

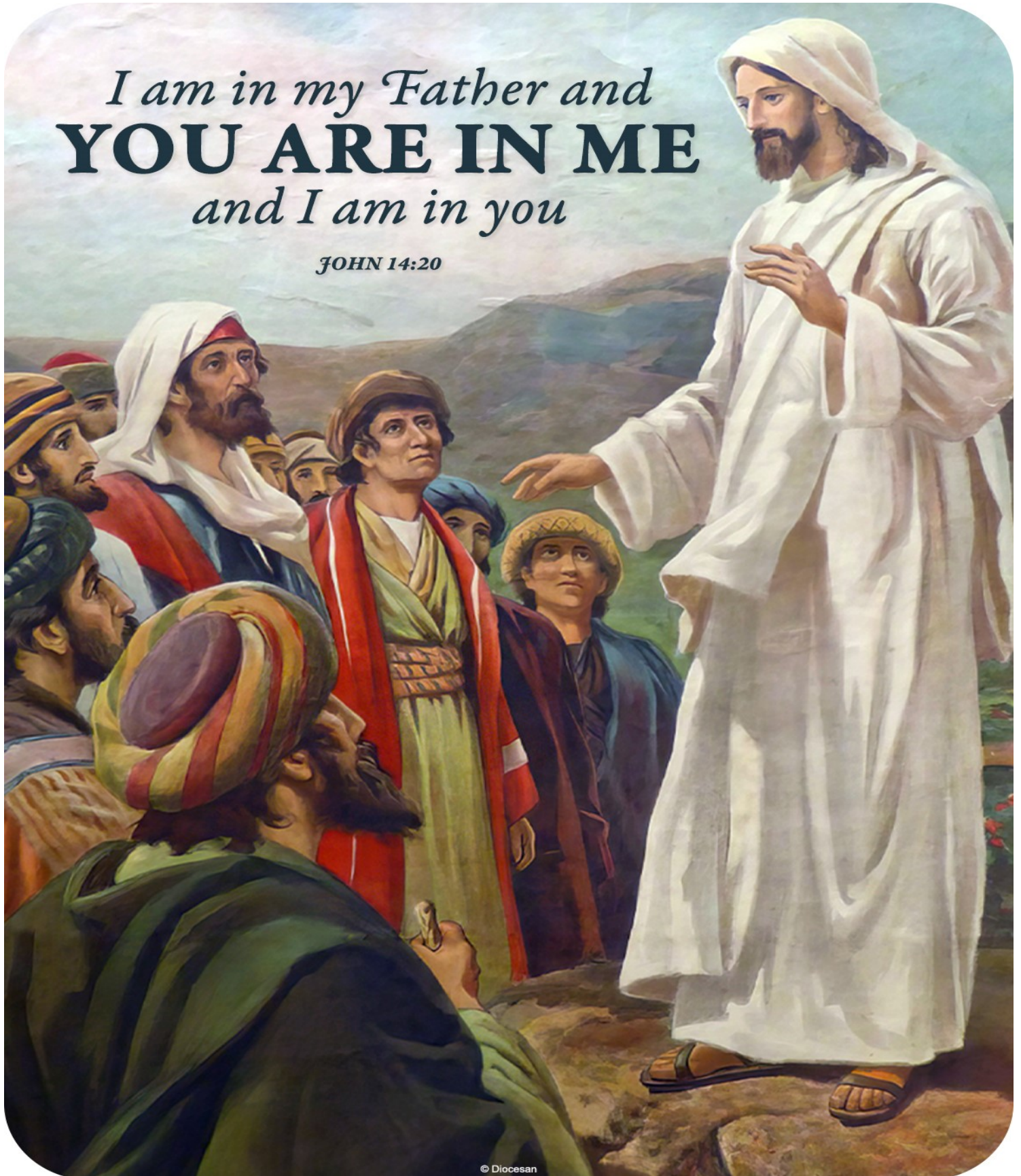
St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

