

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's gospel images are dramatic. Tribulations come first, then the sun and moon go dark. As the temperature plummets, the stars and the black sky spin out of control. Then, in a burst of light, we grasp at the awesome coming of Jesus amidst a host of angels.

This imagery might also describe what happens when we die, when the promise of things to come are fulfilled at an unknown future date. It is guaranteed that *"This generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place."* We may not like to think our life will end, but it will. Our bodies will grow cold, so grab your jacket of faith to stay warm, until you see the face of Jesus, who comes to welcome you to eternal paradise.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – November 19 – 9:00 a.m.

MORRISSINE EMERICH

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Tuesday, November 20 – 9:00 a.m.

PATTY EBLING (Tony & Sharon Carroll)

Wednesday – November 21 – 9:00 a.m.

FRANCIS SHERRY (Justina Mitchell)

Thursday – November 22 – 9:00 a.m.

PARISHIONERS OF ST. JOHN'S

Friday, November 23 – 9:00 a.m.

ELAINE ECKERT (Paul & Donna Connors)

Saturday, November 24 – 5:00 p.m.

MILDRED & ED DEITER (Joan & Dave Deiter)

Sunday, November 25 – 8:15 a.m.

MARY LOU MCGINLEY (Ron & Pat Lombel)

Sunday, November 25 – 10:30 a.m.

JOHN B. LIEBERMAN IV (John & Joyce Gerace)

ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **January & February** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call or e-mail the rectory by Sunday, December 9th to let us know when you are **NOT** available during these months. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

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: *Angela Pfeil Hamm, Theresa Tuite, Joe Brahler, Bill Webber, Karen Modesto, Tom Jefferson, Jean Hill, Theresa Tuite.*

CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Amelia Minchoff Androsko
by Joanne Wood

St. Joseph – Parishioners of St. John's
Tabernacle - 57th Wedding Anniversary
of Joe & Barbara Wollyung

Sanctuary

1. IMO Mildred & Ed Deiter by Joan & Ed Deiter
2. IMO Theresa & Jim Brennan by Joan & Ed Deiter
3. IMO Joseph Dumchus by Marge Davidson
4. Special Intention

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Kathy Norkus by John & Barbara Powers

SCHEDULE

THANKSGIVING DAY

9:00 a.m. – Thursday – November 22nd

Reader: Mary Ann Schweikert

Euch.Min.: Bill Schweikert

Servers: Jude, Justice, Leah Scheidel

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

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CHRIST THE KING

5 p.m. – Saturday – November 24th

Reader: Robert Wollyung

Euch.Min.: Hermine Murphy, Sharon Snyder,
(Dr. Visot)

Servers: Vincent & Michael Prestileo, Isabelle Myers

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – November 25th

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: George Forney, Bob Bechtel,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Jackson & Hayden Daubert, Samantha Heenan

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – November 25th

Reader: Ian Hower

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace, Justina Majestic,
(Larry Lonergan)

Servers: Aidan Cassidy, Ethan & Ryan Grabowski

Cantor: Dave Derbes

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Robert & Maria Rowlands** and their children **Makayla, Meghan, and Dominic** to St. John's Parish Family.



Warmly embrace the **Rowlands Family** into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 212 Norwegian Woods Drive, Pottsville 17901.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How does Jesus' second coming affect the way you live each day?

Next Week's Readings

CHRIST THE KING (November 24/25)

Reading I: Daniel 7:13-14

Reading II: Revelation 1:5-8

Gospel: John 18:33b-37

'TIS (ALMOST) THE SEASON

Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by. Slow down and focus on what matters most with **BEST ADVENT EVER**.

Each day, you'll receive an email with short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt and Dominick Albano, practical tips for your everyday life, and real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey.

All you have to do is sign up at **BestAdventEver.com**.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

November

- 17/18 Blood Pressure Screenings after all Masses
- 18 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 20 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 22 Thanksgiving Day – Mass 9 a.m.
- 27 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 29 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 30 First Penance Rehearsal – 7 p.m.

December

- 1 First Penance – 10 a.m.
- 2 Advent-ure – 9:15 a.m. – Russell Bldg.
- 4 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 5 Catholic Women's Christmas Party at Lodge
- 6 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 7 Immaculate Conception Mass – 5:15 p.m.
- 8 Immaculate Conception Mass – 9:00 a.m.
- 9 Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m. – L.H.
- 8/9 Giving Tree Gifts due back to church
- 11 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 12 St. John's Beneficial Soc. – 8 p.m. – F.R.
- 13 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 15/16 Christmas Cookie Sale after all Masses – L.H.
- 18 Men's Gospel Reflection Group – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 20 RCIA – 7 p.m. – F.R.
- 24 Christmas Eve – Masses 4, 6, 10 p.m.
- 25 Christmas Day – Mass – 10 a.m.
- 29/30 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
- 31 Solemnity of Mary – Mass – 5:15 p.m.
- 1 Solemnity of Mary – Mass – 10 a.m.

