

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

If we were shepherds, we would better understand Jesus' words in this Sunday's gospel. City-dwellers almost never have occasion to see shepherds in the fields. But there are still many places around the world where shepherds roam the pastures, tending their flocks.

It's a hard life. Shepherds live out in the open with their sheep. They sleep under the sky and stand watch through the long night. At sunrise they guide the sheep through the next day's search for food. The sheep and their shepherd become one as they voyage together out across the grasslands. While the shepherd depends upon the sheep for his or her livelihood, the sheep depend on the shepherd to protect them and care for them.

After a time, the sheep come to know their shepherd's steady voice. They will follow no one else but him. Another shepherd cannot step in and steal the sheep away.

In their lonely profession the shepherds sacrifice themselves for their sheep just as Jesus did when He died for each of us.

Yours in Christ,  
*Father Dave*

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### MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – April 18 – 9:00 a.m.

**WILLIAM & KATHRYN ROSENBERGER**

Tuesday – April 19 – 9:00 a.m.

**REV. FRANCIS FOX**

Wednesday–April 20– 9:00 a.m.

**CATHERINE BORTZEL**

Thursday – April 21 – NO MASS

Friday – April 22 – 9:00 a.m.

**ANTHONY VICIC JR. (Family)**

Saturday – April 23 – 5:00 p.m.

**DR. DAVID HARVEY (Mary Beth Harvey & Family)**

Sunday - April 24 – 8:15 a.m.

**DORIS BLUM (Doyle & Scheibelhut Family)**

Sunday – April 24 – 10:30 a.m.

**FRANKLIN PLATTS (Donna Platts)**

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### CANDLE DONATIONS

**BVM** – IMO JoAnn Heller by Joe & Barbara Wollyung

**St. Joseph** - For Brian Comfort by Carl & Toni Wiest

**Tabernacle** - Health of Gladys Kuperavage  
by Carl & Toni Wiest

**Sanctuary**

1. IMO James Cavanaugh by Family

2. IMO David A. Zanis by Chris & Steve Zanis

3&4. Special Intention by Debra Matz

**Guardian Angels**

1&2. IMO Special Intention

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### SCHEDULE

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**5:00 p.m. – Saturday – April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Reader:** Michaela Connors

**Euch.Min.:** Gerry Schwartz, Donna Connors

**Servers:** Noah Lecher, Patrick Ryan, Jillian Guzik

**Cantor:** Lucilla Kochol

**8:15 a.m. – Sunday – April 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Reader:** Michelle Ambrose

**Euch.Min.:** Sharon Snyder, Michael Ambrose

**Servers:** Kaitlin Painter, Madison Wright, Claudia Rittle

**Cantor:** Tina Seiger

**10:30 a.m. – Sunday – April 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Reader:** Janet Daubert

**Euch.Min.:** Phil Markovich, Charlie Miller

**Servers:** Anna, Livia, Emma Lieberman

**Cantor:** Ensemble

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### **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:** *Margie Glunz, Theresa & Joseph Tuite, Fred Maskerines, Pete Meseravage, Joanne Kochol, Joanne Hepler, Mary Zambo, Nancy Arnold.*

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### **QUESTION OF THE WEEK**

What does it mean to you  
that Jesus is the Good Shepherd?

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### **Next Week's Readings**

**5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER** (April 23/24)

**Reading I:** Acts 14:21-27

**Reading II:** Revelation 21:1-5a

**Gospel:** John 13:31-33a, 34-35

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### **DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL**

#### **ADORATION**

#### **Open Hours with Jesus**

We all must pray. What better place to pray than where God is physically present? If we love someone, we want to spend time with them. What better way to show Jesus how much we love him than to go before him in the Eucharist?

We need adorers for the following hours:

**Friday 5 p.m.; Saturday 12 p.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m.**

*Please call Albert 573-0036 or Aleece 449-7678.*

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### **STEWARDSHIP LIBRARY**

**Stewardship Displays are located at the church exits.** There are many items available including CD's, Rosaries, Self-help and Informational Booklets, etc. Donations are accepted.

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation will be conferred

at St. John's on .....

**Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### MAY PROCESSION

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

The CCD students will end their year by having a May Procession **after the 8:15 Mass on May 1<sup>st</sup>**. 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

We are grateful to our parishioners who have already 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 \$300 gift to the Appeal may be set up with six \$50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those who are less fortunate will allow the ministries of our diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can make your gift online at [FaithHopeCharityGives.org](http://FaithHopeCharityGives.org) or pick up a pledge form at the back of church.

### CCD REGISTRATION

**DEADLINE - MAY 31<sup>st</sup>**

Now is the time to register your child for next year's CCD class. **There are reduced rates until May 31<sup>st</sup>**. 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 May 31<sup>st</sup> - \$60.00)

**All Other Children: \$45.00 per Child**  
(after May 31<sup>st</sup> - \$55.00)

### 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 2016 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 2016 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 17, 2016**.
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 17, 2016.**

### NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL ...

#### COACHING POSITIONS

**Head Coach --- Boys/Girls Golf**

Interested applicants should forward a résumé to the address listed or contact the school at 570-622-8110 ext 343. Must have all clearances and Protecting God's Children workshop. Mail to:

Nativity BVM High School, Attn: Principal Lynn Sabol,  
One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901

#### CENTURY CLUB BENEFIT on **Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

at the Schuylkill Country Club in Orwigsburg. Golden Cross Society recipients will be inducted. \$125.00 per person. Cocktails, Music, Dinner, Dancing plus a drawing for two \$250 scholarships to Nativity. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact **Jenn Daubert at Nativity at 622-8110**.

### WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

This week we welcome **Michael & Christine Maccarone** and son, **Michael** to St. John's Parish Family. Michael is employed at Air Products in the engineering department and Christine is a Program Technician for the U.S.D.A. Their son, Michael, is a student at Penn State.

Warmly embrace the **Maccarone Family** into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 2 Jackson St., Pottsville 17901.



### UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

**'Doors of Mercy'**

**Sundays - April 17, 24**

**4:30 to 6 p.m. – Longinus Hall**

**Blood Pressure Screenings**

**April 16/17 in Longinus Hall after all Masses**

**Catholic Women's Union**

**Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m. – Longinus Hall**

**Confirmation Rehearsal**

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – 6 p.m. – Church**

**Mid-Summer Festival Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m. – Fellowship Room**

**Sacrament of Confirmation**

**Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 p.m.**

**First Eucharist Rehearsal & Retreat**

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – 9 a.m.**

**May Procession**

**Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> – after 8:15 Mass**

**First Eucharist**

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> – 5 p.m. Mass**

**MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL**

**This year's dates ...**

**Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>**

**5 to 9:30 p.m. each night**

**Mark your calendars!**

Please join us for our next meeting **Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**  
at 7 p.m. in the Rectory Fellowship Room.

**Please bring your suggestions. All are welcome!**

**MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL**

**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.**

If you would like us to pick up your donation, please call us ... (Pat) 570-544-5266, (Maureen) 570-581-8307, or (Kathy) 570-622-2326. You can also drop them off at the rectory.

As always, thank you very much for your support and help...

*Pat Zaharis, Maureen Kurtek,*

*Kathy Vivic, Judy Meseravage.*

**"CURIOSITY SHOP"**

**Friday – May 20<sup>th</sup> – 4 to 7 p.m.**

**Saturday – May 21<sup>st</sup> – 8 a.m. to 12 noon**  
**at the Russell Building**

So look around your home for any items you wish to contribute to this year's Curiosity Shop to be held at the Russell Building. You'd be surprised what you might find –



Here are some suggestions ...

**Christmas Items**

**Serving Dishes**

**Knick Knacks**

**Kitchen Items**

**Framed Paintings**

**Vases**

**Jewelry**

**Purses**

**Candles**

**Doillies**

**Toys / Games**

**Puzzles**

**Tablecloths**

**Candy Dishes**

**CD's, DVD's**

**CLEAN ITEMS ONLY**

**NO TELEVISIONS**

**NO COMPUTERS, MONITORS, KEYBOARDS**

**NO BOOKS**

**NO LARGE FURNITURE**

**NO STUFFED ANIMAL TOYS**

**NO CLOTHING**

**NO BEDDING**

**NO CHRISTMAS TREES**

**ONLY ONE DROP-OFF DATE**

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

**8 a.m. to 12 noon**

**Items can be dropped off at**

**St. John's Russell Building**

**NO ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED**

**BEFORE OR AFTER THIS DATE.**

**Do Not Leave Articles at the**  
**Door or in the Parking Lot**

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION**

**MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m. – Longinus Hall**

**Featuring: "Spring Fling Auction"**

Call Karla Garland for more info 570-622-3776.

**Reminder:** Membership dues (\$5.00) for 2016 are now due --- make check payable to St. John's CWU and drop in the collection basket or mail to **Donna Moyer, 529 S. Centre St., Pottsville 17901.**

**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.



**NEIGHBORING EVENTS**

**HOLY CROSS KITCHEN** We have weekly specials!  
Open on Thursdays from 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Parish

Center, 99 Lombard St. in New Philadelphia. To place your order, call 640-8750 on Thursdays after 8 a.m.

**ROAST BEEF DINNER** at St. Michael the Archangel Church Parish Center Cafeteria in Minersville on **Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m... Eat in or Take out ... Adults \$12; Children (under 10) \$6. For tickets please call Parish Office at 570-544-4741 or call Jean at 570-544-6853.

**BUS TRIP** to Niagara Falls and Toronto from **May 9 to 13**. Sponsored by St. Matthew's Travelers. For more information, please call 570-544-5231 or 570-628-5413.

**MONTHLY BINGO** NEW monthly Cash Bingo held at ASD, 15 Alliance Street, New Philadelphia (at Simon Kramer) on **Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**. Doors and concession open at 5:30 pm. Bingo starts at 6:30 pm. \$25 dollars for package. Player's pool and jackpot specials. Bingo will be held on the first Thursday of each month for 2016. **Benefits:** SMILE Mothers, a non-profit that provided supportive services and parenting education to area single mothers and their children. For more information, please contact **Melissa Clarke at 570-527-9634**.