May 10, 2026 • Sixth Sunday of Easter

I am in my Father and
YOU ARE IN ME
and I am in you

JOHN 14:20



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, Kathy Vicic*

"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, May 9

5:00 p.m. Living-Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Sunday, May 10

8:15 a.m. Living-Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Sunday, May 10

10:30 a.m. Living-Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Monday, May 11

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

Tuesday, May 12

9:00 a.m. Porter & Becker Families
(Mary Porter)

Wednesday, May 13

9:00 a.m. Andrew Walcott Jr.
(Mary Jane Ludwig)

Ascension of the Lord

Wednesday, May 13

7:00 p.m. Raphael Murphy
(Family)

Thursday, May 14

9:00 a.m. John Gerace
(Eric & Jennifer Lieberman)

5:15 p.m. David G. Derbes
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Friday, May 15

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

Saturday, May 16

5:00 p.m. Scott & Charles Bowers
(Joan Bowers)

Sunday, May 17

8:15 a.m. Robert Doyle Sr.
(Kitty & Sheila Moser)

Sunday, May 17

10:30 a.m. George & Dolores Lynn
& Jacqueline Kost
(George, Joan Marie, Bill & Dave)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we introduced the Eucharist, which is not simply one of the seven sacraments, but the very heart of the Church, the Real Presence of Jesus abiding with us.

We cannot emphasize strongly enough that our faith teaches the *Real Presence* of Jesus in the Eucharist. This means the bread and wine *literally become* the Body and Blood of Jesus at the moment of the consecration at Mass. The physical characteristics of bread and wine remain (so we can consume the Eucharist) but the substance (i.e., *what it is*) is transformed into our Lord Himself. Many Christian traditions believe the Eucharist is merely a symbol of Jesus, or that Jesus somehow becomes present when the Eucharist is celebrated but that the bread and wine themselves do not change. But the Catholic faith has consistently and unwaveringly taught the Real Presence since the very beginning.

This is challenging to believe for Christians in every age. There have been many documented Eucharistic miracles in history, including in recent times. For example, hosts bleeding or turning to flesh. In all of these instances, when scientific studies can be done, they all seem to show the same results: blood or flesh from a *living* human heart that is under severe stress (i.e., being tortured and perhaps put to death).

But Eucharistic miracles are the exception. Our Lord invites us to freely respond to Him in faith. If you struggle to believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, the solution is easy. Come to Eucharistic Adoration consistently. Spend time with Jesus and talk to Him. He will do the rest.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Readers, Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

Please consider if our Lord is calling you to one of these roles. Our current liturgical ministers are sometimes spread very thin, especially in the summer, making it difficult to fill the schedule. If you might be interested in one of these roles, please see Fr. Bobbin.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study

... will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on **May 14 & 21**. 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.

God Bless our Mothers

Upcoming Events

May

12	7:00 p.m.	Ladies of the Rosary	L.H.
13	7:00 p.m.	Ascension of the Lord Mass.....	Church
14	9:00 a.m.	Ascension of the Lord Mass.....	Church
14	5:15 p.m.	Ascension of the Lord Mass.....	Church
14	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
16	after Mass	Wine & Cheese	L.H.
20	6:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union ‘Covered Dish’	L.H.
24	after Masses	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.

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

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

<><><> MARK YOUR CALENDARS <><><>
SUMMER FESTIVAL—July 17/18, 2026

Weekly Collection

May 3/4\$8,348.50

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Nancy Doyne by Don & Joanne Doyne
2. Josephine Brozana by Don & Joanne Doyne

St. Joseph

1. For Chloe Manus by Neil & Frances Manus
2. IMO Leo Leinheiser by Family

Sanctuary

IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Catherine Schaeffer by Maria Schaeffer
- 3&4. IMO Matilda Schaeffer by Eleanor Schaeffer

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 16— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Frank Murphy

EM: Heidi Gorski, John O’Neill

Server: Heidi Gorski

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

May 17— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

EM: Jeff Naffin, John Crane

Servers: Finley McNamara
Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

May 17 —10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Vincent Balulis

EM: Justina Majestic, Mike Ambrose

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Weekend Sacristan: RJ Post



First Holy Communion

We congratulate our boys and girls who received Eucharist for the first time on Saturday, May 2nd.

