St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

November 1, 2026

THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

The term "Communion of Saints" refers also to the communion of "Holy Persons" (Sancti) in Christ who "died for all," so that what each one does or suffers in and for Christ bears fruit for all.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 961)



© Diocesan / St. Gertrude Church, Gamla Stan, Stockholm, Sweden

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 assist- ed 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, Fr. John Schweikert, Joanne Kitsock, Carol Lasco, Michael Schuettler, Steve Kurtek.*
"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, October 31
5:00 p.m. Florence Lescavage
(Linda & Martin Smith)

Sunday, November 1
8:15 a.m. William & Marie Flynn

Sunday, November 1
10:30 a.m. Mark McCormick
(Eric & Jennifer Lieberman)

Monday, November 2
6:30 p.m. Deceased Parishioners
from the past year

Tuesday, November 3
9:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

Wednesday, November 4
9:00 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, November 5
9:00 a.m. Sylvester McCarthy
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Friday, November 6
9:00 a.m. Joseph R. Burns
(M/M John Carroll)

Saturday, November 7
5:00 p.m. Lorraine & John Tasso
(Kathleen Walters)

Sunday, November 8
8:15 a.m. Fran & Dorothy Purcell
(Deborah & Mark Purcell)

Sunday, November 8
10:30 a.m. Paul Filiac
(Paula, Mike, Emily Lorence)

Next Week's Readings

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(November 8/9)
Reading I: Wisdom 6:12-16
Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Gospel: Matthew 25:`1-13

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we started talking about funerals. The two purposes of a Catholic funeral are to pray for the deceased and to lead the loved ones from grief to a deeper faith in the Paschal Mystery. To accomplish this, there can be several steps to the funeral process.

1. Gathering in the presence of the body: Sometimes a priest or deacon may lead brief prayers with the deceased and the family just after death has occurred, or possibly when the family gathers at the funeral home for the first time. These prayers acknowledge the family's loss and grief.

2. The Vigil: A priest or deacon may lead a short prayer service with readings and prayers at the funeral home during or at the end of a period of visitation.

3. Prayers at the transfer of the body: There are also brief prayers that can be used when it is time for the funeral procession to go from the funeral home to the church.

4. The Mass of Christian Burial: The most important part of the process is the Mass. The best way to pray for someone is to offer Mass. We will look at the details of the funeral Mass later.

5. The Rite of Committal: There are prayers to be used when all gather at the cemetery or mausoleum prior to the final disposition of the body.

The most important parts of this process are the Mass of Christian Burial and the Committal. A viewing or visitation is also recommended because it gives people an opportunity to gather together to remember their loved one and support each other. Sometimes families choose not to have a Mass of Christian Burial, opting only for a brief prayer service at the funeral home, or they may opt only for Mass with no visitation. There may be legitimate reasons for this, but families are encouraged to appreciate the importance and the power of the entire funeral process as an expression of our faith and as a way of allowing our Lord to lead us – both the deceased and the loved ones – to peace, consolation, and ultimately, to eternal life.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

ALL SOULS

Remembering Our Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers those who during the past year have completed their pilgrimage of faith on earth.

Cecelia Burns
Sandra Bosche
Laurita Buehler
Joseph R. Burns
Lorraine Campion
Thomas Elison
Joan Marie Grapsy
John B. Lieberman III
Mark McCormick
Agnes H. Palko
William Pugh
Carol Ann Rhoads
Virginia C. Visot

Upcoming Events

November

1	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
1	after Masses	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.
8	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
8	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School	L.H.
8	10:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy	Chapel
8	11:30 am-7 pm	Eucharistic Day	Church & L.H.
14	11 am-7 pm	Christmas Bazaar	R.B.
15	9 am - 2 pm	Christmas Bazaar	R.B.
15	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
17	6:30 p.m.	Ladies of the Rosary	L.H.
18	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg	L.H.
22	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
22	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School	L.H.
22	10:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy	Chapel
22	after Masses	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.
26	8:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day Mass	Church

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

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

Eucharistic Day

On **Sunday, November 8th** the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at the end of the 10:30 Mass. We invite you to spend some time with our Lord in prayer on Sunday afternoon. We will celebrate Vespers and Benediction at 4:00 p.m.

