

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

September 3, 2023



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Matthew 16:24

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 2

5:00 p.m. Paul Rosenberger
(Janet Thomas)

Sunday, September 3

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

Sunday, September 3

10:30 a.m. Dec. of John & Gretchen
Lieberman Family
(John Lieberman Family)

Monday, September 4

NO MASS

Tuesday, September 5

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

Wednesday, September 6

9:00 a.m. Anthony J. Gaburick
(Living Intention)
(Mucha & Williams Family)

Thursday, September 7

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

Friday, September 8

9:00 a.m. Deceased of Sninsky Fam.)
(Stan & Geri Grabowski)

Saturday, September 9

5:00 p.m. James & Lillian Connelly
(Derbes Family)

Sunday, September 10

8:15 a.m. Sadie Post & Susan Legase)
(Sandi & Sheri Post)

Sunday, September 10

10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of
Zambo Family
(Grandchildren)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

One last message about prayer... For several weeks, I have been talking about *personal* prayer. Let me say something about public prayer, specifically, *liturgical* prayer. Liturgy is the Church's official, public worship. Liturgical prayer includes the Mass, all the sacraments, and the Liturgy of the Hours, the set of daily prayers used mainly by clergy and religious.

What makes liturgical prayer different from personal prayer is that, when we participate (e.g. attending Mass), we join together with the rest of the Church as the Body of Christ. In other words, liturgy is not *individual*, but an act of the entire Body of Christ. We worship the Father with one voice. Liturgy is meant to unify us as the Church and keep us grounded in who we are and what we believe. This is why liturgy (Mass, the sacraments, etc.) is "scripted." It is governed by specific rules and instructions that are determined by the Church. The priest cannot just improvise prayers and rituals because that would harm our unity with the rest of the Body of Christ.

Whenever we attend Mass or any other type of liturgy, we want to participate as fully as we can, respectful of the liturgy's rules and customs. By attending Mass at least every Sunday, receiving the sacraments, and forming good habits of daily personal prayer (as I tried to describe in the previous bulletin messages), we experience the power of prayer to bring us into a close relationship with our Lord and have profound effects on our lives.

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
(September 9/10)

Reading I: Ezekiel 33:27-9

Reading II: Romans 13:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

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 • Josephine Gallagher
Tom Jefferson • Theresa Chapman • Christine Kurtke • Dominic
Maccarone • Mary Zambo

Upcoming Events

September

10	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
13	8:00 p.m.	St. John's Beneficial Society	F.R.
14	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
17	8:00 a.m.	First Reconciliation Class	L.H.
20	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg.....	L.H.
24	9:15 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg	L.H.
24	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
28	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	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 Collections

August 26/27\$4,192.30

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 Philomena Carroll
by Family
2. Special Intention
by John & Mary Jean Morgalis

St. Joseph

- 1& 2. IMO Ronald Kriston
by Joan Grapsy

Sanctuary

- IMO Joe Wollyung Sr.
by Barb Wollyung & Family

Guardian Angels

1. IMO James Cavanaugh
by Hahner Family
2. IMO John Wollyung
by Barb Wollyung
3. IMO Rita Foley
by Ellen Foley
4. Special Intention

Liturgical Min. Schedule

September 9— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Patty O'Neill

Euch.Min.: John O'Neill

Server: Sacristan

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

September 10 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: John Crane

Euch.Min.: John Corbacio

Servers: Vincent, Michael, Spencer
Prestileo

Cantor: Amy Joyce

September 10— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis

Euch.Min.: Frank Murphy

Server: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Marianne Wollyung

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on **September 14, 28, October 12, 26, November 9 and 16**. 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.

Catholic Women's Union—Fundraiser

St. John's Catholic Women's Union are sponsoring a Chicken BBQ or Pulled Pork Dinner

on **Saturday, September 23rd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in the Parking Lot next to Dunkin in Yorkville. Pre-Sale tickets available before and after all Masses September 9&10 and September 16&17 in the back of church. Cost—\$13.00. Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or call the Rectory for more information 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop — September 8 & 9

Friday, September 8 from 4 to 7 p.m. and **Saturday, September 9** 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 ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, 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.



