

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

April 13, 2025

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Then he said, "**Jesus**, remember me
when you come into your kingdom."
He replied to him, "Amen I say to you
today you will be with me in
Paradise."

Luke 23:42, 43



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 12

5:00 p.m. Charles Bowers
(M/M Ralph Carestia)

Sunday, April 13

8:15 a.m. Carolyn L. Leinheiser
(Pat & Bernie Boran)

Sunday, April 13

10:30 a.m. Mary Yenilaitus
(Mary Zambo)

Monday, April 14

9:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family
(Time Change)

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Charles Bowers
(Kathy & Bob Verbosh)

Wednesday, April 16

8:00 a.m. Ann Murphy Koch
(Time Change) (Family)

Holy Thursday, April 17

7:00 p.m. St. John's Parish Family

Good Friday, April 18

3:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

Holy Saturday, April 19

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

Easter Sunday, April 20

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

Easter Sunday, April 20

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

Message from Father Bobbin

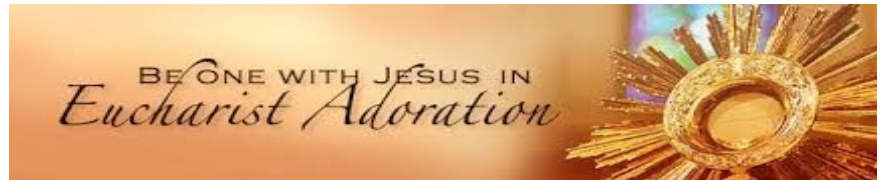
Dear Parishioners,

Once again we come to Holy Week, which calls us back to the very heart of our faith, the Paschal Mystery of our Lord's death and resurrection for our salvation. Every Mass is a celebration of the Paschal Mystery. But we need the annual celebration of Easter to bring us to a renewed and deeper appreciation for our faith.

But Easter is far more than just a reminder. It is, or can be, a new and very real encounter with the risen Jesus who is alive and present to us today. One of the ways we open ourselves to a new encounter with Jesus is by entering as deeply as possible into Holy Week. As I say every year, this week should not be "business as usual." Make these days special. Take some extra time for prayer and reflection, perhaps using the readings from Mass each day. Participate in the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, which commemorates the gift of the Eucharist and the priesthood. Good Friday should be a solemn and reflective day. We should pause our normal activities, especially those things we do for entertainment or relaxation, and keep our focus on the suffering and death of Jesus. Join us for Stations of the Cross and the liturgy of Good Friday.

Holy Saturday should also be a quieter day when we pause some of our normal activities. It is a day of anticipation, building up to the Easter Vigil, the greatest liturgy of the year, when we celebrate the Resurrection.

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.

No Eucharistic Adoration
on Monday, April 14th and April 21st.



HOLY WEEK

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

Upcoming Events

April

13	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School	L.H.
13	7:30 p.m.	Dramatic Station Presentation	Church
14	7:00 p.m.	Penance Service.....	Church
16	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union.....	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.

<><><> MARK YOU CALENDARS <><><>
SUMMER FESTIVAL—July 18/19, 2025

Weekly Collection

April 5/6.....\$5,078.03

Parish Dues:\$1,223.00

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

Liturgical Min. Schedule

April 17— 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday

Reader: John Crane

Euch.Min.: Joseph Palmieri

Servers: Sophia Palmieri
Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Dave Derbes

April 18—3:00 p.m. Good Friday

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz

Servers: R.J. Post, Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Dave Derbes

April 19—8:00 p.m.—Holy Saturday

Reader: Bill Gianfagna

Ann Blankenhorn

Frank Murphy

Vincent Balulis

Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Lauren & Megan Goodman
Connor, Cooper, Cole Felty

Cantor: Dave Derbes

April 20— 8:15 a.m. Easter Mass

Reader: Heidi Gorski

Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz

Bob Bechtel

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

April 20— 10:30 a.m. Easter Mass

Reader: Joseph Palmieri

Euch.Min.: Janet Daubert

Raymond Petrilla

Servers: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on April 24, May 15.** 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.

Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few.

