

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Drivers all know that a stop sign means stop but, because we are clever at obeying the law we can soon convince ourselves that if there is no traffic cop watching, and if we're in a hurry, it's okay just to slow down.

In today's first reading, the Ten Commandments are delivered to us and, because we are clever, we start bending those Commandments to fit our needs. For example: "If it's under a dollar in value it's not really stealing." Or any of the other ways we sometimes stretch the Commandments.

Some "rule twisters" may feel guilty when they hear the responsorial psalm for this Sunday: "*The law of the Lord is perfect.*"

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – March 5 – 9:00 a.m.

HOWARD BLACKWELL

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Tuesday, March 6 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPHINE SMITH

(Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Wednesday, March 7 – 9:00 a.m.

PATRICIA PICCIONI (Joel & Jennifer Gerace)

Thursday, March 8 – 9:00 a.m.

MELVIA BURKE (Tony & Sharon Carroll)

Friday, March 9 – 9:00 a.m.

ELLEN SCHLITZER (Eleanor Schaeffer)

Saturday, March 10 – 5 p.m.

R.J. POST (Bob, Irene, Sandi, Sheri, R.J. Post III)

Sunday – March 11 – 8:15 a.m.

GEORGE HOLLEY (Mary Ann Holley)

Sunday – March 11 - 10:30 a.m.

FRED & MARIE EAGAN (Mr.&Mrs. John Eagan)

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Tuesday – March 6

at York Terrace Nursing Home

JOHN PURCELL (Staff & Residents – York Terrace)

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

DON'T BE LATE FOR MASS!

TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD

ON MARCH 11TH



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be conferred
at St. John's -- 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 25th, 2018



CANDLE DONATIONS

BVM - IMO Poppa Joseph & Nana Helen Kennedy
by Dylan & Gavin Gerace

St. Joseph - IMO Poppa Joseph & Nana Helen
Kennedy by Dylan & Gavin Gerace

Tabernacle - IMO Joseph Wollyung Sr.
by Joe & Barbara Wollyung

Sanctuary

1. IMO Pauline Zanis by Toni & Carl Wiest

2. IMO Freeman Ralston by Linda Ralston

3&4. Deceased Members of Tamburelli Family
by Herb, Charles, Mary Tamburelli

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Raymond Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

SCHEDULE

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – March 10th

Reader: Heidi Gorski

Euch.Min.: Bobbi Murray, Robert Wollyung

Servers: Sophie Murray, Aleksander Gorski,
Riley Doyle

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 11th

Reader: Jeff Naffin

Euch.Min.: Dominic Chiplonia, Dave Smith

Servers: Logan, Joseph, Brooke Palko

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 11th

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Charlie Miller, John Ventura

Servers: Kathryn & Ronald Yourey, Caitlin Coyle

Cantor: Dave Derbes

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, Doug Broughton, Paul Burns, Addelyn & Elinicia Major, Mary Lou Roeder, Eric Neifert.*

Deceased: *John B. Lieberman IV.*

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Where do you see zeal for God's work?

Next Week's Readings

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (March 10/11)

Reading I: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

Reading II: Ephesians 2:3-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

Give to the Lord the glory due His name ...
1 Chr. 16:29

WASHING OF FEET

The ritual of "Washing of the Feet" is a powerful symbol of our identity as a servant people. It is a visual extension of the homily. This action so profound, yet simple and ordinary, serves to remind us all of the immense love of God for us visible in Christ Jesus.

If any parishioner would like to participate in the "Washing of the Feet" on Holy Thursday (you can remain in your pew and Father Dave will do the washing there). Please call the Rectory 622-5470 or sign up in the back of church.



PRAYER GROUP



Our Prayer Group meets on the second Sunday of each month after the 10:30 Mass in the Chapel. Please consider joining us as we lift up those in need of prayer. It will take only a few minutes of your time.

Prayer request can be placed in the box on side of confessional. Thanks and God bless!

