

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

July 20, 2025 • 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IT IS CHRIST WHOM WE PROCLAIM,  
ADMONISHING EVERYONE AND TEACHING EVERYONE WITH ALL WISDOM,  
THAT WE MAY PRESENT EVERYONE PERFECT IN CHRIST.

— COLOSSIANS 1:28B





**Pastor**..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*  
**Deacon**.....*Robert A. Reiley*

**Parish Council President** .....*Darren DeArment*  
**E-mail**.....dbd269@gmail.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*

**For our Deceased:** *Thomas McPhillips*

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, July 19

5:00 p.m. Edward J. Buber Jr.  
(Paul & Joanna Buber)

### Sunday, July 20

8:15 a.m. Erika Stangl Seasock  
(Dorothy & Joe Stangl  
& Michael Felker)

### Sunday, July 20

10:30 a.m. M/M Dominic Maccarone  
& Son  
(Natalie Setlock & Family)

### July 21 thru July 25—NO MASSES

### Saturday, July 26

5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Cross  
(Lou Cross  
& Marlo Cross Lipko)

### Sunday, July 27

8:15 a.m. Anna Kurtek  
(Jan & Steve Kurtek)

### Sunday, July 27

10:30 a.m. Carl & Barbara Weiss  
(Weis Children)

### Next Week's Readings

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(July 26/27)

**Reading I:** Genesis 18:20-32

**Reading II:** Colossians 2:12-14

**Gospel:** Luke 11:1-13



### Flowers at the Altar

The flowers at the altar this weekend  
are donated

In Memory of Erika Stangl Seasock  
by  
Bob & Susan Hahner

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

As we tour the New Testament, we spent the last few weeks on the Gospel According to Mark. Today we move on to Matthew.

If you only remember one thing about Matthew's Gospel to distinguish it from the other Gospels, it should be that Matthew writes for Christians of Jewish background to demonstrate that Jesus is the awaited Messiah. Jesus fulfills the Old Testament. Matthew's Gospel is filled with quotes from the Old Testament. The prophecies of the Old Testament come true in Jesus. He is the Son of David, the Messiah who will establish the Kingdom of God.

Some of the unique features of Matthew's Gospel demonstrate how Jesus fulfills the Old Testament. Matthew begins with Infancy Narratives (chapters 1 and 2), the stories of the birth of Jesus. The Gospel opens with a genealogy that connects Jesus to the great figures of the Old Testament: Abraham and David (although Matthew certainly affirms the virgin birth of Jesus from Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit). The Infancy stories contain five distinct episodes, each centered on a quote from the Old Testament. The five episodes would remind Matthew's readers of the Torah: the first five books of the Old Testament, which are central to the Jewish people. In fact, many scholars argue that Matthew's entire Gospel can be divided into five parts, recalling the Torah.

More on Matthew next week...

In Christ,  
Fr. Bobbin

## Church in Central & Eastern Europe Collection

This week our special collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 25 countries struggling to recover from former communists rule and now grappling with the war in Ukraine. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation, and poverty outreach. Thank you for your generosity to the collection today. For more information, please visit [www.usccb.org/ccee.#1GiveCatholicTogether](http://www.usccb.org/ccee.#1GiveCatholicTogether) also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

## Peter's Pence Collection

Thank you for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection! As a parish, we collected \$1,373.00. Our contributions join those from our brothers and sisters worldwide to help Pope Leo in his ministry to the Universal Church, including relief to people in need and support for the Holy See. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give.

**Burial Flag Donations.** For many years, Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery has had an Avenue of Flags displayed from Memorial Day in May until Veterans Day in November. If your family has a burial flag—often encased in a triangular wooden and plastic container—and would like to donate it so that it can be properly flown at the GAP Cemetery, please call 570-628-9619 and either talk to me or leave a message so that I may contact you. Thanks, Frank Peron Jr.



