

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Having too many choices is confusing. A simple cup of coffee is now a menu of double-shot lattes or caramel macchiatos. For tea, don't even go there unless you want a berrychai tazo tea infusion.

Televisions may offer up to a thousand channels.

In this Sunday's gospel, Peter has no problem with choices. Jesus asks Peter, "Would you also like to leave?" There is only one option. There is only one answer. Peter says, "Lord, to whom should we go? You have the words that have eternal life."

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – August 24 – 9:00 a.m.

ROBERT V. SMITH (Jean Smith)

Tuesday – August 25 – 9:00 a.m.

DECEASED OF BOHR FAMILY

Wednesday – August 26 – 9:00 a.m.

MARY HILBERT TAMBURELLI

(Charles & Francis Tamburelli)

Thursday – August 27 – 9:00 a.m.

CATHERINE M. POST

Friday – August 28 - 9:00 a.m.

JOSEPH & RITA SCHWEICH

Saturday – August 29 – 5:00 p.m.

MARY & JOHN LESKO (Mary Connell)

Sunday – August 30 – 8:15 a.m.

EDWARD C. STOCK (Stock Children)

Sunday – August 30 – 10:30 a.m.

LINUS BORTZEL (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.*

CANDLE INTENTIONS

B.V.M – IMO Joseph & Vera Hudock

by Becky & Jane Weiss

St. Joseph – IMO Robert Zuppert by Carol Zuppert

Tabernacle – Deceased Family Members
& Michael Costello

Sanctuary Candles

1&2. Restoration of Health by Joan & Jimmie Florida

3&4. IMO Mary Kelly by Lawrence Kelly

Guardian Angels

1. IMO John & Mary Heller by Mimi Modesto

2. Special Intention by Maryanne Wychunas

SCHEDULE

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. — Saturday – August 29th

Readers: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Emily & Sam Synnott, Keifer Luckenbill

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – August 30th

Reader: Ian Hower

Euch.Min.: Michelle Rehnert, Bill Casey,
Michael Ambrose

Servers: Ben & Jack Hower, Grace Casey

Cantor: Karen Glunz

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – August 30th

Reader: Randi Dermo

Euch.Min.: Debbie Herb, Alison Foura, Albert Nastasi

Servers: Megan Ryan, Mary Beth Rissinger,
Madison Buckingham

Cantor: Dave Derbes

MARRIED IN CHRIST

We extend our warmest congratulations to

Nicholas J. Fanelli and Tracie Ann Watson

who were joined in Holy Matrimony on
August 15th in the presence of Father Dave.

They are called now to total dedication to

each other. May their love each day draw them closer to
God and to each other.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Which of Jesus' sayings do you find hard?

READINGS

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 29/30)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Reading II: James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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).

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

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

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.

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.

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

Vacation for Families. God bless our parish families with a fun-filled vacation and safe travel to and from their destinations. May they be rejuvenated in their family relationships and return relaxed and nourished in body and spirit.

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

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 !!!

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.

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.

Let us pray for all marriages, that all married couples may be strengthened in faith and love and through their reverence for Christ be at the service of life.

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!

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.

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. Please call the Rectory 622-5470.

\$55.00 – First Child

\$50.00 – additional Child

Registration forms are at the church exits.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD)
 VOLUNTEERS NEED**

Name _____

Phone _____

Please check one:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teachers | <input type="checkbox"/> Aide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Absentee Monitor | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substitute Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Coach |

**** Please return to the Rectory or Lucilla Kochol ****

**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.

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.

Sunday, October 18th – 1 to 4 p.m.
at Sts. Peter & Paul in Lehigh

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.

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

POSITION AVAILABLE

A part-time maintenance position is available at Nativity BVM High School. Hours are 12 noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to apply, contact Mr. Bruce R. Hess, Principal at 622-8110.

"May He give to all of you a heart to worship Him and to do His will readily and generously." 2 Maccabees 1

WELCOME VISITORS

*Thank you for worshipping 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.*

HEALTH CARE REFORM

From a letter dated July 17, 2009, sent to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate by Bishop William F. Murphy, Diocese of Rockville Centre, Chairman, Committee Domestic Justice and Human Development

..... For decades, the Catholic bishops of the United States have been and continue to be consistent advocates for comprehensive health care reform that leads to health care for all, including the weakest and most vulnerable. We have in the past and we always must insist that health care reform excludes abortion coverage or any other provisions that threaten the sanctity of life

The Catholic bishops of the United States offer the following criteria for fair and just health care reform. Health care reform needs to reflect basic ethical principles. We offer these as a guide:

- A truly universal health policy with respect for human life and dignity
- Access for all with a special concern for the poor and inclusion of legal immigrants
- Pursuing the common good and preserving pluralism including freedom of conscience and variety of options and
- Restraining costs and applying them equitably across the spectrum of payers

For more information, please access www.usccb.org/jphd ... Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development.

