

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 28, 2022

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled, but the one who
humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 14:11



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 27

5:00 p.m. John & Margaret Kasinecz
(John & Barb Powers)

Sunday, August 28

8:15 a.m. Mary Ann Holley
(Florence Miller)

Sunday, August 28

10:30 a.m. Bill & Marie Flynn

Monday, August 29

6:30 p.m. Clara Becker
(Rita Lotz)

Tuesday, August 30

9:00 a.m. Sharon Lonergan
(Joe Hohman)

Wednesday, August 31

9:00 a.m. Josephine Kochol
(Tony & Lucilla Kochol)

Thursday, September 1

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

Friday, September 2

9:00 a.m. Thomas & Eva Francis
(Francis Family)

Saturday, September 3

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

Sunday, September 4

8:15 a.m. Julian & Mary Chiplonia
(Julia Chiplonia)

Sunday, September 4

10:30 a.m. T. Mary Rinaldo
(Chuck & Daughters)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Tomorrow, August 29, we commemorate the martyrdom of St. John the Baptist. We celebrate the Nativity of John the Baptist on June 24. Although August 29 is not a major celebration like June 24, it very much deserves our attention.

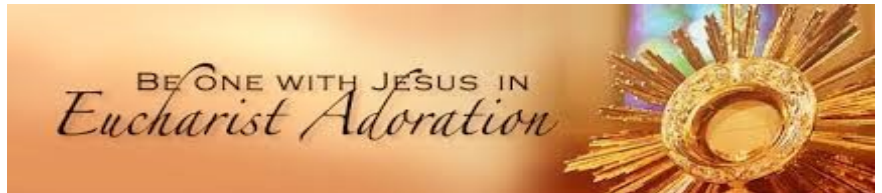
The strange episode of John's death is told in Mark 6:17-29. King Herod imprisons John for speaking out against Herod's unlawful marriage to his brother's wife Herodias. At a celebration for Herod's birthday, Herodias's daughter entertains Herod with a dance that prompts him to promise her anything she wanted. Thus came the famous response: "the head of John the Baptist."

John's birth was very much tied to the birth of Jesus. John's life was dedicated to preparing the way for Jesus and pointing Him out to people. Now John is united with Jesus in His suffering and death. John dies for witnessing to the truth. The Truth, ultimately, is Jesus Christ.

It is noteworthy that John dies for speaking out against an unlawful marriage. Today our society's view of marriage and relationships is that "anything goes." It is not popular to speak the truth of marriage and human relationships based on how God created us. Yet, the future of society depends on returning to God's plan. We can look to our patron, John the Baptist, for his example of courage and dedication to the truth, and ask his intercession for our society.

In Christ,

Fr. Bobbin



Eucharistic Adoration

- ◆ 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. This will be a formal holy hour ending with Benediction. Father will be available for Confessions.

Next Week's Readings

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(September 3/4)

Reading I: Wisdom 9:13-18b

Reading II: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

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 • Mary Jean Morgalis

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 |
- Gift Cards for snacks from Boyer's, Weis, BG's or Giant



Sunday School Registration

St. John the Baptist and St. Patrick Parishes are happy to welcome some of our youngest parishioners to Sunday School beginning this September! Children ages 3 to 6 are welcome to join our laid-back, fun, Catholic Sunday School program. Classes take place twice a month for the duration of the school year from 10:30 am to 11:15 am in Longinus Hall at St. John's Parish. Our September classes will be held on **September 11th and 25th**. Children must be potty trained or have a parent or guardian stay with them for the program. Sunday School includes a weekly lesson, songs, and snack. 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

August 20/21\$4,172.90

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Barbara Weiss by Sandy Clauser
2. Health of Erika Lee Hauptly by Bill & Denise Hauptly

St. Joseph

1. IMO John Wollyung by His Family
2. Special Intention by Keith & Mary Jo Laslow

Sanctuary

Deceased of the Bartholomew Fam. by Ellen Foley

Guardian Angels

1. New Baby by Sandy Clauser
2. Kevin's 60th Birthday by Sandy Clauser
3. IMO Carl Weiss by Sandy Clauser
4. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

Liturgical Min. Schedule

September 3 —5:00 p.m.