The pandemic had hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war made their situation even more dire. In these times of crisis, this collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

When you contribute to this collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS!**

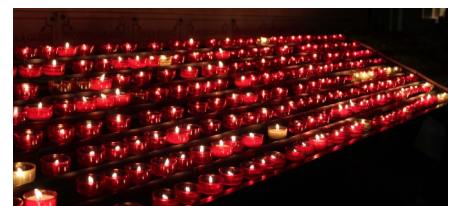
For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org.

Blessed Palm

The Blessed Palm is known as a sacramental. We should not receive the Palm out of human respect with the rest of the faithful and then forget it or cast it away. The Blessed Palm in Catholic homes is a symbol of our Christian Faith. Let the Palm which you carry home from church on Palm Sunday become a constant reminder of the days ahead when your faith may be put to a test.



CRS Rice Bowl. Called to Share Bread for Life. Holy Week, a sacred time in the liturgical year, invites us to journey with Christ through his Passion, Death and Resurrection. As we witness the Last Supper and Jesus’ gift of the Eucharist, we are reminded of our call to be bread broken for others. Let us draw strength from the Bread of Life and dedicate ourselves to serving our sisters and brothers who bear heavy crosses, bringing hope and the joy of the resurrection to the world. Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.



NO CANDLE INTENTIONS DURING HOLY WEEK

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.



Church Decorating

We will be decorating the church for Easter on **Saturday, April 19th at 12:30 p.m.** Extra hands are always needed and appreciated.

Baptized in Christ

On March 23rd, we celebrated the glorious baptism day of **Zachary Lincoln Naffin**, son of Jeffrey & Katelynn Naffin. He became a new creation in Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism and is now joined to us by the gifts of faith, hope and charity. We warmly welcome Zachary into our parish family.

Please Note: When placing flowers at our Grotto — please use either plastic or metal vases. Glass vases are too easily broken. Thank you.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13

Dramatic Stations of the Cross • 7:30 p.m.

Monday, April 14

Mass • 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 15

Mass • 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 16

Mass • 8 a.m.

(No Stations of the Cross)

Holy Thursday, April 17

Mass • 7 p.m.

Adoration after Mass until 10 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18

Stations of the Cross • 12 Noon

Good Friday Liturgy • 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 19

Blessing of Food Baskets • 12 p.m. in Church

Easter Vigil Mass • 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 20

Masses • 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sunday, April 13 • No Scheduled Confessions

Monday, April 14 • Penance Service at St. John's • 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 19 • No Scheduled Confessions



St. Monica Ministry Retreat. Do you have loved ones who no longer practice the Faith? Do you desire hope for your prodigals' return to the Church? The St. Monica Ministry is here for you. We are a dedicated support community and prayer network for the families and friends of fallen-away Catholics. Our second annual weekend retreat is taking place from **April 25 through April 27** at the Peace Retreat House in Weatherly, PA, and you are invited to take part.

Speaking will be Dr. David Carollo (Executive Director, World Apostolate of Fatima / Blue Army Shrine), Dr. Carmina Chapp (St. Charles Borromeo Seminary), Dr. Michael Behe (Lehigh University), and author Sarah Robsdottir. The weekend will also include "Irish Music Night" (with Rev. Alexander Brown, St. Anne Parish, Bethlehem), Friday Holy Hour, Saturday and Sunday Masses, a wine & cheese hour, outdoor rosary, a Pietra fitness class, and an Art 'n' Soul collaging session.

The retreat fee of \$225 includes two nights' accommodations plus all meals and incidentals. A Saturday-only option, which includes lunch, is available for \$50. **Please note that space is limited.** For more information, email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com

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.

Festival Pot Luck Is Returning!!!

As we gear up for our **Midsummer Festival**, we are once again asking for donations for our **Pot Luck Stands**, both Adult and Children. We thank you for your generosity in the past and hope we can count on your continued generosity.

Gift Cards are highly recommended and can be placed in the bins in the back of church or dropped in the collection basket—marked **POT LUCK**. We will also be utilizing our **Amazon Wish List** - it was very successful last year!

