

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

May 25, 2025 • Sixth Sunday of Easter



*Peace
I
leave
with
you*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 24

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

Sunday, May 25

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

Sunday, May 25

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

Monday, May 26

9:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family
(Time Change)

Tuesday, May 27

9:00 a.m. Louis Fanelli
(Ian & Terry Lee Family)

Wednesday, May 28

9:00 a.m. Joseph Stoffey
(Bridget Burns Schwartz)

Ascension of the Lord

Wednesday, May 28

5:15 p.m. Calvin Hoy
(Hoy Family)

Thursday, May 29

9:00 a.m. Earl J. & Florence F. Tropp
& Martin J. Kerns

Friday, May 30

9:00 a.m. Joseph Mirabella
(Maccarone Family)

Saturday, May 31

5:00 p.m. Cathy & Charles Bowers
(Kathleen Williams)

Sunday, June 1

8:15 a.m. Susan Legase
(Sandi, Sheri, F.J. Post III)

Sunday, June 1

10:30 a.m. Anna Orlowsky
(Joe Orlowsky)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Perhaps by now you have learned some things about Pope Leo XIV. One way to get an insight into the Holy Father is to reflect on the name he chooses. Just as Pope Benedict XVI was looking back to Benedict XV in choosing a name, we now need to look back to Pope Leo XIII.

Leo XIII was the last pope of the 19th century. He died in 1903. He was the first "modern" pope in the sense that he was the first pope to be a purely spiritual leader, not a worldly leader. His predecessor, Pius IX lost the Papal States (the territory in Italy ruled by the pope) during the Italian Revolution. Leo XIII would be the first pope to be free from the responsibilities of secular rulers, which gave him a greater moral authority. The whole world could look to the pope as a purely spiritual leader, as we said. In addition, Leo XIII had a more open attitude to the modern world than some of his predecessors. He believed in building bridges with the modern world, not taking a defensive attitude toward modern society.

One of the things Leo XIII is best known for is the beginning of Catholic Social Teaching. Responding to the problems of the Industrial Revolution, he wrote the encyclical *Rerum Novarum* ("On New Things") to address various topics that have to do with the relationship of the individual to the larger society, for example, the rights of workers. This began a body of social teaching that has continued to the present day. Catholic Social Teaching covers critical themes such as the dignity of human life, marriage and the family, rights and responsibilities, care for the poor, the dignity of work and the rights of workers, solidarity, and care for the environment.

No doubt our new Holy Father has these things in mind as he begins his ministry. We continue to join the universal Church in supporting him with our prayers!

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.
- ◆ 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.



Next Week's Readings

Seventh Sunday of Easter (May 30/June 1)

Reading I: Acts 7:55-60

Reading II: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel: John 17:20-26

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 • Tony Kochol • Tom Jefferson • Doug Broughton

Upcoming Events

June

9	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council Mtg..... L.H.
11	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society Mtg F.R.
18	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg L.H.

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

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men's Group F.R.

<><><> **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** <><><>

SUMMER FESTIVAL—July 18/19, 2025

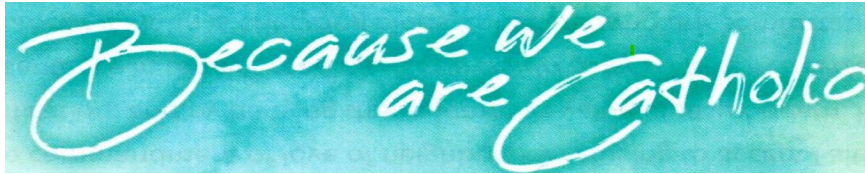


Ascension of the Lord

Holy Day of Obligation

Masses: Wednesday, May 28th — 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, May 29th — 9:00 a.m.



We are grateful to all who pledged their support to the 2025 Because We Are Catholic Appeal. 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!

Campfire for JESUS!

Campfire, songs, music, hot dogs and smores! What is missing from that list is you! This event is for everyone. Make it a date night, bring the kids or just come on your own and enjoy the evening with friends. Let's have a relaxing night around the campfire and praise our God. Not a singer? That's okay, because we will provide the music for you.

Join us on **June 4 from 6pm to 7:30pm at the Russell Building parking lot** with your lawn chair and blankets. We will utilize the fire area to make a campfire, roast hot dogs and make smore's. We will also have some kid friendly activities to do too such as a kiddy pool with water toys, corn hole game, bubbles, sidewalk chalk.

Sign up in the back of church or use the QR code to sign up. You will need a Google email to sign up.



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 call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.

