

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

June 28, 2026 • 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Edward Moran 1886

© diocesan

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@allentowndioocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

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

Diocese of Allentown Website

www.allentowndioocese.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, Charles Reber, Cecelia Burns, Thomas Muldowney, Dottie Kull.*

"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, June 27

5:00 p.m. William & Mary Bercher
(Scott Williams)

Sunday, June 28

8:15 a.m. Jerry Hudock
(Diane Hudock & Children)

Sunday, June 28

10:30 a.m. Post, Legase, Lynn Family
(Sandi, Sheri, RJ Post)

Monday, June 29—Friday, July 3

NO MASSES

Saturday, July 4

5:00 p.m. Lucilla Mae Fanelli
(Lucilla Kochol)

Sunday, July 5

8:15 a.m. Francis & Jane Mooney
(Nora Chiplonia)

Sunday, July 5

10:30 a.m. David G. Derbes
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Next Week's Readings

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (July 4/5)

Reading I: Zechariah 9:9-10

Reading II: Romans 8:9, 11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

St. John's Ensemble

... will play/sing at 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, July 12th. The purpose of this ministry is to serve the parish at Mass, singing liturgical hymns, using contemporary instruments like the guitar, keyboard, drums or other instruments, and using contemporary music arrangements.

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.

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we started looking at the Sacrament of Confession (or Penance, or Reconciliation). Let's go through the sacrament step-by-step starting with a few very basic considerations. For example: *When* should I go to Confession?

There are two ways to answer that question. First of all, strictly speaking, it is only *necessary* to go to Confession when one has mortal sin on one's conscience. What is mortal sin? It is a sin that involves what moral theologians call "grave matter." This would generally be something that violates one of the Ten Commandments (for example: not keeping the Sabbath holy by *deliberately* choosing not to go to Mass, physically harming someone, harboring hatred for someone, adultery and other sins that violate God's gift of sexuality, etc.).

But to be guilty of mortal sin, the sin must be committed with *full knowledge* of its seriousness, and with *full consent*. Very often people commit sins of a serious nature but they are not aware of how serious these matters are. Or people commit sins of a serious nature without full consent of the will, but rather in a way that is influenced by habit or other circumstances that would lessen their responsibility. Nevertheless, even when there are circumstances that mitigate one's guilt, it is still extremely important to be reconciled with our Lord in Confession. Poison will still harm you even if you consume it accidentally.

When should I go to Confession? Although Confession is only strictly necessary for mortal sin, it is important to make a habit of going on a regular basis. We'll explain this more next week.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

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.



Peter's Pence Collection

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Leo XIV. Take this opportunity to join with our Pope to be a sign of hope to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning Is Hiring!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is currently seeking caring and dedicated individuals for several part-time positions, including *Physical Therapist*, *Behavioral Support Specialist*, and *Administrative Assistant*. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about these opportunities, please call SJC at **570-622-4638** and ask to speak with Bob Giba. Join us in making a difference in the lives of children and adults with special needs.

Diocesan News & Events

RETROUVAILLE: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage. Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of **July 31 - August 2, 2026** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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

Neighboring Events

Feast of Mary Queen of Peace. The Society of Mary Queen of Peace, a private association of the Christian faithful recognized by the Diocese of Allentown, warmly invites all to a special Mass for the Feast of Mary Queen of Peace on **Thursday, July 9th at 6 p.m.** at Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Chapel, 730 N. Centre St. in Pottsville.

Mary Queen of Peace is a historic Catholic Chapel that is currently being preserved as a sacred place of prayer. For generations, it has stood as a beacon of faith for families throughout Schuylkill County, many of whom still have deep connections to the chapel.

The Mass will be a meaningful and hopeful opportunity to come together in prayer, give thanks and support for the continued preservation of this beloved chapel.

All are welcome to attend Mass on this special occasion, with fellowship immediately following. For more information, please visit maryqpeace.org

Host Families Needed

Your family can make a global impact from the comfort of home! Consider hosting an international exchange student this upcoming school year.

