

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

July 13, 2025

15th Sunday  
in Ordinary Time



**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 Vicic, Joanne Kitsock*

## Mass Intentions

**Saturday, July 12**

5:00 p.m. Ed Smith  
(Dolly Smith & Family)

**Sunday, July 13**

8:15 a.m. Ralph & Anna Chiplonia  
(Nora Chelonia)

**Sunday, July 13**

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

**Monday, July 14**

6:30 p.m. Catherine Schaeffer  
(Maria Schaeffer)

**Tuesday, July 15**

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

**Wednesday, July 16**

9:00 a.m. William Lecher Jr.  
(Bonnie Knapp)

**Thursday, July 17**

9:00 a.m. Joseph & Jessie Ritzel  
(Joan Ritzel)

**Friday, July 18**

9:00 a.m. Dr. William & Ellen Schlitzer  
(Mary & Ed Hauck)

**Saturday, July 19**

5:00 p.m. Edward J. Buber Jr.  
(Paul & Joanna Buber)

**Sunday, July 20**

8:15 a.m. Erika Stangl Seasock  
(Dorothy & Joe Stangl  
& Michael Felker)

**Sunday, July 20**

10:30 a.m. M/M Dominic Maccarone  
& Son  
(Natalie Setlock & Family)

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

We have been looking at the Gospel According to Mark. We noted several unique features of the Gospel. But what is Mark's overall approach to proclaiming Jesus?

The very first verse is: "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." This functions like a title and indicates what Mark intends to do: reveal Jesus as the Son of God. In the early chapters, only the evil spirits Jesus casts out of people reveal who Jesus is. But Jesus silences them (a phenomenon called the "messianic secret"). Jesus does not want to be misunderstood. Meanwhile, those who witness Jesus's miraculous deeds wonder who He is.

The Gospel According to Mark is sixteen chapters long. In chapter 8, at roughly the halfway point of the Gospel, Jesus asks His disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter responds: "You are the Christ." This is the first time a human being demonstrates an insight into Jesus's true identity. From this point on, Jesus will teach His disciples what it means that He is the Christ or Messiah: that He will suffer and die to save us from sin. Thus, the latter half of the Gospel leads to Jesus's passion and death.

As we alluded to a couple weeks ago, the climactic scene of Mark's Gospel is the death of Jesus, at which point the Roman centurion (again, a Gentile) proclaims: "Truly this man was the Son of God!" Thus, Mark told us up front in the very first verse who Jesus is, and then gradually unfolded Jesus's divine identity as Son of God and Messiah throughout the narrative.

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 Kochel at the rectory to volunteer.

### Next Week's Readings

**16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(July 19/20)

**Reading I:** Genesis 18:1-10a

**Reading II:** Colossians 1:24-28

**Gospel:** Luke 10:38-42

# Summer Festival    Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19

## 5 to 9:30 p.m. each night

### Sponsors

Hahner Bros. Inc.—Chance Books

### Festival Patrons

#### \$500.00

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

#### \$300.00

Brahler Roofing

#### \$250.00

Jim Toomey

#### \$200.00

Paul & Joanna Buber  
John B. Lieberman III

#### \$100.00

Friend of St. John's  
Gorski Family  
George Harig  
John Jefferson  
Kalovcak Family  
Alicia Kleman  
Keith & Mary Jo Laslow  
Christine Maccarone  
Charlie & Patty Miller  
Dan & Hermine Murphy  
Mary Porter  
Bill, Kelly, Brady Rhoades  
Judith Williams  
Jay & Ellen Zane

#### \$80.00

Dave & Alice Bechtel

#### \$75.00

Frances Lorenz

#### \$50.00

Ed & Jane Baker  
Ann Blankenhorn  
Dolores Brophy  
Catholic Women's Union  
Bob Daniels  
Tom & Cindy Elison  
Vince & Darla Fabiani  
Barbara A. Fox  
Millie Fredericks  
Joyce Gerace  
Heenan Family  
Diane Hudock

### Festival Patrons

#### \$50.00

Carl & Kathy Hughes  
Patricia Kutch  
Eric & Jennifer Lieberman  
Pat & Phil Markovich  
John & Barb Powers  
Nicholas & Maria Quinn  
Charles & Cathy Reber  
Eleanor Schaeffer  
Butch & Sue Scheetz  
Martin & Linda Smith  
Dianne Stoudt  
Luis & Virginia Visot  
Barb Wollyung  
Robert & Kay Wollyung

#### \$40.00

Robert Burns Masonry Contactor  
Joe & Dorothy Stangl

#### \$35.00

Jim Brentari  
Grace King

#### \$33.00

Ted Gurecki Jr.