Parish Council—New Members—2023

VINCENT J. BALULIS

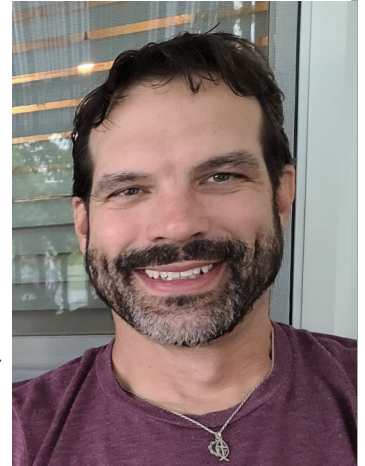
Address: 1530 W. Norwegian St., Pottsville

Occupation: Case Worker

Length of time in parish: 2 years

Experience and activities: Catechist for seven years; Bible School volunteer with Make A Wish for ten years; Reader; Eucharistic Minister; Altar Server with past and present parishes; Income Maintenance Caseworker with Dept. of Human Services since 2008.

Why I Wish to Serve: I would like to be more involved with the parish and the local community, especially with the younger members of our church and community and those in most need .. elderly and disabled.



ANN BLANKENHORN

Address: 2132 West End Ave., Pottsville

Occupation: VP Practice, Education & Safety, Reading Hospital – Tower Health

Length of time in parish: 14 years

Experience and activities: Pottsville Area School District School Board VP; Finance Chair completing my second four year term in December; Previous experience in community Boards with a Mental Health suicide preventor focus; Progressive leadership experience within my professional career leading and collaborating diverse group and teams; booster club leadership roles when my boys were in school – organizing and fundraising.

Why I Wish to Serve:

As I am completing my final year of school board, I chose not to run, however, I want to continue to serve within my community and I feel this is a wonderful opportunity to be involved and give back in any way I can.



MICHELLE DARHUN

Address: 1713 Mahantongo St., Pottsville

Occupation: Licensed Practical Nurse

Length of time in parish: lifelong

Experience and activities: I was baptized at St. John's; attended St. John's School; coached St. John's CYO Volleyball; served on St. John's CYO Board; participated in many activities for our parish including baked goods for Christmas Bazaar, Lenten Dinners, Parish Festival. I have been a nurse for 36 years and enjoy gardening, cooking, baking and being active.

Why I Wish to Serve: I have been participating in activities and events at St. John's my entire life. Recently someone mentioned to me about serving on Parish Council. I thought about it and decided it was something I would like to do to continue to help our parish.



Parish Council—New Members—2023

REENE REDDINGTON

Address: 1881 Third Ave.

Occupation: Retired

Length of time in parish: 41 years

Experience and activities: I was employed by Mazzuca Enterprises Inc. for over 30 years until retirement; I have been involved in many parish activities including yard sales, Christmas Bazaar, Summer Festival, Lenten Dinners, and the Event Planning Committee.

Why I Wish to Serve:

I want to contribute to our parish family in faith and fellowship.

KAY WOLLYUNG

Address: 6 Rosewood Drive, Pottsville

Occupation: Retired

Length of time in parish: 59 years

Experience and activities: Attended St. Pat's Elementary; Nativity BVM High School; Married Joseph Mattea (deceased 1995); two children Scott & Lisa; now married to Bob Wollyung; early years raising children and involved in school activities and local clubs; later years was a full-time travel coordinator.

Why I Wish to Serve: Now that I am retired, I will have time to be more involved in other activities.