# Summer Festival

## Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc.—Chance Books

## Festival Patrons

### \$500.00

Ed & Carole Quirin  
Robert & Maria Rowlands  
Joe & Sherri Souchak

### \$300.00

Brahler Roofing

### \$250.00

Jim Toomey

### \$200.00

Paul & Joanna Buber  
John B. Lieberman III

### \$100.00

Friend of St. John's  
Gorski Family  
George Harig  
John Jefferson  
Kalovcak Family  
Alicia Kleman  
Keith & Mary Jo Laslow  
Christine Maccarone  
Charlie & Patty Miller  
Dan & Hermine Murphy  
Mary Porter  
Bill, Kelly, Brady Rhoades  
Judith Williams  
Marianne Wollyung  
Jay & Ellen Zane

### \$80.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel

### \$75.00

Frances Lorenz

### \$55.00

The Tamalavages

### \$50.00

Ed & Jane Baker  
Ann Blankenhorn  
Dolores Brophy  
Catholic Women's Union  
Bob Daniels  
Tom & Cindy Elison  
Vince & Darla Fabiani  
Barbara A. Fox  
Millie Fredericks  
Joyce Gerace  
Joseph, Sonya, Joe Halsey

## Festival Patrons

### \$50.00

Heenan Family  
Diane Hudock  
Carl & Kathy Hughes  
Patricia Kutch  
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman  
Pat & Phil Markovich  
John & Barb Powers  
Nicholas & Maria Quinn  
Charles & Cathy Reber  
Eleanor Schaeffer  
Butch & Sue Scheetz  
Martin & Linda Smith  
Dianne Stoudt  
Luis & Virginia Visot  
Barb Wollyung  
Robert & Kay Wollyung

### \$40.00

Robert Burns Masonry Contactor  
Joe & Dorothy Stangl

### \$35.00

Jim Brentari  
Grace King

### \$33.00

Ted Gurecki Jr.

### \$30.00

Ken & Tammy Cooper  
Maria Goodman  
Grabowski Family  
Henry Minnig  
Robert & Irene Post  
Larry Steficek  
Peggy Stoppi  
Stan & Stephanie Viduszynski  
Dave & Trish Wartella

### \$25.00

Cathy Cooper  
Mary Ann Filiac  
Stan & Geri Grabowski  
Rik & Sue Jochems  
Rosie Kenderes  
Ron & Pat Lombel  
Frances Brahler Mickey  
Ann Marie Souchak  
Christine Tray  
Michael & Elizabeth Tyson

### \$20.00

Jim & Leah Donovan  
Dan & Anne Wachter

## Festival Patrons

### \$15.00

Natalie Setlock

### \$10.00

Lou Cross  
Harriet Peiffer

## Festival Sponsors

**Band Sponsor** \$100.00 each

**Bleenie Mix** \$ 40.00 each

**Coke Sponsor** \$ 50.00 each

**Ice Cream** \$ 25.00 each

**Pizza Sponsor** \$ 50.00 each

Band Sponsor(1) - Frank & Annie Murphy

Band Sponsor(2) - Caroline Vinskie

Bleenie Mix (1) — Paul & JoAnna Buber

Bleenie Mix (1) — Doyle Family

Bleenie Mix (1) — Don & Joanne Doyne

Bleenie Mix (2) — Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski

Bleenie Mix (1) — Theresa Skrobak

Ice Cream (1) — Ray & Jane Petrilla

Ice Cream (1) — Anonymous

Ice Cream (1) — Mary Ann Filiac

Ice Cream (1) — Al & Barb Munster

Ice Cream (1) — Barb Schoenauer

Pizza (1) — Mary Jo Nabholz

Pizza (1) — Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky

Pizza (1) — Mark & Deborah Purcell

Pizza (1) — Dan & Ann Wachter

Pizza (1) — Ralph & Joanne Wood

Coke (1) — John & Sandy Bosche

Coke (1) — David & Mary Ann Shoopack

## Hot Dogs & Rolls donated by

**Anne Gaburick**

## Special Basket Table

Birthday Bskt.—Ryan Family

Crystal Candy Bowls (2)— Carol Bilinski

Fall Bskt—Chris Black

First Aide Bskt — Anonymous

Glitzzy Glam Bskt—Christine Maccarone

Grilling Bskt.—Steve & Jan Kurtek

Lottery Frames (2)—Prezelski Family

Painting - Fr. Bobbin

Purse Bskt.—Rosann Sitkus

Snack & Puzzle Bskt. —Barb Munster

Summer Fun Bskt—Kimberly Kalovcak

Vera Bradley Bskt — Sandy Frinzi

Vera Bradley Back to School—Lucilla Kochol

## NEW CCD and Sacramental Preparation Registration

Parents of children in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> please fill out the CCD registration using the QR code. If your child has been previously enrolled from years past, it is not necessary to do this link. Any **new students in public school grades 1-8** should fill out this form. Students in **parochial school** whose child is in third or eighth grade that are to receive a sacrament this coming school year please use this QR code to register your child. You may also call the rectory at 570-622-5470 and speak with Miss Kochel to register your child.



