

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

April 27, 2025 • Divine Mercy Sunday

REQUIEM AETERNAM ("Eternal Rest")



POPE FRANCIS

December 17, 1936 - April 21, 2025

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May their souls and the souls of the
faithful departed, through the mercy
of God, rest in peace. Amen*

Requiem Prayer



Mass Intentions

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)

Monday, April 28

6:30 p.m. Jim Pugh Jr.
(Jim & Donna Pugh)

Tuesday, April 29

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

Wednesday, April 30

9:00 a.m. His Holiness Pope Francis

Thursday, May 1

9:00 a.m. Joseph J. Steficek
(Larry Steficek & Family)

Friday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Regina Garrity
(Eric & Jennifer Lieberman)

Saturday, May 3

5:00 p.m. Paul Filiac
(Paula, Mike, Emily
Lorence)

Sunday, May 4

8:15 a.m. Charles & Matilda
Schaeffer
(Eleanor Schaeffer)

Sunday, May 4

10:30 a.m. Clare & Alexander Alfonsi
(Patty Semanchick)

Message from Father Bobbin

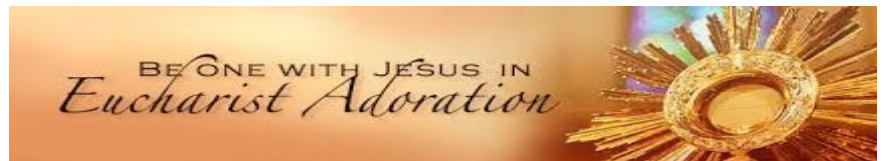
Dear Parishioners,

On Sunday, May 18 at the 10:30 Mass, we will celebrate an Anointing Mass. Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven sacraments in which we encounter the power of the risen Jesus touching our lives. Like the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Anointing is a sacrament of healing.

Many Catholics only know this sacrament as the "Last Rites" and as something that is only for people on their deathbed. This is only partly true. Anointing of the Sick is for the dying, the seriously ill, people of advanced age, and people who are about to have surgery. The purpose of the sacrament is healing. What kind of healing? Possibly physical healing, if it's God's will. The sacrament definitely causes some measure of spiritual healing in the form of peace, comfort, a strengthening of one's faith, a reminder that one is part of the Church family, the grace to carry one's suffering in union with Christ, and forgiveness.

Anointing of the Sick is usually given in hospitals, nursing homes, and private homes, for obvious reasons. However, for people who are mobile, it is possible to celebrate this sacrament within Mass, which is what we will do on May 18. If you believe that you or a family member would be an appropriate recipient of Anointing for one the above reasons (advanced age, serious health difficulties, planning to have surgery), **please call the rectory to register. It is very important that we know who is receiving the sacrament so we can properly record it in the Church's sacramental registers.** There will be pews reserved in the front of church for people planning to receive the sacrament on May 18. A family member or caregiver is welcome to sit with the recipient. Please let us know if you have any questions in the next few weeks.

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.
- ◆ 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.

Next Week's Readings

Third Sunday of Easter
(May 3/4)

Reading I: Acts 5:17-32, 40b-41

Reading II: Revelation 5:11-14

Gospel: John 21:1-19

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

For our Deceased

His Holiness Pope Francis

Upcoming Events

April

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

Candles

BVM

1. Most Abandoned Soul in Purgatory
2. IMO Alice Moran

St. Joseph

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

Sanctuary

IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley by Ellen Foley & Fran Lorenz

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Pat Mason by Maria Mason
2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
- 3&4. IMO Babe & JoAnne Heller by Barb Wollyung

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on 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

New Altar Servers.

We invite any boys and girls currently finishing fourth grade or older to consider becoming altar servers. Parents, please speak with Father Bobbin or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.



CRS Rice Bowl. Thank You! Together, we changed lives this Lent through CRS Rice Bowl. Thank you for being a part of this effort! The Rice Bowl boxes can be dropped off at the rectory or placed in the boxes by the upper side door of church or donate online at csrricebowl.org/donate.

