

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia, is one of the great museums in the world. It houses vast collections of art amassed by the Russian Czars. The museum was once their winter palace. Climbing the elegant marble stairway to the second floor you will find the famous Rembrandt painting "The Return of the Prodigal Son."

An aging father bends to welcome his penitent son home again. The boy, ravaged by an unforgiving world, one sandal off, buries his head in his father's embrace.

This Sunday's gospel touches our hearts on many levels. Sometimes we are the forgiving father: and other times we may be the jealous brother. Perhaps more frequently than we would like, we may be the prodigal child, seeking the father's forgiveness again.

Yours in Christ,  
Father Dave

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## MASS INTENTIONS

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

Monday – March 15 – 9:00 a.m.

JAMES LEDDY (Staff & Residents of York Terrace)

Tuesday – March 16 – 9:00 a.m.

ANNE MALARKEY (Kathy Vicic)

Wednesday – March 17 – 9:00 a.m.

LISA BRUNO (Cathy, John & Hannah Kostick)

Thursday – March 18 – 9:00 a.m.

TIMOTHY GRICKIS (Peggy Ebling)

Friday – March 19 – 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH KOSTURA (Jefferson Family)

Saturday – March 20 – 5:00 p.m.

GEORGE CONNELL (Mary Connell & Family)

Sunday – March 21 – 8:15 a.m.

GEORGE HOLLEY

(Mary Ann Holley & Deborah Purcell)

Sunday – March 21 – 10:30 a.m.

JOHN & MARY KOVICH (Dot Ryan & Family)

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## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Jesus welcomed sinners. Do you find this comforting or challenging? Why?

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## READINGS

Fourth Sunday in Lent (March 13/14)

**Reading I:** Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

**Reading II:** 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

**Gospel:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Fifth Sunday in Lent (March 20/21)

**Reading I:** Isaiah 43:16-21

**Reading II:** Philippians 3:8-14

**Gospel:** John 8:1-11

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## CANDLE INTENTIONS

**B.V.M** – Special Intention by Linda Ralston

**St. Joseph** – IMO Elizabeth & Charles Tamburelli  
by Herb Tamburelli

**Tabernacle** – IMO George F. Connell  
by Mary Connell & MJ

### Sanctuary

1. IMO Vincent Doyle Family by Family

2. Special Intention by Ed & Dolly Smith

3. IMO Ann Cooper by Marg Hoenich

4. IMO Leroy Kelchner by Linda & Clare Houser Jr.

### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Houser & Kelchner Families  
by Linda & Clare Houser Jr.

2. IMO Robert Zuppert by Carol Zuppert

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## SCHEDULE

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – March 20<sup>th</sup>

**Reader:** Lucilla Kochol

**Euch.Min.:** Joan Albo, Aaron Wachter

**Servers:** Michael Ryan, Rachel Ryan,  
Anthony Wojciechowsky

**Cantor:** Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Reader:** Janet Daubert

**Euch.Min.:** Ray Petrilla, Gerry Schwartz, Justina Majestic

**Servers:** Dominic Chiplonia, Adalie Zanis, Emilie Baker

**Cantor:** Kelly Messina

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – March 21<sup>st</sup>

**Reader:** Ian Hower

**Euch.Min.:** Albert Nastasi, Joyce Gerace,  
Prudence Griffin

**Servers:** Megan Ryan, Amanda Nastasi,  
Madison Buckingham

**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: *Tina Dixon, Margie Glunz, Carolyn Foster, Edward Wychunas, John Woznicki, Faye Cuchara, Scott Rhoades, Roxanne Tutko, James Gombola, Mary Ellen Viduszynski, Elizabeth McAlonis, Francis King, Karla Garland, Rosalia Campion, Kevin Stock, Marie Fitzpatrick, Bill Flynn, Richard Buehler.* Deceased: *Gerald Bohr*

