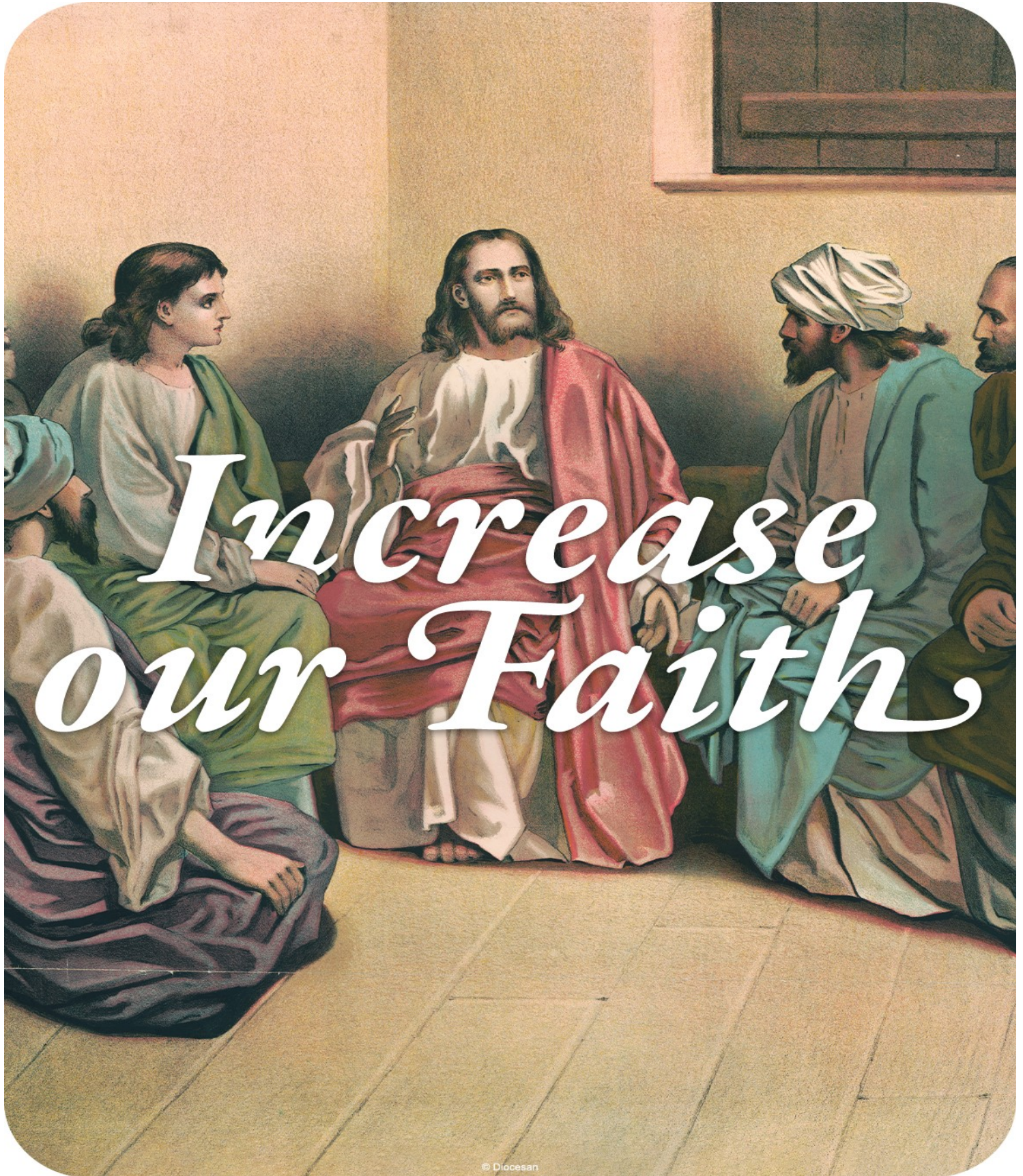


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

October 5, 2025 • 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Increase
our Faith*

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, Doug Broughton, Kathy Vicic, Joanne Kitsock, Jane Baker, Joseph F. Burns Sr.*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 4

5:00 p.m. Charles Bowers
(Nancy Riegel)

Sunday, October 5

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

Sunday, October 5

10:30 a.m. Ernest Zambo
(Wife & Children)

Monday, October 6

6:30 p.m. Anna D'Alessandro
(Teresa Kester)

Tuesday, October 7 NO MASS

Wednesday, October 8

9:00 a.m. Special Intention
(Frank & Mindy Chambers)

Thursday, October 9

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

Friday, October 10

9:00 a.m. Evelyn Tropp
(Shawn & Karen Schmitt)

Saturday, October 11

5:00 p.m. Paul Filiac
(Paula, Mike, Emily Lorence)

Sunday, October 12

8:15 a.m. Deceased Walkusky Family
(Karen Lenard)

Sunday, October 12

10:30 a.m. George A. & Dolores Lynn
(Dan, Tony, Joan Marie,
& Bob Lynn)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

In our tour of the New Testament, we have been looking at Acts of the Apostles. Acts is a history of the beginning of the Church. It contains many significant events that are relevant for us today.