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 at 570-622-5470.

All Souls Day Envelopes

Please drop your All Souls Day envelope in the collection as soon as possible so your intentions can be placed on the altar for All Souls Day. Additional envelopes for your intentions can be found at the church exits.

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.

Attention — All Extraordinary Ministers, Readers, and Servers

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

We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Weekly Collection

Oct. 24/25 ..... … $4,980.40

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 John & Philomena Carroll by Family
2. Peace

St. Joseph

1. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
2. IMO 60th Wedding Anniversary of Joe & Gerri Lubinsky

Sanctuary

IMO Bill & Mary Pugh by Fred & Hilda Maley

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Frederick Hossler by Theresa Hossler
2. IMO Frederick Hossler Jr. by Theresa Hossler

3&4. Peace

Liturgical Min. Schedule

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 7— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Patricia O'Neill
EM: Frank Murphy, John O'Neill
Server: Frank Murphy
Cantor: Dave Derbes

November 8 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jeff Naffin
EM: Gerry Schwartz
Michael Ambrose
Servers: Finley McNamara
Maria Neifert
Cantor: Dave Derbes

November 8 —10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Sean Crane
EM: John Crane, Ann Blankenhorn
Servers: Callie & Cooper Felty
Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Sacristan: Connor Felty

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, November 14th—11 am to 7 pm
Sunday, November 15th— 9 am to 2 pm
at the Russell Building

Themed Baskets - Specials - Crafts
Bargain Table - Homemade Food - Baked Goods
(All Food Items Take Out Only)

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

Donated Baskets
Art - Mary Beth Harvey
At Home Movie Theatre - Pat Scheetz
Bedtime Stories&Snacks - Jane , Ray Petrilla
Boscov's - $50 - Linda & Martin Smith
Chillin' Out & Slushin 'On - Sandy & Joe Frinzi
Christmas Centerpiece - Darla Fabiani
Christmas Centerpiece - Bella Florist
Countdown to Christmas - Patty & Phil Markovich
Crocheted Afghan, Crafts - Carol Rehnert
CrossOver Bag - +$100 - Deb Herb
Decorative Vintage Gas Lantern - Mary & John Bound
Fall Spirits - Eleanor & Joe Orzechowski
Firehouse Crafts - Janet & Michael Dzuranin
Fueled by Jesus/Coffee - Oswald Family
Happy Birthday - Marie & Joe Ryan
Holiday Meat Package ($300) - Joyce Gerace
In the Kitchen - Rosann Sitkus
It Pays to Take a Chance ($200) - Carole & Ed Quirin
Jesus is the Reason for the Season - Joanne & Don Doyne
Kitchen Christmas Hat & Supplies - Donna Pugh
Lottery Frame $50 - Mary Porter
Off the Grid - Fetterolf Family
Painting - Fr. Bobbin
Puzzle Me - Lucilla Kochol
Reindeer (4) - Judy & Joe Piel
Scent of Lavendar - Natalie Setlock
Scentsy + $25 Amazon Gift Card
- Chris Zanis & Nora Chiplonia

Donated Baskets
Self Care - McCarthy Family
Self Care Wellness - Ann Blankenhorn
Sip, Snack, Scratch - Kathy & Carl Hughes
Stack & Press - Pat Scheetz
31 Weekender - Julie Szeliga
31 Weekender - Jordan Szeliga
Toast of Elegance - Mary Porter
Toast to the Season - Frances Lorenz
Tour of Italy - Barb & Al Munster
Wine - Larry Steficek
Walmart Gift Card- $100 - Eleanor Schaeffer
Wine & Cheese - Theresa Hossler
Wine - Luis R. Visot
Wine & Cheese - Teresa Hossler
Winter Escape - Pat Kutch
Wrap It Up - Anonymous

