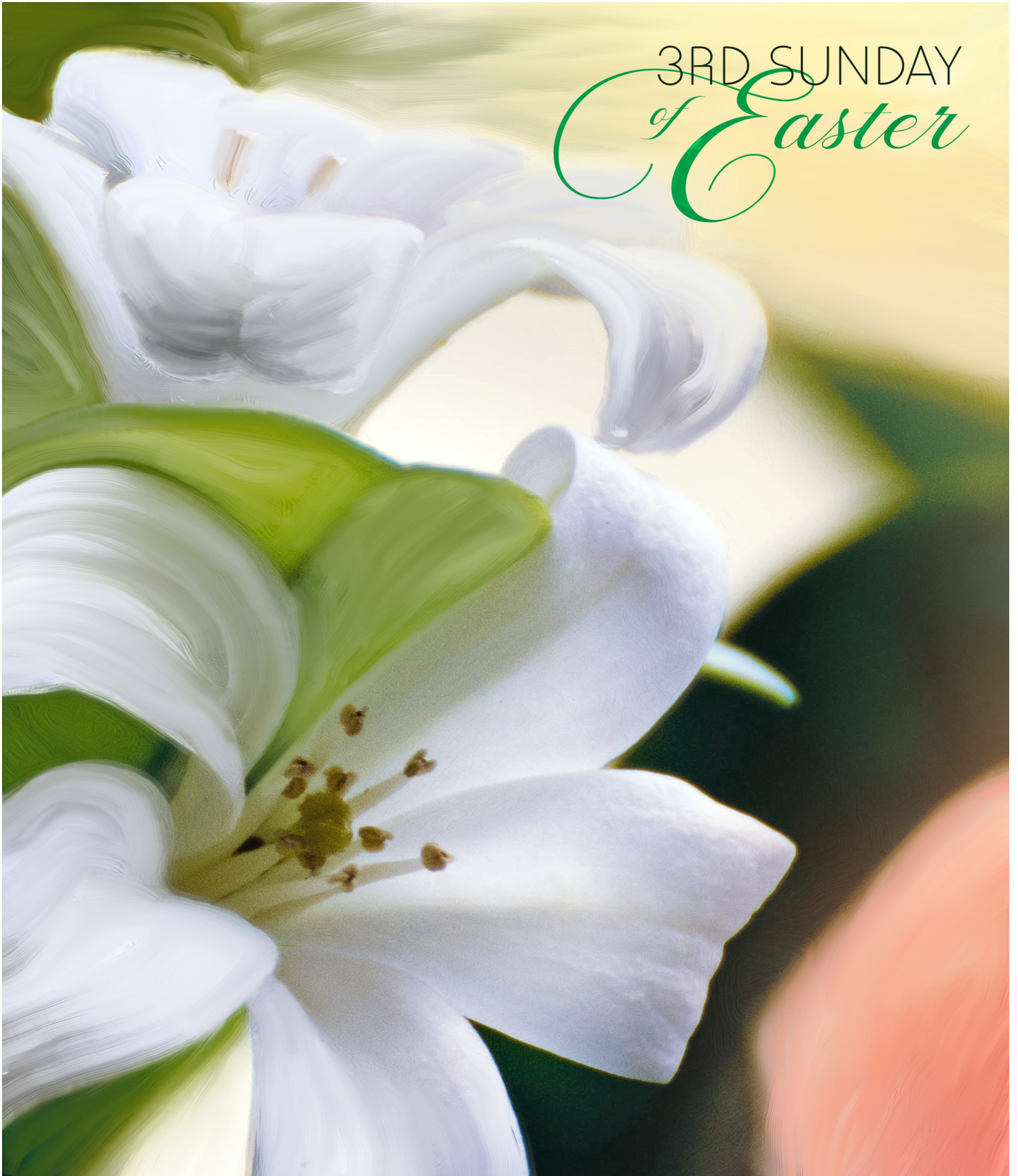


# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

April 14, 2024

3RD SUNDAY  
*of Easter*



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, April 13

5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Cross  
(Lou Cross & Marlo Lipko)

