

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

April 6, 2025

Then Jesus
straightened up
and said to her,
“Woman, where
are they? Has no
one condemned
you?”

She replied,
“No one sir.”
Then Jesus said,
“Neither do I
condemn you.
Go, and from
now on do not
sin any more.”

John 8:10, 11

Christ and the Woman Taken
In Adultery by Emile Signol
Circa 1842



5TH SUNDAY OF
*L*ENT

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 5

5:00 p.m. Francis Bercher
(Scott Williams)

Sunday, April 6

8:15 a.m. Anthony S. Gaburick
(Anne Gaburick & Family)

Sunday, April 6

10:30 a.m. Xenia Pristas
(Ed & Mary Hauck)

Monday, April 7

6:30 p.m. Matthew Halsey
(Joseph, Sonya, Joe Halsey)

Tuesday, April 8

9:00 a.m. Angela Hamm
(Joe, Stacie, Jill, Lauren Purcell)

Wednesday, April 9

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

Thursday, April 10

9:00 a.m. Charlie Schaeffer
(Maria Schaeffer)

Friday, April 11

9:00 a.m. Kriston & Grapsy Family
(Joan Grapsy Family)

Saturday, April 12

5:00 p.m. Charles Bowers
(M/M Ralph Carestia)

Sunday, April 13

8:15 a.m. Carolyn L. Leinheiser
(Pat & Bernie Boran)

Sunday, April 13

10:30 a.m. Mary Yenilaitus
(Mary Zambo)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we completed our series on the books of the Old Testament. We will soon look at the New Testament. But first let's turn our attention to Holy Week and Easter as we enter this most important time of the year.

Today we begin the fifth week of Lent, the final week before Holy Week. The fifth week of Lent takes on a slightly different character from the entire season up to now. We begin to focus more on our Lord's Passion. This is reflected in some of the prayers of the liturgy. A visible reminder is the covering of crosses and images in church from now until the cross is uncovered on Good Friday and images are uncovered for Easter. This practice has been described as a kind of visual "fasting." The church becomes more stark as we temporarily remove these visual reminders to focus more intently on Jesus's suffering and death.

As we draw near to Easter, we are also reminded of the extra opportunities to meet our Lord in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please be attentive to the times when Confession is offered between now and Easter. (Also, please note we do not have Confessions on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday.) We do not go to Confession so we "deserve" Easter. But receiving the sacrament helps us be more disposed to receive the powerful graces of our celebration of Holy Week and Easter so we can more deeply encounter the saving power of the risen Jesus in our lives.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin



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.

Next Week's Readings

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
(April 12/13)

Reading I: Isaiah 50:4-7

Reading II: Philippians 2:6-11

Passion: Luke 22:14-23:56

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

Sheri Post • Tony Kochol • Tom Jefferson • Doug Broughton
• Mary Jean Morgalis

For our Deceased

Helen Heimbaugh

Upcoming Events

April

6	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
6	4:30-6 p.m.	Soup & Scripture.....	L.H.
6	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
8	6:30 p.m.	Dramatic Stations Practice	Church
9	6:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross.....	Church
10	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
11	4-6:30 p.m.	Lenten Fish Dinner.....	R.B.
13	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School	L.H.
13	7:30 p.m.	Dramatic Station Presentation	Church
14	7:00 p.m.	Penance Service.....	Church
16	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union	L.H.

L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men's Group F.R.

<><><> MARK YOU CALENDARS <><><>

SUMMER FESTIVAL—July 18/19, 2025

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on April 10, 24, May 15.** Join us in person in Longinus Hall or at home on Zoom (Please email Father for the Zoom link: kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org). Fr. Bobbin's Scripture study attempts to give an overview and background for the books of Sacred Scripture to be of help with personal reading and study, Bible study groups, and getting more out of hearing the Word proclaimed at Mass. All are welcome.

Festival Pot Luck Is Returning!!!

As we gear up for our **Midsummer Festival**, we are once again asking for donations for our **Pot Luck Stands**, both Adult and Children. We thank you for your generosity in the past and hope we can count on your continued generosity.

Gift Cards are highly recommended and can be placed in the bins in the back of church or dropped in the collection basket—marked **POT LUCK**. We will also be utilizing our **Amazon Wish List** - it was very successful last year!

Prizes can also be placed in the bins in the back of church. Please remember we can only accept **NEW** or recently purchased boxed or wrapped items in their original package. Any old, used or opened items will not be used for prizes. If you like, please feel free to include your name so we can keep track of those who donated.

Amazon — go to [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries). Search by St. John the Baptist Pottsville under Gift List. When purchasing an item, it will default to ship to Maureen Derbes. You may ship your items directly there for convenience or ship to your home address and then place in bins in the back of church.

Any questions or concerns or to arrange drop off, please call Maureen Derbes at 570-691-6098. Thank you again for your continued generosity!



