



Have you found the Messiah?

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

January 14, 2024 • Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

PastorRev. Kevin J. Bobbin
DeaconLawrence Lonergan

Parish Council PresidentDarren DeArment
Choir Director/OrganistDavid Derbes
CCD Coordinator Lucilla Kochol

Rectory(570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax(570) 622-4589
E-mailstjbparish@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

Saturdays4:15 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 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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 13

5:00 p.m. Paul Fiac
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Sunday, January 14

8:15 a.m. Christine Chiplonia
(Julian Chiplonia)

Sunday, January 14

10:30 a.m. John J. Minchhoff Family
(Rita Lotz)

Monday, January 15

6:30 p.m. Diane Leinheiser
(Rosie, Frannie, Mim)

Tuesday, January 16

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

Wednesday, January 17

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

Thursday, January 18

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

Friday, January 19

9:00 a.m. Kathleen Hohman
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, January 20

5:00 p.m. Karen Comfort
(Christine Black
& Brian Comfort)

Sunday, January 21

8:15 a.m. William & Marie Flynn

Sunday, January 21

10:30 a.m. Bob & Sandra Orlowsky
(Orlowsky Family)

Next Week's Readings

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(January 20/21)

Reading I: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

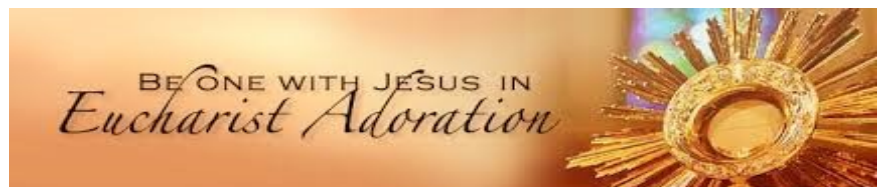
The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on January 18. This is a time to pray for greater unity and reconciliation among all Christians: Catholics, Orthodox, and the many varieties of Protestant Christianity.

To many people in our culture, the effort to unite Christians may seem unimportant, irrelevant, or even harmful. Our culture tends to believe truth is relative and so places great value on diversity. In the minds of many people today, Christian unity is simply a matter of everyone "getting along" and being respectful of each other's differences.

But this runs counter to the will of Jesus Christ. Jesus explicitly desires all of His followers to be *one* (see the prayer of Jesus to the Father in John 17, especially verses 21-23). To be *one* does not mean a superficial unity of simply "getting along" with each other while agreeing to disagree on matters of fundamental importance. To be one means to be united in mind and heart, sharing the most important things: beliefs, values, and goals.

During this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, pray that the Holy Spirit opens the minds and hearts of Christians in every tradition so that our common love for Jesus and a desire to seek the truth will lead to real progress in uniting Christians so that we may be one in mind and heart.

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.

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 • Robert Kline • Tony Kochol • Josephine Gallagher
Tom Jefferson • Christine Kurtek • Dominic Maccarone • Drew Schaeffer
Shawn Matz • Miriam Tirjan • John Bernetsky Sue Mengle

For our Deceased

Gerald Hudock

Upcoming Events

January

7	9:15 a.m.	Parent Meeting	L.H.
7	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
21	9:15 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg	L.H.
21	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
25	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.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on Jan. 25, Feb. 8, 15, 22, March 7, 14, 21, April 11, 18, May 16, 23.** Join us in person in Longinus Hall or at home on Zoom (*Please email Father for the Zoom link: kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org). Fr. Bobbin's Scripture study attempts to give an overview and background for the books of Sacred Scripture to be of help with personal reading and study, Bible study groups, and getting more out of hearing the Word proclaimed at Mass. All are welcome.

Lenten Dinners – Kitchen Coordinators Needed

This past year we were fortunate to bring back our Friday Lenten Dinners at the Russell Building, with the option of dining in or taking out. We are grateful to all the people who took charge and organized the dinners, and to the many volunteers. Unfortunately, some of our key people are no longer able to help organize the dinners because of changes in their personal circumstances. Therefore, future Lenten dinners will depend on one or more persons stepping forward to fill the role of kitchen coordinator(s). This is a leadership role, which would involve taking charge of the kitchen, planning the menu and determining what foods and supplies must be purchased, and delegating responsibilities to the volunteers. This role can be shared by two or three people working together. Please call the rectory or speak with Father as soon as possible if you can help.