### Sunday, April 14

8:15 a.m. James Pugh Jr.  
(Donna & Jim Pugh)

### Sunday, April 14

10:30 a.m. Peter Meseravage,  
Dec. of Daubert Family  
(Judy Meseravage)

### Monday, April 15

6:30 p.m. Bill & Marie Flynn

### Tuesday, April 16

9:00 A.M. Ann Lowe  
(Al & Lynda Norkus)

### Wednesday, April 17

9:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

### Thursday, April 18

11:30 a.m. Martin J. Carroll  
(M/M John Carroll)

### Friday, April 19

9:00 a.m. Marie Murphy  
(Family)

### Saturday, April 20

5:00 p.m. George & Dolores Lynn  
(Tony, Joan Marie, Dave & Bob)

### Sunday, April 21

8:15 a.m. Charles Lorenz  
(Frances Lorenz)

### Sunday, April 21

10:30 a.m. Dolly Parsick  
(Joanne Schultz)

## Next Week's Readings

### Fourth Sunday of Easter

(April 20/21)

**Reading I:** Acts of the Apostles

**Reading II:** 1 John 3:1-2

**Gospel:** John 10:11-18

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

On these Sundays of the Easter season we are reflecting on the seven Spiritual Works of Mercy. Last Sunday I commented on the first: "counsel the doubtful." Today consider the second, which is very similar: "instruct the ignorant."

We are all ignorant of many things. But this work of mercy concerns ignorance of the faith. There is a lot of ignorance and misunderstanding about the Catholic faith in the society around us. Many people even lack a knowledge of the basics. Even within the Church community, many people simply do not know certain things or have misunderstandings through no fault of their own.

When people ask us questions about our faith, sometimes we are afraid to speak because we don't want to give someone bad information, or we ourselves don't know the answer to the question, or we can't give a fully satisfying explanation. But instructing the ignorant is a work of mercy. We need to respond to opportunities to share knowledge of our beliefs and practices. Hopefully this is an incentive to keep learning more about our faith and seek answers to questions we encounter. When someone asks a question, we might not be able to give a full answer but, chances are, we can at least offer something that leads the person closer to the truth.

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.

## 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 • Robert Kline • Tony Kochol • Josephine Gallagher  
Tom Jefferson • Dominic Maccarone • Drew Schaeffer • Shawn Matz  
Miriam Tirjan • John Bernetsky • Chuck Majestic • James Minchhoff*



### Upcoming Events

#### April

14	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg .....	L.H.
17	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg.....	L.H.
18	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
18	7:30 p.m.	Summer Festival Mtg.....	L.H.
21	9:15 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg .....	L.H.
21	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
23	7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Mtg.....	L.H.
25	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation.....	St. Pat’s
26	4:00 p.m.	Yard Sale .....	R.B.
27	9:00 a.m.	Yard Sale .....	R.B.

#### May

4	7:00 p.m.	First Eucharist practice .....	Church
5	5:00 p.m.	First Communion .....	Church
8	7:00 p.m.	Mass—Ascension of the Lord .....	Church
9	9:00 a.m.	Mass—Ascension of the Lord .....	Church
9	5:15 p.m.	Mass—Ascension of the Lord .....	Church
15	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg.....	L.H.
16	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
23	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	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.

