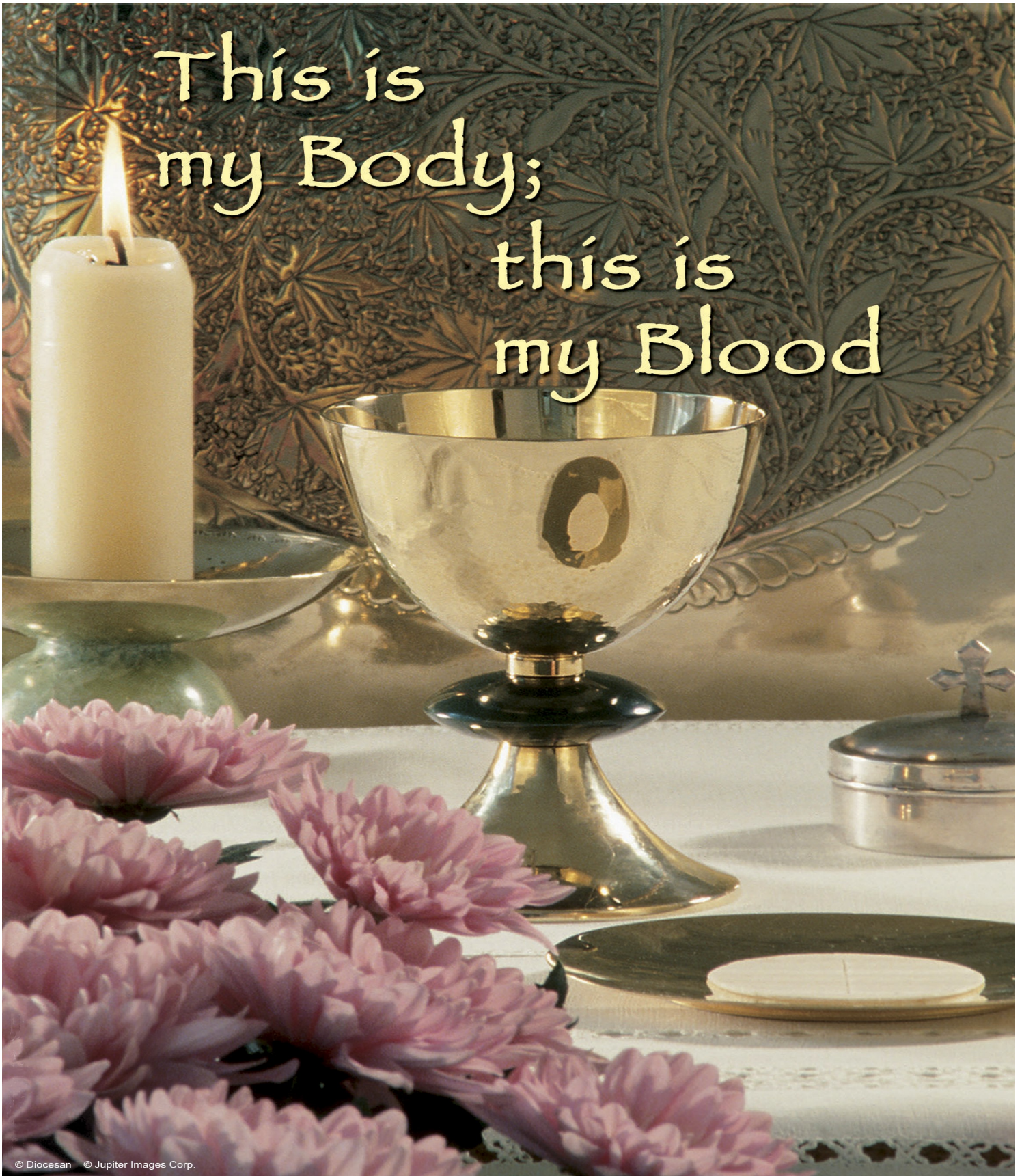


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

June 22, 2025

This is
my Body;
this is
my Blood



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

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

1-800-276-1562 www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

Diocese of Allentown Website

www.allentowndiocese.org



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.

