

5TH SUNDAY of Easter

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

May 7, 2023

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-mailstjbparish@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 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

Mass Intentions

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)

Monday, May 8

6:30 p.m. St. John's Parish Family

Tuesday, May 9

9:00 a.m. Thomas & Eva Francis
(Joseph, Sonya, Joe Halsey)

Wednesday, May 10

9:00 a.m. Deceased of Becker Family
(Bob & Mary Porter)

Thursday, May 11

9:00 a.m. Joseph Lescavage
(Nancy Lescavage)

Friday, May 12

9:00 a.m. Raphael Murphy
(Family)

Saturday, May 13

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

Sunday, May 14

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

Sunday, May 14

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

Next Week's Readings

Sixth Sunday of Easter

(May 13/14)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8, 14-17

Reading II: 1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel: John 14:15-21

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to our young people who received First Communion at the 5pm Mass this Saturday. Our parish celebration of First Communion is a good reminder to appreciate the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Just as our young people spend a lot of time preparing for First Communion and get excited for it, we never want to take Holy Communion for granted or let it become mindless routine. One way to appreciate the Eucharist more deeply is to spend time in Eucharistic Adoration. We continue to have Adoration almost every Monday from 5:30pm to 8:00pm, with Mass at 6:30.

As you know, May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Mother. As we continue to celebrate the Easter season, we know that not only is the risen Jesus present in our lives, but Mary is also. Consider doing something this month to remind yourself of Mary's presence in your life as Mother.

Also, a reminder of our "vocation crucifix." Consider taking it home for a week and offering prayers for vocations each day. Simply call the rectory to be put on the list. This is the season for ordinations. Pray for the seminarians who will be ordained deacons in Allentown on May 20 on their way to becoming priests next year. Pray for Deacon Alex Brown, who will be ordained a priest in Allentown on June 3.

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.



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 • Josephine Gallagher • Tom Jefferson*

For our Deceased

Nancy Brahler Newton • Theresa Tuite • Rev. George Winne

Upcoming Calendar

May

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.
23	7:00 p.m.	Building Committee/Vision Committee	R.B.
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

Weekly Collections

April 29/30\$4,369.65
Easter\$10,691.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Mary Kutch by Pat Kutch
2. IMO Loretta Boyer by Pat Kutch

St. Joseph

1. IMO Leo Leinheiser by Family
2. IMO Frank A. Tobin by Rick & Michelle Stone

Sanctuary

IMO Marcella Sockalosky by Rick & Michelle Stone

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Edward P. Lubinsky by Rick & Michelle Stone
2. IMO Donald M. Lubinsky Sr. by Rick & Michelle Stone
3. IMO Albert & Viola Lubinsky by Rick & Michelle Stone
4. IMO Jim & Ann Hopkins by Rick & Michelle Stone

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.*

Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations to the girls and boys of St. John’s Parish Family who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday, April 27th by Bishop Alfred Schlert.

Lauren Ita Brennan
 Rhyan Julie Brennan
 Anna Elizabeth Burke
 Natalie Margaret Burkot
 Grace James Lapachinsky
 Finley Zdislava McNamara
 Sophia Christopher Palmieri
 Kylie Teresa Siket



Nicholas John Fanelli
 Connor Francis Felty
 Christopher Michael Hobbs
 Colin Michael McGinley
 Hunter-Rian Michael Nothhaft
 Robert Joseph Post

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

Liturgical Min. Schedule

May 13 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Patty O’Neill
 Euch.Min.: John O’Neill
 Server: Ethan Grabowski
 Cantor: Stanley Gorski

May 14 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Michelle Ambrose
 Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder
 Servers: Connor, Cooper, Cole Felty
 Cantor: Amy Joyce

May 14 — 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Frank Murphy
 Euch.Min.: Charlie Miller
 Server: Spencer, Vincent, Michael Prestileo
 Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Donated by:

Frank Angelo
 Vincent Balulis
 David & Alice Bechtel
 Robert Bechtel
 Chris & Jared Black
 Ann Blankenhorn & Family
 Jack & Mary Bound & Family
 Kathy Brahler
 Mary Beth Brahler
 Dolores Brophy
 Paul & JoAnna Buber