VOLUNTEER



Reminder.... Don't forget to use your Boyer key tags when shopping at any Boyers Food Market. If you lost your key tag or never picked one up, there are more tags available at the front and rear entrances to the church. Thanks for your continued support with this fundraiser.

Boyer's Food Market Caring & Sharing Program.....

How it works:

1. Use the scannable key tag and present it to the cashier, who will scan it and record with your order.
2. Boyer's will electronically accumulate all of our group members' purchases.
3. Boyer's will then rebate St John's 1% of the total purchases (excluding tax, milk, and cigarettes). Rebates are issued twice per year.
4. It's an ongoing program –year over year, just use the key tag every time you shop at Boyer's

Weekly Collection

December 30/31\$4,103.00

Solemnity of Mary\$1,206.00

January 6/7\$2,222.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Mary Ellen Cross
by Lou Cross
2. IMO R.J. Post
by Bob & Irene Post

St. Joseph

1. IMO Marjorie Angelo
by Frank Angelo
2. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family

Sanctuary

IMO M/M Vincent Doyle
by Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Mark Mickey
by Frances Brahler Mickey
2. IMO Nancy Brahler Newton
by Frances Brahler Mickey
3. IMO Elizabeth Brahler
by Frances Brahler Mickey
4. IMO Joseph Brahler
by Frances Brahler Mickey

Liturgical Min.Schedule

January 20— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Carleigh Palmieri

Euch.Min.: Joe Palmieri

Frank Murphy

Server: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

January 21— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

Euch.Min.: George Forney

Justina Majestic

Servers: R.J. Post

Cantor: Amy Joyce

January 21— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis

Euch.Min.: Debbie Herb

John Matulevich

Server: Ryan Grabowski

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Donated by:

Abigail Rose Anthony
 Frank Angelo
 Dave & Alice Bechtel
 Jim & Kate Blackwell
 Ann Blankenhorn
 Jack & Mary Bound
 Colleen Bowers & Family
 Kathy Brahler
 Mary Beth Brahler
 Dolores Brophy
 Paul & JoAnna Buber

Frank & Mindy Chambers
 Julian & Nora Chiplonia
 Sandy Clauser
 Chris & Brian
 Ken & Tammy Cooper
 John Crane/Dr. Carol Bilinski
 Lou Cross
 Bob Daniels
 Janet Daubert
 Dave & Joan Deiter
 Derbes Family

Robert & Marie Doyle
 Don & Joanne Doyne
 Tom & Cindy Elison
 Vince & Darla Fabiani
 Fetterolf Family
 Mary Ann Filiac & Family
 Joe & Sandy Frinzi
 Ann & Tony Gaburick

Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
 Ted Gurecki Jr.
 Jim & Lori Guzick
 George Harig
 Bill Hauptly
 Children, Dorothy, Butch, Lois, Carolyn & Bob
 Edward Hahner
 Helen Heimbaugh
 Jerry & Diane Hudock
 Carl & Kathy Hughes
 John Jefferson
 Larry Kelly
 Lucilla Kochol
 Tony & Lucilla Kochol
 Jim, Cathy & Hannah Kostick
 Steve & Jan Kurtek
 Pat Kutch
 Ed & Joanne Leffler
 Nancy Lescavage
 Eric & Jennifer Lieberman
 Ron & Pat Lombel
 Frances Lorenz

In Memory of:

M/M Bruno Tassone & Family
 Marjorie Angelo
 Gloria Bechtel
 Scheetz & Blackwell Families
 Joel & Ann Hoepstine, Hirsch Family
 Doc & Dot Bound, Vieth Family
 Thomas Heenan Sr.
 Joseph Brahler
 Joseph J. & Elizabeth Brahler
 Martin Brophy, Glenn Stutzman
 Edward Buber, Mary Buber, Anna Tarris, John & Bertha Krolick, Albert Holdyk & Family, John & Joan Sarnosky
 Chambers & Crater Families
 Mooney Family, Chiplonia Family
 Carl & Barbara Weiss
 Virginia, Barney, Karen Comfort
 Cooper & Letcavage Families
 Family Members
 Mary Ellen Cross
 John Toomey
 Wellington Daubert
 Theresa & Jim Brennan, Mildred & Ed Deiter
 James & Lillian Connelly, Mary & June Petrovitch, Peggy & Ed Petrovitch,
 Greta Derbes, Patty Derbes Ebling
 Leo, Emily, Joyce Leinheiser & Family, M/M Vincent Doyle & Family, Baby Robbie
 Nancy & Donald Doyne, Josephine & Frank Brozana
 Smith & Elison Families
 M/M Joe Fabiani, M/M Frank Reed
 Fetterolf Family & Faiola Family
 Paul Filiac
 Happy Birthday Jesus
 William & Irene Williams, John & Kathryn Gaburick,
 Joan Williams, Greta Derbes, Patricia Ebling
 Rita Mae Switzler
 Phyllis Gurecki
 Guzick & Schafer Families
 Harig Family
 Alfred & Jeanette Hauptly
 Carl & Ada Hahner
 Family Members
 Raydell Wychunas
 Margaret & Lil Bakontis, Hudock Family
 Al & Marie Majestic, John & Florence Hughes
 Mary Jefferson
 Mary Kelly
 Teresa & Joseph Fanelli
 Josephine Kochol
 Connors & Kostick Families
 Joe & Joan Garland, Steve & Anna Kurtek
 Kutch & Boyer Families
 Bonan & Leffler Families
 M/M Joseph Lescavage
 Annette Lieberman
 Leo & Dorothy Lotz
 Charles Lorenz, Harry & Kathryn Bartholomew

Donation of \$10.00 or more
 for a Memorial Poinsettia.



Donated by:

Bob & Rosemary Lynn
 Chris Maccarone
 Neil & Frances Manus
 Phil & Pat Markovich
 Maria Mason
 Jack & Aggie Messner
 John & Joanne Mestishen
 Frances Brahler Mickey
 Charles & Patricia Miller
 Florence Miller
 John & Susan Minnichbach
 M/M Al Munster
 Babe Murphy
 John & Mary Jo Nabholz
 M/M Joseph Orzechowski
 Rick & Angela Oswald & Sons
 M/M John Petock
 Joe & Judy Piel
 Harriet Pfeffer
 Robert & Mary Porter
 Bob & Irene Post
 Jim, Donna, Crystal Pugh
 Bill & Pat Pugh
 Mark & Deborah Purcell
 Nick & Maria Quinn
 Linda Ralston & Sue Legutko
 Reene Reddington
 Carol Rehnert & Family
 Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz
 Scheidel Family
 Joanne Schultz & Debbie Herb
 Ed & Gerry Schwartz
 Bill & Mary Ann Schweikert
 Tina, Ryan, Emma Seiger
 Natalie Setlock
 David & Mary Ann Shoopack
 Theresa Skrobak
 Dolly Smith
 Peggy Smith
 Rick & Beth Smith & Family
 Joseph & Dorothy Stangl, Michael Felker
 Rick & Michelle Stone & Sons
 Peggy Stoppi
 Rita S. Tamalavage
 Tamburelli Family
 Mike & Elizabeth Tyson
 Caroline Vinskie
 Luis R. Visot
 Daniel & Anne Marie Wachter
 Rebecca Weiss
 Family
 Barb Wollyung
 Barb Wollyung & Family
 Marianne, Chris & Rachel Wollyung

In Memory of:

Yanushefsky & Lynn Families
 Michael Maccarone, Helen & Maurice Mirabella
 Esther Fernandez, Pamela Eryaman
 Weiss & Markovich Families
 Pat Mason Sr.
 Conway & Messner Families
 Woznisky & Mestishen Families
 Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler, Mark Mickey, Nancy Brahler Newton
 Pat & Sabina Quinn, Frank & Rosalie Miller
 Simmendinger & Miller Families, Rita Calderella
 Howard & Ruth Minnichbach, Raymond & Eleanor Frank
 Barb & Charles Sheppo
 Paul & Tim Murphy
 Nabholz & Andrescavage Families
 M/M Peter Samkavitz, M/M Edward Orzechowski
 Herman & Helen DiSarro
 Tropp, Rosenberger, Kern, Petock, Sapp Families
 William & Antoinette Piel, John & Ruth Ebling
 Otto Pfeffer
 Becker & Porter Families
 R.J. Post, Health of Sheri Post
 Joseph & Philomena Ryan, Mike & Anna Fedock, Jimmy Pugh Jr.
 Matz & Pugh Families
 Mary Ann Holley, George Holley, Theresa & Zoe Holley, Fran & Dorothy Purcell
 Dequinqi, Drenzo, Vivacqua Families
 Pat & Freeman Ralston, Frank & Dorothy Legutko
 Joseph & Rita Reddington
 Rehnert & Lipsky Families
 Jack Scheetz, M/M Henry Uckele
 Heather Gruber
 Dorothy Parsick
 Glunz & Schwartz Families
 Ketner & Schweikert Families
 Dorothy & Bill Elison
 Dominic Maccarone Sr, Joseph Setlock Sr. Family
 Shoopack & Sullivan Family
 Skrobak, Polatz, Charkaway Family
 Edward Smith
 Thomas, Hilda & Ann Burns
 Smith & Hinkle Family
 Erika Stangl Seasock
 Stone & Hopkins Families, Lubinsky & Tobin Families
 Drew Walcott, William Stoppi
 Tamalavage Family, Shevokas Family
 Charles & Elizabeth Tamburelli
 Dullard & Tyson Families
 William & Mary Pugh
 Lolita Visot
 Wilfred & Margaret Wachter, Vincent & Anna Lescavage
 M/M Richard H. Weiss
 Joseph & Mary Wollyung
 Joe Wollyung
 John Wollyung
 Philip & Jeanne Marzullo, John Wollyung

Donation of \$10.00 or more
for a Memorial Poinsettia.





Samuel Relating to Eli the Judgments of God upon Eli's House by John Singleton Copley, CC0

January 14, 2024

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 | 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 | Jn 1:35-42

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

When Samuel hears the Lord speak in today's first reading, he mistakes it as Eli calling out to him in the temple. The third time Samuel asks if he called, Eli is wise enough to realize what is going on and guides Samuel: "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel required guidance because he "was not familiar with the Lord, because the Lord had not revealed anything to him as yet." In a similar way does the Apostle Andrew come to the Lord. In today's Gospel, Andrew didn't know who Jesus was until John the Baptist told him: "Behold, the Lamb of God." Andrew then began to follow Jesus, and to bring others to him. There may be times when we, like both of these men, need someone else to help us hear the call of the Lord clearly, or see his presence among us. Those who serve the Lord in this way are a great gift to us, and enable us to be that gift for others. Pray for the grace to hear what we need to hear, to see what we need to see, and to say to others, "come, we have found the Messiah."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Despite our best efforts, the time and attention we give to our lives of faith can ebb and flow. Sometimes we can feel so connected with God that we sense his presence everywhere. But there may also be times when God feels distant and we struggle to hear his voice. Notice in today's readings how Samuel "was not familiar with the Lord" but was sleeping in the temple, close to the ark; notice how Andrew was hanging around John the Baptist and immediately followed Christ when told who he was. We can see that, already before "knowing," is a "desire to know." The Lord created us, formed us into being, and calls us to a relationship with him. We are drawn to him even before we can see or know what he has revealed to us. He is our source, and our ultimate end. We seek eternal life with Christ and a path of holiness to help us on our way. The stories of Samuel and the disciple Andrew impress upon us that God is always near and calling to us - we simply must give him the opportunity to speak, sometimes when we least expect it.

INVITATION We are all called to a life of holiness. But it's not always easy to grow in holiness and strengthen one's relationship with God on our own. Consider reaching out to your parish and asking about spiritual direction - a spiritual director will help you fine tune your ears to be more attentive to the Lord's voice.

Pastor *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon *Lawrence Lonergan*

Parish Council President *Kevin McNamara*
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

Diocesan Events

Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage. Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know of anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held February 16-18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All Inquiries are strictly confidential.

Nativity Happenings:

Nativity is currently accepting inquiries for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year. Individual meetings, school tours and shadow days are being scheduled for possible enrollment. Please contact Mrs. Jennifer Daubert in the Development office with any enrollment questions.

OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTRATION: Registration for the 2024-2025 school year at Nativity is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024 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.

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."