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a family member, friend, or neighbor who is a member of St. John is confined to home, a nursing home or assisted living facility because of illness, age, or disability and would like to receive Holy Communion` on a monthly basis, please call the rectory. We traditionally visit the sick and homebound on or around the first Friday of the month. Please help us meet the spiritual needs of our homebound parishioners.



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: *Sherri Post, Tom Jefferson, Doug Broughton, Kathy Vivic*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 21

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

Sunday, June 22

8:15 a.m. Jerry Hudock
(Diane Hudock & Children)

Sunday, June 22

10:30 a.m. John Wollyung
(Marianne Wollyung)

Monday, June 23

9:00 a.m. Charles J. Lorenz
(Time Change) (Frances Lorenz)

Tuesday, June 24—Friday, June 27 NO MASSES

Saturday, June 28

5:00 p.m. Barney Comfort
(Chris & Jared Black)

Sunday, June 29

8:15 a.m. Frances & Jane Mooney
(Nora Chiplonia)

Sunday, June 29

10:30 a.m. Angela Hamm
(Joe & Ceil Burns)

Next Week's Readings

Sts. Peter & Paul
(June 28/29)

Reading I: Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11

Reading II: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19

Coffee & Donuts

In honor of St. John the Baptist Feast Day, we are having a coffee and donut event after Masses on **Sunday, June 29th in Longinus Hall**. Though the actual date of the Feast of our Patron Saint is June 24th, we felt that Sunday after Mass was a good day to commemorate it. Join us!

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we started looking at the four Gospels. Before we learn about each one individually, there is one more question to explore by way of introduction. As we look at the four Gospels, we should soon notice that Matthew, Mark, and Luke are quite similar to each other. But the Gospel of John is very different in style and some content.

Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the Synoptic Gospels. This means they see things the same way. A lot of the content is the same. In fact, they are the same word-for-word in some places. This means there is some sort of literary dependence among these three Gospels. One or more of the Gospel writers must have used one or more completed Gospels as a source of information. What is the relationship among Matthew, Mark, and Luke? Scholars call this puzzle the Synoptic Problem.

The most popular theory, though not the only one, is that the Gospel of Mark was written first. Mark is the shortest Gospel and almost all of Mark's content is contained within the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Matthew and Luke are believed to have each used Mark as a source. However, we also need to account for a lot of material that Matthew and Luke have in common with each other that is not found in Mark. It is theorized that Matthew and Luke had another written source in common that no longer survives. Finally, Matthew has some unique content that is not found in any other Gospel. Luke also has unique content found in no other Gospel. This material must have come from oral accounts or written sources that no longer survive.

Whatever the explanation for the similarities among Matthew, Mark, and Luke, all three Gospels, along with John, have come to us under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The finished products contain God's inspired Word. We will look at each individually starting next week

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Share Your Catholic Faith

We are in search of CCD teachers, OCIA instructors and preschool teacher assistants. Are you the person we are looking for? You do not need a teaching degree. Just the desire to teach. We need someone who loves their faith, desires to know more and to share the Catholic faith with others.

We have a great preschool and CCD staff. We are a small staff and need to grow our numbers because we have more families with children joining our church all the time. We also have people joining the faith that are adults or young people that would be better served by Order of Christian Initiation of Adults -OCIA (the former RCIA). We need instructors to help these candidates become full members of the Church.

Preschool has many wonderful parents helping as teachers, but we do need a Teacher Assistant to help with the busy hands and feet of our students. We are hoping a high school student would be a perfect fit. You can use this experience on a resume or for community service hours at your school.

We can support you with guidance and training. Please prayerfully consider helping the children and adults of our community come into full communion with the Catholic faith and our parish family. Please contact Tina Seiger or Lucilla Kochol at the rectory to volunteer.

