St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

November 15, 2026



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy."

Matthew 25:21

The Parable of the Talents by Willem de Poorter, 17th century

© 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.* **Deceased***: Mim Tirjan.*
"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 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)

Monday, November 16
6:30 p.m. Frank Chiplonia (David, Dominic, Julian Chiplonia)

Tuesday, November 17
9:00 a.m. Lee Wehr (M/M Anthony Carroll)

Wednesday, November 18
9:00 a.m. Joseph R. Burns (Ron & Pat Lombel)

Thursday, November 19
9:00 a.m. Francis & Verna Sauers

Friday, November 20 -- NO MASS

Saturday, November 21
5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of (St. John's Beneficial Society)

Sunday, November 22
8:15 a.m. Wedding Anniversary of Dorothy& Joe Stangl (Dorothy & Joe Stangl)

Sunday, November 22
10:30 a.m. Annette Lieberman (Lieberman Family)

Next Week's Readings

Christ the King
(November 21/22)
Reading I: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17
Reading II: 1 Corinthians15:2-26, 28
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

For the past few weeks we've taken a detour from our series on the seven sacraments to discuss Catholic funerals. Last week we looked at the funeral Mass. Today we need to say a few things about burial.

For much of Church history, cremation was not permitted. Cremation was a pagan practice, not a Christian practice. Christians express hope for the resurrection of the body by interring the body in sacred ground. Today, cremation is permitted as long as it is not chosen for reasons that are opposed to the Christian faith. The God who created the universe from nothing can certainly resurrect a body that has turned to dust. We should note, however, that it is *preferable,* though not required, to celebrate the funeral in the presence of the body and cremate afterwards.

Unfortunately, the practice of cremation in our society, including in Catholic circles, has led to the practice of family members keeping their loved one's remains in their possession. Human remains MUST be interred in a cemetery or mausoleum (burial at sea is also permitted, but the remains cannot be scattered; they must be in a sealed urn). It is strictly forbidden to keep remains in one's possession. Human remains are sacred. We cannot treat our loved one's remains like our personal property to do with whatever we want. Many people desire to keep their loved one's remains presumably because they think this will help them deal with their loss. We must allow the funeral process, concluding with burial, to bring us peace and closure. We should note that burial does not always have to take place immediately after a funeral Mass. It can be delayed to a later date for a good reason.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

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.

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.



or to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.

Matthew 25:29

Upcoming Events

November

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

December

5	1 - 6 p.m.	Meatloaf - Halupki Food Sale	R.B.
6	11 am-2 pm	Meatloaf - Halupki Food Sale	R.B.
6	10:30 am.	Sunday School	L.H.
6	10:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy	Chapel
6	3:00 p.m.	Schuylkill Choral Concert	Church
8	9am/5:15pm	Immaculate Conception	Church
12	11 a.m.	First Reconciliation	Church
12/13	after Mass	Catholic Women's Union Cookie Sale	L.H.
21	7:00 p.m.	Penance Service	Church
24	4 & 8 p.m.	Christmas Masses	Church
25	10 a.m.	Christmas Mass	Church
31	5:00 p.m.	Solemnity of Mary Mass	Church

January

1	10:00 a.m.	Solemnity of Mary Mass	Church

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

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

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!

Meatloaf and Halupkie Dinners

We will be selling tickets for this upcoming food sale next weekend, November 21/22, after all Masses in church.

Meatloaf and Halupkie Dinners for $13 which includes for following ... Choice of 2 slices of Meatloaf **OR** 2 Halupkies. Sides are Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable and Roll. We are also selling **Halupkies** and will take orders as well. Individual Halupkies orders are **6 for $24 or 12 for $40.** Sale of tickets and orders will continue until November 29th. All orders will be ready for pickup at St. John's Russell Building on **December 5th from 1 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, December 6th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Weekly Collection

Nov.7/8 ..... $6,230.20
Parish Dues $1,095.00

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. IMO Gladys Kuperavage
by Steve & Chris Zanis
2. IMO Emma Gottschall
by Fred & Hilda Maley

St. Joseph
1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy
by Joan Grapsy Family

