FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Have you ever asked St. Anthony to help you find your car keys? Chances are you discovered the keys right under your nose. You were suffering from selective blindness. When your eyes were truly opened, the keys appeared.

Things are similar in the Emmaus story of today’s gospel. The two disciples did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. They had spent the whole day walking with him but didn’t recognize him until their eyes were opened.

We may have difficulty discovering the presence of Jesus in our lives. The distractions of the world blind us to what is there before us. We don’t even have the time to look. Perhaps it’s time to pray to St. Anthony, asking him to lift our selective blindness and to look. Perhaps it’s time to pray to St. Anthony, asking him to lift our selective blindness and to look.

For Thou wilt light my candle; the Lord, my God, will enlighten my darkness.

Psalm 18:28

Yours in Christ,

Father Dave

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, April 23 – 9:00 a.m.
REV. FRANCIS FOX
Tuesday, April 24 – 9:00 a.m.
GRETCHEB BISHOP (John & Joyce Gerace)
Wednesday, April 25 – 9:00 a.m.
MARY JANE CONNELL (Jerry Seary)
Thursday, April 26 – 9:00 a.m.
ANDRE FIFELSKI (living intention)(Scheidel Family)
Friday, April 27 – 9:00 a.m.
JOSEPH STEFICEK (Joan & Children)
Saturday – April 28 – 5:00 p.m.
M/M JOSEPH YARASHUS (Yarashus Family)
Sunday – April 29 – 8:15 a.m.
THERESA HOLLEY & BABY ZOIE MARIE
(Deborah & Mark Purcell)
Sunday – April 29 – 10:30 a.m.
JACK & PHILOMENA RYAN (Dot Ryan & Family)

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WEEKLY COLLECTION

April 14/15: $ 5,011.30; Imp.&Rep.: $1627.00
Easter: $ 14,054.61

We thank our parishioners for their sacrificial giving.

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SECOND COLLECTION

Weekend of April 28/29

.. will be taken up for the Potluck Stand

at this year’s Mid-Summer Festival.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

For Thou will light my candle; the Lord, my God, will enlighten my darkness.

Psalm 18:28

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CANDLE INTENTIONS

BVM –IMO David Zanis by Steve & Chris Zanis
St. Joseph – IMO Mary Houser by Linda & Clare Houser
Tabernacle – IMO David Zanis by Steve & Chris Zanis
Sanctuary Candles
1. IMO Imelda Kelchner by Linda & Clare Houser
2. IMO Leroy Kelchner by Linda & Clare Houser
3. Special Intention by Elizabeth Madrigal
4. IMO Mildred & John Tamalavage by Family

Guardian Angels
1. IMO John Hohman by Kathleen Hohman
2. IMO Joseph Gallagher by Kathleen Hohman

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SCHEDULE

Fourth Sunday of Easter
5:00 p.m. – Saturday – April 28th
Reader: Mary Ann Schweikert
Euch.Min.: Bobbi Murray, Bill Schweikert
Servers: Paige Vandermeer, Lucy & Sophie Murray
Cantor: Marianne Wollyung
8:15 a.m. – Sunday – April 29th
Reader: Ray Petrilla
Euch.Min.: Janet Daubert, Gerry Schwartz, Bill Casey
Servers: Stephen Messina, Ryan Seiger, Grace Casey
Cantor: Tina Seiger
10:30 a.m. – Sunday – April 29th
Reader: Ian Hower
Euch.Min.: Debbie Guers, Joyce Gerace, Prudence Griffin
Servers: Emily Witmier, Kate Kramer, Maeve Stoudt
Cantor: Suzette Joy

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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.


Deceased: Elaine Schafer

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FAMILY MATTERS

Couples in Conflict. Sometimes couples really struggle in their marriages. We ask that you pray for our couples that are facing serious challenges in living out the vocation of their sacramental marriage. Pray that the graces of this sacrament sustain them during their struggles. For information about RETROUVAILLE, a weekend for troubled marital relationships, see the website www.retrouvaille.org.