#### \$30.00

Ken & Tammy Cooper  
Maria Goodman  
Grabowski Family  
Henry Minnig  
Robert & Irene Post  
Peggy Stoppi  
Stan & Stephanie Viduszynski  
Dave & Trish Wartella

#### \$25.00

Cathy Cooper  
Mary Ann Filiac  
Stan & Geri Grabowski  
Rik & Sue Jochems  
Rosie Kenderes  
Ron & Pat Lombel  
Frances Brahler Mickey  
Ann Marie Souchak  
Christine Tray  
Michael & Elizabeth Tyson

#### \$20.00

Jim & Leah Donovan

### Festival Patrons

#### \$15.00

Natalie Setlock

#### \$10.00

Lou Cross  
Harriet Peiffer

### 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**

**Bleenie Mix**    **\$ 40.00 each**

**Coke Sponsor**    **\$ 50.00 each**

**Ice Cream**    **\$ 25.00 each**

**Pizza Sponsor**    **\$ 50.00 each**

Band Sponsor(1) - Frank & Annie Murphy

Band Sponsor(2) - Caroline Vinskie

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) — Jim & Carolyn Orlowsky

Pizza (1) — Mark & Deborah Purcell

Pizza (1) — Ralph & Joanne Wood

Coke (1) — John & Sandy Bosche

Coke (1) — David & Mary Ann Shoopack

### Special Basket Table

Birthday Bskt.—Ryan Family

Crystal Candy Bowls (2)— Carol Bilinski

Fall Bskt—Chris Black

Glitzzy Glam Bskt—Christine Maccarone

Grilling Bskt.—Steve & Jan Kurtek

Painting - Fr. Bobbin

Purse Bskt.—Rosann Sitkus

Snack & Puzzle Bskt. —Barb Munster

Summer Fun Bskt—Kimberly Kalovcak

Vera Bradley Bskt — Sandy Frinzi

Vera Bradley Back to School—Lucilla Kochol

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

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



## Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our diocese and our families. Inspire men to imitate Christ, the Eternal High Priest, in sacrificial service to your Church. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to You in poverty, chastity and obedience. Send them as laborers for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayers and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to your call. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

## Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew  
IMO Harold Bartholomew  
IMO James J. Bartholomew  
IMO Robert Berger  
IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley  
John & Mildred Fredericks  
Fr. Don Henry  
IMO M/M Herbert Henry  
IMO Joanne Hepler  
IMO Clare & Linda Houser  
MO Charles Lorenz  
IMO Erika Stangl Seacock  
IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sendarak  
IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker  
IMO Margaret Zelinsky  
Living & Deceased of St. John's  
CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!*

## Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory

**Turn to the Lord  
in your need,  
and you will live.**

## 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 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.

## 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, July 16th at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** 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!



## Neighboring Events

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning invites you to join us for two exciting upcoming events in support of our students and adults with special needs. First, mark your calendars for our **Christmas in July Basket Raffle**, taking place on Friday, July 26, and Saturday, July 27, in the SJC Parish Center. This fun-filled event offers a chance to win amazing baskets while supporting a meaningful cause. Then, don't miss our **Saturday Night Fever Disco** on the evening of Friday, September 6, also at the Parish Center. This special night will kick off our 70th anniversary celebrations with live music by local favorite, The Boys Upstairs. We hope to see you there as we celebrate our mission and the incredible individuals we serve. Questions? Contact Monica Walborn at 570-622-4638.



## 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](mailto: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>



## NEW CCD and Sacramental Preparation Registration

Parents of children in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Kochel to register your child.



## Next Week's Collection—Church in Central & Eastern Europe

This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that are still struggling to recover from former communists rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your contribution restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. You can find more information at [www.usccb.org/ccce.#1GiveCatholicTogether](http://www.usccb.org/ccce.#1GiveCatholicTogether) also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

**Burial Flag Donations.** For many years, Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery has had an Avenue of Flags displayed from Memorial Day in May until Veterans Day in November. If your family has a burial flag—often encased in a triangular wooden and plastic container—and would like to donate it so that it can be properly flown at the GAP Cemetery, please call 570-628-9619 and either talk to me or leave a message so that I may contact you. Thanks, Frank Peron Jr.



**HELP NEEDED.** My name is Anthony J. Gaborik. I suffer from a nerve disease that requires treatments for me to stay functional. My treatments are out of town in places such as Allentown, West Hazelton, Wilkes-Barre and Wyomissing. I'm looking for drivers who can help me get to these treatments. Doctors will not allow me to drive myself to and from treatments. If anyone is interested in driving me, please contact the church rectory. I'll be very grateful for your help! Thank you to everyone who has come forward to help me with transportation to my medical appointments. Your help is so very appreciated. I am truly grateful. Thank you!

## Weekly Collection

**July 5/6 .....\$5,401.00**

**Dues:.....\$1,283.00**

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.&2. IMO Catharine Schaeffer  
by Maria Schaeffer

### St. Joseph

1. IMO George Hahner Sr.  
by Hahner Family  
2. IMO Catherine Schaeffer  
by Maria Schaeffer

### Sanctuary

IMO Catherine Schaeffer  
by Maria Schaeffer

### Guardian Angels

1-4. IMO Catherine Schaeffer  
by Maria Schaeffer

## Liturgical Min. Schedule

### 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### July 19 — 5:00 p.m. Mass

**Reader:** Michelle Heenan

**EM:** Gerry Schwartz, Sharon Snyder

**Servers:** Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

**Cantor:** Ensemble

#### July 20 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Joseph Palmieri

**EM:** Heidi Gorski, John Crane

**Server:** Colin McGinley

**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

#### July 20 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Vincent Ballis

**EM:** Debbie Herb, Justina Majestic

**Servers:** Cole & Cooper Felty

**Cantor:** Joann Matina

**Weekend Sacristan:** RJ Post

### **Attention — All Readers, Servers, and Extraordinary Ministers ...**

Please let us know your plans for **August & September** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call or email the rectory **before July 14**. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.