** L.H. – Longinus Hall

** F.R. – Rectory Fellowship Room

** R.B. – Russell Building

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION CHRISTMAS PARTY



When: Wednesday, December 5th
Where: The Lodge at Sharp Mountain
Time: 6 p.m.
Cost: \$25.00

Menu: Chicken Breast stuffed with Bread Stuffing or Baked Haddock with Lemon Dill Butter
We will also exchange a \$5.00 gift, wine or snack item you would serve for the holidays – please wrap the item. For more information, please call **Dorothy Hahner Stangl, 1343 W. Norwegian St., Pottsville 17901 (phone 570-624-7106)**.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

Homemade Christmas Cookies to benefit St. John's Catholic Women's Union will be available in Longinus Hall on the following dates.

Saturday, December 15th
after 5 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 16th
after 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Masses

Prices: \$5.00 and \$6.00 per dozen
Peanut Rolls - \$10 per pound



DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Words of Our Lord...In Sinu Jesu "The practice of adoration is not difficult. It is a gentle abiding in My presence, a resting in the radiance of My Eucharistic Face, a closeness to My Eucharistic Heart....Ask, then for the gift of adoration."

We need adorers for the following hours:

Thursday 4 a.m.;

Friday 12 a.m. & 6 a.m. & 10 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 Aleece for information 570-449-7678.

PLEASE NOTE

The Rectory Office will be closed the following days:

Thursday, November 22nd

Friday, November 23rd

WEEKLY COLLECTION

November 10/11: \$ 4,329.78

Improvements & Repairs: \$ 1,468.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

THANKSGIVING ... Thanksgiving memorializes the kindness and generosity that Native people showed toward the European colonists. In the United States, Thanksgiving is a day set aside for the entire nation to celebrate the gifts of God in their lives. It is a legal holiday that commemorates an event in history. Even a secular society finds the need to thank God and for all that has been given.

Parishes all over the country celebrate with liturgies of Thanksgiving and projects to help the needy. It is a time when those who have been blessed can show their gratitude by sharing their riches, spiritual and material with others. It is a time to remember the gifts that have been bestowed upon you and your families.

THANKSGIVING LITURGY

There is so much for which we have to be thankful! As a family, join us in church for our **Annual Thanksgiving Day Mass – 9 a.m. – November 22nd**.

Each year attendance has grown and our spirit of communal support and praise of God has been reflected in the enthusiasm and shared depth of feeling experienced at this Mass. As a country, parish family, and individuals, we have many reasons to come together on this special day. Please join us!

FAMILY MATTERS

Thanksgiving Day. We give thanks on this day for the many blessings God has bestowed on our families and on our parish community. We also are mindful of those who have less than we do and strive to help those most in need.

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

2019 CALENDARS: Church calendars for the New Year will be available at the church exits the weekend of **December 1/2**. Please feel free to take one, but please make sure they are not wasted. We wish to thank the **James E. Humphrey Funeral Home** for taking care of this expense.

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE – for 7th & 8th grade parents and students on **Sunday, November 18th** beginning at 6 p.m. at the school. Administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and Board members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. No pre-registration required. All are welcome! Please contact the school 570-622-8110 or jldaubert@nativitybvm.net with any questions.

THE GIVING TREE

Next weekend a barren tree is placed in the front of church adorned with gift tags. The gift tags will have suggestions for our shut-in parishioners and needy moms

and children in the area. If you are able, please take one. Return your gift wrapped with the gift tag on the outside, attached to the ribbon. Please return the package under the tree by the weekend of **December 8/9**. The tag is **very important** because it has the person's identity number on it.

Please Note: If you are not able to purchase the item on the gift tag, please return it to the tree.

PLEASE DO NOT TAPE TAG TO THE PAPER



Our gifts each year to our shut-in friends and the needy of the area are our way of reaching out to those who have meant so much and saying we love them and wish them the blessings of Christmas.

GIFTS ARE DUE BACK BY DECEMBER 8/9 WEEKEND

If you can help with gift distributions, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

PLEASE NOTE: If more than one item is listed on the tag You are asked to get one item ONLY.

ADVENT-URE

Please join us to celebrate the start of Advent

Date: Sunday, December 2nd

Place: Russell Building

Time: 9:15 a.m.

A Magic Show “The Amazing Magi”

Crafts will be completed and holiday entertainment is all part of the activities planned by the Family Guild to help your family prepare for the feast of the Birth of Jesus – Christmas. The children will also receive a special treat to help them wait.

All children ages **grades Pre-K to 5th** are welcome to participate. Please consider joining us to share a fun time with fellow parishioners. Thank you and we hope to see you there.

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.

