

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • www.saintjohnpottsville.org

August 16, 2026

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GREAT IS YOUR
Faith!

MATTHEW 15:28

Pastor..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon.....*Robert A. Reiley*

Parish Council President *John Crane*
E-mail.....*johncrane1@mac.com*
Choir Director/Organist*David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator..... *Tina Seiger*
Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
E-mail.....*stjbparish@comcast.net*
Nativity BVM High School (570) 622-8110
Assumption BVM Elementary..... (570) 622-0106
St. Joseph Center..... (570) 622-4638

Cemetery Information..... (570) 622-5470

C.C.D.

All children preparing to receive any sacrament must be in a Religious Education Program for two consecutive years immediately prior to receiving a Sacrament. The child must also be a practicing Catholic.

Certificates of Eligibility

Certificates to act as sponsors, Godparents, etc. will only be issued to parishioners who are formally registered with the church and attend Mass on a regular basis.

Bulletin Deadline

Monday prior to publication

New Parishioners

Please call the rectory for an appointment to register.

Sick Calls

Please notify the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays..... 4:15 to 4:45 p.m..
 Sundays 7:45 to 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 to 10:15 a.m..
 or by appointment

Sacrament of Marriage

Please call the Rectory one year in advance.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.
 Baptismal Preparation for Parents must precede the Baptism.
 Please contact Father Bobbin for an appointment.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., N.C.C., L.P.C. (800) 791-9209

Diocesan Secretary for Youth Protection & Catholic Human Services

Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S.
 Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
 P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
 610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

1-800-276-1562 www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

Diocese of Allentown Website

www.allentowndiocese.org



Eucharistic Adoration

We offer opportunities to spend time in prayer with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament ...

- ◆ A holy hour in the **chapel every Monday evening** (unless announced otherwise) from **5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** This is a simple holy hour without any formal prayer or Benediction. It is not necessary to come for the entire hour. Just stop by as you desire.
- ◆ A holy hour in the **main church on the eve of First Friday** from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. This will be a formal holy hour ending with Benediction. Father will be available for Confessions.

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a family member, friend, or neighbor who is a member of St. John is confined to home, a nursing home or assisted living facility because of illness, age, or disability and would like to receive Holy Communion` on a monthly basis, please call the rectory. We traditionally visit the sick and homebound on or around the first Friday of the month. Please help us meet the spiritual needs of our homebound parishioners.

Pray

We remember in prayer those who are ill or recently deceased. We commend to our Divine Lord all of our aged people and those residing in nursing homes.

For our Sick: *Sherri Post, Tom Jefferson, Charles Reber, Carol Lasco.* **Deceased:** *Cecelia Burns*

"Note: We will keep names on the prayer list for a period of three months. Please let us know if you would like your name or your family member's name to remain on the list longer."

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 15

5:00 p.m. George & Sadie Post)

Sunday, August 16

8:15 a.m. Stephen Kurtek Jr.
(Steve & Jan Kurtek)

Sunday, August 16

10:30 a.m. Joseph & Anna Orlowsky
(Joe Orlowsky)

Monday, August 17

6:30 p.m. Thomas & Eva Francis
(Francis Family)

Tuesday, August 18

9:00 a.m. George Hahner Jr.
(Hahner Family)

Wednesday, August 19

6:30 p.m. Tony Kochol
(David & Anita Imschweiler)

Thursday, August 20

6:30 p.m. St. John's Parish Family

Friday, August 21

9:00 a.m. Andrew Walcott
(Ronald & Mary Ellen Renninger)

Saturday, August 22

5:00 p.m. Jack Scheetz
(Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Sunday, August 23

8:15 a.m. Joseph Garland
(Garland & Kurtek Families)

Sunday, August 23

10:30 a.m. Helene Johansson
(Joyce Gerace)

Next Week's Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 22/23)

Reading I: Isaiah 22:19-23

Reading II: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

The last couple weeks we talked about how to go about confessing sins in the Sacrament of Confession. When you finish speaking in Confession, it is helpful to conclude by saying something like: "I am sorry for these sins and any I can't remember." There are no set words to conclude your confession. But it helps to give the priest some indication you're finished (and not just pausing to think).

Then the priest will say something in response. Obviously I cannot listen in when other priests hear confessions, so I can only speak for myself. I typically give a brief word of encouragement and then propose a penance. I only ask questions if there is an absolute need for clarification on something. I only address something the person said if it seems necessary to help the person.

