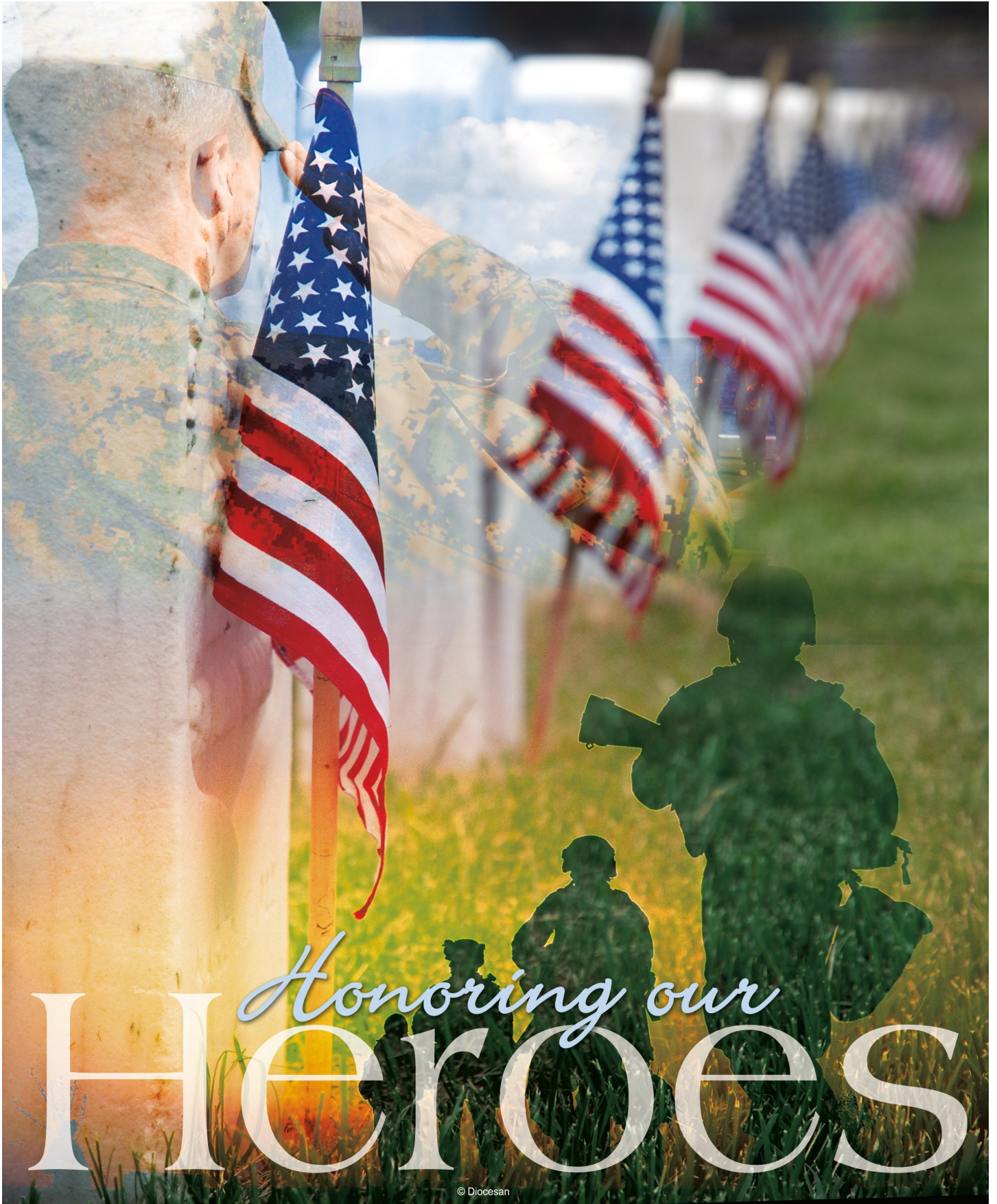


# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

Most Holy Trinity • May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021



*Honoring our*  
**HEROES**

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, May 31

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

### Tuesday, June 1

9:00 a.m. James Loeper  
(M/M Robert Rienzo)

