

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

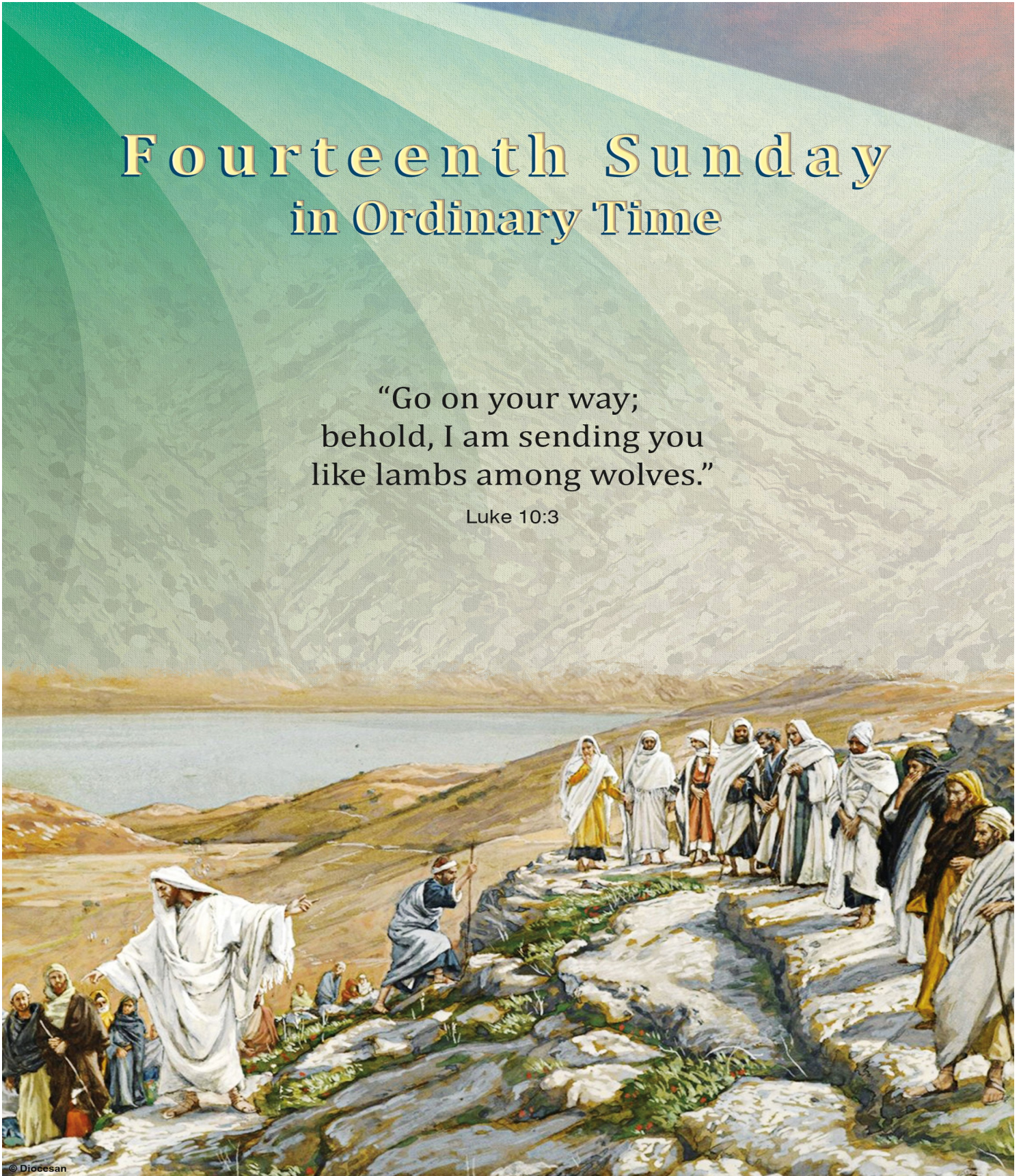
10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • www.saintjohnpottsville.org

July 6, 2025

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Go on your way;
behold, I am sending you
like lambs among wolves."

