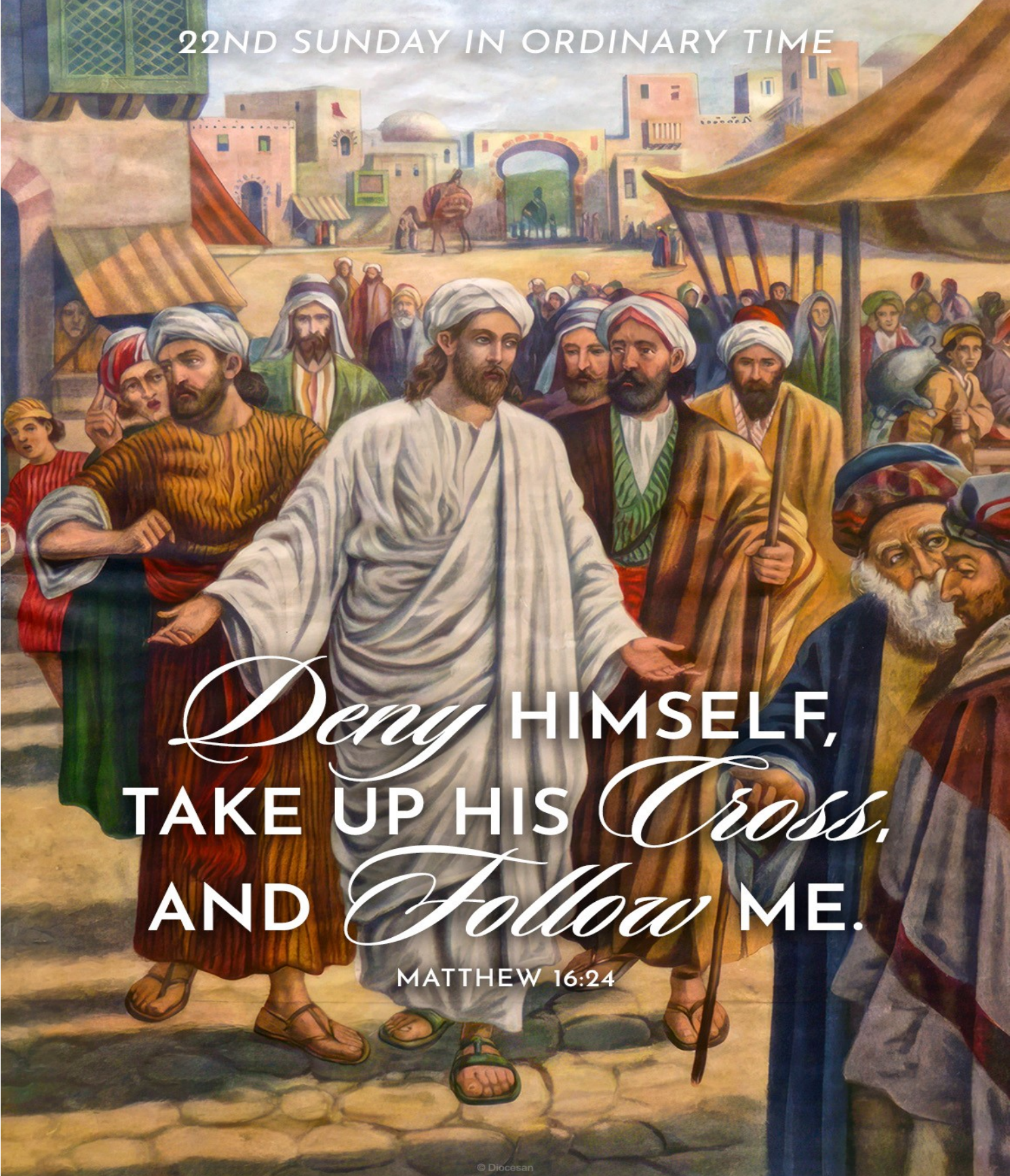


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 30, 2026

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Deny HIMSELF,
TAKE UP HIS *Cross*,
AND *Follow* ME.

