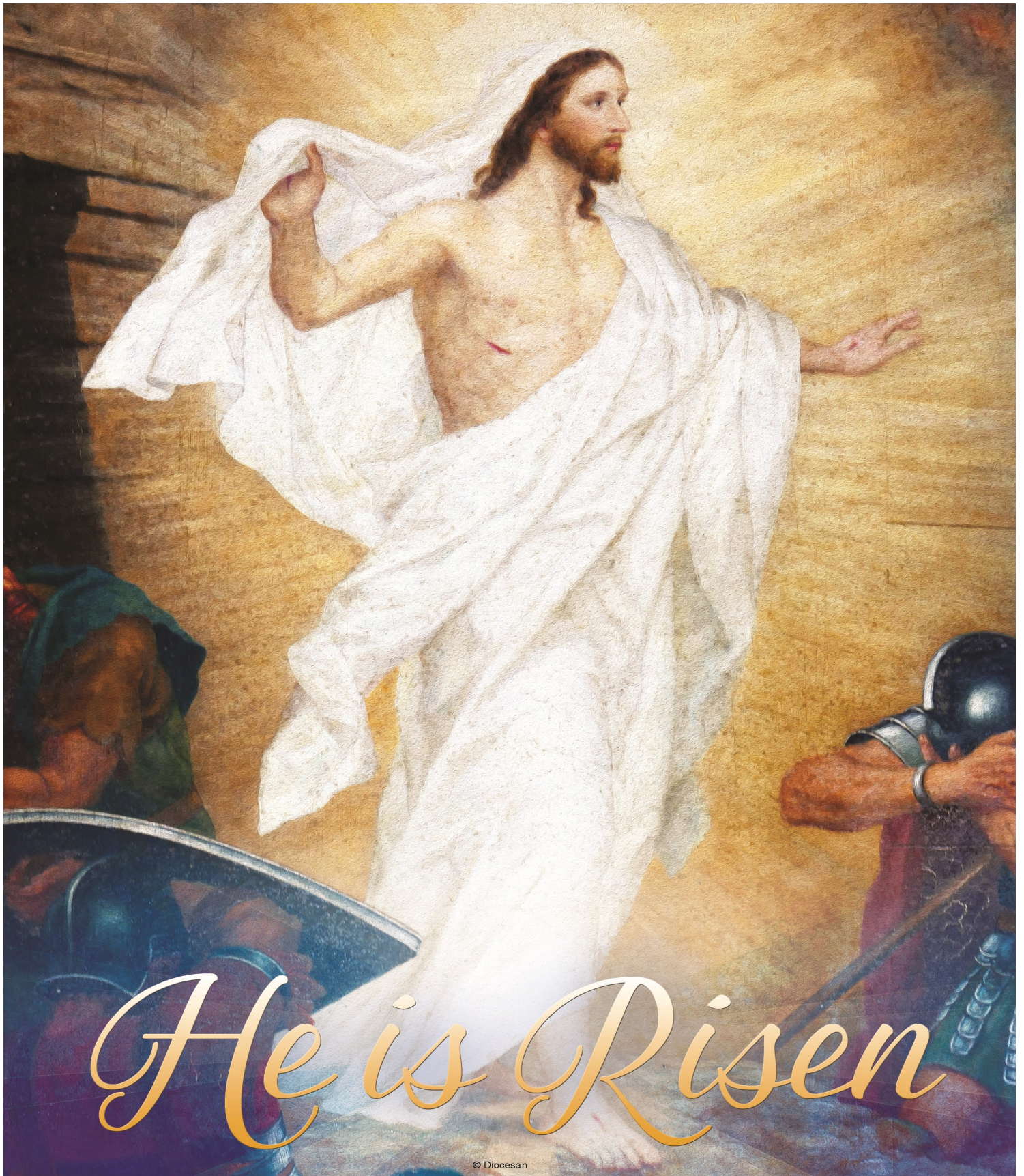


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

April 9, 2023



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 8

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

Sunday, April 9

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

Sunday, April 9

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

Monday, April 10 NO MASS

Tuesday, April 11

9:00 a.m. Charles Schaeffer
(Maria Schaeffer)

Wednesday, April 12

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

Thursday, April 13

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

Friday, April 14

9:00 a.m. Brian Eckley
(living Intention)
(Mucka & Williams Family)

Saturday, April 15

5:00 p.m. M/M William Bercher
(Scott Williams)

Sunday, April 16

8:15 a.m. William Haley
(Sons & Daughters)

Sunday, April 16

10:30 a.m. John D. Dalton Sr.
(Hoy & Dalton Family)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

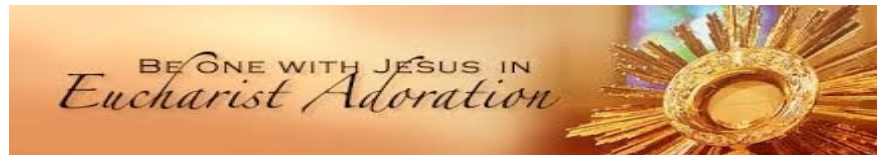
Easter is not merely a day or a season when we celebrate something that happened in the past. If Jesus has risen, He is as alive today as He was during His brief historical life. He is present to us, not in a physical body, but in the Eucharist and the other sacraments, in prayer, in the words of Scripture, and in His mystical Body, the Church. He has proven that death is not final and evil will never have the final say.

