

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 14, 2022

"I HAVE COME TO
SET THE EARTH ON

Fire ..."

Luke 12:49

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 13

5:00 p.m. Rita Bartholomew Foley
(Frances Lorenz)

Sunday, August 14

8:15 a.m. Joseph Garland
(Garland Family)

Sunday, August 14

10:30 a.m. Deceased of the
Grabowski Family
(Stan & Geri Grabowski)

Monday, August 15

9:00 a.m. Charles Rinaldo Sr.
(Time Change) (Chuck & Daughters)

Tuesday - Friday NO MASSES

Saturday, August 20

5:00 p.m. Sadie Post
(Sandi, Sheri, R.J. III,
Bob & Irene Post)

Sunday, August 21

8:15 a.m. Ted Casey
(Family)

Sunday, August 21

10:30 a.m. Stephen Kurtek Jr.
(Kurtek Family)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

I thought it would be helpful to sum up some of the things going on in the areas of events, maintenance, and improvements.

1. We would like to have a parish get-together on Saturday, September 24, since we were unable to have a summer festival. But this will depend on people stepping forward to help coordinate the day. Please give us a call as soon as possible if you have an interest in helping. Hopefully we can return to a summer festival next year. Again, it depends on you.

2. Work is finally starting on the stone wall between the church and rectory. Thank you for your generous contributions to our repair and maintenance fund. They are greatly helping to lessen the financial impact of this critical project.

3. Some work has also started on the Russell Building, the porch and fire escape in particular. We are continuing to work with Gillingham, which has an interest in making use of the building, particularly the second floor. We are insisting on a plan that will not in any way compromise our parish's use of the building for our own activities.

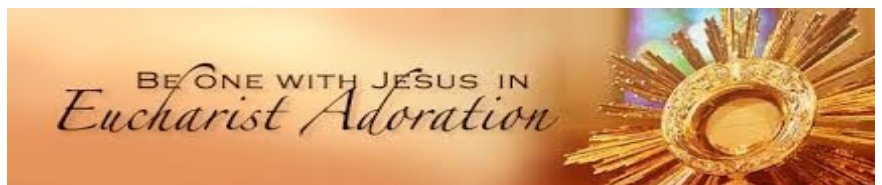
4. There are always new maintenance issues to address. If you come to Mass early, you may have noticed that the church lights have not been coming on normally. We are waiting for the control panels to be repaired. Until then, the priest has to go up to the choir loft and turn everything on and off manually.

5. Our mural of St. John the Baptist by Kim Searle is now complete. We will bless it after one of the weekend Masses sometime soon.

6. Because of some incidents with votive candles, we will be reducing the number of real candles and investing in a couple racks of electric votive lights. Personally, I prefer real candles. But I also prefer not burning down the church.

In Christ,

Fr. Bobbin



Eucharistic Adoration

A holy hour takes place 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.

Flower Donations

If anyone wishes to memorialize flowers in the sanctuary for the weekend Masses for a living or deceased intention, please call the Rectory 570-622-5470



Next Week's Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
(August 20/21)

Reading I: Isaiah 66:18-21

Reading II: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

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

Religious Education



School Shopping

When you are out shopping, please keep our Pre-school and CCD students in mind for this school year. We need supplies and snacks for our classes. Donations can be dropped off at the rectory or in the back of church during the weekend Masses. We thank you in advance for your generosity!

Here is a list to help you with shopping ...

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Pencils | Erasers |
| Colored Pencils | Scissors |
| Colored Markers | Lined Paper |
| Colored Tissue Paper | Stickers |
| Pipe Cleaners | Dry Erase Markers |
| White Glue | Yarn |
| Glue Sticks | Beads |
| Construction Paper (any color) | Card Stock paper |



Pre-school Registration

Children ages 3 (must be potty trained) to 6 are welcome to join our preschool program. We will have classes twice a month starting in September until May in Longinus Hall from 10:30am to the end of mass. Please register by filling out the form below or using the link listed. To use the link, you will need a Google account.

Google Link: <https://forms.gle/1H3CbZ839QbEiQ7r9>

Parent's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Any Allergies: _____

Circle how you can help: Teacher //Helper / Snacks

Catholic Women's Union—Fundraiser

St. John's Catholic Women's Union are sponsoring a Chicken BBQ or Pulled Pork Dinner on **Saturday, September 10th 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 August 27/28 in the back of church. Cost—\$12.00.

Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or call the Rectory for more information 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



Weekly Collection

July 30/31\$5,228.00

Monthly Dues\$1,502.00

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

Thank you for using your Improvements & Repairs envelopes to help us meet the maintenance needs of our parish.

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Anna & Vincent Lescavage by Anne Marie & Daniel Wachter
2. IMO Margaret & Wilfred Wachter By Anne Marie & Daniel Wachter

St. Joseph

1. IMO George Hahner Jr. by Hahner Family
2. Health of Erika Lee Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly

Sanctuary

Deceased of the Bartholomew Family by Frances Lorenz

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Julianne Groody by Jim & Marianne Conway
- 3&4. Health of Erika Lee Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly

Liturgical Min. Schedule

August 20 —5:00 p.m.