NETWORK

A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
A Catholic leader in the global movement for justice and peace – educates, organizes and lobbies for economic and social transformation.

**look for Action Alerts ...
visit www.networklobby.org**

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

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 the 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.**

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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Before summer ends, decide on a *get-away for just the 2 of you*. Make time to re-charge your relationship at a **Marriage Encounter**. The next weekend is September 18-20 at Mariawald Retreat Center in Shillington. Call 800-787-7679 or go online at www.wwme-nepa.org for more information.

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."

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 come". Any questions please contact Bob 544-3658. Plenty of parking available at the Grotto.

END-OF-SUMMER PICNIC sponsored by St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville on **Sunday, September 6th** from 12 noon until 10 p.m. at the South Cass Fire Co. picnic grounds in Primrose. Delicious ethnic and picnic foods, baked goods, crafts, bingo, games of skill and chance. Entertainment all day. All are most welcome!

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.

RENEWING THE EARTH

"At its core, the environmental crisis is a moral challenge. It calls us to examine how we use and share the goods of the earth, what we pass on to future generations, and how we live in harmony with God's creation." (U.S.Catholic Bishops, *Renewing the Earth*).

REMEMBER: Cell Phone Numbers Go Public Next Month

All cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls.

YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THESE CALLS

To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone: **888-382-1222** ... it is the National DO NOT CALL list. It will only take a minute of your time. It blocks your number for five (5) years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked. You cannot call from a different phone number. Help others by passing this on to all your friends ... it takes about 20 seconds.

SUNDAY'S CHILDREN PRE-SCHOOL



Sunday Pre-School will begin soon. Classes are held in Longinus Hall during 10:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday. All parish children ages 3 to 6 (and not yet in 1st grade) are eligible for this program. The children are given an opportunity to interact with other children while learning about God through stories, music, activities and games. The children will also be provided with a small snack each week. A **\$12.00 Registration Fee** to cover the costs of the lessons, supplies, and snacks is required for each child upon registration. *All children attending classes must be registered.* Any questions, please contact the Rectory 622-5470.

Please drop Registration Form and Fee in the collection basket or send to the rectory as soon as possible.

SUNDAY PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Allergies, please list _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Parent's Response: I can help in the following ways:

_____ Teacher _____ Aide _____ Greeter

_____ Musician _____ Snacks _____ Storyteller

*** \$12.00 Registration Fee must accompany form***

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy takes place at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in Longinus Hall. During this time, children in grades 1, 2, 3 listen to the Sunday Readings in their own words and try to apply the words of Jesus to their own lives.



We would like to broaden and expand our program, so we need greeters, storytellers, musicians, as well as those who want to aid in these areas.

The Gospel **needs you** -- will you say yes? For more information, call the **Rectory 622-5470**.

Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Parents _____

Donation: \$ 10.00

CANDLE DONATION

Please list intentions

\$5 - Blessed Mother's Statue _____

\$5 - St. Joseph's Statue _____

\$5 - Tabernacle Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Sanctuary Light _____

\$5 - Guardian Angel _____

\$5 - Guardian Angel _____

Donor's Name _____

The week I wish the above is _____ or write "any" if it doesn't matter. We shall try to schedule your intention as close to the date requested as possible. Please put this form along with your donation in the collection basket, mail or drop off at the rectory.

NOTES FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

.... . Janet

Daubert

If you get your teeth bleached, the laser or other light source often used may not be necessary – and may even be harmful, according to a study in a journal from the Royal Society of Chemistry. Researchers in Norway, who tested the effects of bleaching with and without light, found that in six out of seven cases, using the lamp did not increase the degree of tooth whitening compared to the bleach alone. Moreover, the light from the lamps (which emit ultraviolet radiation) can reflect and scatter to other parts of the mouth and face – and to the eyes, if eye protection is not used or is inadequate. And the skin in the mouth may be even more sensitive to ultraviolet rays than skin elsewhere. We advise against light-assisted tooth bleaching – but if it's done, make sure your skin and eyes are properly protected.

We pray this week for the parents who find themselves alone as their children embark on their own life's journey. May these parents enjoy the fruits of their life's labor as they watch their children grow.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. It is preferable that this be done **before** your baby is born.

Please call Sister Maryanne to arrange for this important preparation.

Baptisms are celebrated the First Sunday of each month at 11:30 a.m.; Second Sunday during 10:30 a.m. Mass.

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.



WEEKLY COLLECTION

August 16th: \$ 5,450.50; **Assumption:** \$ 1,172.00
We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

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

