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Church of St. Patrick



CHURCH OF SAINT PATRICK

319 MAHANTONGO STREET  POTTSVILLE, PA

Pastor Rev. Msgr. Edward J. O'Connor

Parochial Vicar/Hospital Chaplain..... Rev. William N. Seifert

In Residence..... Rev. Kenneth A. Medve

Permanent Deacons Mr. John E. Quirk
Mr. Lawrence J. Lonergan

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday 4:15 & 6:00 pm
Sunday 7:30, 9:30 & 11:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Weekdays..... 6:30 and 8:00 am
Saturdays 8:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 pm *Wednesday* 7:30 to 8:30 pm

PARISH OFFICE

Phone 570-622-1802 *Email* dwalker.stpats@gmail.com
Fax 570-622-2593 *Web*..... www.stpatrickpottsville.org
Office Administrator Debbie Walker
Office Hours 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, weekdays
Bulletin Deadline 9:00 am, Mondays
Monthly Parish Events Calendar Deadline First day of prior month

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Please call the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism. Parents wishing Baptism for their children must be practicing Catholics. This means regular attendance at Mass, and supporting the Parish by the use of envelopes. Parents are required to attend a preparatory workshop. Workshops are held bi-monthly.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples planning to be married must contact a parish priest at least six months prior to the desired date of the marriage.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PREP): Grades 1 - 8 • September thru May
Sundays after the 9:30 am Mass 10:45 am to noon
Director..... Mrs. Dale Verchick
Phone..... 570-516-0107 *Email*..... dcd2211@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION: All parishioners should be registered in our files. New parishioners are asked to register as soon as possible. When moving from the parish, notify the office. Please also report any address change.

DIVINE MERCY PERPETUAL ADORATION CHAPEL AT ST. PATRICK RECTORY: Please call Aleece at 570-449-7678 or Albert at 570-573-0036 for more information.

ROSARY AND NOVENA: 7:00 pm - Wednesdays in Our Lady's Chapel

COMMUNION CALLS are made monthly. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to be put on the Communion Call list, or would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick.

HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME VISITS: The patient or a member of the immediate family must notify the Parish Office of a patient's admission so a visit can be made. This is in compliance with the Federal HIPAA Law.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process in which adults join the Catholic Church. Please call the Parish Office if interested.

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE: Certificates to act as a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation are available at the Parish Office. You must be a member of the Parish in good standing to be given a certificate.

ST. PATRICK POTTSVILLE AREA KITCHEN: Please call Terry Alexander at 570-617-2957 for hours and donations.

St. Patrick's Preschool ...570-622-0106
at Assumption BVM
Director: Mrs. Sharon Rossi

Assumption BVM570-622-0106
Elementary School
Principal: Mrs. Teresa Keating

Nativity BVM 570-622-8110
High School
Principal: Mrs. Lynn Sabol

St. Joseph's Center 570-622-4638
for Special Learning
Principal: Mr. Roobhenn Smith

Victim Assistance Coordinator
Wendy Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
DIRECT LINE: 800-791-9209

Safe Environment Coordinator
Sr. Meg Cole, SSJ, MS, LMFT
610-332-0442 (x19)



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 11, 2016

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 6:30 a.m. Joseph A. Fabiani
(The Pauser, Barr, & Frantz Families)
8:00 a.m. Mim & Betty (Phyllis)

Tuesday, December 13 – St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

- 6:30 a.m. Sam Spleen (Wife, Lee)
8:00 a.m. Agnes Owens (Daughter, Kitty Owens DiCello)

Wednesday, December 14 – St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

- 6:30 a.m. Rachel Ann Sninsky (Family)
8:00 a.m. Catherine Lyston (Thelma Crepack)

Thursday, December 15

- 6:30 a.m. Jule & Harold Fleischut, Sr. (Est)
8:00 a.m. Olga Potlunas (Micki & John Potlunas)

Friday, December 16

- 6:30 a.m. Anthony J. Luppino (Roni & Phyllis Kevy)
Gerald Dalton (Corrine Dalton)
8:00 a.m. John & Clara Cielinski (Rosemary Cairns)

Saturday, December 17

- 8:00 a.m. Charles F. Kutch (Family)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

(Masses of Obligation)

Saturday, December 17

- 4:15 p.m. Carlton & Mary Rosalie "Kuentzler" Crouse
(Sally Moyer Family)
6:00 p.m. Edward & Dorothy Cox (Mary Bardell)

Sunday, December 18

- 7:30 a.m. Members enrolled in the Purgatorial Memorial Society
9:30 a.m. John, Margaret, & Joseph Fitzpatrick (Est)
11:00 a.m. People of the Parish

If you are a visitor to the Church of St. Patrick, we want you to know that you are most welcome, whether you come from another State or from another Parish. Please feel comfortable in our beautiful house of the Father. Thank you for worshipping with us!



