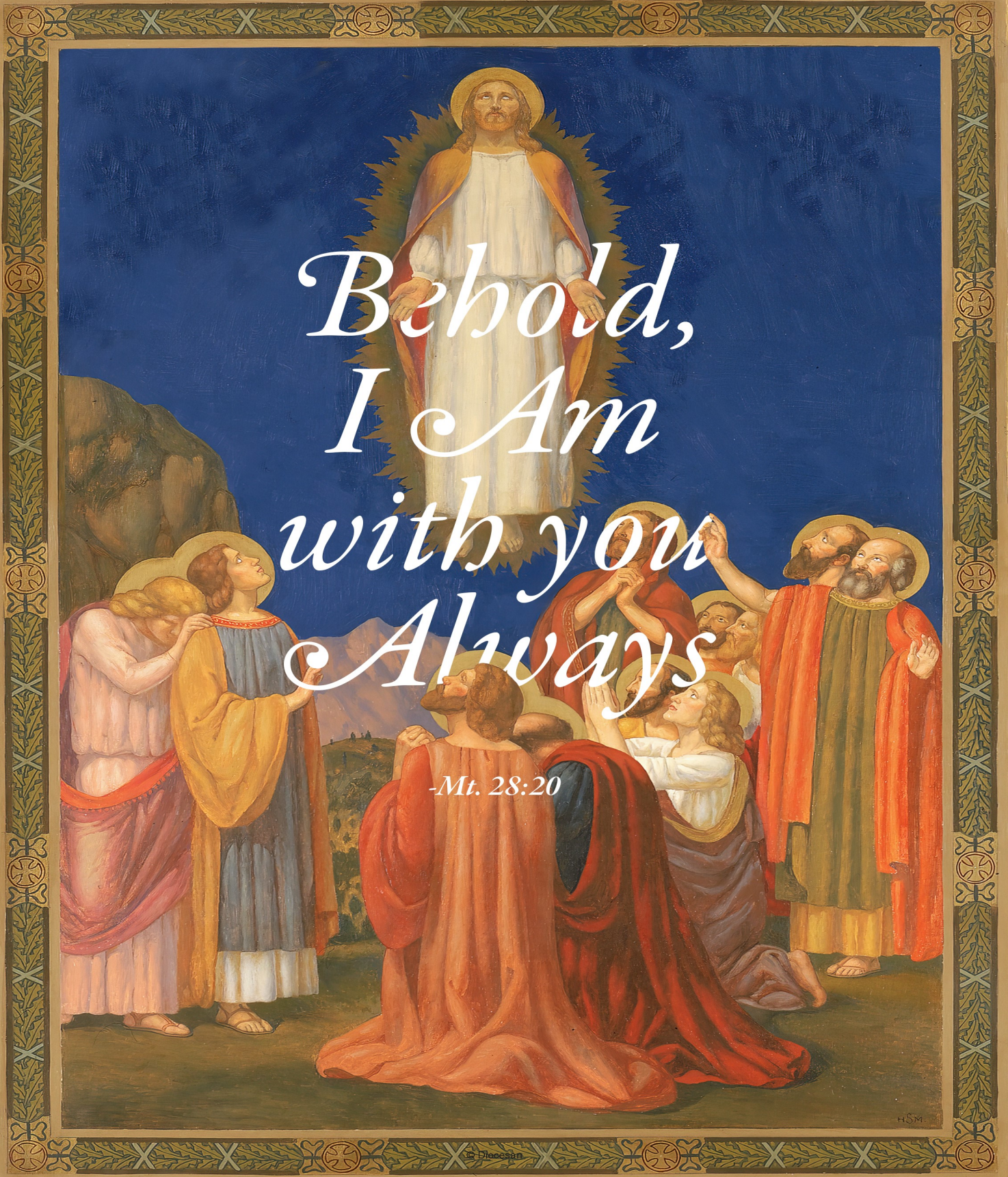


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

May 21, 2023 • Seventh Sunday of Easter



*Behold,
I Am
with you
Always*

-Mt. 28:20

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 20

5:00 p.m. Charles & Scott Bowers
(Joan Bowers)