Frank & Mindy Chambers
 Julian & Nora Chiplonia
 Sandy Clauser
 Ken & Tammy Cooper
 Loui Cross
 Bob Daniels
 Janet Daubert
 Deibert Family
 Dave & Joan Deiter
 Derbes Family
 Tara DeStefano
 Family
 Don & Joanne Doyne
 Eagan Family
 Tom & Cindy Elison
 Fetterolf Family
 John & Millie Fredericks
 Joe & Sandy Frinzi
 Tony & Anne Gaburick
 Karla Garland
 John & Joyce Gerace
 Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
 Ted Gurecki Jr.
 Hahner Family
 Sr. Mary Jane Hahner
 Bill & Denise Hauptly
 Heenan Family
 Jerry & Diane Hudock
 Theresa Hossler
 Carl & Kathy Hughes
 Larry Kelly
 Grace King
 Tony & Lucilla Kochol
 Lucilla Kochol
 John, Cathy, Hannah Kostick
 Steve & Jan Kurtek
 Pat Kutch
 Joanne & Ed Leffler
 Nancy Lescavage
 Eric & Jen Lieberman
 Family
 Ron & Pat Lombel
 Frances Lorenz
 Bob & Rosemary Lynn

In Memory of:

Marjorie Angelo
 Tara Lang
 Gloria R. Bechtel
 Alice Moran
 Barney, Virginia, Karen Comfort
 Ann & Joel Hoepstine, Hirsch Family
 Dottie & Doc Bound
 Joseph Brahler
 Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler
 Kocur & Brophy Families
 Edward Buber, Edward & Mary Buber,
 John & Joan Sarnosky, John & Bertha Kralick, Anna Tarris
 Chambers & Crater Families
 Chiplonia & Mooney Families
 Carl & Barbara Weiss
 Cooper & Letcavage Families
 Mary Ellen Cross
 John Toomey
 Wellington Daubert
 Mary Pugh
 Mildred & Ed Deiter, Theresa & Jim Brennan
 James & Lillian Connolly, Petrovitch Family, Greta Derbes, Peggy Ebling
 Family Members
 Leinheiser & Doyle Family, Baby Robbie Doyle
 Donald & Nancy Doyne, Frank & Josephine Brozana
 Jack & Dot Ryan, Fred & Marie Eagan
 Smith & Elison Families
 Victoria & Franklin Fetterolf, Theresa Drahorsky, Albert Faiola
 Fredericks & Gulbinsky Families
 All Deceased Family Members
 William & Irene Williams, John & Kathryn Gaburick
 Charles & Barbara Sheppo
 Justina Mitchell
 Rita Mae Switzler
 Phyllis Gurecki
 Mary & George Hahner
 Hahner Family
 Alfred & Jeannette Hauptly
 Barbara & Eleanore Forney
 Hudock Family, Margaret & Lil Bukontis
 Frederick Hossler Jr. & Sr.
 John & Florence Hughes, Al & Marie Majestic
 Mary Kelly
 George & Grace Werez, Francis J. King, Francis & Alice Gleason
 Josephine A. Kochol
 Joseph & Teresa Fanelli
 Kostick & Connors Family
 Steve & Anna Kurtek, Joe & Joan Garland
 John, Charles, Mary Kutch, Harry, Loretta, Paul Boyer
 Leffler & Bonan Families
 Mary & Joseph Lescavage
 Annette Lieberman
 Annette Lieberman, John B. Lieberman IV
 Lotz & Lombel Families
 Bartholomew & Lorenz Families, Charles Lorenz
 Yanushefsky & Lynn Families



Donated by:

Fred & Hilda Maley
 Neil & Frances Manus
 Maria Mason
 John & Joanne Mestishen
 Frances Brahler Mickey
 Charles & Patricia Miller
 Florence Miller
 James Minchhoff
 John & Susan Minnichbach
 Karen Muncy
 Barbara Munster
 Mary Jo Nabholz & Family
 Keith & Margaret Naffin
 Richard Naffin
 Bob, DeAnna & Ava Orłowski
 M/M Joseph Orzechowski
 Rick & Angela Oswald & Sons
 Palmieri Family
 Paul Family
 John & Bernice Petock
 Joe & Judy Piel
 Bob & Mary Porter
 Bob & Irene Post
 Jim & Donna Pugh & Family
 Pat Pugh
 William L. Pugh
 Mark & Deborah Purcell
 Noble & Jule Quandel
 Linda Ralston
 Reene Reddington
 Carol Rehnert & Daughters
 John & Diane Sabados
 Pat, Missy & Amy Scheetz
 Joanne Schultz
 Ed & Gerry Schwartz
 William & Mary Ann Schweikert
 Tina, Ryan, Emma Seiger
 Natalie Setlock & Family
 David & Mary Ann Shoopack
 Smith Family
 Martin & Linda Smith
 Peggy Smith
 Joe & Dorothy Stangl & Michael Felker
 Children-Bob, Carolyn, Lois, Carl, Dorothy
 Grandchildren
 Larry Steficek
 Rick & Michelle Stone & Sons
 Peggy Stoppi
 Rita Tamalavage
 Abigail Rose & Marlow Grave Anthony
 Miriam Tirjan
 Cunningham & Tray Families
 Michael & Elizabeth Tyson
 Jerome & Angela Urban
 Luis R. & Virginia Visot
 Daniel & Anne Marie Wachter

