

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus uses the gentle wisdom of parables in this Sunday's gospel to teach profound heavenly truths. He speaks of seemingly insignificant items like weeds and wheat. Our minds tell us that such things are insignificant, yet this is the way of the Kingdom of Heaven. To unravel the parables we must listen with the ears of our hearts. Weeds and wheat are left to co-exist so as to not disturb the delicate balance of new life. In the Kingdom of Heaven, all of life is seen and honored – all life including our own.

Jesus was a master teacher. He understood the power of the parable and chose his symbols wisely. Common things like weeds and wheat speak volumes across the centuries. As we watch plants grow let us remember and build the Kingdom of Heaven from within. Always remember that God has your blindside. God is dedicated to rooting out evil in our lives, always in a way that protects and nurtures us.

Yours in Christ,
Father Dave

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, July 18 to Friday, July 22
NO MASS

Saturday, July 23 – 5:00 p.m.

THELMA BRENNAN (Michael & Elizabeth Yordy)

Sunday, July 24 – 8:15 a.m.

SOPHIA KAPSHA (Frank & Birdie Pope)

Sunday, July 24 – 10:30 a.m.

MAUREEN KALYMUN (Paul & Bernie Gombola)

CANDLE INTENTIONS

B.V.M – IMO Robert Lotz by Rita Lotz

St. Joseph – IMO Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler
by Diane Keese

Tabernacle – IMO Robert Lotz by Rita Lotz

Sanctuary

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

2&3. IMO Edward Keese by Diane Keese

4. For Frederick J. Eagan by Vincent Mistysyn

Guardian Angels

1. For Baby Katherine Mistysyn by Vincent Mistysyn

2. IMO Loretta Klassen by Pat & Charlene Klassen

FAMILY MATTERS

Violence in the Media. No harangue here --- but, really do we need it? We ask the Lord to direct the parents of our parish to be proactive in guiding their children to see that violence and harshness in the media is not Jesus' way of peace and love.

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

SCHEDULE

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 – Saturday – July 23rd

Readers: Chris Disabella

Euch.Min.: John & Bernice Petock

Servers: Angelo, Samantha, Alexandra Disabella

Cantor: Mary Bound

8:15 a.m. – Sunday – July 24th

Reader: Bill Gianfagna

Euch.Min.: Doris Eiler, Carol Forster, Kathy Gianfagna

Servers: Brent Gauntlett, Ty Daubert, Macaeda Herring

Cantor: Tina Seiger

10:30 a.m. – Sunday – July 24th

Reader: Randi Dermo

Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto, Bill Schlitzer, Albert Nastasi

Servers: Ryan Schreffler, Justin Steffan,

Anthony Wojciechowsky

Cantor: Suzette Joy

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, John Woznicki, Mary

Ellen Viduszynski, Espn Murphy, Greg Schoffstall,

Mary Margaret Smith, John Connell, Joe Christ, Marie

Melinchok, Mary Alfonsi, Kate Blackwell, Karla

Garland, Rita Montag, Russell Joy, Jane Weiss, William

Nesbitt, Sylvia Bercher, Mary Zambo, Florence Yeager.

Deceased: Otto Pfeffer.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate the following altar servers who graduated from high school this year. We thank you for your faithful and loyal service.

Alex Beruck

Chelsea Dalton

Michael Fetterolf

Casey Guers

Megan McLaughlin

Amanda Nastasi

Marybeth Rissinger

Taylor Ross

Michael Ryan

Emily Synnott

Nathaniel Yingling

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Eligibility male or female, 4th grade (in Fall) to 12th grade ...

if interested, please call the Rectory 622-5470.



EUCHARISTIC ETIQUETTE.

Please: NO GUM CHEWING IN CHURCH! When we receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, please make sure there is NOTHING in your mouth! Parents, please make sure your children "park their gum" outside of Church before entering. Also – there is a one-hour fast on solid food before the reception of Holy Communion. Let's do our very best to show reverence and respect for the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Thank you!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Where do you see seeds of faith in your culture?

Where do you see weeds?