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

1. "Hail Mary, full of grace ... blessed is the fruit of thy _____, Jesus."

(a) womb (b) apple tree (c) prayers (d) heart.

2. According to St. Augustine, _____ is "praying twice."

(a) repeating the same prayer (b) the rosary (c) going to two Masses (d) singing.

3. Which traditional Catholic prayer is associated with a sacrament?

(a) Emancipation Proclamation (b) Pledge of Allegiance (c) Act of Contrition (d) Serenity Prayer

4. Which saint from the Middle Ages is credited with introducing the rosary?

(a) Margaret (b) Dominic (c) Mother Teresa (d) Peter

5. The Bible teaches that we should pray when?

(a) when we need something (b) before bed (c) at church (d) always

6. Elizabeth, the Blessed Virgin Mary's cousin, was the one who first prayed The Magnificat, which says: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior."

True / False

7. *Kyrie Eleison* means "Lord, have _____."

(a) compassion (b) kindness (c) patience (d) mercy.

8. This prayer, familiar to Catholics, is also prayed by many Protestant Christians.

(a) Sign of the Cross (b) Lamb of God (c) Our Father (d) Hail Mary

9. The prayer book Jesus used as a Jewish boy was called what?

(a) the Psalms (b) the Lectionary (c) the Interior Castle (d) the Imitation of Christ

10. Which prayer is also known as The Lord's Prayer?

(a) Communion Rite (b) Our Father (c) Letter to the Corinthians (d) Gospel of John

11. A Complete rosary includes 50 Hail Mary's.

True / False

12. The two forms of public liturgical prayer in the Catholic Church are what?

(a) the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours (b) songs and meditation (c) praise and worship (d) the rosary and grace before meals.

13. Praying in front of a monstrance that displays the Eucharistic Jesus is called what?

(a) Lectio Divina (b) Canon Law (c) beatitude (d) Eucharistic adoration

14. "The Lord is my _____; there is nothing I lack" (Psalm 23)

(a) Creator (b) teacher (c) king (d) shepherd

15. Reciting memorized prayers is the only way Catholics are allowed to pray.

True / False

16. _____ of our enemies is a form of prayer.

(a) Forgiveness (b) Persecution (c) Hatred (d) Torture

17. One of the great obstacles to prayer is what?

(a) Netflix (b) distractions (c) screaming babies at church (d) homework

18. What can be transformed into a powerful prayer?

(a) suffering and sacrifice (b) candy (c) sleeping (d) video games

19. Who never wants us to pray?

(a) doctor (b) mayor (c) devil (d) bishop

20. Catholics pray with their voices and their bodies.

True / False

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

November 2018

IMO Carl Bartholomew	M/M James Loeper
IMO Harold Bartholomew	IMO Charles Lorenz
IMO Robert Berger	IMO Felix & Agnes Narog
IMO Edward Christ	IMO Carol Nygren
Millie Fredericks	Dorothy Parsick
Fr. Don Henry	IMO Jeanne Rehnert
IMO M/M Herbert Henry	IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
Joanne Hepler	IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
IMO Clare Houser	Marcie Schnerring
IMO Francis King	IMO Margaret Zelinsky
Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program	

What is a Bulletin Booster?? Some of our newer parishioners have asked what it means to be a Bulletin Booster. We have a wonderful bulletin – it is timely and keeps us informed of what is going on within our parish family and its surroundings. Paper and supplies are needed on a weekly basis to continue this family tradition. So, if you'd like to donate toward the supplies. **\$1.00 and up ... you too can be a ... Bulletin Booster**

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

TOYS FOR TOTS ... Drop off at numerous locations throughout the area. Cutoff date is December 8th. If you know of a family that is in need of toys for Christmas, please call **Ed Quirin** at **570-640-5873**.

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."

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

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ... People with high-strain jobs are at increased risk for atrial fibrillation (a-fib), a common heart rhythm disorder that can lead to strokes, according to a recent Swedish study in the European Journal of Preventive Cardiology. Such jobs involve high psychological demands but little control over the work situation. Researchers looked at 13,200 people who were employed and had no history of a-fib or other cardiovascular disease. The participants filled out surveys about their work to determine, in particular, if they had job strain. Over the next six years, 145 of the participants developed a-fib. Having a high-strain job increased the risk of nearly 50%. The researchers controlled for age, education, weight, smoking, physical activity, and other factors. They also compared the results to two previous Swedish studies and found the same pattern. People with high-strain jobs should speak to their employers about improving their work situation. Anyone experiencing palpitations or irregular pulse (symptoms of a-fib) should seek medical attention.

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER. *Thanksgiving!* When you give thanks for your blessings this week – remember to thank God for the gift of your spouse. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will bless your marriage! For more information, call 732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

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.**

ROSARY REPAIR SERVICE

When it's time to clear out the accumulated clutter from cabinets, drawers and chests, you might find a partial rosary with a missing crucifix or several beads that you could not part with because of the sentimental value. These partial rosaries can be repaired successfully and returned to wholeness with little or almost no cost. If you have no sentimental attachment, please consider donating these partial/incomplete rosaries to the Missions, both foreign and domestic.