### Weekly Collection

**April 6/7.....\$4,984.75**

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

### Candles

#### BVM

1. The Most Abandoned Soul in Purgatory
2. IMO Theresa Drahorsky by Fetterolf Family

#### St. Joseph

1. IMO Victoria Shelava by Fetterolf Family
2. IMO Albert Faiola by Fetterolf Family

#### Sanctuary

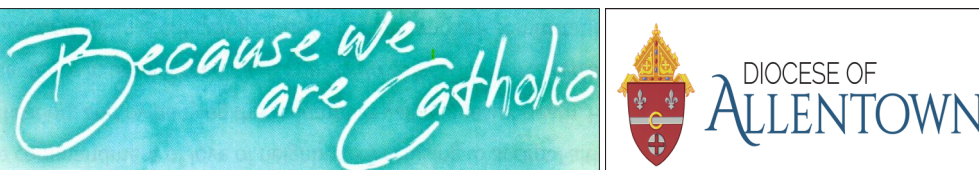
IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family

#### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Joan Costello by Becky Weiss
2. IMO Richard Weiss by Becky Weiss
- 3&4. Special Intention

# SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:** will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on April 18, May 16, 23.** Join us in person in Longinus Hall or at home on Zoom (\*Please email Father for the Zoom link: [kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org](mailto: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.



Dear Parishioners,  
 This weekend we kickoff the 2024 *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal* in our parish and throughout our Diocese. In 2024 the Appeal will provide support for evangelization, vocations, Catholic education, Catholic Charities and care for our retired and infirmed priests.  
 I am so grateful for your continued generosity to this important Diocesan fundraising initiative and ask you to prayerfully consider joining me in making your gift to the Appeal and support these important ministries. Our parish has been asked to raise \$15,796.00. Let's strive for 100% participation from our parish. Together, I believe we can make our goal. We are stronger together! Together we will make a difference in the lives of many people. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how big or small. To make your gift, please return the pledge form that you will receive in the mail or visit the Appeal's website at [BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](http://BecauseWeAreCatholic.org) or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.  
 With gratitude,  
 Father Bobbin

### Liturgical Min. Schedule

#### **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

#### **April 20— 5 p.m. Mass**

**Reader:** John Crane

**Euch.Min.:** Frank Murphy  
John O'Neill

**Servers:** Lukas & Finley McNamara

**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

#### **April 21 — 8:15 a.m.**

**Reader:** Bob Bechtel

**Euch.Min.:** Ray Petrilla  
Sharon Snyder

**Server:** Luke Schane

**Cantor:** Amy Joyce

#### **April 21— 10:30 a.m.**

**Reader:** Jen Daubert

**Euch.Min.:** John Matulevich  
Bill Gianfagna

**Servers:** Jackson Daubert

**Cantor:** Marianne Wollyung



## An Evening with Gianna Jessen

What do you do with your LIFE when you weren't supposed to have one? Come and find out as a voice meant to be silenced speaks on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6pm at Holy Parish Family Center at the former Hillcrest Hall, 631 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Minersville, PA 17954. Gianna will promptly speak at 6:30pm. This is a no cost event, and light refreshments will be served. Don't miss your chance to meet a miracle!

**"An Evening with Gianna Jessen"** chance tickets are now on sale. You have a chance to win three prizes of \$500 Amazon Gift Card, \$200 Boyer's Gift Card, \$100 Cash. Ticket price is \$10. All profits go to defray the cost of the event. Tickets will be sold after Masses this weekend. You can also contact Tina Seiger to purchase tickets 570-789-3453.

**Volunteers Needed** ... We need a driver for Miss Gianna Jessen the day of the event. This will entail driving to an airport, hotel and to the event. Also, we are asking for volunteers to either purchase or make a few baked goods for this event. Donations of cases of water are also appreciated. Please call Tina Seiger if interested in helping with these requests 570-789-3453. Thank you in advance!



## Summer Festival—Pot Luck Stand Donations

Less than a hundred days to go!! Many prizes still needed!!

We are seeking gift donations for adult and children pot luck stands. We thank you for your past generosity and hope we can count on your support for this year.

Gift cards are highly requested and can be placed in the collection basket in church, marked for "Pot Luck Stand". Your newly purchased item can be kitchen items, holiday items, wreaths, games, toys. If possible, we would like to have some bigger items this year such as: bikes, televisions, Yuengling items, Yeti and more.

Prizes can be placed in the bins marked "Pot Luck" at the back of church.

