

## Feb. 11 – Feb. 24, 2019

M: St Mary • J: St Joseph • Rc: rectory chapel  
*Our bulletin covers several weeks!*

Feb 12 6pm •  
Feb 13 9am • *No*  
Feb 14 9am • *Mass*  
Feb 15 9am • J Rc † Christine Antol

### Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> • 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C •

3:30pm • J Joseph Lorince r/o Michael & Judy Dziak  
5:15pm • M † Faris Zogby r/o Joann Zogby & Mark  
8:15am • J People of the Parish  
10:15am • M † Sr. Albertine Dawidowski, O.S.F.  
r/o Stan & Marie Piaskowski

Feb 19 6pm • M † Elizabeth Sachleben r/o Stan & Marie Piaskowski  
Feb 20 9am • J Rc † Kenneth Heckman  
Feb 21 9am • J Rc † Richard Shollenberger  
Feb 22 9am • **No Mass**

### Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> • 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C •

3:30pm • J † Carmen Fierro r/o Theresa Novak  
5:15pm • M † Rose Aponick r/o Mary Balkiewicz & Judy Jarzinko  
8:15am • J † Peter Timko r/o daughter, Carol  
10:15am • M People of the Parish



❖ **STEWARDSHIP: M:** 1/20:S: 669; 1/27:S: 821; 2/3:S:922 ; Dues: 515; Bldg Fund: 229 • **J:**1/27:S: 1721; 2/3:S: 1745; Dues: 490; Bldg Fund: 768; Energy: 990

❖ **2019 Mass Book is open!** Weekends are still available. There are forms in the back of the church to fill out or call the parish office \$10.00

❖ **2019 Envelopes:** will be at the office for any parishioner who did not pick up their contributions envelopes or were missed. Please call the office.

❖ **2018 Contributions:** if for tax purposes, you are in need of a report, contact the parish office.

❖ **Note:** At the direction of the diocese, due to the reported widespread flu outbreak, the greeting at the sign of peace and the ministry of the cup is suspended. Which leaves us to ask: why not assist at Holy Mass by serving/lecturing, ushering.

▶ **Has your phone number or email changed lately? If so, contact the parish office or drop a letter in the collection basket so we can stay connected!**

▶ **Schuylkill Women in Crisis** of Pottsville sincerely thanks you for all the items donated to the shelter. Your donations help provide hope and healing to many survivors.

## ‡ *Spiritual Corner*

**APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION GAUDETE ET  
EXSULTATE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS  
ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD**

### **Chapter Two – Two Subtle Enemies of Holiness**

*A doctrine without mystery*

40. Gnosticism is one of the most sinister ideologies because, while unduly exalting knowledge or a specific experience, it considers its own vision of reality to be perfect. Thus, perhaps without even realizing it, this ideology feeds on itself and becomes even more myopic. It can become all the more illusory when it masks itself as a disembodied spirituality. For gnosticism “by its very nature seeks to domesticate the mystery”, [38] whether the mystery of God and his grace, or the mystery of others’ lives.

41. When somebody has an answer for every question, it is a sign that they are not on the right road. They may well be false prophets, who use religion for their own purposes, to promote their own psychological or intellectual theories. God infinitely transcends us; he is full of surprises. We are not the ones to determine when and how we will encounter him; the exact times and places of that encounter are not up to us. Someone who wants everything to be clear and sure presumes to control God’s transcendence.

42. Nor can we claim to say where God is not, because God is mysteriously present in the life of every person, in a way that he himself chooses, and we cannot exclude this by our presumed certainties. Even when someone’s life appears completely wrecked, even when we see it devastated by vices or addictions, God is present there. If we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit rather than our own preconceptions, we can and must try to find the Lord in every human life. This is part of the mystery that a gnostic mentality cannot accept, since it is beyond its control.

#### ❖ **Prayer List Permission Form:**

Names are placed on the prayer list, unless otherwise notified, for 60 days. After that time, a permission form must be re-submitted.