MATTHEW 16:24

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, Charles Reber, Carol Lasco.*

Deceased: *John B. Lieberman III, Thomas Reddington*

"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, August 29

5:00 p.m. Michael Klembara
(Anita Klembara)

Sunday, August 30

8:15 a.m. John Gerace
(Barbara Kasper Family)

Sunday, August 30

10:30 a.m. Margaret Pfluger
(Orlowsky Family)

Monday, August 31

6:30 p.m. Josephine Kochol
(Lucilla Kochol)

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Agatha Porter
(Bob Porter III)

Wednesday, September 2

9:00 a.m. David & Joseph Nicastro
(Nora & Julian Chiplonia)

Thursday, September 3

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

Friday, September 4

9:00 a.m. Bill Pugh
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, September 5

5:00 p.m. Tony Kochol
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

Sunday, September 6

8:15 a.m. Joseph & Philomena Ryan
(Jim & Donna Pugh)

Sunday, September 6

10:30 a.m. Harry, Paul, Loretta Boyer
(Pat Kutch)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

We've been talking about the Sacrament of Confession step-by-step. We said a lot about the confession of sins. After the confession of sins the priest responds and gives a penance.

A penance is usually a prayer or prayers, but it does not have to be. It could be a good deed of some sort. The penance is done after the Confession. Sometimes people start saying the penance immediately, but it is meant to be said later, after you leave the confessional. It does not have to be said right away, but most people tend to remain in church to say the penance right after they go to Confession.

What if someone goes to Confession but does *not* do the penance afterwards, either because they simply forgot or because they intentionally disregarded it for some reason? Are they still forgiven? Of course. But neglecting to do the penance then becomes a new problem.

After the priest gives a penance, the person going to Confession says an Act of Contrition. Last week we explained that contrition (regret for one's sins) is a necessary ingredient of this sacrament. We express our contrition by saying an Act of Contrition. Sometimes people get hung up on this prayer, but there is no need to worry about it. There are many different versions. Any one of them is fine. People can say it from memory, read it from a book (or phone), or even express their contrition in their own words. We have five or six versions of the Act of Contrition posted in our confessional. The exact words are not critical. The most important thing is to *be* contrite.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on September 17, 24, October 8, 15, 22, and 29. 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.

OCIA ... Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

....is for anyone who desires to enter the Catholic Church or complete his or her initiation into the Church (i.e. people who are baptized Catholic but have not received Communion and/or Confirmation). If you or someone you know is interested, please call the rectory.

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.

Next Week's Readings

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

(September 5/6)

Reading I: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Reading II: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Upcoming Events

September

9	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society Mtg	F.R.
12	3-7 p.m.	Grilled Stickies Pick-up	L.H.
13	10:00 a.m.	CCD Mass	St. Patrick's
13	10:30 a.m.	Catholic Woman's Union 100th Anniv./Social.....	L.H.
13	8-10 a.m.	Grilled Stickies Pick-up	L.H.
13	12-1 p.m.	Grilled Stickies Pickup.....	L.H.
15	6:30 p.m.	Ladies of the Rosary	L.H.
16	7:00 a.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg	L.H.
17	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
20	10:00 a.m.	CCD Mass.....	St. Patrick's
24	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
26	after Mass	Wine & Cheese	L.H.
27	after Masses	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.
27	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.

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

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

Weekly Collection

August 22/23\$5,764.20

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

Please **DO NOT** use **TAPE** or **STAPLES** to seal your offertory envelopes, or **CUT** your envelopes.

Candles

BVM

1&2. IMO Pat Mason Sr.
by Maria Mason

St. Joseph

1. IMO James Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family
2. IMO Jim Wollyung
by Wollyung Family

Sanctuary

IMO Living & Deceased of
St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Guardian Angels

1&2. IMO Pat Mason Sr.
by Marie Mason
3. For Eddie Hahner
by Edward Hahner
4. For Scott Hahner
by Edward Hahner

Liturgical Min. Schedule

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 5— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Janet Daubert

EM: Frank Murphy, Dan Murphy

Server: Frank Murphy

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

September 6 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Bob Bechtel

EM: Ann Blankenhorn, Heidi Gorski

Servers: Colin McGinley
Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Dave Derbes

September 6—10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose

EM: Justina Majestic, Joe Palmieri

Servers: Luke Lieberman
Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Registration for 2026-2027 CCD School Year

Children ages three to six are welcome to join our **Sunday Pre-school** program. We will have classes twice a month starting in September until May in Longinus Hall from 10:30am to the end of Mass. We ask for you to stay during class if your child is not yet toilet trained.

Children in grades first to third are invited to join **Children's Liturgy** during the 10:30 am Mass. This is held in the Chapel. They will learn more about the Mass and the weekend scripture readings. Children will return to Mass with their parents after the offertory.

Children in grades first through eight grade attending public school, charter or virtual school should be registered for **CCD prep classes** to be eligible to receive their sacraments of initiation.

