peter answered, "He said to give you your quarter back and tell you to go to hell."

"The measure with which you measure will in turn be measured out to you." This is serious stuff!

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

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: Theresa Tuite, Joe Brahler, Tom Jefferson, Jean Hill, Paul Connors, Fred Maskerines, Dorothy Parsick, Frederick Hossler, Carol Heacock, Beth Resnick, Paul Burns, Joseph LeBlanc, Ernest Zambo. **Deceased:** Rick Pugh



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, February 25 – 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE KLASSEN JR. (Family)

Tuesday – February 26 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY CUCHARA (Joan Marie Carroll & Family)

Wednesday – February 27 – 9:00 a.m.

VERNA BOBACK (Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Thursday – February 28 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY LOU MURRAY

(John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick)

Friday, March 1 – 9:00 a.m.

CAROLINE DARHUN (John & Bernice Petock)

Saturday, March 2 – 5:00 p.m.

TIMOTHY SWAIN (Anonymous)

Sunday, March 3 – 8:15 a.m.

FRED & MARIE EAGAN (John & Christine Eagan)

Sunday, March 3 – 10:30 a.m.

CANDIDA WEBBER (Bernice & John Webber)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How has God's mercy enabled you
to show mercy to others?

Next Week's Readings

8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (March 2/3)

Reading I: Sirach 27:4-7

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

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

Direct Telephone: (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator

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

(610) 332-0442 ext. 2019

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - Nancy & Donald Doyne

by Don & Joanne Doyne

St. Joseph – IMO Bill Flynn by Marie Flynn

Tabernacle IMO Bill Flynn by Marie Flynn

Sanctuary

1,2,3. IMO Bill Flynn by Marie Flynn

2. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Walter Grossman by Fred & Hilda Maley

2. IMO Baby Robbie Doyle by Family

SCHEDULE

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – March 2nd

Reader: Bob Wollyung

Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla, Molly Zwiebel

Servers: Brandon & Andrew Smith, Alyssa Sheriff

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 3rd

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min: Bill Gianfagna, Jeff Naffin

Servers: Logan, Joseph, Brooke Palko

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 3rd

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, Sharon Snyder

Servers: Anna, Olivia, Emma Lieberman

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

CONFIRMATION PRAYER SPONSORS

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Tuesday, April 30th**. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for our candidates. Our parish will be doubly blessed!



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.

*Restore my joy in your salvation;
sustain in me a willing spirit.
.... Psalm 51:14*

HEALING OUR CHURCH

Sundays, March 3, 10, 17, 31, April 7

4:30 to 6 p.m. in Longinus Hall

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. **Healing Our Church** is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions “an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith.” There is no charge for this program. Please call the rectory to sign up. A sign-up sheet will be available in the back of church as well.

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.

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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

February

- 24 Confirmation Retreat – 9 a.m. – St. Ambrose
26 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
28 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.

March

- 3 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.
5 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
6 Ash Wednesday – Masses 9 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
7 RCIA – 7 p.m. – L.H.
8 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
10 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.
10 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
11 Parish Council – 7 p.m. – L.H.
12 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
13 St. John's Family Guild Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. – F.R.
13 St. John's Beneficial Society – 8 p.m. – F.R.
13 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
14 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
15 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
16/17 Blood Pressure Screenings – after Masses
17 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.
19 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
20 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
20 Catholic Women's Union – 7:30 p.m. – L.H.
21 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
22 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
24 Last Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
24/25/26 Parish Mission – 7 to 8:15 – L.H.
27 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – chapel
28 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
29 Lenten Dinners – 4 to 7 p.m. – R.B.
31 Healing Our Church – 4:30 to 6 p.m. – L.H.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Eucharistic adoration is the most important devotion of our time.... Give Jesus one hour and change your life!

... Fr. Larry Richards, Author, Be a Man

We need adorers for the following hours:

Monday 3 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m.

Wednesday 10 p.m.; Thursday 4 a.m.;

Friday 12 a.m. & 6 a.m., 6 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.

Call or text Aleece for information 570-449-7678.

*The clear vault of the sky shines forth like Heaven itself,
a vision of glory. ... Sirach 43:1*

PARISH MISSION



Jesus makes a promise in the Gospel of John: "I have come so that you might have life, and have it to the fullest." Jesus promises to give us a full and abundant life. But often, we fall short of this promise. We would like to invite all of you to our upcoming

HOLINESS REVOLUTION PARISH MISSION...

March 24, 25, 26 --- 7 to 8:15 p.m.

What is the goal of this Mission? ... To help fill you with life; To help awaken you to what's really important in life and help you discover how to live with each day with more passion and purpose.

This **Parish Mission** is really for everyone.