## Share Your Catholic Faith

We are in search of CCD teachers, OCIA instructors and preschool teacher assistants. Are you the person we are looking for? You do not need a teaching degree. Just the desire to teach. We need someone who loves their faith, desires to know more and to share the Catholic faith with others.

We have a great preschool and CCD staff. We are a small staff and need to grow our numbers because we have more families with children joining our church all the time. We also have people joining the faith that are adults or young people that would be better served by Order of Christian Initiation of Adults -OCIA (the former RCIA). We need instructors to help these candidates become full members of the Church.

Preschool has many wonderful parents helping as teachers, but we do need a Teacher Assistant to help with the busy hands and feet of our students. We are hoping a high school student would be a perfect fit. You can use this experience on a resume or for community service hours at your school.

We can support you with guidance and training. Please prayerfully consider helping the children and adults of our community come into full communion with the Catholic faith and our parish family. Please contact Tina Seiger or Lucilla Kochel at the rectory to volunteer.

## Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop

### Drop Off — Saturday, July 26— 9 a.m. to noon.

Look around your home for any items you wish to donate to our next Yard Sale in August. (Dates in upcoming bulletin) You'd be surprised what you might find. Here are some suggestions:

Decorations for Fall, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Puzzles, Knick Knacks, Kitchen Items, Purses, Small Appliances, Candles, Toys, Games, Jewelry, Tablecloths, CD's, DVD's, Bakeware, Phones, Vintage items, etc.

**DO NOT** donate the following: Plastics, VHS tapes, Glasses, Cups, Televisions, Bedding, Computers, Monitors, Keyboards, Books, Clothing, Large Furniture, Stuffed Animal Toys, Large Christmas Trees.

**ONLY ONE DROP-OFF DATE** on **Saturday, July 26th from 9 a.m. to noon** at the Russell Building. No items will be accepted before or after this date. Do not leave articles at the door or in the parking lot. Call the parish office 570-622-5470 ext. 3 for more information.



## Weekly Collection

July 12/13 .....\$4,356.12

Improv.& Repairs .....\$1,485.00

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 Carolyn Leinheiser  
by Ted Gurecki Jr.
2. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss  
by Becky Weiss

### St. Joseph

1. IMO M/M Joseph Hudak  
by Becky Weiss
2. Special Intention  
by Addison, Tegan & Ivy

### Sanctuary

IMO Erika Stangl Seasock  
by Dorothy & Joe Stangl  
& Michael Felker

### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Carolyn Leinheiser  
by Family
2. Special Intention  
By Anita Klembara
- 3&4. IMO Ronald Kriston  
by Joan Grapsy Family

## Liturgical Min. Schedule

### 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### July 26 — 5:00 p.m. Mass

**Reader:** Lucilla Kochol

**EM:** Bill Gianfagna, Janet Daubert

**Servers:** Maggie & Rhyan Brennan

**Cantor:** Stanley Gorski

#### July 27 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Bob Bechtel

**EM:** Jeff Naffin, Joseph Palmieri

**Servers:** Sophia Palmieri

Gabe Scheidel

**Cantor:** Tina Seiger

#### July 27 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Raymond Petrilla

**EM:** Michael Ambrose

Frank Murphy

**Server:** Cole Felty

**Cantor:** Marianne Wollyung

**Weekend Sacristan:** Connor Felty



## 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.

## Family Matters

**Vacation for Families.** God bless our parish families with a fun-filled vacation and safe travel to and from their destinations. May they be rejuvenated in their family relationships and return relaxed and nourished in body and spirit.

## 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.

## CYO Volleyball

Again this school year, Diocese of Allentown CYO Volleyball will be open to any girl who will be in grade 6, 7 or 8 this Fall who attends a Diocesan Elementary School or who is a member of the following Parishes: St. John the Baptist, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose, St. Clare of Assisi, Holy Family Minersville, Holy Cross, Most Blessed Trinity and St. Nicholas in Minersville. Practices and home matches for the season will be held at Nativity High School. Please see the link/scan code below for sign-ups. Do not hesitate to contact Amanda Bobella at Nativity High School with any questions at [abobella@nativitybvm.net](mailto:abobella@nativitybvm.net) or 570-622-8110. <https://forms.gle/b2AmW4Gd4FakfwNG8>



## Nativity BVM High School .... Host Families Needed.

Nativity BVM High School has accepted several wonderful international students from Spain, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Japan. These students are excited to begin school in late August, but are in need of loving host families. All types of families are eligible to host: empty-nesters, single people, families with children. Students speak good English, and they have their own spending money and insurance. Host families receive a generous monthly stipend. For more information, please contact [mchallenger.educatus@gmail.com](mailto:mchallenger.educatus@gmail.com).

