

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

There is an old saying, *"Always forgive your enemies. Nothing annoys them more."*

In this Sunday's gospel we are told to turn the other cheek, to love in the face of hatred. The real spirit of Jesus' teaching is in the Beatitudes; *"Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."* St. Francis of Assisi said, *"While you are proclaiming peace with your lips be careful to have it even more fully in your heart."*

And not too many years ago Caesar Chavez added his thought: *"The non-violent technique does not depend for its success on the good will of the oppressor, but rather on the unfailing assistance of God."*

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MISPLACED YOUR BULLETIN ???

We encourage you to visit our parish website:

<http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org>

for the latest information.

Click the bulletin tab for any information
you might have missed.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 13: \$ 5,908.75

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 21 – 9:00 a.m.

FRANCIS & MARGARET CARL (Campion Family)

Tuesday, February 22 – 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE BOBINIS (Pat, Sue, Kathy, Ann & Families)

Wednesday, February 23 – 9:00 a.m.

JOHN & FLORENCE BENTZ

(Sterling & Joanne Hepler)

Thursday, February 24 – 9:00 a.m.

RICHARD BUEHLER (Deborah Purcell)

Friday, February 25 – 9:00 a.m.

GEORGE KLASSEN JR.

(Stephen & Kristen Carroll)

Saturday, February 26 – 5:00 p.m.

NANCY DOYNE (Don & Joanne Doyne, Jane Sunday)

Sunday – February 27 – 8:15 a.m.

ELEANORE FORNEY (Frank & Rose Popeck)

Sunday – February 27 – 10:30 a.m.

BURNS & CONNELL FAMILIES (Francis Burns)

CATHOLIC WEB OF FAITH

www.americancatholic.org

This week visit the website of St. Anthony Messenger
Press and Franciscan Communications. Under daily
features click on the Saint of the Day.

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, February 21st.

CANDLE INTENTIONS

BVM – IMO Theresa Holley & Baby Zoie Marie

by Mary Ann Holley

St. Joseph – IMO George Holley by Mary Ann Holley

Tabernacle – IMO Vincent & Agnes Marie Smith

by Mary Ann Holley

Sanctuary Candles

1. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family

2. Health & Welfare of Agnes Trout by Mary Ann Holley

3. IMO George Holley, Theresa & Baby Zoie Marie

by Mary Ann Holley

4. IMO Ben Roeder by Mary Lou Roeder

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO George Klassen Jr.

by Pat & Charlene Klassen

SCHEDULE

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. – Saturday – February 26th

Reader: Carol Lasco

Euch.Min.: Christopher & Pat Lombel

Servers: Ryan Schreffler, Allison Darhun, Sarah Lombel

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – February 27th

Reader: Ray Petrilla

Euch.Min.: Doris Eiler, John Corbacio, Carol Forster

Servers: Dominic Chiplonia, Connor McNamara,

Hannah Corbacio

Cantor: Karen Glunz

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – February 27th

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Prudence Griffin, Debbie Guers,

Mary Jean Morgalis

Servers: Ryan, Patrick, Caitlin Coyle

Cantor: Dave Derbes

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 p.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 contact: Albert 573-0036/albertjmj@comcast.net

Aleece 449-7678/aahanlon@aol.com

.... I was exceedingly glad when some of the friends came and testified to your faithfulness to the truth ...

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Where is there persecution today?

Pray for those who persecute you and others.

This Week's Readings

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 19/20)

Reading I: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Love of Enemy as the Test of Orthodoxy

"I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father" (Mt 5:44-45a).

In a (2001) issue of America magazine, John Donahue makes this comment: "Virtually no Christian group has adopted Jesus' teaching on love of enemy as the critical test of orthodoxy. Yet Jesus issues four ringing commands: love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you."

The acid-test for the Christian is demanding, and something that lies closer to the heart of what is most unique and novel within Jesus, namely, his call to love our enemies, to not give back in kind, to wish good and do good to those who are unkind to us.