The greatest obstacle to going to Confession is embarrassment over something we need to confess. It is important to realize that the priest is a sinner like you. It is very humbling to hear people's confessions. I never think less of anyone after they come to Confession. In fact, it's just the opposite. I gain much more respect for people when they choose to come before our Lord in Confession with honesty and contrition. And I would bet the vast majority of priests today are the same way. We do our best to be instruments of God's love and mercy. Some of you might have lived through an era when people were afraid to go to Confession because the priest could be harsh. I apologize on behalf of any priest who failed to be a sign of God's love and mercy through the way he treated you in Confession. Do not let any bad experiences from the past keep you from experiencing the power of this sacrament today.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Catholic Women's Union — 100th Anniversary

Please join us for a Special Mass on **Sunday, September 13, 2026, at 10:30am** as we joyfully celebrate Catholic Women's Union 100 years of service to the Church. Together, we will give thanks and pray for continued blessings in the years ahead. All are welcome to celebrate this special occasion with us in Longinus Hall after Mass for Coffee and Doughnuts.

Catholic Women's Union— Meeting

Women of all ages are invited to join the Catholic Women's Union. Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Wednesday, August 19th at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. Meet the members and learn how you can be part of this unique organization. We share ideas and light refreshments are served. We work to raise money for our parish and have fun doing it. We also share in fellowship by sharing in a Spring and Fall Auction, Christmas Party, and the Covered Dish Dinner. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!

Catholic Women's Union Fundraiser

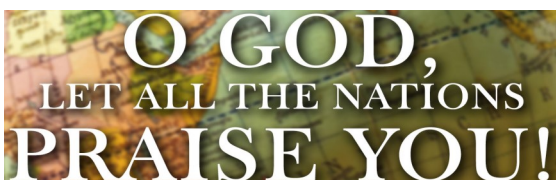
The CWU Penn State Ye Olde Diner World Famous **"Grilled Stickies"** will be available for pickup in Longinus Hall on:

Saturday, September 12th from 3 to 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 13th from 8 to 10 a.m. & 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Plain \$9.00 — Nut \$12.00 — Apple \$12.00.

For more information, please contact Kelley Eroh 610-413-0192 or St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3



Registration for 2026-2027 CCD School Year

Children ages three to six are welcome to join our **Sunday Pre-school** program. We will have classes twice a month starting in September until May in Longinus Hall from 10:30am to the end of Mass. We ask for you to stay during class if your child is not yet toilet trained.

Children in grades first to third are invited to join **Children's Liturgy** during the 10:30 am Mass. This is held in the Chapel. They will learn more about the Mass and the weekend scripture readings. Children will return to Mass with their parents after the offertory.

Children in grades first through eight grade attending public school, charter or virtual school should be registered for **CCD prep classes** to be eligible to receive their sacraments of initiation.

We could always use volunteers to help as teachers or aides. If you are interested please call the rectory and contact either Tina Seiger or Lucilla Kochol.

Registration can be completed in three ways. Paper forms are located on the table in back of the church.

Google links listed below. You will need a Google email account.

Scan the QR code using your phone's camera.

Google Link to Children's Liturgy:

<https://forms.gle/5JNVENiUUgCaL5py6>



Google Link to Sunday Preschool :

<https://forms.gle/q599pzT6n8KWNCb5A>



Google Link to CCD registration:

<https://forms.gle/ujXmaw61S3THka6g6>



Assumption BVM School

Assumption BVM School, Pottsville, is the Catholic school serving not just the students of Schuylkill County, but your parish. Our students receive a values-based education rooted in the Gospel, allowing them to build a strong moral compass, self-discipline and a foundation for ethical decision making. Our curriculum is excellent and provided with the strong support of our faculty and administration. Our students learn and practice the Catholic faith.

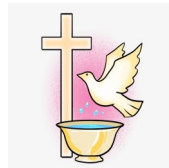
We are different. You have a choice for your children. You can choose Catholic education. It is more affordable than you think! Now accepting applications for most grades for the 2026-2027 school year. Call us: 570 622 0106

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning Is Hiring!

