

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Despite the fact that Jesus said people "will not separate what God has joined together", men and women are doing a lot of separating these days. Studies say that nearly half of the marriages in the United States end in divorce.

More and more unmarried couples are just living together. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, thirty-eight percent of all first births are to unmarried couples.

Our church teaches that God is the author of marriage. Marriage is one of the seven sacraments; it is the divine institution that can never be broken. It makes one wonder how we have strayed so far from what God willed for us.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – October 5 – 9:00 a.m.

DANIEL FOX (Pat, Missy & Amy Scheetz)

Tuesday – October 6 – 9:00 a.m.

ROBERT HORNING (Spece Family)

Wednesday – October 7 – 9:00 a.m.

LOIS MATZ (Gloria Ridge)

Thursday – October 8 – 9:00 a.m.

ALOYSIUS & THERESA WOLLYUNG

Friday – October 9 – 9:00 a.m.

BRIDGET CURRAN (Gloria Ridge)

Saturday – October 10 – 5:00 p.m.

MR. & MRS. ANTHONY KUSHMANIK

(John & Mary Jean Morgalis)

Sunday – October 11 – 8:15 a.m.

JOHN & GRETCHEN LIEBERMAN FAMILY

(Lieberman Family)

Sunday – October 11 – 10:30 a.m.

JOSEPHINE PARSICK (Daughters)

Tuesday – October 6 @ York Terrace Nursing Home

IRENE A. POST

CANDLE INTENTIONS

B.V.M. – IMO Geraldine Haney by Esther Smith

St. Joseph – IMO Bob & Babe Becker

by Mary & Bob Porter

Tabernacle – IMO Robert & Agatha Porter

by Mary & Bob Porter

Sanctuary Candles All Sanctuary Candles

IMO Harry & Carol Nygren by Joe Christ

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Vito Sitkus by Rosemary Malocu

WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 27th: \$ 5,194.57

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

SCHEDULE

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – October 10th

Readers: Mary Sitcoske

Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Madeline Consugar, Madison Buckingham,
Anthony Wojciechowsky

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – October 11th

Reader: Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace, John Corbacio, Sharon Snyder

Servers: Emilie Baker, Michael Fetterolf, Claudia Rittle

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – October 11th

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Charlie Miller, John Ventura, (Dr. Visot)

Servers: Molly Zwiebel, Christopher Hunt,

Maeve Stoudt

Cantor: Suzette Joy



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

This week we welcome the following to St. John's Parish Family

Brianna Dunham of 516 E. Arch St. in Pottsville has recently joined our parish family. Brianna has a newborn daughter, Azja.

Brenda Hartmon who lives at 226 Arnot St. in Saint Clair. Brenda is a Eucharistic Minister and is in the Army National Guard at Indiantown Gap

Michelle Leddy, her daughter **Caitlyn** and son, **Dylan** of 322 E. Arch St., Pottsville. Michelle is interested in scouting and is a Den Mother.

Warmly embrace these families into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's Hospitality.

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, Rosalia Campion, Margaret Pfluger, Francis King, Maryann Wychunas, Edward Wychunas, Donald Bound, Matthew Mazakas, Loretta Lonoskie, John Woznicki, Faye Cuchara, Dot Elison, Jean Hill, Dolores Brophy, Joseph Tuite, Eleanore Forney, Loretta & Harold Raybould.* **Deceased:** *Albert Yanushefsky*

ATTENTION

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... your help is needed ... please let us know your plans for **November & December** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call Father Dave by Monday, October 19th to let him know when you

are **NOT** available during these months. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

PARISH RETREAT

"Give Yourself the Gift of Time"

Come to the St. John's Parish Retreat

When: Saturday, October 24th

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: Mariawald Renewal Center in Reading

Get together with your friends in the parish for a relaxing day in a beautiful setting with great speakers including Father Fred Ardinger and Sister Maryanne Also, there will be time for prayer and reflection. It's a great way to grow in your spiritual life.

