

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

September 26, 2021

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name
who can at the same time speak ill of me.
For whoever is not against us is for us.”

MR 9:39-40



Mass Intentions

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 Fam.
(John Lieberman Family)

Monday, September 27

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

Tuesday, September 28

9:00 a.m. Eleanor Pothering
(George Pothering)

Wednesday, September 29

9:00 a.m. Drew Walcott
(Peggy Stoppi)

Thursday, September 30

9:00 a.m. Mary T. Chiplonia
(Frances Lorenz)

Friday, October 1

9:00 a.m. Max Brown
(Connie Brown)

Saturday, October 2

5:00 p.m. Ed Smith
(Grandchildren)

Sunday, October 3

8:15 a.m. Sharon Lonergan
(John & Joyce Gerace)

Sunday, October 3

10:30 a.m. George Minchhoff
Elizabeth Dornsife
(Rita Lotz)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

This Wednesday, September 29, the Church celebrates the feast of the Archangels: Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. Saturday, October 2, is the memorial of the Guardian Angels.

In our materialistic day and age, many people may dismiss belief in angels as childish or just a figment of our religious imagination. But our faith teaches that there truly do exist personal beings who were created by God as pure spirits with reason and free will. Some angels used their free will to rebel against God. We call these angels demons or evil spirits. Both angels and evil spirits exist among us and sometimes influence our lives, though always within limits set by God. Who knows how many good things that happen in our lives are at least partly the work of God's angelic helpers? Who knows how many evil things that happen are at least partly the result of the influence of evil spirits in people's minds and hearts?

These last few years we have revived the tradition of praying the Saint Michael Prayer at Mass. This prayer does not sit well with everyone. But the harsh and explicit wording of this prayer reminds us that we must take evil seriously. We have seen and continue to see the effects of evil in our world, in the Church, and in our own lives. Our faith speaks of "spiritual warfare" going on in the world. We don't win by denying that there is a battle. Thankfully, God has given us powerful protectors in the Archangel Michael and our Guardian Angels.

*In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin*



Eucharistic Adoration

Join us on **Thursday, September 30** for a holy hour in the **main church on the eve of First Friday** from **7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** This will be a formal holy hour ending with Benediction. Father will be available for Confessions.

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 • Florence Yeager

Teachers. Teachers shape the lives and minds of the children of our families. We ask God to bless all of our teachers — those who teach in our schools, in our community and in our parish. May God give them wisdom and patience daily in their service to our children.

Next Week's Readings

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (October 2/3)

Reading I: Genesis 2:18-24

Reading II: Hebrews 3:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Upcoming Events

September

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	6:30 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	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
17	4:30 p.m.	Adult Faith Formation.....	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 18/19\$4,916.00
Haiti Relief \$580.75

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

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

Candle Donations

BVM

1. IMO Amelia Androsko by Joanne Wood
2. IMO Elizabeth Brahrer by Frances Mickey

St. Joseph

1. IMO Joseph E. Rosenberger by Barbara Wollyung
2. IMO Carol Tamburelli by Herb Tamburelli

Sanctuary

IMO Pat Mason Sr.
by Maria Mason

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Edward Smith by Grandchildren
- 3&4. Special Intention

Liturgical Minister Schedule

October 2 — 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch.Min.: Gerry Schwartz
Servers: Emma Seiger

October 3 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose
Euch.Min.: John Corbacio
Servers: Luke Schane

October 3 — 10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Ray Petrilla
Euch.Min.: Janet Daubert
Servers: Lukas & Finley McNamara



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

Contemporary Music Ensemble

We are looking for new members! We are interested in both singers and instrumentalists. Commitment is minimal (2-3 hours per month) and musical experience/reading music is NOT required. Children and families are encouraged! We encourage parishioners who are interested in making a joyful noise to the Lord! Please email or call the rectory to join us! See you in the choir loft!

St. John's Choir

St. John's Choir is welcoming new and current members to the choir to sing Saturday 5:00 p.m. Masses and special Masses. This is a very rewarding experience for anyone seeking to become more involved in our Parish Family. No prior singing experience or reading of music is required. Please email or call the rectory for more information.

Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
 IMO Harold Bartholomew
 IMO Robert Berger
 IMO Edward Christ
 Mildred A. Fredericks
 Fr. Don Henry
 IMO M/M Herbert Henry
 IMO Joanne Hepler
 IMO Clare & Linda Houser
 IIMO M/M James Loeper
 MO Charles Lorenz
 IMO Dorothy Parsick
 IMO Jeanne Rehnert
 IMO Eugene & Rita Rehnert
 IMO Dorothy Rosenberger
 IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
 IMO Margaret Zelinsky
 Living & Deceased of St. John's
 CYO Program

Thank you for supporting our bulletin this month!



Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will take place ...

