

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

“Dead Man Walking,” the 1995 film starring Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn, brought to life Sister Helen Prejean’s book of the same name, which launched her worldwide crusade to abolish the death penalty.

When a condemned prisoner begins that somber procession toward the execution chamber, the prison guard announces those words: “Dead man walking.” They begin moving down the corridor under the stark florescent lights shrouded in silence for this last grim ritual.

Jesus himself was a dead man walking in those final days in Jerusalem. He knew death awaited him. There was no turning back. There was no way out of walking to his execution.

But his death would not be the end. In this Sunday’s gospel, Jesus announces his death and his resurrection to his friends: “*The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified.*”

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – March 23 – 9:00 a.m.

BENJAMIN KOVALESKI (Emily Kovaleski)

Tuesday – March 24 – 9:00 a.m.

ALBERT & REGINA SCHMIDT

Wednesday – March 25 – 9:00 a.m.

REV. FREDERICK LONGINUS

Thursday – March 26 – 9:00 a.m.

THOMAS COYLE (Kate & Jim Blackwell)

Friday – March 27 – 9:00 a.m.

CLAIR & MARGARET FRY (Ann Marie Ludlow)

Saturday – March 28 – 5:00 p.m.

MARY JANE CONNELL (Mary Connell)

Sunday – March 29 – 8:15 a.m.

DOROTHY RYAN (John & Joyce Gerace)

Sunday – March 29 – 10:30 a.m.

HELEN SCHAEFFER (Marie Fitzpatrick)

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, Cathy Kostick, Nancy*

Newton, Maria Davis.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Wednesdays during Lent @ St. John’s – 7 p.m.

Please join us each Wednesday during Lent

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament,

Stations of the Cross, followed by Benediction

SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – March 28th

Reader: Mary Sitcoske, Carol Lasco, Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: Bobbi Murray, Virginia Visot

Servers: Lucy & Sophie Murray, Raleigh McPhillips

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 29th

Reader: Michelle Ambrose, Jennifer Daubert,

Paul Gombola

Euch.Min.: Paul & Debbie Herb, Bill Gianfagna

Servers: Christopher Wollyung, Ashley Smith,

Grace Sadusky

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 29th

Reader: Mary Matulevich, Albert Nastasi,

Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, Debbie Guers,

Larry Lonergan

Servers: Kate Kramer, Helena & Noah Fredericks

Cantor: Suzette Joy

CANDLE INTENTIONS

BVM – IMO Dorothy Rosenberger by Paul Rosenberger

St. Joseph – Health & Welfare of Rachel Clauser’s pregnancy by Sandy Clauser

Tabernacle - IMO George & Mary Jane Connell by Mary Connell

Sanctuary

1. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy Family
2. IMO Maryann Wychunas by Helen Heimbaugh
3. IMO John Heimbaugh by Helen Heimbaugh
4. Living & Deceased of St. John’s Catholic Women’s Union

Guardian Angels

1. Safe trip for Samantha Weiss by Sandy Clauser
2. Birthday Wishes for Joshua Clauser by Sandy Clauser

NO CANDLE INTENTIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What “falling” have you endured in order to “bear fruit” as a disciple?

Next Week’s Readings

PALM SUNDAY (March 28/29)

Reading I: Isaiah 50:4-7

Reading II: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47

WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 14/15: \$ 5,305.50; Imp. & Repairs: \$1,495.00

LENTEN DINNERS

Our Reputation is Well-Known!

Full course dinners including the best home-made New England Clam Chowder, freshly baked Haddock or Salmon, or Jumbo 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)

Adults

Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 13.00

1 Crab Cake \$ 13.00

2 Crab Cakes \$ 16.00

Adult Special

Crab Cake & Choice of Fish \$ 16.00

Children (under 12 only)