### Wednesday, June 2

9:00 a.m. Anna Orłowsky  
(Joe Orłowsky & Family)

### Thursday, June 3

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

### Friday, June 4

9:00 a.m. William O'Neill Sr.  
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

### Saturday, June 5

5:00 p.m. Virginia Comfort &  
Barney Comfort  
(Chris & Jared Black)

### Sunday, June 6

8:15 a.m. Francis & Jane Mooney  
(Nora Chiplonia)

### Sunday, June 6

10:30 a.m. Martha & Francis Brown  
(Peggy Stoppi)

## Next Week's Readings

Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (June 5/6)

**Reading I:** Exodus 24:3-8

**Reading II:** Hebrews 9:11-15

**Gospel:** Mark 14:12-16, 22-26



## From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Today we celebrate Trinity Sunday. This Sunday touches the basic mystery behind all other mysteries of our faith. The Father sent his Son to save us by his life, his teachings, his miracles, his death and resurrection. And the Father and the Son sent us the Holy Spirit to fill us with divine life, to make us truly God's children. Today, as we celebrate our Mass, we honor our Father God through Jesus his Son in unity with the Holy Spirit.

Does this puzzle us that there is a Father, a Son, and a Holy Spirit, three distinct persons yet only one God? Of course it does. But it should not surprise us that we cannot fully understand God. Sometimes we think we are so smart, but the things we know are like a pebble on a beach compared to all the things that are still a mystery to us even in the material universe of which we are a part. So we shouldn't be surprised that the one who created all these things is too much for us to fully understand.

And if you think that the Trinity is a mystery, there is an even bigger one to try to fathom. Why? Why would God bother about us? Why would God invite us to share in his own life? For the same reason a mother or father will sacrifice themselves for a child. There's only one answer to the question; why? Because God is a Father, a Father who is love.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Father Dave*

## Pray

### For Our Sick

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.

*Susan Cook, Patricia Thomas*

### For our Troops

*"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2Chr.7:14 NIV)*

Please join us in our prayers for the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States of America and other countries who are now in harm's way in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other parts of the world. We thank them and their families for their sacrifices. We are grateful for the ultimate price of freedom paid by those fallen.

**We** pray for strength and courage for the POWs and Missing in Action and those held hostage.

**We** pray for the protection and safety of selfless relief workers and missionaries who help those in need.

**We** pray for the protection of children and innocent civilians.

**We** pray for our nation and our leaders.



## Upcoming Events

### May

- 30 4:30 p.m. Street Evangelization Training (until 6:00 p.m.) ..... F.R.
- 31 9:00 a.m. Memorial Day Mass (weather permitting) ..... Cemetery

### June

- 4 9:20 a.m. First Friday Adoration (until 10:30 a.m.)..... Church
- 6 4:30 p.m. Street Evangelization Training (until 6:00 p.m.) ..... F.R.
- 9 8:00 p.m. St. John’s Beneficial Society ..... F.R.
- 16 7:00 p.m. St. John’s Catholic Women’s Union ..... L.H.

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

Tues. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group ..... Zoom  
 Meeting ID: 824-780-6433  
 Password: Mary

## Memorial Day Mass

Monday, May 31 at 9 a.m.

At the cemetery, 20th & Mahantongo Sts.  
 weather permitting

Otherwise in Church with inclement weather



## Weekly Collection

May 22/23 .....\$3,924.33

Thank you for your sacrificial giving by dropping envelopes at the rectory, by mail and online giving.

Please **do not** use **tape** or **staple** to seal your offertory envelopes.

