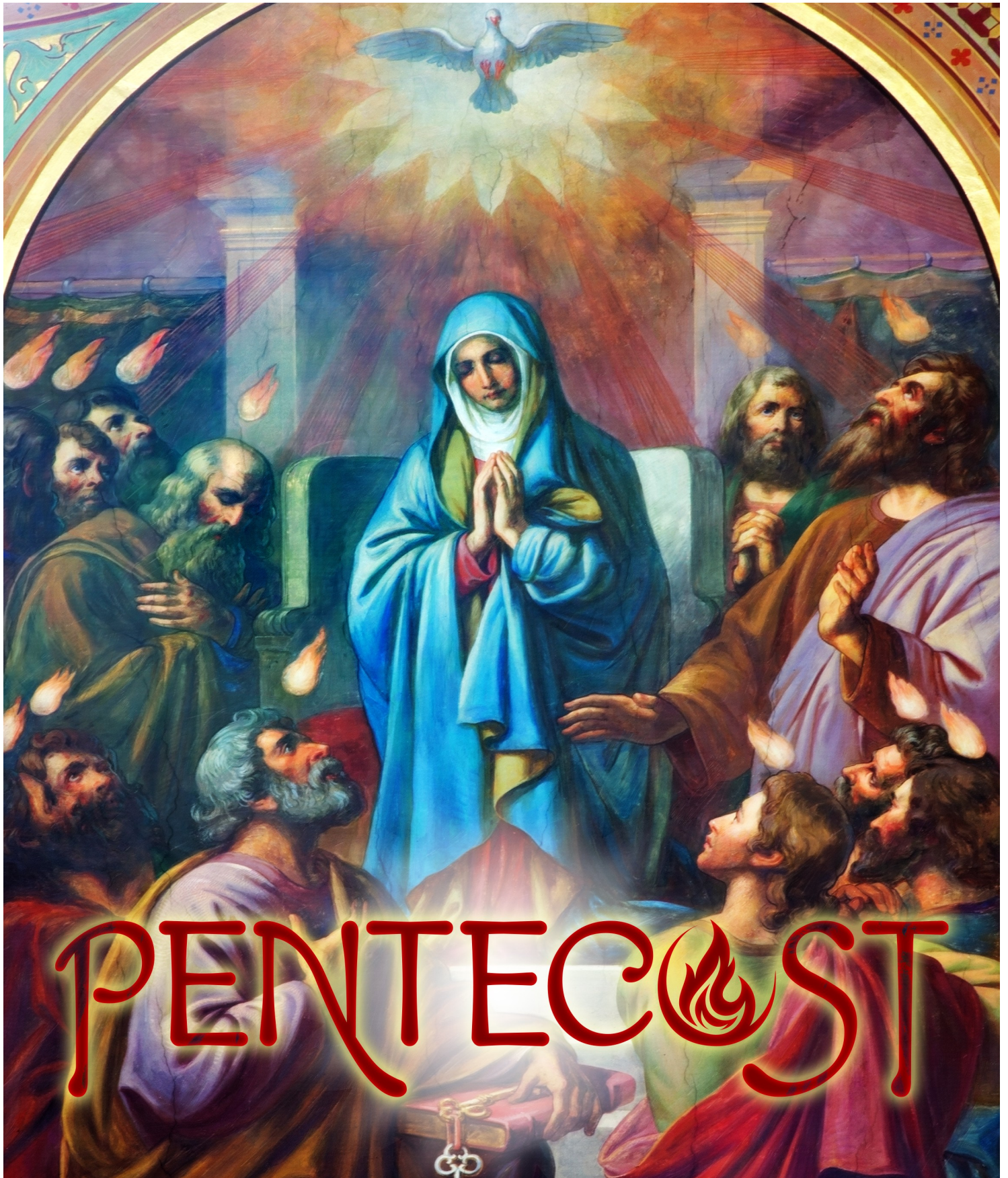


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

Pentecost Sunday • May 23rd, 2021



PENTECOST

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 24

9:00 a.m. M/M James Loeper
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

Tuesday, May 25

9:00 a.m. Christopher Figueiredo
(Dottie Gittleman)

Wednesday, May 26

9:00 a.m. James Brady
(M/M Thomas Heenan)

Thursday, May 27

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

Friday, May 28

9:00 a.m. Ronald Kimber
(Lucilla Kochol)

Saturday, May 29

5:00 p.m. 50th Wedding Anniversary
Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski
[Living Intention]
(Children)

Sunday, May 30

8:15 a.m. Noel Glunz
(Joe & Ann Burns)

Sunday, May 31

10:30 a.m. Earl & Florence Tropp

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Pentecost is one of the three most important feasts of the church year. We know that Christmas is one of the three and the Feast of Jesus' Resurrection, Easter, is the most important feast of all. Because if there was no Resurrection we would have no faith or hope at all. But Pentecost, the third most important feast, seems just like another ordinary Sunday.

