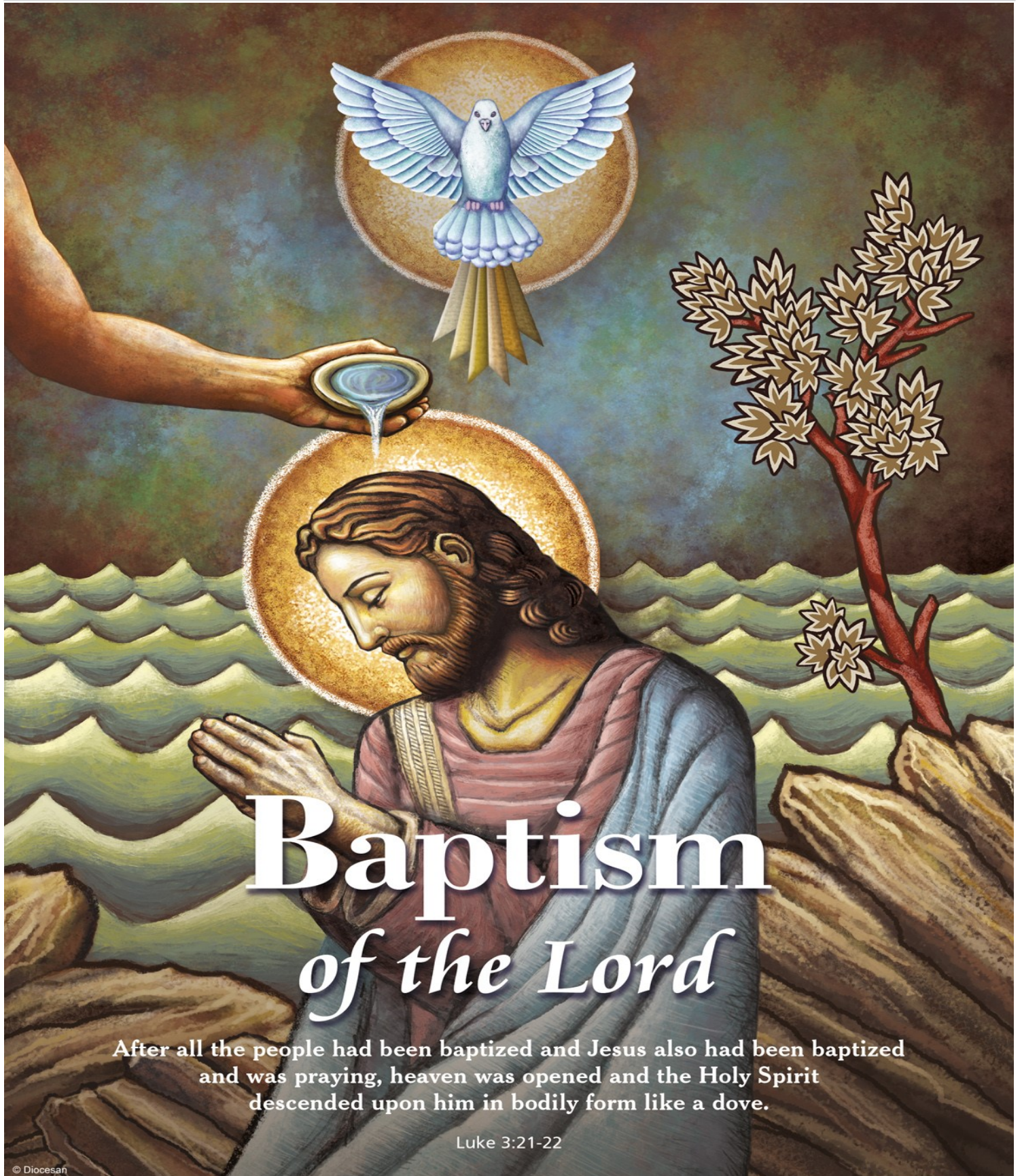


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

January 12, 2025



Baptism of the Lord

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

Luke 3:21-22

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 11

5:00 p.m. Greta Derbes
& Petty Ebling
(Derbes Family)