Weekly Collection

May 17/18\$4,244.03

Improve.&Repairs\$1,236.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Edward & Mary Buber
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

2. IMO Edward J. Buber Jr.
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

St. Joseph

1. IMO Robert Holdyk & Family
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

2. IMO John & Joan Samosky
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

Sanctuary

IMO Leona Buber

by Paul & JoAnna Buber

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Gene & Tess Scheuren
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

2. IMO John & Bertha Kralick
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

3. IMO Anna Tarris
by Paul & JoAnna Buber

4. IMO Jim & Anne Hopkins
by Rick & Michelle Stone

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 31—5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

EM: Dan & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

June 1— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Bob Bechtel

EM: John Crane & Jeff Naffin

Server: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Dave Derbes

June 1— 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jennifer Daubert

EM: Heidi Gorski & Debbie Herb

Servers: Jackson Daubert & RJ Post

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Sacristan: RJ Post

Parish Council

Please approach any Parish Council Member listed below and ask that a question, concern, etc. be brought up at the next meeting on

Monday, June 9th.

Elected Members

Vincent Balulis
Ann Blankenhorn
Michael Brennan
Bob Burns
John Crane
Michelle Darhun
Darren DeArment
Tara DeStefano
Heidi Gorski
Sr. Mary Jane Hahner
Michael Hummel
Reene Reddington
Missy Scheetz
Michelle Stone
Gretchen Witman
Kay Wollyung
Robert Wollyung

Appointed Members

John Consugar
Tina Seiger

Ex-Officio

Father Kevin Bobbin
Deacon Robert Reiley
Ray Petrilla
Ed Brahler

Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers those who during the past year have completed their pilgrimage of faith on earth.

June 2024—May 2025

Leona Buber
Brian Eckley
Louis J. Fanelli
John Gerace
Martha Golden
Helen Heimbaugh
Elizabeth Karopchak
Lawrence Kelly
Robert Kline
Agnes Leffler
Carolyn L. Leinheiser
Rita Lotz
Robert J. Porter Jr.
Maria Weiss
Mary Zambo

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.

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

Term expires 2026

Vincent Balulis, Ann Blankenhorn, Michelle Darhun, Reene Reddington, Kay & Bob Wollyung

Term expires 2027

Bob Burns, Tara DeStefano, Melissa Scheetz, Michelle Stone, Gretchen Witman

President: *Darren DeArment*

1st Vice-President: *John Crane*

2nd Vice-President: *Heidi Gorski*

Nomination Ballot

I Nominate:

(a) _____

(a) _____

(a) _____

Please return to the Rectory or Collection Basket by Friday, June 6th

For our Troops

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (2Chr.7:14 NIV)

Please join us in our prayers for the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States of America and other countries who are now in harm's way in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other parts of the world. We thank them and their families for their sacrifices. We are grateful for the ultimate price of freedom paid by those fallen.

We pray for strength and courage for the POWS and Missing in Action and those held hostage.

We pray for the protection and safety of selfless relief workers and missionaries who help those in need.

We pray for the protection of children and innocent civilians.

We pray for our nation and our leaders.

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." Amen.



Summer Festival 2025 July 18 & 19

The Summer Festival Committee is very excited to announce this year's scheduled entertainment!

Friday evening 7/18 Our very own **Dave Derbes** will entertain us with some of our favorite relaxing acoustic tunes! Dave has been a wonderful staple and donates his talent to our festival entertainment every year, we are truly blessed!

Saturday evening 7/19 we are shaking things up and bringing a blast from the past celebration with **MICHELE AND THE LOST BOYS!** Former members of the band Sapphire: Michele Scribbick, Eric Ziegmont, Bill Adams, and Jim Oakum will bring us all your favorite hits from the 50s, 60s, 70s & 80s! Bring a lawn chair, your dancing shoes, or enjoy our shaded seating, listening to everything from Elvis, to Kiss, to Cyndi Lauper- and so many fun toe tapping tunes in between and more! They will play 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. **mark those calendars now!**

We are also excited to announce a few new food additions as follows

A fantastically savory **Pig Roast** thanks to Don Tassone! Roasted on site-we can't wait!

The **Atomic Kitchen** vintage food truck will join us with amazing vegan options, impossible sliders, mushroom Swiss sandwiches, bubble teas, boba tea and more! Parishioners and food truck owners **Vince Balulis and Megan Homovich** will help add new and fun food options to our festival food line up! More announcements to come, please stay tuned!

Many more Pot Luck prizes needed!! Less than 100 days!