Reader: Heidi Gorski
Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz
Servers: Aleksander Gorski
Cantor: Stanley Gorski

September 4— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Ray Petrilla
Euch.Min.: Charlie Miller
Servers: Madison & Caden Wright
Cantor: Dave Derbes

September 4— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Jen Daubert
Euch.Min.: Joyce Gerace
Servers: Jackson Daubert
Cantor: Marianne Wollyung



Electric Votive Lights

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

Neighboring Events

Swahili Catholic Mass

... celebrated by Fr. Barnabas Shayo, A.J. on September 11th at 2 p.m. in St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome to experience the African way of celebrating Mass. There will be African food and drinks at the Parish Center following Mass. Tickets are needed for the dinner because space is limited. Please RSVP by August 28th by calling Debbie at 570-622-1802 ext. 0.

Families Matters

School Year Beginning.

As we begin this new school year our parish prays that parents will support their children's efforts to reach their full potential. We pray that their children give their best effort in their studies, to develop their relationships with friends, and grow in their faith life.

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."

Upcoming Events

September

1	7:00 p.m.	First Friday Adoration	Church
8	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study.....	L.H.
9	4-7 p.m.	Yard Sale	R.B.
10	9-12 noon	Yard Sale	R.B.
11	8:15 a.m.	Confirmation Inscription Mass.....	Church
11	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting.....	L.H.
11	10:15 a.m.	Little Children's Sunday School	L.H.
11	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class	L.H.
14	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society Mtg.....	F.R.
15	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study.....	L.H.
21	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg.....	L.H.
25	10:15 a.m.	Little Children's Sunday School	L.H.
25	11:30 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg.	R.B.
25	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.

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.

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>



August 28, 2022 | Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29 | Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a | Lk 14:1, 7-14

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Pope St. John XXIII, one of the most influential figures of the 20th century, had a wonderful sense of humor. In stories recalled by Fr. Greg Friedman, OFM, Good Pope John would say, “God knew from all eternity I was going to be pope. Couldn’t God have made me more handsome?” He also had a deep devotion to St. Joseph. In his writings, he talks about the humble and overlooked role that Joseph played in the life of Christ. He promoted an increased devotion to the humble, loyal saint who stayed quietly in the background and provided a home for Christ and his mother. St. Joseph is a model for the humility that our readings speak of today. Being humble doesn’t mean being embarrassed or ashamed of the talents and abilities we have. It means acknowledging that these are gifts from God. God does not give us these gifts so we can place ourselves above others, as Jesus observed people doing at the home of the Pharisee. They are to be used to glorify God. By being humble, we “will be loved more than a giver of gifts ... and find favor with God.”

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I always remember what I was told in a volunteer training when preparing to serve hospice patients and their families: sit at eye level or lower when meeting with the patient or their family members. Being “at the same level” not only “lifted up” the patient but also brought the volunteer “down” to their level. This not only made listening easier and showed respect for the dignity of the patient; it also helped the volunteer see things from the patient’s perspective. Jesus tells us in the Gospel today that being his disciples is not about elevating ourselves, but about lowering ourselves. He calls us to invite, welcome, and accept those who are least able to repay us. When we forget about ourselves and our place in the world and instead lift up others, he tells us we “will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

ACT One of the greatest acts of humility is to acknowledge when we are wrong, apologize, and ask forgiveness. Is there someone you can reconcile with by admitting you were wrong? Allowing God to forgive you in the sacrament of reconciliation will help you grow in humility.

St. John’s Yard Sale—Curiosity Shop

Friday, September 9 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Russell Building at 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Pottsville

Don’t miss it! If you like yard sales, this is the place to be! Various items including ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, holiday decorations, framed prints, special Vintage Section and much, much more. Something for everyone!

Food is available for purchase ... BBQ / Pierogies / Hot Dogs / Refreshments / Desserts ... Take Out Only.

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

Something for everyone! Join us! Call the Rectory office 622-5470 ext. 3 for more information.