Sunday, January 12

8:15 a.m. Larry Kelly
(Joe Orłowski)

Sunday, January 12

10:30 a.m. Maria Weiss
(Janina Alsarhan)

Monday, January 13

6:30 p.m. Margaret Bedway
(Stephen & Susan Puddu)

Tuesday, January 14

9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Lipsky
(Pat Klassen)

Wednesday, January 15

9:00 a.m. Paul Filiac
(Bob & Irene Post)

Thursday, January 16

9:00 a.m. Josephine Cavanaugh
(Ed & Mary Jane Hahner)

Friday, January 17

9:00 a.m. Henry Uckele
(Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Saturday, January 18

5:00 p.m. Charles Bowers
(Kathy & Bob Verbosh)

Sunday, January 19

8:15 a.m. Xenia Pristas
(Marilyn Dragna Family)

Sunday, January 19

10:30 a.m. Regina Crane
(John Crane & Family)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

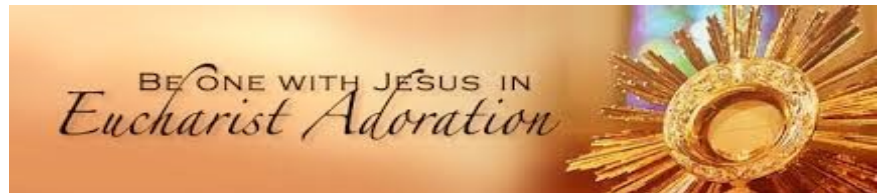
We have been looking at the prophetic books of the Old Testament. Today we come to Jonah.

The Book of Jonah is unique among the prophets because this book is not a collection of the prophet's words but rather a story about the prophet Jonah. Most scholars today consider Jonah a fictional story invented for teaching purposes, but we cannot rule out a basis in real events.

The story is set in the 8th century BC, before the Assyrians destroyed the Northern Kingdom of Israel. It is an unusual story because God calls Jonah to preach a message of repentance not to Israel, but to Israel's enemy: the Assyrians. Nineveh is the capitol city of Assyria. Jonah wants no part of this and tries to flee from God, resulting in the episode of being thrown overboard and swallowed by a large fish. But Jonah learns his lesson and obeys God at the second opportunity. We sometimes fail to respond to God's will, but He often gives us second chances. Hopefully we learn our lesson.

Surprisingly, the people of Nineveh heed Jonah's call to repent and God spares the city. But Jonah is not happy with this. He was hoping to see the Assyrians get what he thought they deserved. The story teaches that God wants to save everyone and that anyone can receive His forgiveness if they repent. The story warns us against self-righteous anger at the wrongdoing of others. Do we look for vengeance or do we, like God, desire that all people repent and be saved?

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin



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.

Next Week's Readings

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
(January 18/19)

Reading I: Isaiah 62:1-5

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Gospel: John 2:1-11

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

Sheri Post • Tony Kochol • Tom Jefferson • Doug Broughton
• *Angie (Pfeil) Hamm • Carolyn Leinheiser • Mary Zambo*

Upcoming Events

January

12	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
19	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
19	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
26	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg	L.H.

February

2	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
2	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
9	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg	L.H.
13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
15	10:00 a.m.	Confirmation Retreat.....	Nativity BVM
16	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
19	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union	L.H.
20	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
23	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg	L.H.
23	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
27	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.

L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building
Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group F.R.

Weekly Collection

January 4/5\$5,078.75

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 Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
2. IMO Anna Maguir Melacharek by Becky Weiss

St. Joseph

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family
2. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family

Sanctuary

IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Joan Costello by Becky Weiss
2. IMO Vera C. Hudak by Becky Weiss
- 3&4. IMO Ronald Kriston by Joan Grapsy Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 18 — 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch.Min.: Dan Murphy
 Hermine Murphy
Server/Sacristan: Connor Felty
Cantor: Dave Derbes

January 19— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Naffin
Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic
 Mike Ambrose
Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara
Cantor: Dave Derbes

January 19 — 10:30 a.m.

