St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

November 8, 2026



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Matthew 25:13

Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins by William John Wainwright, 1899

© 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@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, Mim Tirjan.*
Deceased: *Joanne Tucci*
"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, 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)

Monday, November 9
6:30 p.m. David Joseph Nicastro
(Julian & Nora Chiplonia)

Tuesday, November 10
9:00 a.m. Mary Connell

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - NO MASSES

Saturday, November 14
5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of
St. Bernard's Society

Sunday, November 15
8:15 a.m. David & Bastina Nicastro
(Nora & Julian Chiplonia)

Sunday, November 15
10:30 a.m. Braelynn Kutsmeda
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Next Week's Readings

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(November 14/15)
Reading I: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

"THEREFORE, STAY AWAKE, FOR YOU KNOW NEITHER THE DAY NOR THE HOUR."

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

November is traditionally a time for remembering and praying for the faithful departed. Appropriately enough, our bulletin series on the seven sacraments has taken us to a discussion of Catholic funerals these last couple weeks. Today we'll focus on the details of the funeral Mass.

A Mass of Christian Burial uses the symbols of Baptism. Unless there was a period of visitation in the church prior to Mass, the casket (or urn) is met at the church doors, just like the Baptism ceremony traditionally begins at the church doors as a symbol that Baptism is our entry into the Church, God's family. The priest sprinkles the casket with holy water, recalling the person's Baptism. The casket is covered with a white pall, recalling the person's baptismal garment, another symbol of our Christian identity. (As a side note, the Church may celebrate a funeral Mass even for people who are not baptized, but the prayers omit any reference to the person's Baptism.)

Just as the Paschal Candle, the symbol of the risen Christ, is lit for Baptisms, it is also lit for funeral Masses and placed in front of the altar. The Mass proceeds as normal, with Scripture readings and prayers chosen from among the options the Church provides for funeral Masses. (When families wish to choose readings, they must be chosen from these options. They cannot request just *any* readings. The Church has carefully chosen Scripture passages that contain messages we need to hear.)

If burial will be taking place immediately after Mass, the final blessing is omitted and Mass concludes with the final commendation. The priest will lead prayers in front of the altar, and incense the casket as a song of farewell is sung. We burn incense to honor divinity. Human remains are incensed to show that the body is the dwelling place of God the Holy Spirit through a person's Baptism. Then the procession to the cemetery begins.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

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.

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.

Upcoming Events

November

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.

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.

Catholic Women's Union– Meeting

Women of all ages are invited to join the Catholic Women's Union. Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Wednesday, November 18th at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. Our Harvest Auction will be featured this month. Meet the members and learn how you can be part of this unique organization. We share ideas and light refreshments are served. We work to raise money for our parish and have fun doing it. We also share in fellowship by sharing in a Spring and Fall Auction, Christmas Party, and the Covered Dish Dinner. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!

Knights of Columbus Turkey Dinner ...

The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will be delivering a Turkey Dinner complete with turkey, filling, yams, gravy, vegetable and dessert to all residents of Schuylkill County who are in need of a meal for this Thanksgiving Day (November 26th). If you know of a person in need of a meal, or if you are a person who is in need, please call either 570-773-0627 or 570-516-9514 or 570-628-3333 to leave the following information ... Name and Phone Number ONLY ... and we will call you back. You can also contact us at KofC431@yahoo.com. The only requirement is that the person be home. Closing date to order is **November 19th at 5 p.m**. Also, if anyone can give us a helping hand delivering the meals is asked to come to St. Patrick's social hall in Pottsville on Thanksgiving Day by 8 a.m. You can sign up for an area you may know in order to delivery the meals or for any area. We are usually finished by 1 p.m. Thank you in advance for your help.



Weekly Collection

Oct. 31/Nov.1 .....$5,313.20
All Saints Day $1,189.00
All Souls Day..... $837.00

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&2. Special Intention
by Anonymous

St. Joseph
1. IMO Fran & Dorothy Purcell
by Deborah & Mark Purcell
2. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family

Sanctuary
IMO John Wollyung
by Wollyung Family

Guardian Angels
1. IMO Francis & Thelma Maley
by Fred & Hilda Maley
2. IMO Bill Lewis Pugh
by Fred & Hilda Maley
3. IMO Rick Pugh
by Fred & Hilda Maley
4. IMO David Penkunas
by Fred & Hilda Maley

Liturgical Min. Schedule

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 14— 5:00 p.m.
Reader: Michelle Heenan
EM: Dan & Hermine Murphy
Servers: Gabriel Scheidel
Maria Neifert
Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

November 15 — 8:15 a.m. Mass
Reader: Francis Mozloom
EM: Bob Bechtel, Jeff Naffin
Server: Finley McNamara
Cantor: Dave Derbes

November 15 —10:30 a.m. Mass
Reader: Jennifer Daubert
EM: Bill Gianfagna, Justine Majestic
Servers: Sophia Palmieri
Luke Lieberman
Cantor: Ed Brahler

Sacristan: RJ Post

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
Assumption BVM School - $25 Roma Pizza Gift Card
At Home Movie Theatre - Pat Scheetz
Bedtime Stories&Snacks - Jane , Ray Petrilla
Boscov's - $50 - Linda & Martin Smith
Boyer's Gift Card $25 - Jack & Aggie Messner
Chillin' Out & Slushin 'On - Sandy & Joe Frinzi
Christmas Centerpiece - Darla Fabiani
Christmas Centerpiece - Bella Florist
Christmas Hat with Kitchen Supplies - Donna Pugh
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
Hair Care - Shanna Deibert & Linda Murphy
Happy Birthday - Marie & Joe Ryan
Holiday Gingerbread - Chris Maccarone
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
Lottery Frame $50 - Mary Porter
Lottery Frame $50 - Linda & Jeff Zwiebel
Nativity BVM High School
Off the Grid - Fetterolf Family
Painting - Fr. Bobbin
Puzzle Me - Lucilla Kochol
Reindeer (4) - Judy & Joe Piel
Scent of Lavendar - Natalie Setlock