Baked Haddock or Salmon \$ 8.00

1 Crab Cake \$ 8.00



TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE

No Dinners will be served on Good Friday

LONGABERGER

BASKET & POTTERY CALENDAR SPONSORS - 2015

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Anonymous | Nancy's Fancy Flowers |
| BeeHive Salon | Nativity BVM School |
| Boran Dental Assoc. | Bob & Mary Porter |
| Charlie's Pizza & Sub Shop | Pottsville Internists |
| Club 18 | Noble & Jule Quandel |
| Daubert Family | Ed & Carole Quirin |
| Eastern Press | Rosenberger Plumbing |
| Brian & Sue Eckley | Schlitzer, Allen, Pugh |
| Father Dave | St. Clair Auto Supply |
| Friends of St. John's | St. John's CYO |
| Dr. Richard Greco & Sons | St. John's Family Guild |
| Headquarters Styling Salon | Towne Drugs/Yorkville |
| Kochol Family | Zimmerman, Lieberman, |
| Victor Muncy, Inc. | Tamulonis, Hobbs, Law |

Winners to date:

| | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| March 11: | Donna O'Brien |
| March 12: | Evelyn DeJesus |
| March 13: | Frances Lorenz |
| March 14: | Gregor Poleschuck |
| March 15: | Frank Chambers |
| March 16: | Charlene Morgan |
| March 17: | Charlene Leshner |

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

John 3:16

Join the Holiness Revolution

St. John's is hosting the Holiness Revolution on **Saturday, May 16th from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** for our parish retreat. Dan DeMatte will be our main speaker for "Holiness Revolution" and he will be accompanied by a musician, Aaron Richards. Dan is an author, speaker, writer, youth minister, evangelist, husband and father to three beautiful children. He has been on CNN Larry King Live and the talk show, "The View" defending the Catholic faith.

The talk will focus on 3 areas, the Gospel, the Encounter and the Mission. Dan will inspire us with the gospels, challenge us to encounter Christ through adoration and repentance and help us to define our mission to change the world we live in. **Ticket costs are \$20.00 for adults. Teens (13-19) are \$5.00 when accompanied by an adult or \$10.00 without an adult.**

The ticket price include a goodie bag of free items such as a book, CD's and much more. We will be serving a free lunch after our retreat and all our welcome. Come and join us to revolutionize your faith and put it into action!

Tickets will be on sale the following weekends:

March 28/29 April 11/12 April 25/26

May 2/3 May 9/10

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SPONSORS NEEDED ...

We are asking parishioners to help with this event by becoming a sponsor of tickets. Please consider pledging a monetary amount to help bring Dan's message to all Catholics. You can speak with Fr. Dave, myself or call the rectory to pledge your monetary donation.

Please prayerfully consider a donation to off-set our ticket costs. May God bless you for your generosity.

Peace and Love,

Tina Seiger, Parish Council President

Attention all Nativity Student!!

Do you need service hours for school? Attend the **Holiness Revolution** on **May 16th** from 9 am to 1:30 pm at St. John's Church and you will earn service hours for coming. Plus you will walk away with free items such as a book, journal, CD and a free lunch too! The day of the event save your ticket stub and take it to school to turn into Father Dave to get credit. Your ticket cost is only \$10.00, but if you get your parents or any adult to come with you then your ticket is only \$5.00. Come, join us and be inspire to change the world!

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth ... But store up treasures in heaven ... For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be. Matt. 19:21

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, March 28 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.
Sunday, March 29 7:45 to 8:00 a.m.
10:00 to 10:15 a.m.
Monday, March 30 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 31 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 1 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY

Mass Times

Saturday – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday – 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Dramatic Stations of the Cross -- 7:30 p.m.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday & Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. - Chapel

Wednesday – 8:00 a.m. – Chapel

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

8 to 10 p.m. - Chapel

Night Prayer – 10 p.m. - Chapel

GOOD FRIDAY

Morning Prayer – 9 a.m. in Chapel

Liturgy & Holy Communion – 3 p.m.

Dramatic Stations of the Cross – 7:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY

Solemn Blessing of Food Baskets – 12 noon - Chapel

Easter Vigil Mass – 8 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

Masses: 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.

BLESSED PALM

The Blessed Palm is known as a sacramental. We should not receive the Palm out of human respect with the rest of the faithful and then forget it or cast it away. The Blessed Palm in Catholic homes is a symbol of our Christian Faith. Let the Palm which you carry home from church on Palm Sunday become a constant reminder of the days ahead when your faith may be put to a test.



CHURCH DECORATING

We will be decorating the church for Easter

on Good Friday evening after Dramatic Stations approximately 8:45 p.m.

Extra hands are always needed and appreciated.