That is also the message that comes through in Jesus' death and resurrection. What is revealed in Jesus' death and resurrection? A number of things: God can be trusted, God delivers on hope, what's dead can be redeemed, dead bodies can come back from the grave (even physically), and God's patience and love are infinite and outlast all else. All of that, the vindication of ancient hope, is revealed in Jesus' dying and rising. But the resurrection also has a startling new message. Because God can be absolutely trusted to love and redeem us, we need to love and forgive our enemies. We may not give back in kind, but must love those who hate us, bless those who curse us, and do good to those who do bad to us.

To love one's enemy is the acid-test of who's a Christian and who isn't. Everything else is an old tape, simply replaying itself over and over. *Ron Rolheiser*

Next Week's Readings

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 26/27)

Reading I: Isaiah 49:14-15

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 6:24-34

They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings; They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

Isaiah 40:31

THE BIBLE TIMELINE STUDY

... will introduce the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible—the “Big Picture” of salvation History. Sign up in the back of church. Sessions will be meeting on Mondays beginning March 7th at 6:30.

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. Call St. John's Rectory to register ... 622-5470. All are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions!

R.C.I.A. Schedule

February 24th at St. John's

The Mass ... Fr Dave

March 3rd at St. Michael's

Lent ... S. Catherine

March 10th at St. Michael's

Review of the Creed ... Fr. Adam

JESUS JAVA FUND-RAISER

Sunday, February 20th

Following 8:15 & 10:30 Masses

Come support the youth group!

Delicious homemade baked goods

will be available for purchase and coffee will be served.

CHRISTIAN YOGA

Come join us as we blend physical and spiritual health for the Lenten season. Fine tune your body as a “Temple of the Holy Spirit”, combining worship, praise and intimate connection to Christ.



Tuesday --- March 15, 22, 29, April 5

5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Longinus Hall

Available for all fitness levels, bring a mat or towel, Prudie Griffin is the instructor. **Register by March 10th** by calling Susan Hahner 622-0223 or the rectory 622-5470.

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."

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Counseling & Behavioral Health Program

... is accepting Medical Assistance/Health Choices Insurance for residents of Schuylkill County. Traditional Highmark Blue Shield and Traditional Blue Cross are accepted for residents of any county. Please contact the Schuylkill/Carbon service office at 13 Westwood Center, Pottsville, 570-628-0466.

Pregnancy and Parenting Support

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown offers services at Annunciation B.V.M. Parish in Shenandoah on **Tuesdays from 10 AM to 1 PM.** Services include pregnancy and parenting support; case management for individuals, families, and older adults; and information and referral. Walk-ins are welcome, however, appointments are encouraged. Please call Catholic Charities at 570-628-0466 to schedule an appointment or for further information.

POST ABORTION HEALING RETREAT

Hurting from a past abortion? Plan to attend the **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Weekend, March 4-6**, through the Office of Pro-Life Activities and Social Concerns. Within a safe, confidential, non-judgmental environment, experience God's healing love, and forgiveness. For more information or to register call **1-866-3 Rachel**. For a complete listing of Retreat dates and locations visit the national Rachel's Vineyard website at www.rachelsvineyard.org

FOOD COLLECTION

Three million children die each year from hunger related causes. Thank you for doing the small things, like feeding your neighbors, with great love. God bless.

Items Needed:

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

Kindly place your donations in the basket at the 10th Street entrance at the bottom of the steps. Thank you.

PLEASE - NO OUTDATED ITEMS

SCHUYLKILL WOMEN IN CRISIS

24/7 HOTLINE

622-6220

MARDI GRAS

"Come Together as a Family"

Mark your calendar for a relaxing, fun-filled evening by planning to attend St. John's

**Saturday, March 5th
6 to 9 p.m. – School Building**

Everyone is welcome and we especially invite new parishioners. This is not a fund-raiser, it is a "mixer", a wonderful time for all our parishioners.

Tickets will be available after Masses on the weekends of February 19 & 20 and February 26 & 27, or at the Rectory during the week. Tickets are **\$5.00 per person, \$15.00 per family**; Children under age 10 are free.