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## WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 7<sup>th</sup> \$ 6,452.50 : Dues: \$ 1,932.00

Fuel & Heat: \$ 7,953.00

*We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.*

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## LIVING LENT AT HOME

## 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.



### REHEARSAL DATES

**Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**

### DRESS REHEARSALS

**Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**

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## OPERATION RICE BOWL

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

**The Prodigal Son.** The story of the Prodigal Son helps us refocus on the meaning of Lent. This is a time to change our ways, to turn back to God our Father, and to appreciate and share the gifts we have received. As we begin the second half of our journey with Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, we remember that we are called to be stewards of what God has given us, and we connect our prayers and fasting with our giving.

**Rice Bowl donations and containers can be returned to the table or basket in the back of church by Palm Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity.**

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## SUNDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

... sponsored by the Schuylkill Deanery Holy Name Society during the Lenten Season at 7 p.m., including Benediction. Large print stations books provided. The schedule is as follows:

**March 14 @ St. Patrick's – Pottsville**

**March 21 @ Holy Cross – New Philadelphia**

**March 28 @ St. Vincent de Paul – Girardville**



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## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be no Children's Liturgy on March 21<sup>st</sup>. It will resume again on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

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## **LENTEN PROGRAMS AT ST. JOHN'S**

### **Sundays at the Well**

Sundays from 9 to 10:15 a.m. in Longinus Hall  
'From Ashes to Easter'

Topics each week will be based on the  
Readings for the Sundays of Lent

### **Stations of the Cross**

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Chapel

### **Encountering the Merciful Savior**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions  
Thursdays from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Chapel

### **Snackin' on Faith**

**Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. – Longinus Hall**  
Snack sharing and game playing as a community.

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## **HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS**

The Carbon/Schuylkill Serra Club will host a Holy Hour for Vocations on **Monday, March 15, 2010**, at St. Jerome's Church in Tamaqua, beginning at 6:00 P.M. with Mass. The Celebrant for the Mass will be Father James Bechtel, pastor of St. Jerome's and Chaplain of the Carbon/Schuylkill Serra Club. The Holy Hour prayers will be from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M., ending with Benediction.

Please join us as we pray to Almighty God to bless our area with new vocations to the Priesthood and to the Religious life and to sustain those already involved in the active Ministry.

Light refreshments will be available afterwards. Parking is available in the lot across the street from the Church.

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## **FAMILY MATTERS**

**Interfaith Marriages.** About fifty percent of all engaged Catholics marry someone of another faith. We ask you Lord to provide a special grace to sustain these marriages as they practice their religious traditions. Bless their children so that they may truly see you present to them in their faith lives.

*You pray for my family & I'll pray for yours.*

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*Let us pray for mothers and fathers who suffer remorse and pain after an abortion, that they find peace through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and be consoled through the ministry of Project Rachel.*

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## **Need a Mass Card?**

There are Sisters of St. Joseph Mass Cards available in the rectory for various occasions including Perpetual and Annual Memorial cards, Sympathy, Thank You, sacraments: Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Wedding, Anniversary and Birthday etc. The cost is \$1.50; Perpetual Memorials are \$5.00.

## **DIOCESAN SPONSORED EVENTS**

### **YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

**World Youth Day, Young Adult Pilgrimage, Madrid, Spain ... August 14 to 22, 2011.**

Young adults ages 18 to 35 are invited to join the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and young adults from around the globe in a multicultural celebration of the Catholic faith. More information is available at [www.liveyourfaith.org](http://www.liveyourfaith.org) or by calling Melissa at 277-0123. All inclusive ... \$2,098.00 from New York.

