

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Pruning is hard work. It's takes a deliberate and focused effort. Sometimes you have to take what seems to be good branches and cut them so that they will either grow in a specific direction or will bear future fruit.

A good pruning can enable us to do what Paul suggests: "Love not in word or speech but in deed and truth."

Paul knew of what he was preaching. In his encounter with God on the road to Damascus, he had been pruned and transformed into a different person – once a persecutor of Christians, now a follower and bold witness to Christ.

Can we trust that God only prunes so that we will become a more true witness?

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – April 30 to Friday - May 4

NO MASSES

Saturday, May 5 – 5:00 p.m.

CHARLES, SCOTT, CHRISTINE & DEBBIE BOWERS (Joan Bowers)

Sunday, May 6 – 8:15 a.m.

CATHY TROUP (Nora Chiplonia)

Sunday, May 6 – 10:30 a.m.

THERESA SCOTT

(Joanne Schultz & Dorothy Parsick)

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM -Health &Welfare of Bill & Mary Ann Schweikert

St. Joseph – For Frances Manus & Baky Lago

by Neil & Frances Manus

Tabernacle –For Neil Manus, Chloe, Joseph Manus

by Neil & Frances Manus

Sanctuary

1.Living & Deceased of St. John's

Catholic Women's Union

2 & 3 For Chloe & Joseph Manus

by Neil & Frances Manus

4.For Chloe & Joseph Manus & Zary Lago

by Neil & Frances Manus

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Jimmie Florida by Joan Florida

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: *Paul Burns, John Morgalis.*

SCHEDULE

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

5 p.m. – Saturday – May 5th

Reader: Heidi Gorski

Euch.Min.: Frank Murphy, Gerry Schwartz

Servers: Caroline Hobbs, Maggie Brennan, Kathryn Yourey

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – May 6th

Reader: Dave Smith

Euch.Min.: Nicholas Quinn, John Corbacio

Servers: Madison & Caden Wright, Gabriella Quinn

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – May 6th

Reader: Carol Lasco

Euch.Min.: Joe Rehnert, Charlie Miller

Servers: Jillian Guzick, Dylan Bohorad, Madison Ryan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do you remain in Christ each day?

Next Week's Readings

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (May 5/6)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Reading II: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

FIRST EUCHARIST

First Communion will take place on Saturday, May 5th at the 5 p.m. Mass.

Rehearsal for First Communion is

Thursday, May 3rd at 7 p.m.

MAY PROCESSION

Sunday, May 6th

The CCD students will end their year by having a May Procession after the 8:15 Mass on May 6th. Families of the students are asked to bring a bouquet of flowers and their rosaries. *All parishioners* are invited to be part of the procession that will begin in the church. We will process from the back of church up 10th street and end at the Grotto. There, children will place bouquets of flowers and we will recite a decade of the rosary, say the litany of Mary and make the Act of Consecration. Afterwards we will crown Mary. All will be invited to sing the chorus to Immaculate Mary. Please join us for this special Marian devotion!

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. Your generosity funds the annual budget for important Diocesan ministries in our area. You can make your gift online at FaithHopeCharityGives.org.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Too many souls, when they are in the throes of temptation or beset by doubts and fears, avoid coming into My presence, when it is there and only there that they will find peace of heart and trust in My merciful goodness."

Words of Our Lord from In Sinu Jesus

We need adorers for the following hours:

Monday 10 p.m.; Tuesday 8 p.m.

Wednesday 11 a.m.; Thursday 4 a.m. & 5 a.m.

Friday 12 a.m., 6 a.m., 4 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.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

May

- 1 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 3 First Eucharist Rehearsal – 7 p.m. – Church
- 5 First Eucharist – 5 p.m. Mass
- 6 May Procession after 8:15 a.m. Mass
- 7 Mid-Summer Festival Mtg. – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 8 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 9 St. John's Beneficial Soc. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 10 Ascension Thursday – Masses 9 am & 5:15 pm
- 15 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 16 Catholic Women's Union – 6 p.m. – L.H.
- 19/20 Blood Pressure Screenings after Masses
- 22 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 29 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 14/15: \$ 4,790.56

Improvements & Repairs: \$ 1,550.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

Mid-Summer Festival

This year's dates ...

Friday, July 20th & Saturday, July 21st

5 to 9:30 p.m. each night

Mark your calendars!

Our next meeting is Monday, May 7th at 7 p.m.
in the Rectory Fellowship Room.

New faces are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Please bring your suggestions. All are welcome!

FAMILY GUILD SCHOLARSHIP

The Family Guild of St. John's is awarding two scholarships to be awarded in the amount of **\$250.00** for any **eighth grade student** wishing to attend **Nativity BVM High School** in September 2018 and any high school graduate pursuing higher education. Criteria for Scholarship eligibility:

1. Participating member of St. John the Baptist
2. Must be applying to attend Nativity in September 2018 or applying to a school of higher learning
3. Student must submit the application form along with the completed essay to the Rectory by **May 21, 2018.**
4. Essays will be judged by a panel of parish members not affiliated with the Family Guild so as to insure impartiality.
5. Essay topic: **"What has St. John's meant to me"**

Scholarship applications can be picked up at the Rectory by calling 622-5470. **Deadline is May 21, 2018.**

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.



