

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist. It is also our parish feast day.

Isaiah, David, John the Baptist, all figure prominently in the readings for this feast. They had something in common which is mentioned in connection with each one: each was chosen, selected, given a niche in God's plan. Ask who else was; ask who else is -- each and every one of us. Now this may sound like a sweet, cute, religious talk, but it's not. It's absolutely true and real. Why do we find it hard to believe at times that each of us is chosen, selected and given a niche in God's plan?

"I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made." It's not an empty brag about being special or cool: No. 1 – the statement is true. No. 2 – the psalmist gives credit to God. It is true – each of us is fearfully, wonderfully made and loved by God.

Happy feast day to all of you the parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish.

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – June 25 – 9:00 a.m.

THEODORE HUFNAGLE (Helen Hufnagle)

Tuesday, June 26 – 9:00 a.m.

DECEASED OF SIMMENDINGER FAMILY
(Florence Miller)

Wednesday, June 27 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH LORENZ FAMILY (Frances Lorenz)

Thursday, June 28 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY ALFONSI (Ron & Pat Lombel)

Friday, June 29 – 9:00 a.m.

THOMAS LANDERS (Mary Jean Morgalis)

Saturday, June 30 – 5:00 p.m.

VERONICA B. SCHMITT (Schmitt Family)

Sunday, July 1 – 8:15 a.m.

FRANK & JOSEPHINE BROZANA

(Don & Joanne Doyne)

Sunday, July 1 – 10:30 a.m.

JOSEPH LORENZ FAMILY (Lorenz Family)

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What does it mean for Catholics today to be "strong in spirit?"

Next Week's Readings

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (June 30/July 1)

Reading I: Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Reading II: 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13, 15

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM

All Candles

St. Joseph

In memory of

Tabernacle

Theresa & Zoie Holley

Sanctuary

requested by

Guardian Angels

Mary Ann Holley

SCHEDULE

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5 p.m. – Saturday – June 30th

Reader: Carol Lasco

Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz, Mary Jean Morgalis

Servers: Vincent & Michael Prestileo, Olivia Tokonitz

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – July 1st

Reader: Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: John Corbacio, George Forney

Servers: Aliyah & Nathan Peckman, Bryan Daniels

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – July 1st

Reader: Tyler Cooper

Euch.Min.: Phil Markovich, Debbie Guers

Servers: Noah & Helena Fredericks, Evielyn Hower

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: Paul Burns, Angela Pfeil Hamm, Theresa Tuite, Bob Lynn, Frederick Hossler.

Mary Lou Roeder, Joe Brahler.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III– Jeff Naffin & Katelynn Mallon

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

We have a real need for adorers to fill the open holy hours. Where churches are locked during the day, our adoration chapel is open 24/7! We will never know in our lifetime the value of spending an hour in the Presence of Our Lord.

We need adorers for the following hours:

Monday 10 p.m.; Tuesday 9 & 10 a.m.

Thursday 4 a.m. & 5 a.m.

Friday 12 a.m., 6 a.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 Alece for information 570-449-7678.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PICTURES

First Holy Communion pictures are here!

They are available at the rectory during the week.

The Solemnity of the Birth of St. John the Baptist - June 24th

On December the 25th, we celebrate the big one—the birthday of Jesus, the Word of God made flesh. The Church actually does not celebrate the birthday of the saints, except that of Jesus' mother and one notable exception.

Since we celebrate the birthday of the Word, we also celebrate the birthday of the *Voice*. We're referring to Jesus' cousin of course, John the Baptist, the Voice crying out in the wilderness.

John plays a unique role in the history of salvation. We call him the Baptist. Eastern Christians call him the Forerunner. Only Luke's gospel tells us of the marvelous circumstances surrounding his birth. But each of the four gospels tells us of his essential work in preparing the way for Jesus. But they also tell us something further—that John was a model of the key virtue of *humility* extolled by the first Beatitude of the Sermon on the Mount—*Blessed are the Poor in Spirit*.

CCD REGISTRATION

DEADLINE – June 30th

Now is the time to register your child for next year's CCD class. **There are reduced rates until June 30th**. If you have not received a form in the mail, please call the rectory or pick one up in church. The forms are at the entrances of the Church. The longer form is for new students and new first graders. The shorter form is for students who are presently attending class.

Registration Fee: \$50.00 First Child
(after June 30th - \$60.00)

All Other Children: \$45.00 per Child
(after June 30th - \$55.00)

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ...