It's **FREE** ! Lunch and light refreshments will be provided. Carpooling available if you don't wish to drive.

We are limited to 50 people so please sign up by calling the Rectory 622-5470 or sign-up in the back of church this weekend. Deadline for sign-ups is October 5th!

Join us at the Retreat for a day ... Take time to leave the hectic pace of constant doing ...

"Mariawald is like a Spa for the Soul."

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

PRACTICAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." Gen.2:18

The recent beatification of Luigi and Maria Beltrame Quattrocchi, the first husband and wife to be beatified as a couple, highlights the greater emphasis placed on the sacredness of marriage in the last four decades or so.

The church has long regarded marriage as a covenant between husband and wife, one that reflects the covenant between Christ and his church and which in turn harks back to the covenant God established with Abraham in Genesis.

In the first chapter of Genesis we are told that Adam and Eve (and all of mankind) were created in the image and likeness of God. We are in the image of God not only through the gift of our intellect and free will, through our ability to know and to choose, but also through our ability to possess ourselves and then give ourselves to another person, forming a communion of persons in love... reflecting the Trinity, who is love in a communion of persons.

"Man became the 'image and likeness' of God not only through his own humanity, but also through the communion of persons which man and woman form right from the beginning...

Man becomes the *image of God* not so much in the moment of solitude as *in the moment of communion.* (TOB Nov. 14,1979) p. 46

http://www.jp2.info/Theology_of_the_Body.pdf

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**How does your parish support married couples?
How does it embrace those who are separated or divorced?**

READINGS

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 3/4)

Reading I: Genesis 2:18-24

Reading II: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 10/11)

Reading I: Wisdom 7:7-11

Reading II: Hebrews 4:12-13

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

FAMILY MATTERS

Grieving Parents. Please pray today for parents who are grieving the loss of their child. Help them to find peace and comfort in their lives. We pray that God's love and healing power will give them the mercy and strength needed to relieve their pain.

FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

For parents who have lost a child through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth or in early infancy, please join us at the **Remembrance Mass on Sunday, October 18th at 3 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church**, Rev. Msgr. Edward O'Connor will be the celebrant. For more information, or to register, call 610-289-8900 x 230 for the Office of Pro-Life Activities. All families are invited. (Registration is *not required* but *requested* for planning for the social al, which follows the Mass. You may register anonymously with just a number attending).

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!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
Psalm 95:3

R. C. I. A.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming Catholic or in updating and deepening their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Are you interested in deepening your own faith? Or do you know anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Please invite them to join us. Have them call St. John's Rectory, 622-5470, to register for the RCIA sessions. All are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions!

RCIA Schedule

October 8th – at St. John's

Introduction to Scripture ... Dr. Luis R. Visot

October 15th - at St. John's

Scripture ... Dr. Luis R. Visot

October 22nd – at St. John's

Places and Practices ... Father Dave

October 29th – at St. Michael the Archangel

Who is Jesus? ... Father Adam Sedar

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

You are cordially invited to a Very Special Tea Party

Date: Saturday, October 10, 2009

Time: 10:00AM-noon

Place: Salem United Methodist Church
South Liberty Street, Orwigsburg, PA

Bring your favorite tea cup...

Tea, Muffins, Scones, and Fruit provided.



I will never leave you, nor forsake you.

This interdenominational event has been planned by women from various local churches who have been urged on by the Spirit.

RSVP by Monday, October 5 to ...

Debbie Herb 544-5646 or Kim Willier 622-6139

Free Will Offering

The "ARMATA BIANCA"

(A Youth Prayer Hour)

Who can attend? Anyone under 18 or the young at heart!

When: Every second Sunday of the month from 9 to 10 a.m.

What do we do? Adoration, Prayer, Rosary, and Reading the Bible.

Where: The Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel (next to St. Patrick's Church).

