

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's gospel warns us of the dangers of losing our faith. Jesus uses the example of plucking out our offending eye if it prevents us from entering the Kingdom of God.

This reminds me of the story about two seniors who married in their eighties. On their wedding night the man sat watching his new wife prepare for bed. She first removed her glass eye and put it in a box. She took out her teeth and they went in the box as well. She next unscrewed her prosthetic leg: finally her wig came off and it all went into the box. The man cried, "I don't know whether to get into bed or into the box!"

For us, there is always excess baggage that we need to get rid of. We need to throw our sinful habits and vices into the box in order to prepare ourselves to enter heaven.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday – September 28 – 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE L. KLASSEN JR. (Anna Mae Boffenmyer)

Tuesday – September 29 – 9:00 a.m.

THOMAS P. ZAHARIS (Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Wednesday – September 30 – 9:00 a.m.

ROBERT ZUPPERT (Ed & Frances Misstishin)

Thursday – October 1 – 9:00 a.m.

DOROTHY MYLNECK (Nancy Lecher & Family)

Friday – October 2 - 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE MINCHOFF (Rita Lotz)

Saturday – October 3 – 5:00 p.m.

VINCENT J. SCHULTZ (Bob & Kay Russell)

Sunday – October 4 – 8:15 a.m.

CHARLES & CATHERINE SCHAEFFER

(Maria Schaeffer)

Sunday – October 4 – 10:30 a.m.

BASTINA NICASTRO (Chiplonia Family)

CANDLE INTENTIONS

B.V.M – IMO R.J. Post by parents, Bob & Irene Post

St. Joseph – For John & Jeremy Cantwell

by John & Susan Cantwell

Tabernacle – IMO Cantwell & Roberts Families

by John & Susan Cantwell

Sanctuary Candles

1&2. Health & Welfare of Mary Ann Wychunas

by Helen Heimbaugh

3. IMO Richard H. Weiss by Jane & Becky Weiss

4. IMO For Brigid, Tierney & Rory Cantwell

by John & Susan Cantwell

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO George L. Klassen Jr.

by Pat & Charlene Klassen

SCHEDULE

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. — Saturday – October 3rd

Readers: Mary Ann Schweikert

Euch.Min.: Bill Schweikert, Christopher Lombel

Servers: Michael, Rachel, Megan Ryan

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – October 4th

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: Albert Nastasi, George Forney, Pat Lombel

Servers: Sarah Lombel, Amanda Nastasi,

Michael Wollyung

Cantor: Debbie Purcell

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – October 4th

Reader: Rachael Kubick

Euch.Min.: Phil Markovich, Debbie Guers,

Michelle Rehnert

Servers: Casey & Paige Guers, Mary Beth Rissinger

Cantor: Dave Derbes

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY



This week we welcome **Dr. Thomas & Kay Boran** and their children, **Patricia, Thomas Jr., Jacqueline and Mark**. Dr. Boran is an ENT physician and Kay is an R.N. Patricia is a college student and Thomas, Jacqueline and Mark attend Blue Mt. School District. Warmly embrace the **Boran** Family 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, Kelly Lecher*

HOLY MASS

WITH BISHOP JOHN O. BARRES

On Wednesday, September 30th, Bishop John O. Barres will visit the Schuylkill County Deanery and offer Holy Mass for our people at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. There are no tickets. There will be a reception with light refreshments after the Mass in the St. Patrick's Parish Center. Members of all parish choirs are invited to participate in the choir. Please see Father Dave for more information.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Where do you see evil in the world?
How do you respond?

READINGS

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 26/27)

Reading I: Numbers 11:25-29

Reading II: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

PRACTICAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE WORD OF GOD

"Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward."

Today is the feast of St. Vincent de Paul.

Through his inspiration the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded. This Mission Statement is:

"Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization that leads people to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering."

Founded in 1833 by six university students in Paris under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul, today the Society includes almost 900,000 members spread among 46,000 confraternities in 130 countries of five continents.