Hear Our Prayer

❖ **Pray for:** Fill out the forms, even if you’re healthy & would like to be prayed for in times of need! •Victor Yanuskiewicz •Frank & Dorothy Hovanec •Joanne Aponick • Joe Tomtishen Sr. • Phil & Shirley Kennedy •John & Angie Ounfuer •Fr. Jim Torpey

❖ **Birthday Blessings:** Gene Rejent: 2/9; Jim Fish, Anna Gharghoury: 2/15; Helen Fisher: 2/16; Ellen Stark, Marie Piaskowski, Rick Roulin, John Washko, Victor Yanuskiewicz: 2/19; Bill Fellin, Ryley Schwalm: 2/21; Joseph Schmidt Jr, Debbie Stivers: 2/24

*If your birthday was missed, call the office to update your information.*

❖ **Welcome new parishioners:** (J) Lohr Family: Christopher, Ellen, Madison & Brendan

#### ❖ **Healing Our Church Discussion Groups Coming in Lent**

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Allentown are invited to attend small-group discussions, moderated by fellow parishioners, and designed to encourage reflection and conversation about the clergy abuse crisis. **Healing Our Church** is a program from RENEW International, a Catholic nonprofit organization. Bishop Alfred Schlert has called the parish-based small-group discussions “an opportunity for all of us to prayerfully reflect on



scripture, on the abuse crisis, and on our path forward as a Roman Catholic Family of Faith.” Discussions will take place during the six weeks of Lent. Watch for more information, including how to sign up, soon.

- ❖ **St. Mary's Choir:** \$8 order by 3/29. Pick up 4/2. Forms @ church, see a choir member or call the parish office. **We seek donations of flour.** Donations can be dropped off at church or the parish office.



**New choir members are always welcome!**



- ❖ **K of C Happenings:** next meeting Feb 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ **40 Cans for Lent/40 Days for Life!**

Our commitment to the poor challenges us to serve Christ by donating a can good for each day of Lent. Our goal is to reach **1,000 lbs of canned items** between both parishes. The food will be distributed to support the poor in our area. This will start sometime in February please watch for the collection box.



- ❖ **St. Joseph's 50/50:** are out! Extra tickets are available. January winner: Theresa Novak: \$62.50 Congrats!

#### ❖ **Woman of Grace Happenings:**

► **HOPE Ministry:** If you or someone you know in our community could use some temporary help with meals, errands, rides to church or appointments HOPE Ministry can help. HOPE Ministry is also seeking volunteers to help serve those in need. Call Nancy 215-801-5797 or Arlene 570-590-5810

#### ❖ **PREP/CONFIRMATION NEWS:**

**Wanted:** CATECHISTS

**Reward:** Personal Satisfaction Guaranteed

We are in need of a few individuals to volunteer as Substitute Catechists. Classes are held after the Sunday 8:15 am Mass at St Joseph's Shepton. State & Diocesan clearances are required. Please speak with Lynn Kuzmitsky or Lisa in the Parish office if interested, they can assist with clearances. Help our children be all they can be. Become a CCD teacher and use your God given talents to help teach our faith. Thank you!

#### ➔ **Alpha for Teens: New Teen Ministry for Schuylkill County**

**Schuylkill Catholic Young Church** is the new Schuylkill County regional youth ministry of the Diocese of Allentown. Teens are invited to participate in the upcoming "Alpha" series, which includes free dinner. Have questions about faith? Want to discuss the meaning of life, Jesus, spirituality and so much more? Want to plug into a community? Then you should check out ALPHA Youth, starting **Sunday, January 27th at St Clare of Assisi Church!** We will eat dinner, watch an ALPHA video, and have small group discussion each night in a fun and engaging way for youth. See you there! Please RSVP: [annie@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:annie@allentowndiocese.org). Alpha will be held on Sundays from 6-8pm at **St. Clare Parish Hall in St. Clair** (change of location) from **January 27 through March 24**.

**Mission Trip: Support is sought for.** Sara Osilka, a parishioner from St. Mary's and a current student at University of Pittsburgh, will be going on her third mission trip to the Dominican Republic this May. She will be traveling to the small town of El Factor and will be there for a little less than two weeks. Last summer, she and her fellow missionaries brought the Word of God to Dominican children through song, dance and crafts. A typical day will consist of morning prayer, breakfast, going to a small nearby parish to work with the children, lunch, traveling to another parish, going to Mass, dinner, preparing for the next day, and finally night prayer. Monetary donations would be appreciated to support her in this endeavor. **Checks made payable to: St. Mary's memo Mission trip Sara Osilka.** Donations can be put in the collection basket. Physical donations will also be greatly appreciated. Sara will be speaking at Masses to explain how we can be of help.