**Young Adults, your voices matter!** You're invited to a dinner discussion to help the Diocese hear and respond creatively to your needs in today's culture and Church. Visit us for details on our Facebook pages: Allentown Diocese Youth and Young Adult Ministry; Allentown Diocese Adult Faith Formation or e-mail [MHartigan@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:MHartigan@allentowndiocese.org)

### **OFFICE FOR PRO-LIFE**

Do you seek healing from a past abortion experience either recent or many years ago? Call **1-866-3Rachel**, the confidential **Project Rachel Hotline**, for information about compassionate post-abortion counseling and reconciliation and **Rachel's Vineyard Retreats**

### **MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

During Lent, begin the habit of praying together every day to strengthen your faith. A Marriage Encounter will help strengthen your marriage. For information call 1-800-787-7679 or go online at [www.wvme-nepa.org](http://www.wvme-nepa.org)

### **ENGAGED ENCOUNTER**

Winter's almost over, and your wedding date is almost here! Time to warm up on an Engaged Encounter Weekend, where you and your fiancé can plan for your lifetime together. Engaged Encounter is sponsored by the Office of Family Life Ministries of the Diocese of Allentown. For more information and the schedule of EE weekends for 2010, call Carla Neupauer at 610-289-8900 ext. 238.

### **OFFICE FOR SOCIAL ACTION**

**Fight Poverty through the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.** Last year, 24.6 million low-income American households took advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit to the tune of \$48.7 billion and the Child Tax Credit refunds over \$10 billion. However, many more did not even know that they were eligible. As a result of new legislation, more people will qualify. Information can be obtained on the expanded Tax Credit Outreach Campaign website at [www.cbpp.org/eic2010](http://www.cbpp.org/eic2010) or call Office for Social Action 610-289-8900 ext. 231

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### **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.

## LENTEN DINNERS

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 ... every Friday during Lent.

### Adults

**Baked Haddock or Salmon** \$ 11.00

**1 Crab Cake** \$ 11.00

**2 Crab Cakes** \$ 13.00

### Adult Special

**Crab Cake & Choice of Fish** \$ 14.00

### Children (under 12 only)

**Baked Haddock or Salmon** \$ 7.00

**1 Crab Cake** \$ 7.00



TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE

## HOMEMADE DESSERTS

*"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 Thursday's or Friday's during Lent.



## NEEDED: Waitresses /Waiters

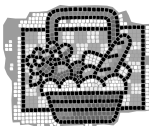
We need volunteers to help with the Lenten Dinners. If you can volunteer one Friday or a couple of Fridays – anything would be great! You can ask anyone who has helped in the past, we always have a great time each Friday. Perhaps you are new in the parish and looking for a way to become involved.

We also need help clearing tables, serving drinks, etc. Please contact Kate or Steve Zagar 622-3193 or call the Rectory 622-5470.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Catholic Women's Union will once again chance off a variety of Theme Baskets each week at the Lenten Dinners. We are asking for donations for these baskets. Some suggestions include ... paper products, canned goods, tea towels, soaps, lotion, hair products, etc. Any donation would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Dorothy Stangl 624-7106 with your donation.



## LONGABERGER BASKET & POTTERY CALENDAR SPONSORS - 2010

Abdo's Furniture Outlet, Inc.

Beehive Salon

Boran Dental Assoc.

Daubert Family

DiNicola Family

Eastern Press

Eckley Family

Father Dave

Bill & Kathy Gianfagna

Bob & Susan Hahner

Hahner Bros., Inc.

HeadQuarters Salon

Diane Keese

John B. Lieberman III

Lucie Mandell

Marlin Markets

Annie Murphy

Murphy Jewelers

Nancy's Fancy Flowers & Fruit

Quandel's

St. Clair Auto Supply

St. John's CYO Program

St. John's Family Guild

Schlitzler-Allen-Pugh Funeral Home

Schuykill Federal Credit Union

Towne Drug/Yorkville Drug

Union Bank & Trust Co.