The Society's purpose is to provide direct aid to those who suffer, and to help individuals reduce and even eliminate the causes of their suffering, themselves. Society members use their own resources, sharing not only possessions but the valuable gift of their presence.

Visit: <http://www.svdpusa.org/>

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)

"And we know that all things work together for good to Them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Rom. 8:28

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 2nd!

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."

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 1st – at St. Patrick's

Trinity ... Karen Powers

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

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Eccl.3:11

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

ROSARY FOR LIFE

When: Sunday, September 27th

(and every fourth Sunday of the month)

Time: 9:15 a.m.

Where: here at 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

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

RENEWING THE EARTH

"The human family is charged with preserving the beauty, diversity, and integrity of nature, as well as with fostering its productivity. Yet, God alone is sovereign over the whole earth" (U.S.Catholic Bishops, *Renewing the Earth*).

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.

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.*

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.

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

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 Lehighton

CYO J.V. VOLLEYBALL

Scheduled Games

Wednesday, September 30th – 6:30 p.m.

St. John's vs Good Shepherd at Good Shepherd



PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

Sacred Heart Parish in Palmerton will host a *Protecting God's Children Workshop* on **Thursday, October 1st from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** The workshop will last approximately three hours. Registration is mandatory. **This workshop is necessary for any adult who will be working in any way with our youth.**

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

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

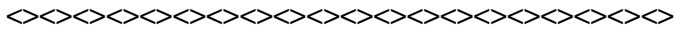
SUNDAY'S CHILDREN PRE-SCHOOL



Sunday Pre-School will begin September 27 (today). 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.

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



SUNDAY PRE-SCHOOL

Child's Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Allergies, please list _____

Father's Name _____

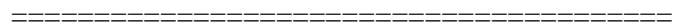
Mother's Maiden Name _____

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

_____ Teacher _____ Aide _____ Greeter

_____ Musician _____ Snacks _____ Storyteller

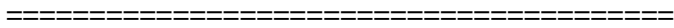
- **\$12.00 Registration Fee must accompany form***



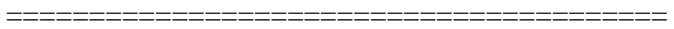
FAMILY MATTERS

Addictions in Families. We pray for those who are burdened with an addiction, that they may find the strength to overcome their dependency and find a fulfilling relationship with God.

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



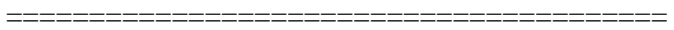
PRO-LIFE OFFICE: Do you seek healing from a past abortion experience either recent or many years ago? Call 1-866-3Rachel, the confidential Project Rachel Hotline, for information about compassionate post-abortion counseling and reconciliation and Rachel's Vineyard Retreats.



WEEKLY COLLECTION

September 20th: \$ 6,464.75

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.



Pray without ceasing.1 Ths. 5:17

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.



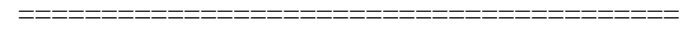
Child's Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____ Phone _____

Allergies, please list _____

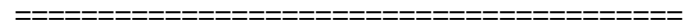
Parents _____

- **\$10.00 Registration Fee must accompany form***
Please drop in the collection basket or send to the rectory as soon as possible.



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).



WOMEN'S DAY 2009

.... Presented by **Schuylkill Health**

When: Saturday, October 3, 2009

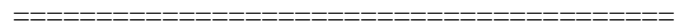
Where: Schuylkill Medical Center – S. Jackson St. School of Nursing Building, Multi Purpose Room 450 Washington Street, Pottsville

Time: Day begins with breakfast at 8:00 a.m., along with a morning stretch. Educational and Inspirational Speakers, Massage, Entertainment and Lunch; ending at approximately 2:45 PM.

Registration Required.