Sunday, May 21

8:15 a.m. Cathy Mooney Troup
(Nora Chiplonia)

Sunday, May 21

10:30 a.m. Matthew Yenilaitus Family
(Tina Zambo)

Monday, May 22

6:30 p.m. Michael Maccarone
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

Tuesday, May 23

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

Wednesday, May 24

9:00 a.m. Catherine Bortzel

Thursday, May 25

9:00 a.m. Ann Lowe, 1st Anniv.
(John & Barbara Powers)

Friday, May 26

9:00 a.m. Robert & Cecelia Weiss
(Phil & Pat Markovich)

Saturday, May 27

5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Cross
(Lou Cross & Marlo Lipko)

Sunday, May 28

8:15 a.m. Patricia & Freeman Ralston
(Linda Ralston)

Sunday, May 28

10:30 a.m. Dolly Parsick
(Joanne Schultz
& Debbie Herb)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

This is the last week of the Easter season. It is traditionally a time of anticipating the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost next Sunday. Of course, the Spirit already dwells in the Church and in each of us, but we pray that we will experience His presence and His work more deeply. As you go through your day, consider frequently praying the words *Come, Holy Spirit*.

Please plan to participate in any or all of our Eucharistic Day on Sunday, June 11. Spend some time in prayer with our Lord during Adoration in the afternoon. Join us for the closing liturgy at 5pm and our supper afterwards in Longinus Hall. Please call the rectory or add your name and information to the papers in church to RSVP for the supper and to let us know if you can bring something.

I also continue to offer reminders about our vocation crucifix. Please let us know if you would like to take it home after Sunday Mass for the week and offer prayers for vocations each day. We have not heard from many people yet. This is a very easy way to do your part as we face the need for more priests and religious, not to mention strong marriages and families for the good of the Church and society.

Finally, if all goes according to plan, you should be arriving to new carpet in church next weekend. We decided this would be our one and only "elective" improvement for this calendar year. Although, in reality, the carpet would need to be replaced soon anyway as it is becoming a tripping hazard in some places. We also continue to address other maintenance and repair needs that come up around the parish property. As always, thank you for your generosity to our repair and improvements fund.

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

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
Tom Jefferson • Theresa Chapman • Josephine Gallagher

For our Deceased

Bishop Edward Cullen

**"AND BEHOLD,
I AM WITH YOU
ALWAYS, UNTIL
THE END OF
THE AGE."**

Upcoming Calendar

May

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.
25	7:30 p.m.	Summer Festival Mtg.....	F.R.

June

11	11:30 a.m.	Eucharistic Day	Church
12	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council	L.H.
14	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society	F.R.
21	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg	L.H.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

Eucharistic Day

On **Sunday, June 11**, the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), we will celebrate our "Eucharistic Day." The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from the end of the 10:30 Mass throughout the afternoon. Please consider spending some time with our Lord in prayer. Please join us at 5:00pm for a closing Liturgy of the Word and Benediction followed by a pot luck supper in Longinus Hall. If you plan to join us for the supper, RSVP by calling the rectory or adding your name to the sign-up paper in church. If you can bring something for the supper, please call the rectory or fill out the sign-up paper in church.

Women's Easter Retreat

Wednesday, May 24th at 6 p.m. at St. Ann's Church in Frackville. See the flyer and registration at [May Easter Women's Retreat.pdf \(dropbox.com\)](#)

Registration page is [Thank you for registering below the Easter Retreat! \(google.com\)](#)

If you would like register via email – please email Kristin Osenbach at kosenbach@allentowndiocese.org or by phone (610) 866-0581

Catholic Trivia Night

Wednesday, June 7th at 7p.m. at The Crimson House in Pottsville. Come out for a fun night out, featuring three rounds of trivia to test your knowledge about faith, history, and other topics! Prizes for the winning team. Hosted by Maggie Riggins and Robert Johnson from The Office of Evangelization and Formation. This is an event for anyone and everyone. No RSVP required. Table reservations can be made by contacting The Crimson House: [Lunch Dinner Food Pottsville Pa | PA 17901 | The Crimson House](#)