## Candle Donations

### BVM

1. IMO Erika Stangl Seacock by Joe & Dorothy Stangl & Michael Felker
2. IMO M/M John J. Carroll by Family

### St. Joseph

1. 50th Wedding Anniversary of Ralph & Joanne Wood
2. IMO Charles Bowers by Joan Bowers

### Sanctuary

IMO Joyce Leinheiser by Family

### Guardian Angels

- 1&2. Special Intention by John & Barb Powers
3. IMO Erika Stangl Seacock by Joe & Dorothy Stangl & Michael Felker
4. Living & Deceased Members of St. John’s Catholic Women’s Union

## Volunteers Needed

### Meals on Wheels Delivery

Please join fellow parishioners and families helping to deliver boxes of food to Meals on Wheels consumers on the Saturday June 12. Please contact the rectory if you can help.



Daily Mass will resume in the Chapel on Tuesday, June 1



### Faithful Departed

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

#### May 2020—May 2021

- Kathleen Berger
- Anastasia Bulino
- Mary Chiplonia
- Catherine Dusel
- Christopher Figueiredo
- Marie Fitzpatrick
- Marie Flynn
- Noel Glunz
- Scott Glunz
- Scott A. Glunz
- Marilyn Golod
- Jean Hill
- Helen Hufnagle
- Joseph LeBlanc
- Magdalene Maskerines
- Mary Muldowney
- David Musket
- Dorothy Parsick
- William Schmitt
- Thomas Williams
- Joseph Wollyung

### Congratulations!

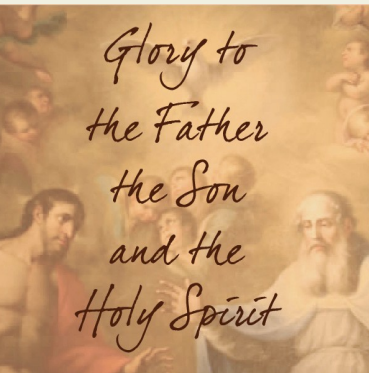
#### Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the following who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last weekend:

- Adalaine Theresa Dusel**
- Christopher Andrew Fowler**
- Luke David Schane**

#### Easter Poster Contest Winner

Congratulations to **Isla Shoener** who won first place in the local competition and third place in the national competition of the Catholic War Veteran’s Auxiliary Easter Poster Contest.



### Cemetery Stations of the Cross

St. John’s Parish is blessed to have a beautiful cemetery to honor and pay respect to our loved ones. In memory of Erika Stangl Seasock, Bob and Susan Hahner have coordinated a project to refurbish the outdoor Stations of the Cross located at the top of the cemetery. As we approach Memorial Day, let us take time to pray at the Stations and enjoy the scenery when you visit the cemetery. Thank you to the following who helped with this project:

- Angela, Coy and Colt Mason*
- Steve Buzalko*
- Tom Squierdo*
- Bill Hauptly*



**Neighboring Events**  
**Summer Bleenie Sale**  
 St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 1115 Walnut St. in Ashland. Pre Orders due by June 1 ... NO EXCEPTIONS. Prices: \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00; Pre-order Pick up 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 5. Call the parish office to place your order 570-875-1521



## The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity



The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, which is always celebrated on the Sunday following Pentecost, is a great Solemnity because it honors the mystery of Who God Is: Three Divine Persons in One God. Trinity means “Three-in-One.”

It is possible to use natural human reason to realize that there is a Supreme Being Who created the vast universe, but it would be impossible to figure out by means of natural reason that the Godhead is “Triune.” The only way it could be possible for human beings to know this fact is if God revealed it to us. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, revealed it when He came into the world to be our Savior. His last words to the Apostles before He ascended into Heaven clearly indicated that He had revealed to the Apostles that God is three Persons in One: “Go forth and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28: 19).

Saint Augustine was one of the greatest theologians in the history of the Church; he thought that he could figure out the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity, but he was shown (by an Angel) that, just as one cannot pour the entire ocean into a hole in the sand, a human mind cannot contain the immense mysteries of God. Another great theologian, Saint Thomas Aquinas, did plumb some of the depths of this mystery in his book, the *Summa Theologica*. Among other things, he has this to say about understanding the One Essence of the

Three Persons in God: “Divine things are named by our intellect, not as they really are in themselves, for in that way it knows them not; but in a way that belongs to things created.” This statement is a deeply philosophical way to say that we can’t think like God because we are not Divine like God. Saint Hilary, whose theological writings predate both Augustine and Thomas Aquinas, explains it more simply by stating the Divine Nature “is proper to both Father and Son.”

The Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Most Holy Trinity, is the Love of the Father for the Son and the Love of the Son for the Father. Their mutual Love is so completely perfect and fruitful that a Third Person then exists who is of that same Divine Nature.

A rudimentary way of comprehending these elusive concepts is to think of God the Father as All-Perfect, All-Bautiful, All-Holy Being who looks in a perfectly pure mirror and sees His Image. That Image is distinct from Him; that Image (or “Word”) is His Son—Eternally being begotten by Him. Son looks at Father and Father looks at Son, and their Love is so Perfect that their mutual Gaze is the Holy Spirit.

What we can take from these high philosophical distinctions about the Most Holy Trinity is really very simple and can be summed up by the words of Saint John the Evangelist: “God is Love” (1 John 4: 8). God is not a static entity but active Being who is infinitely Good, infinitely Fruitful, infinitely Giving of Self. This is the powerful and awesome mystery that is celebrated each year on Trinity Sunday.







May 30, 2021

## The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Dt 4:32-34, 39-40 | Rom 8:14-17 | Mt 28:16-20

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

The first thing that came to mind when hearing the readings for this feast was the song, *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Moses' words attest to the wonders of God and his continual care and "championing" for us. This all-powerful God chose us to be his own; he created us in love and desires for us to be with him forever. He loves us enough to have become one of us - to live and breathe and suffer as one of us! While on earth as Jesus Christ, he showed us, in healing and forgiving, the depth of his merciful and unconditional love. Through the Son we are made adopted children of God, co-heirs with Christ to the promises of the Kingdom. The Holy Spirit is sent to remain with us - always - demonstrating the steadfastness and faithfulness of God to his people and drawing others to the Father's love. And we, members of the Body of Christ, are commissioned to go "and make disciples of all nations," that all may be given the pathway to the Kingdom. With all this Good News, how can we keep from singing?

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

"When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted." These words jumped out at me from today's Gospel. After all the Apostles had witnessed, even after their encounters with Jesus following his resurrection, they doubted. That is, until Jesus reassured them that "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Then, look out! Once empowered by the Spirit, the disciples no longer doubt. In readings from the Acts of the Apostles throughout the Easter season, we have heard how the Apostles are transformed into bold and relentless preachers and leaders, healers and miracle workers, by their belief in the power of the Holy Spirit. And they can't suppress the joy they know in believing the Good News. We were made for this joy, and for sharing it as the earliest disciples did. Given all that God has done for us, how can we not?

**STUDY** Read Scripture verses or hymns that rejoice in God's love and bring you joy (Phil 4:4-9 is a good start). Pray the Act of Faith to reaffirm your belief in the Trinity. Be a joyful Christian!

**Pastor**..... *Rev. David J. Loeper*  
**Deacons**..... *Luis R. Visot and Lawrence Lonergan*

**Pastoral Assistant**..... *Bobby Rienzo*  
**Parish Council President** ..... *Robert Bechtel*  
**Choir Director/Organist** ..... *David Derbes*  
**CCD Coordinator**..... *Lucilla Kochol*

**Rectory** .....(570) 622-5470  
**Rectory Fax**.....(570) 622-4589  
**E-mail**..... *stjbparish@comcast.net*  
**Russell Building** .....(570) 628-3002  
**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**

Tuesday 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**

First Sunday of each month..... 11:30 a.m.  
Second Sunday ..... 10:30 a.m. Mass  
Baptismal Preparation for Parents must precede the Baptism.  
Please contact Father Dave 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@allentowndioocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndioocese.org)



*Glory to You - Source of all Being,  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit!*