Reader: John Crane
Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla
 Janet Daubert
Servers: Cole & Cooper Felty
Cantor: Ensemble

President’s Corner—Parish Council

The following items were brought up at the Parish Council meeting on December 2nd. If there’s something you wish to be addressed before the next meeting in March, I can be contacted at dbd269@gmail.com
Thank you, Darren DeArment

Anointing of the Sick

Sometime in the new year we will celebrate an Anointing Mass.

Church Security

Ushers are doing sweeps of Longinus Hall, the Chapel, and storage rooms following each Mass. An usher will also be positioned at the back of church during Mass.

E-mail Directory

Parish Council will be further discussing asking parishioners for their email addresses to improve parish related communications.

Live Streaming of Mass


We are looking for a volunteer with the knowledge and means to live stream Sunday Mass for the benefit of our homebound parishioners.

Outreach

Did you know there are several volunteer opportunities to help other parishioners? A few include: Delivery home-cooked meals, providing rides, shoveling snow, light house-work, grocery pick-up, errands. If you are interested in volunteering, or are in need of assistance, please call the rectory.

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.



IN MEMORIAM

We Remember

The following are the names of parishioners, former parishioners and those who have been laid to rest during the past year. Please take a moment and remember them and their surviving families as we pass through to a New Year.

Charles Bowers

James Cunningham Sr.

James Cunningham Jr

Louis Fanelli

Timothy Haley

Gerald Hudock

Elizabeth Koropchak

Larry Kelly

Robert Kline

Agnes Leffler

Rita Lotz

William Lecher Jr.

Susan Mengle

Robert J. Porter Jr.

Xenia Pristas

Gail Vesay

Maria Weiss

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."



Thank you to *Sarah & Darren DeArment, Susan Hahner, Heather Maccarone, Kelly & Katelynn Miller, and Aubrey Peters* for organizing the Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Pageant

Front Row, left to right: *Eisley Murrell, Harper Murrell, Sloane Kurtek, Mary Grace DeArment, Kyla Maccarone, Greyson Ward, Perrin Peters.*

Middle Row, left to right: *Philomena DeArment, Violet Miller, Haley Maccarone, Mackenzie Miller*

Back Row, left to right: *Tegan Vengen, Addison Smith, Anastasia Dougherty, Adrianna Price, Harlow Peters, Ivy Vengen, Miles Dougherty.*

Readers: *Addison Smith and Tegan Vengen*

Christmas Cookie Sale – Thank You

The members of St. John's Catholic Women's Union would like to thank everyone who donated cookies or gave monetary donations, and those who supported us by purchasing treats at our *Annual Christmas Cookie Sale* held December 13/15. The Christmas spirit of giving came through with the wonderful generosity of those who donated cookies. The fundraiser was a huge success! Thank you to the women on the Cookie Committee who gave of their time at this busy season and also anyone who worked at the sale. We are a small group of women, but we are mighty and strong in our efforts to raise money for the church.

St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Nativity BVM High School

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jenifer Daubert in the Development office with any enrollment questions.

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION:

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2025 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the school. Faculty, staff, administration and coaches will be available to answer questions. Tours of the school will be given and tuition assistance drawings will be available that afternoon for those who register. Please contact Jennifer Daubert @ 570-622-8110 with any questions.

A Note of Thanks

A big and heartfelt thank you to all the organizations and people who do so much to keep our parish alive and kicking. The following list is but a sample of what takes place in an organized way at St. John's. However, there are also a number of people who do the quiet, behind the scenes work. To all of them, our sincere thanks! We truly apologize if we missed any group.

Let us continue to grow in all ways and keep the spirit of St. John's Parish alive for all to see and hear. May God continue to bless us.

Adult Faith Formation—Altar Servers—Bakers—Building Committee—Cantors—Catholic Women's Union—CCD Program—Cemetery Committee—Children's Liturgy—Choir—Choir Director/Organist—Christmas Bazaar—Christmas Pageant—Decorating Committee—Eucharistic Ministers—Finance Committee—Food Service—Giving Tree Helpers—Hospitality Ministers—Monthly Cleaning Crew — Outreach Program—Parish Council—Parish Staff—Readers—Sunday Pre-School—Yard Sales

Christmas Eve Liturgies

Our Christmas Liturgies were so enhanced with the talents of the following people. Thank you for sharing these talents with us ...

