

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's gospel speaks of "eating flesh and drinking blood" – uncomfortable images of human and animal sacrifice. We are far removed from an altar heaped with all things to appease an angry god.

Yet, the altar sacrifice has always been part of our religious story. In Genesis, Abraham is told to sacrifice his own son Isaac. Temple sacrifice to atone for sin involved animal sacrifice. The Passover included putting the blood of a slain lamb on the doorposts. The word "sacrifice" means "to make something holy."

By His death on the cross, Jesus changes all of this forever. He becomes the final sacrifice Himself. His love is filled with enough sacred energy to change us and lead us all to holiness.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – August 17 – 9:00 a.m.

SADIE POST (George Post)

Tuesday – August 18 – 9:00 a.m.

JACK SCHEETZ (Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Wednesday – August 19 – 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE HAHNER JR. (Hahner Family)

Thursday – August 20 – 9:00 a.m.

MARGARET & LAWRENCE ELISON

Friday – August 21 – 9:00 a.m.

EVE & RAY GRAPSY (Joan & Ray Grapsy)

Saturday – August 22 – 5:00 p.m.

JOHN D. WEISS (Nancy Doyne Family)

Sunday – August 23 – 8:15 a.m.

PHYLLIS ORLOWSKY (Josephine Santilli)

Sunday – August 23 – 10:30 a.m.

JOHN & MARGARET KASINECZ (Kasinecz Family)

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, Daniel Fox, Jimmie Florida, Rosalia Campion, Margaret Pfluger, Francis King, Maryann Wychunas, Edward Wychunas, Faye Cuchara, Marie Eagan.*

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III – Elizabeth Mercuri and Joseph Kanfer

WEEKLY COLLECTION

August 9th: \$ 6,328.31; Imp.&Rep.: \$ 1,400.00

Mission Co-op: \$ 1,412.00

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

CANDLE INTENTIONS

B.V.M – IMO Thomas & Lillian Selinko by Children
St. Joseph – IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family
Tabernacle – IMO John M. Tasso by Lorraine Tasso
Sanctuary Candles All Candles ...
Special Intention by Frank & Mary Burns
Guardian Angels

1. IMO Theresa Holley & Baby Zoie Marie by Debbie & mark Holley
2. IMO Fran Purcell by Debbie & Mark Holley

SCHEDULE

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. — Saturday – August 22nd

Readers: Rachael Kubick

Euch.Min.: Andrew Kubick, Christopher Lombel

Servers: Allison Darhun, Madeline Consugar, Dominic Chiplonia

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – August 23rd

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: Carol Foster, Doris Eiler, Pat Lombel

Servers: Michael Fetterolf, Megan McLaughlin, Sarah Lombel

Cantor: Kelly Messina

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – August 23rd

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, Bobbi Murray, Carol Lasco

Servers: Christopher Hunt, Rachel Brahler, Claudia Rittle

Cantor: Suzette Joy

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY



This week we welcome **Christy Joy** and **Heather Myers** to our parish family. Christy is an accountant and caterer and Heather is a student. Christy's daughter, **Kacandra** is in first grade and Heather's daughter, **Isabelle**, is in the second grade.

Warmly embrace them into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality by writing to 141 Bull's Head Road, Pottsville 17901 or by calling 622-9484.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What relatives and friends have gone to eternal life?
How do you keep their memory alive?

READINGS

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 15/16)

Reading I: Proverbs 9:1-6

Reading II: Ephesians 5:15-20

Gospel: John 6:51-58

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 22/23)

Reading I: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Reading II: Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel: John 6:60-69

WELCOME SISTER MARYANNE

Sister Maryanne Zakreski, S.S.J. began her Pastoral Assistant position here at St. John's this past Wednesday. Please introduce yourself to Sister when you see her at Mass or stop by the rectory during office hours. We look forward to Sister's ministry to our Parish Family as she begins her stay with us.

INSTITUTE FOR LAY MINISTRY

Do you want to grow in your relationship with God, learn more about what the church teaches and develop skills suitable for ministry and service? Do you have a desire to help other people through ministry and service? The Ministry Formation Program offered through ILM might be just right for you. Classes are held at the following locations and times from September through May. We are currently accepting applications for Year One to begin in September. For more information, please call 610-289-8900 ext. 226 or 232.

Holy Name High School in Reading - Tuesdays
Marian High School in Tamaqua - Wednesdays
Bethlehem Catholic High School - Thursdays

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap, a program aimed at young adults (ages 21 to 39) looking for involvement in the Church or better knowledge of the faith, has come to Schuylkill County! To find out more, e-mail SchuylkillToT@gmail.com or search for "Schuylkill County Theology on Tap" on Facebook!

