

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

September 18, 2022

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No servant can serve two masters.
He will either hate one and love the other,
or be devoted to one and despise the other.

Luke 16:13



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 17

5:00 p.m. Dorothy Rosenberger
(Paul Rosenberger)

Sunday, September 18

8:15 a.m. Deceased of Sninsky Family
(Stan & Geri Grabowski)

Sunday, September 18

10:30 a.m. In Thanksgiving to
St. Michael the Archangel
(Charlene Preddie)

Monday, September 19

6:30 p.m. Leo & Dorothy Lotz
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Tuesday, September 20

9:00 a.m. John & Lorraine Tasso

Wednesday, September 21

9:00 a.m. Albert & Regina Schmidt

Thursday, September 22

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

Friday, September 23

9:00 a.m. Sue Klem Moore
(Joe Moore Jr.)

Saturday, September 24

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

Sunday, September 25

8:15 a.m. Joseph Toomey
(Sons—Dan, Jim, John)

Sunday, September 25

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

Next Week's Readings

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(September 24/25)

Reading I: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Reading II: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 16:10-31

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Just a comment about funerals...

A Catholic funeral has two purposes: to pray for the deceased, and to help lead the loved ones from grief to a deeper faith in eternal life. Unfortunately, like many things in our culture, funerals have become somewhat secularized. They have become a "celebration of the person's life" which focuses more on honoring the person instead of praying for the person. The realities of faith, eternal life, and the role of Jesus our Savior are being minimized.

The heart of a Catholic funeral is the Mass of Christian Burial. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered for the deceased. This is the absolute best way to pray for someone. Other elements of the funeral process help lead the loved ones on their journey from grief to a deeper faith and peace: a period of visitation (preferably with some prayer), and the Rite of Committal at the cemetery or mausoleum.

It happens more and more today that families choose to cut out parts of this process. There may be legitimate reasons for this, but it is not ideal and it tends to "short circuit" the funeral process, depriving us of opportunities to pray for our loved ones and making it more difficult for the family to have closure. Please be sure to make your wishes known to your family, especially if they are less connected with the Church than you are. You have a right to a Mass of Christian Burial and all that the Church offers for your spiritual good and that of your loved ones.

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.

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

For our Deceased

Paul Rosenberger

Upcoming Events

September

21	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg.	L.H.
23	4-7 p.m.	Yard Sale/Curiosity Shop	R.B.
24	2-5 p.m.	Yard Sale/Curiosity Shop	R.B.
24	3-7 p.m.	Pugh Family Bean Soup Sale	R.B.
25	after Masses	Pugh Family Bean Soup Sale	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.

October

2	10:15 a.m.	Little Children’s Sunday School.....	L.H.
9	9:10 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting	L.H.
9	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
16	10:15 a.m.	Little Children’s Sunday School.....	L.H.
19	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union	L.H.
20	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
23	9:10 a.m.	CCD Community Meeting	Church
23	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
27	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.

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

Weekly Collection

September 10/11\$4,617.30
 Improve. & Repairs\$2,352.00
 Military Archdiocese \$580.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Rita Mae Switzler by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
2. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh by Hahner Family

St. Joseph

1. IMO Erika Stangl Seasock by Dorothy & Joseph Stangl & Michael Felker
2. Health of Bob by Mary & Bob Porter

Sanctuary

IMO M/M Robert Porter Sr. by Mary & Bob Porter

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Erika Stangl Seasock by Dorothy & Joseph Stangl & Michael Felker
2. IMO Rita Mae Switzler by Stan & Heidi Gorski & Sons
- 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 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.

Attention — Your Help is Needed!
 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 before **September 19th.**

Liturgical Min. Schedule

September 24 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Frank Murphy
Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz
Servers: Emma Lieberman
Cantor: Ensemble

September 25— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Bob Bechtel
Euch.Min.: George Forney
Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara
Cantor: Ed Brahler

September 25— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis
Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic
Servers: Leah & Jude Scheidel
Cantor: Dave Derbes



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.

Welcome to St. John's

This week we welcome **Grace Newton** to St. John's Parish Family. Grace is employed by T102 Radio Station. Warmly welcome Grace into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's hospitality.

Church Cleaning Crew Thank You

We thank our Church Cleaning Group for doing a wonderful job cleaning our beautiful church including Longinus Hall and the Chapel.

Everything looks just perfect! Those volunteering their time and talent this month:

Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Debbie Kutilus, Judy Meseravage, Pattie Miller, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Mim Tirjan, Joanne Wood.

The more the merrier — newcomers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning on October 8th.

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.



Pugh Family Bean Soup Sale

55 Years of Tradition over
an Open Fire!

Saturday, September 24th
from 3 to 7 p.m.
Russell Building Parking Lot
Remaining soup will be sold
after 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. Masses
on Sunday, September 25th.
Quarts only both days
weather permitting.
Quarts — \$9.00



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 21st at 7:00 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, the Covered Dish Party plus other events. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!



St. John's Yard Sale—Curiosity Shop

Friday, September 23 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 24 from 2 to 5 p.m.

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! Homemade Baked Goods are available for take out.

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.





