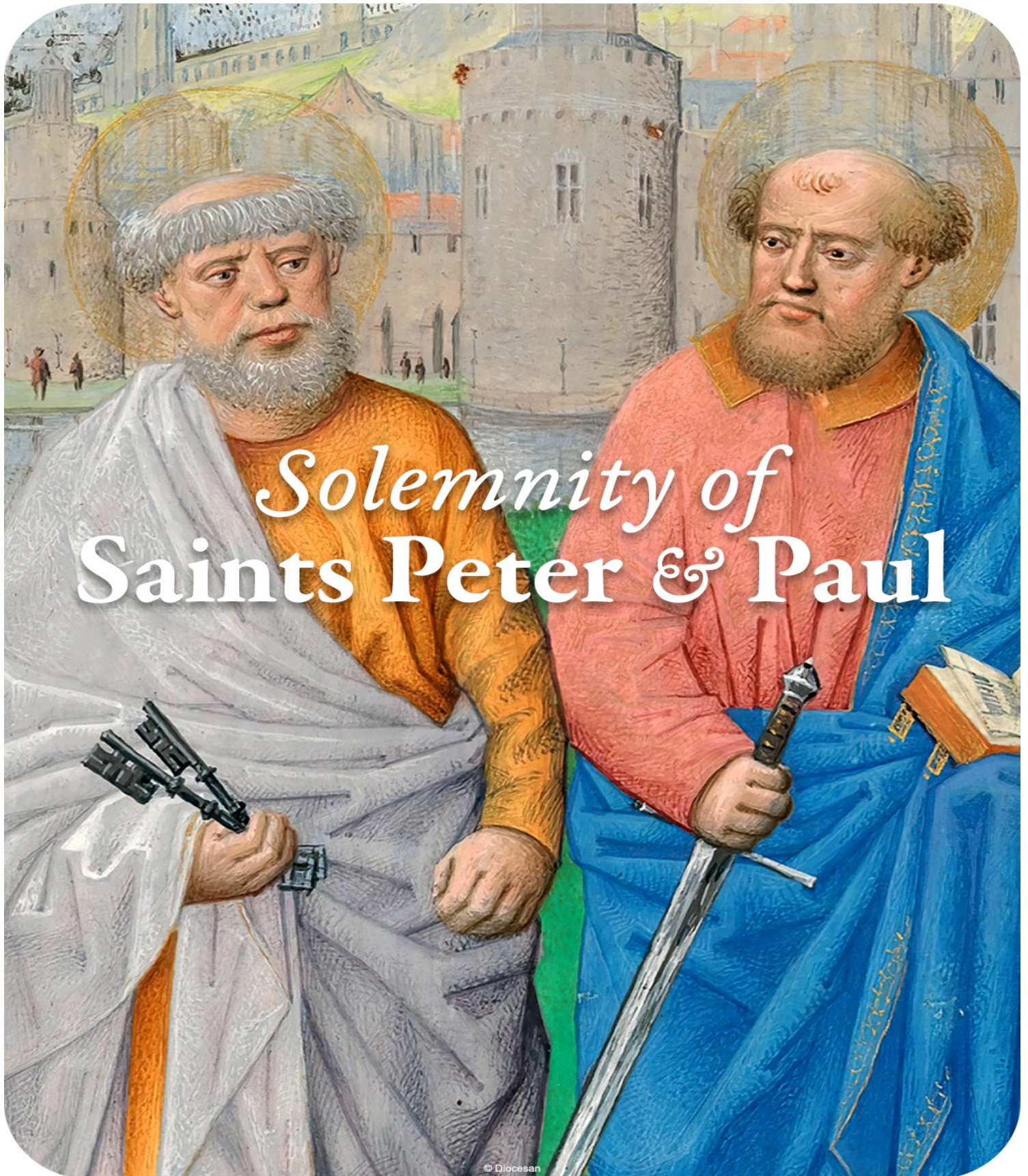


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

June 29, 2025



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 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)

Monday, June 30

6:30 p.m. Helen Hufnagle
(Charles & Kathleen Reber)

Tuesday, July 1

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

Wednesday, July 2

9:00 a.m. John & Lorraine Tasso

Thursday, July 3

9:00 a.m. Jim Pugh Jr.
(Crystal Pugh)

Friday, July 4

9:00 a.m. Lucillamae Fanelli
(Lucilla Kochol)

Saturday, July 5

5:00 p.m. Helen & Maurice Mirabella
(Christine Maccarone)

Sunday, July 6

8:15 a.m. Carolyn L. Leinheiser
(Paul & Bernie Gombola)

Sunday, July 6

10:30 a.m. Sninski Family
(Mary Zambo)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

The last couple weeks we started our tour of the New Testament by introducing the four Gospels. As we said, it is difficult to notice the characteristics of each of the four Gospels at Mass when we only hear isolated passages. Today we will look at each Gospel individually to see what makes it unique.