Easter is not merely a day or season on the calendar. It is something we live. To be Christian means to live in a "state of Easter" all the time. We live in a relationship with the risen Jesus just like any other relationship with family members and friends. We approach life with the certainty that all forms of evil will be conquered and that all human suffering, even death itself, is temporary and will seem like nothing compared to the future that awaits us.

This is not fantasy or wishful thinking. This is the reality that comes from the historical fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Happy Easter!

Fr. Bobbin



Eucharistic Adoration

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 will be 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.

Thank You

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



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 • Tom Jefferson • Elaine Grapsy
Chuck Majestic • Tony Kochol

For our Deceased

Elaine Grapsy



Next Week's Readings

Divine Mercy Sunday
(April 15/16)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles

Reading II: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Upcoming Calendar

April

13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
13	7:30 P.M.	Summer Festival Mtg.....	L.H.
16	8:00 a.m.	First Communion Class	L.H.
16	10:30 a.m.	Little Children's Sunday School.....	L.H.
18	12-9:30 pm	Dine Out at DiMaio's	Orwigsburg
19	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg.	L.H.
20	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
23	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg.	Church
24	12:30 p.m.	Confirmation Rehearsal	Church
26	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinners Wrap Up Mtg.....	L.H.
27	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation.....	Church
29	9 am-noon	Yard Sale Drop Off	R.B.
30	8:00 a.m.	First Communion Class	L.H.
30	2:00 p.m.	Paint & Sip	L.H.

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

Weekly Collections

April 1/2.....\$5,247.65

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.&2. IMO Josephine Brozana
by Don & Joanne Doyne

St. Joseph

1. IMO Josephine Brozana
by Don & Joanne Doyne
2. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss
by Becky Weiss

Sanctuary

IMO Charlie Schaeffer
by Maria Schaeffer

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family
2. IMO Joan Costello
by Becky Weiss
3. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss
by Becky Weiss
4. IMO Marjorie Angelo
by Frank Angelo

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30** on **April 13, 20, May 11, 18, 25**. 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. *If Nativity BVM High School is closed or dismisses early for winter weather, we will not meet. When in doubt, call the rectory to check for a cancellation message.*

Confirmation Prayer Sponsors

Our 8th graders are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, April 27th at 4:30 p.m. here at St. John's. Please consider supporting this important decision by praying for one or more of our candidates. Cards containing their names can be found in the basket on the table in the back of church. Please take one, and during this time of preparation, pray for this student in a special way and write notes of encouragement. Our parish will be double blessed.



St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour

Are you heartbroken because members of your family have left the Church? Join the St. Monica Ministry in petitioning Our Lord to draw back into the fold our loved ones who have strayed, and to give strength and wisdom to those who await their return. Together we will offer our prayers at a Holy Hour taking place at St. Theresa Parish, Hellertown on Wednesday, April 12 at 6:00pm. Displayed for prayer and veneration will be a new icon of St. Monica, created especially for the ministry by Msgr. Robert Kozel. All are warmly invited to join us as we come together in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, asking Our Lord's mercy and invoking the powerful intercession of St. Monica for our fallen-away loved ones. Fellowship in the Parish Center will follow the Holy Hour. Registration is not required.

Liturgical Min. Schedule

April 15 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Janet Daubert
Euch.Min.: Hermine Murphy
Server: Ethan Grabowski
Cantor: Joanne Matina

April 16 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Naffin
Euch.Min.: George Forney
Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan
Cantor: Amy Joyce

April 16 — 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Michelle Ambrose
Euch.Min.: John Matulevich
Server: Michael, Spencer, Vincent Prestileo
Cantor: Dave Derbes



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

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

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!

Cemetery News ...

After a long winter the grass is starting to grow and the flowers are trying to bloom, which means maintenance at St John's cemetery #2 will be happening once again. Now is the time to plan for the upcoming year. If any parishioner has any ideas, complaints, or compliments for the cemetery please contact the rectory with the information. It will then be passed onto the cemetery committee for consideration in the upcoming months. Practically everyone at St. John's Parish either has, or knows someone whose final resting place is in our cemetery, and it is up to us to make sure the grounds are the best they can be.



Summer Festival Meeting ...

There will be a Summer Festival Meeting **April 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. Please join us!! We would love more ideas and input! Also if there is anyone on the kitchen committee who may be available to join us, it would be a great help as well!! Thank you to all who have continued their dedication to the festival and helping once again. We so appreciate it!

