

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 1, 2021

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

Jn 6:32-33



Mass Intentions

Monday, August 2

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

Tuesday, August 3

9:00 a.m. William DeAngeles
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Wednesday, August 4

9:00 a.m. Theodora Brennan
(Pat Mulqueen)

Thursday, August 5

9:00 a.m. Francis & Verna Sauers

Friday, August 6

9:00 a.m. Carol Kramer Tamburelli
(Herb Tamburelli)

Saturday, August 7

5:00 p.m. Robert Santarsiero
(Joseph, Sonya, Joe Halsey)

Sunday, August 8

8:15 a.m. Joseph Hoban Sr.
(Kate Zagar)

Sunday, August 8

10:30 a.m. Barbara & Carl Weiss
(Weiss Children)

Next Week's Readings

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (August 7/8)

Reading I: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Reading II: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Gospel: John 6:41-51

**Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."
John 6:35**

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday's Gospel was the account of Jesus multiplying the loaves and fish. It serves as an introduction to the Bread of Life discourse (John 6), which we begin reading today. Jesus tells us: "Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life..." These words remind us to keep life in perspective. We spend so much of our resources, time, and energy (physical and emotional) on the things of this world: our homes, careers, working toward goals, things we enjoy, etc. All of this is good and necessary. But it would be rather pointless if we neglect to work for the things that are truly permanent. The only things that will last beyond this world are *ourselves* (that is, the type of person you become, for better or worse), our relationships with God, and our relationships with each other.

Jesus goes on to say: "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Again, a call to keep things in perspective. The reason we spend so much time and energy working for things that will not outlast this world is that we all "hunger" and "thirst" for things. We have needs and desires and we are constantly looking for ways to fulfill them and feel happy and satisfied. Jesus' words remind us that, when we keep our relationship with Him at the center of our lives and see everything else in light of that relationship, we will not hunger and thirst. That is to say, we will not try to satisfy our needs and desires with things that don't last or may even be harmful. It's the difference between surviving on snacks – junk food that temporarily satisfies hunger but quickly wears off and has no nutritional value – and actually eating a good meal.

Jesus is the Bread of Life. We meet Him when we celebrate the Eucharist at Mass or spend time in His Eucharistic presence at Adoration. But to really allow Him to nourish us and satisfy our hunger, we need to connect Him to our *lives*: our needs and desires, our goals, the choices we make. Then we will discover how true His words are: "whoever comes to me will never hunger..."

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Communion to the Sick and 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. However, our list has dwindled to almost no one because of deaths. 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 Susan Cook • Patricia Thomas • Sheri Post

For our Deceased Frederick Maskerines

Upcoming Events

July

31 after Mass CWU Fundraiser Ticket Sales Church

August

1 after Masses CWU Fundraiser Ticket Sales Church

2 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour..... Chapel

5 7:00 p.m. First Friday Eve Holy Hour..... Church

9 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour..... Chapel

16 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour..... Chapel

20 4-7 p.m. Yard SaleR.B.

21 9-12 noon Yard SaleR.B.

23 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour..... Chapel

30 7:00 p.m. Eucharistic Holy Hour..... Chapel

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

Tues. 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s GroupZoom
Meeting ID: 824-780-6433
Password: Mary



Weekly Collection

July 24/25\$4,274.33

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

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Barbara Weiss by Sandy Clauser
2. IMO Francis J. King by Grace King

St. Joseph

1. IMO Carl Weiss by Sandy Clauser
2. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family

Sanctuary

Peace in the World
by Ed & Gerry Schwartz

Guardian Angels

1. For Grandchildren by Sandy Clauser
2. IMO Barbara & Carl Weiss by Sandy Clauser
3. IMO Eleanor O’Brien by Jack & Susan Minnichbach
4. Special Intention



Eucharistic Adoration

In this Year of the Real Presence we offer additional 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 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. This will be 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., **beginning August 5**. This will be a formal holy hour ending with Benediction. Father will be available for Confessions.

Catholic Women’s Union—Fundraiser

St. John’s Catholic Women’s Union are sponsoring a Chicken BBQ or Pulled Pork Dinner on Saturday, August 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the former Pizza Hut Parking Lot in Yorkville. Pre-Sale tickets available before and after all Masses July 31/August 1 and August 7/8 in the back of church. Cost—\$10.00. Please contact any Catholic Women’s Union member or call the Rectory for more information 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

Liturgical Ministers

Schedule

August 7—5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch. Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy
Servers: Brandon & Andrew Smith

August 8—8:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Dave Smith
Euch.Min.: George Forney
Servers: Joseph & Brooke Palko

August 8—10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Janet Daubert
Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic
Servers: Kelly & Lauren Goodman

Church Cleaning

We are looking for a group of volunteers to clean our church at least once a month in addition to the light cleaning that is done weekly. If you would like to help, please call the rectory. We are also looking for someone willing to coordinate the group.

St. John's Choir

St. John's Choir is welcoming new and current members to the choir to sing Saturday 5:00 p.m. Masses and special Masses. This is a very rewarding experience for anyone seeking to become more involved in our Parish Family. No prior singing experience or reading of music is required. Contact St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 for more information.