It is a time for the youth or young at heart to pray and adore in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Come for a half hour or the entire time. Contact Rachael Kubick at 581-6109 or rachael3764@yahoo.com. Future dates are:

October 11th, November 8th, December 13th

... *If we love one another, God lives in us.* 1 John 4:12

"SUNDAYS AT THE WELL"

Returns this Fall!

October 11, 18, 26, November 1

9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

in the Chapel in Longinus Hall

All Adults are invited to ...

Foundational Topics of Christianity

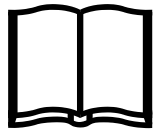
For all those who are new to the parish, the "Sundays at the Well" are St. John's adult classes offered to enliven and strengthen your faith. Join us to experience interesting topics listed below. After a DVD Presentation there will be insightful and practical discussions that will deepen the meaning of your daily life.

Topics will include ... **Conversion and the Virtues of Faith, Hope and Love.**

Sign up at the exits to the church or call the Rectory at 622-5470.

MASS INTENTION BOOK

The Mass Intention Book for the year 2010 will open Wednesday, October 14th. Masses can be scheduled beginning at **9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room** of the Rectory. Scheduling will be done on a first-come, first-serve basis. Due to the backlog of Masses we already have from the past year, each person will be able to schedule three Masses only - additional Mass requests may be sent to the Missions. The remaining dates will be used to schedule previously requested Masses as well as keep dates open for those who will be deceased in the year 2010.



PLEASE NOTE

The Mass Intention Book for 2010 will be open for one week only - October 14 to 21 - all Masses must be scheduled during this week. No scheduled Mass Intentions will be taken after October 21st

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: For those struggling to Find God in Their Families God is in the ordinary events of our family life. All we need to do is look. We ask that the Spirit of God enlighten our families to see His presence in our loved ones and in the quiet or tumultuous moments of family life.

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."

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The **11th Annual Christmas Bazaar** will be here before you know it ... **November 14 & 15.**

Preview weekend -- November 7 & 8

We can use new and or unused items for our baskets. We can use almost anything, big or small and not necessarily Christmas items, although those are always appreciated.



Please drop your items off in Longinus Hall marked "Christmas Bazaar" by October 24th.

If you or your family would like to donate a basket, we would like to know the theme as soon as possible before **October 24th.**

So many families donated baskets last year that it was wonderful to see the spirit of St. John's shine through. Of course, if you have craft items that you've made, we'd love to have them as well!

Thanks for your support and prayers.

As always, monetary donations are greatly appreciated and helping hands at the Bazaar are always welcome. If you can help or you have questions, please call **Pat Scheetz 622-7973 or the Rectory 622-5470.**



For those who may not know, most of our Bazaar operates like a Chinese Auction. We do have some crafts and of course, **FOOD!**

This is a great way to get involved in a fun fundraiser for the parish and to meet other people. If interested, please call **Pat Scheetz 622-7973 or the Rectory 622-5470.**

WINE / CHEESE / SNACK BASKETS



If you would like to donate wine, cheese, or snacks for our Wine/Snack Baskets for this year's Christmas Bazaar, please drop off your donation at the Rectory during the week.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

"We have set our hope on the living God" (1 Tim.4:10)
Students in grades 6 – 12 are invited to participate in WYD 2009 on **Saturday, October 24th** from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Students will gather in three diocesan locations for prayer, Catholic Social Teaching and hands-on service. Visit www.liveyourfaith.org for registration materials. (Sponsored by the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry and supported by the Strengthening Our Future in Faith Campaign)

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We wish to thank the following for their donations ...