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Third Sunday of Easter

May 3—5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder
John O'Neill

Server: Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Dave Derbes

May 4— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jeff Naffin

Euch.Min.: Heidi Gorski
Bob Bechtel

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

May 4— 10:30 a.m. Mass

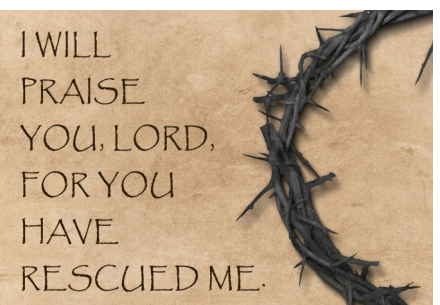
Reader: Carleigh Palmieri

Euch.Min.: Joseph Palmieri
Janet Daubert

Server: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Weekend Sacristan: RJ Post



Mid 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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Mid Summer Festival Pot Luck Prizes Needed (less than 100 days)!

The Mid Summer Festival will be here before you know it! We are asking for donations for our **Pot Luck Stands**, 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 wish, please include your name so we can keep track of those making prize donations.

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!



Parish Council President's Corner

Church Sound System. Parish Council is looking into setting up the sound system for Bluetooth capability to assist the hearing impaired. Regarding questions about replacing the current sound system ... within the past year we've made minor improvements through the positioning of microphones. Our sound system has been professionally evaluated (including the position of the speakers), and based on the acoustics of the church, it isn't feasible to make significant improvements.

Parking Lot Conditions. The Building Committee will be exploring ways to improve snow and ice removal for next winter.

Healing Mass. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be held on Sunday, May 18th at 10:30 a.m. Mas. More information will be available in the near future.

Eucharistic Day. Parish Council has been discussing having a Eucharistic Day. While no definite plans have been made, our goal is to build momentum to eventually have a Forty Hours celebration of the Eucharist.

Mid-Summer Festival. Did you know the Festival Committee is looking for volunteers to help with planning, set up, clean up, or serving food at the Mid-Summer Festival! If you're interested, please contact Shanna Deibert at shndeibert@gmail.com

Submitted by Darren DeArment, Parish Council President.



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.

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 3 x)

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.



April 27, 2025

Second Sunday of Easter Sunday of Divine Mercy

Acts 5:12-16 | Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19 | Jn 20:19-31

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

On this Easter Octave, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. As Jesus revealed to the Polish nun St. Faustina Kowalska, the blood and water that gushed forth from his side during his crucifixion would become a "fountain of mercy" for all of us. In today's first reading, we witness what happens now that the Apostles have received that mercy flowing from the foot of the cross. Motivated by the mystery of Jesus' resurrection and ascension and emboldened by the gift of the Holy Spirit, these men are now continuing his ministry of healing. Just as the ill and possessed flocked to Christ, so now those sick in body or spirit see the power of Christ working through the Apostles. The beauty of receiving God's mercy is that it doesn't stop once it's been poured into us – his mercy *compels us*, inspiring us to become living fountains of mercy to those we encounter.

REFLECT

Throughout today's Scriptures, we see the Lord's relentless pursuit of the human heart. We see a God who loves us so passionately that he pours himself into us, inviting us to partake in his mission by the outpouring of his mercy and the power of his Holy Spirit. Today, pause to reflect on the mercy of God. In what areas of your life can you see God's mercy at work? How can you be an instrument of his mercy for others?

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In a somewhat confusing chronology, today's Gospel takes place in time before the events in our first reading. So we go with the disciples back to "the evening of that first day of the week." They have been through a *lot* over the past weeks. They have watched their community turn on Jesus and give him over to be brutally killed. They have walked with him through his agonizing passion and bitter death, and they have witnessed his glorious resurrection from the dead. "Overwhelming" seems too small a word. Can you imagine the weight of their experience on a physical, emotional, and spiritual level? Now, in today's Gospel, we see them gathered together behind locked doors, shaken from the recent events, and fearing for their own lives. Somehow, mysteriously, Jesus enters the room and says, "Peace be with you." Three times, Jesus repeats this phrase to his disciples in this reading. Untethered by space and time and in the wake of grief and glory, the Savior of the world extends himself in an intimate encounter, radically present to those who love him.

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.

Nativity BVM High School

Theology Teacher—Full Time—Immediate Opening

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: Isabol@nativitybvm.net

Nativity Happenings

Nativity students attended the Youth Conference Project Share Out at Schuylkill Haven High School on April 7th. Along with other high schools throughout the Schuylkill County area, Nativity presented their project for the 2024-2025 school year to promote a World of Understanding.

