

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord • April 5, 2026



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 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, Kathy Vivic
 Doug Broughton, Jane Baker, Beth Ann Clark.*

"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

Holy Saturday, April 4

8:00 p.m. St. John's Parish Family

Easter Sunday, April 5

8:15 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

Easter Sunday, April 5

10:30 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

Monday, April 6 — NO MASS

Tuesday, April 7

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

Wednesday, April 8

9:00 a.m. Georgette Christomo
Costello
(Robert & Margaret Daniels)

Thursday, April 9

9:00 a.m. Gerald Dailey
(Joe & Ceil Burns)

Friday, April 10

9:00 a.m. Kriston & Grapsy Family
(Joan Grapsy Family)

Saturday, April 11

5:00 p.m. John & Bertha Kralick
& Tarris Family
(Paul & Joanna Buber)

Sunday, April 12

8:15 a.m. Jerry Hudock
(Diane Hudock & Children)

Sunday, April 12

10:30 a.m. Deceased of Messer
& McGovern Families
(Family)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

On this Easter Sunday I invite you to take a moment to reflect on the difference the Resurrection of Jesus Christ makes for us and for all humanity. There is a perfect life waiting for us beyond this world. Death is not the end. Suffering is not to be feared. Freedom from our sins is possible. Evil will not have the final word; justice and peace will be restored. God is not distant from us; the risen Jesus is present with us. These are all realities we take for granted, but none of this would be true without Easter.

Easter is not just something we celebrate. It is something we live everyday. I pray that the light of Easter fills every day of your life.

In Christ,

Fr. Bobbin

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study

... will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on **April 23, May 7, 14.**

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.

Readers, Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

Please consider if our Lord is calling you to one of these roles. Our current liturgical ministers are sometimes spread very thin, especially in the summer, making it difficult to fill the schedule. If you might be interested in one of these roles, please see 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.

Next Week's Readings

Divine Mercy Sunday
(April 11/12)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

Reading II: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31



Rejoice

Upcoming Events

April

8	7:00 p.m.	Ladies of the Rosary	L.H.
12	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
15	7:00 a.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg	L.H.
19	9:00 a.m.	CCD	L.H.
19	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Children's Liturgy	L.H.
23	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
26	9:00 a.m.	CCD	L.H.
26	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School/Children's Liturgy	L.H.

May

2	5:00 p.m.	First Holy Communion	Church
3	10:30 a.m.	???	
7	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
12	7:00 p.m.	Ladies of the Rosary	L.H.
14	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
16	after Mass	Wine & Cheese	L.H.
20	6:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union	L.H.

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

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men's Group F.R.

<><><> MARK YOUR CALENDARS <><><>
SUMMER FESTIVAL—July 17/18, 2026

Weekly Collection

March 28/29\$4,713.60

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

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Fuel and Heat** collection. Your generosity helped us get through a very cold winter and address some maintenance issues. Thank you for helping us care for our parish buildings and property.

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
2. IMO Michael & Anna Warhola by Daniel & Donna Kluchinsky

St. Joseph

1. IMO Elmer & Dorothy Huntzinger by Daniel & Donna Kluchinsky
2. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

Sanctuary

IMO Joe Wollyung Jr.
by Barb Wollyung Family

Guardian Angels

All 4 Guardian Angel Candles:
IMO Charlie Schaeffer
by Maria Schaeffer

Easter

The Paschal mystery— Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again — reminds us that we are called to live a new life in Christ this Easter season. As a family we too can embrace the Paschal mystery — by dying and rising to new life in loving our neighbor — the ones we live with. Have a joy filled Easter with your family!

Thank You

Our new Paschal Candle in the church sanctuary was donated ...
In Memory of Edward Smith
by wife Dolores Smith, Children & Grandchildren



Liturgical Min. Schedule

Second Sunday of Easter

April 11 — 500 p.m

Reader: Patricia O'Neill

EM: Frank Murphy, John O'Neill

Server: Frank Murphy

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

April 12 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

EM: John Corbacio, Jeff Naffin

Servers: Sophia Palmieri
Colin McGinley

Cantor: Tina Seiger

April 12 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

EM: Debbie Herb, Ray Petrilla

Servers: Jackson Daubert
Callie Felty

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung



Baptismal Preparation

Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. It is preferable that this be done **before** your baby is born. Please call Father Bobbin to arrange for this important preparation. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.





Divine Mercy

PRAYER

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!
[Repeat 3x]

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
[Repeat 3x]
Amen.

Jesus, King of Mercy, We trust in You.

Divine Mercy Sunday—April 12th

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in church from 1:00—3:00 p.m. concluding with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Benediction at 3:00. Father will also be available for Confessions 1:00—2:00 p.m. Join us for any part of the afternoon to celebrate God's mercy and pray for the needs of the Church and the world.

Diocesan Events ...

Mass of Thanksgiving for 65th Anniversary. You're invited to join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrating the 65th Anniversary of the Diocese of Allentown. This special liturgy will be celebrated on **Saturday, April 11 at 4:15 PM** at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, located at 1825 W. Turner Street, Allentown. All are welcome to come and give thanks for 65 years of faith, service, and hope.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat. Join us for an intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion. In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment, you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations and activities flowing from the meditations, you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For registration information contact: Carol Swavely, MA, OSF at 1-866-3RACHEL (Toll free) or 610-435-1541ext 5341. You may also email Carol at cswavely@allentowndiocese.org. **The retreat will be held April 24-26, 2026. Deadline for registration is April 17, 2026.**

Retreat to Fatima and Lourdes with Fr. John Frink . Take a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes from June 7, 16, 2026 under the spiritual direction of Fr. John Frink. Click this link: <https://www.206tours.com/cms/frfrink/> to view detailed itinerary, pricing information, and to book.

Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop Drop Off — Saturday, April 11th — 9 a.m. to noon.

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

Puzzles, Knick Knacks, Kitchen Items, Purses, Small Appliances, Candles, Toys, Games, Jewelry, Tablecloths, CD's, DVD's, Bakeware, Phones, Vintage items, Bakeware, Candles, Holiday decorations

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

ONLY ONE DROP-OFF DATE on **Saturday, April 11th 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.



Summer Festival — Pot Luck Stand

We are in need of potluck prizes for our Summer Festival stand! There are a few easy ways to help donate. We have an Amazon wish list again this year. Go to [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries), search St John The Baptist Potluck, when purchasing an item it will default to ship to Fred Maley- you may send your items there for convenience or if you would prefer to ship to your own address and place item in the donation bin in the back of the church. Any questions, concerns, or to arrange drop off please call Shanna 570-617-4769.

If you'd like an even easier route, and have a smart phone or tablet, open your camera and hold over top and focus on the QR code box - a small link will pop up- tap on it and it will take you right to our Amazon wish list!

Gift cards are also a fantastic way to help! Any denomination and anyplace you love! They can be placed in the collection basket or please call Shanna Deibert 570-617-4769 to arrange for drop off or pick up. Thank you again for your continued generosity!!



Assumption BVM School News ...

Assumption BVM's HSA will host its **Annual Cash & Gift Card Bingo** on Sunday, April 19, at St. Ambrose's Parish Center. Doors open at 11:30 AM, and bingo begins at 1:00 PM. Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of exciting games, great prizes, and delicious food. Advance tickets are \$35 and will be \$40 at the door. Purchase online at www.tinyurl.com/abvmHSAbingo, email ABVM.BINGO@gmail.com, or call/text (610) 618-0539 for tickets and information.

Neighboring Events ...

35th Annual Golf Classic sponsored by St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on **Friday, May 15** at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Join us for a day of food, fellowship, and golf in support of the students and adults we serve. Those who register by April 6 will receive 10% off their registration. When registering online, use code **SJCGOLFLCLASSIC** to receive the discount. For more information or to register, please visit www.stjosephctr.com or call **570-622-4638**.

16th Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by St. Patrick Church on **Saturday, May 16th** at Hidden Valley Golf Course in Pine Grove. Registration is Saturday, May 16th at 7 am; Shotgun start at 8 am. Early Bird Special price by April 30th is \$85. Please call Debbie at 570-622-1802, ext. 0 for more information.

Jazz Night at St. Patrick Parish! **Saturday, April 18 from 6-8 pm**, 313 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville. Music by After Hours Jazz Quartet. Charcuterie boards and drinks per table. \$20 per person. Please call Debbie at 570-622-1802, ext. 0 for tickets by April 10.

Mustard Seedlings

A Supportive Community for Moms from the newly pregnant to Pre-school parenting stage. Join us Thursday mornings, April 9, 23, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in Longinus Hall . Kids age 0-5 are welcome to come enjoy provided toys! Home-schooled siblings are welcome to attend as well. Moms will enjoy a hot tea and some guided discussion as we move through our faith formation study about the life and works of St. Teresa of Avila. Bring a journal! Scan the QR code to connect with the group on Facebook.



April 5, 2026

The Resurrection of the Lord

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Col 3:1-4 | Jn 20:1-9

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

Today we celebrate the Lord's resurrection, the pinnacle of the Church's entire liturgical year. As disciples, we know that Christ's resurrection is not something that happened to him alone; his resurrection offers us the promise that all who believe in him will one day rise with him. But the new life Christ promises is not something we have to wait for the next life to experience! Everything we have been doing throughout Lent to prepare for today's celebration also gives us a foretaste of the fullness of life we will share with him at our own resurrection. By God's grace, we have been inwardly renewed by Lenten prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Our minds and hearts have been lifted from the things of earth to the things of heaven. As disciples of the risen Christ, let us continue to "seek what is above," deepening our own participation here and now in the life he won for us through his cross and glorious resurrection.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The scene in today's Gospel offers us a helpful insight for evangelization. Peter and John run to the empty tomb. While John gets there faster, he waits outside and allows Peter to enter first. We can think of Peter as symbolic of faith (he is the one, after all, who confesses Jesus as the Christ (Mt.16:16)), and John, as symbolic of love (in our Gospel, John is referred to not by name, but as "the other disciple whom Jesus loved.") Although Peter and John see the empty tomb and believe, our Gospel reading ends with this interesting detail: "For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead." I think what the text is showing us is that *love* and *faith* often precede *understanding*. In our efforts of evangelization, apologetics and theology have their place. But we must not forget that sometimes inviting someone to love and trust in the Lord - before they have all the answers worked out - is more effective than trying to help a person reason their way to faith by perfect explanations. Love and faith draw us to encounter the risen Lord, and understanding comes later.

CELEBRATE

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad" our psalm tells us. Today is the Solemnity of solemnities, the Feast of all feasts! Take some time to rejoice and give thanks for all that God has done for us through his death and glorious resurrection. Today nothing else should be on our "to do" list other than to celebrate well!



By James Tissot, Saint Peter and Saint John Run to the Sepulchre, Online Collection of Brooklyn Museum; Photo: Brooklyn Museum, Public Domain