In the spirit of the evening, we invite everyone to "dress-up" in Mardi Gras attire. Prizes will be given to adults and children for the prettiest costumes, etc. You may contact **Rectory 622-5470** for further information.

Next Mardi Gras Meeting
Wednesday, February 22nd – 7 p.m.
Fellowship Room

Help Needed
We need help with set-up, take-down, also Food and Bar Stations, please call the Rectory.

Decorating
Please help us decorate for Mardi Gras on Friday, March 4th at 6 p.m.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

When: Sunday, February 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

FAMILY MATTERS

Health Care Professionals. God bless all those who assist us in caring for our health. They are our neighbors, friends, and even family members. We pray that God will continue to assist them in their efforts to provide healing and comfort in body and spirit.

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

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.
Ps. 103:2

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Boys & Girls in grades 1 through 8

As you know the Family Guild sponsors two events for our parish children and their families during Advent and during Lent which includes a luncheon, craft and a meaningful seasonal experience. For Lent we would like to put on the Stations of the Cross.



For more information please call the Rectory 622-5470 ext. 5. This is a wonderful way to be able to participate in the story of Jesus' journey to Calvary.

Rehearsals begin March 13th at 10:30 in the Russell Building. The drama will be performed on Sunday, April 10th in conjunction with our Spring Family Catechesis Event that we are asking families to attend.

Please sign-up on the form below and return to the rectory or drop in the collection basket.

Student's Name _____

Grade _____ **Reader** _____ **Actor** _____

Parents, can you help with supervision or staging?

Yes, I can help _____

Parent's Signature _____

CATECHIST CORNER

Quiz Corner

Last week's question:

What is the greatest commandment?

You shall love the Lord, your God, with your whole heart, with your whole soul, with your whole mind and your whole strength and the second is like it! You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Deut.

And Jesus updated this: You shall love each other as I have loved you.

This week's question:

Do your children know the Apostle's Creed?

ALL SAINTS SCHOOL NEWS ...

Honor Roll

First Honors: Chloe Prezelski, Andrew Viduszynski, Justin Steffan, Adrian Datte, Kayla Prezelski

Second Honors: Megan Ryan, Christopher Wollyung

MASS CARDS – VARIOUS OCCASIONS

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

LONGABERGER BASKET & POTTERY CALENDAR

Calendars are available for purchase in the back of church on weekends or at the Rectory during the week. Calendars are **\$5.00 each** and a drawing will take place each day for the month of **March**. Each participant will have 31 chances to win because all winners' tickets are returned to the drawing. This is a great fund-raiser that the Family Guild hopes will elicit your participation and enthusiasm.



SAVE THE DATE !!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - 2011

Sunday, June 26 - Thursday, June 30

Adult leaders are needed !!

Please call the rectory 622-5470 x 5 if interested in helping with this year's Vacation Bible School.

Volunteer will meet ...

Wednesday, March 2nd - 5:30 p.m.

At St. Patrick's Parish Center



ST. BERNARD'S BENEFICIAL SOCIETY

The St. Bernard's Beneficial Society is accepting applications for new member's ages 17-42 years of age. We meet the third Thursday of every month for about one hour to discuss society business and have some fellowship time. Anyone who is interested, please feel free to contact one of the following members:

Bob Burns 570-385-1667

AJ Hanzok 570-622-6627

Joe Hohman 570-366-2764

CUB SCOUTS Saint Patrick's Cub Scout Pack is looking for a few more kids that are interested in becoming scouts. We meet on a Tuesday night for 1hr @ the former St Joe's parish hall on Howard Ave. A fun time is had by all. Anyone that is interested or needs more information, please contact **Rita Davis @ 628-2727** or **Chris Hohman @ 628-5758**. We also need a few former scouts or parents or grandparents to serve as den leaders if anyone can help, please let us know. It is not much of your time that we ask but the rewards are a lifetime.

CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

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

LENTEN DINNERS

Our Lenten Dinners will begin March 11th.