Meeting



Summer Festival Pot Luck Stand

We are seeking new or unopened items suitable for prizes for the Pot Luck Stand at this year's Summer Festival. We need both child and adult prizes. Bins will be available in the back of church for donations. For questions or more information, please contact Maureen Derbes 570-691-6098. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

Dine-Out Event

Tuesday, April 18th at DiMaio's Mustard Seed Restaurant, on the Square in Orwigsburg from 12 Noon until 9:30 p.m. 10% of all dine-in and take-out proceeds will benefit St. John's Parish, specifically our Building Restorations and Repairs projects.

DiMaio's is a BYOB restaurant and reservations are accepted (570-366-3601). Check out the menu at www.dimaio mustardseed.com. We will also be conducting a Bake Sale during the Dine-Out event along with ticket sales for our raffle basket. Treat yourself to lunch or dinner and help support our fundraiser! Tell your friends and neighbors about the event!.



Baked Goods

Calling all Bakers for Donations ... looking for Baked Goods to sell on Tuesday, April 18th at DiMaio's. If you're willing to bake for the Dine-Out Event, it would be greatly appreciated! There will be sign-up sheets at the rear of the church, or contact Patty O'Neill at 570-573-2406 or via email pgoneill04@verizon.net. Baked goods can be dropped off at the Russell Building on Monday, April 17th from 2pm until 5:15pm, on Tuesday, April 18th from 9am to 10:30am, or directly at DiMaio's when you stop by for lunch, dinner or take-out. All types of baked goods would be appreciated, even candy! (Note: please mark if dessert contains any type of nuts).

Paint 'n Sip



Enjoy a Sunday afternoon in Longinus Hall for our Paint 'n Sip get together on **Sunday, April 30th at 2:00 p.m.** Artist Kimberly Searle will guide us step by step. We will have all equipment necessary so that you can paint a lovely project plus light snacks and drinks available. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite snacks for sharing. BYOB! Sign-up sheets will be available in the back of church. Cost is \$40.00 per person. All sign-ups with fee included should be returned to the rectory by Wednesday, April 19 so that needed planning can be done. For more information please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

April 22nd Event

Calling all parishioners who love St. John's hospitality and/or Yuengling Lager!

Did you know that St. John's is right on the race route for the annual Yuengling Lager Jogger 5k race? This year's race will take place **Saturday, April 22nd**, starting at 9 am. Our parish family would like to extend a warm welcome to the thousands of individuals who pass our doors at this event.

You can get involved in the following ways: Donate small (3-5 oz) cups / Donate gallons of water / Donate your time by either ... Making fun, encouraging signs with your family, or even better ... show up at our parish steps on Mahantongo Street on 4/22 with your signs, bells and whistles to cheer for participants and hand out waters.

Please consider coming out for some parish fellowship and showing our community some St. John's hospitality! On the day of event, please arrive to the parish parking lot between 8 and 8:30 am due to road closures.

Call the rectory to sign up or donate. Thank you!

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



April 9, 2023 | Easter Sunday · The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 | Jn 20:1-9

Written by
 THE
 FAITHFUL
 DISCIPLE

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

I love arriving to Mass early when the sacristan is preparing the altar, or even shortly after the prior Mass clears out. This is because I enjoy praying the rosary with fellow parishioners as well as having my choice of seat in the church, but there's also something about the silence, the stillness that permeates the atmosphere during that time. Sitting alone with one's thoughts tends to either disturb or flat-out bore many people, but consider the silence in a new light this Easter Sunday. Mary of Magdala visited Christ's tomb only to find it empty; what was the tomb like after Christ had risen and left? I'd like to think the silence of the sanctuary before Mass is like the silence of the tomb: still, peaceful and, most of all, joyful, for our Savior conquered the grave. In a way, arriving early to a silent church is like Mary arriving to Jesus' tomb and finding it empty. Soon, though, the church is filled with other believers – witnesses to the risen Christ who proclaim his victory over sin and death to share in the Eucharist before going out into the world to serve and make disciples.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Mass, many of us are swept up in a dizzying Easter timeline full of brightness and pastels, rushing from Mass to Easter egg hunts to lunch or dinner that may leave kids and adults alike exhausted. But our Easter worship and traditions are important because they mark this day as the most joyful of all celebrations, indeed the greatest event in human history. The Lord Jesus is calling us to new life in him! We take this time to celebrate and reflect on what this means. After his resurrection, Jesus revealed himself over time to his Apostles. But before they saw Jesus and truly understood he had risen from the dead, they experienced great sadness and fear. In the same way for us, we must remember that there is no Easter without the suffering and darkness of Good Friday. St. Paul tells us in the second reading that, in order to celebrate the feast, we must “clear out the old yeast, so that [we] may become a fresh batch of dough.” We can't celebrate with “the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness” – we must let Christ purify our hearts and fill them with his Truth.

WITNESS Let the joy of Easter fuel a new resolve to be a witness to the Resurrection. Take Easter week to contemplate Scripture, to let Jesus fill your heart with his light and forgiveness so that you may bear his witness to those you encounter in the days and weeks to come.