Saturday and Sunday, November 13 & 14

'View & Drop' ... Preview weekend is November 6 & 7

We are asking families to donate a **Theme Basket** with a suggested value of at least **\$25.00** in merchandise, gift cards, or lottery tickets. If you would like to donate the items for a basket, we would be happy to put it together and wrap it for you. Be creative and come up with your own unique idea! Homemade craft items are also very welcome! So many families donated baskets last year — it was wonderful to see the spirit of St. John's shine through again!

Our **'Lottery Baskets'** and **'Lottery Frames'** and **'Wine Baskets'** are always a huge success. If you would like to donate Lottery Tickets (any amount), please drop off at the rectory or at one of our drop off days at the Russell Building. As always, monetary donations are greatly appreciated and helping hands at the Bazaar are always welcome. If you can help or have questions, please call the rectory 622-5470 ext. 3.

In addition to our many various **Theme Baskets**, there will be beautiful **Crafts**, many of which are handmade by our very talented parishioners, **Specials**, and of course, delicious **Food** and our famous homemade **Baked Goods**.

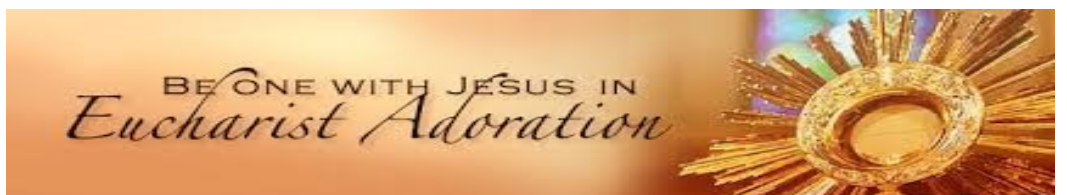
Baskets should be dropped off by October 25th at the Russell Building on the following dates:
Drop Off Dates October 6, 13, 18, 20, 25.

Baskets / Items for baskets **CANNOT** be dropped off at the rectory.



Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study

... will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30** on **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.



Sept. 26, 2021

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29 | Jas 5:1-6 | Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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

Today’s graphic Gospel passage always sounds a bit jarring: “If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off.” Upon first reading that passage, our response might be, “What?” But upon further reflection, it strikes me that Jesus is challenging us to attend to what *causes* us to sin: the vices we have acquired, the temptations we do not ignore, the sinful thoughts and behaviors we entertain or in which we engage. It is also important to identify where we might be culpable in leading *others* astray. In all of this, Jesus is asking us to be honest with ourselves and to take the necessary steps to “cut” out of our lives the things that lead us away from the Lord, allowing us to move toward him. Lest we get discouraged, we need only remember that we are not alone: We belong to Christ whose word is truth, whose precepts “give joy to the heart,” and who tells us “whoever is not against us is for us.” Like Moses in the first reading, we can ask that the Spirit descend upon us and give us strength.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Amazing feats we see on TV or read in the news can’t help but capture our imagination. Our rich Catholic faith can be a little like that: just take a look at the lives of the saints. That’s why I find the other passage in today’s Gospel so encouraging. Jesus reminds us that even the smallest things we do matter — actions to help others grow in their faith: “Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.” As the Lord’s spirit moves us to be a prophet to others – that is, to perform deeds in his name (mighty or not-so-mighty) – we have the ability to witness the Gospel of Jesus Christ in very real and concrete ways. As St. Teresa of Avila said: “Accustom yourself continually to make many acts of love, for they enkindle and melt the soul.”

ACTIONS

Prepare for the sacrament of reconciliation by asking Jesus to help you identify what causes you to sin or drives a wedge between you and others or between you and God. Then participate in this beautiful sacrament and pray for the grace to make changes.

Neighboring Events

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.

Father Walter Ciszek Day

... scheduled for Sunday, October 17th at the Walter Ciszek Prayer League Center, 218 W. Cherry St. in Shenandoah. Visitors are welcome from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Mass celebrated at 2 p.m. at St. Casimir Church, 229 N. Jardin St. in Shenandoah. Rev. Thomas Stegman, SJ, Dean of Boston College School of Theology and Ministry will be the homilist. Refreshments served after Mass in the church hall; book, prayer cards, etc. available for purchase. Please join us!

St. Paul Street Evangelization

... this is a grassroots, non-profit Catholic evangelization organization dedicated to responding to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking our Catholic Faith to the streets. Visit www.streetevangelization.com today to learn more. Come and learn more about how to share the gospel message with others, whether it be with strangers on the street, family and friends, or co-workers. Training is offered at St. John XXIII in Tamaqua beginning Sunday, October 3rd. Training will consist of 8 sessions held on Sunday from 5 to 7 p.m. and Wednesdays 6 to 8 p.m. throughout the month of October. For more information please contact parish office at 570-225-7410.



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 Boscov'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 Boscov's on the following dates:

September 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
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