One important example of this is the first major controversy for the Church and how it was solved. We must understand that the first Christians, disciples of Jesus Christ, did not see themselves as a new religion. They understood themselves to be faithful Jewish people awaiting the promised Messiah. And the Messiah came: Jesus. The first Christians still practiced their Jewish faith by attending the synagogue on the Sabbath (Saturday) and observing the Law of Moses. But they would also gather on Sundays to celebrate the Eucharist.

However, as the Gospel spread, it was not only Jewish people but Gentiles, pagans, who wanted to become followers of Christ. This raised the question: Do Gentiles have to become *Jewish* in order to be followers of Christ, the awaited Messiah? Many Christians were quite insistent that the answer was yes. Otherwise, it called into question the Law of Moses and other key elements of the Jewish tradition. At the deepest level, it was a question of *what is really needed for salvation?*

How did the primitive Church solve this question? The answer next week...

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on Oct. 16, 23, and Nov. 13. 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.

World Mission Month: A Call to Hope

Each October, the Church invites us to rediscover our missionary vocation. This year, Pope Leo XIV, following the inspiration of Pope Francis, calls us to become "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples." Inspired by St. Paul's words: "Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit." (Rom 5:5).

In the 50th anniversary year of *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, we are reminded that "modern man listens more willingly to witnesses, than to preachers" (41). Through prayer, sacrifice, and giving, we too become witnesses—bringing the hope of Christ to those who long for love, justice, and peace.

Let us begin this month with open hearts, ready to respond to the Church's call to support the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, growing, and often persecuted. Together, may we be bearers of hope where it is needed most.

Next Week's Readings

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(October 11/12)

Reading I: 2 Kings 5:14-17

Reading II: 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

Upcoming Events

October

| | | | |
|----|--------------|--|--------|
| 5 | 9:00 a.m. | CCD Class | L.H. |
| 5 | 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School & Children's Liturgy | L.H. |
| 11 | after Mass | Wine & Cheese Social | L.H. |
| 12 | after Masses | Coffee & Donuts | L.H. |
| 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Confirmation Class..... | L.H. |
| 13 | 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off..... | R.B. |
| 15 | 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off..... | R.B. |
| 15 | 7:00 p.m. | Catholic Women's Mtg | L.H. |
| 16 | 6:30 p.m. | Scripture Study | L.H. |
| 19 | 9:00 a.m. | CCD Service Project | L.H. |
| 19 | 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School & children's Liturgy | L.H. |
| 19 | 6:00 p.m. | Praise, Worship, Adoration | Church |
| 20 | 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off..... | R.B. |
| 20 | 6:30 p.m. | Mass with Bishop Schlert, Reception afterwards . | Church |
| 22 | 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off..... | R.B. |
| 23 | 6:30 p.m. | Scripture Study | L.H. |
| 25 | 2:00 p.m. | Trunk or Treat..... | R.B. |
| 26 | after Masses | Coffee & Donuts | L.H. |
| 26 | 6:30 p.m. | Confirmation Class..... | L.H. |
| 27 | 4:30 p.m. | Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off..... | R.B. |

November

| | | | |
|----|------------|--|------|
| 2 | 9:00 a.m. | CCD Class | L.H. |
| 2 | 10:30 a.m. | Sunday School / Children's Liturgy | L.H. |
| 9 | 6:30 p.m. | Confirmation Class..... | L.H. |
| 13 | 6:30 P.M. | Scripture Study | 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.

Weekly Collection

September 27/28\$4,173.03

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Theresa Brennan
by Joan & Dave Deiter
2. IMO Evelyn Tropp
by Shawn & Karen Schmitt

St. Joseph

1. IMO Jim Brennan
by Joan & Dave Deiter
2. IMO Charles Bowers
by Joan Bowers

Sanctuary

Special Intention

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Kathy Bowers
by Joan Bowers
2. IMO Lorraine Tasso
by Joan Bowers
3. IMO Scott Bowers
by Joan Bowers
4. IMO Robert Carestia
by Joan Bowers

Mass with Bishop Schlert

Bishop Schlert will celebrate Daily Masses at parishes in every county in the Diocese in honor of individuals and families who give and benefit from the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal.

All are invited to attend Mass on **Monday, October 20th at 6:30 p.m.** here at St. John's. A reception will take place afterwards in Longinus Hall. Please join us!