Thus far, I have repaired and reconstituted several hundred rosaries and forwarded them to the foreign Missions. You can place the rosary to be repaired in an envelope with my name on the outside and place it in the collection basket. If you would like it repaired and returned, please put your name and phone number on the envelope.

Rosaries / New & Repair Service

*For that special someone / occasion: Birthday,
Anniversary, Graduation, Wedding, First Communion,
Confirmation or any occasion.*
Call Paul Gombola 622-4162

CATHOLIC WEB OF FAITH

www.nationalshrine.com

This week visit the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception website. Take a virtual tour of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. As the United States' patronal church and preeminent Marian shrine, the Basilica's mission reaches hundreds of thousands of people across America and across the world.

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to
Your name, Most High, to proclaim Your kindness at
dawn and Your faithfulness throughout the night.*

.... Psalm 92:2-3

ANSWERS TO ...

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ?

1. **(a)** Mary is called the “Mother of God” because she gave birth to the Son of God, Jesus.
 2. **(d)** Music is a priceless treasure in the Church. The Scriptures include praise and worship songs that date back to the days of Moses and King David.
 3. **(c)** Catholics pray the Act of Contrition after they confess their sins in the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
 4. **(b)** The Rosary was revealed in 1208 to St. Dominic by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Dominic’s preaching conversion to heretics was greatly aided by this powerful prayer. In time, “Medieval piety ... developed the prayer of the rosary as a popular substitute for the Liturgy of the Hours”. Thus the Rosary served as a popular prayer for illiterate Catholics of the day who couldn’t pray with the psalms like the monks.
 5. **(d)** “Rejoice always. Pray with ceasing.”
 6. **False.** Also known as the Canticle of Mary, the Blessed Mother prayed these words after Elizabeth called her “blessed” and said that the baby in her womb leapt for joy when Mary arrived.
 7. **(d)** Jesus told a parable of a humble tax collector and an arrogant Pharisee. The tax collector prayed: “O God, be merciful to me a sinner.”
 8. **(c)** Many Protestant denominations pray the Our Father, as they rely exclusively on the Bible for their traditions, because all the Gospels describe how Jesus taught the Our Father to his disciples.
 9. **(a)** “The Psalms both nourished and expressed the prayer of the Chosen People at Jerusalem and in the synagogues. Prayed by Christ and fulfilled in him, the Psalm remains essential to the prayer of the Church.”
 10. **(b)** “The Lord’s Prayer is truly the summary of the whole gospel, the most perfect of prayers. It is at the center of the Scriptures.”
 11. **True.** The repetition of the same prayer 50 times in the Rosary frees our minds to focus on the mysteries of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection.
 12. **(a)** Catholics – especially religious orders of monks and nuns – pray the Liturgy of the Hours throughout each day. The goal of the prayers of the Liturgy of the Hours is sanctifying every moment of every day through praising God.
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13. **(d)** “The Church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic worship. Jesus awaits us in this sacrament of love. Let us not refuse the time to go to meet him in adoration, making amends for the serious offenses and crimes of the world.”

14. **(d)** King David wrote Psalm 23, which describes how God takes care of us no matter what.

15. **False.** Catholics use all forms of prayer including: singing, silence, meditations, Bible reading, Mass, praise, petitions, memorized traditional prayers, spontaneous personal prayers, etc.

16. **(a)** “Christian prayer extends to the forgiveness of enemies ... Forgiveness is a high-point of Christian prayer ... Forgiveness also bears witness that, in our world, love is stronger than sin.”

17. **(b)** Distractions show us what occupies our hearts and minds. These distractions make clear what we need to let go of so that God can be number one in our hearts. We cannot serve two masters.

18. **(a)** By uniting our sacrifices and sufferings to Jesus’ passion and death on the cross, we join him in his loving surrender to the Father for the salvation of the world.

19. **(c)** To pray, we need to fight distractions, the devil’s temptations, as well as our own laziness and sinful nature. The battle of prayer is part of the “spiritual battle” to act and live like Christ.

20. **True.** Our postures can express our prayer --- i.e., kneeling, bowing, reaching up to the heavens, blessing ourselves with holy water when entering the church, and so on.

DO REMEMBER

Do remember your parish in your last will and testament ... an act of thanksgiving for all God’s gifts to you. Future generations will be the beneficiaries of your kindness, even as we have benefited from our generous ancestors.



ARE YOU PLANNING A CHANGE ??

If you are making a change in ... *address, parish affiliation, e-mail, or phone number*, please call the Rectory Office. We strive to keep our records up to date.