Luke 10:3



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, Kathy Vivic*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 5

5:00 p.m. Helen & Maurice Mirabella
(Christine Maccarone)

Sunday, July 6

8:15 a.m. Carolyn L. Leinheiser
(Paul & Bernie Gombola)

Sunday, July 6

10:30 a.m. Sninski Family
(Mary Zambo)

Monday, July 7

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

Tuesday, July 8

9:00 a.m. John Fredericks
(M/M John Carroll)

Wednesday, July 9

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

Thursday, July 10

9:00 a.m. Joan Steficek
(Larry Steficek & Family)

Friday, July 11

9:00 a.m. Tony Kochol
(Lucilla Kochol)

Saturday, July 12

5:00 p.m. Ed Smith
(Dolly Smith & Family)

Sunday, July 13

8:15 a.m. Ralph & Anna Chiplonia
(Nora Chiplonia)

Sunday, July 13

10:30 a.m. Joseph Orlowsky
(Joe Orlowsky)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we were making some observations about the Gospel According to Mark. We mentioned that many believe Mark wrote his Gospel for the Christian community of Rome. One thing is certain: Mark's Gospel is addressed to Gentile Christians, not Christians of Jewish background. Take a look at Mark 7:1-4 and notice how he explains the Jewish customs. He does not assume his readers are familiar with Jewish customs. Another clue that points to a Gentile audience is that, in what is arguably the climax of the Gospel – the death of Jesus – it is the Roman centurion (a Gentile) who proclaims Jesus to be the Son of God (We'll come back to this.).

Here are various features of Mark's Gospel... The Gospel begins by introducing John the Baptist and then the adult Jesus comes on the scene. There are no Infancy Narratives (Christmas stories) in Mark's Gospel. There is an abruptness to Mark's Gospel. As we already mentioned, the language is very simple. The action moves quickly. Jesus is shown as always on the move. Read chapter 1, which strings together several events in Jesus's ministry. You should be exhausted by the time you get to chapter 2.

Although Mark is brief, he is also very descriptive. Some of his passages are actually longer and more descriptive than the parallel passages in Matthew or Luke. There are a few instances where Mark begins a story, interrupts it with another story, and then picks up the first story. This is called intercalation or, if you prefer more technical language, a "marcan sandwich."

One interesting feature of the Gospel is multiple endings... The end of the original manuscript seems to have been cut off. Based on the available early manuscripts of Mark, there is a "Longer Ending" (which is considered the canonical ending), a "Shorter Ending" and at least one other ending.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Share Your Catholic Faith

We are in search of CCD teachers, OCIA instructors and preschool teacher assistants. Are you the person we are looking for? You do not need a teaching degree. Just the desire to teach. We need someone who loves their faith, desires to know more and to share the Catholic faith with others.

We have a great preschool and CCD staff. We are a small staff and need to grow our numbers because we have more families with children joining our church all the time. We also have people joining the faith that are adults or young people that would be better served by Order of Christian Initiation of Adults -OCIA (the former RCIA). We need instructors to help these candidates become full members of the Church.

Preschool has many wonderful parents helping as teachers, but we do need a Teacher Assistant to help with the busy hands and feet of our students. We are hoping a high school student would be a perfect fit. You can use this experience on a resume or for community service hours at your school.

We can support you with guidance and training. Please prayerfully consider helping the children and adults of our community come into full communion with the Catholic faith and our parish family. Please contact Tina Seiger or Lucilla Kochol at the rectory to volunteer.

Next Week's Readings

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(July 12/13)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Reading II: Colossians 1:15-20

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc. — Chance Books

Festival Patrons

\$500.00

Ed & Carole Quirin
Robert & Maria Rowlands
Joe & Sherri Souchak

\$200.00

Paul & JoAnna Buber
John B. Lieberman III
Caroline Vinskie (Band Sponsor)

\$100.00

Friend of St. John's
Gorski Family
John Jefferson
Alicia Kleman
Christine Maccarone
Dan & Hermine Murphy
Mary Porter
Judith Williams
Jay & Ellen Zane

\$80.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel

\$75.00

Frances Lorenz

\$50.00

Ann Blankenhorn
Dolores Brophy
Bob Daniels
Tom & Cindy Elison
Barbara A. Fox

Festival Patrons

\$50.00

Millie Fredericks
Joyce Gerace
Heenan Family
Diane Hudock
Patricia Kutch
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman
John & Barb Powers
Dianne Stoudt
Luis & Virginia Visot
Barb Wollyung

\$35.00

Jim Brentari

\$33.00

Ted Gurecki Jr.