FAMILY MATTERS

Anniversary Couples. Whether it is one, five, twenty-five, forty, fifty or more years of marriage – it's a sign of God's love for us and our commitment to each other. We thank God for the witness of sacramental marriage provided to us by all our married couples.

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

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."

CEMETERY REGULATIONS

The following are guidelines established by St. John's Cemetery Committee:

- Shrubs are not permitted on cemetery grounds except those authorized by cemetery authorities.
- Flowers or plants may be planted in the ground, but must remain within 12 inches of base of memorial.
- All artificial decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Christmas.
- All decorations except those flowers or plants planted in the ground, must be removed by **July 1st**
- Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden.
- All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in receptacle in Cemetery.

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.

Cerullo, Datte & Burke, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

Martin J. Cerullo (mcerullo@cdblawn.net)	Garfield Square 450 West Market St. P.O. Box 450 Pottsville, PA 17901
Paul J. Datte (pdatte@cdblawn.net)	
Stanley J. Burke (sburke@cdblawn.net)	570-622-0767 FAX 570-622-0798

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

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.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

ST. PAULINE VISINTAINER ... You are invited to take part in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on **Monday, April 30th 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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER NOW is the time to SPRING CLEAN your relationship. A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend will provide you with the tools to *make your marriage sparkle*. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

FINDING COMFORT & SOLACE An evening of reflection for the separated and divorced will be offered on **Tuesday May 1st** at 7:00 p.m. at the Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux in Nesquehoning. The presenter will be Deacon Jim Russo. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required to help with planning. For questions, please call 610-289-8900 ext. 2028. For more information visit www.allentowndiocese.org/separated-divorced

DIOCESAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

on **Saturday, May 5th**, at DeSales University, Center Valley, from 8:30 a.m. ending with a Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m. celebrated by Bishop Alfred A. Schlert. Adults \$40, High School Students \$10, College Students and Vowed/Consecrated Religious \$15. Information/Registration, visit www.allentowndiocese.org/womens-conference. Questions call 610-289-8900 x 2021 or e-mail AFF@allentowndiocese.org Hope to see you there!

FINANCIAL & ESTATE PLANNING FOR WOMEN

When you think about the life you want and deserve for your family does it seem overwhelming to create a financial plan that takes all of your future expenses into account? Are you feeling unprepared to make important financial decisions? Then please join us **May 15th** at DeSales University Center from 6:00 to 8:00 pm for a complementary information presentation in which our panel of female financial and estate planning experts, may have answers you need to make smart decisions about your financial future. Small plates and sweets will be served. **Please RSVP by May 8th** to Ginny Downey (610) 871-5200 ext. 2244 or gdowney@allentowndiocese.org

THE BLESSED MOTHER presented by Sr. Emily Vincent, IHM on **Wednesday, May 16th** from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Joseph Parish Hall (Annunciation BVM Hall), 9 S. Broad Mt. Ave., Frackville. Free of Charge --- bring a friend. For questions contact the Office of Adult Formation at adultformation@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021.

NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL ...

CHINESE AUCTION: sponsored by the Green & Gold Club on Sunday, May 6th. Doors open 11 a.m.; Auction begins 2 p.m. Shop & Drop on Saturday, May 5th from 4 to 8 p.m. For more information, please call Diane at 570-294-0551.

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

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

CHINESE AUCTION: sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Parish in St. Clair on Sunday, May 6th. Doors open 9 a.m.; Auction begins 2 p.m. Baskets, Prizes, Food & Baked Goods, Fun for All ages. Come join us !!!

BUS TRIP: ... to Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown from May 14 to 18, sponsored by St. Matthew's Travelers ... \$649 per person ... For more information and reservations call Julie 544-5231 or Millie 628-5413.

BERMUDA CRUISE: Join St. Ambrose Travelers on a cruise to Bermuda from June 10-17, 2018. Motor coach transportation included, leaving from Sch. Haven to NYC to embark on the Norwegian Escape. Six Masses on board, ultimate beverage package, dining package, prepaid gratuities, onboard credit and more! Contact Jeff at 570-391-4239 for more information.

WILDWOOD ITALIAN STYLE - JERSEY SHORE: ... sponsored by St. Matthew's Travelers' Adventures from September 24 to 27. For more information please call Julie 544-5231 or Millie 628-5413.

ST. JOHN'S "OVER 50" CLUB

St. John's "Over 50" Club will be meeting again on Tuesday, May 1st.

We welcome and encourage new members ... anyone interested in joining our little socials ... just stop by Longinus Hall on Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m...we play bingo, board games, cards, etc. and light refreshments are always available. For more information please call the rectory 622-5470.

WELCOME VISITORS

Thank you for worshipping 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.

or Cereal packages	Apple Sauce
Cereal – boxed	Canned Vegetables
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.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ...

Trying to lose weight? Making lunch your main meal may help more than eating the most calories at dinner, suggests an Iranian study recently in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition. Sixty-nine, healthy overweight or moderately obese women took part in a sensible clinic-based weight-loss program; half were told to make lunch their biggest meal, the other half dinner. They chose their own food but got guidance from nutritionists and were encouraged to exercise. Though there were no significant differences in their calorie or macro-nutrient intakes, after 12 weeks the lunch group lost 3 pounds more, on average, than the dinner group (9 ½ vs 12 ½ pounds) and had a greater improvement in insulin sensitivity. Longer-term research is needed to determine if these results can be maintained and generalized.