**Assumption BVM School. We're Hiring!** Are you a dynamic and innovative educational and faith leader with a strong commitment to Catholic education, Catholic values, and academic excellence in Schuylkill County? ABVM is seeking a dedicated Principal to guide our students, staff, and community in faith, excellence, and service. We are looking for a leader who: \* Has a passion for education \* Inspires excellence in others \* Nurtures a faith-centered school community. Apply today or share with someone who would be a great fit! Apply using the link below or the QR code. <https://allentowndiocese.isolvedhire.com/jobs/1437702>



## St. Joseph Center for Special Learning

.... invites you to join us for two exciting upcoming events in support of our students and adults with special needs. First, mark your calendars for our **Christmas in July Basket Raffle**, taking place on **Friday, July 26, and Saturday, July 27**, in the SJC Parish Center. This fun-filled event offers a chance to win amazing baskets while supporting a meaningful cause. Then, don't miss our **Saturday Night Fever Disco** on the evening of **Friday, September 6**, also at the Parish Center. This special night will kick off our 70th anniversary celebrations with live music by local favorite, The Boys Upstairs. We hope to see you there as we celebrate our mission and the incredible individuals we serve. Questions? Contact Monica Walborn at 570-622-4638.

## Neighboring Events.

**Annual Festival** in St. Joseph the Worker Grove, Rear of 49 N. Line St. in Frackville on Friday, August 1st from 3 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, August 2nd from 10 noon til 11 p.m. Homemade Foods: Pierogies, Bleenies, Bean Soup, Halupkies, Haluski, Hot Dogs, Baked Goods and more. Basket Auction and Raffle Tickets. Entertainment Friday—Sales Alive; Saturday—Another Side.

## New Altar Servers

We invite any boys and girls currently finishing fourth grade or older to consider becoming altar servers. Parents, please speak with Father Bobbin or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.



July 20, 2025

## Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:1-10a | Col 1:24-28 | Lk 10:38-42

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Are you a Martha or a Mary? How many times have we been presented with that question when we hear today's Gospel reading? At first ask, similar to many people, I would answer that I'm easily a Martha. I'm a perfectionist in many areas of my life, especially when it comes to my work or when I host dinner for friends and family. In those moments, I put a lot of pressure on myself to be the best I can be, to do the job well, and demonstrate the utmost hospitality. But as with Martha, too much focus on being "perfect" can cause worry and anxiety. But this year, hearing the story again, I realized something: There *are* times when I'm able to put those worries and anxieties aside and sit at the feet of Jesus just like Mary did, and I want to make that happen more often.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Although it has been several weeks since we celebrated the Sacred Triduum and we are back in Ordinary Time, the realization that I can be more like Mary than Martha has stayed with me. During the Triduum, we are asked by the Church to maintain a time of prayer, reverence, and, particularly on Holy Saturday, silence, as we reflect on Christ's death. This has always been the one time a year when I am able to find my "inner Mary" and sit at the feet of Christ. I thought the only way to do that was to completely shut myself off from everything, but that is not how God wants to be present in our lives. He wants to be with us always and seeks us where we are. With that realization, I learned that I can sit at his feet during my times of work or bustling as well. It can be as simple as listening to prayers on an app or praise and worship music while cooking dinner, or saying a prayer before I sit down to complete the next task at work and asking Jesus to be with me. This is a start to being more like Mary even during my busy periods. And by finding my inner "Mary," I find Jesus. So can you.

### PRAY

Read through the Gospel again. Don't assume you have to stay stuck in the rhythm of being "Martha" when you know you long for a closer relationship with Jesus. Life is full of busyness and seemingly endless tasks, but being perfect will not bring calm. But inviting Jesus into those busy moments will. And when you do, Jesus will calm any anxieties you may have because you have "chosen the better part and it will not be taken from [you]."



By Johannes Vermeer, Christ in the House of Martha and Mary - Google Arts & Culture - Wikimedia Commons, Public Domain.