

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

June 8, 2025 • Pentecost



COME,
HOLY SPIRIT
FILL THE HEARTS OF
THE FAITHFUL

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

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, Doug Broughton*

For our Deceased: *Tony Kochol*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 7

5:00 p.m. Joe Brahler
(Kathy Brahler)

Sunday, June 8

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

Sunday, June 8

10:30 a.m. Scottie Glunz
(Karen Lenard)

Monday, June 9

6:30 p.m. Catherine Bortzel

Tuesday, June 10

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

Wednesday, June 11

9:00 a.m. George Hahner Sr.
(Ed Hahner)

Thursday, June 12

6:30 p.m. Robert Porter Jr.
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

Friday, June 13

9:00 a.m. Joseph & Jessie Ritzel
(Joan Ritzel)

Saturday, June 14

5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased
Fathers of St. John's
Parish Family

Sunday, June 15

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased
Fathers of St. John's
Parish Family

Sunday, June 15

10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased
Fathers of St. John's
Parish Family

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Before Easter we completed a long tour of the Old Testament. Today let's start looking at the New Testament.

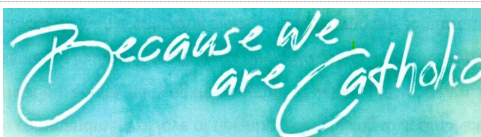
Remember, the word "testament" means "covenant." The Old Testament is about the covenant relationship God formed with the people of Israel, awaiting its fulfillment in Jesus. The New Testament is about Jesus and the beginning of the Church, the New Covenant community to which we belong today.

So, first the big picture. What does the New Testament include? It contains 27 individual pieces of literature. We begin with the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. A Gospel is not simply a biography or history. It is a new and unique literary genre written for the purpose of proclaiming Jesus Christ and inviting the reader or listener to respond with faith. The Gospels are followed by the Acts of the Apostles, written by St. Luke as a second volume to his Gospel. Acts is a history of the beginning of the Church.

Most of the New Testament is made up of letters. They basically fall into two categories: the letters of St. Paul, and the letters written by other Apostles. There are 13 letters of Paul (Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon). Next comes the Letter to the Hebrews, which is not really a letter but a kind of theological paper. The remaining letters are named for their authors: the Letters of James, 1 and 2 Peter, 1, 2, and 3 John, and Jude.

The New Testament – and the entire Bible – ends with the Book of Revelation, which is basically the Gospel presented in the form of apocalyptic writing. Over the next few months, we will look at each of these books and letters individually.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin



We are grateful to all who pledged their support to the 2025 Because We Are Catholic Appeal. Your gift will allow our

Diocese to meet the many and varied needs of people in our community. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how big or small. If you did not take the opportunity to make your gift, you may do so at any time over the next few weeks by placing your pledge form in the collection basket or visiting the Appeal website at BecauseWeAreCatholic.org. Thank you for your support!

Parish Goal: \$15,796.00

Total Collected: \$4,485.00

Number of Donors: 43

Next Week's Readings

Most Holy Trinity (June 14/15)

Reading I: Proverbs 8:22-31

Reading II: Romans 5:1-5

Gospel: John 16:12-15

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.

Upcoming Events

June

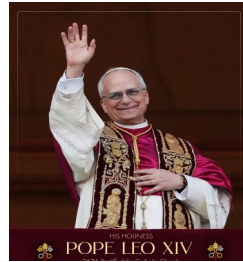
9	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council Mtg.	L.H.
11	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society Mtg	F.R.
12	7:00 p.m.	Summer Festival Mtg	R.B.
18	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg	L.H.

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

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

Did you know ...

Pope Leo XIV was once in our church? In 2005 the future pope attended the ordination Mass of fellow Augustinian priest, Fr. Joseph Narog, O.S.A., which was celebrated here at St. John. Father Narog grew up in our parish, entered the Augustinians, was ordained here in his home parish, and currently serves as the pastor of St. Thomas of Villanova Church, at Villanova University.



Nativity BVM High School

Host Families Needed

Nativity BVM High School has accepted several wonderful international students from Spain, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Japan. These students are excited to begin school in late August, but are in need of loving host families. All types of families are eligible to host: empty-nesters, single people, families with children. Students speak good English, and they have their own spending money and insurance. Host families receive a generous monthly stipend. For more information, please contact mchallenger.educatus@gmail.com.

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.

Family Matters. Today's graduates need support and courage to face the challenges of life. So, let us pray today for all our graduates: Elementary, High School and College, that our Lord will guide them in their endeavors as they seek further knowledge, schooling or employment.

Weekly Collection

May 31/June 1\$4,963.03

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Scottie Glunz
by Karen Lenard
2. IMO Raydell Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh

St. Joseph

1. IMO Mary Ann Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh
2. IMO Albert Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh

Sanctuary

IMO George Hahner Sr.
by Hahner Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Marcella Sockalosky
by Rick & Michelle Stone
2. IMO Joan Wassel
by Rick & Michelle Stone
3. IMO John Heimbaugh
by Helen Heimbaugh
4. IMO Raydell Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Most Holy Trinity Sunday

June 14—5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Bob Wollyung

EM: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Cooper & Cole Felty

Cantor: Ensemble

June 15— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose

EM: Bob Bechtel, Michael Ambrose

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Tina Seiger

June 15— 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Vincent Balulis

EM: Frank Murphy, Ray Petrilla

Server: Colin McGinley

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Sacristan: Connor Felty



June 8, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11 | 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 | Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

