

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

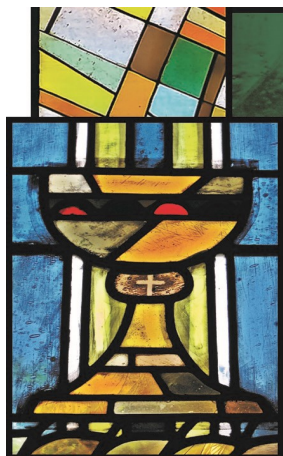
10th & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • www.saintjohnpottsville.org

September 12, 2021

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them,
"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,
take up his cross, and follow me."

MR 8:34



Mass Intentions

Monday, September 13

9:00 a.m. Joseph & Anna Orlowsky
(Joe Orlowsky Family)

Tuesday, September 14

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

Wednesday, September 15

9:00 a.m. Patrick Hoban
(Kate Zagar)

Thursday, September 16

9:00 a.m. Elizabeth, Charles, Chick
Tamburelli
(Herb Tamburelli)

Friday, September 17

9:00 a.m. Scott Glunz
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, September 18

5:00 p.m. Theresa & Jim Brennan
(David & Joan Deiter)

Sunday, September 19

8:15 a.m. Joseph Lorenz Family
(Frances Lorenz)

Sunday, September 19

10:30 a.m. Ramon Grapsy
(Joan Grapsy)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

It has been twenty years since the events of September 11, 2001. Most of us who lived through those events can probably remember very distinctly where we were when we heard the news of the terrorist attacks in our own country. It is hard to believe it has already been twenty years. Sadly, there have been many more instances of violence around the world in the last two decades. Society has changed, in some ways for the better, in other ways not so much.

Perhaps the most unsettling thing about 9/11 is that it was the first time many of us were confronted by evil, especially on such a magnitude. It is hard to look at the events of 9/11 and deny that there is such a thing as evil, whether it is evil that originates in the human heart, or through demonic influences, or both working together.

In today's Gospel, Jesus reveals the core of His identity as the Messiah: He will be rejected and killed, but then rise. To be His followers, we must also share something of Jesus' cross and self-sacrifice in order to rise to new life. Jesus made Himself a "lightning rod", so to speak, for evil. By taking the sin and evil of the world upon Himself, and then rising again, He showed that evil will never have the final word. The worst evils that we can experience in this world are only temporary and cannot conquer us, unless we allow them to.

We continue to pray for all people who have suffered and may still be suffering as result of the events of 9/11. Our prayers are just one way that the evil of that day is being conquered. We pray for an end to terrorism and war and for greater peace and security at home and around the world. But, as disciples of Jesus, we know that our deepest source of peace is the truth that all things will be set right in the end and that new life in Christ awaits us.

*In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin*

Next Week's Readings

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (September 18/19)

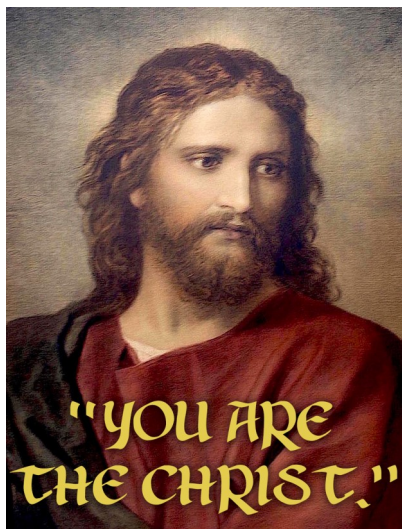
Reading I: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Reading II: James 3:16-4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37



Year of Real
PRESENCE
CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST



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

Susan Cook • Patricia Thomas • Sheri Post • Brian Eckley

Deceased

Sharon Lonergan

Grandparents—parenting again. Please pray today and this week for the many grandparents in our parish and communities who are lovingly caring for their grandchildren. Pray that the Lord give them strength to cope with the energy, vitality and challenges of their grandchildren.