► **Worldwide Marriage Encounter:** Feb 17 – Couples, do you desire for your good marriage to be even better? A WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend will help you discover new ways to refresh your Marriage. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org). Feb 24 – "GIVE, AND GIFTS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU," Jesus promises in today's gospel. Spouses, when you attend a WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER weekend, you can learn to freely give the gift of love to each other. A GOOD MEASURE OF LOVE WILL BE PACKED, SHAKEN AND OVERFLOWING INTO YOUR HEARTS. For information call 1-732-904-9636 or visit [www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org](http://www.aweekendforyourmarriage.org).

► **2019 Catholic Charities Gala!** Sunday, March 3 DeSales University Cocktails at 5:00 p.m. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Don't miss out! Get your Catholic Charities Tickets: \$175 – includes open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, sit down dinner, dessert and your support of the crucial programs and services of Catholic Charities. For more information, please contact Julie Scheck at 610-871-5200, ext. 2216, or [jscheck@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:jscheck@allentowndiocese.org) GALA RAFFLE TICKETS! First Prize: An evening in Manhattan! Includes 2 tickets to "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" on Broadway, dinner for two at Sardi's restaurant and roundtrip limo service. (Provided by Joseph Benincasa, President, The Actor's Fund; and Corporate Limousine) Second prize: Apple iPad Pro valued at \$1,000! (Provided by Gary Iacocca, Yocco's) Third prize: Pair of tickets to a 2019 Musikfest show of your choice at the Sand Steel Stage, admission for 2 to The Oasis bar, and parking at the Sands Steel Stage lot. Also included: 2 Musikfest Mugs, official 2019 Musikfest poster, one-year Silver ArtsQuest membership and \$100 in food and beverage tickets which can be used anywhere throughout the festival during 2019. (Provided by ArtsQuest) Ticket cost: \$10 each or 3 for \$20. Contact Sister Janice Marie Johnson (Gala Committee Member) at 610-871-5200, ext. 2280 to purchase.

► **William Wine and the Word:** "Wine down" with Shakespeare and his troupe as they perform *Macbeth* and hilariously grapple with the beauty of our faith. The Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and Sing for America present *William, Wine and the Word* on Saturday, Feb. 23 from 7:00 to 11:00 PM. Event includes an interactive performance, drinks, and light fare. Attire: relaxed glamour. Must be 21+ to attend, ID will be checked at the door. Event will take place at the DAR Log Cabin at the Bethlehem Rose Garden (9th Avenue, Bethlehem). For more information and to register, visit [www.allentowndiocese.org/williamwine](http://www.allentowndiocese.org/williamwine). For questions, contact Alexa Smith at [asmith@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:asmith@allentowndiocese.org).

❖ **SCRIP:** We've: \$25 & \$100 Amazon, \$25 Applebee's, \$25 Apple itunes\$, 10 Bath & Body Works, \$25 Bed Bath & Beyond, \$25 Boscov's, \$25 Cabela's, \$25 Cracker Barrel, \$25 CVS, \$10 Dairy Queen, \$25 Dunham's, \$25 & \$10 Dunkin' Donuts, \$25 Gap/Old Navy, \$25 & \$50 Giant Foods, \$25 Home Depot, \$10 Long John Silvers, \$25 & \$100 Lowes, \$25 Macy's, \$25 Michael's, \$25 Olive Garden, \$10 & \$25 Panera Bread \$25 PetSmart, \$10 Pizza Hut, \$25 Regal Cinema, \$10 Regal Cinema (Admit one), \$25 Sheetz, \$50 Sunoco, \$25 Target, \$25 TJ Maxx/Marshall's, \$25 Walmart/Sam's, \$100 Walmart/Sam's, \$25 Weis, \$100 Weis. Our Scrip profit for 2018 was \$903.98!! **We've added \$25 Apple iTunes, \$25 CVS, \$25 Michael's, \$25 Target.** Thank you to all who support this fund-raising program by purchasing scrip cards for gifts as well as for their everyday purchases! **We're taking orders/sell @ St. Joseph's after mass. Contact the parish office to place an order!**

❖ **Redner's Save-A-Tape:** Save your receipts, put them in Sunday Stewardship. (M) benefit 1%. **For your receipts to count toward the church you must sign up at Redners service desk!**

❖ **Outside Events:** • **Ringtown Rotary** invites you to attend a meeting to learn about their organization. Meetings are held on Thursdays @ 6:15 at the Union Township building, however 2/28 & 3/21 will be set aside for visitors to learn more about the organization. If interested call/text the Monday before any meeting so they can properly prepare a meal for all. **Ann O'Boyle Cell: 570-498-1668/Home: 570-889-5305; [oboy53@ptd.net](mailto:oboy53@ptd.net)** or see any Rotarian.