

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 20, 2025



Mass Intentions

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

Monday, April 21 NO MASS

Tuesday, April 22

9:00 a.m. Timothy Haley
(Marie Balulis)

Wednesday, April 23

9:00 a.m. Dr. David Harvey
(Mary Beth Harvey)

Thursday, April 24

6:00 p.m. Charles J. Lorenz
(Frances Lorenz)

Friday, April 25

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

Saturday, April 26

5:00 p.m. Catherine Dalton
(Hoy & Daton Family)

Sunday, April 27

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

Sunday, April 27

10:30 a.m. Leona Buber
(Christine, Michael
Keilia Maccarone)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

This year, 2025, the universal Church is celebrating a jubilee year dedicated to the theme of hope. Easter is precisely the reason for our hope. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ decisively demonstrates that death is not final and does not hold dominion over our lives. Sin, evil, and suffering are not final. This gives a radically new perspective to our lives. Christians are people who live in hope.

Easter is not just a day or a season, but a reality that we live everyday. A relationship with the risen Jesus, alive, present to us, here and now, today, is what enables us to live in hope, even amid the suffering and evil of life in our imperfect world. May you have a renewed and deeper experience of Jesus's presence in your life this Easter season. May you know the peace and joy, and especially the hope, that comes from His victory over sin and death.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

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



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.



Alleluia!

Next Week's Readings

Divine Mercy Sunday
(April 26/27)

Reading I: Acts 5:12-16

Reading II: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

Gospel: John 20:19-31

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

- 24 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study L.H.
- 27 9:00 a.m. CCD Community Mtg L.H.
- 27 10:30 a.m. Sunday School L.H.

May

- 1 7:30 p.m. Summer Festival Mtg..... L.H.
- 3 5:00 p.m. First Holy Communion Church
- 4 9:00 a.m. CCD Parent Mtg L.H.
- 4 11:30 a.m. Lenten Dinner Wrap-Up Mtg..... L.H.
- 11 10:30 a.m. Sunday School (last class) L.H.
- 15 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study L.H.
- 18 10:30 a.m. Healing Mass Church
- 21 6:00 p.m. Catholic Women’s Union ‘Cover Dish’ 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 12/13\$6,659.00

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

Candles

BVM

- 1. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
- 2. Special Intention

St. Joseph

- 1. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family
- 2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Sanctuary

IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Guardian Angels

- 1. IMO Charles Bowers by Joan Bowers
- 2. IMO Lorraine Tasso by Joan Bowers
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy & Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 26—5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Frank Murphy

Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder

Servers: Lauren & Megan Goodman

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

April 27— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose

Euch.Min.: Michael Ambrose

Servers: Cole & Cooper Felty

Cantor: Tina Seiger

April 27— 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic

Servers: Jackson Daubert

Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Ensemble

Weekend Sacristan: Connor Felty



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.

Anointing of the Sick Masses with Bishop Schlert.

Bishop Schlert will be celebrating Masses that offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in various locations throughout the year. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is given to anyone who is seriously ill, either physically or mentally, or to anyone advanced in age or facing a medical procedure. This great gift of grace offers holistic healing by praying for a cure, but, more importantly, for the gift of hope and peace that the sufferer would be united to Christ on the Cross.

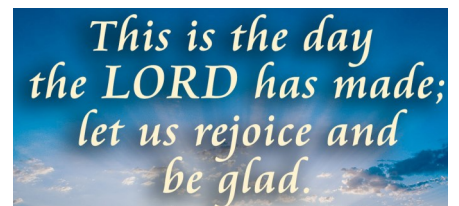
St. Ambrose – Schuylkill Haven – May 4, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. Mass

St. Thomas More – Allentown – August 24, 2025 at 12 p.m. Mass

St. Catharine of Siena – Reading – September 7, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. Mass

St. Joseph – Summit Hill – November 23, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Mass

CRS Rice Bowl. Happy Easter! As our CRS Rice Bowl journey comes to an end, may the Eucharist continue to transform our lives and help us respond to God’s call to serve our global family. Let us commit to sharing the joy of the Resurrection with people in our local community and around the world. Don’t forget to turn in your CRS Rice Bowl to the rectory or to the containers at the church exit or donate online at crsricebowl.org/ donate.



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.

Bulletin Boosters

- IMO Carl Bartholomew
- IMO Harold Bartholomew
- IMO James J. Bartholomew
- IMO Robert Berger
- IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
- John & Mildred Fredericks
- Fr. Don Henry
- IMO M/M Herbert Henry
- IMO Joanne Hepler
- IMO Clare & Linda Houser
- MO Charles Lorenz
- IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
- IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
- IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
- IMO Margaret Zelinsky
- Living & Deceased of St. John's CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!

Grotto Flowers

Just a reminder when placing flowers at the Blessed Mother Grotto located behind the church, please **DO NOT** use



glass or any breakable vases or containers for your flowers. Sometimes the wind knocks them over and the glass

is shattered in the area. Please use plastic or an unbreakable material. Thank you.

Summer Festival 2025 July 18 & 19

The Summer Festival Committee is very excited to announce this year's scheduled entertainment!

Friday evening 7/18 Our very own **Dave Derbes** will entertain us with some of our favorite relaxing acoustic tunes! Dave has been a wonderful staple and donates his talent to our festival entertainment every year, we are truly blessed!

