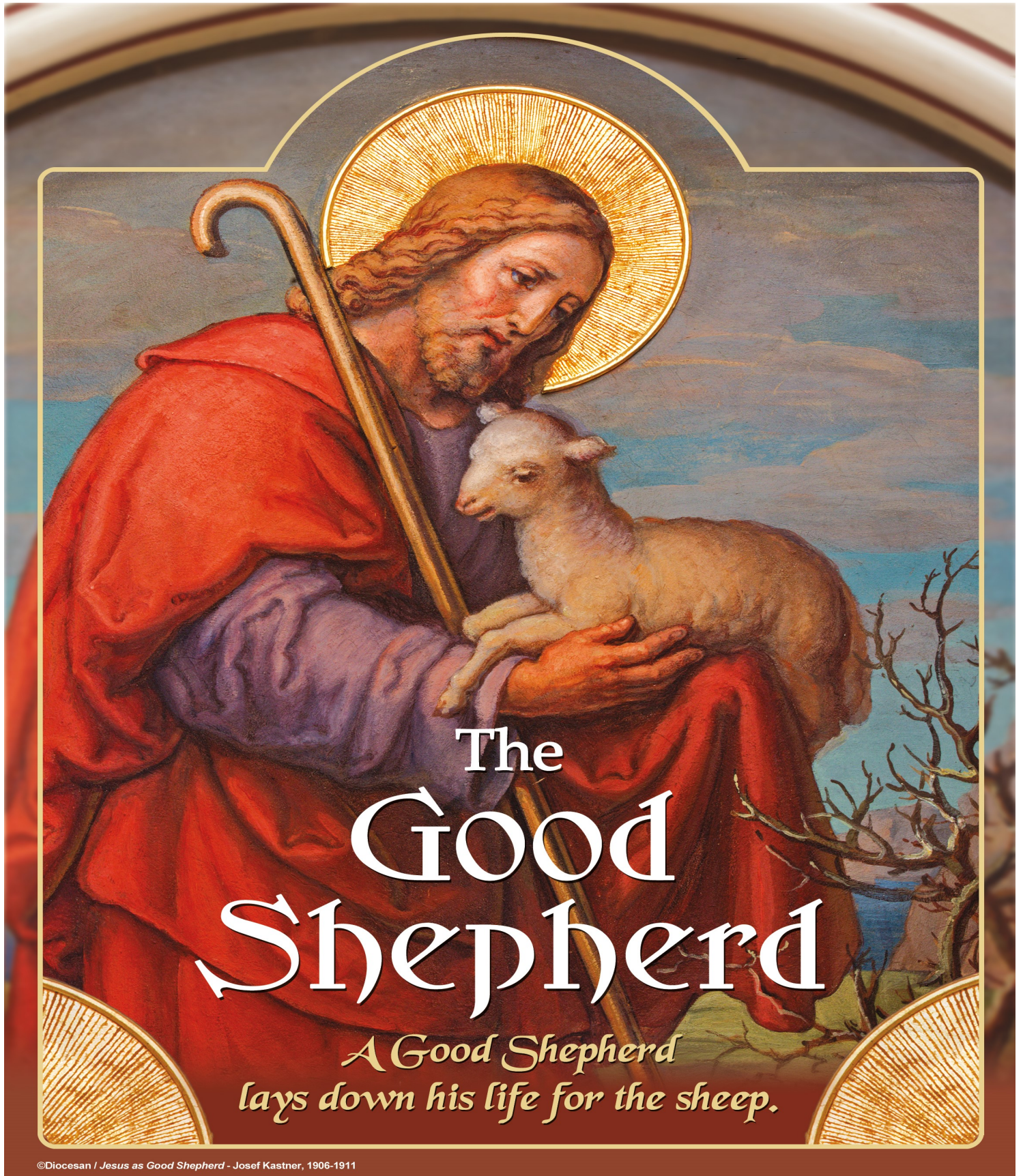


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

April 30, 2023 • Fourth Sunday of Easter



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 29

5:00 p.m. John & Bertha Krolick
Deceased of Tarris Family
(Paul & JoAnna Buber)

Sunday, April 30

8:15 a.m. Frank & Dorothy Legutko
(Susan Legutko)

Sunday, April 30

10:30 a.m. Catherine Dalton
(Hoy & Dalton Families)

Monday, May 1

6:30 p.m. Mary Ann Holley
(Debbie & Mark Purcell)

Tuesday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Ralph Thomas
(Paul & Diane Pekarick)

Wednesday, May 3

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

Thursday, May 4

9:00 a.m. James J. Curran Jr.
(Theresa Schreffler)

Friday, May 5

9:00 a.m. Joseph & Catherine Moore
(Joe Moore Jr.)