For more information or questions, please contact one of the following:

Bob Hahner 570-640-4448
John Corbacio 570-640-5038

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My Prayer Request

Please place in box on side of Confessional.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Encounter Safiata. In Burkina Faso, we encounter Safiata, a mother, grandmother and farmer who relies on the money she makes from her crops to put her children through school. How can our purchases this Lent support farmers and artisans? 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.**

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.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION

"Everyone--no matter his circumstances--can kneel before the Eucharist and encounter, in visible reality, the mystery of God's transformative and powerful love. We all long for love, and in the gift of Eucharistic adoration, we can experience the love of the Lord."

Bishop James D. Conley

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



Jesus falls a second time.

*For with You is the fountain of life,
and in Your light we see light.*

... Ps. 37:10

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.



**Winners: February 16 – Miriam Tirjan
February 23 – Mr. Hanzok**

2017 CONTRIBUTION RECORD

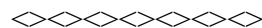
You can request a copy of your 2017 Contribution Record by calling the rectory ... 622-5470 ext 3.

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.

CHILI COOK-OFF

"A TASTY DELIGHT"

Five talented cooks entered their favorite Chili in the Parish's second annual **Chili Cook – Off** held on February 24th. The judges and parishioners who had the opportunity to sample the chili enjoyed them immensely. Congratulations to our winners.

First Place – Garvey Family

Second Place – Nancy Brahler Newton

Third Place - Diane Keese



Thank you to all our participants:

**Joseph Brahler, Garvey Family, Diane Keese,
Melody Newhard-Kirk, Nancy Brahler Newton.**

Join us next year. Maybe it will be your name on our First Place Winner Plaque!

**MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL
JULY 20 + 21, 2018
MARK YOUR CALENDAR !**

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all His benefits.
Ps. 103.2*

PARISH COUNCIL

St. John's Parish Council will meet

Monday, March 12th – 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.

There are two ways that any parishioner may raise a question or concern or make recommendations.

1. Parishioners may approach any Parish Council Member listed below and ask that a question, concern, etc. be brought up at the meeting.
2. Parishioners may write their concerns, etc. and put it (them) in the suggestion box provided in the rear of the church. These may be signed or unsigned. They will then be brought up at the Council meeting.

Elected Members

Bob Bechtel
 Nora Chiplonia
 John Consugar
 Paul Datte
 Janet Daubert
 Robert DeColli Jr.
 Paul Filiac
 Joseph Gerchak
 Christy Joy
 Alicia Kleman
 Kevin McNamara
 Al Norkus
 Patty O'Neill
 Josette Peckman
 John Powers
 Nick Quinn

Appointed Members

Darren DeArment
 Lucilla Kochol
 Patty O'Neill
 Connor McNamara
 Joe Rehnert

Ex-Officio

Ed Brahler
 Deacon Larry Lonergan
 Deacon Luis R. Visot
 Father Dave Loeper



**FAMILY GUILD
 "LENT-EVENT"**

St. John's Family Guild will host the annual Lent-Event for children of the parish, ages 3 to 11. Come enjoy light refreshments, receive an Easter craft and participate in a special Egg Hunt. (Bring a basket or bag to hold the collected eggs.) **Registration is a must!!** Please complete this form and return to the rectory or place in the collection basket **no later than March 5th**.

Date: Sunday, March 11th

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Place: St. John's Russell Building

Family Name _____

Child's Name _____ **Age** _____

Child's Name _____ **Age** _____

Child's Name _____ **Age** _____

(Please circle whether child is ... Male/Female)

*May he be like rain coming down upon the fields,
 Like showers watering the earth. ... Psalm 72:6*