We could always use volunteers to help as teachers or aides. If you are interested please call the rectory and contact either Tina Seiger or Lucilla Kochol.

Registration can be completed in three ways. Paper forms are located on the table in back of the church.

Google links listed below. You will need a
Scan the QR code using your phone's camera.

Google email account.

Google Link to Children's Liturgy:
<https://forms.gle/5JNVENiUUgCaL5py6>

Google Link to Sunday Preschool :
<https://forms.gle/q599pzT6n8KWNCb5A>

Google Link to CCD registration:
<https://forms.gle/ujXmaw61S3THka6g6>



Attention — All Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, and Servers

Please let us know your plans for **October & November** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please email or call the rectory by **September 14th**.

We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Catholic Women's Union — 100th Anniversary

Please join us for a Special Mass on **Sunday, September 13, 2026, at 10:30am** as we joyfully celebrate Catholic Women's Union 100 years of service to the Church. Together, we will give thanks and pray for continued blessings in the years ahead. All are welcome to celebrate this special occasion with us in Longinus Hall after Mass for Coffee and Doughnuts.

Catholic Women's Union Fundraiser

The CWU Penn State Ye Olde Diner World Famous **"Grilled Stickies"** will be available for **pickup in Longinus Hall** on:

Saturday, September 12th from 3 to 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 13th from 8 to 10 a.m. & 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Plain \$9.00 — Nut \$12.00 — Apple \$12.00.

For more information, please contact Kelley Eroh 610-413-0192 or St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning Is Hiring!

Now Hiring at St. Joseph Center for Special Learning! St. Joseph Center in Schuylkill Haven is seeking caring, dedicated individuals to join our mission of serving children and adults with diverse abilities in a faith-filled, supportive environment. We are currently hiring for a **full-time Special Education Teacher**, **full-time Direct Service Worker** for our Adult Program, **part-time Administrative Assistant**, **part-time Behavioral Health Support**, and **part-time Teacher Aide** positions. If you're looking for a rewarding career where you can make a meaningful difference every day, we'd love to hear from you. To learn more or apply, please visit our website or contact us at **(570) 622-4638**.

St. John's Ensemble

... will play/sing at 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, September 13th.

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.



Bosco's
FRIENDS
HELPING
FRIENDS
IN-STORE & ONLINE
ONE DAY ONLY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026 - SHOP 8AM - 11PM

25% OFF*
LOWEST SALE PRICES
SHOPPING PASS

Enjoy 25% off* your purchase in-store or online. Not valid with other discounts or promotions. Present this pass at checkout to receive your discount. Valid Wednesday, October 21, 2026 only.

\$5 DONATION PER PASS

PASSES ... \$5.00

St. John's will be available at Bosco's on the following dates:

Presale

10 a.m.—1:30 p.m.—Sept. 17

10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30; Oct. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20.

11 a.m.—2 p.m.

Sept. 12; Oct. 17

12 noon to 3 p.m.

Aug. 30; Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27;
Oct. 4, 11, 18.

October 21—8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Thank you in advance for your support!

If anyone would like to help, please
contact the rectory 622-5470 ext. 3

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

There is hope in the battle against pornography.

Educate yourself, protect yourself and your family, and seek help and healing. Explore the resources offered by:

1. Integrity Restored

(integrityrestored.com)

2. The Diocese of Allentown's Lumen Christi Commission
(adlumenchristi.org)

3. Or contact Fr. Bobbin for a confidential appointment.

Moving? Relocating?

Let us Know!

Have you moved, changed your phone or email address? If so, please contact the Rectory Office at 570-622-5470 ext. 3. Help us update our records!

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."

Parish Council

Please approach any Parish Council Member listed below and ask that a question, concern, etc. be brought up at the next meeting on **September 14**.

Elected Members

Vince Balulis **
Chris Black
Ann Blankenhorn **
Bob Burns
Kenneth Cooper
John Crane
Shanna Deibert **
Tara DeStefano
Kelley Eroh
Darla Fabiani **
Heidi Gorski
Charles Kustan
Barbara Munster
Frank Murphy **
Missy Scheetz
Michelle Stone
Gretchen Witman
Kay Wollyung
Marianne Wollyung

Appointed Members

John Consugar
Tina Seiger
Ex-Officio
Father Kevin Bobbin
Deacon Robert Reiley
Ray Petrilla
Ed Brahler

** denotes new members

Families Matter

Teachers. Teachers shape the lives and minds of the children of our families. We ask God to bless all of our teachers — those who teach in our schools, in our community and in our parish. May God give them wisdom and patience daily in their service to our children.