In Memory of:

Maley & Pugh Families
 Family Members
 Pat Mason Sr.
 Woznisky & Mestishen Families
 Joseph & Elizabeth Brahler, Mark Mickey
 Pasquale & Sabina Quinn
 Miller & Semmindinger Families
 Family Members
 Our Parents
 All the Saints, especially St. Catherine
 Barb & Charles Sheppo
 Michael, Mary, David Andrescavage
 Frank & Rose Boris
 Frank & Rose Boris
 Phyllis Orłowski
 M/M Edward Orzechowski, M/M Peter Samkavitz
 Herman & Helen DiSarro
 Mary Merchinsky, Anthony Merchinsky, Frank Palmieri
 Joseph, Olive, Marguerite Minchhoff
 Rosenberger, Tropp, Sapp & Petock Families
 John & Ruth Ebling, William & Antoinette Piel
 M/M Robert Becker Family, M/M Robert Porter Family
 R.J. Post
 Ryan, Pugh, Fedock Families
 Michael & Gilda Matz
 William H. & Mary Pugh
 Mary Ann Holley, George Holley, Theresa & Zoie Holley, Fran Purcell, Dorothy Purcell
 Quandel & Trasatt Families
 Pat & Freeman Ralston, Pauline & Joseph Martunas
 Joseph & Rita Reddington
 Rehnert & Lipsky Families
 John & Bernice Sabados
 Jack Scheetz, M/M Henry Uckele
 Dolly Parsick
 Glunz & Schwartz Families
 Ketner & Schweikert Families
 Bill & Dot Elison
 Maccarone & Setlock Families
 Shoopack & Sullivan Families
 Edward Smith
 Smith & Reichwein Families, Lescavage & Shattas Families
 Thomas & Hilda Burns
 Erika Stangl Seasock
 Carl & Ada Hahner
 John & Juleanne Steffan
 Joseph & Joan Steficek
 Lubinsky & Tobin Families, Stone & Hopkins Families
 Drew Walcott, Bill Stoppi
 Shevokas & Tamalavage Families
 M/M Bruno Tassone
 Emily, Joyce, Leo Leinheiser
 Lorrie Cunningham
 Dullard & Tyson Families
 Jerome "Jerry" Urban
 Luisa & Lolita Visot, Virginia Calder
 Vincent & Anna Lescavage, Wilfred & Margaret Wachter



Pot Luck Stand



We are still seeking new items for the Pot Luck stand for the Summer Festival. We need more than 150 adult or children prizes. Prizes can be gift cards, household items, kids puzzles, crafts, toys, etc. We thank those who have already donated and thank you for all future donations. Bins are available in the back of church for donations. Any questions or to schedule a drop off, please contact Maureen Derbes at 570-691-5098.

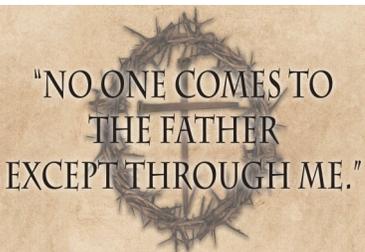
Grotto Flowers

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.

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.



Easter Flowers

Donated by:

Rebecca Weiss
Matt Whalen
Danielle R. White
Danielle R. White
Family
Barbara Wollyung & Family
Marianne & Chris Wollyung
Mary Zambo & Family

In Memory of:

M/M Richard H. Weiss
John Whalen
Pauline Neeser, Dorothy O'Hara,
Joe & Bernice Neser, Charles Pherici
Joseph & Mary Wollyung, Joseph E. Rosenberger
Joe Wollyung Jr, John Wollyung
John Wollyung, Philip & Jeanne Marzullo
Zambo & Yenilaitus Families



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.



Dine-Out Event

Thank you to everyone who supported our Dine-Out Event at DiMaio's Mustard Seed Restaurant on April 18th. The winner of the raffle basket was Lori Morgan, Pine Grove.

A big thank you to DiMaio's Mustard Seed Restaurant in Orwigsburg for their donation and support of the dining event. Thanks to the various businesses that donated to our raffle basket: Adelphia

Seafood, Dairy Queen, Forget-Me-Not Florist, Hope Hill Lavender Farm, Rita's Italian Ice, Tony's Meat Market. The St. John's bakers were terrific, as always!