Dot Bound	Crocheted Hangers
Father Dave	Coffee Basket
Marie Flynn	Knitted hats, scarves, ponchos
Joanne Hepler	\$50.00
Diane Herring	Bountiful Baking Basket
Jacob Herring	Cleaning Supplies Bucket/Basket
Ric & Sue Jochems	Pamper Basket, 3 Angels
Pat Kutch	Christmas Wreath, Baking Basket
Edie McDonough	Handmade Jewelry
Kathy Norkus	Wine Baskets
Gene Pedriani	Christmas CD's
John&Bernice Petock	Child's Craft Basket
Renee Reddington	Knitted Berets & Sweaters
Dot Rosenberger	Animated Snowman
Kay Russell/Doris Schultz	Bath & Body Basket
	Crocheted Dishcloths
	Christmas ornaments
Barbara Schoenauer	Handmade Jewelry Bags
	Baby Snugglies, Coasters,
	Pillow Cases
Janet Thomas	Rainy Day Basket
Ruth Weidler	Handmade Lap Blanket
	Care Bear Pillow



COACHES CLINIC

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. The next Clinic is scheduled for:

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

CYO J.V. VOLLEYBALL

Scheduled Games

Wednesday, October 7th – 6 p.m.
St. John's vs St. Stephen's at All Saints



LIFE IS PRECIOUS AND SO, SO FRAGILE

All Saints Catholic School will host a meeting for all parents/grandparents of children ages 7 to 17 on **Tuesday, October 6th at 7 p.m.** The topic will focus on risky behaviors becoming more prevalent in our world. All are welcome! Please call the school at 622-0106 so we can be sure to provide adequate space. *Please, no children, due to the sensitive nature of the material and discussion.*

Let us pray for all married couples that they may express ever more fully the generous love of God, especially by joyfully accepting the great blessing of children.

MONTHLY PARISH

BREAKFAST

Sunday, October 11th

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Russell Building

Menu includes: Ham, Bacon, Sausage,
Homefries, Scrapple, Pancakes, French Toast,
Eggs to order, Beverages.
A la carte menu available.
Prices: \$4.00 to \$8.00

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Emergency Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food such as peanut butter, soup, tuna, pasta, sauce and cereal. Donations are accepted at the Schuylkill/Carbon Office, 13 Westwood Center, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information, please call Dave 628-0466.

Counseling & Behavioral Health Program is accepting Medical Assistance/Health Choices Insurance for residents of Schuylkill County. Traditional Highmark Blue Shield and Blue Cross are accepted for residents of any county. Please contact the Schuylkill/Carbon service office at 13 Westwood Road, Pottsville 628-0466.

Immigration Program assists with legalization of status, family reunification, and citizenship. Please call for service in English or Spanish, 610-435-1541 in Allentown or 610-376-7144 in Reading.

Financial and Legal Issues about Nursing Homes and Long Term Care, a free workshop for consumers and caregivers at St. Michael the Archangel Parish Center, 541 Sunbury St., Minersville on Wednesday, **October 14th from 6:30 to 9 p.m.** For registration and directions please call 628-0466 by October 12th.

Parenting Education Class at St. Matthew the Evangelist Parish School, 301 Heffner St., Minersville on **October 16th from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Lunch provided. Topics include child development stages, nutrition, health and safety, parenting stress management. For more information, directions, registration, please call Mary or Jule Ann before October 14th at 628-0466.

RENEWING THE EARTH

"For believers, our faith is tested by our concern and care for creation" (U.S.Catholic Bishops, *Renewing the Earth*).

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

DABBER BINGO sponsored by St. Stanislaus, St. Casimir & St. Stephen Parishes on **Thursday, October 8th** and every second and third Thursday of every month at St. Casimir Church Hall in Shenandoah. Doors open 5 p.m. Proceeds benefit Trinity Academy Parish. For more information contact the parish office at 462-1968.

OKTOBERFEST 2009 presented by the Pottsville Club on **Friday, October 9th at 6 p.m.**, featuring the Rhinelander Band 7 until 10 p.m. Buffet includes Kasespatzle, Jagerschnitzel, Bratwurst & Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Sweet & Sour Cabbage with apples, German Chicken & Biscuit Bake, Black Forest Cake. Adults \$30.00; Children (12 and under) \$12.95. Price includes free beer, tax and gratuity. For more information, please call 622-3850. All are welcome!