Weekly Collection

March 29/30 \$4,534.53

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

Candles

BVM

1&2. IMO Charlie Schaeffer
by Maria Schaeffer

St. Joseph

1. IMO Josephine & Frank Brozana
by Don & Joanne Doyné
2. IMO Charlie Schaeffer
by Maria Schaeffer

Sanctuary

IMO Joe Wollyung Jr.
by Barb Wollyung & Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family
2, 3, 4. IMO Charlie Schaeffer
by Maria Schaeffer

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Palm Sunday

April 12 — 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Bob Wollyung

Euch.Min.: Raymond Petrilla

Servers: Gabriel Scheidel
Luke Schane

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

April 13— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Michelle Heenan

Euch.Min.: Debbie Herb

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Dave Derbes

April 13— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vincent Balulis

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic

Servers: Jackson Daubert
Luke Schane

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Weekend Sacristan: Luke Schane

*The Lord has
done great things
for us; we are
filled with joy.*

Blessed Palm

The Blessed Palm is known as a sacramental. We should not receive the Palm out of human respect with the rest of the faithful and then forget it or cast it away. The Blessed Palm in Catholic homes is a symbol of our Christian Faith. Let the Palm which you carry home from church on Palm Sunday become a constant reminder of the days ahead when your faith may be put to a test.

CRS Rice Bowl

Amid the harsh conditions of the Sahel region's 1976 drought, millions faced hunger. That same year, Catholics worldwide gathered at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in Philadelphia, focusing on "The Eucharist and the Hungers of the Human Family." As Lent draws to a close, let's reflect on how our prayers, fasting and almsgiving can help ensure no one goes hungry in the middle of today's global food crisis. Visit crsricebowl.org/week-5 to learn more.

HELP NEEDED

My name is Anthony J. Gaburick. I suffer from a nerve disease that requires treatments for me to stay functional. My treatments are out of town in places such as Allentown, West Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre and Wyomissing. I'm looking for drivers who can help me get to these treatments. Doctors will not allow me to drive myself to and from treatments. If anyone is interested in driving me, please contact the church rectory. I'll be very grateful for your help!

Thank you to everyone who has come forward to help me with transportation to my medical appointments. Your help is so very appreciated. I am truly grateful. Thank you again!



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13

Masses

Saturday 5 p.m. & Sunday 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.
Dramatic Stations of the Cross • 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 14

Mass • 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 15

Mass • 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 16

Mass • 8 a.m.

(No Stations of the Cross)

Holy Thursday, April 17

Mass • 7 p.m.

Adoration after Mass until 10 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18

Stations of the Cross • 12 Noon

Good Friday Liturgy • 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19

Blessing of Food Baskets • 12 p.m. in Church

Easter Vigil Mass • 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20

Masses • 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday, April 10 • 4 to 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 12 • 3:45—4:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 13 • No Scheduled Confessions

Monday, April 14 • Penance Service at St. John's • 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 19 • No Scheduled Confessions



Dramatic Stations of the Cross—Practice & Presentation

Join us as we continue to tell our story. All ages welcome! Speaking, Non Speaking and Stage Crew needed. Make this be the year you become part of the Dramatic Stations of the Cross gang! Call Debbie at [570.691.8874](tel:570.691.8874) with any questions.

Practice Dates: April 6—6:30 p.m. — April 13—7:30 p.m.—Presentation



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held on **Wednesday, April 9th at 6:00 p.m. followed by Mass at 6:30 p.m.** in the Church. Consider making this devotion a part of your Lenten observance.

LENTEN DINNERS

from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the Russell Building.

Dinners will be dine-in or take-out.

Menu is as follows:

Baked Haddock **OR** "Chef Joe's "Fish Special". Meal includes: Macaroni and Cheese **OR** Chef's "starch of the Week", New England Clam Chowder, Side Salad, Chef's "Vegetable of the Week", Roll, Beverage and Dessert.

The "Special Option" on Friday, April 11th is "Crab Cakes"

Adult meal with Fish — \$19.00

Child's meal with Fish — \$10.00

Adult meal without Fish — \$14.00

Child's meal without Fish — \$ 6.00

Homemade Desserts Needed ... "St. John's is famous for their delicious homemade desserts." Each year we look forward to these delicious desserts. If you would like to make Jello, Pudding, Pies, Cakes, Cup Cakes, Cookies, or anything you can dream up, we will greatly appreciate it. Please make your favorite dessert and drop it off at the Russell Building on Fridays during Lent.

Volunteers Needed ... Please let us know if you can help on Fridays; students (12 and over) always welcome (excellent idea if you need service hours). New faces always welcome ... perhaps you are new to the parish and are looking for a way to get involved ... Just call the rectory 570-622-5470 x 3.

50/50 Chances ... available at the door from the Catholic Women's Union; drawing takes place at 7 p.m. each week.