Now Hiring at St. Joseph Center for Special Learning! St. Joseph Center in Schuylkill Haven is seeking caring, dedicated individuals to join our mission of serving children and adults with diverse abilities in a faith-filled, supportive environment. We are currently hiring for a **full-time Special Education Teacher**, **full-time Direct Service Worker** for our Adult Program, **part-time Administrative Assistant**, **part-time Behavioral Health Support**, and **part-time Teacher Aide** positions. If you're looking for a rewarding career

Baptized in Christ

We celebrated on July 19th the glorious baptism day of **Briar William Rhoads**, son of William and Kelly (Kalovcak) Rhoads. He became a new creation in Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism and is now joined to us by the gifts of faith, hope and charity. We warmly welcome Briar into our parish family.



Weekly Collection

August 8/9\$3,406.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

Please **DO NOT** use **TAPE** or **STAPLES** to seal your offertory envelopes, or **CUT** your envelopes.

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Ann Hoepstine
by Ann Blankenhorn
2. IMO Michael Maccarone
by Christine Maccarone

St. Joseph

1. IMO M/M Joseph Hudak
by Rebecca Weiss
2. IMO Diane Leinheiser
by Family

Sanctuary

IMO Marjorie Angelo
by Frank Angelo

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Anna Maguire Milacharek
by Rebecca Weiss
2. IMO Joan Costello
by Rebecca Weiss
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy
by Joan Grapsy Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 22— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Francis Mozloom

EM: Hermine Murphy, Ray Petrilla

Server: Ray Petrilla

Cantor: Dave Derbes

August 23— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: John Crane

EM: Heidi Gorski, Jeff Naffin

Servers: Colin McGinley
Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Amy Joyce

August 23—10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Sean Crane

EM: Justina Majestic
Ann Blankenhorn

Servers: Cole & Cooper Felty

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Sacristan: Connor Felty

Festival Patrons**\$500.00**

Larry Lonergan
Ed & Carole Quirin
Maria Rowlands
Joe & Nancy Schlitzer
Joe & Sherri Souchak

\$350.00

James & Angela Toomey

\$250.00

Paul & JoAnna Buber

\$200.00

George Harig
Charles & Patricia Miller
Frank & Annie Murphy
Judith Williams

\$150.00

Gorski Family

\$100.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel
Bill & Sally Casey
Sandy & Joe Frinzi
Donna & John Kalovcak
Alicia Kleman
Keith & Mary Jo Laslow
Lieberman & Tamulonis Law
Joseph Liptok
Frances Lorenz
Dan & Hermine Murphy
Mary B. Porter
John & Gayle Rehnert
Bill, Kelly, Brady, Briar Rhoads
Tamalavage Family
Carol Vinskie

\$75.00

Fetterolf Family

\$50.00

Ed & Jane Baker
Ann Blankenhorn
Joan M. Bowers
Kathy Brahler
Dolores Brophy

\$50.00

Robert Burns Masonry Contractor
Catholic Women's Union
DeArment's
The DeWald's
Tom & Cindy Elison
Mildred Fredericks
Paul & Bernie Gombola
Stan & Geri Grabowski
Heenan Family
Carl & Kathy Hughes
Barbara & Bruce Krupa
Patricia Kutch
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman
Ron & Pat Lombel
Christine Maccarone
Patricia & Phillip Markovich
John & Susan Minnichbach
Babe Murphy
John & Bernice Petock
Robert & Irene Post
JP & Barb Powers
Nick & Maria Quinn
Charles & Kathleen Reber
Eleanor Schaeffer
Butch & Sue Scheetz
David & Mary Ann Shoopack
Karin & Mike Sirbaugh
Martin & Linda Smith
Dianne Stoudt
Robert & Gretchen Witman
Barbara Wollyung
Jeff & Linda Zwiebel
\$40.00
Mary Beth Harvey
Theresa Skrobak
\$35.00
Mary Ann Filiac
Henry Minnig
\$33.00
Ted Gurecki Jr.

\$30.00

Grabowski Family
Diane Hudock
Mary Jo Nabholz
Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski
Dorothy & Joe Stangl
Larry Steficek
Wartella Family
Bob & Kay Wollyung
\$25.00
Brennan Family
Jim Brentari
Ken & Tammy Cooper
Janet Daubert
Jennifer Daubert
Barbara Ann Dietz
Marie Doyle
Grace King
Greg Lieberman Family
Hal J. Messer
Jack & Aggie Messner
Frances Brahler Mickey
M/M A.J. Munster
Ann Marie Souchak
Peggy Stoppi
Bruno M. Tassone
Michael & Elizabeth Tyson
Daniel & Anne Marie Wachter

\$20.00

Ron & Donna Dermo
James & Laura Kramer
Tina Seiger
Natalie Setlock
Rick & Michelle Stone
Christine Tray

\$10.00

John & Joanne Mestishen
Harriet Pfeffer
Mary Ann Schweikert

Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop — August 21 & 22

Friday, August 21st from 4 to 7 p.m. and **Saturday, August 22nd** from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Russell Building
— 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Pottsville.

