

All Saints and St. John the Baptist Parish Families

Pastor: Rev. Gerald J. Gurka, M.Div., M.Th., M.A.

Clergy Assistance: Rev. Robert Sickler

Rev. James McGahagan

Permanent Deacon: Deacon Frank H. Hine

April 9, 2023

Resurrection of the Lord

All Saints Parish Mission Statement

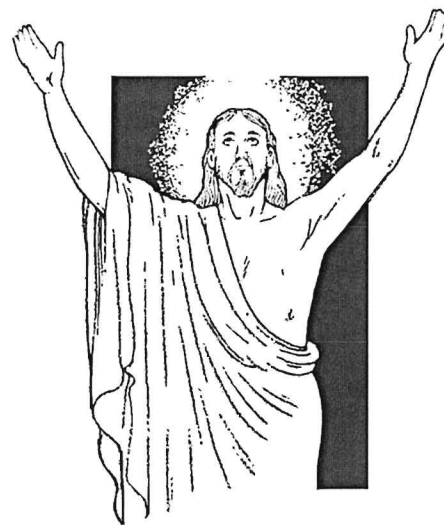
We, All Saints Parish, are drawn together by the power of the Holy Spirit to be a living and convincing sign of God's unconditional love. We are gifted to build bonds among ourselves and others in order to live the Gospel in word, worship, community and service for the salvation of all and the building of God's kingdom.

St. John the Baptist Parish Mission Statement

Our faith community of St. John the Baptist, founded on the word of God; welcomes all with charity and love....both the strong of Spirit and those who search. As part of the Universal Church, we acknowledge that God has uniquely blessed everyone with abundant gifts. We celebrate the differences that make all of us equal in the eyes of the Lord....using our blessings to provide all who join us in Eucharist with a heart-felt sense of family and communion. For the Lord has brought you to our door....you are a stranger here but once.

**A Prayerful Welcome to All
Worshipping With Us.**

**Easter invites us to a deeper
reflection on mystery - for living
faith is faith in God who is mystery.
Thanks for being here.**



All Saints

Rectory Office: 66 Willow St., Plymouth, PA 18651

Phone: 570-779-5323

Fax: 570-779-4921

Email: allsaints66@comcast.net

Website: www.allsaintsplymouth.com

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00AM-1:00PM

St. John the Baptist

Rectory Office: 126 Nesbitt St., Larksville, PA 18651

Phone: 570-779-9620

Fax: 570-779-7652

Email: stjohn1899@aol.com

Website: <http://stjohnslarksville.org>

Facebook: St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church

Office Hours: **No Office Hours on Mondays**

Tuesday thru Friday: 9:00AM-11:30AM/12:30PM-2:30PM

All Other Times by Appointment/Emergencies: call 911

~New Parishioners: WELCOME to our parish family!

Please call the rectory office at your earliest convenience.

~Established Parishioners:

Please let us know of any change of address or telephone number so that we may keep our records current. Families moving from the parish are asked to notify the rectory office.



GOSPEL GLIMPSES

April 9, 2023

Jn 20:1-9

That hollow feeling

If you've spent more than a few years on this earth, you've likely lost someone you love, whether parent, spouse, child or friend. You've faced the sorrow of that last goodbye, felt the hollow feeling where your heart used to be, sure that joy had left your life for good. You look at the future and all you see is a grave.

Look again. Each of those graves, so bleak and painful, is an Easter miracle. One day those graves will be as empty as Jesus' was. Our God, who endured first the separation, then the death of His beloved Son, has provided a way past the sorrow of death for all of us. Jesus' resurrection was the first, not the last. Through His sacrifice on the Cross, we each have the chance to be together eternally, with our God and our loved ones. The choice is up to us. Will we endure the grief or accept the gift of solace and salvation that Easter provides?

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Come Worship the Lord

Monday, April 10th

9:00 AM (AS) Frances Pick by Daughter, Linda

Tuesday, April 11th

9:00 AM (AS) Anastasia & George Domowitch by Pat

Wednesday, April 12th

No Mass

Thursday, April 13th

9:00 AM (SJB) Living & Deceased of our Parish Family

Friday, April 14th

9:00 AM (SJB) David M. Monka by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stillarty

Saturday, April 15th

4:00 PM (SJB) John Pagoda, Jr. & Angela Chorey by Pauline & Family (Live Streamed)

Sunday, April 16th

8:00 AM (SJB) Mrs. Catherine Chernoski by Granddaughter

10:00 AM (AS) Lisa Goss by Brothers



Today's Readings: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Vesele Velikononce! A Blessed Easter! Wesolego Alleluja! A Blessed Easter!