\$30.00

Ken & Tammy Cooper
Grabowski Family
Stan & Stephanie Viduszynski
Dave & Trish Wartella

\$25.00

Mary Ann Filiac
Stan & Geri Grabowski
Rik & Sue Jochems
Rosie Kenderes
Ron & Pat Lombel
Frances Braehler Mickey

\$15.00

Natalie Setlock

\$10.00

Lou Cross
Harriet Peiffer

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

Bleenie Mix (1) — Paul & JoAnna Buber
Bleenie Mix (1) — Doyle Family
Bleenie Mix (1) — Don & Joanne Doyne
Bleenie Mix (2) — Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski
Bleenie Mix (1) — Theresa Skrobak
Ice Cream (1) — Ray & Jane Petrilla
Ice Cream (1) — Anonymous
Ice Cream (1) — Mary Ann Filiac
Ice Cream (1) — Al & Barb Munster
Ice Cream (1) — Barb Schoenauer
Pizza (1) — Mark & Deborah Purcell
Coke (1) — John & Sandy Bosche
Coke (1) — David & Mary Ann Shoopack

Special Basket Table

Vera Bradley Back to School — Lucilla Kochol
Birthday Bskt. — Ryan Family
Purse Bskt. — Rosann Sitkus
Grilling Bskt. — Steve & Jan Kurtek
Snack & Puzzle Bskt. — Barb Munster
Vera Bradley Bskt — Sandy Frinzi
Crystal Candy Bowls (2) — Carol Bilinski
Fall Bskt — Chris Black

Summer Festival — Pot Luck Stand Donations

The last date to submit a Pot Luck Stand donation is July 11, 2025. We thank you for your contributions for this highly successful Summer Festival fundraiser.

We will also be utilizing our **Amazon Wish List**. Simply scan the QR code with your phone to purchase an item (or visit [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries) and search for St John the Baptist) and ship directly to Marueen Derbes.

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.

If you wish, please include your name so we can keep track of those making prize donations.

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

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

WE ARE SO EXCITED ABOUT ST JOHN'S 2025 SUMMER FESTIVAL!

A few new, exciting, and tasty things to announce!!

Don Tassone from Tassone's Catering will be doing a **PIG ROAST** on our picnic grounds! There will be several seasonings and sauces available along with options for platters, sandwiches and ala carte!! Roasted Corn on the Cob will be a new addition along with a seasoning bar and dipped in butter option. We will also have Cole slaw available for platters or solo!

The **Atomic Kitchen** with Vince Balulis and Megan Homovich who will be joining us this year! Impossible sliders, Mushroom Swiss sandwiches, bubble tea, Boba teas and more!! An amazing vegan experience with incredible delicious taste!

We will have **Kettle Corn** this year!!! For those of you who are familiar with Joe from Norwegian News on facebook- he makes incredibly tasty fresh kettle corn in regular and caramel -he will be joining us this year!!

We also want to spread the word that our **Beer Garden** has way more than beer!! We will have several wine selections!! We will also offer Smirnoff and wine cooler varieties!!

We will have all your regular St John's food favorites - Italian sausage sandwiches, cheese steaks, halushki, halupkis, hot dogs, Pottsville Pizzeria, Burgers, Mrs.T's Pierogies, Heisler's CMPs and Dixie cups, the fantastic homemade baked goods, and of course- a huge favorite, **Pugh Family Bean Soup!! Celebrating 57ys this year!!!**

We are switching up our kids and family games this year as well!!

Dino Dig- is a fun game that kids will get the chance to dig for a dinosaur and its egg and win prizes!!

Nerf Shoot-out- May just bring the marksman out in everyone!! Shoot nerf balls at spinning wheel- get one in the net on the wheel and get a prize!!