We also congratulate their families and teachers who brought them to this point in their lives.

First Communicants:

Adalyn Ebling, Greyson Ward, Brinley Forney

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the girls and boys of St. John’s Parish Family who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Wednesday, April 22nd by Bishop Alfred A. Schlert.




Pictured: (left to right)

Beth Smith, Isla Shoener, Dylan Fanelli, Kaier Lieberman, Father Bobbin, Norah Scheidel, Tina Seiger, Gwentyth Lieberman, Lucilla Kochol. (Vince Balulis—not pictured)

Attention — All Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, and Servers

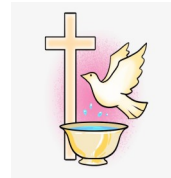
Please let us know your plans for **June & July** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please email or call the rectory by **May 11th**. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.



Ascension of the Lord
Holy Day of Obligation
Masses: Wednesday, May 13 — 7:00 p.m.
 Thursday, May 14th — 9:00 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.

Baptismal Preparation

Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. It is preferable that this be done **before** your baby is born. Please call Father Bobbin to arrange for this important preparation. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.



Summer Festival — Pot Luck Stand

We are in need of potluck prizes for our Summer Festival stand! There are a few easy ways to help donate. We have an Amazon wish list again this year. Go to Amazon.com/registries, search St John The Baptist Potluck, when purchasing an item it will default to ship to Fred Maley- you may send your items there for convenience or if you would prefer to ship to your own address and place item in the donation bin in the back of the church. Any questions, concerns, or to arrange drop off please call Shanna 570-617-4769.



If you'd like an even easier route, and have a smart phone or tablet, open your camera and hold over top and focus on the QR code box - a small link will pop up- tap on it and it will take you right to our Amazon wish list!

Gift cards are also a fantastic way to help! Any denomination and anyplace you love! They can be placed in the collection basket or please call Shanna Deibert 570-617-4769 to arrange for drop off or pick up. Thank you again for your continued generosity!!

Summer Festival — T-Shirts

If something new and exciting to add to your Summer Festival attire is what you have been looking for- the Summer Festival Committee is ready to deliver! We are offering St John's Summer Festival t-shirts for all to buy! You may have seen some of our committee members fashioning these fabulous shirts last year. The t-shirt brand is Comfort Colors- incredibly soft and very durable to last! It will be a one sided design on the front of the shirt - a beautiful drawing of our church and some fun festival food as well! The shirt was designed by a well loved local graphic design business Nora's Pawesome Tees! We will offer online ordering (for a small processing fee) or also for no fees, we will be doing some pre-sales in the back of church after Masses until 5/24- the shirts will be ready and delivered in June. There will be extras ordered to sell at the Festival but to be sure to get your specific size, we highly recommend doing the pre-sale. All shirts must be paid for at time of the order. The color of the shirts is Lagoon Blue—it's a shade of teal. We will have a sample shirt in the back of the church for everyone to see!

Summer Festival T-Shirt

Please complete this order form, enclose in an envelope, drop in the collection basket along with the cost.

Name _____ Phone _____

Size (s) _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Adults: S—XL = \$23.00 / 2 XL: \$25.00 / 3 XL: \$27.00 / 4 XL: \$29.00 / Children: \$18.00

Pray the Rosary



Recite the rosary daily during the month of May, which is dedicated to the Blessed

Mother. There is no prayer more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious in asking for her intercession.

Catholic Charities

Sharing Compassion, Serving in Faith, Spreading Hope

- Services We Offer:
- Professional Counseling Services
 - Pregnancy & Parenting Support
 - Immigration Legal Services
 - Supportive Services for Veterans & Families
 - Basic Need Services
 - Rural Support Services
 - Food & Nutrition Hubs
 - Food Pantry
 - Community Café Food Truck

Schuylkill County Office
99 Valley St.
New Philadelphia
570-628-0466
www.catholiccharitiesad.org

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470

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."
Amen.