Reader: Patty O'Neill

Euch.Min.: John O'Neill

Servers: Emma Lieberman

Cantor: Dave Derbes

August 21— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Naffin

Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Dave Derbes

August 21— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Jen Daubert

Euch.Min.: Bill Gianfagna

Servers: Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 IMO Edward Christ
 Mildred A. Fredericks
 Fr. Don Henry
 IMO M/M Herbert Henry
 IMO Joanne Hepler
 IMO Clare & Linda Houser
 IIMO M/M James Loeper
 MO Charles Lorenz
 IMO Dorothy Parsick
 IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
 IMO Erika Stangl Seacock
 IMO Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our
 bulletin this month!*

Banns of Marriage

III—Rebecca Derbes and
 David Bobersky

Family Matters

Families with Chronically Ill Children. We lift up in prayer those families with chronically ill children. May they be nurtured and supported in their love and care of their children. Our parish will continue to hold all of you up in prayer.

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."

"Do you think that I have come to establish peace on earth?
 No, I tell you, but rather division."

Luke 12:51

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:

will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on September 8, 15, October 13, 20, 27, and November 17. Join us in person in Longinus Hall (usually) or at home on Zoom (*Please email Father for the Zoom link: kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org). Fr. Bobbin's Scripture study attempts to give an overview and background for the books of Sacred Scripture to be of help with personal reading and study, Bible study groups, and getting more out of hearing the Word proclaimed at Mass. All are welcome.



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.

Electric Votive Lights

In the interest of fire safety, we will be replacing some of our real votive candles with two racks of electric votive lights. We would be grateful for any donations to defray the cost of these new candle racks.



Parish Outreach

As members of one parish family, we try to be attentive to each other's needs and help each other when possible. We are looking for anyone who would be able and willing to assist senior parishioners with limitations by driving them to appointments or errands, etc. Please call the rectory if you are interested in being someone we can call upon to assist a fellow parishioner.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Diocese of Allentown celebrates the Vocation of Marriage by offering a Mass for married couples celebrating a milestone anniversary (5,10, 15, 25, etc.). All attending couples are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass held each September. The 2022 Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 2:00PM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown. Couples can register here: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass>

Thank You ...

Thank you to everyone who sent flowers, cards, and well wishes for my 100th Birthday. I so appreciated them! God bless you!

Sincerely, Kathleen Hohman

*Thank
 You*



August 14, 2022

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 38:4-6, 8-10 | Heb 12:1-4 | Lk 12:49-53

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

My mom loved her Nintendo 64. We especially enjoyed “Paperboy,” a video game where a paperboy riding a bicycle attempts to deliver newspapers along Easy Street, Middle Road, or Hard Way. He has to avoid obstacles that pop up along the way – barking dogs, mailboxes, skateboarders, trash cans, you name it! Sometimes life can seem that way. We can’t predict which obstacles will pop up, but the author of the Letter to the Hebrews encourages us to persevere, “keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.” Whether we’re riding along “Easy Street” or “Hard Way,” we can look to Jesus to help us overcome the hardships that may come our way because we are his followers. As Jesus tells the disciples, following him will not always be easy and may even result in conflicts within our families. When that happens, we can look to the example of Jesus and the great “cloud of witnesses” to whom the Letter to the Hebrews refers, knowing that peace and reconciliation await us at the finish line.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I used to have great fun watching my boys at our neighborhood swim meets. Even as my then-7-year-old zig-zagged into the lane lines during the backstroke, I would yell “Go! Go! Go! You’ve got this.” (And, please, someone catch his head at the finish!) He couldn’t hear a word I said. I wonder if it’s a bit like this when it comes to the “cloud of witnesses” – the saints, known and unknown, who encourage us in our faith. We can’t see them or hear them, but we know they are there. In turn, we can become cheerleaders for others running the race alongside us: offering encouragement, prayers, and reminding one another of the joy that awaits us. Spoken or silent, our prayers can help us and others persevere in our faith and place our trust in Jesus when times are tough.

STUDY The *catechism* chapter 3, The Characteristics of Faith (153-165), references this passage from Hebrews on being surrounded by a cloud of witnesses. Read especially #165.

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

FEAST DAY – AUGUST 15

When it was time for Mary to die, her body was taken up—*assumed*—into Heaven to be with the Blessed Trinity forever. Mary was the mother of Jesus Christ, who is God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Her body is very special, so God preserved it from death. Mary reigns in Heaven as Queen, and her Son Jesus is King of the Universe.



The Blessed Mother Mary lived many years after Jesus was resurrected and ascended into Heaven. Saint John the Evangelist took her into his home and cared for her. She, in turn, supported the Apostles and the first Christians. At the time of Mary's death, Tradition tells us that the Apostles placed her body in a tomb set aside for her, but when they went back later to pray over her, her body was gone! In the picture above, the Apostles stand around her coffin marveling, because it is filled only with lilies.

Different theologians over time have argued that Mary may not have died at all. In the Eastern Church, they call her death the "Dormition," meaning that she just went into a kind of "sleep" rather than expiring. Whether she actually died is not critically important; what matters is what happened next! The Church teaches that Mary's body was "assumed" [*taken up*] into Heaven, where she was welcomed by the Heavenly Court of Saints and Angels and honored by the Most Holy Trinity. The picture above attempts to show both the earthly reality—the absence of her body in her tomb—and the Saints and Angels in Heaven greeting her with joy as she meets her Son Jesus—who after His Ascension, was also taken up body and soul into Heaven.

It just makes sense that Mary, whose body carried the Incarnate Son of God for nine months before His birth, should be preserved from death and honored as holy in this way. And her Assumption anticipates, as does Christ's Ascension, the glorified bodies that all the faithful will enjoy in Heaven. For these reasons, the Assumption is a feast of great joy for all Christians; for Catholics, it is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Pastor..... *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
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@allentowndioocese.org

“There is a baptism with which I must be baptised, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!”