Full course dinners including the best home-made New England Clam Chowder, freshly baked Haddock or Salmon, or Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes, a wonderful Salad Bar, Macaroni & Cheese or Mashed Potatoes, choice of Vegetables, Beverages, and of course, our Delicious Homemade Desserts.... 4 to 7 p.m. at the Russell Building ... every Friday during Lent.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: facilitated by Covenant Home Care, Hospice, at St. Catherine's Hospital, 101 Broad St., Ashland, in the Board Room near the first floor Café on Tuesdays beginning **February 15 through March 8th** from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. This support group is FREE.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER SHOW: to benefit All Saints Catholic School to be held on **Saturday, February 26th at 6 p.m.** at the Catholic War Vets. "Coal Cracker" dinner by Wood Catering. Cash bar, 50/50 drawing, raffles and games. Tickets \$30.00 or two for \$50.00 For tickets please call All Saints School 622-0106.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: ... come see *Despicable Me* on **Saturday, February 26th** at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Ambrose Parish Center in Schuylkill Haven. Bring comfortable chairs and blankets for the kids. Snacks and refreshments provided. Soup & hot dogs available for \$1.00 each.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

... Janet Daubert

Be wary of cars turning left at intersections. A high proportion of auto collisions (and collisions with pedestrians) involve left-turning vehicles. Drivers over 70 have a particularly high accident rate when making left turns, according to several studies, because they take much longer to make the turns. The longer a driver spends passing through the intersection, the greater the risk of a crash with a car coming from ahead, right, or left. In addition, older drivers are more likely to miss a stop sign or go through a red light.

MEALS ON WHEELS

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, Wednesdays or Fridays. For more information, please call "Meals on Wheels" 624-3023 or 800-621-6325.

CHOIR PRACTICE

Let us glorify God with our song. Consider joining our choir to add depth and richness to our parish praise of God. We are in need of both male and female voices. Bring only your desire to sing and enjoy the liturgy from another perspective. We rehearse each **Tuesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Longinus Hall.**



No auditions, all are welcome and **NEEDED!**

Contact **Dave Derbes** Choir Director **622-8804** or email daderbes@yahoo.com or the **Rectory 622-5470** for more information.

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: *Margie Glunz, Edward Wychunas, John Woznicki, Mary Ellen Viduszynski, Espen Murphy, Greg Schoffstall, Mary Margaret Smith, Paul Burns, Jean Smith, Matthew Mazakas, Melody Mazakas, George Anns, Luke Lieberman, Charles Lotz, Mary Alfonsi, Joanne Heller, John Connell, Sue Jochems, Carol Lasco, Tom Williams.* **Deceased:** *George Meyer*

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

THE ALL AMERICAN CAFÉ

106 N. Centre St., Pottsville, 622-9301

Sunday Only - \$3.49 Recession Buster Menu.

Free Delivery 7 Days a Week, No Minimum Purchase

Fax or Phone Ordering Available

Open Monday – Saturday – 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Great Food, Without Breaking Your Wallet

Bring in this Ad and receive 10% off your total bill on Sundays only.

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.

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS COLLECTION DRIVE --- Cell Phones

More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas and away from their families. **Cell Phones for Soldiers** has established Schlitzer Allen Pugh Funeral Home, 6th & W. Market Sts. as an official collection site and is asking Schuylkill County to support our brave troops by donating used cell phones at the funeral home. The goal is to provide every U.S. soldier with a way to call home for free. For more information, visit www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com



PLANNING A WILL. By making a Will, you decide now what you want done with your treasure. Along with providing for your children, grandchildren, or friends, you may wish to make a gift to the church, your parish school, or any other Diocesan entity. By making a Will, your wishes will be carried out.

For additional information, contact the Diocesan Office of Development at 1101 W. Hamilton St., PO Box F, Allentown, Pa. 18105-1538 / call 610-871-5200 ext 215

OUTREACH MINISTRY

REACH OUT and TOUCH SOMEONE

Call Margie Glunz 622-3067

Call us if you need us.

Volunteers are needed to
prepare meals for parishioners who are in need.

Please call the above number to volunteer.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A Thought for Those Called to Serve

I shall pass through this world but once.

Any good, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being,

Let me do it now.

Let me not defer or neglect it,

For I shall not pass this way again.