Saturday, May 6

5:00 p.m. First Communicants

Sunday, May 7

8:15 a.m. Calvin Hoy
(Janet Hoy & Family)

Sunday, May 7

10:30 a.m. Peter Meseravage
Dec. of Daubert Family
(Judy Meseravage)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

We've come to the 4th Sunday of Easter, which has been called "Good Shepherd Sunday" because the Gospel is always a passage from Jesus's "Good Shepherd" discourse in chapter 10 of John's Gospel. Jesus is our Shepherd and He works through the shepherds of His Church.

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray that our Lord sends more shepherds for the Church in all the religious vocations: the many forms of consecrated life for women and men, the diaconate, but in a particularly special way, the priesthood. A vocation, by definition, is a call from God. Therefore, there is absolutely nothing we can do to produce more priests on our own. We must *ask God* for more priests (and deacons, and women and men religious). It is important to figure out ways of promoting religious vocations. But the most important thing we can do will always be prayer.

On that note, from time to time we will use the "vocation crucifix." This is an altar cross that will be given to a family to take home at the end of Mass. It comes with a set of brief prayers that the family can use each day, Monday through Friday, to pray for vocations. The crucifix is returned the following weekend for another family to take home.

If you would like to take the vocation crucifix home for a week, please let me know or give a call to the rectory. It would be ideal to have the families of our parish praying *continuously* for vocations, year round. But we can begin by circulating the crucifix for at least a few weeks at a time.

In Christ,
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 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.



PRAY THE ROSARY

Recite the rosary daily during the month of May, which is dedicated to the Blessed Mother. There is no prayer more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious in asking for her intercession.

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 • Chuck Majestic • Tony Kochol
• Theresa Chapman

Next Week's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Easter

(May 6/7)

Reading I: Acts of Apostles 6:1-7

Reading II: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12

Upcoming Calendar

May	4	7:30 p.m.	Summer Festival Mtg.....	L.H.
	5	7:30 p.m.	First Communion Rehearsal	Church
	6	5:00 p.m.	First Holy Communion	Church
	7	9:00 a.m.	May Procession	Church
	7	10:30 a.m.	Little Children's Sunday School.....	L.H.
	11	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
	17	7:00 p.m.	Ascension Thursday Mass.....	Church
	18	9:00 a.m.	Ascension Thursday Mass.....	Church
	18	5:15 p.m.	Ascension Thursday Mass.....	Church
	18	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
	19	4-7 p.m.	Yard Sale	R.B.
	20	9-12 noon	Yard Sale	R.B.
	21	10:30 a.m.	Little Children's Sunday School.....	L.H.
	24	6:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union 'Covered Dish'	L.H.
	25	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.

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

SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

Diocesan Events

Designed with Purpose - A Fertility Awareness & NFP Primer, Sunday, April 30, 5:30-8:00 pm, at Black Rock Brewing Co. (325 S. Centre St., Pottsville) Adults 21+ are invited to enjoy Hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages on the Diocese with a cash bar option. Hear more about Fertility Awareness & NFP, how it works, what's involved, and the various methods. Understand more about why this info is important to women, couples, and the Church, and discover resources to take the next step! Register today! <https://register.allentowndiocese.org/fertilityawareness/>

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

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, 1-866-3RACHEL (Toll Free) or 610-435-1541, ext. 373. You may also email Carol at carolswavely@ptd.net. The retreat will be held **May 19th – 21st, 2023**. Deadline for Registration is May 12th, 2023.

Women's Easter Retreat - Wednesday, May 24, 6:00-8:00 pm, St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall (Nine South Broad Mountain Avenue, Frackville). Women of all ages are invited to enjoy Mass, refreshments, a reflection on sharing the Good News, and Adoration with opportunity to go to Confession. Event is free (sponsored by the Bishop's Commission for Women, Diocese of Allentown). Register today! <https://forms.gle/sfSWbN5EsUwyxFU7>

Weekly Collections

April 22/23\$3,909.45
Improve. & Repairs\$1,550.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Mary Jane Hahner
2. IMO James Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

St. Joseph

1. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Mary Jane Hahner
2. IMO John Kutch by Pat Kutch

Sanctuary

IMO Living & Deceased of St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Joan Wassell by Rick & Michelle Stone
2. IMO Thomas Stone by Rick & Michelle Stone
3. For Tina Masaud by Pat Kutch
4. IMO John J. Heller by Mary & Joseph Modesto

Liturgical Min. Schedule

May 6 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch.Min.: John Crane
Server: Lukas & Finley McNamara
Cantor: Mary Bound

May 7 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Naffin
Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla
Servers: Ryan Grabowski
Cantor: Tina Seiger

May 7 — 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Mary Matulevich
Euch.Min.: John Matulevich
Server: Kelly, Lauren, Megan Goodman
Cantor: Ed Brahler



First Holy Communion

...will take place on Saturday, May 6th at 5:00 p.m. Mass.

