

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 18, 2024

20TH

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Bread of Life Discourse

*“I am the living bread
that came down from heaven.”*

John 6:51



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 17

5:00 p.m. Paul Filiac
(Christ Black)

Sunday, August 18

8:15 a.m. Ted Casey
(Bill & Sally Casey)

Sunday, August 18

10:30 a.m. Dolly Parsick
(Debbie & Paul Herb)

Monday, August 19 NO MASS

Tuesday, August 20 NO MASS

Wednesday, August 21

6:30 p.m. George Hahner Jr.
(Hahner Family)

Thursday, August 22

6:30 p.m. Jack Scheetz
(Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Friday, August 23

11:15 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

Saturday, August 24

5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Cross
(Lou Cross & Marlo Lipko)

Sunday, August 25

8:15 a.m. Michael Klembara
(Anita Klembara)

Sunday, August 25

10:30 a.m. John Wollyung
(Joseph & Suzanne Wollyung)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

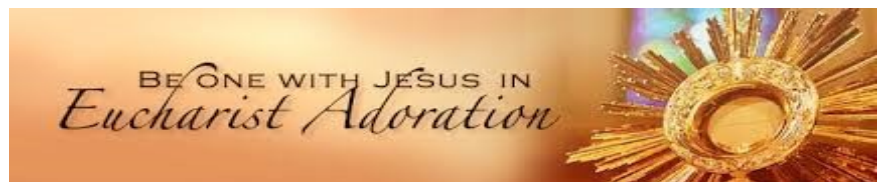
In our journey through the Bible, we're on the Historical Books of the Old Testament. To be more specific, we were looking at the collection of books called the Deuteronomic History, which is made up of Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings.

These books recount the conquest of the Promised Land, the time of the judges, the establishment of a monarchy, the kings Saul, David, and Solomon, the conflict that divided Israel into two separate kingdoms, the north and the south, and the kings of the north and south, some of whom were faithful to God while others were not. Around 721 BC the Assyrian Empire conquered the northern kingdom of Israel, which was made up of ten of the twelve tribes of Israel. The people of the northern kingdom were assimilated into the surrounding cultures. Some would become the Samaritans, who did not get along with the Jewish people in the time of Jesus because of the Samaritans' mixed ancestry and religion.

After the north fell to Assyria, there was only the south, made up of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin. Eventually in 587 BC the Babylonians conquered the south, destroying Jerusalem and the Temple. The people were exiled to Babylon and there would no longer be a king in the line of David ruling in Jerusalem.

If God was planning to save the world from sin and death, why would He allow His Chosen People to be destroyed by enemy nations? Let's answer that 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.

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 • Brian Eckley • Carolyn Leinheiser*



Next Week's Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
(August 24/25)

Reading I: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Reading II: Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel: John 6:60-69

Upcoming Events

August

- 18 8:00 a.m. Confirmation Parent/Candidate Mtg..... L.H.
- 21 7:00 p.m. Catholic Women’s Union Mtg. L.H.

September

- 3 7:00 p.m. Building Committee Mtg..... L.H.
- 8 9:00 a.m. CCD Parent Mtg. L.H.
- 8 10:30 a.m. Sunday School..... L.H.
- 8 4:00 p.m. Chronic Pain Support L.H.
- 9 7:00 p.m. Parish Council L.H.
- 11 8:00 p.m. St. John’s Beneficial Society Mtg F.R.
- 18 7:00 p.m. Catholic Women’s Union Mtg L.H.
- 19 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study L.H.
- 22 9:00 a.m. CCD Community Mtg L.H.
- 22 10:30 a.m. Sunday School..... L.H.
- 22 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class..... L.H.
- 26 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study L.H.
- 29 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class..... L.H.

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

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group F.R.

Weekly Collection

August 10/11\$ 5,643.75
Improv.&Repairs\$2,043.00

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. For Erika Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly
2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

St. Joseph

1. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
2. For Ferdinand & Rosie by Neil & Frances Manus

Sanctuary


For Frances Manus by Neil & Frances Manus

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy Family

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on September 19, 26, October 10, 17, November 7 and 14. Join us in person in Longinus Hall 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 Father Bobbin at St. John’s Rectory 622-5470.

Flowers in Church

Generally speaking, flowers are donations. The parish decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons (partly thanks to your donations). The rest of the year, we welcome donations of flowers. Flowers are **not** appropriate during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. Flowers **are** appropriate on:

- Sundays in Ordinary Time
- Sundays in the Easter Season (after the original Easter flowers have died)
- Holy Days—such as—Ascension Thursday, Assumption (August 15), All Saints Day (November 1), Immaculate Conception (December 8)



If you would ever like to donate flowers (perhaps in memory of a loved one), please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

Liturgical Min. Schedule

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 24— 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol

Euch.Min.: Dan Murphy
Frank Murphy

Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara

Cantor: Dave Derbes

August 25— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Jeff Naffin
Mike Ambrose

Server/Sacristan: Luke Schane

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

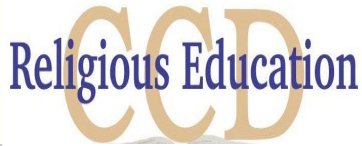
August 25— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: John Crane

Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla
Sharon Snyder

Servers: Lauren & Megan Goodman

Cantor: Dave Derbes



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.
<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



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>

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.