Volunteers are needed to help at the Pottsville Soup Kitchen at the 504 Building on Mahantongo St.

St. John's Group volunteers once a month. If you are interested, please call

the Rectory 622-5470.



UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

June

26 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

July

3 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

10 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

11 St. John's Beneficial Society – 8 p.m. – F.R.

17 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

18 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. – 7 p.m. – L.H.

18 Festival Set-Up – 6 p.m.

19 Festival Set-Up – 6 p.m.

20/21 Mid-Summer Festival 5 to 9:30 p.m.

22 Festival Take-down – after 8:15 Mass

24 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

31 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL ...

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

Mathematics Teacher – Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, Mathematics Education or related field is required. Mathematics certification preferred.

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

VOLLEYBALL CAMP ... Camp is for girls 3rd to 8th grade ... **July 23 to July 26**

at Nativity High School. Cost is \$50.00 which includes individual instruction, team concepts, competitions, t-shirt. Brochures available at Nativity High School. Please call Jennifer Daubert for more information at 622-8110.



FAMILY MATTERS

Vacation for Families. God bless our parish families with a fun-filled vacation and safe travel to and from their destinations. May they be rejuvenated in their family relationships and return relaxed and nourished in body and spirit.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION

June 16/17: \$ 4,847.78

Peter's Pence: \$1,272.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

Mid-Summer Festival

Friday, July 20th & Saturday, July 21st
5 to 9:30 p.m. each night.

Our next meeting is Monday, June 25th - 7 p.m.
in the Rectory Fellowship Room.

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POT LUCK STAND



Attention Parishioners !!! Once again we are asking for your help in making this year's Pot Luck Stand a success. You have been very generous in the past and we are very grateful for your donations. Please save all those

unwanted items that you received for Birthdays, Christmas, etc. They will make great prizes for our Pot Luck Stand.

NEW & UNUSED ITEMS ONLY.

You can drop them off at the rectory. As always, thank you very much for your support and help...

Maureen & Rebecca Derbes, Maureen Kurtek

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SPECIAL'S TABLE

Would you like to donate a basket for our Specials Table at the Festival?



We are asking for 15 Baskets.

A sign-up sheet is located in the back of church suggestions are listed. Basket minimum value should be approximately \$30 - \$50. Gift Certificates are always accepted and greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Donated Baskets to date:

- 1862 Basket** – Joan Scheetz
- Bath Basket** – Lorraine Gurlavage
- Beer & Snack Basket** – Sandy & Joe Frinzi
- Coach Purse Basket** – Sue & Brian Eckley
- Coffee & Tea Basket** – Consugar Family
- Cul-de-Sac Basket** --- Lucilla Kochol
- Dairy Queen Gift Cards** – Linda & Martin Smith
- Doll/Toy Basket** – Rosann Sitkus
- Gift Card Basket** – Nora Chiplonia & Chris Zanis
- Halloween Basket** -- Chris Black
- Lock & Lock Basket** – Rita Lotz
- Lottery** -- Ed & Carole Quirin
- Lottery** -- Prezelski Family
- Summer Afghan/Yankee Candle/Wine Basket**
-- Eleanor & Joe Orzechowski
- Summer Dishware Bskt.** – Kathy & George Zwiebel
- Wine/Snack Basket** – Joan Bowers

Basket should be completed and wrapped.
Baskets can be dropped off at the Russell Building
Wednesday, July 18 or Thursday, July 19
Baskets CANNOT be dropped off at the rectory.

Mid-Summer Festival

MAJOR SPONSORS

Hahner Bros. Inc.
Murphy Jewelers
Joe & Nancy Schlitzer

MISC. SPONSORS

Mary & Bob Porter	\$100.00 - Coke
John & Pat Kutch	\$ 50.00 - Pizza
Marie & Robert Doyle	\$ 40.00 - Bleenie Mix
Theresa Skrobak	\$ 40.00 - Bleenie Mix
Jeff & Linda Zwiebel	\$ 25.00 - Ice Cream

FESTIVAL PATRONS

\$100.00

Mary & Bob Porter
George & Kathy Zwiebel

\$70.00

Joey Kurtek

\$60.00

Luis R. & Virginia Visot

\$50.00

Frances Lorenz

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection! As a parish, we collected \$1,272.00. Our contributions will be combined with those from our brothers and sisters around the world to help Pope Francis provide essential relief to people in need. If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give, visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click on the "How to Give" link.