Don't miss it! If you like yard sales, this is the place to be. Various items including ... Christmas decorations, knick-knacks, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, various holiday decorations, framed prints, special Vintage Section and much, much more, plus food is available for purchase. Something for everyone! Join us! Call the Rectory office 622-5470 ext 3 for more information.

Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the times listed above or call the rectory 622-5470 ext 3. Please individually wrap or bag all dessert items to be sold.



Summer Festival

Thank You Department

Festival Committee

Thank you to this year's Festival Committee --- especially a huge thank you to Co-Chairpersons—**Shanna Deibert & Jason Prestileo** — for the many hours of preparation to make sure everything ran smoothly. What a great job — well done!!

Michelle Ambrose, Kellie Borrell, Ed Btähler, Sandy Clauser, Michelle Darhun, Chris Eagan, Sandy Frinzi, Rik Jochems, Chuck Kustan, Maria Mason, Hannah Myer, Ray Petrilla, Donna & Crystal Pugh, Rick Smith, Don Tassone.

Kitchen Committee

Special thank you to **Rick Smith and Don Tassone** who did a great job overseeing the kitchen, making sure everything ran smoothly. Thank you to all those dedicated volunteers who helped prepare, serve, shopped for food items and supplies, cleaned up, etc.

Kellie Borrell, Christine Maccarone, Pat Kutch, Anne Liptock, Tina Seiger, Theresa Skrobak, Beth Smith, Linda Smith,

Pugh Family

Thank you to the Pugh Family for preparing and donating all the ingredients for that delicious Pugh Family Bean Soup and for donating everything needed for the stand as well. What a huge success!

Baked Goods

Once again our Baked Goods Stand was a great success! A very special thank you to **Joan Deiter, Michelle Darhun, Allie Darhun, Sue Jochems**, for serving our many delicious desserts. Thank you to all our wonderful bakers for your delicious desserts.

Bakers: Chris Black, Kate Blackwell, JoAnna Buber, Allison & Michelle Darhun, Joan Deiter, Darla Fabiani, Mary Ann Filiac, Millie Fredericks, Galvin Family, Karla Garland, Sr. Mary Jane Hahner, Sue Jochems, Jan Kurtek, Maureen Kurtek, Fran Lorenz, Christine Maccarone, Hilda Maley, Barb Munster, Jane Petrilla, Judy Piel, Carole Quirin, Pat Scheetz, Natalie Setlock, Owen Vanderbilt, Ellen Zane.

Set-Up / Take Down

As in all we do at St. John's, things don't "just happen" without the involvement of many people. We especially thank all who helped to set-up and take-down and clean up for our Festival. Because of your help, things got done very quickly.

Pot Luck Stand

Thank you to **Chuck Kustan** for a fantastic job organizing and setting up the Pot Luck Stand. We greatly appreciate all the donations made to the Pot Luck Stand. Thank you to all of our generous parishioners and to all the local businesses who so kindly contributed great prizes. We could not do the Pot Luck Stand without your generosity!

Anthony Family, Carol Bilinski, Bilinski Office, Ann Blankenhorn, Melissa Brennan, Lisa Cameli, Mindy Chambers, Shanna Deibert, Donahues, Don & Joanne Doyne, Michael & Janet Dzyuranin, John & Chris Eagan, Michelle Forney, Heidi Gorski, Kalovcak, Donna, Kalovcak Family, Lucilla Kochol, Pat Kutch, Annette Lisowski, Nanette Major, Katelyn Miller, Frank & Lisa Mozloom, Barb Munster, Hannah Myer, Sandi Post, Kellen Richter, Marie Ryan, Gerry Schwartz, Tina Seiger, Vincent Shay, Michael Sirbaugh, Linda Smith, Chuck Kustan, Peggy Smith, Ann Marie Souchak, Michelle Stone, Bruno Tassone, Rachel & Chris Wollyung, Rachel Wood.