Assumption BVM School. We're Hiring!

Are you a dynamic and innovative educational and faith leader with a strong commitment to Catholic education, Catholic values, and academic excellence in Schuylkill County? ABVM is seeking a dedicated Principal to guide our students, staff, and community in faith, excellence, and service. We are looking for a leader who: * Has a passion for education * Inspires excellence in others * Nurtures a faith-centered school community.

Apply today or share with someone who would be a great fit! Apply using the link below or the QR code.

<https://allentowndiocese.isolvedhire.com/jobs/1437702>



St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is looking for a dedicated and compassionate **Teacher Aide** to join our team. This part-time position follows a school-day schedule and provides the opportunity to work hands-on with students of all abilities in a supportive classroom setting under the guidance of a teacher. If you are enthusiastic, patient, and eager to make a difference in the lives of our students, we would love to hear from you! For more information or to apply, contact **Principal Bob Giba** at rgiba@stjosephctr.com or call **(570) 622-4638**.

34th Annual Golf Classic Tournament. St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is hosting its 34th Annual Golf Classic tournament on **May 16th** at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Sponsor and/or join us for an adventurous day of food, fellowship and, of course... golf! For more information, please visit www.stjosephctr.com or call 570-622-4638.

"Where is God Calling You?" Everyone needs a vocations retreat! Join us for a day of prayer, contemplation, and community on **April 12th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at St. Mary's Church In Kutztown (ages 18-38). Whichever vocation you're discerning (priesthood, married life, consecrated life, or single life), we're here to support you. This retreat will allow you to encounter speakers from all these callings and give you a space to listen to God's voice in exploring your vocation. For information and to register, contact Zelenda Hodgskin at zhodgskin@allentowndiocese.org

Women's Retreat. Find help in overcoming addictions and unhealthy attachments on this healing retreat ... **April 11-13 ...** at Malvern Retreat House in Malvern. A weekend-long retreat for women impacted by addiction. Participants will be immersed in witness talks, discussions, Catholic in Recovery meetings, sacraments & fellowship. Register online by www.catholicinrecovery.com/events.



April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Is 43:16-21 | Phil 3:8-14 | Jn 8:1-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Today's culture creates and sees constant change, innovation, and novelty at record speeds. But even more astounding than the technological advancements we observe around us is God's power to inspire interior transformation in each individual life. In today's Gospel, instead of condemning the woman caught in adultery whose punishment was certain death, Jesus speaks words of mercy, forgiveness, and life. Their encounter lifts the woman out of the shame of her sin, restores her dignity, and strengthens her to "Go, and from now on do not sin any more." This woman, whom others saw as hopeless, is transformed because Jesus' mercy has touched her soul. Long before, the prophet Isaiah had alluded to this time in which the Messiah would bring new life even in the most desolate places: "See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way, in the wasteland, rivers." God constantly calls us to leave sin behind, to keep moving forward – and we can be confident that he is with us at each new step to lead us to himself.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How do we take these steps? How do we respond to God's call? In his Letter to the Philippians, Paul speaks of how he willingly gave up everything, even those things which made him righteous according to the laws of the Old Testament, and learned to depend on Jesus and the changing power of his resurrection. For us as for Saint Paul, each step along the path of transformation requires faith in God's ability and intention to heal us and draw us to himself. If we are willing to leave behind old identities and desires, we will see more clearly the true identity God created for us as we begin to live more like Jesus. Paul even describes being "taken possession of by Christ Jesus," because the change is so deep and powerful. For us as for God's chosen people in the readings from Isaiah, at first some parts of the path may look like an aimless desert, but the way will appear with each step of faith, and it is filled with mercy.

PRAY

Transformation doesn't happen all at once. Reflect on your Lenten prayers, fasting, and almsgiving and consider how they've helped to conform your will to God's. How will you be found changed on Easter Sunday? Is there something you can improve upon during these final two weeks of Lent? It's not too late to offer a loving sacrifice to God!

Pastor *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon *Robert A. Reiley*
Parish Council President *Darren DeArment*
E-mail *dbd269@gmail.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

5th Sunday of Lent

W	A	E	O	Y	R	T	G	U	T	D
H	O	L	U	A	V	T	R	C	M	I
I	J	M	O	T	H	O	O	E	O	L
K	D	R	A	N	R	Z	U	L	U	G
L	W	P	C	N	E	N	N	D	N	E
Q	F	L	P	J	B	Q	D	E	T	V
S	W	T	A	U	G	H	T	R	X	L
T	E	O	I	W	W	J	M	S	E	I
O	D	A	T	E	M	P	L	E	H	E
N	H	L	J	A	Z	Y	H	G	X	E
E	X	O	T	E	S	T	M	W	N	T

- Mount
- Temple
- Taught
- Woman
- Law
- Stone
- Test
- Ground
- Elders
- Alone



SUNDAYKIDZ