Saint Monica

Saint Monica, also known as Monica of Hippo, is St. Augustine of Hippo's mother. She was born in 331 A.D. in Tagaste, which is present-day Algeria. When she was very young, she was married off to the Roman pagan Patricius, who shared his mother's violent temper. Patricius' mother lived with the couple and the duo's temper flares proved to be a constant challenge to young Monica. While Monica's prayers and Christian deeds bothered Patricius, he is said to have respected her beliefs. Three children were born to Monica and Patricius: Augustine, Navigius, and Perpetua. Unfortunately, Monica was unable to baptize her children and when Augustine fell ill, Monica pleaded with Patricius to allow their son to be baptized. Patricius allowed it, but when Augustine was healthy again, he withdrew his permission.

For years Monica prayed for her husband and mother-in-law, until finally, one year before Patricius' death, she successfully converted them. As time passed, Perpetua and Navigius entered the religious life, but unfortunately Augustine became lazy and uncouth. This greatly worried Monica, so when Patricius died, she sent the 17-year-old Augustine to Carthage for schooling. While in Carthage, Augustine became a Manichean, which was a major religion that saw the world as light and darkness, and when one died, they were removed from the world of matter and returned to the world of light, which is where life comes from. After Augustine got his education and returned home, he shared his views with Monica, who drove him from her table. Though it is not recorded how much time passed, Monica had a vision that convinced her to reconcile with her wayward son.

Monica went to a bishop, who told her, "the child of those tears shall never perish." Inspired, Monica followed Augustine to Rome, where she learned he had left for Milan. She continued her persuasion and eventually came upon St. Ambrose, who helped her convert Augustine to Christianity following his seventeen-year resistance.

Augustine later wrote a book called *Confessions*, in which he wrote of Monica's habit of bringing "to certain oratories, erected in the memory of the saints, offerings of porridge, bread, water and wine." When Monica moved to Milan, a bishop named Ambrose told her wine "might be an occasion of gluttony for those who were already given to drink," so she stopped preparing wine as offerings for the saints. Augustine wrote: "In place of a basket filled with fruits of the earth, she had learned to bring to the oratories of the martyrs a heart full of purer petitions, and to give all that she could to the poor - so that the communion of the Lord's body might be rightly celebrated in those places where, after the example of his passion, the martyrs had been sacrificed and crowned."

After a period of six months, Augustine was baptized in the church of St. John the Baptist at Milan. The pair were led to believe they should spread the Word of God to Africa, but in the Roman city of Civitavecchia, Monica passed away. Augustine recorded the words she imparted upon him when she realized death was near. "Son, nothing in this world now affords me delight. I do not know what there is now left for me to do or why I am still here, all my hopes in this world being now fulfilled."

She was buried at Ostia, and her body was removed during the 6th century to a hidden crypt in the church of Santa Aurea in Ostia, near the tomb of St. Aurea of Ostia. In 1430, Pope Martin V ordered her relics to be brought to Rome and many miracles were reported to have occurred along the way. Later, Cardinal d'Estouteville built a church to honor St. Augustine called the Basilica di Sant'Agostino, where her relics were placed in a chapel to the left of the high altar.

Her funeral epitaph survived in ancient manuscripts and the stone it was originally written on was discovered in the church of Santa Aurea in 1945.

Douglas Boin translated the tablet's Latin to read:

"Here the most virtuous mother of a young man set her ashes, a second light to your merits, Augustine.

As a priest, serving the heavenly laws of peace, you taught [or you teach] the people entrusted to you with your character. A glory greater than the praise of your accomplishments crowns you both - Mother of the Virtues, more fortunate because of her offspring."

Fun Fact

The city of Santa Monica, California is named after Monica, as were the "weeping" springs outside the city.

Feastday: August 27

Patron: of Wives and Abuse Victims

St. Monica Prayer

St. Monica,

I need your prayers. You know exactly how I'm feeling because you once felt it yourself. I'm hurting, hopeless, and in despair.

I desperately want my child to return to Christ in his Church but I can't do it alone. I need God's help. Please join me in begging the Lord's powerful grace to flow into my child's life. Ask the Lord Jesus to soften his heart, prepare a path for his conversion, and activate the Holy Spirit in his life. Amen.

