

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

May 1, 2022



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 30

5:00 p.m. Kathleen Norkus
(Al Norkus)

Sunday, May 1

8:15 a.m. Mary Ann Holley
(Debbie & Mark Purcell)

Sunday, May 1

10:30 a.m. John Wollyung
(Edward & Erin Karlonis)

Monday, May 2

6:30 p.m. John Kutch
(John & Joyce Gerace)

Tuesday, May 3

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

Wednesday, May 4

9:00 a.m. M/M Joseph Moore Sr.
(Joe Moore Jr.)

Thursday, May 5

6:30 p.m. Thomas & Eva Francis
(Time Change) (Francis Family)

Friday, May 6

9:00 a.m. Francis & Mary Burns

Saturday, May 7

5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Sunday, May 8

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Sunday, May 8

10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Mothers
of St. John's Parish Family

Next Week's Readings

4th Sunday of Easter

(May 7/8)

Reading I: Acts 13:14, 43-52

Reading II: Revelation 7:9; 14b-17

Gospel: John 10:27-30

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

As I occasionally do, I would like to use this week's message to address some administrative matters. As you know, the Gillingham Charter School is renting two of our parish buildings: the former school and convent buildings. Gillingham has also been interested in making use of the Russell Building. Our Building Committee and I believe it would be beneficial to our parish to work out an arrangement for Gillingham's limited use of the Russell Building because this would result in some needed repairs, updates, and improvements to the building at no cost to the parish.

We are still in the early stages of studying what must be done to the Russell Building and exactly how Gillingham would be able to use it. However, if such an arrangement is feasible – and this is the point I would like to emphasize – our parish's use of the Russell Building will take priority. We have no intention of cancelling, relocating, or otherwise changing any of our parish activities that use the building (the bazaar, Lenten fish dinners, yard sales, etc.). Nor would an arrangement with Gillingham preclude the possibility of new parish activities in the Russell Building.

We will keep you updated on these developments. Until then, please do not jump to any conclusions! Do not fear that there will be changes in our parish activities. Thank you for your prayers and support as we try to make decisions that will advance the spiritual, social, material, and financial good of our parish.

*In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin*



Year of Real
PRESENCE
CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Adoration

A holy hour takes place 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.

Join us on **Thursday, May 5th** for 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

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

Patricia Thomas • Sheri Post • Robert Kline

For our Deceased

Gary Bradley

Upcoming Events

May

1	9:15 a.m.	Parent Meeting	L.H.
1	10:30 a.m.	Little Children’s Sunday Pre School	L.H.
6	7:00 p.m.	First Communion Rehearsal	Church
7	5:00 p.m.	First Communion	Church
12	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
15	10:30 a.m.	Little Children’s Sunday Pre School	L.H.
15	11:30 a.m.	May Procession	Church
18	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg	L.H.
19	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
20	4 -7 p.m.	Yard Sale	R.B.
21	9—noon	Yard Sale	R.B.
26	9:00 a.m.	Ascension Thursday—Mass	Church
26	5:15 p.m.	Ascension Thursday—Mass	Church
26	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.

L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building
 Tues. 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group Zoom
 Meeting ID: 824-780-6433 Password: Mary



Weekly Collection

April 16/17\$4,458.15
April 23/24\$4,394.15
Improv. & Repairs1,349.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Leo & Dorothy Lotz by Ron & Pat Lombel
2. Health of Shanna Deibert by Fred & Hilda Maley

St. Joseph

1. IMO Rick Pugh by Fred & Hilda Maley
2. Special Intention

Sanctuary

Special Intention

Guardian Angels

1. Health of Jose Dibetta by Fred & Hilda Maley
2. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family
- 3&4. IMO Matilda Schaeffer by Eleanor Schaeffer

Liturgical Min. Schedule

May 7 —5:00 p.m.

Reader: Patty O’Neill
Euch.Min.: John O’Neill
Servers: Michael & Spencer Prestileo
Cantor: Joanne Matina

May 8— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn
Euch.Min.: Bobby Bechtel
Servers: Emma Seiger
Cantor: Tina Seiger

May 8— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis
Euch.Min.: Mary Modesto
Servers: Riley Doyle
Cantor: Dave Derbes

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:

will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on May 12, 19, and 26**. Join us in person in Longinus Hall (usually) 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.

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.