Donated Baskets
Scentsy + $25 Amazon Gift Card
- Chris Zanis & Chiplonia
Self Care - McCarthy Family
Self Care Wellness - Ann Blankenhorn
Sip, Snack, Scratch - Kathy & Carl Hughes
Sip, Snuggle, Be Merry - Parishioners
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 - Theresa Hossler
Wine - Luis R. Visot
Wine & Cheese - Teresa Hossler
Winter Escape - Pat Kutch
Wrap It Up - Anonymous

Sponsors
$ 150 Lieberman & Tamulonis Law
$ 100 - Frances Lorenz
$ 100 - Joe & Sherri Souchak
$ 50 - Joan Bowers
$ 50 - Catholic Women's Union
$ 50 - Ellen & J Robert Zane
$ 50 - Barb Wollyung
$ 40 - Dorothy & Joe Stangl
$ 25 - Ann Marie Souchak

Crafts
Various Crafts - Mary Bound
Card Holders - Carol Rehnert

A Prayer for All Veterans O God, Great and Almighty creator, we thank and praise You for the freedom we enjoy in our country and pray that our liberties will continue to be protected. Thank You for America's heroes, that have fought for our freedoms and who have faithfully served our country. We honor all of our veterans, for their sacrifices and for their courage and integrity. As we celebrate these freedoms, we ask Your blessing on those veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice while defending our country. Bless their families and comfort them with the thankful prayers of a grateful nation. We thank You for our veterans, past and present. Through the efforts of these individuals, help us continue to promote justice in all nations. Amen.

Nativity BVM High School Happenings

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.

Open House for potential students for the 2027-2028 school year on **Sunday, December 6th** beginning at 3:00 PM at the school. Nativity BVM High School administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and Board Members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. This information will be particularly helpful for incoming freshmen, transfer students, new students and potential host families. We invite you and your family to join us for this event. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome. For questions, please contact the school at 570-622-8110 or jdaubert@nativitybvm.net

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/

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.

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
IMO Harold Bartholomew
IMO James J. Bartholomew
IMO Robert Berger
IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
John & Mildred Fredericks
Fr. Don Henry
IMO M/M Herbert Henry
IMO Joanne Hepler
IMO Clare & Linda Houser
MO Charles Lorenz
IMO Charles & Matilda Schaeffer
IMO Charlie & Catherine Schaeffer
IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
IMO Margaret & Guy Zelinsky
Living & Deceased of St. John's
CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!

Family Matters

Veteran's Day. In our families, over the years many have given the ultimate sacrifice for our country's freedom. Today we give thanks to God for all those families who have had loved ones die for the cause of freedom. We salute also our veterans and thank them for their service.

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.



On the weekend of **November 14/15**, a barren tree is placed in the front of church adorned with gift tags. The gift tags will have suggestions for the needy in our area. If you are able, please take one. Return your gift wrapped with the gift tag on the outside, attached to the ribbon. Please return the package under the tree before the weekend of **November 28/29**. . The tag is very important because it has the person's identity number on it. If you are not able to purchase the item on the gift tag, please return it to the tree.

PLEASE DO NOT TAPE TAG TO THE PAPER

Our gifts each year to the needy of the area are our way of reaching out to those who have meant so much and saying we love them and wish them the blessings of Christmas.

GIFTS ARE DUE BACK BEFORE November 29/30 weekend.

(**Please Note**: If more than one item is listed on the tag . You are asked to get one item **ONLY**

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	

Thank You Dept.

Our sincere thanks and appreciated go to ***Sandy Frinzi*** for her outstanding volunteer service and dedication to our parish. Through her tireless efforts with the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Program, she successfully raised **$8,166.00** for our parish, making a significant financial contribution to support our parish's mission and ministries. We are deeply grateful for her generosity, initiative, and commitment to our parish community. May God bless her abundantly for sharing her time and talents so generously!

Chicken Dinner Thank you ...

to everyone who helped make our BBQ Chicken Dinner a success! We are grateful to our volunteers, *Tina Seiger, Maria Mason, Donna Pugh and Kellie Borrell,* who generously gave of their time and effort. We thank the *Bill Donahue Family* for their donation of fresh chickens. Thank you to *Don Tassone* for organizing and preparing the dinners! Thanks to everyone who donated to support this event and for your continued support of our parish!

Trunk or Treat Thank you...

This year's Trunk or Treat was absolutely spooktacular! We had 12 trunks and roughly 130 or so trunk or treaters. Our best one yet! The themed trunks and costumes were amazing and very creative. Everyone participated in a vote for their favorite trunk. It was a very close competition. Gift Cards were awarded to the top three themes.

First Place: "Pick or Treat" by Vince and Karissa Shay; Second Place: "Little House on the Prairie by DeArment and Hahner Family; Third Place: "Alice in Wonderland by Olivia & Robby McCarthy. A special thank you to our generous donors and volunteers who supplied refreshments to everyone ... Debbie Herb & Family - 100 hot dogs and buns; Ray & Jane Petrilla - $30 towards soft pretzels; Ice by Sandy Clauser; cold drinks, hot chocolate, snacks provided by the Deibert Family; the Maley Family for donating the prize gift cards. Serving the refreshments were Reene Reddington and Sandy Clauser. It was a wonderful afternoon bringing community and children together for lots of fun!