Pastor..... Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin
Deacon.....Lawrence Lonergan

Parish Council PresidentRobert Bechtel
Choir Director/OrganistDavid 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.

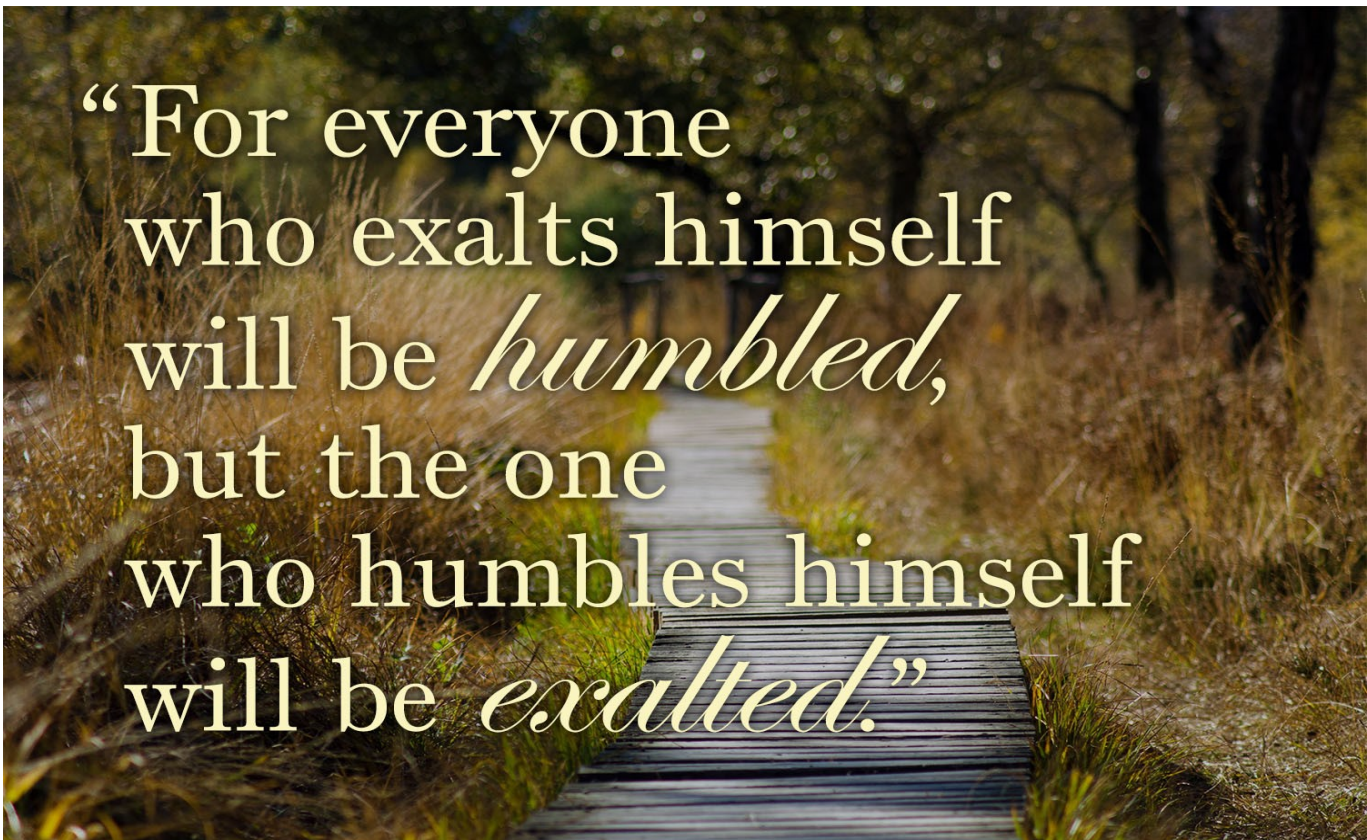
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays..... 4:15 to 4:45 p.m..
Sundays 7:45 to 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 to 10:15 a.m..
or by appointment

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@allentowndiocese.org



“For everyone who exalts himself will be *humbled*, but the one who humbles himself will be *exalted*.”