ANNUAL FATHER WALTER J. CISZEK MASS will be held at St. Casimir Church in Shenandoah on **Sunday, October 11th** at 2 p.m. **The Most Rev. John O. Barres, Bishop of Allentown**, will be the main celebrant and homilist. Please join us as we will be praying for Father Walter J. Ciszek's Canonization to Sainthood and for the special miracle you may be in need of. Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after Mass.

CHINESE AUCTION sponsored by St. Ambrose Parish will be held Sunday, October 18th. Doors open 9:30 a.m. Auction begins 2 p.m. If you cannot attend, you can Bid & Browse on Saturday, October 17th from 4 to 8 p.m. Great food, fun, prizes. For more information, please call Donna Wills 366-3604.

5K WALK / RUN: Dare to be aware. Diabetes doesn't have to be scary ... **Saturday, October 31st** at Bubeck Park, Stoyer's Dam in Schuylkill Haven. Pre-Registration is encouraged. First 100 registered receive a free event T-shirt. For more information contact Debbie Herb, Co-ordinator of Community Education 621-5047.

NEW YORK BUS TRIP sponsored by St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville on **Wednesday, November 18th** to see Irving Berlin's White Christmas. Cost \$180 which includes transportation, show and dinner. For reservations and information, please call St. Patrick's Rectory 622-1802.



Win \$10,000 in time for Christmas: St. Peter's Church in Reading is selling raffle tickets good for a chance to win one of 101 cash prizes worth \$25,000 with the grand prize \$10,000. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold. For your chance send a stamped self-addressed envelope along with \$20.00 per ticket to St. Peter Church, 322 S. 5th St., Reading, Pa. 19602. **Drawing is December 5th** and winners need not be present.

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.*

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRIES

Are you Separated / Divorced? Need time to reflect and pray? Join us for an Evening of Reflection and Discussion for the Separated & Divorced on Monday, October 19th from 7 to 9 p.m. at Assumption BVM Jubilee Center in Bethlehem. Our theme is *Drawing Closer to God – During Challenging Times*. To register call Ruth Baker 610-289-8900 ext. 239 or email at Rbaker@allentowndiocese.org

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: "So they are no longer two but one flesh ... what God has joined together, no human being must separate." Jesus' words *make holy the vows of marriage*. Attending a Marriage Encounter can help couples strengthen the bonds of their marriage for life's journey. Register today for the upcoming weekend, November 6 – 8 at St. Francis Friary, Easton, by calling 800-787-7679 or online at www.wwme-nepa.org

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.

OVER 50" CLUB

St. John's "Over 50 Club" will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 6th** at 1 p.m. We welcome and encourage new members. We play bingo, board games, cards, etc. and light refreshments are always available. For more information, please call the rectory 622-5470.

FAMILY GUILD

The **Family Guild** is a small organization which sponsors activities for the elementary school students of the parish.

Through our fundraising efforts we sponsor two spiritual based programs throughout the year. The programs are the Lent Event and the Advent-ure.

The **Family Guild** also strives to make the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation a little more special for our children by purchasing gifts and providing flowers for these joyous occasions.

If you would like to become more involved within the parish and be a positive influence in the spiritual lives of our parish youth, consider joining the **Family Guild**. We always welcome a new face among us.

If interested please call the **Rectory 622-5470**.

**Our next meeting is ...
Tuesday, October 13th – 7 p.m.
in the Rectory Fellowship Room**

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

... . Janet

Daubert

About one-third of Americans over 40 have an inner ear dysfunction that can throw them off balance and greatly increases the risk of falling, according to a recent study by Johns Hopkins University researchers, who tested more than 5,000 people. The risk increases with age: for instance, those in their seventies are four times more likely to be affected than those in their fifties, and 85% of people over 80 have such a balance problem. Diabetes, which can damage the inner ear, increases the risk by 70%. If you are over 60, ask your doctor to check your sense of balance, and if it is impaired, take steps to prevent falls at home.

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)