Rehearsal is Friday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. in Church.



The CCD students will end their year by having a May Procession **after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 7th**.

Families of the students are asked to bring a bouquet of flowers and their rosaries. **All parishioners** are invited to be part of the procession that will begin in the church. We will process from the back of church up 10th street and end at the Grotto. There, children will place bouquets of flowers and we will recite a decade of the rosary, say the litany of Mary and make the Act of Consecration. Afterwards we will crown Mary. All will be invited to sing the chorus to Immaculate Mary. Please join us for this special Marian devotion!

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.

Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop — May 19 / 20 —

Friday, May 19 from 4 to 7 p.m. and **Saturday, May 20** from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Russell Building — 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Pottsville

Don't miss it! If you like yard sales, this is the place to be. Various items including ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, holiday decorations, framed prints, special Vintage Section and much, much more, plus food is available for purchase. Take Out Only. Something for everyone! Join us! Call the Rectory office 622-5470 ext 3 for more information.



Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the times listed above or call the rectory 622-5470 ext 3. Please individually wrap or bag all dessert items to be sold.



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.

Assumption BVM School Events

Full-time First Grade Teacher, full or part-time maintenance person and substitute teachers for the coming school year. Please send application, resume, certification and clearances to Assumption BVM School to the attention of Mrs. Teresa Keating, 112 South 7th Street, Pottsville, PA 17901 or call 570-622-0106 for more information.

Cash & Gift Card Bingo

Sunday, April 30th at Hillcrest Hall in Minersville. Doors open 11 a.m.; Bingo begins 1 p.m. Advance Tickets \$35.00; at the door \$40.00. Only 300 tickets available. Admission Ticket includes 20 Regular games, 3 Special games, \$1,000 Jackpot game. Tickets can be purchased from any ABVM student, at the school, or at the door. Delicious food available plus 50/50. Everyone is required to purchase a ticket to enter ... must be 18 or older to claim prizes. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, please call 570-622-0106 or email tmengel@assumptionbvmschool.net

Taylor Swift Concert

Take your chance at winning TWO tickets to see TAYLOR SWIFT — the Eras Tour Concert! Friday, May 12th at 6:30 p.m. at Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia. Floor level seating. Only 750 tickets available. Drawing is May 5th.

To request chances, please email: tmengel@assumptionbvm school.net. Please include the number of chances you are requesting and a mailing address.

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

Thank You Department

Thank You to all who participated in our **Dramatic Stations of the Cross**.

Cast & Crew - *Michael Ambrose, Marie Balulis, Mary Bound, Connie Brown, Sandra Clauser, Nick Galanti, Dylan Herb, Kerry Herb, Landon Herb, Paul Herb, Zach Herb, Joe & Maureen Kurtek, John Lisowski, Hannah Lisowski, Denise Logan, Violet Murphy, Joe Rittle, Harold Roach, Jeanie Roach, Sutton Roach, Ave Searle, Kim Searle, Rose Searle, Addison Smith, Rick Smith, Larry Steficek, Jared Terraciano, Ivy Vengan, Tegan Vengan, John Vuksta, Jessie Wade*

Jesus – portrayed by *Vince Balulis*

Narrator—*Debbie Herb*

Solo—*Tina Seiger*

Director - *Rick Smith*

Thank You to those who volunteered for the **Washing of Feet** on Holy Thursday. You helped our parish family visualize the actions of Jesus at the Last Supper.

Michelle Ambrose, John Crane, Dan & Hermine Murphy, Gerry Schwartz, Barbara Schoenauer



Thank You to all who helped to create the decorations and **Decorate** our church so beautifully for Easter.

Mary Bound, Sarah DeArment, Sandy Frinzi, Stanley Gorski, Bob Hahner, Dave & Josh Steffan, Father Bobbin

Also a special thank you to Jason Wesnoski from Pod & Petal.

Thank You to the **Choir, Musicians, Cantors**

Michelle & Mike Ambrose, Kate Blackwell, Mary Bound, Ed Brahler, Janet Daubert, Sarah DeArment, David Derbes, Bobby DiCello, Chrissy DiCello, Barbara Fox, Bill Gianfagna, Stanley Gorski, Amy Joyce, Joe Piel, Barbara Powers, Butch Scheetz, Pat Scheetz, Sue Scheetz, Tina Seiger, Marianne Wollyung

Thank You to our kitchen volunteers who helped prepare, serve, set up and cleaned up for our **Lenten Dinners**.