However, the Jews were celebrating Pentecost three thousand years ago. It was one of the three most important feasts and was originally a harvest feast on which the first fruits were offered in gratitude to God. The word itself means simply 'fiftieth', the fiftieth day after the Jewish Passover. The Jews were celebrating that feast when the Spirit came on Jesus' followers. And so Pentecost is celebrated by Christians as the day on which God sent his Holy Spirit upon the Church.

Pentecost isn't just the celebration of a past event. It is important for us today because the Holy Spirit is important for us today. God sent his Holy Spirit not only upon the twelve apostles but upon the whole Church. We receive this Spirit at our baptism and are reaffirmed with this Spirit at our Confirmation. The Spirit gives different gifts to different members of the church so we can help each other to know and experience God and God's love. If we want to experience the fullness of the Spirit, we need each other, we need to come together, to worship together, to share our gifts with one another. Without the Spirit we are trying to breath without air, think without light, love without fire.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dave



Year of Real
PRESENCE
CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Next Week's Readings

Most Holy Trinity Sunday (May 29/30)

Reading I: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40

Reading II: Romans 8:14-17

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20



Pray

For Our Sick

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.

Patricia Thomas

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.

Upcoming Events

May

23	1:00 p.m.	Young Adult Backyard BBQ and Reflection.....	Outside
23	4:30 p.m.	Street Evangelization Training (until 6:00 p.m.)	F.R.
30	4:30 p.m.	Street Evangelization Training (until 6:00 p.m.)	F.R.
31	9:00 a.m.	Memorial Day Mass (weather permitting)	Cemetery
4	9:20 a.m.	First Friday Adoration (until 10:30 a.m.).....	Church
6	4:30 p.m.	Street Evangelization Training (until 6:00 p.m.)	F.R.

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

Tues. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Men’s GroupZoom
Meeting ID: 824-780-6433
Password: Mary

Wed. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Rosary Facebook

Sat. 7:00 p.m. Weekly Rosary Facebook
Facebook Page: St. John The Baptist Catholic Parish Family

Young Adult 18-39 BBQ

1-3 PM this Sunday, May 23rd

Behind the Rectory

Food, Lawn Games, and Reflection



Diocese of Allentown

Office of the Permanent Diaconate Formation

Do you believe that God might be calling you to discern the Ordained Ministry of Christ the Servant, as a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese of Allentown? If so you and your family are invited to attend a COME AND SEE Event at Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Church on Friday Evening, June 25, 2021 at 6 p.m. Registration is required. Please register by emailing jstewart@allentowndiocese.org or calling the Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation at (610) 332-0442 Ext. 2031.



Weekly Collection

May 15/16\$5,869.00

Improvements & Repairs\$1,448.00

Ascension Thursday \$790.00

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

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

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Ronald C. Kriston by Joan Grapsy
2. IMO Frances Prokop by Peggy Ebling

St. Joseph

1. IMO Joseph Wollyung Sr. by Barbara Wollyung
2. IMO Frances Prokop by Peggy Ebling

Sanctuary

IMO Marilyn Golod by Joan Grapsy

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Christine Bowers By Joan Bowers
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy Jr. by Joan Grapsy

Volunteers Needed

Meals on Wheels Delivery

Please join fellow parishioners and families helping to deliver boxes of food to Meals on Wheels consumers on the Saturday June 12. Please contact the rectory if you can help.



Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 IMO Edward Christ
 Mildred A. Fredericks
 Fr. Don Henry
 IMO M/M Herbert Henry
 IMO Joanne Hepler
 IMO Clare & Linda Houser
 IIMO Philomena Loeper
 MO Charles Lorenz
 IMO Dorothy Parsick
 IMO Jeanne Rehnert
 IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
 IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
 IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
 IMO Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our
bulletin this month!*

Cemetery Stations of the Cross

St. John's Parish is blessed to have a beautiful cemetery to honor and pay respect to our loved ones. In memory of Erika Stangl Seasock, Bob and Susan Hahner have coordinated a project to refurbish the outdoor Stations of the Cross located at the top of the cemetery. As we approach Memorial Day, let us take time to pray at the Stations and enjoy the scenery when you visit the cemetery. Thank you to the following who helped with this project:

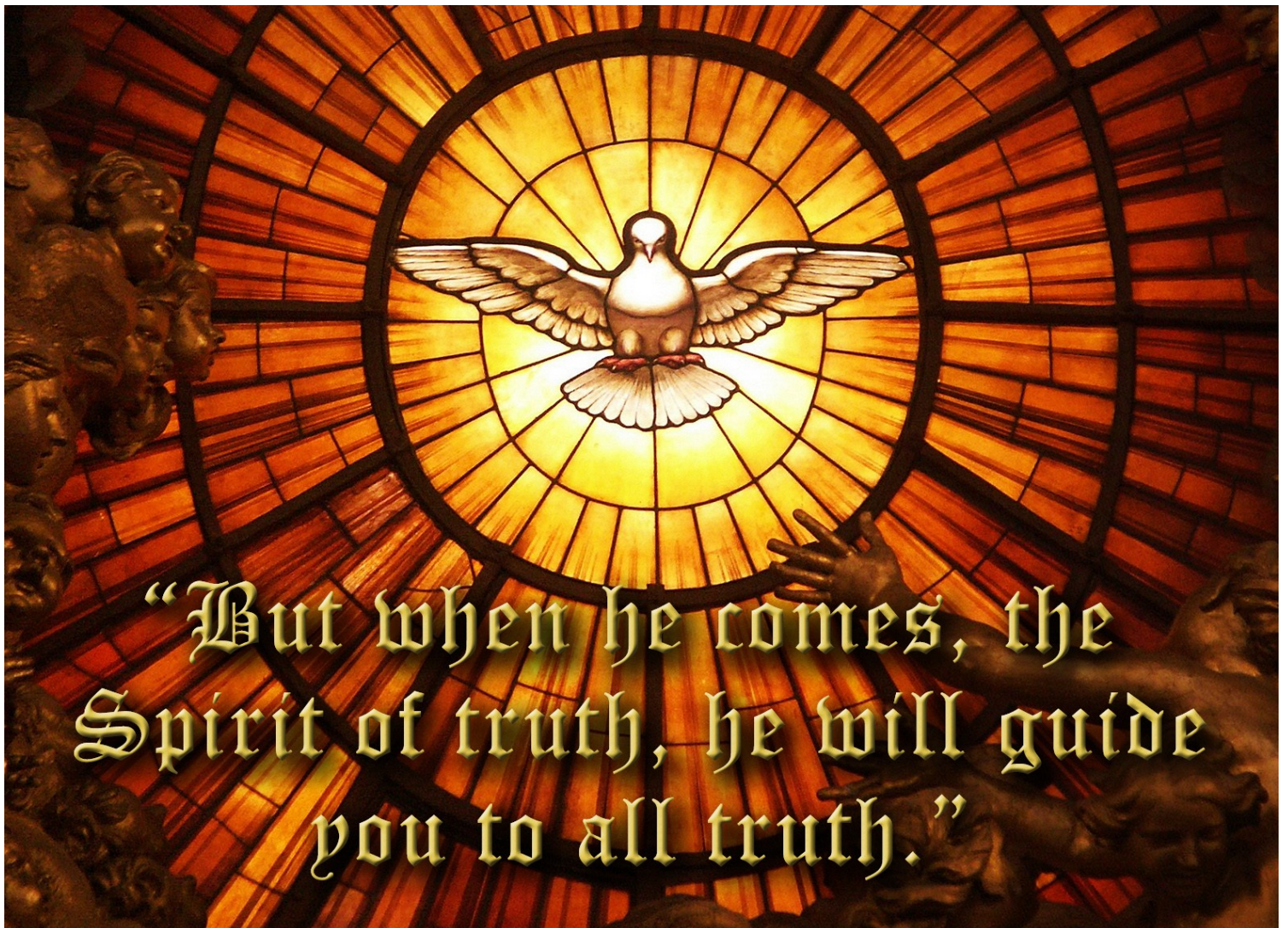
*Angela, Coy and Colt Mason
 Steve Buzalko
 Tom Squierdo
 Bill Hauptly*



Neighboring Events

Summer Bleenie Sale

St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 1115 Walnut St. in Ashland. Pre Orders due by June 1 ... NO EXCEPTIONS. Prices: \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00; Pre-order Pick up 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 5. Call the parish office to place your order 570-875-1521



Pentecost Sunday



The Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles at Pentecost, gifting them with powerful graces to help them be faithful Christians and spread the Gospel. These graces are the same gifts given in the Sacrament of Confirmation, which *confirms* the graces received at Baptism. Knowing about these graces and how to use them is crucial because, to benefit from them, you must ask for them. They are powerful tools for good, if they are used! The gifts are named in the Bible: “The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord” (Isaiah 11: 2).