Nativity BVM High School

Host Families Needed Nativity BVM High School has accepted several wonderful international students from Spain, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Japan. These students are excited to begin school in late August, but are in need of loving host families. All types of families are eligible to host: empty-nesters, single people, families with children. Students speak good English, and they have their own spending money and insurance. Host families receive a generous monthly stipend. For more information, please contact mchallenger.educatus@gmail.com.

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>



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.

NEW CCD and Sacramental Preparation Registration

Parents of children in grades 1st through 8th please fill out the CCD registration using the QR code. If your child has been previously enrolled from years past, it is not necessary to do this link. Any **new students in public school grades 1-8** should fill out this form. Students in **parochial school** whose child is in third or eighth grade that are to receive a sacrament this coming school year please use this QR code to register your child. You may also call the rectory at 570-622-5470 and speak with Miss Kochol to register your child.



Peter Pence Collection

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including the charitable works of Pope Leo. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous.

Neighboring Events

Christmas In July Basket Raffle. Mark your calendars! St. Joseph Center for Special Learning's annual **Christmas in July Basket Raffle** will be held on **July 26 & 27** at the **St. Ambrose / SJC Parish Center**. Come out and support a fun summer tradition filled with great prizes and community cheer! We're also accepting donations of new items for the raffle. Donations can be dropped off at SJC during school hours. Your generosity makes this event a success! Thank you for your continued support!

Weekly Collection

June 14/15\$4,880.00

Improv. & Repairs\$1,665.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Mary Wollyung
by Barb Wollyung
2. For Erika Lee Hauptly
by William Hauptly

St. Joseph

1. IMO M/M Joseph Hudak
by Becky Weiss
2. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss
by Becky Weiss

Sanctuary

IMO John Wollyung
by Barb Wollyung

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Mary Ann Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh
2. IMO Raydell Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh
3. For Erika Lee Hauptly
by William Hauptly
4. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss
by Becky Weiss

Liturgical Min. Schedule

Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles

June 28—5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Frank Murphy

EM: John O'Neill, Gerry Schwartz

Servers: Cooper & Cole Felty

Cantor: Dave Derbes

June 29— 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Bob Bechtel

EM: Jeff Naffin, Heidi Gorski

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

June 29— 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: John Crane

EM: Janet Daubert, Mike Ambrose

Server: Gabriel Scheidel

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Weekend Sacristan: Connor Felty

June 22, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Gen 14:18-20 | 1 Cor 11:23-26 | Lk 9:11b-17

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

Today's feast is set apart to reverence the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. In our limited human capacity, this concept can feel abstract, and we may struggle to understand it. In these moments, I find that pondering the person of Jesus Christ in the Gospels illuminates my mind and heart. Hearing the familiar story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes in today's Gospel, I'm particularly struck by the first line of the passage: "Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured." Notice that Luke doesn't say that Jesus heals *everyone*, rather, he heals those who *need* to be cured. This is not an act of favoritism, but a revelation of his perfect divine wisdom and a glimpse into the true person of Jesus Christ. In his great mercy and perfect love, Jesus knew instantly what each person needed. And this Jesus, who came to heal and cure, is the one we receive in the Eucharist today.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's feast is a reminder of the staggering truth that 2,000 years later, at every Eucharistic celebration in Catholic churches around the world, Christ becomes truly present. The same Jesus of the Gospels who taught the crowds, multiplied the loaves, and gave himself completely on the cross, gives himself to us *today*: body, blood, soul, and divinity. We are not unlike the crowds in today's Gospel — we have come with our hopes and needs to encounter Jesus. Today, at this table, no one goes hungry; Jesus meets our needs by giving us his unconditional love while nourishing us both physically and spiritually. We can be reassured that God is always present in our lives.

REFLECT

In a special way today, reflect on the Eucharist, the "source and summit of the Christian life." The word Eucharist comes from Greek and Latin words for "thanksgiving." Pray with a grateful heart today that Jesus, the Bread of Life, makes himself truly present to us.