- Whether you are advanced in your faith and hungry to be taken deeper, or if you are a person with a lot of questions about God and religion - this Mission is for you.
- Whether you are male or female, single or married, young or old, middle school or high school - this Mission is for you.
- Whether you've been to a parish mission before, or never stepped foot at a retreat - this Mission is for you.

We want to do something really special with this year's Parish Mission. We want to challenge all of you to invite a few people to attend the Mission with you.

- Maybe invite your middle school or high school teenagers to attend with you.
- Maybe you invite a co-worker who is hungry for more, even if they aren't catholic.
- Maybe invite someone in the parish or the school who you know doesn't come to Mass each week and could really use an invitation back to the Church.
- Whoever it is, please just extend a heart-felt invitation!

For this year's Mission, we will be bringing in an international speaker and best-selling catholic author, **Dan DeMatte**. Dan also starred in A&E's reality TV show, *God or the Girl*, as well as defended the teachings of the Catholic faith on Larry King Live, The View, and the Today Show. Dan DeMatte is also the host of a new radio show called, *Encounter*. He proclaims the Gospel with passion, energy, and overflowing joy. He will challenge you to be the best God created you to be.

LENTEN DINNERS

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)

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.



FAMILY MATTERS

School Violence – School Bullying. It's more than just saying no! It's about creating a culture of acceptance and tolerance of others. It is not about political correctness. As a church community we are committed to rejecting *all* forms of violence – especially in our schools, neighborhoods and communities. Reject prejudice! Our prayer today is that the Lord will make each of us a channel of His peace.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 16/17: \$ 4,126.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

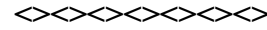
LENTEN DINNERS

Our Lenten Dinners will begin March 8th.

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 welcome ...perhaps 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.

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.

Lord-Bixler Funeral Home, Inc.

1818 Mahantongo Street

Pottsville, PA 17901

570-622-0230

Terry L. Bixler, Supv.

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

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."

*A shield before me is God Who saves the honest heart.
... Psalm 7:11*

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT – An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion scheduled for **March 22-24**. In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For registration information contact: **Sr. Meg Cole** – **1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free) or 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019 or projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org**

*** Deadline for Registration is March 14th .**

For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: www.rachelsvineyard.org

CATHOLIC SCOUT ACTIVITY WEEKEND

The 2019 Catholic Scout Activity Weekend will be held at Camp Trexler - Settlers **April 26 to 28**. We'd love to have you join us for a FUN-Filled weekend that includes all meals and a Saturday Vigil Mass!

You don't have to be working on a religious emblem to join us – all Catholic Scouts are welcome. Visit us at www.adccos.org/bsr.htm for more info.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER – *“Give, and Gifts will be given to you,”* Jesus promises in today's gospel. Spouses, when you attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend, you can learn to freely give the gift of love to each other. A good measure of love will be packed, shaken and overflowing into your hearts. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

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.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

ST. PAULINE VISINTAINER ... You are invited to take part in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on **Monday, February 25th 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.

RUMMAGE SALE / FOOD SALE sponsored by St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Frackville **on Saturday, March 9th**. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Hall, 9 S. Broad Mt. Ave. in Frackville, on March 2 & 3 from 12 to 3 p.m.; March 5 & 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. (please no clothing, electronics or appliances). For more information please call 874-0610.

SPRING BAZAAR sponsored by St. Charles Borromeo Parish on **Saturday, March 9th** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Parish Hall, 1115 Walnut St., Ashland. Bake Sale, White Elephant Sale, Homemade Soups, Halushki, BBQ, Sausage, Door Prizes and much more.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY Please join us for a presentation ... *“Grief, Bereavement and Moving On”* by Catholic Charities on **Monday, March 11th - 6 p.m.** at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall, 9 S. Broad Mt. Ave. in Frackville. Presenter is Lisa Taylor, LCSW (Clinical Supervisor Counseling Department) (Free and open to the public). If inclement weather, presentation will take place Monday, March 18th at 6 p.m.

BUS TRIPS **March 18th** to Sands Bethlehem Casino. Cost \$25; Rebate \$35; **April 3rd** to Mohegan Sun Casino; Cost \$25; Rebate \$30; **May 13-17** to Cape Cod and Boston; 5 days, 4 nights - \$659 per person. For more information or reservations, please call Julie 570-544-5231 or Millie 570-628-5413.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ... Sleeping seven to eight hours a night is best for cognitive performance for most people, according to a large study recently in the journal *Sleep*. Canadian researchers had more than 10,000 people from around the world complete online surveys and cognitive tests. Participants reported that they slept 6.4 hours per night, on average, during the past month. When the researchers correlated typical sleep durations with the cognitive test results, they found that, regardless of age, participants sleeping seven to eight hours per night performed best, on average, especially on tests of reasoning and verbal ability; short term memory was not affected by sleep duration. People who regularly slept less than seven hours a night and those sleeping more than eight hours were equally impaired.