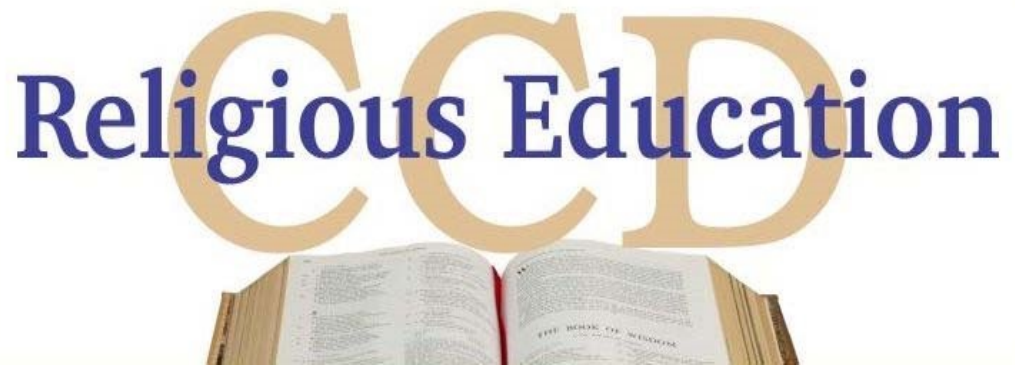
Job Openings

Part-time Administrative Assistant

Holy Family Parish of Minersville is seeking a part-time administrative assistant who will be responsible for performing a variety of administrative tasks to support the parish. For more information please contact the parish at 570-544-4741.

Math Teacher (FT)

Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics/Math Education is required with certification. Interested candidates for either position for the 2021-2022 school year should send resume, certifications and all clearances to:
Nativity BVM High School, Attn. Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal, One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901
lsabol@nativitybvm.net



St. John's CCD Program

Attention Parents!

Here is the quick and easy way to register for CCD & Pre-School for the 2021/2022 school year. Also take these parent surveys to give your input into our programs.

St. John's CCD Input Survey- Parents of students grades 1st - 8th grade.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVXIBSsM-0j2lYBSm0lvMJ_ZqhIXx6Kp3CrBm4EBp9ZNaltA/viewform?usp=sf_link

CCD Registration- Parents of students grades 1st- 8th grade.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGC5hVnwp3qANuWWAWvDo8A3DwzOjzbECJSxKmDv8WleV00w/viewform?usp=sf_link

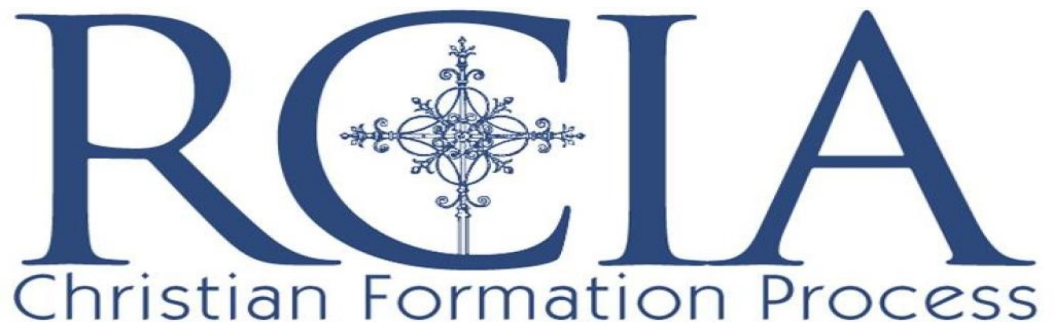
St. John's Pre-School Input Survey -Parents of students ages 3 to 5 and potty trained.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqIO04nYKV9YO9CYRG4Z9UMFD-ttYbx6AFnrXwsZ_bMaRX_Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

Pre-School Registration - Parents of students ages 3 to 5 and potty trained.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0S8wxRaEH9t9I5XbhSCfv9KLXUfHGy1WPR-sNkcl-kaZnQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Also keep in touch and in-the-know using our Facebook Page: St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish Family.



R.C.I.A.—Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming Catholic or in updating and deepening their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Are you interested in deepening your own faith? Or do you know anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Please invite them to join us. Have them call St. John's Rectory, 622-5470, to register for the RCIA sessions. All are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions.