Axe Throw- Show off your throwing skills w/ children safe axes at a target- hit the bullseye get a prize!!

Lollipop Boat- our beloved traditional pick a pop and get a prize festival favorite!

New also this year will be a lighted **Arcade Game** loaded with fun prizes and trinkets!

And of course the most beloved game **Potluck!!** It returns with incredible prizes and fun!! Pick a number - if it ends in zero, YOU WIN!!!

Beautiful **Sand and Spin Art** are also returning this year- create something fun w/ the family!! So many options!!

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 and current members of Fast Times at Shumer High: 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 a huge variety of oldies from Elvis, to Kiss, to Cyndi Lauper- and so many fun toe tapping tunes in between and more! They will play 6:30-9:30pm -You won't want to miss them!!!

Please come join us to celebrate our parish, our community, and a really great summer tradition- see you at the festival!!

Burial Flag Donations. For many years, Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery has had an Avenue of Flags displayed from Memorial Day in May until Veterans Day in November. If your family has a burial flag—often encased in a triangular wooden and plastic container—and would like to donate it so that it can be properly flown at the GAP Cemetery, please call 570-628-9619 and either talk to me or leave a message so that I may contact you. Thanks, Frank Peron Jr.



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!

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.

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.

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshipping 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."

Summer Festival —

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

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.)

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.

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!**

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** evening at 6 p.m. before the Festival, and **Friday** morning to prepare the grounds for the festivities, and **Sunday** at 9 a.m. 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.

Flowers in Church

Generally speaking, flowers are donations. The parish decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons (partly thanks to your donations). The rest of the year, we welcome donations of flowers.

Flowers are **not** appropriate during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. Flowers **are** appropriate on:

- Sundays in Ordinary Time
- Sundays in the Easter Season (after the original Easter flowers have died)
- Holy Days—such as—Ascension Thursday, Assumption (August 15), All Saints Day (November 1), Immaculate Conception (December 8)

If you would ever like to donate flowers (perhaps in memory of a loved one), please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



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.educatius@gmail.com.

Youth Girls Basketball Camp on July 7th to 9th at Nativity High School. Cost \$60. For more info contact Coach Reed at 570-728-0706.

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.

NEW CCD and Sacramental Preparation Registration

Parents of children in grades 1st through 8th please fill out the CCD registration using the QR code. If your child has been previously enrolled from years past, it is not necessary to do this link. Any **new students in public school grades 1-8** should fill out this form. Students in **parochial school** whose child is in third or eighth grade that are to receive a sacrament this coming school year please use this QR code to register your child. You may also call the rectory at 570-622-5470 and speak with Miss Kochol to register your child.



Neighboring Events

Christmas In July Basket Raffle. Mark your calendars! St. Joseph Center for Special Learning's annual **Christmas in July Basket Raffle** will be held on **July 26 & 27** at the **St. Ambrose / SJC Parish Center**. Come out and support a fun summer tradition filled with great prizes and community cheer! We're also accepting donations of new items for the raffle. Donations can be dropped off at SJC during school hours. Your generosity makes this event a success! Thank you for your continued support!

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.



Candles

BVM

1. Health of Sheri Post by Bob & Irene Post
2. IMO Lisa Hilbert Roads by Francis Tamburelli

St. Joseph

1. IMO RJ Post by Bob & Irene Post
2. IMO Norman Hilbert by Francis Tamburelli

Sanctuary

IMO Jack Walsh
by Francis Tamburelli

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Nancy & Donald Doyne by Don & Joanne Doyne
2. IMO Josephine & Frank Brozana by Don & Joanne Doyne
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy & Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12 — 5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Heidi Gorski

EM: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Cole & Cooper Felty

Cantor: Stanley Gorski

July 13 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose

EM: Michael Ambrose, Jeff Naffin

Server: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

July 13 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

EM: Justina Majestic, Frank Murphy

Servers: Jackson Daubert

Gabe Scheidel

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Weekend Sacristan: Connor Felty

Attention — All Readers, Servers, and Extraordinary Ministers ...

Please let us know your plans for **August & September** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call or email the rectory **before July 14**. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.