

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

September 19, 2021

## 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name,  
receives me; and whoever receives me,  
receives not me but the One who sent me."

Mk 9:37



## Mass Intentions

### 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)

### Monday, September 20

9:00 a.m. John & Lorraine Tasso

### Tuesday, September 21

9:00 a.m. Marie Gerace  
(Joe Gerace)

### Wednesday, September 22

9:00 a.m. Marie Fitzpatrick  
(Donna Bound Steidle)

### Thursday, September 23

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

### Friday, September 24

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

### Saturday, September 25

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

### Sunday, September 26

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

### Sunday, September 26

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

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

As the summer turns into fall, many of us find this a beautiful and refreshing time of year. But, if you like summer and warm weather, the fall can also be somewhat disappointing as the days get shorter and shorter and cold weather is not far away. For those of us whose lives are centered on the school year, we're now a few weeks into school and things are becoming routine. There is a long way to go till the special times of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Whether or not you like fall season, it is important that we learn to live in the present moment, to find joy in the present moment, and to appreciate God's goodness to us in the present moment. Not only does this make life more pleasant, but it helps us *respond* to God in the present moment. Sometimes we need to remind ourselves that God is in the present. The past is gone. We may have all the good intentions in the world for what we will do in the future. But the only thing that matters is how I respond to God's will right now, in the present moment. For example, I probably stared at the computer screen for a good half-hour trying to figure out what to write for this week's message. But instead of getting impatient and doing something else, I know our Lord wants me to put the time and effort into discerning what I should communicate to our parish in writing or preaching.

So, again, maybe you like the fall. Or maybe it's not your favorite season and Christmas can't come soon enough. If the latter, all the more reason to practice living in the present and opening your eyes to all of God's gifts in the present. The only thing that really matters is how you respond to God *today*.

*In Christ,  
Fr. Bobbin*



*Year of Real*  
**PRESENCE**  
CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

## Next Week's Readings

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

**Reading I:** Numbers 11:25-29

**Reading II:** James 5:1-6

**Gospel:** Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

## 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

*Patricia Thomas • Sheri Post • Brian Eckley • Florence Yeager*

**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.

Parents are truly  
the primary catechists of their children.



# Upcoming Events

## September

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

## October

3	9:15 a.m.	CCD Parent Meeting .....	L.H.
3	10:30 a.m.	Pre-School Program .....	L.H.
3	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	L.H.
3	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class .....	L.H.
4	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
7	4:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	F.R.
7	7:00 p.m.	First Reconciliation Parent Meeting .....	L.H.
10	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	L.H.
11	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
14	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
17	10:30 a.m.	Pre-School Program .....	L.H.
17	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	L.H.
17	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
18	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
20	6:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Meeting.....	L.H.
21	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
24	10:30 a.m.	Pre-School Program .....	L.H.
24	11:30 a.m.	CCD Community Meeting .....	L.H.
24	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	L.H.
25	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
28	7:00 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
31	10:30 a.m.	Pre-School Program .....	L.H.
31	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	L.H.

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

Tues.7:15 p.m.Weekly Men’s Group .....Zoom  
Meeting ID: 824-780-6433 ..... Password: Mary

## Weekly Collection

**September 11/12 .....\$4,447.00**  
**Improv. & Repairs .....\$1,418.00**

**Second Collection Next Weekend** will be taken up for the **Impact of Hurricane Ida Fund.** Thank you in advance for your donations.

## Candle Donations

### BVM

1. IMO Ronald C. Kriston  
by Eleanor Kriston Family
2. IMO Leo & Dorothy Lotz  
by Ron & Pat Lombel

### St. Joseph

1. IMO Thomas J. Burns  
by Peggy Smith
2. IMO Elizabeth & Charles Tamburelli  
by Herb Tamburelli

### Sanctuary

For Alphonse Baldino  
by Steve Higgins

### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Josephine Cavanaugh  
by Hahner Family
2. IMO Suzanne Kern  
by Kevin McNamara Family
3. IMO Edward Kenna  
by Kevin McNamara Family
4. IMO Frank Santai  
by Kevin McNamara Family

## Liturgical Ministers Sched.

### September 25 — 5 p.m. Mass

**Reader:** Patty O’Neill  
**Euch.Min.:** Frank Murphy  
**Servers:** Evan & Gavin Woodward

### September 26 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Dave Smith  
**Euch.Min.:** Paul & Debbie Herb  
**Servers:** Sophie Palmieri,  
Vincent Prestileo

### September 26 —10:30 a.m. Mass

**Reader:** Jennifer Daubert  
**Euch.Min.:** Ray Petrilla, Rob Wiscount  
**Servers:** Jackson Daubert, Elly Forney

## 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](http://SaintJohnPottsville.org)



## Baptized in Christ

We celebrated on September 5th the glorious baptism day of **Leonardo William Mercuri**, son of Domenic and Taylor Mercuri. He became a new creation in Christ in the waters of Holy Baptism and is now joined to us by the gifts of faith, hope and charity. We warmly welcome Leonardo into our parish family.

## CCD Community Meeting Picnic

Family of Faith Parents and Children — please sign up for our community picnic using the link below. Our picnic will be held at the grounds of the Russell Building on September 26th from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. In case of rain we will have the event indoors on the second floor of the Russell Building.

LINK: <https://forms.gle/DH6RnyLoYRmkDRFo9>

## 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 Kubilus, Judy Meseravage, Pattie Miller, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Mim Tirjan, Joanne Wood.*

# 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 18/19 or call the rectory 570-622-5470 or email the rectory (with your name and phone number) at [stjbparish@comcast.net](mailto:stjbparish@comcast.net) by September 20th.