A JOURNEY OF HOPE

This conference for Older Adults, sponsored by Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, will be held **Thursday, October 1st from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Fogelsville. Mass will be offered ... free bus transportation ... brochures are located in the back of church. Register by calling 610-791-3888 ext. 305 before September 15th.

PARISH RETREAT

St. John's is hosting a Fall Parish Retreat

When: Saturday, October 24th

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Mariawald Renewal Center in Reading

"Take time to leave the hectic pace of constant doing ... Mariawald is like a spa for the soul."

Watch the bulletin for details during the next few weeks. Hope to see you there !!!

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Enjoy the Fruits of the Lord in the peaceful setting of the Perpetual Adoration Chapel at St. Patrick's. All are welcome to adore at any hour of the day. The chapel is ALWAYS open. Please ring the chapel door bell during the late hours between 9 a.m. and 6 a.m.



In order to maintain Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, please sign up for a weekly scheduled hour or sign-up as a substitute.

Four Slots Still Open:

Saturday – 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.

Sunday – 1 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Substitute Adorers are also needed. No regular commitment required. Just note what hour you can substitute on an as needed basis.

Please fill out a sign-up sheet in the back of church or call Albert Nastasi 573-0036.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

Pope John Paul II said "A great prayer for life is urgently needed". Since the Supreme Court ruling of Roe vs Wade on January 22, 1973, forty-five million unborn babies have been murdered through abortion. Each day this number increases by the thousands. Now is the time for action. Following the words of our late Holy Father, a prayer for life is urgently needed, and it is needed from you! Please join us in prayer here at St. John's as we offer a monthly rosary to Mary the Mother of us all in petition for the lives of the unborn.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

When: **Sunday, August 23rd**

(and every fourth Sunday of the month)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Where: St. John's Church

Who: All are welcome from all churches

Why: because every 23 seconds a baby is aborted

Contact: Andrew Kubick 399-5102 or

email prayerforlife122@yahoo.com

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED Eligibility ... male or female, 5th grade (in Fall) to 12th grade ... if interested, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

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 \$2.00 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, August 19th – 7 p.m. –
in Longinus Hall.

A Chinese Auction will be featured.

BRIDGE BUILDERS FAMILY NIGHT

Men bring your family, bring your friends to Bridge Builders Family Night with a *Blast from the Past* at Albright's Woods picnic area in Orwigsburg on **Thursday, August 27th at 6:30 p.m.**... live music. Fun, Fellowship and Entertainment Free; Light snacks and drinks provided.

FAMILY MATTERS

Our Elderly Parents. They have done a wonderful job in raising all of us. These elders of our parish have sacrificed and shared their faith, laughter and tears. Let us pray that they be given the energy to remain filled with the light of Christ, which we can follow. May God grant them the path of sainthood!

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

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL 2009

This year's net profit was

\$ 17,506.27

Once again, a special "Thank You"
to all who made the day a huge success!

ST. JOHN'S T-SHIRTS

T-shirts are still available ... they are gray in color and the church is featured on the front with the logo "St. John's Parish Family". Most sizes are available ... **\$10.00 each**. They can be purchased at the rectory during the week. If you have any questions, please call the rectory 622-5470.



ATTENTION

All **Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers** ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **August** and **September** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. **Please call Father Dave by Monday, August 17th** to let him know when you are **NOT** available during these months. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

CYO SPORTS



Registration forms for all St. John's CYO sports are available at the Rectory during the week 622-5470. The fee is **\$40.00** per family. CYO sports is open to all children enrolled in Catholic school or public school. Participants in public school must be registered for CCD in order to play CYO sports.

COACHES CLINIC

The following dates have been scheduled for the remainder of 2009. You must attend a Coaches Clinic and Protecting God's Children to be eligible to coach any CYO sports. For more information and a registration form, please call the Rectory 622-5470.

Wednesday, August 19th – 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

at St. Anne's in Bethlehem

Sunday, October 18th – 1 to 4 p.m.

at Sts. Peter & Paul in Lehighton

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."

WELCOME VISITORS

*Thank you for worshiping with us today.
If you are visiting our beautiful church,
please know you are most welcome!
If you have questions about our parish,
please see the designated parishioners at
the exits or any parishioner.
If you are interested in joining our parish
family, please call the rectory 622-5470.*

ATTENTION: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Remember, the youth are our future!

We are asking ANY and ALL adults and interested teens to attend the 2009-2010 Youth Group Planning Meeting. This meeting's purpose is to plan and develop the year's activities for a new Youth Group. We need volunteers with all kinds of time and talent ... adult chaperones, food volunteers, donators, musicians, witnesses, etc.