Weekly Collections

May 13/14\$4,973.10

Parish Dues\$1,068.00

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

Please **do not** use **tape** or **staples** to seal your offertory envelopes

Candles

BVM

1. IMO McGovern & Purcell Families by Family
2. IMO Eleanor O'Brien by Jack & Susan Minnichbach

St. Joseph

1. IMO Messer & Schultz Families by Family
2. IMO Tom & Anna Stone by Rick & Michelle Stone

Sanctuary

IMO Mary Ann Holley
by Deborah & Mark Purcell

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Ruth Minnichbach by Jack & Susan Minnichbach
2. IMO Raymond Frank by Jack & Susan Minnichbach
3. IMO Howard Minnichbach by Jack & Susan Minnichbach
4. IMO Joseph Wollyung Sr. by Wollyung Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

May 27 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz

Server: R.J. Post

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

May 28 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

Euch.Min.: Bob Bechtel

Servers: Luke Schane

Cantor: Amy Joyce

May 28 — 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Jen Daubert

Euch.Min.: John Matulevich

Server: Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

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 Deacon Lonergan, or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.

Attention

All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ...

Please let us know your plans for **June & July** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call the rectory or email Larry Lonergan at larrylonergan130@gmail.com by **May 22nd**. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

Church Cleaning Crew Thank You

We thank our Church Cleaning Group for doing a wonderful job cleaning our beautiful church including Longinus Hall and the Chapel.

Everything looks just perfect! Those volunteering their time and talent this month:

Sandy Frinzi, Debbie Kubilus, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Joanne Wood.

The more the merrier — new-comers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning on June 10th.

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."

Parish Council Nominations

It is now time to nominate new members to the council to fill the places of those whose term has expired. The term of office is three (3) years with the possibility of a second consecutive term.

Any parishioner who is at least 21 years old is eligible for nomination. You may nominate yourself or someone else. Please put nominations in the collection basket or mail your nomination to the rectory. When nominating, please don't choose just the most popular people, but choose people who will work for the parish.

We wish to thank the following members who will be completing a three-year term on the Parish Council. They **are not eligible** to be nominated for a second three-year term.

John Consugar, Darren DeArment, Patty O'Neill, Nick Quinn

The following should **NOT** be nominated as they are presently serving or finishing their term:

Term expires 2024

Joseph Gerchak, Joseph Kurtek, Nannette Major, Al Norkus, John Powers

Term expires 2025

Michael Brennan, John Crane, Heidi Gorski, Sr. Mary Jane Hahner, Michael Hummel

President: Kevin McNamara

1st Vice-President: Darren DeArment

Nomination Ballot

I Nominate:

(a) _____

(a) _____

(a) _____

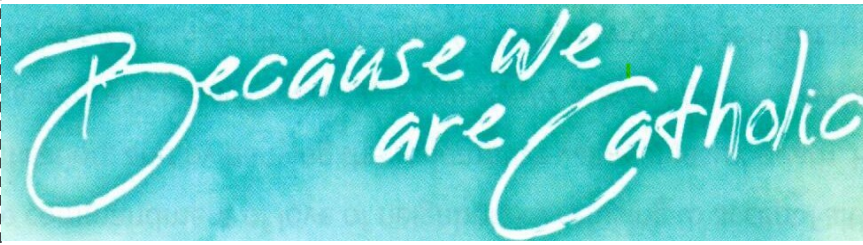
Please return to the Rectory or Collection Basket by Friday, June 2nd.

St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Women of all ages are invited to join the Catholic Women's Union. Learn how you can become involved with the Catholic Women's Union by joining us on **Wednesday, May 24th at 6 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** A "Covered Dish Dinner" will be featured. Meet the members and learn how you can be part of this unique organization. We share ideas and light refreshments are served. We work to raise money for our parish and have fun doing it. We also share in fellowship by sharing in a Spring and Fall Auction, Christmas Party, and the Covered Dish Dinner. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!

Please Note: 2023 Dues are now due!





DIOCESE OF
ALLENTOWN

ANNUAL APPEAL We are grateful to all who pledged their support. Your gift will allow our Diocese to meet the many and varied needs of people in our community. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how big or small. If you did not take the opportunity to make your gift, you may do so at any time over the next few weeks by placing your pledge form in the collection basket or visiting the Appeal website at BecauseWeAreCatholic.org. Thank you for your support!