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

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK
Whom do you see witnessing to Christ?
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This Week’s Readings

Third Sunday of Easter (April 21/22)
Reading II: 1 John 2:1-15a

Next Week’s Readings

Fourth Sunday of Easter (April 28/29)
Reading I: Acts 4:8-12
Reading II: 1 John 3:1-2
Gospel: John 10:11-18
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FIRST EUCHARIST

Parent Meeting:
Sunday, April 22nd - 9 a.m. - Longinus Hall

First Holy Communion Rehearsal
Friday, May 4th at 7 p.m. in Church

First Holy Communion
will take place Saturday, May 5th at the 5 p.m. Mass
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MAY PROCESSION

Sunday, May 8th

The CCD students will end their year by having a May Procession after the 8:15 Mass on May 8th. Families of the students are asked to bring a bouquet of flowers and their rosaries. All parishioners are invited to be part of the procession that will begin in the church. We will process from the back of church up 10th street and end at the grotto. There, children will place bouquets of flowers and we will recite a decade of the rosary, say the litany of Mary and make the Act of Consecration. After this we will crown Mary. All will be invited to sing the chorus to Immaculate Mary. Please join us for this special Marian devotion!

CCD Registration

Now is the time to register your child for next year’s CCD class. There are reduced rates until May 27th. The forms are at the entrances of the Church. The longer form is for new students and new first graders. The shorter sheets are for students who are presently attending class.

Registration Fee: $50.00 First Child
(after May 27th - $60.00)
All Other Children: $45.00 per Child
(after May 27th - $55.00)
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Every day I bless You; I will praise Your name forever.
Psalm 145:2

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

We are grateful to our parishioners who have already made a pledge to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a $300 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six $50 installments. Your sacrifice and generosity to those who are less fortunate will allow the ministries of our diocese to offer services to those who need our assistance. You can make your gift online at www.adbaa.org or pickup a pledge form at the back of church.

DIOCESAN EVENTS & NEWS

Office of Pro-Life. Do you seek healing from a past abortion experience either recent or many years ago? Call 1-866-3 Rachel, the confidential Project Rachel Hotline, for information about compassionate post-abortion counseling and reconciliation and Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats.

Adoptive Parents. Catholic Charities 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.

Counseling and Behavioral Health Program provides counseling and mental health services at 13 Westwood Center, Pottsville. Some insurance plans are accepted. Please call 570-628-0466.

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.

PRO-LIFE EVENTS - APRIL

April 21ST – April 22nd
Sanctity of Human Life Weekend

April 27th - National Pro Life T-Shirt Day

April 28th - A Devotional Hour to St. Gianna Molla

A Devotional Hour to St. Gianna Molla

Please join us on Saturday, April 28th, from 3:15-4:30 in Longinus Hall as we reflect on the life of St. Gianna Molla, beloved wife, mother, doctor, and pro-life witness. We will watch her biography and then pray both her novena and litany. Come and see what a devotion to St. Gianna can do in your life!

For more information please contact Andrew Kubick at (570) 640-7726 or at prayerforlife122@aol.com

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CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the girls and boys who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, April 17th by Bishop John O. Barres.

Chloe Elizabeth Bledsoe
Rachel Zeta Braehler
Julia Bridget Brinich
Madison Catherine Buckingham
Madeline Clare Consugar
Caitlin Marie Coyle
Megan Elizabeth Dalton
Emily Marie Daniels
Samantha Angela Disabella
Callie Elizabeth Dreher
Olivia Brigid Eagan
Madelyn Hope Garvey
Delaney Lucy Golden
Lilliana Clare Golden
Celena Sophia Granito
Hannah Vittoria Granito
Leah Elizabeth Guzik
Shelby Grace Hahner
Macaeda Fara Herring
Hannah Johnna Kostick
Kate Magdalene Kramer
Rileigh Rose McPhillips
Lucy Hannah Murray
Sophie Elizabeth Murray
Chloe Margaret Prezelski
Claudia Ellen Rittle
Megan Maria Ryan
Kasie Gabriella Shaw
Megan Theresa Skosnick
Ashley Cecelia Smith
Emily Christine Witmier
Lauren Elizabeth Womer
Maria Cecelia Womer
Taylor Mary Young
Jillian Monica Zerbe

Mark Robert Boran
Charles Vincent Botto
Michael Joseph Botto
Braden Francis Burns
Derek Francis DaSilva
Neal John DaSilva
Adrian John Datte
Ty David Daubert
Michael Anthony DeColli
Elias Vincent Doyle
Brent Matthew Gauntlett
Charles Joseph Gildea
Scott Anthony Glunz
John Matthew Guzick
Jake Michael McClure
Stephen Francesco Messina
Benjamin Benjamin Norris
Cole Cornelius Painter
Anthony Philip Rulavage
Christopher Mark Shatz
Justin David Steffan
Andrew Steven Vuduzynski
Bryce Anthony Williams
Anthony Francis Wojciechowski
Michael John Wollyung
Stephen Stephen Wollyung
James Peter Womer
Zachary William Zaharis

CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS

We gratefully acknowledge the gift of time and talent of the following Confirmation Catechists who opened their hearts and homes to our Confirmation Candidates for eight weeks of special classes:

John & Robyn Consugar
Dr. Robert DeColli
Cathy & John Kostick
Nannette Brophy Major
Bobbi Murray
Donna Skosnick
Dave Steffan
Heather Wojciechowsky

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.
Eccl. 3:1

FAMILY GUILD SCHOLARSHIP

The Family Guild of St. John’s is awarding two scholarships to be awarded in the amount of $250.00 for any eighth grade student wishing to attend Nativity BVM High School in September 2012 and any high school graduate pursuing higher education. Criteria for Scholarship eligibility:

1. Participating member of St. John the Baptist
2. Must be applying to attend Nativity in September 2012 or applying to a school of higher learning
3. Student must submit the application form along with the completed essay to the Rectory by May 15, 2012.
4. Essays will be judged by a panel of parish members not affiliated with the Family Guild so as to insure impartiality.
5. Essay topic:"What has St. John's meant to me"

Scholarship applications can be picked up at the Rectory by calling 622-5470. **Deadline is May 15, 2012**

SAVE THE DATE!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - 2012

Sunday, June 24 – Thursday, June 28

Have you ever heard the term “When Pigs can fly?” Our theme for VBS this year is "SKY", everything is possible with God (Mark 10:27), and our pilot is a pig! Orville and his crew will help us soar the blue sky and trust in God. While in flight we will be stopping by skydive diner, sky-tacular tunes, imagination station, wild blue bible adventure, sky high movies and missions with Chadder. Due to air regulations our flight will have reservations for 100 passengers. We will be looking for pilots in training and volunteers. Please join us in making VBS fun and successful. Any questions, please call Theresa Hossler, Director, at 570-640-6686.

**Registration can be done by calling the Rectory at 622-5470 or online at www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/stpatsandstjohns**

YOUTH GROUP GERANIUM SALE

St. John’s Youth Group will be selling geraniums for Mother’s Day … 4” pots for $2.75 each … orders need to be in before April 25th. To place an order, contact Ariana Carr at 739-1808 or any youth group member.

**Deadline for ordering – April 25th**
ASSUMPTION BVM SCHOOL NEWS

Tuition Transfer Grant. The Bishop’s Commission on Catholic Schools will offer $1,500 Tuition Transfer Grants to any parishioner who transfers their child in the second to seventh grades from any private or public school. No financial aid forms are required for this two-year grant and it is a direct reduction from your school tuition ($1,000 in year one and $500 in year two). Assumption BVM has been very effective at preparing our children for a successful high school and college experience. Our excellent faculty is dedicated to maximizing the God-given potential of each child entrusted to our care in a nurturing family atmosphere. With our small class sizes and many extracurricular activities, your child will have a great opportunity to participate and lead throughout the year. Assumption BVM School – Academic Success – Catholic Values. For more information and a tour, please call the school at 622-0106.

More Great News from Assumption BVM …

A substantial amount of scholarship money is available for new and current students of Assumption BVM Catholic School, thanks to the generous contributions of local benefactors. The amount of money available for the 2012-2013 school year through the Easter Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund, EPSF, will allow all those who qualify to receive grants up to 50% off the student’s tuition. We are so blessed to be giving away over $44,000! Families who qualify can earn a base salary of $60,000 a year plus $12,000 for each child. For example, a family with three children can earn $96,000 a year and still qualify. Register and apply now; scholarship applications are due by April 24th. Call the school for an application at 622-0106. We hope to hear from you soon! Thank you for your support! Call us at 622-0106.

NATIVITY BVM SCHOOL NEWS

Transfer Grants. Receive $3,000 in Transfer Grants from the Bishop’s Commission on Catholic School. Any public or private school student who transfers to 10th or 11th grade at any Diocese of Allentown High School will receive this Grant. The student will receive $2,000 in their first year and $1,000 in their second year. Certain restrictions apply. To receive the grant visit www.allentowndiocese.org/transfergrants.html, print and complete the transfer grant certificate and return to Nativity High School. For more information please call the school at 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.

