

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

September 15, 2024

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

Saturday, September 14

5:00 p.m. M/M Edward Orzechowski
(M/M Joseph Orzechowski)

Sunday, September 15

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

Sunday, September 15

10:30 a.m. Harry, Paul, Loretta Boyer
(Pat Kutch)

Monday, September 16

6:30 p.m. Catherine Schweikert
(Bill Schweikert)

Tuesday, September 17

9:00 a.m. Elizabeth Lipsky
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Wednesday, September 18

9:00 a.m. Ann Lowe
(John & Joyce Gerace)

Thursday, September 19

6:00 p.m. St. John's Parish Family
(Time Change)

Friday, September 20

9:00 a.m. Ramon Grapsy
(Joan Grapsy Family)

Saturday, September 21

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

Sunday, September 22

8:15 a.m. Holley Family
(Mark & Debbie Purcell)

Sunday, September 22

10:30 a.m. Josephine Parsick
(Joanne Schultz)

Next Week's Readings

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(September 21/22)

Reading I: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Reading II: James 3:16-4:3

Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Message from Father Bobbin

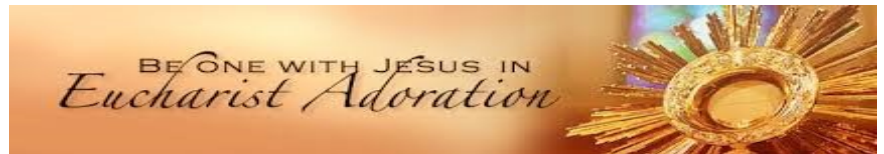
Dear Parishioners,

As we continue our tour of the Bible, we come to another group of books. So far we looked at the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament) and the Historical Books of the Old Testament. Now let's look at the Old Testament prophets.

First of all, what makes these books "prophetic?" A prophet is someone who speaks for God. A prophet is someone who lives in a particular time and place (whether Jerusalem in the 500's BC, or 21st century America). The prophet is able to step back and look around at his society and, in a sense, give God's perspective on things. The prophet sees the direction society is heading and calls people to see the consequences of how they are living. Prophets call people to conversion, to change their lives, to be more faithful to God. Sometimes prophets help people put hard times in perspective and offer a message of hope. Very often a prophet's message is not welcome. Prophets are often dismissed as crazy or a nuisance. They are often ignored or even persecuted. Jesus Himself is the ultimate example of this.

There are many prophets in salvation history. Moses, Elijah, Elisha, and Nathan are just a few examples. But from here on we will talk about the "literary" prophets, the prophets whose names are on books of the Old Testament, for example, Isaiah and Jeremiah. These prophets lived at various times in Old Testament history and delivered God's word in response to what was happening. Next time we'll list the prophetic books and see how they are organized.

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 • Tony Kochol • Tom Jefferson • Drew Schaeffer • Shawn Matz • Miriam Tirjan • John Bernetsky • Joanne Mestishen • Carolyn Leinheiser • John Fredericks

For our Deceased

Robert Kline • Mark Griffin

Upcoming Events

September

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	4:00 p.m.	Chronic Pain Support Group	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.

October

6	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
6	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
6	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
10	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
16	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg	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

Aug.31/Sept.1\$ 4,917.00
 Parish Dues\$1,143.00
 September 7/8.....\$3,957.00
 Improv.&Repairs\$1,258.00

Please **do not use tape or staples** to seal your offertory envelopes

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family
2. IMO Christine Bowers by Joan Bowers

St. Joseph

- 1&2. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy Family

Sanctuary


- IMO William & Mary Bowers by Joan Bowers

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Rita Mae Switzler by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
2. IMO Carolyn Sherwin by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
3. IMO Clara Drotar by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
4. IMO Nick Drotar by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons

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.