This Week's Readings

16th Sunday of Ordinary Time (July 16/17)

Reading I: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Reading II: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

GOSPEL REFLECTION

An Inclusive Church

Matthew is very concerned in his Gospel with the unity of the Christian community. He does not envision the Church as an exclusionary organization, but rather as an inclusive community which is guided by the spirit of the parable of the weeds

Let them grow together until harvest: since its earliest days, the Church has preferred to tolerate different levels of commitment and holiness. Such an attitude is in line with the 'wisdom' of the Hebrew Scriptures, which informs us that *those who are just must be kind and your mastery over all things makes you lenient to all and you judge with clemency.*

This attitude of acceptance is also in line with the revelation of God *as merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in kindness.*

An inclusive Church that is kind and lenient toward its own members and toward everyone else should be an inspiration to a divided world that has a tendency to judge harshly, to be quick to anger, and to uproot weeds even at the cost of damage to the good plants.

"By virtue of her mission to shed on the whole world the radiance of the gospel message, and to unify under one Spirit all men of whatever nation, race, or culture, the Church stands forth as a sign of that brotherliness which allows honest dialogue and invigorates it.

Such a mission requires in the first place that we foster within the Church herself mutual esteem, reverence, and harmony, through the full recognition of lawful diversity."

Vatican II, *Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* (1965) 92. ... *Gerald Darring*

Next Week's Readings

17th Sunday of Ordinary Time (July 23/24)

Reading I: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Reading II: Romans 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

WEEKLY COLLECTION

July 10th : \$ 4,808.10; Imp.&Rep.: \$1,580.50

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

CONFIRMATION 2012

The Importance of the Family In developing your child's faith.

For those parents who have children who will be receiving Confirmation next year.

Faith lived and celebrated in the family makes a lasting impression. You can help prepare your son/daughter for full Christian living through the following activities:

Prayer and Worship

- Read the Sunday Scripture readings listed in the bulletin the week before together as a family.
- Attend Sunday Liturgy as a family. Plan to attend Mass on a special occasion, like an anniversary or birthday.
- Pray together as a family.

Community

- Help out at a parish social function or participate in it.
- Support a parishioner who needs encouragement, sympathy or material help.

Service

- Volunteer as a family to serve at a soup kitchen or to clean the home of an elderly person.
- Offer to do someone's chores at home to help them out.
- Include in your family prayers those in need in the world.

*Thank you for giving Christian witness
to your children.*

Service Forms are online! Get them signed and complete the form ASAP. Return to the Rectory!

LOOKING FOR A WAY TO HELP ??

For September 2011 we need help with

CCD Teachers

Someone who would enjoy teaching First Grade or Sixth Grade on Sunday mornings from 9 to 10:15.

CCD Aides

Adult aides to help CCD teachers on Sundays mornings from 9 to 10:15.

If interested please fill out the form below and return to the rectory or call 622-5470.

I am interested in:

- _____ teaching First Grade or Sixth Grade during **Sunday CCD** from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
 - _____ assisting (aide) the **CCD** teachers on Sundays from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
-

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

MAJOR SPONSORS

(\$200.00 and above)

Laurita Buehler
 Dr. & Mrs. Richard Greco
 Hahner Bros. Inc.
 Katermade Katering
 Murphy Jewelers
 Dr. Whitney Pollock
 Edmund & Carole Quirin
 The Quandel Group
 Rosenberger Plumbing
 Joe & Nancy Schlitzer
 Yorkville Drugs / Towne Drugs



MISC. SPONSORS

Coke Sponsor - \$100.00
 Pizza Sponsor - \$50.00
 Bleenie Mix Sponsor \$35.00
 Ice Cream Sponsor - \$25.00

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dolores Brophy | Bleenie Sponsor (1) |
| Marie Doyle | Bleenie Sponsor (1) |
| Natalie Setlock & Bill Spleen | Bleenie Sponsor (1) |
| Theresa Skrobak | Bleenie Sponsor (1) |
| Luis R. & Virginia Visot | Bleenie Sponsor (1) |
| John Eagan Family | Coke Sponsor (1) |
| Sterling & Joanne Hepler | Coke Sponsor (1) |
| Rita Lotz | Coke Sponsor (1) |
| Timothy & Rose Schimpf | Coke Sponsor (1) |
| Paul & Mary Ann Filiac | Ice Cream Sponsor (1) |
| John & Bernice Petock | Ice Cream Sponsor (1) |
| Jennifer Daubert | Ice Cream Sponsor (1) |
| Ed & Dolores Smith | Pizza Sponsor (2) |
| Tim & Cathy Coyle | Pierogies |
| Dr. David Harvey | Goldfish |
| Dot Moran | Duck Pond Prizes |

ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE



St. John's Catholic Women's Union will host an *Indoor Yard Sale* on Saturday, July 23rd ... 8 to 12 noon at the School Building. Fill a small bag for \$2.00; Fill a large bag for \$4.00. Volunteers are

needed to help with the sale. Food items and baked goods will be available at the Russell Building.

