

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

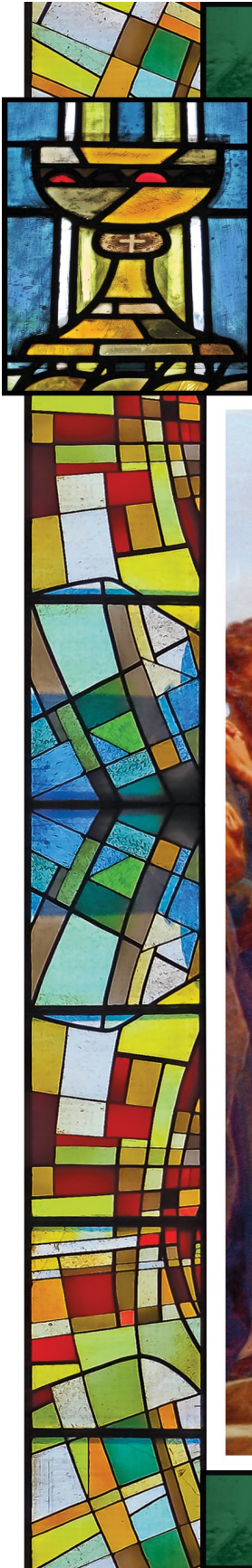
10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

August 4, 2024

## 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

### Saturday, August 3

5:00 p.m. Ed Smith  
(Grandchildren)

### Sunday, August 4

8:15 a.m. Francis & Verna Sauers

### Sunday, August 4

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

### Monday, August 5

6:30 p.m. M/M Thomas Francis  
(Francis Family)

### Tuesday, August 6

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

### Wednesday, August 7

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

### Thursday, August 8

9:00 a.m. Catherine & James Smith  
(Martin & Linda Smith)

### Friday, August 9

9:00 a.m. Deceased of  
Robert Porter Family  
(Bob & Mary Porter)

### Saturday, August 10

5:00 p.m. Scott Bowers  
(Kathy Williams)

### Sunday, August 11

8:15 a.m. Ed & Mary Glunz  
(Glunz Family)

### Sunday, August 11

10:30 a.m. Sninski/Yenilaitus Family  
(Tina Zambo)

## Message from Father Bobbin

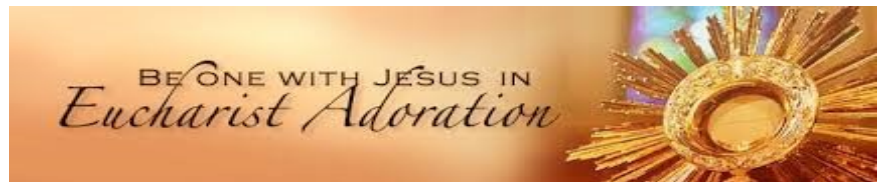
Dear Parishioners,

These last couple months we've been taking a tour of the Bible. To refresh our memories, the Old Testament has four collections of books: the Pentateuch, the Historical Books, the Wisdom Books, and the Prophets. We've completed a quick overview of the Pentateuch (the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy).

What about the next group of books, the Historical Books? There are three groups of Historical Books. The first is what scholars call the "Deuteronomistic History." It is the books of Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings. The second group is called the "Chronicler's History." It is made up of 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah. Then there is a third group of independent books, namely: Ruth, Tobit, Judith, Esther, 1 Maccabees, and 2 Maccabees.

The first thing to understand about the Historical Books is that the Deuteronomistic History and the Chronicler's History are two different narratives of Israel's history, just like you might read two different books about the same historical event or time period. The books might be by different authors and have different perspectives and different details. The Deuteronomistic History (Joshua to Kings) covers the history of Israel from the conquest of the Promised Land under Joshua, the successor of Moses, and goes to the fall of Jerusalem to Babylon in the 500's BC. The Chronicler's History covers a much longer time period: from the beginning of humanity all the way to the time *after* the Babylonian conquest when the Chosen People returned from exile and rebuilt Jerusalem. These two collections of Historical Books also differ in some details and perspective. More next week...

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.

## Next Week's Readings

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(August 10/11)

**Reading I:** 1 Kings 19:4-8

**Reading II:** Ephesians 4:30-5:2

**Gospel:** John 6:41-51

## 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 • Robert Kline • Tony Kochol • Tom Jefferson • Drew Schaeffer • Shawn Matz • Miriam Tirjan • John Bernetsky  
Joanne Mestishen • Chuck Majestic*

### Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Committee News

Our committee is proud to announce that we have expanded our membership to include Ann Blankenhorn and Frank Murphy. They are joining John Crane, Sarah DeArment, Michelle Stone, Dr. Bill Gianfagna & Father Bobbin. We want to thank Ann and Frank, for your willingness to participate.

#### What was the Purpose of doing the survey?

Our parish community is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ. Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

The very first step in this process involves **assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities**, and that is where the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI) results** come in. The DMI is an important survey tool that invited us to reflect on our spiritual & discipleship journey here at St. John The Baptist. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:


- Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.
- Help parishioners grow in their faith.

Together we must embrace Christ’s vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.