To make donating more convenient, we've also set up an Amazon Gift list. Scan the code below or visit [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries) and search for "St. John the Baptist Pottsville" under the "Gift List" option. Items purchased will ship directly to Maureen Derbes.

Please remember we can only accept recently purchased, NEW items in original package. Any old, used or opened items will not be able to be used for prizes. If you like, include your name so we can keep track of those who donated.

Any questions or concerns or wanting to arrange drop off, please call or text Maureen Derbes at 570-691-6098.

Thank you for your generosity and helping make our Midsummer Festival better than ever!

**Amazon Gift List QR Code**



## Introduction to Mass

You have probably noticed that we stopped announcing the names of the liturgical ministers at the beginning of Mass. After giving it a lot of thought, we decided to discontinue this practice for the following reasons (from least important to most important).

1. This is not common practice in most parishes. There is no need for it.
2. There are often changes and substitutions among the liturgical ministers, which leads to frequent mistakes in announcing names.
3. It frees readers from worrying about announcing the right names and allows them to concentrate on proclaiming God's Word.
4. When we serve as liturgical ministers at Mass, we do not draw attention to our individual personalities. We are placing ourselves at the service of something much greater. The priest represents Jesus (not himself). Readers proclaim God's Word (not their own). Altar servers, cantors, and anyone else who assists at Mass are placing themselves at the service of the liturgy and the community.

## Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our diocese and our families. Inspire men to imitate Christ, the Eternal High Priest, in sacrificial service to your Church. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to You in poverty, chastity and obedience. Send them as laborers for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayers and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to your call. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

## Prayer for our Troops Around the World

*"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior."*



## Grotto Flowers

Just a reminder when placing flowers at the Blessed Mother Grotto located behind the church, please **DO NOT** use glass or any breakable vases or containers for your flowers. Sometimes the wind knocks them over and the glass is shattered in the area. Please use plastic or an unbreakable material. Thank you.

## Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop — April 26/27 —

**Friday, April 26** from 4 to 7 p.m. and **Saturday, April 27** 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 ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, 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.

## St. John's Catholic Women's Union



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, April 17th at 6 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. Our Spring Auction will be featured! 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! **Please Note: 2024 Dues are now due!**

## Nativity BVM High School—Happenings

**Nativity BVM High School Century Benefit.** Everyone is welcome to attend and help support Nativity BVM High School as we hold our 2024 Century Club Benefit on **Saturday, April 27th** at Mountain Valley Golf Course in Barnesville. The Golden Cross Society recipients will be inducted at the dinner. The cost is \$150 per person. Cocktail hour begins at 6 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m., induction of the Golden Cross Society members and dancing will follow. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please contact Jenn Daubert at Nativity BVM High School at 570-622-8110. The Golden Cross Society inductees for this year are Megan Brennan '80, John Crane, Patrick "PJ" Lechleitner '90 and Atty. John B. Lieberman III.

## Assumption BVM News ...

**Cash & Gift Card Bingo ...** sponsored by Assumption BVM School on **Sunday, April 21st** at Hillcrest Hall in Minersville. Doors open 11 a.m. and Bingo begins 1 p.m. Advance tickets are \$35; at door \$40. Only 300 tickets sold, so email or call to purchase advance tickets and secure your spot ... [abvm.bingo@gmail.com](mailto:abvm.bingo@gmail.com) or call 570-205-3672. For more information visit [tinyurl.com/yeh9zzby](http://tinyurl.com/yeh9zzby)

## Calling All Parishioners who love St. John's hospitality and/or Yuengling Lager!



Did you know that St. John's is right on the race route for the annual Yuengling Lager Jogger 5k race? This year's race will take place Saturday morning, **April 20th**, starting at 9 a.m. Our parish family would like to extend a warm welcome to the thousands of individuals who pass our doors at this event. You can get involved in the following ways: Donate small (3-5 oz) cups / Donate gallons of water / Donate your time by either ... making fun, encouraging signs with your family, or even better ... coming out to our parish steps on April 20th with your signs, bells and whistles to cheer for participants and hand out waters. Please consider coming out for some parish fellowship and showing our community some St. John's hospitality! On the day of the event, please arrive to the parish parking lot between 8 and 8:30 a.m. due to road closures. Call Sarah DeArment (570-617-8418) to sign up or donate. Please join us!