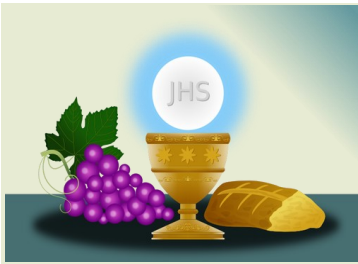


PRAY THE ROSARY

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.

Prayer for our Troops Around the World

"Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior."



First Holy Communion

...will take place on Saturday,
May 7th at 5:00 p.m. Mass

* * * *

Rehearsal is Friday, May 6th at
7:00 p.m. in Church.



May Procession

The CCD students will end their
year by having a May Procession
**after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on
Sunday, May 15th.**

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 Consecra-
tion. Afterwards we will crown
Mary. All will be invited to sing
the chorus to Immaculate Mary.
Please join us for this special
Marian devotion!



Thank You Department

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

Cast & Crew - *Christian Alvarez, Denise Alvarez, Dominic Alvarez, Laila Alvarez, Mike Ambrose, Jim Blackwell, Connie Brown, Ava Ciarvella, Rose Ciarvella, Sandy Clauser, Dylan Herb, Kerry Herb, Landon Herb, Paul Herb, Zach Herb, Dottie Kull, Joe Kurtek, Maureen Kurtek, John Lisowski, Denise Logan, Dominic Mercuri, Violet Murphy, R.J. Post, Sandi Post, Michael Prestileo, Joe Rittle, Addison Smith, Rick Smith, Bryce Sophy, Larry Steficek, Jared Terraciano, Ivy Vengen, Teigham Vengen, John Vuksta, Jesse Wade, Travis Yeager.*

Jesus – portrayed by *Mark Major*

Narrators – *Vincent Balulis, Debbie Herb, Jesse Wade*

Solo—*Tina Seiger*

Script & Director - *Father Bobbin*

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, Bob Bechtel, Bill Gianfagna, Palmieri Family, Gerry Schwartz, Rob Wiscount

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

Mary Bound, Sandy Frinzi, Aleksander & Stanley Gorski, Josh & Dave Steffan, Father Bobbin.

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

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

Michelle Ambrose, Kate Blackwell, Mary Bound, Ed Brahler, Janet Daubert, David Derbes, Bobby DiCello, Chrissy DiCello, Barbara Fox, Lucilla Kochol, Joanne Matina, Joe Piel, Barbara Powers, Jason Prestileo, Jill Prestileo, Michael Prestileo, Spencer Prestileo, Vincent Prestileo, Butch Scheetz, Pat Scheetz, Sue Scheetz, Marianne Wollyung

Thank You to our kitchen volunteers who helped prepare the **Lenten Dinners**. We especially thank *Ann Marie DeFrank* for overseeing all preparations. Your time and talent is very much appreciated. Also, thank you to everyone who patronized the dinners.

Kevin Aucker, Ann Marie DeFrank, Millie Fredericks, Mary Beth Harvey, Carole Quirin, Linda Smith, Theresa Skrobak, Dave & Josh Steffan, Tony Weltmer, Joanne & Ralph Wood

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 looks just perfect!

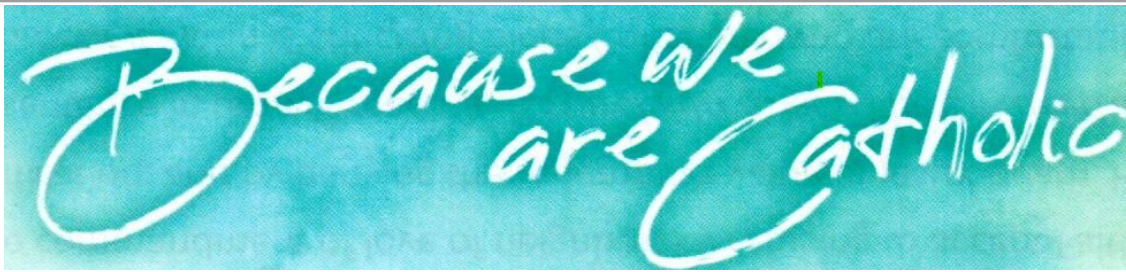
Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Pattie Miller, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Mim Tirjan, Joanne Wood

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.



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.



Dear Friends,

We often talk about the “how” of the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal: How does the money that you donate help needy people throughout the five counties of our Diocese? How do your gifts support our Catholic schools, feed the hungry, provide care for older adults, help students at our special learning centers, educate seminarians, and so much more.