CCD REGISTRATION We have received about half of the registrations for 2011/2012. All registrations received now will need to pay a late fee of \$5.00. Please register ASAP so we can order the correct amount of books on time.

\$55.00 – First Child

\$50.00 – additional Child

Registration forms are at the church exits.

MID-SUMMER FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL PATRONS

\$150.00

John & Annette Lieberman

\$100.00

Bob & Kay Berger
 Kathy Buehler
 M/M Francis J. Burns
 The Frinzi's
 Sterling & Joanne Hepler
 Verna Sauers
 George & Kathy Zwiebel

\$50.00

IMO Joan Albo
 Susan Cook
 Friends of St. John's
 Headquarters Styling Salon
 Carl & Kathy Hughes
 Rita Lotz
 M/M Vincent Mistysyn
 Frank & Annie Murphy
 Robert DeAnna, Ava Orłowski
 Helen Schaeffer
 Mary Sitcoske
 Wayne & Diane Stoudt
 J. Robert & Ellen Zane

\$40.00

Dorothy & Leo Lotz
 Bob & Irene Post
 Joe & Barbara Wollyung

\$35.00

Charles & Frances Lorenz

\$30.00

David & Alice Bechtel
 Bill & Dot Elison
 Bob & Irene Post
 JP, Barb, Megan Powers
 St. John's Beneficial Society
 Guy R. Zelinsky

\$25.00

Fred Brahler
 Kathy & Joe Brahler
 Robert Burns Masonry
 Paul & Christine Datte
 Janet Daubert

\$25.00

Tom & Cindy Elison
 M.&M Fred Fanelli Sr.
 Stan & Heidi Gorski
 Linda & Clare Houser
 Jerry & Diane Hudock
 Anna Kurtek
 John & Pat Kutch
 M/M James Loeper
 Judge Charlie Miller & Family
 Justina Mitchell
 Kathleen & Al Norkus
 John & Bernice Petock
 Mary & Bob Porter
 Carol & Joe Rehnert
 Jeff & Dorothy Rosenberger
 St. John's CYO Program
 Total Accessibility
 Wartella Family
 The Williams'

\$20.00

The Blankenhorn's
 James Brentari
 Helen Heimbaugh
 Bob & Kay Russell
 Dorothy & Joe Stangl
 M/M Ralph Wood

\$15.00

Peggy Ebling
 Doris Schultz

\$10.00

Clara Becker
 John Connell
 Mary Connell & M.J.
 Margie Glunz
 Martha Golden
 Kathleen Hohman
 Helen Hufnagle
 John & Joanne Mestishen
 Dorothy Parsick
 Theresa Sencak

\$5.00

Charles Tamburelli

CELL PHONES IN CHURCH --- Please!

We've had a rash of cell phone interruptions during Mass lately. Please silence the ring before entering Church for Mass. IF you should forget, try your best to silence the ring. BUT --- NEVER answer a phone call during Mass (it happens!) Please reserve all conversations in Church TO GOD. And -- you'd better believe it, He's waiting for YOU! Thanks for your kind consideration in this matter.



ROMANS 12
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY SERVICE CAMP

ATTENTION YOUTH AND ADULTS!!!!

Romans 12 – LOCAL MISSION TRIP
Be a living sacrifice. If your gift is to serve, serve well. Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically.

Anyone (youth 7th grade through college and Adults) interested in **Romans 12 Local Mission Trip** please call Debbie Herb at 544-5646 / 691-8874 or Ron Schultz at 385-3256 for additional information, application, schedule, etc. (GOOGLE ROMANS 12 CAMP – APPLICATION FORMS ON LINE). **Mark Your Calendar...July 24 to 27** at Christmas Pines Campground in Auburn. Cost is only \$75 which includes camping, meals, snacks, entertainment, T-shirt, and group picture. Limited number of spots will fill up quickly.