Your time commitment can be a little or as much as your schedule allows. So spread the word! Everyone has something to offer. If you need service hours, are a college student, senior citizen, or parent, or a teen interested in sharing your ideas We welcome you!

What: Youth Group Planning Meeting
Date/Time: Monday, August 24th – 7 p.m.
Where: St. John's – Longinus Hall

For more information or questions, please call Rachael Kubick 570-581-6109 or email rachael3764@yahoo.com
See you there!

CCD REGISTRATION

All registrations for 2009/2010 **have not been received.** We have already ordered books for next year to be assured of the quantities needed so far.

\$55.00 – First Child

\$50.00 – additional Child

Registration forms are at the church exits.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

As you buy school supplies for the upcoming academic year or you see the sales for school items, think of our CCD Program and buy **one** extra item and bring it to church. Our children thank you!



What Do We Need ?? ... Markers (washable & permanent), Scissors, Colored Construction Paper, Glue, Glue Sticks, Crayons.

BISHOP JOHN BARRES ORDINATION VIDEO

To purchase a DVD of **Bishop John Barres'** Ordination and Installation Mass, send a check for \$10, payable to the Diocese of Allentown, to:

Installation Mass DVD
c/o Office of Communications
Diocese of Allentown
P.O. Box F
Allentown, PA 18105-1538

You will receive a DVD of the Mass in the mail. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

OFFICE OF LIFE MINISTRIES

Are You Celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in the year 2009? Celebrate this special occasion with your family and renew your vows with Bishop John O. Barres at the *30th Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass* on **Sunday, September 27th at 3 p.m.** at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown. Complete a registration form (found on poster at church) and mail to: Office of Family Life Ministries, 900 S. Woodward St., Allentown, Pa. 18103. Attn: Ruth Baker or call her to register at 610-289-8900 ext. 239 or e-mail her at Rbaker@allentowndiocese.org. **Deadline for registration is September 14th.**

WOMEN'S DAY OF SPIRITUALITY

Attention all Mothers, Daughters, Wives, Sisters, Girlfriends. The Commission for Women is sponsoring **Thirsting for Living Water**, a Day of Spirituality with award winning journalist and international speaker, Donna Marie Cooper O'Boyle on **September 19th** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Ave Maria Hall at St. Mary Church, Hamburg. She had a special relationship with Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and was a delegate to the Vatican on the 20th anniversary of *Mulieris Dignitatem*. The day will be filled with faith inspired talks, prayer and fellowship. A fee of \$15.00 includes lunch and light refreshments. Don't miss this opportunity to be renewed and refreshed in your faith. To register for the day, please call Office for Social Action at 610-289-8900 ext. 221 or access the registration form at: www.allentowndiocese.org/Catholic%20Life/Office%20for%20Social%20Action.htm

PRO-LIFE OFFICE: 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.

OFFICE FOR SOCIAL ACTION

Climate Change Justice and Health Initiative

"Catholic social teaching, which is rooted in scripture and the tradition of the Church, is an instrument of evangelization and expresses the social doctrine of the Church outlining ethical principles to guide the development of a morally just society. These principles are particularly applicable to the many challenging social, political, economic and ecological questions of our times. There are three themes from Catholic social teaching that apply in a particular way to the Church's concern for the environment. First, concern for the environment calls us to respect human life and dignity. Second, as the world becomes increasingly interdependent, we have a call to promote the common good and the virtue of solidarity. Finally, in caring for the environment, we have a special responsibility to the poor and vulnerable, who are most affected and least heard." *Why Does the Church Care About Global Climate Change?* United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. For a copy of this statement or more information about this issue, log on to www.usccb.org/sdwp/eip/climate/wcc.shtml or to join the Diocesan Legislative Advocacy Network, please call Office for Social Action 610-289-8900 x231

Awareness to Poverty – for Children

"Each of us has many opportunities in our everyday lives to make choices that help or harm those who are most vulnerable. In our families, we can make time to serve those in need and to become involved in efforts that promote justice." *A Place at the Table, U.S. Catholic Bishops 2002*

Help your children experience stories of people living in developing countries through the Catholic Relief Services Kids Website: http://www.crs.org/kids/index_flash.htm

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Before there were children, your spouse was #1. Couples need quiet time to nourish a healthy relationship. Spend "quality" time together at a Marriage Encounter. The next weekend is September 18-20 at Mariawald Retreat Center in Shillington. Call 1-800-787-7679 or go online at www.wwme-nepa.org for more information.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER: There's nothing cooler during the dog days of summer than showing your fiancé how much your love means by reserving a spot on an Engaged Encounter Weekend. Prepare for the lifetime *after* the big day. EE is sponsored by the Office of Family Life Ministries of the Diocese of Allentown. For more information and the schedule of weekends for 2009, call Joe or Mim Allison at 610-282-3083.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Practice continuing acts of thoughtfulness.