## Thank You Department

**Thank You** to all who participated in our **Dramatic Stations of the Cross**.

Cast & Crew - *Michael Ambrose, Sammy Balulis, Mary Bound, Connie Brown, Sandra Clauser, Dylan, Kerry, Landon, Paul, Zach Herb, Phyllis Hess, Dotty Kull, Joe & Maureen Kurtek, Matthew Lescavage, John & Hannah Lisowski, Denise Logan, Robert Meridionale, Anthony, Francis, Gerard, Jerome Potteiger, Joe Rittle, Kim & Rosa Searle, Addison & Rick Smith, Dave Steffan, Larry Steficek, Jared Terraciano, Ivy & Tegan Vengan, Jessie Wade, Vanessa Wagner*

Jesus – portrayed by *Vince Balulis*

Narrator—*Debbie Herb*

Solo—*Vivian Rupert*

Director - *Rick Smith*

**Dramatic Stations Choir:** *Michelle Ambrose, Lisa Bashore, Katie Blackwell, Janet Daubert, Dave Derbes, Barbara Fox, Bob Hahner, Sharon Kolenick, Rosemary Lynn, Jane Petrilla, Barb Powers, Jason Prestileo, Carol Rehnert, Vivian Rupert, Ed & Sue Scheetz, Pat Scheetz, Marianne Wollyung*

**Thank You** to those who volunteered for the **Washing of Feet** on Holy Thursday. You helped our parish family visualize the actions of Jesus at the Last Supper.

*Vince Balulis, Ed Brahler, Heidi Gorski, Bob Hahner, Dan & Hermine Murphy, Joe Rittle, Larry Steficek*

**Thank You** to all who helped to create the decorations and **Decorate** our church so beautifully for Easter.

*Mary Bound, Sandy Frinzi, Chris Maccarone, Father Bobbin*

**Thank You** to the **Choir, Musicians, Cantors**

*Michelle Ambrose, Kate Blackwell, Mary Bound, Janet Daubert, Dave Derbes, Barb Fox, Bob Hahner, Amy Joyce, Jason, Jill,, Michael, Spencer, Vincent Prestileo, Barb Powers, Butch & Sue Scheetz, Pat Scheetz, Tina Seiger, Marianne Wollyung*

**Thank You** to our **Co-ordinators** *Kelley Eroh & Kim Searle*, our **Chefs** *Joe Palmieri & Rick Smith*, our **Kitchen Volunteers** who helped prepare, serve, set up and cleaned up for our **Lenten Dinners**.

*Blake & Kyleigh Batory, Sammy & Vince Balulis, Alice Bechtel, Mary Bound, Rosa Ciarvella, Sarah & Philomena DeArment, Chris Eagan, Kelley Eroh, Peyton Evans, Sandy Frinzi, Bernadette Gombola, Theresa Hossler, Mike Hummel, Ed Leffler, Matt, Michelle, Shelby Lescavage, Anne Liptock, Frances Lorenz, Sharon Miller, Stella Mongrain, Hermine Murphy, Eric, Naomi, Maria Neifert, Hunter Norhaft, Bob Orlowsky, Joe & Sophia Palmieri, R.J. Post, Donna Pugh, Nick Quinn, Carole Quirin, Aralis Ramirez, Reene Reddington, Carol Rehnert, Emily, Hope, Lucy, Norah Scheidel, Kim Searle, Tina Seiger, Addison, Beth, Rick Smith, Linda, Smith, Dave Steffan, Ivy & Tegan Vengen*