## SCRIPTURE STUDY

### Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study

... will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30** on **September 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](mailto: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.



Sept. 19, 2021

## Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 2:12, 17-20 | Jas 3:16—4:3 | Mk 9:30-37

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

I have a competitive nature. As an older runner, I strive to place high in my age group (maybe even pick off runners older than I one at a time as we near the finish of a race - of course, I can neither confirm nor deny that). Oh, to be first! There is nothing inherently wrong with healthy competition. However, constantly striving to be the “best” or the “first” in other areas of life - career, parenting, even holiness - can quickly lead to frustration and burnout. As the disciples jostled for “first place,” Jesus gently but directly corrected them: “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Like the Apostles, we tend to focus on our achievements as a measure of our worth, forgetting why we are here: to serve others. We can ask Jesus to help us gain the “wisdom from above” and the characteristics so beautifully described by Saint James: pure, peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Reading today’s Gospel from Mark, I am struck by the image of Jesus embracing a child: “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me.” Most of us picture our own children, grandchildren, godchildren, nieces, or nephews. Of course we would embrace them! However, Scripture scholars point out that for Jesus, the child symbolized the *anawim*, a Hebrew word for the poor, the lowly, the vulnerable, the oppressed. Picture, then, not just children but those we might be less eager to immediately embrace: ragged men on the corner, immigrants at the border, the neighbor’s son with schizophrenia, prisoners or ex-convicts. Jesus challenges us not to avert our eyes but to “embrace” them - whether that means offering a cup of coffee, becoming a pen pal, stopping to chat, or finding another way to accompany them. Scholars tell us that the *anawim* share a total dependence upon God, something we all have in common regardless of our life’s circumstances.

**ACTIONS** Seek “wisdom from above” at the beginning of each day. In the evening, reflect on the ways God has held you in his loving embrace through the kindness of others, moments in nature, simple pleasures. Say thank you.

## 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.

### Yard Sale

... sponsored by the Green and Gold Club of Nativity BVM High School on Saturday, September 25th at the high school from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Many great items!

### Basket Auction

... sponsored by St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 115 Walnut St., Ashland on Sunday, September 26th. Shop and Drop on the following days: 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.

### Pennsylvania March for Life

... planned for Monday, September 27th in Harrisburg; free bus transportation provided. The March for Life will include 9 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral with Bishop Gainer presiding. Following Mass we will gather on the steps of the Capitol for inspiring National speakers. To reserve your free spot on the bus from Schuylkill County, please call St. Patrick's parish office at 570-622-1802 ext 0. Join others from Pennsylvania for a day of prayer, witness and empowerment.

### Homemade Shoo Fly Pie & Pie Crusts

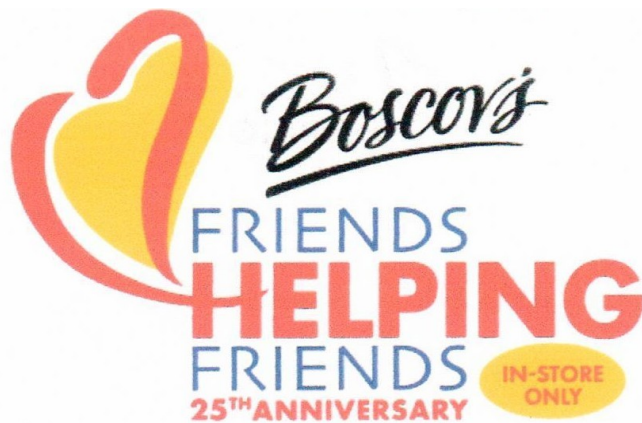
... made by members of St. Mary's Church in Ringtown. Wet Bottom Pie \$8.00; Crust \$3.00. Pick up at St. Mary's Church Rectory in Ringtown on Tuesday, September 28 from 10 a.m. to noon. Deadline for orders is Friday, September 24. For more information and to place an order, please call the parish office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

### Harvest Fest

... at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut St. in Hamburg on Friday, October 1 (4-9 p.m.) and Saturday, October 2 (12-9 p.m.) Music, homemade ethnic food, activities, ongoing entertainment and games for all ages including bungee jump, dinosaur dig for kids, hay rides, bingo, theme basket raffles, corn maze, escape rooms and more! Free admission, plenty of parking, no coolers. Questions 610-562-7657 ext. 0 or www.stmaryhamburg.org or Facebook.

### Shower of Roses Festival

... at the Shrine of St. Therese, 1 E. Garibaldi Ave., Nesquehoning on Sunday, October 3rd. Food Sale begins 11 a.m.; Mass 1 p.m.; Dedication of the Intention Book/Housing 2 p.m.; Procession & Recital of the Rosary 3 p.m.; Benediction 4 p.m. Ethnic Foods, Spaghetti Dinner, Raffle Tickets available. For more information contact St. Joseph's Rectory 570-645-2664 or email sjvpvparish@gmail.com or visit www.shrineofsainttherese.com.



**ONE DAY ONLY - OCTOBER 20, 2021**  
**SHOP 8AM - 11PM**

### DONATE \$5 AND ENJOY:

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

**100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION**

### PASSES ... \$5.00

available after all Masses on the following weekends:

**September 25/26**  
**October 2/3, 9/10, 16/17.**

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:

**September 16, 17, 20, 22, 24, 27, 29**  
**October 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 15, 20**  
From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Thank you in advance for your support!*

**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](mailto: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](mailto:prusso@allentowndioocese.org)