Experienced grief?

Struggled through it and now want to help others?

We would like to offer assistance from the caring parishioners of St. John's Parish Family in promoting healing through understanding, support and encouragement. Light the darkness for the grieving by reinvesting in life. If interested please call **Beth Smith 628-3859**. (Please leave a message if no answer).

WORLD YOUTH DAY

Save the Date!!! "We have set our HOPE on the Living God" (1 Tim. 4:10) All students in grades 6 – 12 are encouraged to participate in regional youth gatherings on **Saturday, October 24th** in celebration of World Youth Day, USA More information available at www.liveyourfaith.org or by contacting the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at 277-0123.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

LABOR DAY MASS at Castle Green Grotto on **September 7th at 10 a.m.**, located at 950 Valley Road, Minersville/Heckscherville Hwy. Refreshments served after Mass, bring your lawn chairs. Mass is dedicated to "all who came". Any questions please contact Bob 544-3658. Plenty of parking available at the Grotto.

FOOD FAIR & FLEA MARKET sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Church in St. Clair on Saturday, **September 12th** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Great homemade foods ... halupkie, haluskie, pot pie, barbecue, soups, chili, and more! Mouthwatering baked goods and unusual Flea Market Items; 50/50 chances and crafts ... free admission and everyone welcome.

WASHINGTON D.C. BUS TRIP sponsored by St. Michael the Archangel Church Guild in Minersville on **Tuesday, October 6th** ... Trip includes Guided Tour of the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, Tour of the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center and Mass at 4 p.m. with Fr. Sedar as celebrant; fabulous Dinner Buffet at the famous Phillips Harborplace Buffet, Baltimore, Md. All inclusive price of **\$75.00**. Please contact Mary Sninski 544-5046 for reservations. Bus departs St. Michael's at 6:45 a.m.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ... The Schuylkill County **Meals on Wheels** Program needs **YOU**. Please help the senior citizens in the Pottsville area remain in their homes by helping to prepare or delivering a hot, nutritious meal at noontime on Mondays, Wednesday, or Fridays. For more information please call: Meals on Wheels 570-624-3023 or 1-800-621-6325.

PRAYER CIRCLE

As part of St. John's Outreach Program, several parishioners have joined together to form a prayer circle.

We would like to join you in your prayer for yourself, another person, or other requests.

We will hold ourselves accountable to remember your intention on a daily basis.

Believing in the power of intercessory prayer and knowing the comfort it brings to have others' prayer joined to our own, we hope you will call when you have need.

By calling the contact person listed below with your request, the prayer circle will begin. Nothing more is required. Let us pray for one another.

Carol 739-2059

BULLETIN BOOSTERS

August 2009

Carl Bartholomew	Francis & Grace King
Harold Bartholomew	IMO Rita Klitsch
Robert & Kathleen Berger	Marie Melinchok
IMO Edward Christ	IMO Agnes & Felix Narog
Joe Christ	IMO Carol Nygren
Rev. Donald Henry	Jeanne Rehnert
IMO Herbert Henry	IMO Eugene Rehnert
Joanne Hepler	Paul & Dorothy Rosenberger
IMO Marie Homrighausen	Mrs. Marcie Schnerring
Sophia Kapsha	IMO Margaret Zelinsky

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.**

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.

NOTES FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

... . Janet

Daubert

To Stop a Nosebleed, sit up to allow gravity to lower pressure in the veins; tilt your head forward a bit to keep blood from running into your throat; and pinch the fleshy part of your nose between the bridge and nostril for 5 to 10 minutes, breathing through your mouth. Applying ice probably won't help, since it's the pressure, not the temperature, that stops the bleeding. As people get older they tend to get more nosebleeds because their mucous membranes become thinner; some medications may also dry the nose or "thin" the blood. Dry air can increase the risk, too. If you have frequent nosebleeds or difficulty stopping them, or if they make you feel faint, see your doctor.

Let us pray for all priests and seminarians, that they may more deeply appreciate the gift of their vocation and be bold in proclaiming the Gospel of Life through their daily partaking of the living bread that comes down from heaven.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

DI CELLO

Chiropractic

Dr. Christina DiCello

622-1170

www.dicellochiropractic.com

1825 W. Market St. Pottsville

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.

We lift up our prayers to our Blessed Mother who today was assumed into heaven. May the Mother of the Church guide and support all Church leaders with her maternal love.