**Thank you to everyone who patronized the dinners.**

**Thank you** to our very talented **Bakers** who made or purchased those delicious desserts week after week:

*Millie Fredericks, Heidi Gorski, Mary Hahner, Sr. Mary Jane Hahner, Theresa Hossler, Anita Klembara, Maureen Kurtek, Pat Kutch, Frances Lorenz, Chris Maccarone, Hilda Maley, Marie McMurtrie, Barb Munster, Danny Murphy, Jane Petrilla, Carole Quirin, Pat Scheetz, Ellen Zane*

**Thank You** to our **Church Cleaning** Group for doing a wonderful job cleaning our beautiful church for Easter also including Longinus Hall and the Chapel. Everything looked just perfect!

*Michelle Ambrose, Adam Edmister, Robin Fabiani, Sandy Frinzi, Phyllis Hess, Debbie Kubilus, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Beth Smith*

**Thank You** to *Blake & Kyleigh Batory, John Consugar, Bob Hahner* for their help with removing Christmas decorations, etc. from the graves at **St. John's Cemetery**.

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.



## Neighboring Events

**Pilgrimage Tour to Mexico** with Father Phil Rodgers ... **October 5 to 11, 2024**. Trip includes: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tepeyac Hill, Zocalo Plaza, Tlaxcala, Our Lady of Ocotlan, Puebla, Cuemavaca, Taxco, Teotihuacan, and more! Cost: \$2,150 PP/DO. Please call Debbie at 570-622-1801 ext. 0 for more information.



**Pastor** ..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*  
**Deacon** ..... *Lawrence Lonergan*

**Parish Council President**..... *Darren DeArment*  
**Choir Director/Organist**.....*David Derbes*  
**CCD Coordinator** ..... *Lucilla Kochol*  
**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



April 14, 2024 | Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 | 1 Jn 2:1-5a | Lk 24:35-48

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

It's only been two weeks since Easter, but already the holiday can seem like another item checked off our to-do lists. It's easy to get complacent as we go about our busy lives - marking celebrations, important dates and gatherings on the calendar. Today's readings remind us that the Resurrection is not just a story or a metaphor about something ordinary that happened more than 2,000 years ago. It was so different and so shocking that it trembled the very earth, and nothing has been the same since! Luke describes the confusion the disciples felt when they first saw Jesus in his resurrected body. Here was their Lord and teacher, back from the dead, but not as a ghost or spirit as they might have expected: He was just as real as before. He was eating, speaking, touching, and interacting. And yet he was different. He could arrive in a locked room without using the door, pass among people unnoticed (as on the way to Emmaus), and give gifts of wisdom and insight directly to the disciples. Today's Gospel offers Jesus' explanation that these things were done to fulfill the promises God made to the prophets.

**ACCOMPANY** How can we imitate Christ in the way he reached out to his disciples who were wracked with fear and doubt? Perhaps we know somebody who feels trapped by sin, or unworthy of good things, or a constant failure. Let's be honest, sometimes that person is us! We all need encouragement and accompaniment from time to time. Find a way to be that encouragement for someone this week who's having a tough time. You don't have to fix their problems; just listen, let them know you care, and offer a sincere and hopeful encouragement that brighter days lie ahead.

**GO EVANGELIZE**

**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

The fulfillment of God's promises in Jesus, and his death and resurrection, was not meant to benefit only a few people. We, as his disciples, must spread the Good News that sin and death don't have the last word. St. Peter gives us an inspiring example today when he speaks to the people. Look at how different he is from the man who denied Jesus three times! He boldly goes into the crowd - the same crowd that condemned Jesus to death - and preaches on what a gift we all have been given by Jesus' sacrifice. Peter knows, and we know, that Jesus' defeat of death means everything. We are freely offered salvation through Christ's saving action. Like the members of that crowd, we're invited to be witnesses to this great act of love, and to re-align our lives with God's will. Like Peter, we can speak the Good News without fear.