**FAMILY GUILD
 GIFT CARD CALENDAR**

SPONSORS

BeeHive	Sharon & Larry Lonergan
Dr. Tom & Kay Boran	Victor E. Muncy Inc.
Charlie's Pizza & Subs	Nativity BVM High School
DiCello Chiropractic	Bob & Mary Porter
Eastern Press	Ed & Carole Quirin
Brian & Sue Eckley	Noble & Jule Quandel
Friends of St. John's	Rosenberger Plumbing&Heat.
Dr. Richard A. Greco	Schlitzer-Allen-Pugh Funeral
Jim & Lori Guzick	St. Clair Auto Supply
Bob & Susan Hahner	St. John's CYO Program
HeadQuarter's Styling Salon – Bobbi Murray	
Heaven & Earth Salon	Luis R. & Virginia C. Visot
Tony & Lucilla Kochol	Joanne Wood/Jackie Szeliga
	Z&M Painting & Papering
Zimmerman, Lieberman, Tamulonis, Hobbs Law Offices	

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
Cold Cereal	Vegetable - Canned
Beef Stew	Spaghetti
Soups	Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Canned Gravy	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Macaroni (box)	

Items of the Month Needed: Canned Soups / Canned or Jarred Fruit, Hot or Cold Cereals

PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS

Please Do Not donate any nutritional drinks (Ensure, etc.)

If anyone wishes to donate a **Ham** for this collection, please call the Rectory 622-5470. **Donations will be accepted until March 24th.**

Giant Gift cards to purchase hams will be gladly accepted.

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10th Street entrance at the bottom of the steps

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 24/25: \$ 5,391.56

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

*Faith is the substance of things hoped for;
 the evidence of things not seen.
 ... Hebrews 11:1*

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

– During Lent, make *special sacrifices* for each other daily and WATCH YOUR LOVE GROW! Your love will keep growing by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will teach you about grace. For info call 732-904-9636 or www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org.

MIRACLES & THE MYSTERIES OF THE CHURCH

University of Notre Dame Theology Professor John Cavadini will discuss “*Miracles and the Mysteries of the Church*” at 7pm on **March 13th** at DeSales University. The lecture, hosted by The Salesian Center for Faith & Culture at DeSales University and sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of the Lehigh Valley, is free and open to the public. For details, please contact Kathy Link atkathylink33@gmail.com

LENTEN RETREAT FOR WOMEN

The Diocese of Allentown Commission for Women invites all women to the *Preparing Our Souls for Our Savior Lenten Retreat* held at the Diocesan Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux, 1 Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning on **Saturday, March 24th** from 9 a.m. until NOON. Cost is \$10.00. The morning will include Mass, continental breakfast, spiritual reflection with Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross. Retreat presenter is Rev. Allen J. Hoffa, Rector of the Shrine. Register online at www.allentowndiocese.org/cfw-spirituality or call 610-289-8900 ext. 2021. Questions may be directed to Joanie Norelli at 917-406-4879 or emailcfw@allentowndiocese.org Hope to see you there!

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

– Early Bird Registration is now open for the Diocesan Marriage Conference on **Saturday April 14th** at St. Ignatius Loyola Parish in Sinking Spring. Sign up soon for the discount! Child Care is available. Visit the website www.togetherinholiness.org to learn more. For any questions call 610-289-8900 ext 2028.

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

“LADIES NIGHT OUT” - BINGO

... sponsored by Nativity Green & Gold Booster Club on Saturday, March 10th at 7 p.m. Doors open 5:30. BYOB if you wish. Assorted prizes and gift cards. For more info please call Diane at 570-294-0551.

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.



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

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

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.

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.

HOMEMADE EASTER CANDY

... sponsored by St. Anne Guild of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Ashland. Easter Eggs for \$1.00 each, and a dozen for \$12.

Flavors are: Peanut Butter, Cherry, Butter Cream and Coconut Cream. Orders can be placed by calling the Parish Office at 570-875-1521.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Schuylkill Women in Crisis seeks a part-time maintenance person ... 20 hours a week - \$15 p/h
Responsible for: minor repairs, plumbing issues, painting, yard work, snow removal, assisting with donation collection, etc. If interested submit résumé to swicagency@comcast.net . *Equal Opportunity Employer*