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

In today's first reading, we join the Apostles in the Upper Room. These individuals had accompanied Jesus to his death and been witnesses to his resurrection and ascension. Can you imagine the throes of emotion accompanying each experience? Now, they gather together, perhaps discussing what to do next. They wonder where they should go, and who they should listen to, since Jesus was no longer there: "And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind." In a moment swelling with grace, tongues of fire descended upon each person present, "and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." What might this moment have sounded like? Looked like? Felt like? The Apostles were weary and grieving, but Jesus made a promise he intended to keep — that he would send an advocate in his name to teach them everything. That same Spirit now waits to guide and empower us if we are willing to receive him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Jesus' death left his followers grieving and disoriented. They had left everything to follow him. And now, he was gone. What would become of them? Jesus said: "I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." On this feast of Pentecost, Jesus' promise is fulfilled. When the Father sent down the Spirit, it was not just for a singular, grand moment in time; the Spirit came for good. In the same way the Apostles were strengthened by the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, so were we strengthened at our confirmation. We were commissioned, as were they, to live out our faith in the world. When we need strength in this mission, let us remember that the word advocate comes from the Latin word *advocatus*, which means "one who draws near." *Come, Holy Spirit, come!*

REFLECT

Read the *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* ("Come, Holy Spirit") prayer that we heard before the Gospel today. Each line, laden with powerful imagery, invites us to understand the Spirit more intimately. Reflect on where you experience the Holy Spirit in your life today, and where you long for a greater outpouring of his fire.

Summer Festival

A short note from the Summer Festival Committee We are so very excited to once again celebrate our parish and community! We are currently working hard to make changes and improvements and can't wait to work alongside of so many of you! We had an amazing Summer Festival last year and are hoping to bring an even better and more organized event this year. Please join us! Our festival is only possible because of all of you --- thank you!

Advanced Ticket Sales

Why stand in line for tickets when you could be enjoying yourself ... **Advanced Food & Game Tickets** will be available before and after all Masses the weekend of **July 5/6; July 12/13** Purchase \$9.00 worth of tickets in **ADVANCE** and receive \$1.00 worth of tickets **FREE!**



Summer Festival—Pot Luck Stand Donations

The **Midsummer Festival** will be here before you know it and we are 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 bins or dropped in 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, use or opened items will not be used for prizes. If you wish, please include your name so we can keep track of those making prize donations.

Amazon -- Go to 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 and place in bins in back of church.

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



Amazon Gift List QR Code

Dedicated Workers Needed



Festival Stands.

There are a variety of stands that need help Games of Chance, Children's Games, Food Service, Ticket Stands, etc. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are located in the back of church ... add your name and phone number to one of the many areas.

Set-Up and Take-Down

Your help is needed for the big job of set-up on **Wednesday** and **Thursday** evenings before the Festival, and **Friday** morning to prepare the grounds for the festivities, and **Sunday** for clean-up and take-down. Your help in these areas is essential. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are located in the back of church.

New Altar Servers

We invite any boys and girls currently finishing fourth grade or older to consider becoming altar servers. Parents, please speak with Father Bobbin or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.



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.

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

5 to 9:30 p.m. each night

Specials Table

Would you like to donate a basket for our Special's Table at the Festival? We are asking for 15 baskets. A sign-up sheet is located in the back of church ... suggestions are listed. Basket minimum value should be approximately \$30—\$50. Gift Certificates are always accepted and greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

(Baskets should be **completed** and **wrapped**. Baskets can be dropped off at the Russell Building on Wednesday, July 16 or Thursday, July 17. Baskets **CANNOT** be dropped off at the rectory.)



Pot Luck Stand

Please see information on page 6 of today's bulletin.

Music Entertainment



The Summer Festival Committee is very excited to announce this year's scheduled entertainment!

Friday evening 7/18 Our very own **Dave Derbes** will entertain us with some of our favorite relaxing acoustic tunes! Dave has been a wonderful staple and donates his talent to our festival entertainment every year, we are truly blessed!

Saturday evening 7/19 we are shaking things up and bringing a blast from the past celebration with **MICHELE AND THE LOST BOYS!** Former members of the band Sapphire: Michele Scribbick, Eric Ziegmont, Bill Adams, and Jim Oakum will bring us all your favorite hits from the 50s, 60s, 70s & 80s! Bring a lawn chair, your dancing shoes, or enjoy our shaded seating, listening to everything from Elvis, to Kiss, to Cyndi Lauper- and so many fun toe tapping tunes in between and more! They will play 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. **mark those calendars now!**

We are also excited to announce a few new food additions as follows

A fantastically savory **Pig Roast** thanks to Don Tassone! Roasted on site-we can't wait!

The **Atomic Kitchen** vintage food truck will join us with amazing vegan options, impossible sliders, mushroom Swiss sandwiches, bubble teas, boba tea and more! Parishioners and food truck owners **Vince Balulis and Megan Homovich** will help add new and fun food options to our festival food line up! More announcements to come, please stay tuned!

Bakers Needed

Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the Russell Building on July 18 or 19th.



Food Committee

We need volunteers to help prepare food for this year's Festival If you would like to help, please call the Rectory or add your name and phone number to the sign-up sheets in the back of church.

Festival Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor one or more of the following — please drop in the collection basket or mail to the rectory.

Band Sponsor	\$100.00 each	Bleenie Mix	\$ 40.00 per bucket
Coke Sponsor	\$ 50.00 each	Ice Cream	\$ 25.00 each
Pizza Sponsor	\$ 50.00 each		

Festival Supplies

Sour Cream — Mustard — Ketchup (original/regular tomato only)

(A container will be in the back of church in the near future Perishable items can be dropped off at the Rectory)