ROBERT B. WOLLYUNG

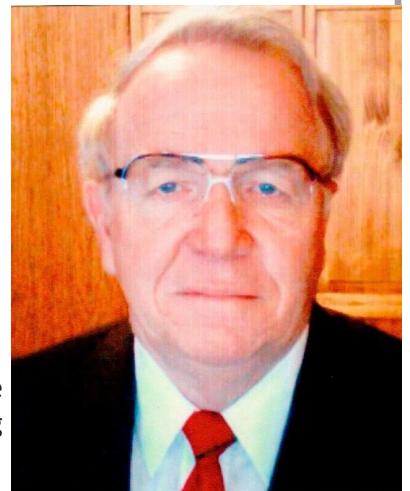
Address: 6 Rosewood Drive, Pottsville

Occupation: Retired

Length of time in parish: 28 years

Experience and activities: Attended St. John's Elementary; Nativity BVM High School; served four years in the U.S. Navy; Pa. State Policeman 16 years; Franklin County Sheriff; Married 50 years to first wife Patricia (deceased); remarried Kay (Mattea); Choir Member; Eucharist Minister; Reader.

Why I Wish to Serve: I have always been active in church activities and believe I have the time and ability to serve on this Council as I did serve on Corpus Christi in Chambersburg for several years.



Attention — All Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ...

Please let us know your plans for **October & November** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call the rectory or email Larry Lonergan at larrylonergan130@gmail.com by **September 18th..** We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

September 3, 2023

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 20:7-9 | Rom 12:1-2 | Mt 16:21-27

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I am glad I was duped. Yep, the illusionist in the show we attended had me fooled into seeing something one way and it turns out it was completely false. The show was entertaining, and worth the time and expense we invested to enjoy it. And ... it may be the only circumstance where the word “duped” can be used in the same sentence as “glad.” That certainly wasn’t Jeremiah’s experience! His prayer reflects frustration and hurt, and even a little bit of disgust at how he has been treated because of the Lord: “I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more.” But then, even in his discontent and disillusion, he holds on to the truth. For right after this rebellious admission, he confesses that the need to prophesy “becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.” He knows he was never really duped – there was no lie from the Lord. And the fact is, he believes and trusts in the Lord enough to pray to him in the first place; even in his prayer of lament he is praising the Lord as God and redeemer. Jeremiah’s example is a good one for us: Never lose sight of the Lord as our God. Pray to him; give over our frustrations to him; and allow him to be the fire burning in our heart that we cannot quench.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Reading today’s Gospel leaves me feeling awkward and even embarrassed for St. Peter. Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, calling the first pope Satan and telling Peter to get behind him – *super* embarrassing, especially when Peter had good intentions in trying to protect Jesus. What’s the old saying, “The road to hell is paved with good intentions”? There’s another axiom, a little less dire but just as pointed: “People judge you by your actions, not your intentions. You may have a heart of gold, but so does a hard-boiled egg.” Intentions matter – but how we enact and employ those intentions are important, too. Christ tells us in today’s Gospel, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Faith in God, believing in his promises, and wanting to obey his commandments are wonderful and essential – and they are the foundation of a life lived for Christ. But they are not the entirety of it, and while denying ourselves and taking up our cross is never easy, it is necessary. “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?” Christ asks. Let’s pray for the grace of pure intentions and the strength to live them in service to the Lord.

PRAY *Heavenly Father, uncover my eyes and reveal any obstacles keeping me from thinking as you do. Give me the courage to overcome these obstacles, and grant me the strength to take up my cross and follow you, even in the face of difficulty. I ask this through your Son, Christ our Lord.*



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

Parish Council President *Kevin McNamara*
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

LABOR DAY

"The one who plants and the one who waters are equal, and each will receive wages in proportion to his labor.

For we are God's co-workers, you are God's field, God's building."

1 Cor 3:8-9



ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 18, 2023
 SHOP 8AM - 11PM

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- 25% OFF DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS*
- REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD
 At every Boscov's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION

PASSES ... \$5.00

available after all Masses on the following weekends:

September 30/October 2 and October 7/8, 14/15

Passes are also available at the parish rectory Monday to Thursday 622-5470.

PRE-SALE

for St. John's will be available at Boscov's on the following dates:

Sept. 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30

October 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

Weekdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

2nd Saturdays 12 to 5 p.m.

3rd & 4th Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sundays 12 to 3 pm

October 18—8 am to 11 pm

Thank you in advance for your support!