- > Your family can learn about another culture first-hand!
 - > Students will attend Nativity BVM. They have insurance and spending money.
 - > Families, single people, and empty-nesters can host!
 - > You will receive a monthly stipend and continuous support from a local coordinator.
- Please contact Maureen Challenger mchallenger@nativitybvm.net for more information!

Weekly Collection

June 20/21\$3,188.25

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Francis J. King
by Grace King
2. IMO Mary Wollyung
by Wollyung Family

St. Joseph

1. IMO George Hahner Jr.
by Hahner Family
2. For Joseph Manus
by Neil & Francis Manus

Sanctuary

Souls in Purgatory
by Bob Daniels

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Rod Schaeffer
by Jennifer, Dick, Rex Berger
2. IMO Grace & George Werez
by Grace King
3. IMO Cora Bettinger
by Grace King
4. IMO Rita & Eugene Rehnert
by Grace King

Liturgical Min. Schedule

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 4— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Michelle Heenan

EM: John Crane, Hermine Murphy

Server: John Crane

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

July 5— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Larry Steficek

EM: Jeff Naffin, Michael Ambrose

Servers: Colin McGinley

Finley McNamara

Cantor: Tina Seiger

July 5—10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Carleigh Palmieri

EM: Justina Majestic, Gerry Schwartz

Servers: Sophia Palmieri

Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Sacristan: Connor Felty

June 28, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a | Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 | Mt 10:37-42

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

In today's Gospel, Christ tells the Apostles of the rewards given to those who welcome his disciples. He reminds us that God sees and values any support offered to those whom he sends to proclaim his word. While we're accustomed to receiving a reward that is proportional to the effort required for that task, God provides a generous reward for even the simplest acts (showing hospitality, offering a cup of cold water). The reward offered is not based on the grandeur of our action, but on the goodness of God who generously blesses our small acts of faithfulness. Christ preaches of this same concept when he describes the poor widow's offering of two coins in the Gospels of Mark and Luke (Mk 12:41-44, Lk 21:1-4). Jesus did not judge the monetary value of the two coins; he saw only the sacrifice and generosity that was communicated by the gesture. We can trust in the overwhelming grace of the Father that even the smallest gift we offer to him is worthy of a great reward.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the first reading, a woman generously offers lodging for the prophet Elisha. She saw Elisha's need, knew that he was a holy man, and used the gifts and resources she had to support him in his sacred work. We are also called to generously support and encourage the ways in which our brothers and sisters are leading others to Christ. In other words, we are called to accompany our fellow disciples, whether they need a listening ear or a simple acknowledgment of their efforts. Because each baptized person shares in the mission of spreading the faith, every action we do to support one another is also supportive of this essential task of discipleship. As we begin to walk alongside other disciples, we pray that our witness manifests God's love at work in the world and brings many closer to him.

PRAY

Our Scriptures today invite us to consider how we can support and accompany our fellow disciples: "Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple ... will surely not lose his reward." One of the simplest ways we can offer support is to pray for one another, asking for the grace to be faithful to the Lord and to our efforts to share our faith with others. Even a simple, heartfelt prayer for one another will not go unnoticed by the Lord.



By Jean Maloney, Sermon on the Mount, Public Domain

Summer Festival

Friday, July 17 and Saturday, July 18

5 to 9:30 p.m. each night

2026 Summer Festival season is here! We are so very excited to get the word out on all the new and great things that we have in store!

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 4/5; July 11/12**. Purchase \$9.00 worth of tickets in **ADVANCE** and receive \$1.00 worth of tickets **FREE!**



Pot Luck Stand

We are in need of Potluck Prizes for our Summer Festival stand!

We are almost less than 3 weeks away and WE NEED ABOUT MORE PRIZES !!

There are a few easy ways to help donate. We have an Amazon wish list again this year. Go to [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.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!!

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.

As the Summer Festival approaches, we wanted to give some quick information. If you volunteered for our 4:30-6:30pm slot on either night, we ask that you arrive by 4:30 and report to the large dining room in the Russell Building. You will receive your ticket box there from Michelle or Michael Ambrose. From there you can go to your stand and familiarize yourself with what is needed to be done. We are starting a pinch earlier to be better prepared and have less chaos at the opening of the festival. Thank you so much for volunteering your time Any questions or problems please see Jason Prestileo or Shanna Deibert. We cannot wait to kick off one of our best festivals yet with you!