New Altar Servers

We invite any boys and girls currently finishing fourth grade or older to consider becoming altar servers. Parents, please speak with Father Bobbin or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21— 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Patty O’Neill

Euch.Min.: John O’Neill

John Crane

Servers/Sacristan: Luke Schane

Cantor: Dave Derbes

September 22— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: Janet Daubert

Sharon Snyder

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Vincent Prestileo

September 22— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Jan Daubert

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic

Frank Murphy

Server: Jackson Daubert

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO James J. Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
 John & Mildred Fredericks
 Fr. Don Henry
 IMO M/M Herbert Henry
 IMO Joanne Hepler
 IMO Kathleen Hohman
 IMO Clare & Linda Houser
 MO Charles Lorenz
 IMO Dorothy Parsick
 IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
 IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
 IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
 IMO Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our
 bulletin this month!*

Welcome to St. John's

This week we welcome **Eric & Lauralee Marshall** and their children, **Jacob & Lucas**. Eric is employed at Reading Battery Systems and Lauralee is employed by Weis Markets. Warmly welcome the Marshall Family into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's hospitality.

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

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." Amen.

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 18th 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!**

Special Thank You to all who purchased Penn State Stickies. Our new adventure was a great success! Hope everyone enjoyed them. Looking forward to next year with even more sales. God bless, Catholic Women's Union.

Neighboring Events

Meat Bingo sponsored by St. Clair of Assisi Parish on Sunday, September 22nd at the St. Clair Lions Club, 259 McCord Ave. in St. Clair. Doors open 12 noon; Bingo starts 2 p.m. Pre-Sale \$20; at the door \$25. For more information please call 570-429-0370.

Cash Bingo sponsored by Holy Family Parish of Minersville on Sunday, September 29th at the Parish Center at Hillcrest. Doors open 11 a.m.; Bingo begins 1 p.m. Your \$25 admission give you 20 games with \$100 cash prizes! Specials and a 50/50 drawing available for additional cost. Kitchen will be open! Pre-sale tickets available in the Parish Office or by contacting Cheryl 570-617-0973. All pre-sale tickets will be entered into a special Door Prize drawing. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

St. Joseph Center for Special Education. Join St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on Saturday, October 19th for an unforgettable evening at Mountain Valley Seasons Restaurant, celebrating our 69th Anniversary Diamond Gala! Celebrate this milestone with us as we embrace the theme, "Imagine the Possibilities." Enjoy an elegant night of inspiration, entertainment, and community, where together, we'll dream of a future full of endless opportunities. Don't miss this special event! Visit www.stjosephctr.com for more details.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Immediate opening for a part-time Parish Secretary at Most Blessed Trinity, Tremont to prepare church bulletin, answer phones, schedule Masses, Altar servers and appointments, maintain parishioner database, do filing, MS Office email and letters. Prior Church experience beneficial; reliable person with positive attitude needed. The Church will help with required clearances. Please email resumes and references to mbtparish2008@hotmail.com

DRIVERS NEEDED

Catholic Charities is looking for one or two part-time drivers for its food truck mission. Hours are Monday through Thursday, approximately 10am to 3pm. The truck is loaded and unloaded at Holy Family Parish Hall, located in Minersville, PA and the truck serves various communities each day in Schuylkill County. A standard PA Drivers license, a clean driving record and background clearances are required. Basic truck maintenance experience is also helpful. Anyone interested in the position should contact Andrea Kochan Neagle, Catholic Charities Managing Director, at aneagle@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-435-1541 ext. 5334.

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 or email the rectory by **September 16th**. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alfred Schlert, will take place in the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena on Sunday, September 22nd. Doors open at 2 p.m. Please visit the following link to register and for more info: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass> Contact Rhady Tulloch, Director of Marriage and Family Life, with questions: rtulloch@allentowndiocese.org.

PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Assemble on the steps of our state capitol in Harrisburg on Monday, September 23 for the 2024 PA March for Life. There will be a concert at 10am, a rally at 11am, and marching will begin at 12. For more information or to register for updates, visit <https://marchforlife.org/pennsylvania/>.