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: Sue Jochems, 2200 Mahantongo St., Pottsville 17901 (Dues are \$5.00 per year, make check payable to St. John's CWU)

If you have any additional questions, please contact the **Catholic Women's Union President, Carole Quirin** at 429-0789.

Our Next Meeting
Wednesday, July 20th
7:00 p.m. – Longinus Hall

DIOCESAN NEWS

Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

"STAMPED", an overnight experience inspired by Blessed John Paul II's A Theology of the Body, calls high school students to live a life rooted in authentic love. Registration information is available at <http://adoyyam.com/stamped/>. Date: August 12-13, 2011 Registration Deadline: July 25th Sponsored by the Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

National NFP Awareness Week: July 24-30, 2011

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlights the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25), which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. Natural Family Planning promotes strong, lasting marriages that foster dignity and respect for one another and all life. Keep both your body and marriage healthy~ Practice Natural Family Planning. To learn more about Natural Family Planning call Carla Neupauer, Office of Marriage & Family Life Formation at (610) 289-8900 ext.238.

What the Catholic Church Says About Poverty.

"Our commitment to the dignity of every person requires special concern for those who are poor and vulnerable, whose needs are greatest, and whose lives and dignity are often threatened by hunger, poverty, and suffering. In order for people to live a life worthy of their God-given dignity, Catholic social teaching affirms the right and duty to work, the right to economic initiative, the right of workers to safe working conditions, decent wages and benefits, and the right to organize and join associations to secure these rights." For I Was Hungry & You Gave Me Food, U.S. Catholic Bishops 2003 If you would like to know more about working for justice, please call Office of Pro-Life Activities and Social Concerns (610) 289-8900 x244.

Job Posting

Pius X High School is accepting applications for Varsity coaching positions in girls volleyball and boys and girls soccer for the 2011-2012 school year. Applicants must have coaching experience and applicable background checks. Submit resume by Monday, July 25th to Connie Stambaugh, Athletic Director, 580 3rd Avenue, Bangor, PA 18013.

Holy Family Adult Day Care in Orwigsburg has openings for new participants over age 60 needing supervised care. Stimulating activities and compassionate assistance provide many benefits for your loved one. Please contact Linda Herb for details or to schedule a visit, 570-366-2924.

Adoptive Parents. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown offers prospective adoptive parents a range of services from home studies to post adoption support.

Please contact Patricia Reusch at 610-435-1541, ext. 325 or 1-800-330-8001.



NATIVITY BVM HIGH SCHOOL

JOB OPPORTUNITIES Nativity BVM High School is currently offering positions for a Spanish Teacher and Girl's Soccer Coach. Please call 622-8110 and refer to job openings.

NIGHT AT THE READING PHILLIES at First Energy Stadium on **Friday, August 19th**. This is the last Coal Region Night of 2011. Game time 7:15 p.m.; Gates open 5 p.m. Seating open 6 p.m. Live music by Pottsville own MIXX from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and after Post Game fireworks. Nativity Pre-Game parade at 6:15 p.m.; seats in Red Sections 8 & 9 in the Main Grand Stand behind home plate. Tickets \$9.00 each are available at Nativity 622-8110.

NATIVITY ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP ...Application forms, for incoming freshman only, are now available at Nativity BVM High School. Students must have a parent who is a graduate of Nativity BVM High School. For more information, please call 544-2550.

CYO SPORTS

 Registration forms for all St. John's CYO sports are available at the Rectory during the week; please call 622-5470 ext.3. The fee is **\$20.00** per family until **August 1st**; after this date the fee will be \$40.00. CYO sports are 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. 

**** ATTENTION ****

CYO VOLLEYBALL

Sign-up Deadline

St. John's CYO Volleyball

Monday, July 25th

Practice will begin August 1st

2nd to 8th grade eligible to play Volleyball

Registration forms are available at the rectory during the week or in the back of church on weekends. Please call

Chris Zerbe 628-9603 or Lucilla Kochol 622-0979 or St. John's 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."