August 1, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 | Eph 4:17, 20-24 | Jn 6:24-35

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

In our house, we know we've got a situation when we run out of bread. It's the staff of life, yes, but also the stuff that makes toast, goes with soup or salad, and smells so good when we bake it ourselves. So perhaps some of us can relate to the Israelites in the first reading as they "grumbled against Moses and Aaron," before the Lord promised to "rain down bread from heaven for [them]." On a deeper level, perhaps we also truly understand the importance of what Jesus tells his disciples in today's Gospel: that the bread from heaven which the Father gives will not only satisfy their physical hunger, but give life to the world. Jesus says, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Just as the disciples heartily responded "give us this bread always," today's readings encourage us to long not only for all good gifts from the Father, but specifically for that one, unique gift of the Son whose nourishment to us in the Eucharist transforms us and "gives life to the world."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Like many Catholics, I attended Mass online for much of 2020 and the first half of 2021. Initially, it seemed like enough, and I was immensely grateful for the opportunity to hear the Word of God, see the Lord in the Eucharist, and to receive him spiritually. However, as we began to return to church this past spring, I truly felt the enormity of what I had been missing: receiving the Eucharist, and doing so within a community. As we hear Christ's words in the bread of life discourse over the next few Sundays, the magnitude of God's gracious gift should become ever more apparent. When we receive the Eucharist at Mass, we partake in the body and blood of Jesus, sharing in the divine banquet that leads us to everlasting life, and drawing closer to Jesus and to one another in the process. Nourished by his presence within us, we can then go out and share the bread of life with others. What that looks like will differ for each of us, but ultimately it is all for the purpose of accomplishing the works of God: believing in the One he sent and giving witness to that belief in all we say and do.

ACTION Paul's Letter to the Ephesians admonishes his listeners to "put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth." As we begin each day this week, we can pray for the grace to "put on a new self" and let go of those things that get in the way of our own holiness.

St. Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney



Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, known as John in English, was born May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, France and was baptized the same day. He was the fourth of six children born to Matthieu and Marie Vianney. John was raised in a Catholic home and the family often helped the poor and housed St. Benedict Joseph Labre when he made his pilgrimage to Rome.

In 1790, when the anticlerical Terror phase of the French Revolution forced priests to work in secrecy or face execution, young Vianney believed the priests were heroes. He continued to believe in the bravery of priests and received his First Communion catechism instructions in private by two nuns who lost their convents to the Revolution.

At 13-years-old, John made his first communion and prepared for his confirmation in secrecy. When he was 20-years-old, John was allowed to leave the family farm to learn at a "prsbtery-school" in Écully. There he learned math, history, geography and Latin. As his education had been disrupted by the French Revolution, he struggled in his studies, particularly with Latin, but worked hard to learn.

In 1802, the Catholic Church was reestablished in France and religious freedom and peace spread throughout the country. Unfortunately, in 1809, John was drafted into Napoleon Bonaparte's armies. He had been studying as an ecclesiastical student, which was a protected title and would normally have excepted him from military services, but Napoleon had withdrawn the exemption in some dioceses as he required more soldiers. Two days into his service, John fell ill and required hospitalization. As his troop continued, he stopped in at a church where he prayed. There he met a young man who volunteered to return him to his group, but instead led him deep into the mountains where military deserters met. John lived with them for one year and two months. He used the name Jerome Vincent and opened a school for the nearby village of Les Noes' children.

John remained in Les Noes and hid when gendarmes came in search of deserters until 1810, when deserters were granted amnesty. Now free, John returned to Écully and resumed his ecclesiastic studies. He attended a minor seminary, Abbe Balley, in 1812 and was eventually ordained a deacon in June 1815. He joined his heroes as a priest August 12, 1815 in the Couvent des Minimes de Grenoble. His first Mass was celebrated the next day and he was appointed assistant to Balley in Écully. Three years later, when Balley passed away, Fr. John Vianney was appointed parish priest of the Ars parish. With help from Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lerdet, *La Providence*, a home for girls, was established in Ars.

When he began his priestly duties, Fr. Vianney realized many were either ignorant or indifferent to religion as a result of the French Revolution. Many danced and drank on Sundays or worked in their fields. Fr. Vianney spent much time in confession and often delivered homilies against blasphemy and dancing. Finally, if parishioners did not give up dancing, he refused them absolution. He spent 11 to twelve hours each day working to reconcile people with God. In the summer months, he often worked 16-hour days and refused to retire. His fame spread until people began to travel to him in 1827. Within thirty years, it is said he received up to 20,000 pilgrims each year.

He was deeply devoted to St. Philomena and erected a chapel and shrine in her honor. When he later became deathly ill but miraculously recovered, he attributed his health to St. Philomena's intercession.

By 1853, Fr. Vianney had attempted to run away from Ars four times, each attempt with the intention of becoming a monk but decided after the final time that it was not to be. Six years later, he passed away and left behind a legacy of faith and was viewed as the champion of the poor.

On October 3, 1873, Pope Pius IX proclaimed Fr. Vianney as "venerable" and on January 8, 1905, Pope Pius X beatified him. St. John Vianney was canonized on May 31, 1925. His feast day was declared August 9 but it was changed twice before it fell to August 4. St. John Vianney would often say: "Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there: If you set it on fire, it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky; public prayer is like that."

Prayer of St. John Vianney

I love You, O my God, and my only desire is to love You until the last breath of my life.

I love You, O my infinitely lovable God, and I would rather die loving You, than live without loving You.

I love You, Lord and the only grace I ask is to love You eternally...

My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love You, I want my heart to repeat it to You as often as I draw breath.

Parochial Administrator *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon *Lawrence Lonergan*

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 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@allentowndioocese.org