Special's Tables

Thank you to everyone who donated Gift Baskets, Gift Cards, and Lottery Frames to our Special's Table. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

Chris Black, Ann Blankenhorn, Nora Chiplonia, Cathy Cooper, Shanna Deibert, DeStefano's, Father Bobbin, Joe & Sandy Frinzi, Gianfagna's, Michelle Heenan, Lucilla Kochol, John & Mary Jean Morgalis, Karen Muncy, Barb Munster, Linda Murphy, John & Patty O'Neill, Pod & Petal Florist, Prezelski's, Gerry Schwartz, Linda & Bob Stock, Luis R. Visot.

Sponsors:

Chance Books: *Hahner Bros. Roofing*

Band Sponsors: *Paul & JoAnna Buber, Joe & Denise Gerchak, Mary B. Porter, Ellen & Jay Zane, Marianne Wollyung*

Pizza: *Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky, Daniel & Anne Marie Wachter, Joanne & Ralph Wood*

Bleenie Mix: *Paul & JoAnna Buber, Frank Angelo*

Coke: *John Bosche, Robert & Elizabeth Reiley*

Ice Cream: *Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky*

Summer Festival

Thank You Department

Another Fantastic Summer Festival is in the books! This year we certainly had plenty of weather obstacles and challenges - smoke, rain, heat, and heavy humidity! We persevered through it all- creatively and most importantly TOGETHER! THANK YOU to each and every one of you that helped, volunteered, and attended our beloved festival! It never ceases to amaze us how many dedicated volunteers pour themselves into all things festival! This year we were blessed with some new volunteers as well as the regulars we gratefully depend on every year! The festival would not be possible without all of you!! Please also remember it's never too early to help us recruit even more volunteers for next year!!

To our amazing committee- there are never enough words to say thank you for all you do! This year required us to have plan A, B, and possibly C! We are a team that finds a way- no matter what! The amount of support that you provide keeps us sane and hugely inspired. All in Always!!! THANK YOU!!!

We truly have an amazing parish with so many incredible people! Celebrating together and watching families and friends reunite to enjoy a beautiful tradition on a summer's night is the very best reason for festival!

We look forward to seeing the fruition of this labor of love! Summer Festivals goal is to help fundraise for repairs and improvements for our church and Russell Building property- all thanks to all of you!! We can continue to do all these fundraisers because of your dedication and generosity!

THANK YOU for sweating along with us in another chaotic, inspiring, fun-filled festival season!! Can't wait to see all of you next year again!!

Sincerely thankful and blessed,
Shanna Deibert & Jason Prestileo

Thank You to **Dave Derbes** for donating his time in providing the great music entertainment on Friday night.

Thank You to **Sandy Clauser** for setting up the prizes for the various stands.

Thank You to **Sandy Frinzi** for donating the supplies for the Children's Spin Art and Sand Art.

Thank You to **Mary Bound** for donating the various beads, etc. for children's jewelry.

Thank You to the **Prestileo Family** for donating the Guers Ice Tea, Soda, Heisler's Ice Cream & new 4 new Coolers.

Thank You to the **Deibert Family** for donating the cases of bottled water.

Thank You to the **Gaburick's** for donating the Hot Dogs and Rolls.

Thank You to **Don & Joanne Doyne** for donated the ketchup & mustard.

Thank You to **Bill Hauptly** for the lighting.

Thank You to **Michelle & Mike Ambrose** for their help counting tickets and proceeds.

Thank You to **Ray Petrilla** for making our new ticket booth.

Thank You to **St. Patrick's Church** for the use of their canopies.

Thank You to **Stan & Geri Grabowski** for donating Canopy Bungee cords.

Thank You to **Yuengling's** for the Banner and donation of cases of beer.

Thank You to **Mrs. T's Pierogies** for the discounted price on pierogies.

Thank You to **Don Tassone** for his time in preparing the Roast Pig.

Thank You to everyone who patronized the Festival itself. All your donations make a significant difference and we thank you for your generosity.

Chance Book—Prize Winners

\$ 1,000 — Bob & Irene Post

\$ 500 — Kent Miller

\$ 250 — Brent Hinkle

\$ 100 — Dave Bechtel

\$ 50 — Sloane Kurtel

\$ 50 — Angela Urban

\$ 50 — M. Scheetz

TOTAL PROFITS

\$18,751.88

Despite our very best efforts, we invariably misspell,
misplace, or omit the name of an important person ... YOU!
We apologize if we have done this!