**ST. PATRICK'S SENIOR TRIP** to Blue Army Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine in Washington, New Jersey on **Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup>**. Cost is \$30.00. Reservation deadline is June 17<sup>th</sup>. Please call Joan at 570-622-7229 or Alberta 570-449-8296.

**PUBLIC BREAKFASTS** hosted by Senior Community Centers from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the locations listed below.

During the breakfasts, Scarlet Stout, a registered dietician, will educate on the importance of breakfast while creating an easy-to-make, yet nutritious meal. There is no charge but **registration is required** by calling the individual senior centers.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>** @ Sch.Haven Senior Center 385-5611

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** @ Shenandoah Senior Center 461-1965

**May 5<sup>th</sup>** @ Tremont Senior Center 695-3500

**May 10<sup>th</sup>** @ Mahanoy City Senior Ctr. 773-0738

**May 17<sup>th</sup>** @ Pottsville Senior Center 628-3513

(Senior Centers are managed by Diakon Community Services under contract with the Sch.Co.Office of Senior Services with funding from the state Dept. of Aging.)

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

**April 9/10: \$ 5,133.00**

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving*

## DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** — "My sheep hear my voice," Jesus tells us in today's gospel. Come away for a weekend to listen to the voice of Jesus, our shepherd, within your marriage by attending a WORLDWIDE

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend. For information call 1—732—904—9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org).

**HOLY FAMILY ADULT DAY CARE** is accepting applications for their day care program. The program is licensed through the State Department of Aging and provides social and activity programs, therapeutic care and support services. In addition other benefits include daytime support for caregivers, meeting the special needs of adults with dementia or stroke. Participants are provided a breakfast, lunch and snack. Anyone 60 or older who meets program requirements is eligible. For more information or to schedule a visit, call 570-366-2924.

## FOOD DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS

As part of the 'Month of Giving', Parish Council has decided to have this special drive in support of "**Servants to All**". We are asking for non-perishable food items, especially food that can be eaten without having to be heated or cooked. This especially helps the homeless who may not have a way to prepare food items. Also items in easy open or pop-top cans. Boxes are located at the church exits. All the food will stay in the county.

Thank you in advance for your support of this excellent charity. *Feed the hungry is a corporal work of mercy.*

### Items Needed as an **INDIVIDUAL** Serving Size

Soup	Beans
Fruit	Beans & Franks
Puddings	Peanut Butter
Jello	Bagged Snacks
Apple Sauce	Cold Cereal



### Regular sized non-perishable items

Stuffing Mix	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Broth	Macaroni & Cheese
Coffee/Tea (instant)	Hot Chocolate
Hot Cereal packages	Jelly
Cereal – boxed	Vegetable - Canned
Beef Stew	Spaghetti
Canned Gravy	Spaghetti Sauce
Peanut Butter	

### **PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS**

*For God so loved the world,  
that He gave His only begotten Son ... John 3:16*

**MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
**JULY 15 & 16, 2016**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR !**



## **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

### **FROM OUR PARISH NURSE ...**

**Don't assume that "healthy" foods are less filling.** Many people perceive such foods as being less satiating, which encourages them to eat larger amounts. This was seen in a series of experiments published recently in the *Journal of the Assoc. for Consumer Research*. In one, university students reported greater hunger after eating a cookie described as healthy (high in protein, fiber, and vitamins) than when the same cookie was portrayed as unhealthy (high in sugar and fat). In another test, students were asked to order enough popcorn so that they wouldn't be hungry until their next meal. When the popcorn was portrayed as healthy, they ordered much larger portions than when it was portrayed as unhealthy; they also consumed twice as much and yet felt less full. Even participants who said they disagree with the idea that "healthy = less filling" tended to eat more when foods were portrayed as healthy.

### **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."*

### **ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY NEWS ...**

During the course of the year we receive requests by family members who are no longer in need of extra grave sites on family plots bought years ago by deceased family members. These survivors would like to dispense with the sites and are looking for interested parties who might have need of just a single



grave or two. These sites can be purchased from the individual as they are not refunded to the Cemetery. Anyone interested in purchasing such a grave can contact **George Smith (570-544-3294)** for further information.

### **Over 50" CLUB**



St. John's "Over 50 Club" will be meeting again on **Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

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.

### **OUTREACH MINISTRY: REACH OUT and TOUCH SOMEONE.** St. John's

OutReach Ministry can help with light housekeeping, grocery shopping, transportation, meals, etc. Volunteers are always needed. **Call Margie Glunz at 622-3067** anytime with your needs and concerns.



### **FAMILY MATTERS**

**Parents of Young Children.** We pray for parents of young children – that they can survive today's challenges well and that God continues to strengthen them in responding to the ever-changing needs of their little ones.

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

### **St. John's Parish Family Treasured Recipes Volume II Cookbook**

Books are available at the Rectory during the week or by calling Sandy at 570-739-1630.



*And I tell you, ask and it will be given you;  
seek and you will find;  
knock and it will be opened to you.  
... Luke 11:9*