Sanctuary
IMO Frank & Rose Boris
by Richard Naffin

Guardian Angels
1. IMO Emily Leinheiser
by Family
2. IMO Jack Pugh
by Fred & Hilda Maley
3. IMO John & Catherine Becker
by Fred & Hilda Maley
4. IMO Clementine Gottschall
by Fred & Hilda Maley

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Christ the King
November 21— 5:00 p.m.
Reader: Lucilla Kochol
EM: Heidi Gorski, Sharon Snyder
Server: Heidi Gorski
Cantor: Dave Derbes

November 22 — 8:15 a.m. Mass
Reader: Jeff Naffin
EM: Barb Munster, Joe Palmieri
Servers: Preston &Kyle McCormick
Cantor: Dave Derbes

November 22 —10:30 a.m. Mass
Reader: Ray Petrilla
EM: Michael Ambrose
Gerry Schwartz
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
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
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
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
Walmart Gift Card- $100 - Eleanor Schaeffer
Wine - Larry Steficek
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 - Michelle & Rick Stone
$ 50 - Barb Wollyung
$ 50 - Ellen & J. Robert Zane
$ 40 - Dorothy & Joe Stangl
$ 25 - Ann Marie Souchak
$ 25.00 - Peggy Stoppi

Crafts
Various Crafts - Mary Bound
Card Holders - Carol Rehnert

The Giving Tree .... *Helping Those in Need ....*

This weekend 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 wraped 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**

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

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/

Coffee & Donuts

Please join us in Longinus Hall after Masses next Sunday, November 21st, for coffee, donuts, and friendly fellowship! It's a wonderful opportunity to relax, catch up with fellow parishioners, and enjoy some time together as a parish family. We look forward to seeing you there! Everyone is welcome!

Family Matters

Parents of Young Children. We pray for parents of young children that they can survive today's challenges well and that God continues to strengthen them in responding to the ever-changing needs of their little ones.

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, would you please contact the Rectory Office at 622-5470 ext. 3. Help us update 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 **<u>November 22nd.</u>** 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.

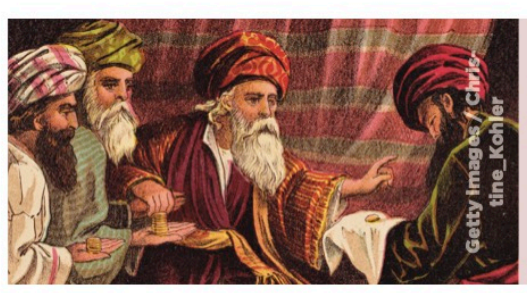
We are also accepting donations for turkeys and hams. You can donate those items by directly contacting Tina Seiger for details at the following email address:: loveyouubu@gmail.com. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

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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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 de-livery the meals or for any area. We are usually finished by 1 p.m. Thank you in advance for your help.



November 15, 2026

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31 | 1 Thes 5:1-6 | Mt 25:14-30

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

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

In biblical times, a talent was a large unit of currency, equating to over a decade's worth of work. A single talent would be a huge treasure for a master to leave in a servant's care, let alone two or five! As we read this, we marvel at the trust the master places in his servants. Yet we know that God has also entrusted us with much. In marriage, spouses are entrusted with the hearts of one another, as proclaimed in the passage from Proverbs. We know that priests are entrusted with shepherding those in their parishes and communities. Our loving Father places others in roles to care for family members, students, those who are ill. In the work of building his kingdom here on earth, God entrusts us with his greatest treasures – one another.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The talents in the Gospel are coins, but we know that God gives us many good gifts, both physical and spiritual. God expects us to use these gifts, and if we use them in the way he intends, he will surely multiply them. When we live as the people whom God created us to be, we share our gifts and also recognize the gifts of others, thereby returning our gifts to the Lord and building up the Body of Christ. When our interactions with others reveal God's love and encourage them to love others better in return, the love of God multiplies. God's love fills us, flows from us, and ripples out into the world through others. In doing so, we reveal ourselves to be "children of the light" and have hope that we will be welcomed into the eternal joy of heaven.

REFLECT

In order to multiply the love we have been given from our heavenly Father, we must first be mindful of the many treasures with which we have been blessed. What blessings has God entrusted to you? How are you being called to love and care for those closest to you? Spend some time this week reflecting on ways that you are called to steward these treasured relationships and multiply God's love.