This year I’d like to talk about the “why” behind the Appeal. Why do we have a Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal? In addition, and perhaps more importantly, why should you join the tens of thousands of parishioners around the Diocese who give so generously?

Why do we do it?

It’s because of our faith. It’s Because We Are Catholic. That’s the theme of this year’s Appeal. It is also a foundational tenet of our Catholic faith.

Through the Because We Are Catholic Appeal, we, as Catholics, are at the front lines of helping those in need. Through the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal, we do God’s work, day in and day out, in a vibrant way. Through the Appeal, with God’s blessings and help, we can do great things for our neighbors and for our communities.

I am tremendously proud of our work together and extremely grateful for your support. I ask that you prayerfully consider a gift to this year’s Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal, and I thank you in advance for your faith, your kindness, and your prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Alfred A. Schlert
Bishop of Allentown



Assumption BVM School

Open enrollment at Assumption BVM School in Pottsville has begun for the 2022-2023 school year! Now accepting new students! Limited spots available in Kindergarten through Grade 8. Transportation is available from most neighboring districts. Please contact the school at 570-622-0106 or tmengel@assumptionbvmschool.net for more information, to schedule a tour or shadow day for your student.

PreSchool Registration

Saint Patrick Preschool, located in the Assumption BVM school building, offers 2, 3, and 5 day programs both half and full days. Fundraising options available. For more information please contact 570-622-0106.



Neighboring Events

St. Ambrose Church, Schuylkill Haven is offering a trip on Thursday, May 12 to Baltimore, MD. Itinerary includes a tour and Mass at the Basilica of the Assumption, boxed lunch at Fort McHenry, a tour and tasting at Sagamore Distillery, and concludes with free time at the Inner Harbor and dinner at Phillips Seafood. Cost is \$190/person and includes transportation, meals, tours, taxes and gratuities. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 570-385-1031, option 1 or visit www.stambrosehaven.com/parish-trip-2022.

Summer Kick-Off Golf Tournament, sponsored by St. Patrick Church on Saturday, May 21. Registration - 7 am; Shotgun Start - 8 am at Hidden Valley Golf Course, Pine Grove. Please call St. Patrick Rectory at 570-622-1802, ext. 0 for more information.

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

May 1, 2022

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 | Rev 5:11-14 | Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

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

The accounts of Jesus' appearances to the disciples after his resurrection often puzzle me, and today's reading is no exception. There stands Jesus, within sight, yet the Apostles "did not realize that it was Jesus." Hello?! I know we're in the midst of a daylight saving time debate, but I'm fairly sure "dawn" meant the sun was up. Yet as soon as Jesus speaks and they follow his instructions, they realize he is their Lord. Simon Peter wastes no time; he dives into the sea and makes for the shore. Peter and the disciples show us that while it is important to recognize Jesus, it's what we do next that matters. As we learn in Acts, they boldly say his name despite the Sanhedrin's warning, and most will go on to be martyred for the Church. Thanks to them, we recognize Jesus - in the Eucharist, in Scripture, and in Tradition, and on the crucifixes in our homes and churches. Peter challenges us to "dive in," moving from faith to action. The specifics will differ for each of us, but we can study the lives of the Apostles and the saints to find inspiration.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Is it a Catholic thing or the fact that I'm a closet introvert? I sometimes struggle with talking about Jesus. Which is why today's reading from Acts challenges me. The Sanhedrin had warned the Apostles not to even speak Jesus' name. Yet they don't cower in fear or simply go back to the relatively quiet lives they led before they met Jesus. They rejoice to be found worthy "to suffer dishonor for the sake of [Jesus'] name." Their commitment challenges us to be bold - not only with our words but with our actions as well. In the same way that teaching another person math or spelling helps us learn, witnessing to our faith by sharing it with others helps us deepen our faith and answer God's call to be his disciple, striving to build his kingdom on earth.

STUDY This week, look up the feast days and read about the saint of the day. What can we learn from their example?



A MULTITUDE OF FISHES.

Parochial Administrator *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon.....*Lawrence Lonergan*

Parish Council President*Robert Bechtel*
Choir Director/Organist*David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator..... *Lucilla Kochol*

Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
E-mail stjbparish@comcast.net
Russell Building (570) 628-3002
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