We start with Mark because, according to the most popular theory for how the Gospels were composed, Mark was the first of the Gospels to be written. Almost all of Mark's content is found in Matthew and Luke, so Mark is the common denominator among these three Gospels. Mark is the shortest Gospel. The author was not one of the twelve Apostles, but a coworker of both Peter and Paul, as we learn from the Acts of the Apostles. Mark would have received a lot of testimony about Jesus from both Peter and Paul.

The entire New Testament was composed in Greek because Greek was the international language at the time. Interestingly, Greek was probably not Mark's first language. The Greek of his Gospel is rather basic, sort of like the way a beginning or intermediate student of another language would compose sentences. There are a few instances where Mark writes *Latin* words in Greek letters instead of using Greek terms.

This gives us a clue as to who Mark is writing to and the purpose for writing his Gospel. One popular theory is that Mark is addressing his Gospel to Christians in Rome. More on this and on the features of Mark's Gospel 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.

Next Week's Readings

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(July 5/6)

Reading I: Isaiah 66:10-14c

Reading II: Galatians 6:14-18

Gospel: Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc.—Chance Books

Festival Patrons

\$500.00

Ed & Carole Quirin
Robert & Maria Rowlands
Joe & Sherri Souchak

\$200.00

Paul & JoAnna Buber
John B. Lieberman III

\$100.00

Friend of St. John's
Gorski Family
John Jefferson
Alicia Kleman
Christine Maccarone
Dan & Hermine Murphy
Mary Porter
Judith Williams
Jay & Ellen Zane

\$80.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel

\$75.00

Frances Lorenz

\$50.00

Ann Blankenhorn
Dolores Brophy
Bob Daniels
Tom & Cindy Elison
Barbara A. Fox

Festival Patrons

\$50.00

Millie Fredericks
Joyce Gerace
Heenan Family
Diane Hudock
Patricia Kutch
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman
John & Barb Powers
Dianne Stoudt
Luis & Virginia Visot
Barb Wollyung

\$35.00

Jim Brentari

\$33.00

Ted Gurecki Jr.

\$30.00

Ken & Tammy Cooper
Grabowski Family
Stan & Stephanie Viduszynski
Dave & Trish Wartella

\$25.00

Mary Ann Filiac
Stan & Geri Grabowski
Rik & Sue Jochems
Rosie Kenderes
Frances Brahler Mickey

\$15.00

Natalie Setlock

\$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 (2) — Joe & Eleanor Orzechowski
Bleenie Mix (1) — Theresa Skrobak
Ice Cream (1) — Ray & Jane Petrilla
Ice Cream (1) — Anonymous
Ice Cream (1) — Mary Ann Filiac
Ice Cream (1) — Al & Barb Munster
Ice Cream (1) — Barb Schoenauer
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 Bskt.—Ryan Family
Purse Bskt.—Rosann Sitkus
Grilling Bskt.—Steve & Jan Kurtek
Snack & Puzzle Bskt. — Barb Munster
Vera Bradley Bskt — Sandy Frinzi
Crystal Candy Bowls (2)— Carol Bilinski

Summer Festival—Pot Luck Stand Donations

The last date to submit a Pot Luck Stand donation is July 11, 2025. We thank you for your contributions for this highly successful Summer Festival fundraiser.

We will also be utilizing our **Amazon Wish List**. Simply scan the QR code with your phone to purchase an item (or visit [Amazon.com/registries](https://www.amazon.com/registries) and search for St John the Baptist) and ship directly to Marueen Derbes.

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.

If you wish, please include your name so we can keep track of those making prize donations.

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

Summer Festival

Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

WE ARE SO EXCITED ABOUT ST JOHN'S 2025 SUMMER FESTIVAL!

A few new, exciting, and tasty things to announce!!

Don Tassone from Tassone's Catering will be doing a **PIG ROAST** on our picnic grounds! There will be several seasonings and sauces available along with options for platters, sandwiches and ala carte!! Roasted Corn on the Cob will be a new addition along with a seasoning bar and dipped in butter option. We will also have Cole slaw available for platters or solo!

The **Atomic Kitchen** with Vince Balulis and Megan Homovich who will be joining us this year! Impossible sliders, Mushroom Swiss sandwiches, bubble tea, Boba teas and more!! An amazing vegan experience with incredible delicious taste!

We will have **Kettle Corn** this year!!! For those of you who are familiar with Joe from Norwegian News on facebook- he makes incredibly tasty fresh kettle corn in regular and caramel -he will be joining us this year!!

We also want to spread the word that our **Beer Garden** has way more than beer!! We will have several wine selections!! We will also offer Smirnoff and wine cooler varieties!!

We will have all your regular St John's food favorites - Italian sausage sandwiches, cheese steaks, halushki, halupkis, hot dogs, Pottsville Pizzeria, Burgers, Mrs.T's Pierogies, Heisler's CMPs and Dixie cups, the fantastic homemade baked goods, and of course- a huge favorite, **Pugh Family Bean Soup!! Celebrating 57ys this year!!!**

We are switching up our kids and family games this year as well!!