Prizes can also be placed in the bins in the back of church. Please remember we can only accept **NEW** or recently purchased boxed or wrapped items in their original package. Any old, used or opened items will not be used for prizes. If you like, please feel free to include your name so we can keep track of those who donated.



Amazon — go to [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries). Search by St. John the Baptist Pottsville under Gift List. When purchasing an item, it will default to ship to Maureen Derbes. You may ship your items directly there for convenience or ship to your home address and then place in bins in the back of church.

Any questions or concerns or to arrange drop off, please call Maureen Derbes at 570-691-6098. Thank you again for your continued generosity!

Assumption BVM School. We're Hiring!

Are you a dynamic and innovative educational and faith leader with a strong commitment to Catholic education, Catholic values, and academic excellent in Schuylkill County? ABVM is seeking a dedicated Principal to guide our students, staff, and community in faith, excellence, and service. We are looking for a leader who: * Has a passion for education * Inspires excellence in others *Nurtures a faith-centered school community.

Apply today or share with someone who would be a great fit! Apply using the link below or the QR code.

<https://allentowndiocese.isolvedhire.com/jobs/1437702>



St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is looking for a dedicated and compassionate **Teacher Aide** to join our team. This part-time position follows a school-day schedule and provides the opportunity to work hands-on with students of all abilities in a supportive classroom setting under the guidance of a teacher. If you are enthusiastic, patient, and eager to make a difference in the lives of our students, we would love to hear from you! For more information or to apply, contact **Principal Bob Giba** at rgiba@stjosephctr.com or call **(570) 622-4638**.

St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Women of all ages are invited to join the Catholic Women's Union. Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Wednesday, April 17th, at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. Meet the members and learn how you can be part of this unique organization. We share ideas and light refreshments are served. We work to raise money for our parish and have fun doing it. We also share in fellowship by sharing in a Spring and Fall Auction, Christmas Party, and the Covered Dish Dinner. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!



Join Us!!

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 morning, **April 26th**, 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 1. Making fun, encouraging signs with your family, or even better 2. Coming out to our parish steps on 4/26 with your signs, bells and whistles to cheer for participants and hand out water.

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

Please email Darren DeArment (dbd269@gmail.com) to sign up or donate. Please join us!



April 13, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Is 50:4-7 | Phil 2:6-11 | Lk 22:14—23:56

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

More than any other time of year, we are able to follow the actual events of Jesus' life this week according to the sequence in which they occurred. Today's procession with palms honors his entry into Jerusalem, where he would prepare to celebrate the Passover with his disciples. We can imagine Jesus spending the subsequent days preaching in the Temple and the nights conversing with his Father in prayer. Then, on Thursday, the Mass of the Lord's Supper will inaugurate the Triduum, the time which commemorates Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection. The Church places these events before our eyes each year as an invitation to enter as fully as possible into Jesus' mind and heart during Holy Week. Even if we regret not being more faithful to the goals we established at the beginning of Lent, we can still seize the opportunity of this week to accompany Jesus as he prepares to die for love of us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The crowds of followers who welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem triumphantly today will be silent by Friday. Among his closest disciples, all will fall asleep during his prayer of agony on the Mount of Olives. Peter himself, who says on Holy Thursday, "I am prepared to go to prison and to die with you," will deny three times that he knew Jesus. The chief priests and scribes (who, one would think, should have recognized the Messiah) will deliver him to Pilate to be crucified. In each of these examples, love for Jesus (or, in the case of the priests and scribes, fidelity to God) is tested and found wanting during Holy Week. Of course, we know that Jesus still proceeded to die so that salvation would be available to *all* of these people. He likewise made it possible for every future generation – including our own – to return to him in moments when we find our own love wanting. We do this by turning away from sin and seeking his forgiveness, especially in the sacrament of confession. Therefore, let us, who have acclaimed Jesus as king today, keep him as king of our hearts – not only this week, but every day of our lives.

WORSHIP

Rich in solemnity and symbolism, the Triduum liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday allow us to accompany Jesus during these difficult days and express to him our love. Try to attend as many of these liturgies as your schedule allows and enter fully into Jesus' experience of Holy Week this year.



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 *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
 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 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