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

Matt. 11:28

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

BEEF & BEER: Come and support Nativity's Green Wave Football Team on **Saturday, July 23rd** at the Catholic War Vets. Tickets \$25 per person or \$45 per couple available by calling Mike Mellon 628-9539 or gasman92@comcast.net or Tom Palamar 622-5636 or tpalamar512@comcast.net or any football player.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC: at St. Ambrose Church, Schuylkill Haven on **Sunday, July 31st** from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Parish Complex. Delicious food, the "Irish Lads" from 1 to 4 p.m. and "Sensations" from 5 to 8 p.m. Pot Luck stand, bingo, raffles, and more.

SHRINE BUS TRIP: sponsored by St. Michael the Archangel Parish Ladies Guild on **Saturday, September 10th** ... stops at St. Katherine Drexel Mission Center, Penn's Landing, St. John Neuman Shrine. Cost is \$80.00; \$25 deposit by August 1st. For more information please call Mary Sninski 544-3046.

SCHUYLKILL DAFFODIL DAYS: is selling chances for a tax deductible donation of \$25 to win a 2011 Jeep Compass. Drawing is August 17th (winner need not be present). Winner is responsible for taxes on prize. To donate, contact the Schuylkill Unit at 544-2561 or 622-4763.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN CRUISE: 7-night Catholic cruise with Fr. Brendan Murphy from **December 11 to 18, 2011** on the Carnival Pride out of Baltimore, Md. Ports of call include Port Canaveral, Nassau, and Freeport. Prices begin at \$1169 (two passengers). Daily Mass & rosary offered. For further info or to register, contact Doug or Eileen 860-399-1785 or dpayttc@aol.com

SOLEMN NOVENA TO ST. ANN

Annual solemn novena to St. Ann begins **Sunday, July 17th to Tuesday, July 26th** at the National Shrine of St. Ann in Scranton. Mass and Novena services each day 8 and 11:45 a.m. and 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Novena service and homily only at 3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available before and after each Novena service. For more information call St. Ann's 570-347-5691 or visit www.stannsmonasterybasilica.org

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

Why do Catholics light prayer candles?

Even the most fervent and prayerful person gets distracted while praying on occasion. Praying in front of a candle gives us a tool to help us focus and avoid distraction.

A similar principle applies to candles in church. When we light prayer candles in church, our intentions remain present even when we are gone. Next time you pass a candle rack, help prolong others' prayers by offering one for the intentions of the people who lit them.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION



Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. Please call Father Dave 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.

CATHOLIC WEB OF FAITH

www.christusrex.org

This week visit the Christus Rex website, which is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the dissemination of information on works of art preserved in churches, cathedrals and monasteries all over the world. View the Lord's Prayer in 1,310 languages.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

... Janet Daubert

Words to the Wise. The internet is a fine source of medical information, but don't believe everything you read. Be wary of testimonials and personal stories. They may be pure fiction and, even if true, they may not apply to you.

While the internet is a poor tool for self-diagnosis, it can be a magnificent source of information if you know what you need to find. Start with addresses ending in ".gov" and ".edu". For example, for cancer information start with the National Cancer Institute (www.cancer.gov) and also investigate the websites of research centers such as M.D. Anderson, Sloan-Kettering, and the Mayo Clinic. Check out major organizations the American Heart Association. The American College of Gastroenterology, and other scientific groups. Most important, if you are under treatment, make your doctors your partners in your quest for information. Print a copy of the information you have found and share it with your physician.

CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS COLLECTION DRIVE

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



SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Advertisement for BRAHLER CONTRACTING, listing services like Building / Remodeling, Additions / Roofing, etc., and contact info for Ed Brahler at (570)-544-8282.

Why Advertise In A Church Bulletin?

- * It's inexpensive Advertising
* It's Effective in Catching New Neighbors' Attention
* It's Advertising Concentrated in Your Own Neighborhood
* It Develops Good Community Relationships
* It's Good For Developing Loyal Customers

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

If you or someone you know has been ill or in the hospital and unable to attend Mass, please call the Rectory and inform Father or Sister of your condition.



We don't always know if a person has been ill or hospitalized until after the fact! We are willing to visit and or make arrangements for Holy Communion once your condition is known.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and helping us be of service to you.

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.