Saturday evening 7/19 we are shaking things up and bringing a blast from the past celebration with **MICHELE AND THE LOST BOYS!** Former members of the band Sapphire: Michele Scribbick, Eric Ziegmont, Bill Adams, and Jim Oakum will bring us all your favorite hits from the 50s,60s,70s & 80s! Bring a lawn chair, your dancing shoes, or enjoy our shaded seating, listening to everything from Elvis, to Kiss, to Cyndi Lauper- and so many fun toe tapping tunes in between and more! They will play 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. **mark those calendars now!**

We are also excited to announce a few new food additions as follows

A fantastically savory **Pig Roast** thanks to Don Tassone! Roasted on site-we can't wait! The **Atomic Kitchen** vintage food truck will join us with amazing vegan options, impossible sliders, mushroom Swiss sandwiches, bubble teas, boba tea and more! Parishioners and food truck owners **Vince Balulis and Megan Homovich** will help add new and fun food options to our festival food line up! More announcements to come, please stay tuned!

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Summer 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!



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. Please call the rectory with any concerns ... 570-522-5470 ext.3.

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>



Nativity BVM High School — Immediate Opening

Theology Teacher—Full Time. Nativity BVM High School is accepting applications for the position of Theology Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. Minimum of Bachelor's Degree and Catechist Certification required. Interested candidates for the position should send resume, certifications and all clearances by May 2, 2025 to: Nativity BVM High School, Attn. Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal, One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901. Email: lsabol@nativitybvm.net

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning

We are 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.

34th Annual Golf Classic Tournament. St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is hosting its 34th Annual Golf Classic tournament on **May 16th** at Mountain Valley Golf Course. Sponsor and/or join us for an adventurous day of food, fellowship and, of course... golf! For more information, please visit www.stjosephctr.com or call 570-622-4638.

St. Monica Ministry — A Day of Recollection

Do you have loved ones who are no longer practicing the Faith? Do you desire hope for your prodigals' return to the Church? The St. Monica Ministry of the Diocese of Allentown is a dedicated support community and prayer network for the families and friends of fallen-away Catholics. The ministry will be holding a **Day of Recollection** on **Saturday, April 26**, from 9:00am to 4:00pm at St. Theresa Parish, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown. Themed "*His Mercy Endures: Harboring Hope for the Fallen-Away*," the event will feature presentations by Dr. David Carollo, Executive Director World Apostolate of Fatima / Blue Army Shrine; Dr. Carmina Chapp, Dean of the School of Theological Studies, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary; Dr. Michael Behe, Professor of Biological Sciences at Lehigh University and author of *Darwin's Black Box*; and Rev. Quinn Gomez, FSSP, Parochial Vicar at Holy Ghost Catholic Church (Traditional Roman Rite), Bethlehem.

The day will begin with 8:00am Mass in the church, followed by a continental breakfast in Friendship Hall. \$15 per person / \$25 per couple includes breakfast, lunch, door prize, and a few surprises! Please register by April 21. Email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com or call the St. Theresa rectory at 610-838-7045.

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!





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 27th

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.

Flowers in Church

Generally speaking, flowers are donations. The parish decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons (partly thanks to your donations). The rest of the year, we welcome donations of flowers.

Flowers are **not** appropriate during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. Flowers **are** appropriate on:

- Sundays in Ordinary Time
- Sundays in the Easter Season (after the original Easter flowers have died)
- Holy Days—such as—Ascension Thursday, Assumption (August 15), All Saints Day (November 1), Immaculate Conception (December 8)



If you would ever like to donate flowers (perhaps in memory of a loved one), please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

Rejoice! He is risen!

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



April 20, 2025
The Resurrection of the Lord
Acts 10:34a, 37-43 | Col 3:1-4 | Jn 20:1-9

Written by
 THE
 FAITHFUL
 DISCIPLE

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

After years (and, for many of us, decades) of celebrating Easter, we may not be sensitive to the sheer peculiarity of the Resurrection accounts. But a close reading of today’s Gospel prompts us to ask: If most of us were dreaming up the greatest event in history, wouldn’t we have made it more exciting? A little fanfare would have gotten the message out to the world and nipped future skepticism in the bud. Yet this is not what God did. The account of Jesus’ resurrection has no fanfare; in fact, it is not an account of a resurrection at all. It is a story of an empty tomb discovered by a woman from whom Jesus had cast out seven demons (cf. Lk 8:2), and two fishermen. Awestruck by the simplicity of these circumstances, we are inspired to adore the profound humility of God who invites – but never forces – us to respond to him in faith.

REJOICE

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Although we don’t place our hope in this life, marking the Church’s feasts in our homes and families can inspire us to seek “what is above” by giving us a foretaste of the joys of heaven. Today through next Sunday, as we celebrate the “Easter Octave,” every day is Easter Day! Use simple reminders – decorations, an extra treat, an additional time of prayer – to rejoice each day of the Octave.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Although we cannot know exactly why God chose to arrange the events this way, today’s second reading offers a hint: “For you have died,” writes St. Paul, “and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” This world which we consider home, and everything that comes to mind when we say “my life” – these are only shadows of the life that is found in Christ alone. Like the disciples in the Gospel, we are meant to gaze past the outward appearances of our mundane and sometimes pain-filled lives and, with the eyes of faith, place our hope in the true *life* that comes from God. But how often we forget! How often we live as if this world were all there was, without hope for eternal life! We are not alone in forgetting God’s promises; Mary Magdalene and the disciples do not seem to expect Jesus’ resurrection – even though he had repeatedly predicted it. At the tomb, they sought a dead body; but Jesus wished to offer them *his life*. We, likewise, must desire and seek his life by laying aside everything that does not lead us to him.