DRAMATIC STATIONS OF THE CROSS

--- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ---

We still need several volunteers to participate in this year's Dramatic Stations. No experience required. Please call Dr. Robert DeColli at 640-1910 or the Rectory 622-5470 or just come to rehearsal on **Tuesdays & Thursdays**.

St. John's Dramatic Stations of the Cross recreates on stage and through song, the final days of the life of Jesus Christ.

This year's presentation is under the leadership of **Dr. Robert DeColli and Rick Smith**.

Dress Rehearsals

Tuesday, March 24th – 7 p.m.

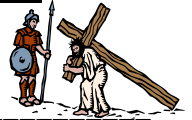
Thursday, March 26th – 7 p.m.

Dramatic Stations Presentations

(Preludes 7:15 p.m.)

Palm Sunday – 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday – 7:30 p.m.



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**.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Hungering for a Healthy Harvest. CRS Rice Bowl brings our Lenten journey back to Africa this week, the Democratic Republic of Congo. We join our fasting in solidarity with people who go hungry, and we remember in prayer the importance of building a community that is willing to support those most in need.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

'Faithfully Fit' - St. John's Fitness Group
Mondays – 6 p.m. – Longinus Hall

Mid-Summer Festival Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 23rd
7 p.m. – Fellowship Room

... Behold the rainbow! Then bless its Maker, for majestic indeed is its splendor ...

DIOCESAN NEWS & EVENTS

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Shake-off those winter "blues" and put the freshness of romance back into your marriage at the next **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND -- April 10-12** at the Hilton Garden Inn Allentown West. During Lent, make special sacrifices for each other daily and WATCH YOUR LOVE GROW! For information or to register call 1-732-904-9636 or visit www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org

MASS FOR UNBORN CHILDREN

Schuylkill Council 431 of the Knights of Columbus is promoting attendance at a special Mass Celebration for Unborn Children on the solemnity of the Annunciation, **Wednesday, March 25th at 7:00 p.m.** at St. Patrick's Church in Pottsville. The Knights of Columbus maintains a commitment to building a culture that respects and protects every human life from conception to natural death. For further information on this program or the Knights of Columbus please contact Grand Knight Dave Donlin at 570-624-1796.

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL - 2015

Organizational Planning Meeting

Monday, March 23rd – 7 p.m.

in the Fellowship Room.

Bring your suggestions and ideas.

All are welcome!

(Mark this date on your calendar:

Mid-Summer Festival July 17/18, 2015)

NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

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CENTURY CLUB BENEFIT ... Everyone is welcome to attend and help support Nativity BVM High School on **Saturday, April 11th** at the Schuylkill Country Club in Orwigsburg. The Golden Cross Society recipients will be inducted at the dinner. Music by Devine Memories... \$125 per person ... Cocktails 6 p.m.; Dinner 7 p.m. For more information, contact Jenn Daubert at 622-8110.

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED ... Nativity BVM High School is in need of host families for international exchange students for the **2015-2016 school year**. Families provide a bedroom, desk or work area, and meals. Students come with their own insurance and

spending money. Their tuition is paid, and they can ride the bus. A monthly stipend is provided to offset food costs. Share your traditions, and learn about another culture without leaving the country! It's a great experience for empty-nesters and for families with children of all ages. For more information, please contact Maureen Challenger at mchallenger@nativitybvm.net

EASTER FOOD COLLECTION

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 |
| Cereal – boxed | Vegetable - Canned |
| 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.

If anyone wishes to donate a **Ham**, please call the Rectory 622-5470. **Ham donations will be accepted until March 26th.**

Gift cards to purchase hams will be gladly accepted.

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.



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.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

PASCHAL FOOD FESTIVAL sponsored by St. Mary's Church, 94 Walnut Road, Hamburg on Saturday, **March 28th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Homemade and ethnic foods ... Easter Bread, Nut Rolls, Cookies,

Candy, Braided Palm, Pysanky ... and much more. For more information call 610-562-7657.

SPAGHETTI DINNER sponsored by Trinity United Church of Christ, 316 W. Market St., Pottsville on **Thursday, April 9th from 5 to 7 p.m.** Adults \$8.00; Children \$3.50; Children under 6 free. Special Drawing for Summertime BBQ Basket; Tickets available at door.