READINGS FOR TODAY:

Is 35:1-6/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- the sick of the parish
- our many Benefactors
- those recently deceased

CANDLE INTENTIONS

Sanctuary – IMO Olimbia "Lee" Spleen
(St. Patrick Seniors)

Sacred Heart – IMO Del Kriner
(Dick & Sharon Buehler & Family)

Pieta – IMO Joseph Roshannon (Eva Burns)

Pope St. John Paul II – For a Special Intention (Helen Weiss)

St. Patrick – IMO James Breslin (Wife, Marian, & Daughters)

Our Lady's Chapel - Sanctuary – IMO Michael Barone & Family (Kay Barone)

Our Lady's Chapel – Blessed Virgin Mary –



Priest Mass Schedule for December 17/18:

4:15 pm – Fr. Seifert

7:30 am – Fr. Medve

6 pm – Msgr. O'Connor

9:30 am – Msgr. O'Connor

11 am – Fr. Seifert



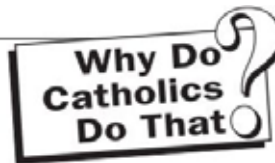
Oplatki
Christmas
Wafers

Oplatki, aka Christmas Wafers, are now available from our Parish Office during business hours, ending on December 21 (or until the

supply runs out). The breaking of "Oplatki" is a Central European Christian tradition celebrated in Poland, Lithuania, and Slovakia during Holy Supper. A requested offering of \$3 (or a donation of your choice) is asked for each pack of four wafers. The offerings will be given to charity. PS: We don't have many packs left!



Another tradition is the Blessing of the "Bambinelli", which will take place at all masses next weekend, December 17 and 18. Everyone is invited to bring your Baby Jesus from your Nativity sets to Mass that weekend. This is a beautiful Italian Catholic tradition that we would love to pass on to all of our parishioners.



Why do Catholics celebrate Christ's birth on December 25th?

The Gospels do not identify a specific date for Jesus' birth. December 25 was chosen for several reasons, including that the date was close to the winter solstice. The early Church attempted to replace existing pagan celebrations with Christian ones. Under the Emperor Aurelian, December 25 was celebrated as the "birth of the unconquered sun." As Christianity became more widely practiced, the pagan celebration was replaced by Christmas to celebrate Christ's birth — the real "unconquered" light of the world.



LOTTERY CALENDAR - RECENT OUTCOMES

Tues., November 29	#890	No Winner
Wed., November 30	#996	No Winner
Thurs., December 1	#027	Chris S. (\$50)
Fri., December 2	#338	Ann P. (\$50)
Sat., December 3	#784	Sponge S. (\$100)
Sun., December 4	#768	Linda S. (\$150)
Mon., December 5	#787	Dolly M. (\$50)

Our monthly lottery calendars are a great fundraiser for our Parish! Please consider being a seller, or buying one in the future by getting one at one of the masses or stopping by the Parish Office! They make great gifts that you can tuck in a Birthday or Get Well card, and 'Tis the Season...a great little stocking stuffer. We appreciate the support of everyone who helps to make this so successful!

Thank you to everyone who supported November's lotto!!
A profit of \$1,676.28 was realized! Wow!!

The next **Baptismal Workshop** will be held on Tuesday, **December 13**, at 7 pm, in the Rectory Conference Room. Please call Deacon Jack Quirk at 570-622-1802 to register. **Parents are required to attend a preparatory workshop before Baptism.**



DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS



We NEED your HELP!!!

- **Inside Decorating – December 18 after the 11 am Mass
- **Flowers – December 22 (time to be announced)



CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS!!

WEDNESDAY FROM 7:30-8:30 PM AND SATURDAY FROM 3-4 PM! PLUS.....

- *TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20 - 4-5 PM
- *WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21-6:30-8:30 PM
- *FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23 - 3-4 PM

THERE WILL BE NO CONFESSIONS ON CHRISTMAS EVE!

Divine Mercy Perpetual Adoration Chapel at **St. Patrick's Rectory** – For information, please call Aleece at 570-449-7678

OPEN HOLY HOURS

SUNDAY 12 am, 4 am; TUESDAY 2 am; FRIDAY 10 am, 6 pm; SATURDAY 12 pm, 1 pm, 7 pm



All are welcome to join us for some Christmas Spirit, and some Coffee, Hot Chocolate, and some goodies on Wednesday, December 21, from 8:30 am to 9:30 am, in the Parish Office! Maybe we'll even sing a carol or two!