Sponsors
$100 - Frances Lorenz
$ 50 - Joan Bowers
$ 50 - Joe & Sherri Souchak
$ 50 - Catholic Women's Union
$ 50 - Barb Wollyung
$ 25 - Ann Marie Souchak

Crafts
Various Crafts - Mary Bound
Card Holders - Carol Rehnert

Election Day Prayer Almighty God, Lord of Life and King of all Nations, we beg you to look kindly upon our country and help us to wisely choose our new leaders. Inform our consciences and enlighten our judgement, that we may elect those who will mercifully uphold justice and strive to protect the least among us. Help us to discern which candidates will uphold both the letter and spirit of the law. May our nation once again respect religious freedom, authentic marriage, the importance of family and the value of every human life — from conception to natural death. Heal the divisions which wound our unity and help us to overlook political tensions that keep us from becoming a united force for good. May our great land, built on both personal responsibility and charity towards the less fortunate, always balance prosperity with care for the elderly, the poor, the sick and the abandoned. May we elect honest and trustworthy candidates who will always uphold the common good and protect our God-given rights. In concert with the great founders of our nation, may we confidently proclaim, "In God we trust". Amen.

Nativity BVM High School Happenings

Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Nativity's Interact Club on Monday, November 2nd. For more info, please call the school at 570-622-8110. Students and adults 18 years of age or older are encouraged to participate.

Care Packages for the Military. Nativity BVM will be sending care packages to servicemen and women. The Army 316th Unit of Pittsburgh has local men and women attached to it with over 300 deployed. If you can help with the project, please send donations to Nativity BVM High School. For more info, please contact Mrs. Sabol at the school.
This is a listing of items needed:
Snacks - Powder Drink Mix for Water (electrolytes) - Beef Jerky - Slim Jim's - Nuts - Sunflower Seeds - Peanut Butter Packets (individual serve) - Hard Candy - Gum - Pretzels - Peanut Butter Filled Pretzels - Trail Mix - Dried Fruit.
Personal Care Items - Toothpaste - Stick Deodorant - Dude Wipes - Lip Balm with SPF - Large Heavy-duty Body Wipes - Travel Tissue Packs - Cotton Swabs - Medicated (Gold Bond) Foot Powder - Hand Sanitizer (small,personal size).

Green and Gold Happenings. In the month of December we will hold our Gift Card Calendar Fundraiser. If you would like to donate a $25 gift card or make a $25 donation, if you would be greatly appreciated. Calendars are being sold for $10 each. We are also getting ready for our big fundraiser - the $20,000 raffle. Tickets are $100 and only 550 tickets will be sold. If you are interested in selling them, please let Mrs. Yaneck in the office know. For every five tickets you sell, you will redceive a chance to win a $400 tuition award.

Estate Planning Workshop.. hosted by the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania in support of Nativity BVM High School and Assumption BVM School on Sunday, November 15th at 1 p.m. at Nativity High School. The workshop will be presented by Bill Kirwan, NBVM Class of 1977, former President of the Nativity Governance Board, current Head of the Nativity Governance Board and Principal, Keystone Advisory Group. Refreshments will be provided. Please join us for an informative session on planning for the future and protecting the people and causes you love. RSVP to Ann Marie at 610-360-0174 or AnnMarieSurovy@catholicfoundationEP.org.

Assumption BVM School

Come take a journey with us under the sea as Assumption BVM's Drama Club presents Disney 'The Little Mermaid Jr.' on Friday, November 13th at 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 14th at 5 p.m. in the school's Multi-purpose room. Get your tickets now! https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/assumptionbvmdramaclub/abvm-drama-club-presents-disney-the-little-mermaid-jr We hope to SEA you there!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning Is Hiring!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is seeking a dedicated and compassionate Principal to lead our school community. This is an opportunity to build on a strong foundation and continue the mission of providing quality education and support to students and adults with special needs.
If you or someone you know may be a good fit for this important role, please help us spread the word. For more information about the Principal position, application instructions, and other current employment opportunities at SJC, please visit https://stjosephctr.com/employment-opportunities/

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 Hazelton, 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!