The total recognized from the event, which will go towards building restorations and repairs was **\$2,269.25**... which included the **Bake Sale \$624.25**, **Basket Raffle \$1,020**, **DiMaio's \$625** (10% proceeds from the day), Please mark your April 2024 calendar — as DiMaio's will again support us in another Dine-Out event!

Nativity BVM School News ...

Dean of Students ... Nativity High School is pleased to announce that Mr. Michael Grabowski will be our new Dean of Students beginning on June 5, 2023. He is a 1998 graduate of Nativity BVM High School and has a B.S. degree from West Chester University in Mathematics, a M. Ed. From DeSales University and is working on his Principal Certification through Alvernia University.

Mr. Grabowski has spent much of his teaching career at Tamaqua High School and is a veteran of the PA National Guard. Mr. Grabowski is married to Annie Kimber Grabowski, Nativity Class of 1999, and they have three children, Ethan and Ryan at Nativity and Ella at Assumption BVM. He and his family are active members of St. John the Baptist Parish in Pottsville. The Nativity family is excited to welcome Mr. Michael Grabowski to the staff!



May 7, 2023 | Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 6:1-7 | 1 Pt 2:4-9 | Jn 14:1-12

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

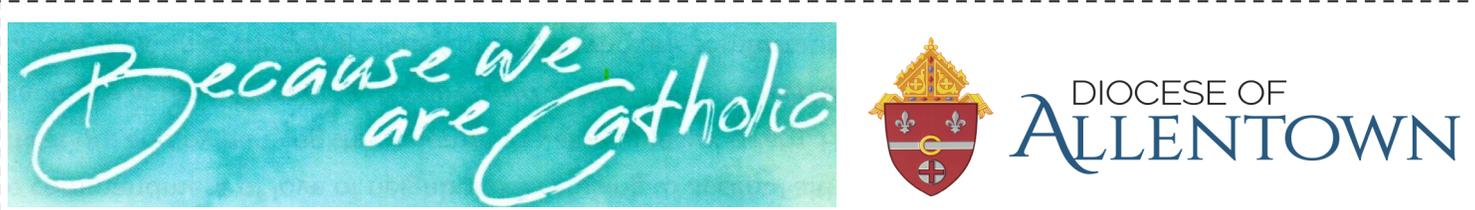
Recently, I went through a period of spiritual dryness, and I questioned my ability to make faith the central tenet of my life. Although I had always loved reading Scripture, I felt I needed reassurance that God was truly present with me. So I did what many people do: I asked God for a sign that he was real. Nothing happened. The sky didn't open; doves and rays of light didn't magically appear announcing God's presence. Although I didn't receive what I envisioned as a "heavenly sign," I looked down at the Bible in my hands and realized that God's word, handed down through the millennia, had been my companion all this time and was indeed the "sign" I was looking for. Which is why Jesus' question to Philip in today's Gospel struck a chord with me: "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me?" If Jesus asked me this same question, I want to be able to answer, "Yes, Lord, I know you through your sacred word, through partaking of the Eucharist and through the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit who is with me each and every day."

ACTION Faith is rarely a straight path – sometimes there are sharp curves, steep hills, or roadblocks. If you feel lost or could use someone to talk to about faith, reach out to your parish and ask about contacting a spiritual director. *Come, Holy Spirit, and fill me with your grace.*

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

What does "knowing Jesus" mean for me in my everyday life? It means hearing his words and acting on them: "I am the way and the truth and the life ... If you know me, then you will also know my Father." In following Christ, we know that Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in him. Jesus Christ is God! And as we heard in the second reading from Peter, we are not Christians on a lonely road; we are living stones that form a spiritual house. We are "called out of darkness into his wonderful light," as he describes it. Therefore, let us not be afraid to lean on our fellow Christians when we need support. And then, of course, we turn to Jesus, the cornerstone, the bedrock of our faith, and rejoice in his love for us.



ANNUAL APPEAL

Many thanks to those who have made a pledge to the *Because We are Catholic Annual Appeal*. Making a six-month pledge to the Appeal allows you to maximize the amount that you may give by making monthly payments. For example, a \$120 gift to the Appeal may be setup with six \$20 installments. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how big or small. Your generosity supports children and families in our own community and throughout the Diocese of Allentown. You can make your gift online at [BecauseWeAreCatholic.org](https://www.BecauseWeAreCatholic.org).

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Summer Festival—2023

July 14 & 15

... More details to follow ...