Have a Blessed Week!  
Your DMI committee members



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 Father Bobbin at St. John’s Rectory 622-5470.



### 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.

### 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.

### Weekly Collection

**July 27/28 .....\$ 4,338.75**

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. IMO Theresa Sencak  
by Frances Lorenz
2. Special Intention  
by John & Mary Jean Morgalis

#### St. Joseph

- 1&2. IMO Pat Mason Sr.  
by Maria Mason

#### Sanctuary

- For Chloe & Joseph  
by Neil & Frances Manus

#### Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Ronald Kriston  
by Joan Grapsy Family
- 3&4. IMO Pat Mason Sr.  
by Maria Mason

### Liturgical Min.Schedule

#### 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### August 10— 5 p.m. Mass

- Reader:** Carleigh Palmieri  
**Euch.Min.:** Joe Palmieri  
 Bob Wollyung  
**Server:** Sophia Palmieri  
**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

#### August 11— 8:15 a.m.

- Reader:** Bill Gianfagna  
**Euch.Min.:** Jeff Naffin  
 Janet Daubert  
**Servers/Sacristan:** Connor Felty  
**Cantor:** Tina Seiger

#### August 11— 10:30 a.m.

- Reader:** Ray Petrilla  
**Euch.Min.:** John Matulevich  
 John Crane  
**Servers:** Cooper & Cole Felty  
**Cantor:** Dave Derbes



# CCD Religious Education

## CCD Registration for 2024/2025 School Year

Parents please register your child(ren) for Religious Education for the school year 2024-2025 using the Google Form link below. You must have a Google email account to use this form. Please contact Lucilla Kochol at the rectory if you do not have a Google Account to register. There will also be open registration after all the Masses this weekend — August 3 & 4.

<https://forms.gle/aajKRARUv54G3axG9>

## Sunday School Registration

All children ages 3 to 6 years old are welcome to join our Sunday School Program, Little Saints that starts in September and goes until May. We usually meet twice a month in Longinus Hall. A calendar will be provided upon registration. Class time takes place during the 10:30 mass.

Sunday School Registration Ages 3-6 <https://forms.gle/Ux27kPodx617XuLM9>



## Children's Liturgy Grades 1-3

*Children's  
Liturgy of the  
Word*

All children first to third grades are welcome to join our Children's Liturgy Program during the 10:30 mass. Children will learn about the readings for that weekend on an age appropriate level. More information will be received once your child is registered.

Please use the links below to register your child for the desired religious education program. You will need to use a Google email account to utilize the links. Or you can also call the rectory and register with our Director of Religious Education, Lucilla Kochol.

Children's Liturgy Registration Grade 1-3 <https://forms.gle/T1vAiug4bqPrF4Xu9>

## Catholic Women's Union Fundraiser

St. John's Catholic Women's Union is introducing a new fundraiser ... **Penn State Ye Olde Diner World Famous 'Grilled Stickies'**. Members will be taking orders after Masses on the weekends of ...

**August 10/11 and August 17/18.** Pick up date is September 11th at the Russell Building.

Plain \$9.00 — Nut \$12.00 — Apple \$12.00. For more information, please contact Joan Deiter 570-622-1381 or St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



## Nativity BVM High School News ...

**Host Families Needed** Educatus International is looking for host families for International students attending Nativity BVM High School this Fall. Please contact Amanda Rymarkiewicz-Bobella at 570-527-5104 or call Nativity directly at 570-622-8110.

### Positions Available

**Boys Soccer Coach** for the 2024-2025 season. Interested candidates for either position, please send resume, clearances and references to: Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Nativity BVM High School, One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville 17901 or [Isabol@nativitybvm.net](mailto:Isabol@nativitybvm.net)

## 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*

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's bad enough that the Israelites were grumbling against their leaders. But they also complain to God that they were better off as slaves in Egypt. After all God did to bring them to freedom, now they want to go back to slavery. Before we judge them too harshly, we might ask ourselves if we ever act like that. For us, it might be looking back on our slavery to sin.

We might confess the sin and say we'll never do that again, but we often can't resist the memory of our past sins. As we hold on to the past, the temptations come back and draw us to repeat our offenses. Even though we know we are better off putting it behind us, we sometimes find it difficult to move on.

So how do we free ourselves from the past? Should we look to the future, instead? If we want to make the world, or just our community, a better place we can make plans. If those plans are ever going to work, we have to begin now. Jesus doesn't tell us to dwell in the past or dream of the future. No, he keeps us focused on the present moment, telling us to believe in Him now, His Father gives us true bread and Jesus is that bread of life.

Those words are just as true today. We may look fondly at the past, but if we don't let Jesus be born again in us, and if we don't take up our crosses each day—we are missing the chance to experience Jesus in us and in the people we live and work with each day.

### Diocesan News & Events ....

#### ***“My Heart—A Pilgrimage to the Heart of Jesus”***

The first local Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place **Friday, September 20th** at the National Centre for Padre Pio in nearby Barto, Pa.