***** SAVE THE DATE *****

Summer Festival—2023

July 14 & 15

... More details to follow ...

**Next Summer Festival Meeting
Thursday, May 25—7:30 p.m.
In the Rectory Fellowship Room**

Summer Festival — 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 570-691-6098.



Nativity BVM School News ...

Volleyball Camp Please join the 2023 Nativity Green Wave Volleyball Team for Nativity Little Girls Volleyball Camp for girls entering 3rd to 8th grade to be held **July 17, 18, 19, 20** at the school gymnasium. Girls in grades 3, 4, 5 — 5 to 6:30 p.m.; Girls in grades 6, 7, 8, — 6:30 to 8 p.m. Cost \$75.00 which includes individual instruction, team concepts, competitions, T-shirt. Instruction is by Nativity coaching staff, former and current Nativity players. Brochures available at the school. Please call Mrs. Jennifer Daubert at 570-622-8110 for more information.

Soccer Camp. This camp aims to strengthen, condition and improve young soccer players for future play. Boys and girls entering grades 3 through 9 are welcome ... **June 12 to 16** ... Grades 3 to 5 — 5 to 6:30 p.m.; Grades 6 to 9—6:30 to 8 p.m. at the school's Baseball/Softball field. Cost \$65.00 includes individual instruction, team concepts, competitions. Please call the high school at 570-622-8110 for more information.

Basketball Camp. This camp will be held at the school from **July 24 to 27** (grades 2 to 5 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon; grades 6 to 8 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$60; siblings \$50 and includes a T-shirt. Basketball fundamental skill development, offense and defense stations, one on one and group skill instruction, competition and games which will incorporate basketball skills and team work. Please contact Coach Scott Forney at 570-573-4275 for more information.



May 21, 2023

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1: 17-23 | Mt 28: 16-20

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Actions speak louder than words. How many of us have heard or said this exact phrase? I suspect most, if not all of us are quite familiar with this old adage. In fact, this is exactly what we are being told by Jesus himself in today's Gospel when he says, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." Jesus continues his direction of *action* by telling us to baptize "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." We are not directed to simply speak about Jesus with our families and church communities, we are told to **GO** among all nations and add to Jesus' flock. We continue Christ's mission when we seek to spread his love. Before Jesus joined his Father in heaven, his instructions were very clear. This is an opportunity to think about the commission we were given as part of the baptized community, and how Jesus is asking us to take action in his name.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Easier said than done. We've all heard that one as well. It's hard to feel equipped to spread the word and the will of God. We worry our words will fail us and we will look foolish. We know we are not perfect, and wonder if that means we cannot possibly be Christ's hands and feet on this earth. However, today's reading from Ephesians provides us with the perfect prayer to give us hope and faith in the Holy Spirit as we set out to fulfill the Great Commission given to us in this week's Gospel: "May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him." We are challenged to act for God, but not without being given the tools to do so with confidence.

PRAY Meditate on today's second reading from Ephesians.

Read it as if your priest was giving you a blessing before you head out of your house each morning. Let it fill your soul with love and awe for our Father, and let it give you the confidence you need to play an active role in building his kingdom until he comes again.

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



Cemetery Burial Plots & Regulations

Burial Plots

Because tragedy can strike at anytime ... when clear thinking and action can be sacrificed to the moment's need ... we want to remind our parishioners and friends that St. John the Baptist Cemetery offers its services whenever that need occurs.

Grave Lots \$ 600.00 each which includes Perpetual Care

Regulations / Guidelines

The following are guidelines established by St. John's Cemetery Committee ...

- * Shrubs are not permitted on cemetery grounds
- * Flowers or plants may be planted in the ground, but must remain within 12 inches of base of memorial. **NO Perennials** are permitted.
- * All artificial decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4, Christmas, etc.
- * **Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden — doing this creates many problems during cutting season.**
- * All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in available receptacles located at top of cemetery
- * Please refrain from placing any tombstone in or on the grounds for one year after a death to allow the ground to settle back to its natural state.