Michelle Ambrose, Chris Black, Mary Bound, Natalie Burket, Brian Comfort, Connor Felty, Mary Ann Filiac, Millie Fredericks, Sandy Frinzi, Joyce Gerace, Bernadette Gombola, Alex Gorski, Sr. Mary Jane Hahner, Mary Beth Harvey, Christopher Hobbs, Mike Hummel, Maeve Ketner, Kristina Knoblach, Joe Kurtek, Pat Kutch, Grace Lapachinsky, Mary Jo Laslow, Ed Leffler, Anne Liptock, Colin McGinley, Patty Miller, Sharon Miller, Barb Munster, Hunter-Rian Nothaft, John & Patty O'Neill, Bob Orlowsky, Eleanor Orzechowski, RJ Post, Nick Quinn, Carole Quirin, Reene Reddington, Carol Rehnert, Gerry Schwartz, Tina Seiger, Kylie Siket, Theresa Skrobak, Linda Smith, Rick & Beth Smith, Dave & Josh Steffan, James Womer, Joanne Wood.

Also, thank you to everyone who patronized the dinners.

Thank you to our very talented **Bakers** who made or purchased those delicious desserts week after week

Chris Black, Michelle Darhun, Janet Daubert, Marie Doyle, Darla Fabiani, Heidi Gorski, Sr. Mary Jane Hahner, Mary Beth Harvey, Theresa Hossler, Joe & Maureen Kurtek, Steve Kurtek, Sarah Lecher, Frances Lorenz, Hilda Maley, Marie McMurtrie, Sharon Miller, Barb Munster, Jane Petrilla, Mary Porter, Prezelski Family, Pat Pugh, Carole Quirin, Pat Scheetz, Sue Scheetz, Rosann Sitkus.

Thank You to our **Church Cleaning** Group for doing a wonderful job cleaning our beautiful church for Easter also including Longinus Hall and the Chapel. Everything looked just perfect!

Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Judy Meseravage, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Joanne Wood

Despite our very best efforts, we invariably misspell, misplace or omit the name of an important person ... **YOU!** We apologize if we have done this.

THANK YOU ... A big St John's thank you to everyone that attended the Dine-Out Event at DiMaio's, purchased baked goods, baked goodies for the sale, and/or helped work at the bake sale. Your support was greatly appreciated. The proceeds recognized from the event will be published in the May 6/7 bulletin along with the winner's name of the raffle basket.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—THANK YOU ... As a result of the collection in March by the Knights of Columbus, in conjunction with Schuylkill Council Charities, for the Saint Joseph Center for Learning, we wish to report that a collection of \$511 was made by St. John's Parish. We wish to thank all of you for this helping hand. The donation will be reported to St. Joseph Center of this charity.

....Ronald J. Whalen, Financial Secretary



April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 | 1 Pt 2:20b-25 | Jn 10:1-10

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

There is much we could ponder in today's Scriptures, but the verses that stood out for me are these: "If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called." I have a hard enough time keeping my inner child under wraps when I suffer due to my own sinfulness or incompetence, and Peter is telling me to be patient when I suffer for *doing what is good*? Well, yes – "because Christ also suffered for [us], leaving an example that [we] should follow in his footsteps." And the clarity of this truth hits me smack in the face. Doing what is good means we are loving another, in some way; we are doing good, *for good*. We are engaging in self-sacrifice, and some form of suffering is inherent to that. But here's the thing: it's an oddly joyful kind of suffering because it produces good fruit and directs our thoughts and vision to the one who is present among us as "the shepherd and guardian of [our] souls." Let us pray for the ability to see each moment of suffering for doing good as "a grace before God."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

At this point in the Easter season, we might think, "Why can't we focus more on the joy of Jesus' resurrection and less on the suffering that preceded it?" Well, we certainly can ... but we would lose a great part of the Paschal Mystery. We don't embrace the cross for the sake of suffering in itself. We come to the crucifixion to pass *through* it. We are an Easter people living in a Good Friday world. There's no avoiding suffering in our lives, but the Good News of Jesus Christ is that he has redeemed that suffering. He has given us victory over death and is – quite literally – the way to eternal life. In the Gospel Jesus says, "Whoever enters through me will be saved ... I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." He is our shepherd and we know his voice. During this Eastertide we have an extraordinary opportunity to attend to that voice in a particular way, and to think about how we might be hearing it in a new way this year.

ACT Is there a charity you have been meaning to call to volunteer your time? Is there a neighbor who might be able to use a helping hand? Is there a friend or family member who has fallen out of favor and you just know it's the right thing to do to get in touch? Act this week. Sacrifice just a bit for the sake of good.

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

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Summer Festival—2023

July 14 & 15

... More details to follow ...

Next Summer Festival Meeting
Thursday, May 4 at 7:30 in Longinus Hall
All are welcome!