Nativity students participated in the Schuylkill County Youth Summit at Penn State Schuylkill Campus on April 3rd. High School students throughout Schuylkill County gathered together to promote the Youth Summit's mission to engage, equip and support Schuylkill County youth to live well in Schuylkill County as successful adults and citizens.

The Nativity BVM Century Benefit was held on Saturday, April 5, 2025 beginning at 6 PM at Mountain Valley Golf Course. The following members of the Nativity Community were inducted as new Golden Cross Society members at the dinner: Drs. Michelle and Rick Adams; Frank Angelo '64; Diane Chaklos Yaneck; Cathy Winter; Vince Zimerofsky '92.

Congratulations to Samuel Spolski and Carleigh Palmieri who have been named Nativity's 2024-2025 Bishop Catholic Scholars. They will be honored at a ceremony at Bethlehem Catholic High School on Saturday, April 26th, at 10:00 AM.

Our Student Council will be using the money collected during the "Celebrating our Nation" activities of Catholic Schools Week to sponsor an American Flag to be flown from May through July in the Minersville Veteran's Memorial Park. This flag will fly in honor of all veterans who graduated from Nativity BVM High School. This flag will be flying during the graduation of our Class of 2025 which has multiple graduates joining military services and academies. We are very proud of all of our veterans and we are thankful to be able to honor them in this special way. Veterans, thank you for your service!

The Nativity Drama Club presents Footloose, Friday, April 25th, at 7:00, Saturday, April 26th, at 7:00, and Sunday, April 27th, at 2:00. Tickets are \$15. Under 12, \$10.

The Green and Gold Club's Basket Auction is scheduled for May 3rd & 4th. Donations can be sent to the office at any time. If you know of a business or someone who would be interested in donating, please let us know. We have a tax-deductible letter to give them. This year the Grand Prize at the event will be a Meat Gift Card Raffle (It will be a \$250 Gift card from Tony's Meat Market, \$250 Marlin Mar-

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>.



Lottery Board Raffle. Assumption BVM School will host a Lottery Board Raffle for the end of the school year. This fundraiser will directly benefit the school and its students. Chances are \$10.00 each and are good for all three drawings for an opportunity to win a Lottery Board valued at \$150.00 (SGOC #10109). Drawing to be held May 27th. Chances can be purchased from any ABVM family or from the school by calling 570-622-0106. Thank you for your help in making our Lottery Board Raffle a success!

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.



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 stjbparrish@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@allentowndioocese.org

Neighboring Events

A "Life in the Spirit Seminar" at St. Ambrose Church, 201 Randel St. in Schuylkill Haven, on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning April 30th and May 1st continuing May 7/8, 14/15, 22/23, 28/29 and June 4/5. This seminar is offered twice for your convenience, choose either morning or evening session. This seminar is a series of teachings on how to get deeper in your relationship with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. For more information reach out to Jim & Teresa Heller or call St. Ambrose Parish at 570-385-1031.

34th Annual Golf Class 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.

Women's Bingo Night. Join us for an evening of faith, fellowship and fun at St. Ambrose Church Hall, 302 Randel St. in Sch. Haven on **Wednesday, May 14th**. Doors open 5:30 p.m.; Games start 6:30 p.m. \$20 for 20 Games. Food & Drinks included BYOB. Gift Baskets and Cash Prizes and 50/50. Contact Maggie Riggins @ MRIGGINS@ALLENTOWNDIOCESE.ORG

City Chicken Dinner. Sponsored by Holy Family Parish of Minersville on **Sunday, May 18th**. Dinner includes 3 city chickens, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, roll, and choice of green beans or corn. Cost is \$12.00. Dinners are pre-order ONLY by Sunday, May 11th. Please call Jean at 570-640-0140 or Rosalie at 570-544-2172 to order.

Christmas In July Basket Raffle. Mark your calendars! St. Joseph Center for Special Learning's annual **Christmas in July Basket Raffle** will be held on **July 26 & 27** at the **St. Ambrose / SJC Parish Center**. Come out and support a fun summer tradition filled with great prizes and community cheer! We're also accepting donations of new items for the raffle. Donations can be dropped off at SJC during school hours. Your generosity makes this event a success! Thank you for your continued support!