

# 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 22, 2024

## 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 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)

### Monday, September 23

6:30 p.m. William Schweikert Sr.  
(Bill Schweikert)

### Tuesday, September 24

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

### Wednesday, September 25

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

### Thursday, September 26

9:00 a.m. Joseph Toomey  
(Sons, Dan, Jim, John)

### Friday, September 27

9:00 a.m. Paul Filiac  
(Dan & Hermine Murphy)

### Saturday, September 28

5:00 p.m. Eleanor Pothering  
(George Pothering)

### Sunday, September 29

8:15 a.m. Jean Meyer  
(Todd Bildheiser)

### Sunday, September 29

10:30 a.m. Theresa & Jim Brennan  
(Joan & Dave Deiter)

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week, in our tour of the Bible, we introduced the prophetic books of the Old Testament. Which books are we talking about?

The four major prophets are: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. There are two short books that are considered something of an appendix to the Book of Jeremiah: Lamentations and Baruch. Then there are the twelve minor prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi.

The difference between the major prophets and the minor prophets is length. The major prophets are, in general, much longer than the minor prophets. The minor prophets are, in general, very short books. In fact, in the Jewish tradition, the twelve minor prophets have been considered twelve chapters of one book rather than twelve separate books.

Starting next week, we will look at each of these books individually to see when the prophet lived, what was going on historically, and the message of the book.

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.

## Flowers at the Altar

The flowers at the altar this weekend are donated ...

IMO Mary Ann Holley  
by Deborah & Mark Purcell



## Next Week's Readings

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(September 28/29)

**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

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

### Upcoming Events

#### September

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	10:00 a.m.	2025 Mass Book Opens .....	L.H.
16	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg .....	L.H.
17	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
20	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg. ....	L.H.
20	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
20	2:00 p.m.	Paint n’ Sip.....	L.H.
27	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	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

**September 14/15 .....\$5,108.00**

The second collection next weekend will be taken up for this year’s **Christmas Bazaar**. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### Candles

#### BVM

1. IMO Theresa & Jim Brennan by Joan & Dave Deiter
2. IMO Frank & Rose Boris by Richard Naffin

#### St. Joseph

1. IMO Theresa & Jim Brennan by Joan & Dave Deiter
2. IMO Louise Delaney by Joan Bowers

#### Sanctuary

IMO Carl J. & Paul J. Bartholomew by Frances Lorenz

#### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Frank & Rose Boris by Keith & Margaret Naffin
2. IMO Mary Ann Wychunas by Helen Heimbaugh
3. IMO Albert Wychunas by Helen Heimbaugh
4. IMO George Klassen Jr. by Family

### Liturgical Min.Schedule

#### 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### September 28— 5 p.m. Mass

**Reader:** John Crane  
**Euch.Min.:** Gerry Schwartz  
 Bob Wollyung  
**Servers:** Lauren & Megan Goodman  
**Cantor:** Lucilla Kochol

#### September 29— 8:15 a.m.

**Reader:** Michelle Heenan  
**Euch.Min.:** Mike Ambrose  
**Server/Sacristan:** R.J. Post  
**Cantor:** Amy Joyce

#### September 29— 10:30 a.m.

**Reader:** Ray Petrilla  
**Euch.Min.:** Bill Gianfagna  
 Frank Murphy  
**Servers:**Michael & Spencer Prestileo  
**Cantor:** Ensemble

## SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:** will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on September 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](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.

### Congratulations

We congratulate **Deacon John Matulevich** on his ordination to the permanent diaconate. Deacon John will be serving St. Clare of Assisi and Holy Cross parishes.

### Welcome

We welcome newly-ordained **Deacon Robert Reiley** who will serve our parish and St. Patrick.

### Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our diocese and our families. Inspire men to imitate Christ, the Eternal High Priest, in sacrificial service to your Church. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to You in poverty, chastity and obedience. Send them as laborers for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayers and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to your call. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

## Yard Sale / Curiosity Shop -- Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the September Curiosity Shop/Yard Sale. Thank you also to all those who purchased items, donated baked goods, or volunteered to work at the sale. We are very grateful for all your support!

### Our Volunteers

*Chris Black, Kate Blackwell, Mary Bound, Kathryn Carroll, Cathy Cooper, Janet Daubert, Karla Garland, Mary Hauck, Pat Klassen, Lucilla Kochol, Jan Kurtek, Maureen Kurtek, Charlene Leshner, Frances Lorenz, Reese Reddington, Carol Rehnert, Pat Scheetz, Theresa Skrobak, Linda Smith, Peggy Smith, Joanne Wood*

### Our Bakers

*Chris Black, Mary Bound, Janet Daubert, Joan Deiter, Millie Fredericks, Maureen Kurtek, Charlene Leshner, Fran Lorenz, Barb Munster, Pat Scheetz, Rossann Sitkus, Peggy Smith*

**Total Profits: \$ 918.15**

## Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshipping 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.*

## Parish Council—President's Corner

Fr. Bobbin and I have decided to revive this column to address questions or suggestions that parishioners bring to Parish Council attention, as well as any other matters which may be of interest to parishioners.