All the faithful in the Diocese of Allentown are invited! No registration is required. Pilgrims are invited to “Feel the Presence of Padre Pio.” The National Centre for Padre Pio is a scenic destination filled with the peace and prayerfulness of Padre Pio's spirit. Built to resemble Padre Pio's friary in San Giovanni Rontondo, Italy, the Centre offers a number of outdoor statues, a magnificent chapel, and a full museum filled with cultural and religious relics. Learn more at [www.padrepio.org](http://www.padrepio.org).

The Pilgrimage includes Mass with Bishop Schlert, Confession, Adoration, Kaynote address by Megan Murphy, time for personal prayer & to explore everything the Centre has to offer, interactive activities, Eucharistic Procession.

Megan Murphy is a dynamic Catholic speaker, teacher, and evangelist, engaging audiences of all ages in the New Evangelization, She is featured nationally at women's conferences, retreats, seminaries, universities, and youth and young adult events.

For more information, please email [pilgrimage@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:pilgrimage@allentowndiocese.org).

#### **Your Life Retreat**

Malvern Retreat House would like to invite men and women to experience a period of refreshment, support, reassurance, learning, and concentration on the gift of their lives. Learn, reflect, “dump your stuff”, fortify yourself, increase your personal communion with the Lord. Come join the men's weekend, Sep 6, 7, and 8; or a women's weekend, Sep 13, 14, and 15; Fri night to Sun morning. Contact: Anthony Scarselletti, 610-393-4671, [OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com](mailto:OLPH.ascarselletti@gmail.com).

## Neighboring Events

**St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour.** Deacon Christopher May will preside at the next St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour, taking place at St. Theresa Church, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown on Tuesday, August 13 at 6:00pm. Deacon May, who serves Sacred Heart Parish, Reading as a permanent deacon, will lead us in prayer for the return to the Faith of our fallen-away loved ones. All are invited to join in asking Our Lord's mercy and invoking the intercession of St. Monica for our prodigals. A St. Monica Ministry meeting and book discussion will immediately follow the Holy Hour. All are welcome. For information, please email [StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com](mailto:StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com) 370

#### **Bereavement Support Group**

*Blessed are they who mourn, they shall be comforted. Matt. 5:4*

Announcing our Fall “Bereavement Support Group” at Immaculate Conception Parish. If you have lost a loved one through death and feel you need some support on your grief journey, please call to register. It is 6 sessions and we ask that you attend all 6 sessions.

Trained Grief Ministers are available. Registration is Required. No Charge.

The Dates are: Mondays, September 30, October 7, 14, 28 and November 4, 11 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Brogan Room at St. Joseph Rectory, 526 North St., Jim Thorpe. Light Refreshments will be served. SPACE IS LIMITED. Please register by September 15! To register, please call Immaculate Conception Parish at 570-325-2791.



#### **Healing Mass**

Most Blessed Trinity Parish will host a Healing Mass on Friday, August 30th at 7 p.m. Our Celebrant will be Rev. Christopher Zelonis, Pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Lehighton. Confessions begin at 6 p.m. Anointing with Holy Oil will take place after Mass.

August 4, 2024

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 | Eph 4:17, 20-24 | Jn 6:24-25

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

When have you grumbled against God instead of consenting, trusting, and believing he would see you through to a brighter future? In this first reading from Exodus, the whole Israelite community laments over their wanderings in the desert; their earthly focus on hunger and thirst leads them to believe slavery in Egypt would have been better than God's freedom for them. When we are struggling for whatever reason, it's easy to forget all that God has done for us in the past and all he desires to do for us in the future. We may not even recognize the very life-giving and life-sustaining "bread" that lays before us, much as the Israelites did not recognize the bread that lay before them in the desert. In spite of our hard-heartedness at times, however, God is truly patient; he loves us beyond measure. Just as he did not condemn the Israelites, he does not condemn us but rather, calls us back to him time and again with love and mercy.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As we heard, God sends the people quail and manna - bread from heaven - to satisfy their frustrated longings while preparing them for an even greater "bread from heaven" that is still to come. In the Gospel, Jesus references this Scripture passage and clarifies that it was not Moses, but his Father who provided the bread from heaven. Jesus tells his disciples to "work for food that endures for eternal life" because he wants them to see the bigger picture. He wants them (and us!) to understand that we should not toil only for physical bread, but for the truest food that is life-giving to our souls - the food found in accomplishing the works of God by believing and following the one he sent: Jesus. We do this by following Paul's advice from the second reading and seek to "be renewed in the spirit of [our] minds," following God's way of holiness. Only in and through this conformity to Christ will we be prepared to go forth and witness to the mystery of our faith.

**REFLECT** This week, in thinking about how you can "accomplish the works of God," turn to Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. He tells them to put away their old self and "put on the new self, created in God's way." Examine where you might not be seeing your own manna from heaven, and refocus your efforts to give praise and thanksgiving to God for his never-ending mercy and care.



**Pastor** ..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*  
**Deacon** ..... *Lawrence Lonergan*  
**Parish Council President**..... *Darren DeArment*  
**E-mail** ..... *dbd269@gmail.com*  
**Choir Director/Organist**.....*David Derbes*  
**CCD Coordinator** ..... *Lucilla Kochol*  
**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