Prayerful Sympathy is extended to the families of **David Bartos** and **Rita Brennan**. Please remember David and Rita in prayer, along with their family and friends, during this difficult time of loss, pain and adjustment.

Sanctuary Candle burns this week at St. John's
in memory of **Ed, Allan & Marsia Makowski**,
offered by Dolores.

Flowers at St. John's Outdoor Grotto are
donated in memory of **Catherine & Joseph Papula**.

All Saints Parish: Donation of Altar Breads or Sanctuary Candles in memory/in honor of a loved one can be made by contacting Jackie Karnes at 570-332-1176 (Monday thru Friday only).

Christian Service Center: Next food distribution,
Thursday, April 27th from 10AM to 12Noon.

Home and Hospital Visitations: Are currently following all COVID Guidelines. If someone is homebound or hospitalized, please call the rectory office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 3PM Saturday at St. John's/By Appointment during the week. Masks Required.

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents must be registered in the Parish. Please call the office at least 4 months before your child is due. Instruction is required and normally held on the 1st Monday of each month. It is best to attend this class before the child's birth. Current COVID Guidelines require private celebration of Baptism. Please call to schedule.

Sacrament of Holy Orders: Is God calling you? Please see Fr. Jerry or Deacon Frank.

Sacrament of Marriage: Diocesan regulations require those couples planning marriage to contact the pastor at least twelve months prior to the desired date of the marriage and other wedding arrangements.

R.C.I.A. (O.C.I.A.) (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults): For those in need of Baptism or completion of sacramental preparation. Please contact rectory.

The Paschal Candle

The Easter (Paschal) Candle symbolizes Christ as the Light of the World. It stands in the sanctuary throughout the days of Easter until Ascension Thursday, reminding us of the risen Christ, the true light which enlightens every person who comes into the world. This year's Paschal Candle at St. John's is in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Connie Pastula & Son, Joseph.



Little White Books for Easter are available in the church vestibule. Please take home a complimentary copy.

Weekday Morning Mass at All Saints will be held in the Main Church and not the downstairs Chapel. Thanks for adjusting!

Our Masses can now be viewed on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW2sYIA9P9UfsvYJ90IRsEg>.

An Easter Message from Your Pastor

Easter is the highest Feast Day of the Church Year. It reminds us that we have an amazing heritage of faith and are called to share the life-changing message of Jesus Christ - a message that takes us from the darkness of this world to the light of an ever-present, ever-faithful and loving God - a Creator who saves, forgives, restores and resurrects what is lost, broken, and even dead within our lives, spirits, and our hearts. Easter invites us to open our hearts and spirits to meet the love, mercy and compassion of the Risen Lord. And when we do, resurrection continues to happen. Deacon Frank, Father Bob, Father Jim, Dobby the Church Cat and I send prayerful warmest wishes for every Blessing to you and your loved ones... and that as a linked Parish Family we continue to resurrect and grow ever closer in Christ's love. Please remember that all Easter Culinary Concoctions remain calorie-free until Divine Mercy Sunday! And don't forget to sweeten any "Wascally Human Wabbits" with prayers to resurrect from their "Wascaliness!"

Fr. Jerry



Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia

The strife is over the battle done
The victory of life is won
The song of triumph has begun
The powers of death have done their worst
But Christ their legions has dispersed
Let shouts of holy joy outburst
The three sad days are quickly sped
He rises glorious from the dead
All glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

Deepest Prayerful Gratitude to each and everyone who made our pierogie pinching parties and sales a scrumptilyumptious success!! Double Spatulas are raised in salute!

Faith Formation News

- Classes will be not be held this weekend.
- All Saints Confirmation Students will sit together for the 10AM "Mass as a Class" on Sunday, April 16th.
- Confirmation will be held on Monday, April 17th at 5PM at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

Miraculous Medal Novena prayed on Mondays after Mass at All Saints.

Rosary is prayed by the Knights of Columbus, Council #11901 before the 10AM Mass on Sundays at All Saints beginning at 9:40AM. Intentions are for an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life/an end to the Pandemic. Please feel free to add your own private intentions as well.

Senior Citizens Friendship Club of St. Mary's will meet Monday, April 10th from 1 to 4PM at Holy Child Faith Formation Center, Willow Street, Plymouth. NEW MEMBERS WELCOME. Come join us for Bingo, Cards and Refreshments.