Sister Barbara Jean Wojnicki

Zimmerman, Lieberman, Tamulonis Law Offices

## LONGABERGER BASKET WINNERS

March 1<sup>st</sup> -Grant Lapachinsky

March 2<sup>nd</sup> -Brenda Schuettler

March 3<sup>rd</sup> -Annette Lisowski

March 4<sup>th</sup> -Paul Datte

March 5<sup>th</sup> -Margie Glunz

March 6<sup>th</sup> -Kevin, Darlene, Elizabeth Rakus

March 7<sup>th</sup> -Noel Glunz

March 8<sup>th</sup> -Lisa Zimmerman

March 9<sup>th</sup> -Jacqueline Steffan

## OUTREACH

**Our OutReach Program is available to provide a ride to and from Mass, transportation to physician appointments, etc. We are always in need of volunteers ... please call Margaret Glunz 622-3067**

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S UNION

St. John's Catholic Women's Union was founded in 1926 and is still active and a viable organization, whose purpose is service and friendship.



We meet every month on the third Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.

We have a short business meeting and refreshments are served. During the year we have interesting programs which

include a Chinese Auction, Fall Harvest Sale, Halloween fun, Christmas Party, Pizza Sale, Pie Sale, etc. We have a wonderful group of women of all ages and interests.

Monies raised through our various projects are given to St. John's Church to be used wherever needed. If you would like to join us, please complete the following form. Please join us. All women of St. John's Parish are welcome!

### St. John's Catholic Women's Union Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Drop in the collection basket or mail to: Donna Moyer, 529 S. Centre St., Pottsville. (Dues are \$5.00 per year, make check payable to St. John's CWU)

If you have any additional questions, please contact the **Catholic Women's Union President, Sharon Miller** at 622-0516.

**Our next meeting is ...**

**Wednesday, February 17th – 7:30 p.m.(time change)  
in Longinus Hall.**

## FOOD COLLECTION

*"We can do no great things, only small things  
with great love." ... Mother Teresa.*

Thank you for doing the small things, like feeding your neighbors, with great love. God bless.

### Items Needed:

Stuffing Mix	Canned Fruit
Broth	Packaged Cookies
Coffee/Tea (instant)	Jelly
Hot Chocolate	Hot Cereal packages
Apple Sauce	Canned Sweet Potatoes
Peanut Butter	Beef Stew
Soups	Spaghetti
Spaghetti Sauce	Macaroni & Cheese

Kindly place your donations in the baskets either at the rear or side entrance of church or donations can be brought to CCD. Thank you.

**PLEASE – NO OUTDATED ITEMS**

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

**Sunday, June 20 – Thursday, June 24th**

Save the date! Mark your Calendar! Vacation Bible School is coming. Your evenings will be filled with fun, fellowship and faith-growing, whether you are a kid or a "big kid"! Won't you join us? There is something for all your family and friends! Watch the bulletin or our website for more details soon!

### **Looking for a Christian Men's Group?**

#### **Searching for a Group of Like-Minded Men?**

**Bridge Builders Men's Fellowship** may be the group for you! Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and last approximately one hour followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship.

Please consider joining our group. As the song says, "Come just as you are". **For more information call Bob Hahner 622-0223.**

**Our next meeting is scheduled for**

**Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – 7 p.m.**

**at United Methodist Church, Port Carbon**

## ALL SAINTS SCHOOL NEWS ...

### Scholarship Money Available

A substantial amount of scholarship money is available for new and current students of All Saints Catholic School, thanks to the generous contributions of local benefactors. The amount of money available for the 2010-2011 school year through the Eastern Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund, EPSF, will allow all those who qualify to receive grants up to 50% of the student's tuition.

**We are blessed to be giving away over \$40,000!** Families who qualify can earn a base salary of \$50,000 a year plus \$10,000 for each child. For example, a family with three children can earn \$80,000 a year and still qualify. Register and apply now. Call the school for an application at 622-0106. We hope to hear from you soon!

### Kindergarten & New Student Registration

All Saints Catholic School is now accepting registrations for the 2010-2011 school year. Some classes are filling up quickly. Don't delay. Call the school for a tour or to request a registration packet.