Upcoming Events

September

12	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
13	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	L.H.
13	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Church
15	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Meeting.....	L.H.
16	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
19	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
20	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
22	7:00 p.m.	Building Committee Meeting.....	L.H.
23	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
26	10:30 a.m.	Sunday Pre-School	L.H.
26	11:30 a.m.	CCD Meeting & Family Picnic.....	R.B.
27	7:00 a.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
30	7:00 p.m.	First Friday Eve Holy Hour	Church

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

Tues. 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s GroupZoom Meeting ID: 824-780-6433



Little Children’s Sunday Pre-School

Little Children Pre-School operates during Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass beginning September 26th through May in Longinus Hall for approximately 20 to 30 minutes. Children will re-join their parents during the preparation of the gifts. Our program is for children ages 3-5 years of age and need to be toilet trained. Parents may drop their child (ren) off with our pre-school staff or remain with their child. Our program uses the curriculum ‘Catholic ABC’s’ which is a fun-engaging curriculum designed to build a strong beginning foundation of faith and the knowledge that God loves us.

If you would like your child(ren) to join our pre-school program, please fill out the registration form using this link: <https://forms.gle/TWtZstKTbSVFrYk76>.

A calendar of dates for pre-school can be found on the parish website: SaintJohnPottsville.org.



Father Bobbin’s Wish List

Since I arrived very many of you have kindly offered help or asked if there is anything I need. Now that I have been here a couple months, I am getting a better sense of some of the needs of our parish. As I notice things, or as things are brought to my attention, I will add them to this ongoing “Wish List” of small (well, mostly small) jobs. If you see something you would like to help with, please let us know!

1. Weeding / gardening (as much or as little as you can do).

Weekly Collection

September 4/5\$4,943.33
Parish Dues\$1,086.00

Second Collection Next Weekend will be taken up for the **Haiti Relief Fund**. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Sr. Mary Anna Heffron IHM by Paul & Bernadette Gombola
2. IMO Dorothy Prokop by Peggy Ebling

St. Joseph

1. IMO Joseph Brahler by Frances Mickey
2. Joseph McNamara by Kevin McNamara Family

Sanctuary

IMO Dorothy Prokop by Peggy Ebling

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Beth Resnick by Barbara Wollyung
2. IMO Mary Santai by Kevin McNamara Family
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

Liturgical Ministers

Schedule

September 18 — 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Heidi Gorski
Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy
Servers: Stanley & Alek Gorski

September 19 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: TBD
Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic
Servers: Kaitlyn Painter

September 19 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Janet Daubert
Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder
Servers: Bennett & Lukas McNamara

Banns of Marriage

III—Caitlin Goodman and Christopher Hippeli

Parish Council

Please approach any Parish Council Member listed below and ask that a question, concern, etc. be brought up at the next meeting on Monday, September 13th.

Elected Members

Bob Bechtel
Darren DeArment
Joseph Gerchak
Heidi Gorski
Joseph Kurtek
Eric Lieberman
Nannette Major
Kevin McNamara
Al Norkus
Patty O'Neill
John Powers
Nick Quinn
Melissa Scheetz
Martin Smith

Appointed Members

John Consugar
Lucilla Kochol
Patty O'Neill

Ex-Officio

Ed Brahler
Father Dave Loeper
Deacon Larry Lonergan
Deacon Luis R. Visot

E U C H A R I S T

Sacred Meal, Sacrifice, Real Presence

Christ is alive and fully present in the Eucharist. Join us as we delve into the "source and summit" of our Faith with Bishop Robert Barron's DVD-based program: Eucharist: Sacred Meal, Sacrifice and Real Presence. This spiritual study will give you a deeper understand of the precious gift of Christ's body, blood, soul and divinity that you can receive at each and every Mass. Please join us on **October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** Sign up in the back of church on September 11/12 and 18/19 or call the rectory 570-622-5470 or email the rectory (with your name and phone number) at stjbparrish@comcast.net by September 20th.

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study

... will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30** on **September 16, 23, October 7, 14, 21, 28, and November 18.** 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.



Eucharistic Adoration

Join us for 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.



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.