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.

Music Entertainment

Friday, July 17th, we are so blessed to have our very own **Dave Derbes** once again entertain us. Dave is a festival staple bringing all our acoustic favorite relaxing tunes. Join us in kicking off a great weekend of friends, family and fellowship.

Saturday, July 18th, back by popular demand—"Michele & the Lost Boys". We are so excited to welcome back the former members of the band Sapphire—Michele, Eric, Bill and Jim. They will bring all our favorite hits from the 50's, 60s, 70s, 80s. Enjoy their amazing acoustic music in our shaded seating area or out on the dance floor. So many toe tapping tunes from 6 to 9 p.m. **Bar** area will be open until 9:30 p.m. both nights! We have the coldest beer, great wine selections and a variety of Smirnoff and wine coolers.



Bakers Needed

Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the Russell Building on July 17th or 18th.

Summer Festival

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 15 or Thursday, July 16**. Baskets **CANNOT** be dropped off at the rectory.)

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 Patrons

\$500.00

Ed & Carole Quirin
Maria Rowlands
Joe & Sherri Souchak

\$250.00

Paul & JoAnna Buber

\$200.00

Charles & Patricia Miller
Judith Williams

\$150.00

Gorski Family

\$100.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel
Sandy & Joe Frinzi
Lieberman & Tamulonis Law
Joseph Liptok
Frances Lorenz
Dan & Hermine Murphy
Mary B. Porter
Bill, Kelly, Brady, Briar Rhoads
Tamalavage Family

\$75.00

Fetterolf Family

\$50.00

Joan M. Bowers
Kathy Brahler
The DeWald's
Tom & Cindy Elison
Stan & Geri Grabowski
Heenan Family
Patricia Kutch
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman
John & Susan Minnichbach
Charles & Kathleen Reber
Dolores Brophy
Catholic Women's Union

Festival Patrons

\$50.00

Carl & Kathy Hughes
Barbara & Bruce Krupa
Ron & Pat Lombel
John & Bernice Petock
Robert & Irene Post
David & Mary Ann Shoopack
Martin & Linda Smith
Robert & Gretchen Witman
Barbara Wollyung

\$40.00

Mary Beth Harvey
Theresa Skrobak

\$30.00

Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski
Dorothy & Joe Stangl
Wartella Family
Bob & Kay Wollyung

\$25.00

Jim Brentari
Ken & Tammy Cooper
Janet Daubert
Barbara Ann Dietz
Marie Doyle
Greg Lieberman Family
Hal J. Messer
Jack & Aggie Messner
Frances Brahler Mickey
M/M A.J. Munster
Ann Marie Souchak
Bruno M. Tassone
Michael & Elizabeth Tyson

\$20.00

Ron & Donna Dermo
Natalie Setlock
Rick & Michelle Stone
Christine Tray

Festival Patrons

\$10.00

John & Joanne Mestishen

\$10.00

Harriet Pfeffer
Mary Ann Schweikert

Festival Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc.—Chance Books

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
Coke Sponsor \$ 50.00 each
Ice Cream \$ 25.00 each
Pizza Sponsor \$ 50.00 each

Band (1) - Paul & JoAnna Buber
Bleenie Mix (1) — Paul & JoAnna Buber
Bleenie Mix (9) - Frank Angelo
Coke (2) - John Bosche
Ice Cream (1) — Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky
Pizza (1) - Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky

Special Basket Table

Amika Hair Care -Shanna Deibert/Linda Murphy
Bath & Body - Barb Munster
Christmas in July - Lucilla Kochol
Dog Bskt. - Linda & Bob Stock
Family Fun Nite - Ann Blankenhorn
Italian - Cathy Cooper
Lottery - Nora Chiplonia
Painting - Father Bobbin
Picnic - John & Patty O'Neill
Wine - Luis R. Visot
Wine - Gianfagna's (2)
TBD - Rosann, David, Tyler
Celebrate America 250th

—Sandy & Joe Frinzi