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.

Padre Pio Pilgrimage—Bus Trip

For those interested in attending the 1st Local Diocesan Pilgrimage to the National Centre for Padre Pio on **Friday, September 20**, bus transportation will be available for a cost of \$25. Bus departs from St. Clare of Assisi in Saint Clair at 7AM and from St. Ambrose in Schuylkill Haven at 7:30AM. You must bring your own brown bag lunch. Departure from the Shrine as soon as the Pilgrimage concludes. To register or for more info, please contact Barbara at St. Ambrose church 570-385-1031 or stambroseoffice@comcast.net.

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.

Baptismal Preparation

Before your youngest members are baptized, parents are asked to come for Baptismal Preparation. It is preferable that this be done **before** your baby is born. Please call Father Bobbin to arrange for this important preparation. Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 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 Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!

Chronic Pain Support

Anyone living with chronic pain is invited to a support group meeting on Sunday, September 8th at 4 p.m. in Longinus Hall. Feel free to come and join us. Remember, you are not alone! For more information, please call 570-391-2624.



"We Serve" and we are looking for new members to join one of Pottsville's

oldest service clubs, "The Pottsville Lions Club". Meetings are held at the Pottsville Zone, Peacock Street on the first and third Monday of the month, along with dinner, great fellowship and the chance to serve your community. For membership information call Jerry Enders, Membership Chair at 570-640-9510 or Danny Murphy at 570-640-1130

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, August 21st 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! **Please Note: 2024 Dues are now due!**

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 the weekend of ... **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.

Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop — September 6 & 7

Friday, September 6 from 4 to 7 p.m. and **Saturday, September 7** from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Russell Building — 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Pottsville

Don't miss it! If you like yard sales, this is the place to be. Various items including ... Christmas decorations, knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, various holiday decorations, framed prints, special Vintage Section and much, much more, plus food is available for purchase. Something for everyone! Join us! Call the Rectory office 622-5470 ext 3 for more information.



Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the times listed above or call the rectory 622-5470 ext 3. Please individually wrap or bag all dessert items to be sold.

Neighboring Events

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.

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.

ST. JOSEPH CENTER FOR SPECIAL LEARNING

... Is searching for a *Special Education Teacher!* Come work in a supportive work environment where you can make a real, lasting impact on students' lives. Applicant must have a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education and a current PA teaching certificate. Interested applicants must submit a cover letter, resume, clearances, and teacher application to Principal Bob Giba at rgiba@stjosephctr.com, or call (570) 622-4638 to set up a time to drop off these documents.



August 18, 2024

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prov 9:1-6 | Eph 5:15-20 | John 6:51-58

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

We tell our children, from a young age through their teen years: make wise choices. It's a sort of catch-all to cover the endless possibilities of circumstances – good, bad, or neutral – they might find themselves in. But what does it mean to be wise? To have wisdom? In today's first reading from Proverbs, we are shown a depiction of wisdom herself, spreading a table where the guests will dine when they arrive. "Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed!" she says. This invitation is echoed in the Gospel, by Wisdom personified: Jesus Christ. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." Simplicity of heart and the forsaking of foolishness are the only criteria for accepting the offering of wisdom. It seems we are to come and be fed. But how do we discern, in our fast-paced, consumer-based world, what exactly is a wise choice? It's hard to advance in true wisdom; it is acquired by the humble and the simple, not the busy and the overcomplicated. Often, what the Christian deems important the world finds "foolish." It can be hard to keep our priorities rightly ordered, but advancing on the path to wisdom begins first by recognizing the centrality of God in our lives and humbly allowing him in.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, he instructs the people, saying, "Watch carefully how you live." I'd like to think that's where we got our "make wise choices" instruction, but I can't be sure. Again, the dichotomy between foolishness and wisdom is addressed. Wisdom is described as being prudent, which is living with one eye in the present, but also one eye toward the future, and being filled with the Holy Spirit. Elaborating even further, Paul provides a beautiful image of "singing and playing to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks always and for everything." In the life of one living with wisdom, there is a turning toward true joy. Living in a spirit of gladness is in direct opposition to living in a spirit of fear or comparison. Since wisdom and understanding are both gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit, we can invite him into our midst and ask him to increase our wisdom, understanding, and our capacity for joy.

ENGAGE Cultivating wisdom and understanding is a lofty, but worthy, goal! This week, spend some time familiarizing yourself with the Wisdom literature of the Bible (which consists of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Wisdom, and Sirach) by reading the introductions to one or more of them. Explore some of the Scriptures themselves.

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