CRS Rice Bowl: Happy Easter!

Our CRS Rice Bowl journey has ended, but our prayers, fasting and almsgiving continue as we seek a closer relationship with God and our global family. Let us hold in our hearts our sisters and brothers in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya and commit to share our Easter joy with people in our local community and around the world. Don't forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl next weekend to our church vestibule. If you wish, a check may be written to St. John's; please write *Rice Bowl* on an envelope before dropping in the collection basket or sending to the rectory office. Thank you for your generosity.



Prayer Shawl Gathering will be held this Wednesday, April 12th from 5PM to 7PM in St. John's Church Hall. CDC Guidelines will be followed. Masks are encouraged. Please consider making an afghan for our Bazaar. To date, 37 afghans have been made with 13 more needed for our Afghan stand at the Bazaar. New members are always welcome and greatly appreciated. If someone you know needs a prayer shawl please contact the rectory. If you aren't able to attend a meeting, but want to donate a lap robe, shawl or afghan, please contact the rectory office. Thanks!

If you aren't able to make an afghan, monetary donations are most welcome and appreciated. They can be made via collection basket (place in an envelope marked "Yarn/Afghans") or sent to the rectory office. Thank You for helping us to help others.

Please save your receipts from Plymouth Hometown Market for our local firemen. There is a box in the Church vestibule where you can place your receipts. Thank you!

All Bulletin Announcements should be submitted to our offices on Monday for approval by Father Jerry. Thanks!

Thank you for silencing your cell phones and refraining from texting while in church.

Parish Lottery Winners

Week of March 27th: \$50: #752 Joseph Skvarla, #639 Susan Leonard, #050 Thomas Mullery, Jr, #703 Natalie Shoemaker, #134 Jeane Hogan, \$100: #452 Felicia Perlick

Extraordinary Graces of Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration on Sunday, April 16th at Queen of the Apostles Parish, 715 Hawthorne St., Avoca. 12:30PM - 1:45PM Sacrament of Reconciliation, 2PM Holy Mass with Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image, 3PM Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction. All are welcome to attend!

Altar & Rosary Society Bingo will be held on Sunday, April 16th in St. Robert Bellarmine Parish (St. Al's Church) Cafeteria, 143 West Division St., W-B. Doors open at 12Noon. \$15.00 per person. 10 games, 4 special games included in price. Food/Beverages will be available for purchase.

The Social Concerns Committee of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish will hold a **CASH BINGO** on Sunday, April 23rd in the school gymnasium, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville. Doors open at noon & games begin at 1PM. Parking is available in a lot on the corner of Warsaw & Sidney St. Admission is \$25 and includes 4 cards for 15 regular games & 3 cards for each of the four specials & cover-all. Prizes are \$100 for regular game, \$200 for each special, & \$500 for coverall. Additional cards & daubers will be available for purchase. Tickets can be purchased the day of the event, or in the church vestibule before & after mass on April 15/16. Door prizes, lunch, bake sale, basket raffles & 50/50 drawing will be featured. Proceeds benefit the committee's mission of helping those in need in the parish and local community.

Remember that your Sunday Envelope Contribution is always forwarded to the proper parish.

We continue to be deeply grateful for kindly sending your regular and special collection offerings via mail whenever need be. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.

Legend of the Dogwood

There is a legend, that at the time of the Crucifixion the dogwood had been the size of the oak and other forest trees. So firm and strong was the tree that it was chosen as the timber for the cross. To be used thus for such a cruel purpose greatly distressed the tree, and Jesus, nailed upon it, sensed this, and in his suffering said to it: Because of your regret and pity for My suffering, never again shall the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used for a cross.

Henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross: two long and two short petals. And in the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nail prints, brown with rust and stained with red, and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see it will remember.

Notice Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement.

It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis. To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.

Commitment of Treasure: April 2, 2023

All Saints
Weekly \$6,388.00
Fiscal Year-to-Date \$176,027.16

Amount budgeted each week:
\$6,808.00

Diocesan Annual Appeal Update
Parish Goal: \$37,000
Pledges to Date: \$19,263 (52% of goal)

St. John the Baptist
Weekly \$5,615.00
Fiscal Year-to-Date \$185,881.00

Amount budgeted each week:
\$5,650.00

Diocesan Annual Appeal Update
Parish Goal: \$21,000
Pledges to Date: \$16,315 (78% of goal)