Welcome to St. John's

This week we welcome **Robert & Olivia McCarthy.** Robert is employed in sales at Hydro in Cressona and Olivia is a coordinator at the Chamber of Commerce. Warmly welcome the McCarthy's into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's hospitality.

Families Matter

All Saints Day. We are all called to be saints. Can you imagine one of your family members as a saint? We pray today Lord for all those who have gone before us who were witnesses to their faith by their actions, as well as their words. Saint of God, pray for us!

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.

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.

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!



Thanksgiving Food Drive 2026

St. John's and St. Patrick's Churches are united this year to feed the hungry for Thanksgiving. Please bring your canned good donations to St. John's now until November 22nd. A container will be provided in the back of church. Please check the list below as to what is needed and accepted. No glass jars or expired items please.
We are also accepting donations for turkeys and hams. You can donate those items by directly contacting Tina Seiger for details at the following email address:: loveyouubu@gmail.com. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Canned Soup	Coffee or Tea	Canned Pumpkin	Canned Gravy
Chicken or Vegetable Broth	Stuffing	Cooking Oil	White or Brown Rice
Baking Spices	Boxed Mashed Potatoes	Canned Vegetables	Canned Fruits
Jello	Cranberry Sauce	Pudding	Boxed Mac & Cheese
Corn Bread	Canned Yams	Biscuit Mix	

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Neighboring Events ...

Basket Auction sponsored by St. Nicholas School on Sunday, November 8th. Browse & Bid on November 5th (4-7 pm), November 6th (10 am-1 pm), November 7th (4-7 pm),November 8th (10 am-12noon). Drawing at 1 p.m. on November 8th. Homemade foods, 50/50. Kitchen open Friday, Saturday, Sunday. For more info call St. Nicholas School 570-544-2800.

Veteran's Breakfast sponsored by the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce on November 6th at 8:30 a.m. at the Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Hall. Free for all veterans, as well as those transporting veterans who are unable to drive themselves. paid tickets available for community members who wish to show their support. Guests can enjoy breakfast, connect with fellow veterans, and hear from keynote speaker Major General (Retired) Laura McHugh of the Pa. Army Nat'l. Guard. Reservations required by Monday, Nov. 2nd and can be made at www.schuylkillchamber.com or by calling 570-622-1942 or email Olivia McCarthy at omccarthy@schuylkillchamber.com.



November 1, 2026

Solemnity of All Saints

Rev 7:2-4, 9-14 | 1 Jn 3:1-3 | Mt 5:1-12a

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

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

Today's feast reminds us that we were not made for this world. We are destined to live with God in his heavenly kingdom. Our first reading from the Book of Revelation contains a vision John received which gives us a glimpse of what we'll see there: "a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue *standing* before the throne and before the Lamb," crying out his praise in a loud voice. For us on earth, the question is: How do we live so that one day, we will join that chorus of all the saints? The Gospel of Matthew gives us a road map to kingdom living. Those who will inherit the kingdom of heaven are those who are "poor in spirit," those "who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the peacemakers," those "who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness," and those against whom "every kind of evil *is uttered* falsely because of [Christ]." With these words, we're reminded of the many faces of holiness. May we strive to pattern our lives according to the Beatitudes and so take our place among the ranks of all the saints in heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's responsorial psalm invites us to pray, "Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face." There are so many longings in our hearts – longings for belonging, longing for love, longing for justice. But the ultimate longing of our heart is for the Lord, even if we don't yet realize it. Part of our work in evangelization is to help awaken people's awareness of the ultimate desire of their hearts. As St. Augustine famously wrote, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." Spend some time in prayer this week asking the Lord to increase your own longing for him, as well as that of anyone you want to come to know the Lord better.

PRAY

Being a saint, perhaps, has something to do with longing for the Lord as our greatest and highest good, preferring nothing to him. As St. Thomas was praying before a crucifix toward the end of his life, the Lord said: "You have written well of me, Thomas. What reward will you receive from me for your labor?" St. Thomas Aquinas responded, "*Domine, Non Nisi Te* – Nothing but you, Lord." May we pray to desire nothing but to be counted among the children of God. For so we are.