The gift of WISDOM allows us to see God at work in the world and in our lives, giving a deeper meaning to all things.

The gift of UNDERSTANDING helps us to comprehend the ways in which we should live in light of the truths of God, so we are not confused or misled by the attractions of the world. Through the right use of this gift, we can use our powers of reason to better understand the truths of existence.

The gift of COUNSEL, also called RIGHT JUDGMENT, helps us see the difference between what is truly right and what is truly wrong, and then to choose the right. This gift helps us avoid sin and follow the prudent path of virtue that Christ has provided to help us be happy, even in this life.

The gift of FORTITUDE, or COURAGE, helps us to be strong in standing up for what is right—even if we might be misunderstood or mistreated. This is more than physical strength because it includes a firmness of mind required to be

faithful to what is good and reject evil—even when it is hard.

The gift of KNOWLEDGE is more than information. In this context, KNOWLEDGE refers to a continual interest in knowing the things of God, especially as revealed through God’s Word, through His Only-Begotten Son Jesus Christ, and through the continual teachings of His Church.

The gift of PIETY, or REVERENCE, brings an abiding sense of respect for God and the things relating to God that is deeply personal. Through true PIETY, we realize our total dependence upon God and come before Him with humility, trust, and love, helping us give right worship and obedience to God as Creator, Father, Savior, and Sanctifier.

The gift of FEAR OF THE LORD helps us appreciate with wonder and awe the magnificent glory and majesty of God, who is All-Perfect in Power, Knowledge, Goodness, Beauty, and Love. With true Fear of the Lord, we come to despise the thought of ever being separated from Him—not out of fear of being punished, but with a reverent love.

If we allow these gifts to work in our souls, then they also bear fruit, as Saint Paul tells us:

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5: 22-23)

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a personal Pentecost that arms us with the graces to do God’s Will and to bear fruit that will last into eternity.



May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 2:1-11 | 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 | Jn 20:19-23
or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

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

“Come, Holy Spirit!” On Pentecost Sunday, which we celebrate 50 days after Easter, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit upon the disciples. The readings use the language of the senses to describe the powerful presence of the Spirit: A breath, a mighty wind, tongues of fire, a cacophony of languages somehow understood by all. Jesus sends the Spirit upon each of us as well. And while we may not experience the Holy Spirit with our physical senses, I bet each one of us has sensed the Spirit’s presence at different times in life: a homily that deeply resonated, a sense of awe at God’s creation, a “moral compass” that guided us toward what is right, or when we found the words to console a friend in crisis or vice versa. Just as the Spirit transformed the disciples and emboldened them to build up the Church by carrying on Jesus’ mission, we, too, can ask the Holy Spirit to guide us and strengthen us to be a force for love and unity in our families, parishes, and communities.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In today’s Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples out to continue his ministry, assuring them of the presence of the Holy Spirit to guide them. We, too, have been given the gifts of the Holy Spirit and commissioned to use them to build up the Church. Well before we learned about concepts such as “emotional intelligence” or skills tests, Saint Paul assured the Corinthians that there are many different gifts and ministries, but the same Spirit. Our gifts may even change as we move from one chapter of life to another. For example, high school and college students may help lead retreats or participate in service projects, young adults may build a parish website or lead a Bible study, those who are homebound may offer to pray for others in their parish. For followers of Christ, the only option not on the table is becoming complacent. As we move from the Easter season to “Ordinary Time,” let’s invite the Holy Spirit to show us how to be “extra-ordinary” in our discipleship in the coming days and weeks. Then follow through.

PRAY Do you sometimes get the Monday blahs? Try starting the day with the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking for guidance (and some pep in our step!) as we begin the week:
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Pastor..... *Rev. David J. Loeper*
Deacons.....*Luis R. Visot and Lawrence Lonergan*

Pastoral Assistant.....*Bobby Rienzo*
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

Tuesday 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

First Sunday of each month..... 11:30 a.m.
Second Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass
Baptismal Preparation for Parents must precede the Baptism.
Please contact Father Dave 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