"I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." (Jn 6:35)



Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

Major Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc.—Chance Books

Festival Patrons

\$500.00

Joe & Sherri Souchak

\$200.00

Paul & JoAnna Buber

\$100.00

Christine Maccarone

Dan & Hermine Murphy

Mary Porter

Jay & Ellen Zane

\$80.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel

\$75.00

Frances Lorenz

\$50.00

Ann Blankenhorn

Dolores Brophy

Bob Daniels

Patricia Kutch

Festival Patrons

\$50.00

Dianne Stoudt

Luis & Virginia Visot

Barb Wollyung

\$35.00

Jim Brentari

\$30.00

Stan & Stephanie Viduszynski

Dave & Trish Wartella

\$25.00

Stan & Geri Grabowski

Rosie Kenderes

Frances Braehler Mickey

\$10.00

Lou Cross



Festival Sponsors

If you would like to sponsor one or more of the following — please drop in the collection basket or mail to the rectory.

Band Sponsor \$100.00 each

Coke Sponsor \$ 50.00 each

Ice Cream \$ 25.00 each

Pizza Sponsor \$ 50.00 each

Bleenie Mix (1) — Paul & JoAnna Buber

Bleenie Mix (1) — Doyle Family

Bleenie Mix (1) — Don & Joanne Doyne

Bleenie Mix (1) — Theresa Skrobak

Ice Cream (1) — Ray & Jane Petrilla

Ice Cream (1) — Anonymous

Ice Cream (1) — Mary Ann Filiac

Pizza (1) — Mark & Deborah Purcell

Coke (1) — John & Sandy Bosche

Coke (1) — David & Mary Ann Shoopack

Special Basket Table

Vera Bradley Back to School—Lucilla Kochol

Birthday Basket—Ryan Family

Purse Basket—Rosann Sitkus

Grilling Basket—Steve & Jan Kurtek

Snack & Puzzle Basket—Barb Munster

(2) Baskets—Carol Bilinski

Summer Festival—Pot Luck Stand Donations

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!



Amazon Gift List QR Code

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: *Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Liz Kleckner, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Beth Smith, Steward Steckley, Joanne Wood.* The more the merrier — newcomers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning on July 19th and/or August 16th.

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

Specials Table

Would you like to donate a basket for our Special's Table at the Festival? We are asking for 15 baskets. A sign-up sheet is located in the back of church ... suggestions are listed. Basket minimum value should be approximately \$30—\$50. Gift Certificates are always accepted and greatly appreciated! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

(Baskets should be completed and wrapped. Baskets can be dropped off at the Russell Building on Wednesday, July 16 or Thursday, July 17. Baskets **CANNOT** be dropped off at the rectory.)



Pot Luck Stand

Please see information on page 6 of today's bulletin.

Music Entertainment

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!

Bakers Needed

Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the Russell Building on July 18 or 19th.

Food Committee

We need volunteers to help prepare food for this year's Festival If you would like to help, please call the Rectory or add your name and phone number to the sign-up sheets in the back of church.



Advanced Ticket Sales

Why stand in line for tickets when you could be enjoying yourself ... **Advanced Food & Game Tickets** will be available before and after all Masses the weekend of **July 5/6; July 12/13** Purchase \$9.00 worth of tickets in **ADVANCE** and receive \$1.00 worth of tickets **FREE!**



Dedicated Workers Needed

Festival Stands.

There are a variety of stands that need help Games of Chance, Children's Games, Food Service, Ticket Stands, etc.

Sign-up sheets to volunteer are located in the back of church ... add your name and phone number to one of the many areas.

Set-Up and Take-Down

Your help is needed for the big job of set-up on **Wednesday** and **Thursday** evenings before the Festival, and **Friday** morning to prepare the grounds for the festivities, and **Sunday** for clean-up and take-down. Your help in these areas is essential. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are located in the back of church.