RETRouvaille: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE Retrouvaille:

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held on October 4 - 6 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., will be on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Diocesan Pilgrimage tradition to Mary's House is typically held every four years. More information will be forthcoming for individuals, parishes, and schools. Contact Father Hoffa directly at his diocesan email ahoffa@allentowndiocese.org or call 610-921-2729, ext. 2205.



Bosco's
FRIENDS
HELPING
FRIENDS IN-STORE & ONLINE

ONE DAY ONLY - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

- **25% OFF DISCOUNT SHOPPING PASS***
- **REGISTER TO WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD**
One Winner at every Bosco's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION
For Shopping Passes or information, contact:

For more details visit boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends
*Exclusions Apply

PASSES ... \$5.00

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

Presale

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

September 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27

October 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 18

11 a.m. — 4 p.m.

September 21, 28; October 12, 19

12 noon to 3 p.m.

September 15, 22, 29; October 6, 13, 20

4 to 9 p.m. — October 17

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 9 p.m. — October 21

8 a.m. to 11 p.m.—October 22

*Thank you in advance
for your support!*



September 15, 2024 | Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me.” Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel don’t leave much room for “secondary interpretation.” Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Jesus. At first glance this may sound intimidating, but let’s think about it in the light of today’s readings. By denying ourselves, we are able to turn more fully toward God and toward others. Isn’t that what James is asking of us in his letter? He says this of faith: “if it does not have works, [it] is dead.” He even uses an example that might sound like something we would hear in a homily today: he asks, if you see someone who doesn’t have proper food or clothing and you simply wish them well without offering assistance, what good are you doing?

WITNESS Peter’s mistake was thinking he knew better than God how to do what needed to be done. Is there anything in your life that makes you think you might be like Peter? Choose a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, and spend some time listening to God in prayer as to how he might desire you to perform it.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Certainly, when we help and serve others, we are working concretely to build the kingdom of God on earth. We are, quite literally, being Christ’s hands and feet in the world and following in our Lord’s footsteps. By thinking and acting with this mindset, we are turning toward God; we are seeking to lighten the loads of others – helping them to carry their crosses. In today’s Gospel passage, although Peter’s words, “You are the Christ” were faith-filled and seemed to imply understanding, he was not able to embrace the fullness of Christ’s mission. He rebukes Jesus for “setting himself up” to suffer greatly and be killed. In response, Jesus rebukes Peter and says he is not thinking as God does. As human beings, we know we are not able to think as God does. But we are made in God’s image, and the more we love one another, the more we reflect him in what we do.



SPEAKERS:



DEACON HAROLD BURKE-SIVERS



FATHER WADE MENEZES

MEN ALIVE IN CHRIST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Spirit of Jesus, Renew Us

Catholic men of the Diocese of Allentown, we invite you to renew and strengthen your faith at our annual Men’s Conference. Embrace the mission of the Church and deepen your relationship with God through a powerful day of community, Sacraments, and talks from nationally renowned speakers.

We are excited to equip you with the tools you need to go forth as strong Catholic men, invigorated by the fire of the Holy Spirit!

JOIN US:
October 19, 8:00am - 3:00pm
St. Joseph the Worker Church
1879 Applewood Drive
Orefield PA 18069

Register here:



Contact:
Mark McDevitt, markmcd@outlook.com

Sponsored by the Diocese of Allentown’s Commission for Men

MEN ALIVE IN CHRIST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Men’s Conference will be held on Saturday, October 19th at St. Joseph the Worker Church in Orefield. We invite you to renew and strengthen your faith, embrace your relationship with God through a powerful day of community, Sacraments, and talks from nationally renowned speakers. We are excited to equip you with the tools you need to go forth as strong Catholic men, invigorated by the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Please take advantage of the Early Bird and bring a son, brother, father, or friend! Regular Admission \$35; Early Bird Special (until 9/9/2024) \$25; Students (HS & College) \$15.

The Men’s Conference is an enjoyable day with good meals, inspiring speakers, good fellowship, and a chance to go to confession and attend Mass celebrated by the bishop at the end of the day. We will carpool from St. John’s. Call the rectory or Bill Gianfagna 570 573-0105 if you are interested in going.

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