September 18, 2022 | Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7 | 1 Tm 2:1-8 | Lk 16:1-13 or Lk 16:10-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE

PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Our body language says a lot. Crossed arms can signal anger or defensiveness, while arms outstretched imply openness. It's unlikely Timothy researched nonverbal cues, but his encouragement to pray while "lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument" is good advice. I think this posture can carry into other areas of our life, including our relationship with money and/or possessions. If we cling to these, we risk closing ourselves off to life's true riches: our faith and our relationships, for example. As we learn in today's Gospel, we cannot serve both God and mammon. In our culture, it's easy to get caught up in accumulating more possessions or holding tight to what we have. Jesus challenges us to place our trust in God rather than the ups and downs of the stock market or our bank account. Let us, instead, approach Jesus in prayer, arms wide open.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I rarely miss a planned morning workout. I carefully lay out my clothes, go to bed early, and set my alarm. It helps to meet up with a friend for that added layer of accountability. These are all "small things," but they indicate my investment in the activity and help me build trust in myself and within my friendships. I wonder if we can't do the same when it comes to staying spiritually fit. For me, being "trustworthy in very small matters" is a bit like my workout routine. We don't need grand gestures to keep our relationship with Jesus strong: setting aside time in the morning to focus on prayer; going to Mass even when we don't feel like it; talking with a friend about ways to grow spiritually. In his letter, Timothy reminds his followers that prayer and devotion are "good and pleasing to God our savior." Should we become discouraged, we can find comfort in knowing that God wills everyone to be saved. Through prayer and seemingly small changes in our routine, we can challenge ourselves and encourage each other to make our relationship with Jesus our first priority.

ACT Think about your daily routine. What small change can you make to enhance your relationship with God? It may be as simple as saying a good-morning prayer or beginning a list of people and things for which you are grateful.



ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 19, 2022
SHOP 8AM - 11PM

25% OFF * LOWEST SALE PRICE
SHOPPING PASS

This pass entitles you to 25% off* your purchases in-store and cannot be used in conjunction with other discounts and promotions.

Present this pass at time of purchase to receive your 25%* discount. Valid October 19, 2022 only.

PASSES ... \$5.00

available after all Masses on the following weekends:

September 17/18
October 1/2, 8/9, 15/16

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

PRE-SALE

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

Sept. 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 28, 30
October 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
Weekdays 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturdays 11 am to 3 pm
Sundays 12:30 to 3:30 pm
October 19—8 am to 11 pm

*Thank you in advance
for your support!*

Retrouaille: Rediscover the Love in your Marriage

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouaille (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. An upcoming weekend program will be held October 14 - 16 at the Family Life Center in Malvern. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



Grief Support Group Beginning this Fall!

A "Bereavement Ministry" and Support Group will be held at St. Ursula's starting this Fall. If you have lost a loved one through death within the last 6 months up to one year, and feel you need some support on your grief journey, please give me a call to register. It is 6 consecutive weeks. For more information, please call:

Madeline Gardner RN, Coordinator @ (484) 274-6073

Dates: Wednesdays, until Oct. 19, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Place: St. Ursula's Rectory, 1300 Broadway, Fountain Hill

Registration is required. Refreshments will be served.

Assumption BVM School

Gift Card Calendar Raffle

A Gift Card Calendar Raffle will take place for the month of October. This fundraiser will directly benefit the school and its students. The calendars are \$10.00 each and are good for all 31 drawings during the month. Calendars can be purchased from any ABVM family or from the school (school phone: 570-622-0106 or e-mail: tmengel@assumptionbvmschool.net). Thank you for your help in making our Calendar Raffle a success!

First Grade Teacher

Assumption BVM School is seeking a full-time first grade teacher. Please send application, credentials, and clearances to Mrs. Teresa Keating via email to tkeating@assumptionbvmschool.net or mailed to 112 South 7th Street, Pottsville, PA 17901. For questions please contact Mrs. Teresa Keating at 570-622-0106.

Maintenance Person Needed

Assumption BVM School is seeking a Full-time Maintenance person. Please send applications to the attention of Mrs. Teresa Keating via email to tkeating@assumptionbvmschool.net or mailed to Assumption BVM School, 112 South 7th Street, Pottsville, PA 17901. For questions please contact Mrs. Teresa Keating at 570-622-0106.

Neighboring Events

Homemade Shoo Fly Pie & Pie Crusts

Made by members of St. Mary's Church, Ringtown ... Wet Bottom Pie \$9.00; Crust \$3.00

Pick up at St. Mary's Church Rectory, Ringtown on Tuesday, October 4th from 10 a.m. to noon

Deadline to Order is Thursday, September 29th

To order, call the Parish Office 570-889-3850—leave a message with Name, Phone and your order.

Diocesan Pilgrimage

St. Ambrose Church (Schuylkill Haven) bus to the Diocesan Pilgrimage - cost is \$95/person and includes all meals (coffee and donuts, boxed lunches from Hess Catering, and dinner on the way home), transportation, tips, and fees. We will be departing St. Ambrose at 6:30AM and anticipate returning to St. Ambrose by 10PM. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the St. Ambrose Parish Office at 570-385-1031 or stambroseoffice@comcast.net.

Harvest Fest

At St. Mary Church in Hamburg on **Friday, October 7** (4-9 pm) and **Saturday, October 8** (12-9 p.m.) Music, homemade ethnic food, activities, ongoing entertainment and games for all ages including bungee jump & rock wall, hay rides, bounce house, bingo, theme baskets, quilt & cash raffles, corn maze and more! Free admission, plenty of parking, no coolers, no BYOB/F. Questions 610-562-7657 ext. 0 or www.stmaryhamburg.org or Facebook.

Pastor..... *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
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

With your fatherly blessing, Lord, strengthen these servants of yours in their resolve to dedicate themselves as catechists. Grant that they will strive to share with others what they themselves desire. Encourage them in their study and studying the church's teaching. And let them gladly join those they teach in praising your name. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. *Prayer of Blessings*

Catechetical Sunday

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children.

They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.