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."

Diocesan News & Events

Red, White & Blue Mass on 9/11

Join the Diocese of Allentown for a special **Red, White & Blue Mass** honoring those who serve our communities and our nation. On **Friday, September 11**, Bishop Alfred Schlert will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 8:46 a.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena in Allentown. The 8:46 start time commemorates the moment the World Trade Center's North Tower was struck on September 11, 2001. There will also be a reception at 10:00 a.m.

Police, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, members of the military, legal professionals, elected officials, and their families are warmly invited to attend. Those who serve are encouraged to wear their uniforms.

Following Mass, join us for a light reception and remarks from Sr. Deirdre (Dede) Byrne, M.D., U.S. Army Colonel, renowned surgeon, and consecrated religious.

RSVP to stewardship@allentowndiocese.org.

Bus to PA March for Life

A bus is scheduled for the Pennsylvania March for Life taking place at Harrisburg State Capitol Building on **Monday, September 21**. Before departure, there will be an optional Mass at 7:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church located 1817 1st Street, Bethlehem PA 18020. Bus Departure is at 8:00 a.m. from Sacred Heart Church. Please park 1814 Second Street in Bethlehem, PA across from church parking lot (in school chain linked fence).

Time permitting, we might enter the PA Capitol to visit politicians or grab a bite to eat at cafeteria. Bus will return around 4:00 p.m. to Sacred Heart Church; we will make a gas station stop to grab a bite to eat and use restrooms. You may also bag a lunch.

Email andrewazan3rd@gmail.com to reserve a seat. Include rider's names and mobile number. Payment is \$20.00 per rider. Pay in advance with checks made out to Sacred Heart. Mail checks to Andrew Azan: PO Box 3278, Bethlehem, PA 18017. Please bring \$5.00 for bus driver tip, which we will collect on the way home.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you and your spouse celebrating a Wedding Anniversary this year? The Diocese of Allentown would like to celebrate with you!

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass, celebrated **Sunday, Sept. 20**, at 3 p.m. Doors will open at 2 p.m. so couples may receive their certificates. The Mass will be celebrated by The Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena in Allentown.

During the Mass, the couples will receive a special blessing, and will have the opportunity to renew their vows publicly. Couples will be presented with a Wedding Anniversary Certificate and a token of appreciation.

Couples celebrating 1-5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50-plus years of marriage will receive special milestone recognition.

The registration deadline is Thursday, September 7, 2026. Please register online at allentowndiocese.org/es/events/anniversarymass by Tuesday, September 1, 2026.

If you have questions, email Rhady Tulloch at rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-866-0581 ext. 2035.

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.



August 30, 2026

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:7-9 | Rom 12:1-2 | Mt 16:21-27

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Peter, understandably, responded to Christ's foreshadowing of his death with shock and horror – insisting that Jesus would not suffer and die. But Christ's words to his disciples taught them all to respond with humble obedience, trusting in the mission of God without fully understanding it. And Jeremiah in the first reading felt that God had “duped” him. Perhaps the message here is to expect the unexpected when taking on a life of holiness. In my own vocations of marriage, motherhood, and teaching, I regularly encounter challenges and surprises. As disciples, when we discern the will of God in our lives and choose to live according to his will, we do so not because we know all that it will entail, but because we know and trust the One who calls us. We are not promised an easy life, but we are promised abundant life. God calls us to a life of holiness because he knows that is what will bring us fulfillment and peace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In the process of discernment, we consider our gifts and talents, humbly reflect upon what is needed to build the kingdom of God, and listen carefully in prayer to the voice of God. We have the immense gifts of Sacred Tradition and Scripture to facilitate the “renewal of [the] mind” (Rom 12:2) as we allow our minds and hearts to be transformed by God's will. And in humble obedience, we must be honest with ourselves about whether we are fully open to God's call, even when it is contrary to our plans. When we believe with our entire being that we are living according to God's will, we will not be able to remain quiet or live in a mediocre way. Just as Jeremiah was unable to keep himself from speaking on the Lord's behalf, the Good News of Christ will come pouring forth from our being in everything that we do. And in this outpouring of God's love, we will give others the opportunity to encounter Christ through us.

REFLECT

Spend some time this week considering the vocation to which you are being called. Reflect upon how you can grow in trust of God to depend upon his care and guidance as you serve according to his will. Although our specific call may be challenging and may seem overwhelming, we can trust in the promise that following God's will leads to a life