Parish Council Nominations

It is now time to nominate new members to the council to fill the places of those whose term has expired. The term of office is three (3) years with the possibility of a second consecutive term

Any parishioner who is at least 21 years old is eligible for nomination. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Please put nominations in the collection basket or mail your nomination to the rectory. When nominating, please don't choose just the most popular people, but choose people who will work for the parish.

The following should **NOT** be nominated as they are presently serving or finishing their term:

Term expires 2027

Bob Burns, Tara DeStefano, Melissa Scheetz, Michelle Stone, Gretchen Witman

Term Expires 2028

Christine Black, Kenneth Cooper, Kelley Eroh, Charles Kustan, Barbara Munster, Marianne Wollyung

President: John Crane

1st Vice-President: Heidi Gorski

2nd Vice-President: Kay Wollyung

Past President: Darren DeArment

=====

Nomination Ballot

I Nominate:

- (a) _____
- (a) _____
- (a) _____

**Please return to the Rectory or Collection Basket
by Friday, June 5th**

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.

Bulletin Boosters

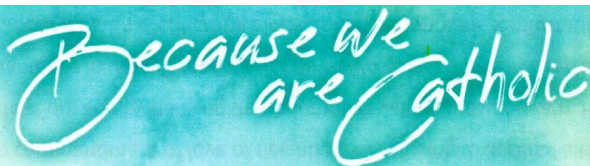
- IMO Carl Bartholomew
- IMO Harold Bartholomew
- IMO James J. Bartholomew
- IMO Robert Berger
- IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
- John & Mildred Fredericks
- Fr. Don Henry
- IMO M/M Herbert Henry
- IMO Joanne Hepler
- IMO Clare & Linda Houser
- MO Charles Lorenz
- IMO Charles & Matilda Schaeffer
- IMO Charlie & Catherine Schaeffer
- IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
- IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
- IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
- IMO Margaret & Guy Zelinsky
- Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!

Flower Donations



If anyone wishes to memorialize flowers in the sanctuary for the weekend Masses for a living or deceased intention, please call the Rectory 570-622-5470



DIOCESE OF
ALLENTOWN



Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal 2026

Many thanks to those who have made a pledge. Making a six-month pledge allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift may be set up with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how big or small. Your generosity supports children and families in our own community and throughout the Diocese of Allentown. You can make your gift only at www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org.



May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 | 1 Pt 3:15-18 | Jn 14:15-21

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Several years ago, while praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, I heard the words, “I just couldn’t bear to leave you.” It was one of the clearest responses to prayer that I have experienced, and it occurred at a time when I was feeling incredibly lonely. I have spent years reflecting on those words, which resurface often as I receive Christ in the Eucharist. In the Gospel today, I hear echoes of those words again as Christ explains to the Apostles the many ways in which they – and we – will not be abandoned after his ascension into heaven. As the rest of the Gospel unfolds, the events of his passion and resurrection reveal the Lord’s faithfulness to them. After the resurrection, the Apostles know they can trust his word because they remember Jesus’ promise that the Father will send an Advocate to be with them. We, also, can trust him believing that out of complete and utter love for humanity, Jesus remains with us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The Apostles accompanied one another in their community of faith, and they walked with those who had recently responded to God’s call to know the truth, as we see with the newly baptized in Samaria. In our lives today, the value of accompaniment cannot be underestimated. In our busy world when it is easy to feel disconnected and alone, being with one another is a powerful way to be a vessel through which Christ proclaims his promise to never leave us. By sitting with another in a time of grief, listening to the questions of a friend who is struggling, or rejoicing with a friend in response to good news, we accompany each other through life’s ups and downs. Sometimes accompaniment consists of proclaiming the Good News of Christ’s love and thereby helping others to have the courage to do the same. In whatever ways we are called to accompany another in their journey of faith, we do so with the promise that Christ is doing the same for us.

ACCOMPANY

In this joyful season of Easter, we continue to celebrate those who entered or were fully welcomed into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. This week, consider reaching out to someone who is new to the Church to celebrate with them, offer your continued prayers for them, or invite them to a parish event.