Cantors

Dave Derbes, Stanley Gorski, Tina Seiger

Instrumentalists

Dave Derbes, Bill Gianfagna, Megan Homovich, Mike Maccarone, Jason, Vincent, Michael, Spencer Prestileo, Everett Walters, Marianne Wollyung

Choir

Michelle Ambrose, Katie Blackwell, Mary Bound, Janet Daubert, Bernadette Davenport, Karla Garland, Bob Hahner, Phyliss Hess, Barbara Powers, Jill & Vincent Prestileo, Butch & Sue Scheetz, Pat Scheetz.

Organist

Dave Derbes

Church Decorating

Our thanks to the following for decorating the church so beautifully for our celebration of Christmas:

Father Bobbin, Vincent Balulis, Mary Bound, Ed Brahler, DeArment Family, Sandy Frinzi, Abigail Garrity, Liz & Vernon Kleckner, Lucilla Kochol, Jen & Gabe Lipton, Christine Maccarone, Schane Moyer, Danny Murphy, Ray Petrilla, Mike Rizzardi, Tina & Emma Seiger, Jerome, Julia, Angie Urban, Tommy, Charlotte, Mike, Robin Welsh

Giving Tree

You outdid yourselves again! The packages under our "Giving Tree" were overwhelming and beautifully wrapped. You are so good to others. What a wonderful spirit of giving and caring. You have made Christmas happier for all, especially those receiving presents. Those helped were: Our Communion Calls –17; Catholic Social Agency –122; Cloud Home –3 Jewel Women's Center –37 Thank you to the following who helped deliver the gifts: *Lucilla Kochol, Bob Hahner, Gerry Schwartz.*

Church Cleaning Crew

Those volunteering their time and talent in December:

Michelle Ambrose, Darla Fabiani, Sandy Frinzi, Liz Kleckner, Debbie Kubilus, Theresa Skrobak, Beth Smith, Joanne Wood.

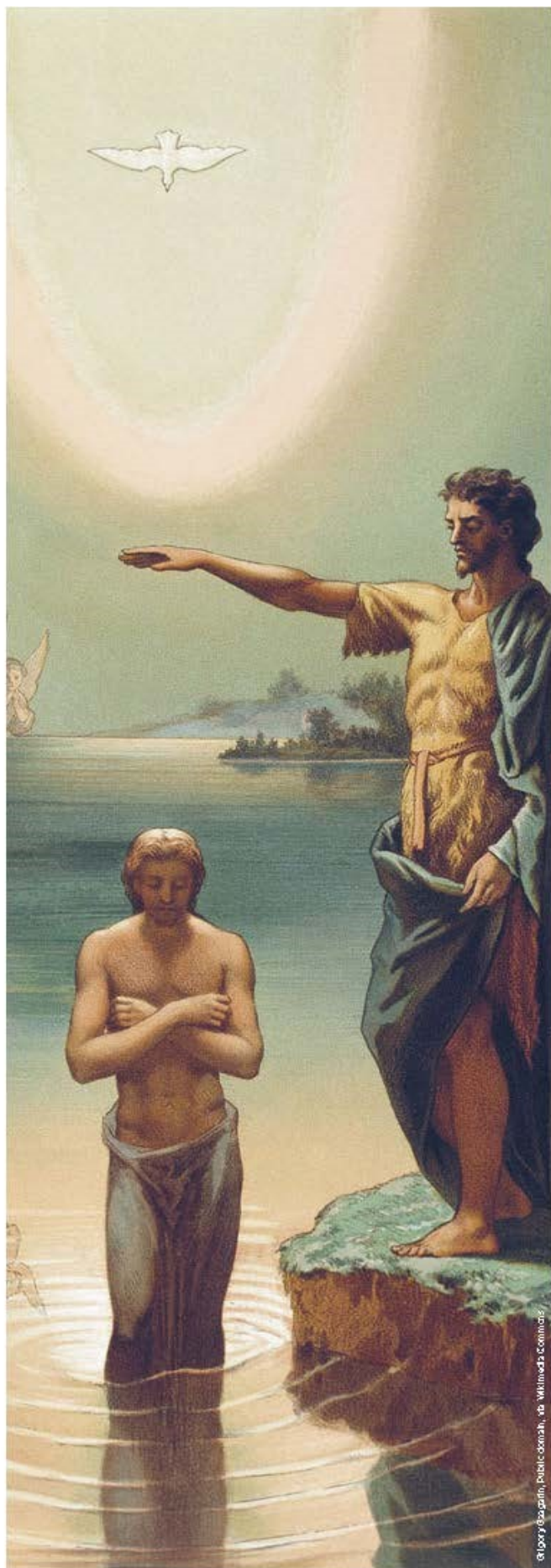
***Despite our very best efforts, we invariably misspell, misplace or omit the name of an important person ... YOU!
We apologize if we have done this.***