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

December 4, 2016

Stewardship: **\$10,345**

Thank you for your generosity to your Parish!

THE PARISH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, AT 6 PM, IN THE RECTORY DINING ROOM. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR A SHORT MEETING AND SOME GOODIES!

Sacramental Dates!!

Please Mark your Calendars Now!!

- ***Sunday, March 5, 2017 - First Penance for our 2nd & 3rd Grade
- ***Wednesday, April 19, 2017 - Confirmation for our 8th Grade (Confirmation will be in St. Patrick Church)
- ***Saturday, May 6, 2017 - First Holy Communion for our 3rd Grade (Please note: This is NOT Mother's Day weekend!)

Thank you to **Dave Terleckas**, who photographed our recent **Golf Outing!!** To see pictures from the event, please go to Dave's website at photosintimebyDave.fototime.com.



See the Spiritual Highlights of Italy with parishioner, Charlie Taronis - June 26-July 5, 2017. Includes: Rome-Assisi-San Giovanni Rotondo-Cascia-Loreto and more! An information/preview night will

be held in our Parish Center, Thursday, January 5, 2017, at 6:30pm. All are welcome!

Greetings from Father Eric Arnout: To everyone at St. Patrick, I desire to express my sincere appreciation for your kindness and generosity to me during my 15 months with you in the Parish, and upon my transfer to take on the duties of a parish administrator/pastor. Thank you to everyone! It was great to visit with you at the social a few Sundays ago. I promise to keep you in my prayers . . . Please remember me in your prayers. God bless you and best wishes for Blessed Advent and Christmas Seasons!



Thank you to The Pocono Foundation, from Tuscon, Arizona, for their \$2,000 donation to St. Patrick Cemeteries! We appreciate this annual gift very much!



Our Next Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Sunday, January 8, 2017!!

Please note: Due to New Year's, the Super Bowl, and the St. Patrick Church Gala, our next three Spaghetti Dinners will be held on the second Sunday of the month, instead of the first Sunday. February's will be on the 12th, and March's will be on the 12th!

11:30 am to 2:30 pm -- In our Parish Center
Adults: \$8.00 - Children: \$3.50
All You Can Eat * Take-outs available
All are welcome!!

As always, baked goods are always appreciated!
Many thanks to all those who continue to support this wonderful and delicious tradition!

Kids – Grades Kindergarten through 12th Grade
Please come and help us put **CHRIST** in **CHRISTMAS** by being a part of our Youth Choir and Christmas Pageant for the 6:30 pm Christmas Mass! Our last practice will be held on **December 18**, following **PREP** at Noon for a half hour.



Hey Kids of All Ages.... Don't forget to pick up a Monsignor on a Stick during office hours, and start taking pictures of him during your favorite Advent and Christmas traditions....making cookies, wrapping gifts, visiting Santa, rigging up the lights, singing Christmas carols, etc. Be creative!! Submit your pictures to the Parish Office either by email (dwalker.stpats@gmail.com) or on our Parish Facebook page or by an actual picture by **January 9, 2017**. \$50 Grand Prize!



In loving memory of Del Kriner in honor of his 100th Birthday

by: Sharon & Dick Buehler and Family, and Bob & Diane Kriner and Family



In memory of David Brown, Sr.

by: Marie & Don Hoak and Family;
Shirley Hasenauer and Family

*Donations
to the St. Patrick
Memorial
Fund*

In memory of Francis McAndrew

by: Paul & Joanie Dimmerling

Please consider being a Bus Sponsor!! We rely on donations to cover the cost of Bus Transportation to our Parish Retreat. If you are unable to come to the Retreat this year, please consider making a donation. Please contact Charlie Taronis at 570-628-5297 if you have further questions. Donations may be dropped off at the Parish Office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Please Notice This



Parishioners who are 70 1/2 and older: Great news from the Federal Government! IRA Qualified Charitable Contributions Restated, Made Permanent. As of January 1, 2016, the legislature finally made permanent qualified charitable distribution (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts (IRAs). The benefits: A QCD permits the annual direct transfers to a qualified charity (St. Patrick Church and Schools), totaling up to \$100,000 of tax deferred IRA savings and the withdrawal does not count towards your taxable income. QCDs automatically satisfy required minimum distribution (RMDs) for the year when the QCD is made. That is a real advantage for a charitable-minded IRA owner who doesn't need RMDs to live on. For more information, please contact David Shelcusky from the Parish Finance Committee at 570-622-5409.