2018 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL- UPDATE

Total Goal:	\$ 34,792.84
Amount Collected:	\$ 10,229.00
Number of Donors:	97
Participation:	14.37%

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

RED WHITE & BLUE MASS All Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Legal Professionals, Health Care Workers, & their Families are invited to join Bishop Alfred A. Schlert as he celebrates the First

RED WHITE & BLUE MASS

Tuesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm

at Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, 18th and Turner Sts. in Allentown. Please wear your uniforms. Reception to follow in the Parish Activities Center
RSVP: rwbmass@gmail.com

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 8th.**
- Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden.
- All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in receptacles in Cemetery.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary? Recently Married? Your love as husband and wife is a gift to one another as well as a gift from God. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend to make the most of this precious gift. For more information, please call 732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

RETROUVAILLE *Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!* Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? *Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship.* **Retrouvaille** is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages.. **Our next program will be at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA: August 17-19.** For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit at: www.HelpOurMarriage.org or 1-800-470-2230. All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

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."

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

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

LASAGNA DINNER ... sponsored by St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish, Minersville, on **Sunday, June 24th** from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Parish Center, 120 Oak St., Minersville. Donations \$10.00 includes Lasagna, Salad, Bread, Butter. Eat-in or take-out. **Advanced Tickets ONLY** by calling 544-2211. Thank you for your support.

CHARLIE'S PIZZA & SUB TICKETS ... Knights of Columbus Schuylkill Council 431 is selling sub tickets as a Council Fundraiser... \$4.00 each. Contact Council Member Greg Wagner or Dave Donlin for your tickets/information. Support the Knights of Columbus programs by purchasing tickets soon.

PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI & ROME ... sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Parish, St. Clair from **October 6th to 15th, 2018** ... Cost is \$4,300 (double occupancy) ... We're celebrating the 10th anniversary of the founding of St. Clare of Assisi as a parish. We will visit Assisi and see St. Clare's home as well as the holy sites of our Catholic Faith in Rome. Our pilgrimage was specifically designed by our pastor to include sites not normally visited on tours of this nature. We need a total of 25 people to make this a reality. For more information and a flyer, call 570-429-0701, or visit <http://bit.ly/FrGlosserItaly>

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.

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MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

Friday & Saturday, July 20 & 21 -- 2018

5 – 9:30 p.m. each night

DEDICATED WORKERS NEEDED

Your help is needed for the big job of set-up on **Wednesday** and **Thursday** evenings before the Festival, **Friday** morning to prepare the grounds for the festivities, and **Sunday** for clean-up. Your help in these areas is essential. If you can help, please add your name to the sign-up sheets in the back of Church or call the Rectory at 622-5470 or simply show up on **Wednesday at 6 p.m., Thursday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 9 a.m.** Thank you!

FOOD COMMITTEE

The Food Committee needs volunteers to help prepare food for this year's Festival ...
If you would like to help, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

FESTIVAL DESSERTS

Cakes - Pies- Cupcakes - Cookies - etc. - etc. - etc. -
If you are interested in making your favorite dessert for the Festival ---
just drop it off at the Russell Building on **July 20th & July 21st.**

POT LUCK STAND

We need prizes, lots and lots of prizes!!! **NO USED ITEMS PLEASE**. Donations of **NEW** items such as small appliances, household articles, toys, games, books, etc. as well as monetary donations will be greatly appreciated. Prizes can be left at the rectory and donations can be placed in the collection basket or at the rectory -- marked "**POT LUCK**". For more information, please contact **Maureen Derbes 691-6098** or **the Rectory 622-5470 ext. 3.**

ADVANCED TICKET SALES

Why stand in line for tickets when you could be enjoying yourself ... **Advanced Food & Game Tickets** will be available before and after all Masses the weekends of **July 7/8 and July 14/15**. Purchase \$9.00 worth of tickets in **ADVANCE** and receive \$1.00 worth of tickets **FREE!**

FESTIVAL SPONSORS NEEDED

Coke Sponsor - \$ 100.00 each
Pizza Sponsor - \$ 50.00 each
Clown Sponsor - \$ 50.00 each

Bleenie Mix - \$ 40.00 a bucket
Ice Cream - \$ 25.00 each



FESTIVAL WISH LIST

Mustard – Ketchup - Sour Cream

(A container will be in the back of church Perishable items can be dropped off at the Rectory)