The following items were brought up at the council meeting on September 9th. If there's something you wish to be addressed before the next meeting in December, I can be contacted at dbd269@gmail.com

Thank you, Darren

### Parish Ensemble Mass Times

I will be communicating with the director, choir and musicians in the Ensemble about rotating Masses.

### Cemetery Parking

John Consugar will contact the city to discuss this matter on behalf of the Cemetery Committee.

### Blocked Road

We would like to make you aware that the parish is making efforts to block the road behind Gillingham Charter School for the safety of students and parishioners. This road is private property which is being acquired by the parish, along with the cemetery, from the Reading Society of Friends. The chain will be taken down whenever necessary for parish events.

### Parish Works

Finally, we're starting a new column titled Parish Works, which highlights works that can be done for both parishioners and the larger community.

Did you know you can donate food for the local hungry? Non-perishable food donations for Catholic Charities can be dropped off in the box outside the door of Longinus Hall.

## Neighboring Events

**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 gives 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.

**Harvest Fest 2024** at St. Mary Church, 94 Walnut Rd., Hamburg on Friday, October 4 (4-9 pm) and Saturday, October 5 (12-9 pm). Friday Music by Flamin' Dick & the Hot Rods Oldies Band (6-9 pm) Saturday Music by the Golden Tones Polka Band (1-4 pm); Polka Mass 4:30 pm, the Northkill Creek Band (6-9 pm)

Homemade foods, fun, activities, ongoing entertainment and games for all ages, rock wall and bungee jump, kids' games, hay rides, corn maze, first responders, bingo, many great theme baskets, raffles, and more. Free admission, plenty of parking, indoor & outdoor seating, no coolers or food. More info call 610-562-7657 or [www.stmaryhamburg.org](http://www.stmaryhamburg.org). Facebook.

**Homemade Shoo Fly Pie & Pie Crusts** made by members of St. Mary's Church Choir in Ringtown. Wet Bottom Pie—\$9.00; Crust—\$3.00. Pick up at St. Mary's Church Rectory on Tuesday, October 8th from 10 a.m. to noon. Deadline to Order is Thursday, October 3rd. Call the parish office at 570-889-3850.

## Diocesan Blood Drive in Honor of St. Januarius

From now until December 16th, the Diocese of Allentown is partnering with Miller-Keystone Blood Center to help alleviate the national blood shortage, serving accident, trauma, and burn victims, as well as premature babies and cancer patients. The drive also celebrates St. Januarius, patron saint of blood banks and blood donors. Donors will receive a St. Januarius medallion blessed by Bishop Schlert. For more info please call 800-223-6667 ext. 2



**SPEAKERS:**



**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

Contact:  
 Mark McDevitt, markmcd@outlook.com

Sponsored by the Diocese of Allentown's Commission for Men




**Register here:**



## 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.

### Diocesan Events ...

#### 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](http://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. SPACE IS LIMITED. Please register by September 15! To register, please call Immaculate Conception Parish at 570-325-2791.

#### 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](mailto:aneagle@allentowndiocese.org) or call 610-435-1541 ext. 5334.

September 22, 2024

## 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

How often does ambition get in the way of holiness? In today's Gospel, Jesus foretells his death, and the Apostles respond by arguing over who among them is most important. But the Apostles' aspirations and motivation stand in stark contrast to the humility necessary for discipleship; their lack of understanding signals a need for instruction. "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all," Jesus explains. Those who follow him are to be humble peacemakers who serve others instead of seeking power and accolades. We are to model Jesus, who humbled himself to the point of death on a cross! (Cf., Phil 2:8) Having goals and ambitions is not a bad thing, but they must grow from the seeds of virtue (humility, charity, faith, and hope) rather than as spores of sin (pride, opportunism, and greed). As James wrote in our second reading, "Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice. But the wisdom from above is first of all pure, then peaceable, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits." Seeking to serve, rather than be served, then, is the hallmark of faith well-lived.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

"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." The path of humility Jesus models for us is not just one of compassion and kindness, but one which allows us to grow in relationship with the Lord. As we serve and attend to each other, we embrace God who dwells within each of us and in whose image we are made. We become more like him in following his example. If we cultivate the virtues of humility, charity, faith, and hope in ourselves by practicing them with our families and friends, we will become souls steeped in God's peace. Furthermore, our peace will be unshakeable because it will not be based on our emotions but on our faith in God's love. "Behold, God is my helper," our responsorial psalm declares. "The Lord sustains my life." If I am convinced that God sustains my life, what do I have to fear?

**PRAY** We can't live in peace if we don't turn to God to guide us in peace. This week take 15 minutes every day to pray for peace – in your life, in your family, in our nation, and in the world. When you hear news of war and conflict, take a minute to recite a prayer for peace in the hearts of all those involved.



**Pastor** ..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*  
**Deacon** ..... *Robert A. Reiley*  
**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



**Bosco's**  
**FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS**  
 IN-STORE & ONLINE

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

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 One Winner at every Boscov's store

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For more details visit [boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends](http://boscovs.com/friendshelpingfriends)  
 \*Exclusions Apply

**PASSES ... \$5.00**

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

**Presale**

**10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
 September 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!*