Liturgical Min. Schedule

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 11th — 5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

EM: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Server: Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Dave Derbes

October 12th — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Heidi Gorski

EM: Joseph Palmieri, Janet Daubert

Servers: Finley McNamara,
Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

October 12th — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

EM: Frank Murphy, Ray Petrilla

Server: Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Weekend Sacristan: RJ Post

Mass Intention Book

The Mass Intention Book for the year 2026 will open

Wednesday, October 15th to Wednesday, October 22nd

Masses can be scheduled from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

on Wednesday, October 15th in Longinus Hall.

All other Mass intentions can be scheduled by calling the rectory, placing in the collection basket or email.

Three Masses ONLY

The remaining dates will be used to schedule previously requested Masses as well as keep dates open for those deceased in 2026.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday and Sunday, November 15 & 16

We are asking families to donate a **Theme Basket** with a suggested value of at least **\$25.00** in merchandise, gift cards, or lottery tickets. If you would like to donate the items for a basket, we would be happy to put it together and wrap it for you. Be creative and come up with your own unique idea! Homemade craft items are also very welcome! So many families donated baskets last year — it was wonderful to see the spirit of St. John's shine through again!



Our **'Lottery Baskets'** and **'Lottery Frames'** and **'Wine Baskets'** and **"Gift Cards"** are always a huge success. If you would like to donate Lottery Tickets (any amount), please drop off at the rectory or at one of our drop off days at the Russell Building. As always, monetary donations are greatly appreciated and helping hands at the Bazaar are always welcome. If you can help or have questions, please call the rectory 622-5470 ext. 3.

In addition to our many various **Theme Baskets**, there will be beautiful **Crafts**, many of which are handmade by our very talented parishioners, **Specials**, and of course, delicious **Food** and our famous homemade **Baked Goods**.

Baskets should be dropped off by **October 27th** at the Russell Building on the following dates:

Drop Off Dates & Times Mondays, October 13—20—27 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, October 15, 22 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Baskets / Items for baskets **CANNOT** be dropped off at the rectory.

Pecans: St. John's Catholic Women's Union will be selling pecans again this year at the Christmas Bazaar.

Donated Baskets & Sponsors to date:

Autumn Lantern—Pod & Petal Florist
 Barbie Basket—Lucilla Kochol

Praise, Worship & Adoration An Evening with the Ensemble

..... Sunday, October 19th from 6 to 7 p.m.

St. John's Ensemble invites you to an opportunity to praise the Lord with uplifting, contemporary Christian music and traditional hymns in our church. Father Bobbin will start with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Scripture and singing to the themes of Praising God and God's Mercy. We will close with Benediction. Come share our love of music and faith and be renewed!



Trunk or Treat — Saturday, October 25 — 2 to 4 p.m.



We are excited to have our Trunk or Treat event again this year! This will take place on **Saturday, October 25th from 2 to 4 p.m.** at the Russell Building parking lot.

A Trunk or Treat is when you park your vehicle in our lot, open the trunk and decorate it for Halloween and hand out your treats to all the trick or treaters. If you don't have a vehicle available, we can offer a space and chairs for you to hand out your candy or treats! Candy donations can also be accepted.

Everyone is welcome, including spectators! Light refreshments will be available and a prize given for the best dressed trunk!

St. Patrick's Church is also hosting their Truck or Treat the same day from noon to 1:30 p.m. Make it an entire day of spooky fun and sweet treats!

There is a sign-up sheet for participating vehicles in the back of church. We want to ensure that we have enough interest. Join us!



Baptized in Christ

On September 21st we celebrated the glorious baptism day of **Jett David Wartella**, son of David Jake & Leanne (Mull) Wartella. He became a new creation in Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism and is now joined to us by the gifts of faith, hope and charity. We warmly welcome him into our parish family.

Pray the Rosary



The month of October and May are dedicated by the Church to the Blessed Mother. There is no prayer

more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious in asking for her intercession.

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.

It's Oktoberfest Time! October 11th & 12th

Guten tag! In recognition of St. John's heritage,

....after Saturday evening Mass on October 11th, we will have Hot Dogs and Kraut along with beer, wine and non-alcoholic refreshments.

... after Sunday Masses on October 12th, there will be a German twist on Coffee & Donuts. If by chance, you have lederhosen and/or a dirndl hiding in your closet, please consider wearing them to Mass that weekend. Auf Wiedersehen!

Food Drive for Thanksgiving Baskets

We are seeking non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving Baskets that our Religious Education students will be making for those in need in our community. Below is a list of desired items. **Please do not donate expired food items or food in glass containers.**

Large tote containers will be placed in the back of church starting the weekend of October 11th and 12th. We are also seeking anyone willing to donate a gift card or monetary donation for a turkey or ham. If you are interested in helping, please contact Miss Kochol at the rectory, 570-622-5470.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Canned Soup | Chicken or Vegetable Broth | Biscuit Mix |
| Canned Pumpkin | Instant Mashed Potatoes | Canned Apple Sauce |
| Canned Gravy | White or Brown Rice | Stuffing Mix |
| Canned Vegetables | Canned Cranberry Sauce | Canned Yams |
| Canned Fruit | Macaroni & Cheese | Cooking Oil |
| Corn Bread | Coffee or Tea | |

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

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!