The **Midsummer Festival** will be here before you know it and we are asking for donations for our **Pot Luck Stands**, both Adult and Children. We thank you for your generosity in the past and hope we can count on your continued generosity.

Gift cards are highly recommended and can be placed in bins or dropped in collection basket – marked **Pot Luck..** We will also be utilizing our **Amazon Wish List** – it was very successful last year!

Prizes can also be placed in the bins in the back of church. Please remember we can only accept **NEW** or recently purchased boxed or wrapped items in their original package. Any old, use or opened items will not be used for prizes. If you wish, please include your name so we can keep track of those making prize donations.

Amazon -- Go to Amazon.com/registries. Search by St. John the Baptist Pottsville under Gift List. When purchasing an item, it will default to ship to Maureen Derbes. You may ship your items directly there for convenience or ship to your home and place in bins in back of church.

Any questions or concerns, or to arrange drop off, please call Maureen at 570-691-6098. Thank you very much for your generosity!



Nativity BVM High School - Theology Teacher—Full Time—Immediate Opening

Nativity BVM High School is accepting applications for the position of Theology Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. Minimum of Bachelor's Degree and Catechist Certification required. Interested candidates for the position should send resume, certifications and all clearances to: Nativity BVM High School, Attn. Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal, One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901.

Email: Isabol@nativitybvm.net

Assumption BVM School. We're Hiring! Are you a dynamic and innovative educational and faith leader with a strong commitment to Catholic education, Catholic values, and academic excellence in Schuylkill County? ABVM is seeking a dedicated Principal to guide our students, staff, and community in faith, excellence, and service. We are looking for a leader who: * Has a passion for education * Inspires excellence in others * Nurtures a faith-centered school community. Apply today or share with someone who would be a great fit! Apply using the link below or the QR code. <https://allentowndiocese.isolvedhire.com/jobs/1437702>



Lottery Board Raffle. Assumption BVM School will host a Lottery Board Raffle for the end of the school year.

This fundraiser will directly benefit the school and its students. Chances are \$10.00 each and are good for all three drawings for an opportunity to win a Lottery Board valued at \$150.00 (SGOC #10109). **Drawing to be held May 27th.** Chances can be purchased from any ABVM family or from the school by calling 570-622-0106. Thank you for your help in making our Lottery Board Raffle a success!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is looking for a dedicated and compassionate **Teacher Aide** to join our team. This part-time position follows a school-day schedule and provides the opportunity to work hands-on with students of all abilities in a supportive classroom setting under the guidance of a teacher. If you are enthusiastic, patient, and eager to make a difference in the lives of our students, we would love to hear from you! For more information or to apply, Contact **Principal Bob Giba** at rgiba@stjosephctr.com or call **(570) 622-4638**.

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 | Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 | Jn 14:23-29

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

A quip on a church marquee has stuck with me for years: *If you feel distant from God, guess who moved?* In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus told his disciples that he would be with them "only a little while longer." Of course, we know the full story: Jesus did not abandon his followers. Today we hear of his parting gift to them and to us. Although Jesus would soon return to the Father, he was sending someone to minister to the disciples and to encourage them in their mission: "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." Often in our lives, when we feel distant from God, we may wonder if the Lord has departed from us. In these seasons, remember that Jesus – who has *never* broken a promise – did, indeed, send the Holy Spirit to be with us. Take heart in moments of trial and call upon the Spirit, the Advocate, whose name in Latin means "he who is called to one's side." He will come close, reminding you of the goodness of God and encouraging you on the path to heaven.

GO EVANGELIZE**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Today's second reading narrates St. John the Apostle's vision of the heavenly Jerusalem. John describes the radiant splendor of this place "like that of a precious stone." Though the vision is resplendent, John observes: "The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb." God himself is the source of light which illumines heaven. But he is likewise present among us and his reign is meant to extend on earth as well. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can, therefore, prepare for heaven while also striving to bring God's glory to earth by living for him each day. So many times we have prayed the words of the Lord's Prayer: "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, *on earth as it is in heaven.*" Allow the glory of God to illumine your everyday life. Call upon God's grace and the Holy Spirit to witness to his truth, beauty, and goodness.

REFLECT

Inviting the Holy Spirit to act as our Advocate, how do we reveal the glory of God in our daily activities? As you begin your work, study, or household tasks, offer him your undertakings (and your heart) and ask him to transform the mundane into the sacred.

Pastor *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon *Robert A. Reiley*
Parish Council President *Darren DeArment*
E-mail *dbd269@gmail.com*
Choir Director/Organist *David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator *Tina Seiger*
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



MEMORIAL DAY

★ IN MEMORY OF OUR HEROES ★