Bakers Unite!! Attention Ladies...Get out your spatulas, and start baking for our very first Homemade Christmas Cookie Exchange Night called "O Wonderful Exchange"!! Please mark Thursday, December 15, on your calendar so that



you can join us at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center for a short talk, and then the fun begins!! Everyone is asked to bring 3 dozen HOMEMADE Cookies or Candy, along with the recipe. We will have a light supper (sandwiches, snacks, eggnog). Don't forget to BYOB! A free will donation is asked to cover the costs. Each participant will receive a personalized gift!! Also, we will have a contest (with prizes) for the Most Creative and the Most Festive cookie, judged by an impartial critic! Please RSVP by THIS MONDAY, December 12.



St. Patrick Teens – Grades 7-12 – Join the A.C.T.I.O.N. Youth Group from Mahanoy City on a trip to Christmas Village on **Wednesday, December 28**. We will leave from in front of Dunkin' Donuts (Route 61) at approximately 5:30 pm, and return home at approximately 9:30 pm. The cost for you will be \$9, which will include your admission ticket and bus ride. Food is on your own. Please call Debbie at the Parish Office to register and for more information by December 21st. Hope you can make it!



Our annual Giving Tree is in the Nave of the Church, alongside St. Patrick. During this Season of Giving, please stop by and pick up an ornament or two, and help make someone's Christmas a little brighter! This year, we will be helping Catholic Charities, and Care Net Pregnancy Center, which assists our teens. St. Patrick Parish has been very generous in the past. We hope you will help again!

Tu Es Petrus: Upon this Rock

Our 7th Annual Parish Retreat!



What a blessing our Parish Retreat has been year after year, and we are so excited about another weekend of fellowship, fun, and growth in the Lord! This year again, the retreat will be held at the beautiful Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, Mount Pocono from **Friday, February 17 to Sunday, February 19, 2017**. Our theme this year is "*Tu Es Petrus: Upon This Rock*" as we reflect on St. Peter and the gift of the Papacy.

The price is \$155 for double or triple occupancy or \$180 for a single room, each with a private bathroom. The price includes Coach Bus transportation to and from the retreat center, five full meals, snacks and evening refreshments. Gathering together to seek God more fully, build relationships with the Parish family, and to simply let down your hair and relax- PRICELESS!

Please make your check for the full amount or at least \$50 payable to the Church of St. Patrick, and return it along with the registration information to Debbie in the Parish Office. You may also mail to:

**** St. Patrick Church ** 319 Mahantongo Street ** Pottsville, PA 17901 ****

We will mail you a confirmation letter containing all the details at least two weeks before the retreat. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Karen Powers at 570-628-4531, Charlie Taronis at 570-628-5297 or ask a Retreat Team member.

2017 Retreat Team Members

Msgr. O'Connor, Karen Powers, Charlie Taronis, Helen Weiss, Debbie Walker, Beth Travis, Brian Barket, John & Kim Sutter, Bill & Melody Montag, Larry Lonergan, Annette Peron, Shelly Lurwick, Mary Ann Heenan



Church of Saint Patrick Retreat- February 17-19, 2017 Registration Form

Upon This **ROCK**



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: Home _____ Cell _____ Confirmation Name: _____

Email Address: _____ Preferred Roommate: _____

Emergency Contact & Number: _____

Circle choice: Double/Triple Occupancy (\$155/person) or Single Occupancy (\$180/person)

Deposit of \$50.00 is due at registration

The TOP TEN Reasons Why You Should Go on Retreat!

10. With a combination of activities, prayer, and fellowship, the Retreat will be a day that you will cherish, and not easily forget.
9. The faith of the Retreat Team is a witness that faith in God can be a desirable, acceptable, and exciting part of daily lives.
8. Because "Retreat" means haven, sanctuary, get away, which translates to no cooking, laundry, dusting, vacuuming.
7. Because God has been nudging you, hasn't He? He wants a closer relationship with you, and all you have to do is open the door - or in this case, register.
6. You will laugh!
5. Location! Location! Location!! It is a mini spiritual vacation right in the heart of the beautiful Pocono Mountains.
4. It will expose you to the height, depth, and breadth of our God in a wonderful way!
3. The food is delicious!
2. Monsignor O'Connor will be there!

And ... the #1 Reason Why You Should go on Retreat is.....JESUS will be there!

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 135 East Savory St · Pottsville PA 17901

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