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

Mark 8:34-35



Sept. 12, 2021

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Is 50:5-9a | Jas 2:14-18 | Mk 8:27-35

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

I think it can be easy to romanticize faith: the post-retreat high, the inspirational homily, even the motivational wall art that pops up on Pinterest. But *keeping* the faith can be hard sometimes. And living it out? Even harder. Today's readings both challenge and encourage us, as they so often do. The Letter of James pulls no punches: Faith without works is "dead." And in today's Gospel, right after Peter says, "You are the Christ," Jesus tempers that Good News, telling him that even the Son of Man must suffer greatly. We who follow Jesus must also be willing to take up our cross. This is a daily challenge to choose life over death; to choose the transformative power of Jesus over sin that creeps into our lives; to make the choice to put others' needs before our own. None of this is easy. But as the prophet Isaiah reminds us, we don't have to do it alone; indeed, the Lord God is our help. We can choose well.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I'm inspired when the young people in our parish assist with the Sunday liturgy and do service projects in the community. As a working parent (and back when I was a "stay-at-home" mom), I tell myself, maybe someday when things slow down, I'll do more. But honestly, I think the teens in the youth group - between work, school, and sports - are busier than I am. As we listen to today's readings, wherever we may be in life and faith, what stands out? Is it James' entreaty to pair faith with works? Or Jesus' words that "whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it"? Or the prophet Isaiah's rock-solid faith? Today's readings give us many ways to witness to our faith in Jesus - through prayer, service, generosity, perseverance, works, and words. We can ask the Holy Spirit to show us which of these gifts we can share with others this week.

ACTIONS Brainstorm new ways to witness to your faith. It could be as simple as picking up extra food for the pantry in the back of church or changing up "Grace" at dinner to add prayers for others.

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, September 15 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 Spring Covered Dish Party. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. **This month's feature is a "Harvest Auction"**. Join us!

Cemetery Burial Plots & Regulations

Burial Plots

Because tragedy can strike at anytime ... when clear thinking and action can be sacrificed to the moment's need ... we want to remind our parishioners and friends that St. John the Baptist Cemetery offers its services whenever that need occurs.

Grave Lots \$ 600.00 each which includes Perpetual Care

Regulations / Guidelines

The following are guidelines established by St. John's Cemetery Committee ...

- * Shrubs are not permitted on cemetery grounds
- * Flowers or plants may be planted in the ground, but must remain within 12 inches of base of memorial. **NO** Perennials are permitted.
- * All artificial decorations must be removed within 14 days after specified holidays which are: Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, July 4, Christmas, etc.
- * Placing of artificial flowers in the ground is forbidden
- * All rubbish is to be taken with you or placed in available receptacles located at top of cemetery
- * Please refrain from placing any tombstone in or on the grounds for one year after a death to allow the ground to settle back to its natural state.

Neighboring Events

Padro Pio Healing Mass and Pastor's Installation

Will take place on Friday, September 24th at 6 p.m. at Most Blessed Trinity Parish, 113 Cherry St., Tremont. Confessions begin at 5 p.m. All are welcome! For more information please contact the parish office at 570-695-3948. Individual blessing with Relic of St. Padre Pio.

Basket Auction

... sponsored by St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 115 Walnut St., Ashland on Sunday, September 26th. Shop and Drop on the following days: Saturday, Sept. 18 from 2 to 6 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 24th from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 25 from 12 to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please call the parish office for more information 570-875-1521.

Homemade Shoo Fly Pie & Pie Crusts

... made by members of St. Mary's Church in Ringtown. Wet Bottom Pie \$8.00; Crust \$3.00. Pick up at St. Mary's Church Rectory in Ringtown on Tuesday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to noon. Deadline for orders is Friday, September 24. For more information and to place an order, please call the parish office at 570-889-3850.

"Grandparents are a treasure...

*...the elderly are those who
transmit history to us, who transmit
doctrine, who transmit the faith
and give it to us as an inheritance."*

~ Pope Francis

Parochial Administrator *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

Tuesday 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

First Sunday of each month 11:30 a.m.
Second Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass
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

WE SHALL NEVER FORGET.



9.11.2001