(From Organization)

Bosco's
FRIENDS
HELPING
FRIENDS IN-STORE & ONLINE

ONE DAY ONLY - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF** DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS*
- **REGISTER TO WIN** A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD
One Winner at every Bosco's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION

PASSES ... \$5.00

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

Presale

October 8, 9, 10, 16, 17, 20, 21

10 a.m. — 3 p.m.

October 18

11 a.m. — 3 p.m.

October 11

12 noon to 3 p.m.

October 5, 12, 19

October 22—8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**Thank you in advance
for your support!**



October 5, 2025

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hab 1:2-3; 2:2-4 | 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14 | Lk 17:5-10

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE**GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE**

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples: "When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'" I think what Jesus is drawing us to see is the humility we need as his disciples. It's easy to get puffed up, thinking, "Well, I've done this" or "I've done that" in service of God. We can even start to feel that God owes us. But we are called to love God for God's own sake, not for the accolades or even the reward that comes from faithfully serving him. St. Ignatius of Loyola penned a beautiful prayer called the Prayer for Generosity that expresses the sentiment that I feel is at the heart of our Scriptures today: "Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, teach me true generosity. Teach me to serve you as you deserve. To give without counting the cost ... to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward save the knowledge that I have done your will." Let's ask God to help us to serve him with generous hearts.

PRAY

Take a moment to examine your own heart. Is your discipleship fueled more by a hope of reward (heaven), or, by pure love of God? Take some time to pray with St. Ignatius of Loyola's Prayer for Generosity (the full text can be found online), asking the Lord to increase your generosity in serving him.

GO EVANGELIZE**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

In his second letter to Timothy, Paul calls us to "bear [our] share of the hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God." Serving the Lord requires that we rely on the gift of the Spirit within us who empowers us to serve courageously and generously. The good news, Paul tells us, is that "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." In our efforts to serve God and to share our faith with others, let's remember that it is God's grace that is at work within us, equipping us and strengthening us. Let's remember Jesus' promise that even if we only have faith the size of a tiny mustard seed, we can still do great things for God. Indeed, through the gift of faith and the gift of his Holy Spirit, God has truly given us immense spiritual power.

Diocesan Events

"Walking with Mary and Monica", a morning of reflection for those whose loved ones have left the Church, will take place **Saturday, October 11th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon** at Sacred Heart Parish, 1817 First St. in Bethlehem. Speaker will be Fr. Luke Fletcher, CFR, Chaplain at the Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Maggie Gree, author of the St. Monica Club, and Celeste Behe, founder of the St. Monica Ministry. Cost is \$10 which includes a continental breakfast. To register please email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com. Sponsored by the St. Monica Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown.

Novena for Mental Health: — October 10-18. This Novena for Mental Health is an opportunity for all the People of God to join together in prayer for women and men experiencing or impacted by mental health issues and for all those who accompany them. The entire Church in the United States is especially encouraged to pray this Novena in solidarity with one another from October 10 to October 18 each year. October 10 is a fitting beginning as it is also World Mental Health Day. It is a time when people around the world are seeking to raise awareness and remove the stigma connected to mental health issues. This nationwide annual moment of prayer fittingly concludes on the feast of Saint Luke, patron of health care, on October 18. Learn more and see the prayers for the novena at <https://www.usccb.org/mental-health-novena>

Neighboring Events

Homemade Shoo Fly Pie & Pie Crusts made by members of St. Mary's Church Choir, Ringtown. Pick up at St. Mary's Church Rectory, Ringtown on **Tuesday, October 14th** from 10 a.m. to noon. **Deadline to Order is Wednesday, October 8th.** Prices: \$9.00 Pie; \$3.00 Pie Crust. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 570-889-3850.

Theme Basket and Prize Auction sponsored by St. Patrick Church, 313 Mahantongo St. Shop and drops: October 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19. Drawing is on **Sunday, October 19, at 2 pm.** Please call 570-622-1802, ext. 0 for more information.

October Fall Festival sponsored by All Saints Parish, McAdoo and Weatherly on **Saturday, October 11th** from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 35 N. Cleveland St. in McAdoo. Preview on Friday, October 10th from 6 to 8 p.m. Food, Bake Sale, Refreshments, Basket Raffle with Top-shelf Prizes, Cash Raffle \$1,000 Prize, 50/50 Raffle, Instant Lottery Board. Call 570-929-1073 or churchofallsaints@ptd.net or Facebook: [allsaintsparishmcadoo](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsparishmcadoo) or Website: churchofallsaintsparish.org