Please RSVP to Debbie Herb at 570-621-5047

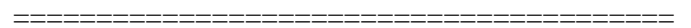
Program is FREE of charge.



THANK YOU

St. John's wishes to thank *Pine Creek Country Gardens* for donating the beautiful Fall mums and flowers that decorate our church and rectory.

Thank you also, to *Rose Schimpf* for her time and talent in decorating the church sanctuary this Fall season.



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.

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.

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.



... Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ... Matt. 11:28

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

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

Edie McDonough	Handmade Jewelry
Father Dave	Coffee Basket
Marie Flynn	Knitted hats, scarfs, ponchos
Kathy Norkus	Wine Baskets
Gene Pedriani	Christmas CD's
John&Bernice Petock	Child's Craft Basket
Renee Reddington	Knitted Berets & Sweaters
Kay Russell/Doris Schultz	Bath & Body Basket
	Crocheted Dishcloths
	Christmas ornaments
Barbara Schoenauer	Handmade Jewelry Bags
	Baby Snugglies, Coasters,
	Pillow Cases
Ruth Weidler	Handmade Lap Blanket
	Care Bear Pillow

gEnEsi 1's Update

The **Kick Off Party** was a lot of fun! About **40 teens** and **20 adults** attended with excellent weather. We had face painting, a water balloon battle, a piñata, we made bracelets, and played sports, especially volleyball! Thank you to all who came out.

A big thank you to the **parents** and **teens** who donated drinks and desserts or helped with set-up and clean-up!

An exceptional thank you to **Christy Joy Catering** who provided the facility and food *free of charge!* Everything was delicious and the place was perfect. Also, a special thank you to **Hadesty's** who gave us the moon bounce at a nicely discounted price! The moon bounce was cool. It had a climb, slide, and basketball net.

Our next event ...

HAYriDe! (without the hay)

sponsored by **Pine Creek Country Gardens**

When: Sunday, October 25th at 6 p.m. if weather permits.

Who: Anyone in 6th thru 12th grades and any chaperones (friends always welcome)

Where: Pine Creek Country Gardens
Enjoy hotdogs and marshmallows on the campfire.
contact info...

New Email Address: **genesis1yg@aim.com.**

AOL Instant Messenger: **genesis1yg**

Rachael Kubick's **#570-581-6109**

Facebook: search "**Rachael Kubick**"

RSVP by Oct 18th @ 8 pm

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

HARVEST FEST '09 sponsored by St. Mary's Church in Hamburg on **Friday, October 2nd** (4 to 9 p.m.) and **Saturday, October 3** (1 to 9 p.m.). Homemade Food, Entertainment, Chances, Games and Family fun. Find our parish link and directions www.hamburgpa.org (churches) or call the parish office for more information 610-561-7657.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS hosted by St. Patrick's Parish, Pottsville, in honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron Saint of Animals on **Saturday, October 3rd at 11 a.m.** Bring your pets and join us on the grounds of Calvary Cemetery on Hillside for this annual celebration of all God's creatures. Rain or shine. If it rains, we'll go under the chapel canopy.



SPAGHETTI DINNER sponsored by St. Patrick's Church on **Sunday, October 4th** from 11:30 a.m. til 3 p.m. at the Parish Center, 313 Mahantongo St. Adults \$7.00; Children \$3.00. Everyone welcome. Take-outs available.



BREAKFAST BUFFET to be held **Sunday, October 4th** at the Immaculate Conception Social Hall, Caroline Ave. 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

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.

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. For more information, please call 622-3850.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

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.

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 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.

LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH

Help to ensure the future of our Catholic faith through Estate Planning. There are several types of plans and many of these have wonderful benefits for donors. Please contact our office for more information. If you have already left the Diocese of Allentown a parish, school or Catholic Charities a gift in your Will, please let us know so that we may include you in our **Diocesan Legacy Society**.

For additional information, contact the Diocesan Office of Development at P.O. Box F, Allentown 18101 or phone (610) 871-5200 ext. 215.