Dino Dig- is a fun game that kids will get the chance to dig for a dinosaur and its egg and win prizes!!

Nerf Shoot-out- May just bring the marksman out in everyone!! Shoot nerf balls at spinning wheel- get one in the net on the wheel and get a prize!!

Axe Throw- Show off your throwing skills w/ children safe axes at a target- hit the bullseye get a prize!!

Lollipop Boat- our beloved traditional pick a pop and get a prize festival favorite!

New also this year will be a lighted **Arcade Game** loaded with fun prizes and trinkets!

And of course the most beloved game **Potluck!!** It returns with incredible prizes and fun!! Pick a number - if it ends in zero, YOU WIN!!!

Beautiful **Sand and Spin Art** are also returning this year- create something fun w/ the family!! So many options!!

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 and current members of Fast Times at Shumer High: 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 a huge variety of oldies from Elvis, to Kiss, to Cyndi Lauper- and so many fun toe tapping tunes in between and more! They will play 6:30-9:30pm -You won't want to miss them!!!

Please come join us to celebrate our parish, our community, and a really great summer tradition- see you at the festival!!

Saint Monica Ministry

Are you heartbroken because your loved ones have left the Church? You aren't alone. Please come and experience the loving support of those who are walking the same road.

The St. Monica Ministry is both a dedicated community and a prayer network offering hope and support to the families and friends of fallen-away Catholics.

Monthly meetings are held at Saint Francis de Sales Church, 320 N. Church Street, Robesonia on the last **Wednesday of each month, 6:30pm-8:00pm** followed by light refreshments and fellowship.

Meetings are comprised of a time for informal sharing, rosary recitation, book discussion, and prayer. If you have any questions, please email Maria at mstempo@comcast.net. All are welcome.

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.)

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** evening at 6 p.m. before the Festival, and **Friday** morning to prepare the grounds for the festivities, and **Sunday** at 9 a.m. 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.



June 29, 2025

Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Acts 12:1-11 | 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18 | Mt 16:13-19

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Too often, we conceive of our earthly pilgrimage as a convoluted maze we must travel by ourselves. Consequently, many of us either ignore the question altogether or become overwhelmed by how ill-equipped we are for the task. But in today's Gospel, Jesus indicates that confusion was never part of his plan. Responding to Peter's profession of faith, Jesus says, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church." From the mouth of Eternal Wisdom comes words which establish a Church on Peter's God-given faith. Already a leader among the disciples, Peter now receives his vocation to be the foundation of unity among the Apostles. Their successors, the bishops, would be recognizable by their union with Peter's successors, the popes. Over time, the Church's understanding of Peter's authority would mature and deepen. From the beginning, however, Peter's role as shepherd meant that navigating the path to heaven was not something we were to do in isolation. We aren't asked to decipher the meaning of the Scriptures ourselves or to untangle centuries of theological speculation in order to follow Jesus. God, who knows we cannot make the journey alone, has given us a visible Church to be our guide.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Jesus established the Church so that we would have a sure and safe means of transit on our earthly pilgrimage. Convinced though we may be of this truth, we nevertheless have to contend with the storms that buffet her from within and without. Yet we can rest in Jesus' assurance to Peter: "the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." The Church has survived for millennia as empires have risen and fallen around her. Even in her darkest hours, Christ has continued to speak through her and, by his sacraments, to touch us intimately with his love.

PRAY

Today's first reading, which takes place when Peter is in prison, contains an interesting detail: "Prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God on [Peter's] behalf." As members of Christ's Church on earth, we are not meant to be passive players. This week, pray for *Peter* — that is, for his successor, the pope — that he may fulfill his lofty and difficult vocation to lead the world to Christ.

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.educatius@gmail.com.

Youth Girls Basketball Camp on July 7th to 9th at Nativity High School. Cost \$60. For more info contact Coach Reed at 570-728-0706.

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's Pence Collection

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Leo. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Leo to be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today.

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 21/22\$4,486.00

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. Deceased of Tray Family by Christine Tray
2. Deceased of Cunningham Family by Christine Tray

St. Joseph

1. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family
2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Sanctuary

IMO Living & Deceased of St. John's Catholic Women's Union

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Mark Mickey by Frances Brahler Mickey
2. IMO Nancy Brahler Newton by Frances Brahler Mickey
3. IMO Elizabeth Brahler by Nancy Brahler Mickey
4. IMO Joseph Brahler by Nancy Brahler Mickey

Liturgical Min. Schedule

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5 — 5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Patty O'Neill

EM: Bob Wollyung, John O'Neill

Servers: Maggie & Rhyan Brennan

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

July 6 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Jeff Naffin

EM: Ray Petrilla, John Crane

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

July 6 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Carleigh Palmieri

EM: Joseph Palmieri, Janet Daubert

Server: Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Joann Matina

Weekend Sacristan: R.J. Post