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning

Spring 2012 Events

21st Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner sponsored by the Development Advisory Board of St. Joseph Center for Special Learning, to be held Friday, May 18th at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Mahanoy City. Many levels of sponsorship available. All golf fees include lunch and steak dinner. You may also just come for dinner at 6:00 p.m. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m., with buffet style lunch starting at 11:30 a.m. Shotgun start at 1 p.m. Lots of prizes! Back again this year: each golfer will receive a $50 gift card to spend at the on-site NIKE Golf Store. For more information please call St. Joseph Center at (570) 622-4638.

Pottsville Mile (formerly known as the “Dash for St. Joseph Center for Special Learning”), sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Schuylkill County and the Schuylkill Knights of Columbus, will take place on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28th in Pottsville. Pre-registration guarantees a commemorative t-shirt for all runners. For more information or to register to run or become a sponsor, please call Mr. Bill Kern at (570) 498-5991.

Ride for Autism. The 10th annual motorcycle “Ride for Autism” to benefit St. Joseph Center for Special Learning will take place on Sunday, June 10th. Registration begins at 8 a.m. at 106 West Main Street in Tremont. Scenic ride starts at 10 a.m. followed by a non-alcoholic picnic at Whipporwill Dam in Frackville. Pig Roast, raffles, 50-50 drawing, and music by Airwaves. Donation of raffle items greatly appreciated. $20.00 per driver and $20.00 per passenger. For more info call Cathy and Gene at (570) 695-3824.

FAMILY MATTERS

Fun and Informational Topics for the Entire Family!
Saturday, April 28th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.
The National Children’s Study, 171 Red Horse Road (across from soccer fields on the Gordon Nagle Trail)

Scheduled Programs:
9:00 How much sugar is in your beverage?
Ruby Paris, R.N., Certified Diabetes Educator, Schuylkill Health
10:00 Cooking with the Kids-hands on fun
Amanda Hollenbach, Certified Nutrition Manager, Schuylkill Health
11:00 “Where the Wild Things Are” – Expressive reading and craft
Darren DeArment, MLIS, Head of Youth Services, Pottsville Library

Exhibits, Crafts, and Informational Table Topics
Snacks available. Please RSVP by emailing Debbie Herb at herbd@email.chop.edu or by calling 622-4257.

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Exhibits, Crafts, and Informational Table Topics
Snacks available. Please RSVP by emailing Debbie Herb at herbd@email.chop.edu or by calling 622-4257.

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Saturday, May 19th  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
at the Russell Building

DROP-OFF DATE

Items can be dropped off at St. John’s Russell Building on the following date ONLY

Wednesday, May 9th from 6 to 8 p.m.

NO ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED BEFORE OR AFTER THIS DATE

Do Not Leave Articles at the Door or in the Parking Lot

FOOD COLLECTION

“We can do no great things, only small things with great love.” … Mother Teresa.

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

OUTREACH MINISTRY

REACH OUT and TOUCH SOMEONE

St. John’s OutReach Ministry can help with light housekeeping, grocery shopping, transportation, meals, etc.

Volunteers are always needed.

Call Margie Glunz at 622-3067 anytime with your needs and concerns.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

FUND-RAISER: St. Patrick’s Church is hosting a parish fund-raiser … world famous tenor Ronan Tynan, on Sunday, April 29th at 2 p.m. at the Pottsville High School auditorium. Tickets $30 in advance; $40 at door. Proceeds benefit St. Patrick’s Church. For more information and tickets please call St. Pat’s Rectory 622-1802 or Kim Norris 628-0883.

CASINO MAGIC featuring lodging at Foxwoods Great Cedar Hotel … 3 Days / 2 Nights … April 25 - 27 … $285.00 per person. For more information and reservations contact St. Clare of Assisi Parish, 429-2255.

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

… Janet Daubert

Don’t buy a “shield” to protect yourself from your cell phone’s low-intensity electro-magnetic energy. Though the World Health Organization recently classified cell phones as “possibly carcinogenic,” there’s no clear evidence of danger. However, scam artists are marketing such so-called shields to prey on concerned people, the Federal Trade Commission recently warned. These devices do not significantly reduce exposure to emissions. In fact, if they block only the earpiece or other portions of the phone, they’re ineffective, because the entire phone emits electromagnetic energy. And, the FTC pointed out, a shield may interfere with the phone’s signal, thus causing it to draw even more power and possibly emit more energy.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Hauptly Plumbing/Electrical

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

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