National Right for Life March

Motorcoach Trip to National Right for Life March on Friday, January 24, 2025. Departure from St. Jane Frances Church in Easton at 7:30 am and returning around 8:30 pm. Passenger donation \$20.00 – for more information and to reserve a seat, email – andrewazan3rd@rcn.com / (484) 259-7740

Neighboring Event

Holy Family Parish of Minersville is taking orders for homemade Pot Pie and Haluski! Place your order by Monday, January 13th with Jean by calling 570.640.0140. Pickup is on Saturday, January 18th (snow day Sunday the 19th). Pot pie and haluski is \$10 per quart.



January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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

In many renditions of the Baptism of Jesus, artists connect the scene at the Jordan River with Jesus' death. A withered tree, for example, reminds us of the cross, or a mountain points to Mount Calvary. These connections show a real relationship between Jesus' baptism and his passion: his baptism marks the acceptance and beginning of his mission, which would ultimately lead to his crucifixion. For us, too, baptism is a decisive moment which destines us for – you guessed it – death! Not physical death (which will happen regardless), but a death to everything that is not of God. By making us part of God's family as his adopted children, our baptism summons us to "die" to our old life of sin and take on new life in Christ. This means turning away each day from sin so we can become increasingly fit to spend eternity with God. Like Jesus who rose both from the baptismal waters and from the tomb, we are meant, by our daily efforts to be faithful – to "rise" with him in the new life he won for us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Jesus is baptized, two important events occur immediately: the Holy Spirit descends upon him while God the Father proclaims his delight in his Son: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Here we see the profound meaning of our own baptism and its effects. In addition to cleansing us from the stain of original sin, baptism: 1) gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit; and 2) welcomes us into God's family as his adopted children. Armed with the Holy Spirit and the assurance of God's fatherly care, we are equipped to engage in the daily struggle of dying-and-rising in Christ. We can always call on the Holy Spirit for strength when we face temptations or difficult decisions. Likewise, when we are discouraged or we confront our own weaknesses, we can look to the Father for help. Recall the words which the Father spoke to Jesus, and which he says to us in our baptism (and he doesn't take them back!): *You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased.*

CELEBRATE

Find the date (or approximate date) of your baptism and the baptismal dates of your immediate family members. Make a list of the dates and spend time thanking God for his fatherly care for you. Then, when someone's baptismal anniversary comes around, make sure to celebrate!

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 *Lucilla Kochol*
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

The Baptism of the Lord

O B E L O V E D O P S
 S F I L L E D U P T U
 P I W V L V I E R Y A
 I G N E O D G A P U G
 R H U K W I E B W B I
 I A E E K H C K S A T
 T P E O P L E E A P S
 C V S A N D A L S T Q
 O A H P P M F B P I Q
 M D O V E K S I Z Z G
 S P F I R E B X H E G

- People
- Filled
- Hearts
- Baptize
- Sandals
- Spirit
- Fire
- Dove
- Voice
- Beloved



SUNDAYKIDZ