Thanks you for your support! Call us for a tour or visit us at [www.All-SaintsCatholicSchool.net](http://www.All-SaintsCatholicSchool.net)

### **CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

Gift certificates for Giant, Waymart, and Weis Food stores are available at the rectory. Please call 622-5470 for more information. What a great gift-giving idea !!!

## NEIGHBORING EVENTS

**BREAKFAST BUFFET:** to be held Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Immaculate Conception Social Hall in St. Clair from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Adults \$5.00; Children under 8 \$3.00. Take-outs available. Proceeds benefit St. Clare of Assisi Parish.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE:** sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, John F. Kennedy Division No. 2 on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. in downtown Pottsville. Mass at 8 a.m. at St. Patrick's Church followed by a breakfast buffet at the Porter House Grille. A post-parade party will be held at the Humane Fire Co. from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. Tickets \$15.00 in advance; \$20.00 at the door. Tickets are available from any AOH or LAOH member, Murphy's Jewelers, the Porterhouse Grille or the Wooden Keg Inn, St. Clair.

**BREAKFAST BUFFET:** sponsored by the Holy Name Society of St. Patrick's Parish on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the parish center. Adults \$6.00; Children under 12 \$3.00. Take-outs available.

**SCHUYLKILL CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT:** to be held Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> here at St. John's at 2 p.m. "An Afternoon with John Rutter" will be performed. Adults \$10.00; Seniors/Students \$7.00.

**HOMEMADE EASTER CANDY:** Butter Cream, Coconut Cream, Peanut Butter Eggs ... \$8.00 per box ... call St. Patrick's Rectory 622-1802. **Deadline for orders is March 23<sup>rd</sup>**; pick-up orders at the parish center on Saturday, March 27 (noon to 7:30 p.m.) or Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> (8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m).

**CASINO DAY:** to benefit St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> to Sands Casino & Resort in Bethlehem. Bus departs 9 a.m. and return 4 p.m. Cost is \$30.00 per person due no later than Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>; Price includes \$20 free slot play and \$5.00 voucher towards lunch. Please contact Mrs. Montgomery at St. Joseph's School 622-4638 for tickets and information.

## GERTRUDE HAWK EASTER CANDY ORDERS

Candy will be available for pick-up after all Masses the weekend of March 27 & 28 in Longinus Hall.

For more information or questions, please call Karen Glunz at 628-2412. Thank you.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### March

- 14 Sundays at the Well – 9 to 10:15 a.m. - LH
- 14 Snackin' on Faith – 5:30 p.m. – Longinus Hall
- 14 Lent Event – 11:30 a.m. – Russell Bldg.
- 17 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 17 Catholic Women's Union Mtg. 7:30 p.m.-LH
- 18 RCIA – 7 p.m. – St. John's
- 18 Exposition & Confessions – 5 to 7 p.m.-Chapel
- 19 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – Russell Bldg.
- 21 Sundays at the Well – 9 to 10:15 a.m. – LH
- 21 Retreat Reunion – after 10:30 Mass
- 24 Stations of the Cross – 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 25 Exposition & Confession – 5 to 7 p.m. – Chapel
- 26 Lenten Dinner – 4 to 7 p.m. – Russell Bldg.
- 28 Sundays at the Well – 9 to 10:15 a.m. –L.H.
- 28 Dramatic Stations Presentation – 7:30 p.m.

## FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

... Janet Daubert

**Middle-aged women with extra weight around their waist are at increased risk for dementia in later life.** This comes from a new study in Neurology, which looked at 1,500 Swedish women over a 30-year period. Those who initially had an above-average waist-to-hip ratio were twice as likely to develop dementia after age 70, compared to thinner women. An above-average ratio was defined as more than 0.8 – meaning the waist is almost as large as, or larger than, the hips. A 2008 study from Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, which also included men, yielded similar results.

## 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.