

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

October 6, 2024

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

Mark 10:14

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 5

5:00 p.m. Lynn & Post Families
(Tony, Joan Marie, Dave, Bob)

Sunday, October 6

8:15 a.m. David & Bastina Nicastro
(Julian Chipionia)

Sunday, October 6

10:30 a.m. Ernest Zambo
(Mary Zambo & Children)

Monday, October 7

6:30 p.m. Christine Kurtek
(Richard & Patricia Kost)

Tuesday, October 8

9:00 a.m. Robert Moore
(Bob & Kay Wollyung)

Wednesday, October 9

9:00 a.m. Frank Campbell Jr.
(M/M John Carroll)

Thursday, October 10

9:00 a.m. Susan Mingle
(Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Friday, October 11

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

Saturday, October 12

5:00 p.m. R.J. Post
(Bob & Irene Post)

Sunday, October 13

8:15 a.m. Dec. of Walkusky Family
(Karen Lenard)

Sunday, October 13

10:30 a.m. Teresa & Joseph Fanelli
(Lucilla Kochol)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Last week we started looking at the first two Old Testament prophetic books: Amos and Hosea. Both of these prophets lived in the Northern Kingdom of Israel in the 8th century BC.

Amos is very much a "fire and brimstone" prophet. He condemns the Israelites for two things. He points out the injustices in society: the well-to-do people taking advantage of the poor, immorality, and infidelity to the Covenant with God. Secondly, Amos warns the people about their empty worship. In other words, people would worship God but live immoral lives. It would be like faithfully going to Mass every Sunday but living an immoral life the rest of the week with no remorse. Both of these themes occur frequently in the prophets and in all of the Sacred Scriptures.

Hosea is a very different prophet. He condemns the Israelites for being unfaithful to the Covenant with God. But he does this in a unique way. He compares the people's relationship with God to marriage. Israel commits adultery by worshipping false gods. God is grieved yet ready to forgive. Apparently the prophet Hosea is speaking from personal experience. This analogy of marriage for our relationship with God will be further developed throughout the Scriptures.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

Parish Bookkeeper

We are beginning to look for a part-time bookkeeper to take over for Dr. Visot. The job would require a few hours of work, 2-3 days a week. The schedule is flexible. Some bookkeeping experience is helpful but no formal background in accounting is necessary. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact 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.



Next Week's Readings

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(October 12/13)

Reading I: Wisdom 7:7-11

Reading II: Hebrews 4:12-13

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

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 • John Fredericks

Upcoming Events

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.
27	4:00 p.m.	Chronic Pain Support Group.....	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 28/29\$4,425.50

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

Candles

BVM

1&2. IMO Rita Geiger
by Karen Schmitt

St. Joseph

1. IMO Joseph Wollyung Jr.
by Barbara Wollyung & Family
2. IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
by Frances Lorenz

Sanctuary

IMO Danny & Alma Lonergan
by Rick & Michelle Stone

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Anthony S. Gaburick
by Anne Gaburick & Family
 2. IMO Mary Ann Wychunas
by Helen Heimbaugh
- 3&4. Special Intention

SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

Reciting of the Rosary

We will be reciting the Rosary twenty minutes before Mass during the month of October. The month of October and May are dedicated by the Church to the Blessed Mother. Please come, bring your rosary and join us to honor Our Mother and ask for her powerful intercession.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mass</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
October 12	5:00 p.m.	4:40 p.m.
October 13	8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	7:55 & 10:10 a.m.
October 19	5:00 p.m.	4:40 p.m.
October 20	8:15 & 10:30 a.m.	7:55 & 10:10 a.m.
October 26	5:00 p.m.	4:40 p.m.
October 27	8:15 & 10:30 a.m.	7:55 & 10:10 a.m.



Liturgical Min.Schedule

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12— 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Carleigh Palmieri
Euch.Min.: Dan & Hermine Murphy
Server: Sophia Palmieri
Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

October 13— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Michelle Ambrose
Euch.Min.: Mike Ambrose
Janet Daubert
Server/Sacristan: Ryan Grabowski
Cantor: Amy Joyce

October 13— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis
Euch.Min.: Ray Petrilla
John Crane
Servers: Lauren & Megan Goodman
Cantor: Dave Derbes

Mass Intention Book—2025

The Mass Intention Book for the year 2025 will open as follows:

Wednesday, October 16th —10 to 11:30 a.m. in Longinus Hall

Thursday, October 17th —10 to 4:30 p.m. at Rectory

Monday, October 21st —10 to 4:30 at Rectory

Tuesday, October 22nd —10 to 4:30 at Rectory

All other Mass intentions can be scheduled by calling the rectory, placing in the collection basket or email.

Three Masses ONLY

The remaining dates will be used to schedule previously requested Masses as well as keep dates open for those deceased in 2025.



Baptized in Christ

We celebrated last weekend the glorious baptism day of **Violet Mary Miller**, daughter of Jon & Katelynn (Hranchock) Miller. She 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. Warmly welcome Violet into our parish family.

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

Because We Are Catholic

Parish Goal: \$15,796.00
Total Collected: \$10,819.00
No. of Donors: 75

Many thanks to those who have made a commitment to the *Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal*. If you have not done so already, please bring your pledge form to Mass next weekend. The participation of all our parish families makes it possible to serve those in need. Remember every gift counts, no matter how big or small.

Boscov'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 Boscov's store

100% OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO OUR ORGANIZATION

PASSES ... \$5.00

St. John's will be available at Boscov's on the following dates:
October 9, 10, 11, 16, 18

11 a.m.—4 p.m. October 12, 19

12 noon to 3 p.m. 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

Passes are also available
in the back of church on

October 12 & 13 and October 19 & 20

Thank you in advance for your support!

Paint 'n Sip

Enjoy a Sunday afternoon in Longinus Hall for our Paint 'n Sip get together on **October 20th at 2:00 p.m.** Artist Kimberly Searle will guide us step by step. We will have all equipment necessary so that you can paint a lovely project plus light snacks and drinks available. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite snacks for sharing. BYOB! Sign-up sheets are available in the back of church. Cost is \$40.00 per person. All sign-ups with fee included should be returned to the rectory by Monday, October 13th so that needed planning can be done. For more information please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



Neighboring Events

Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by St. Patrick's Church, Pottsville on Sunday, October 6th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or sell out). Eat in or take out at the parish center. Spaghetti platter includes pasta, homemade sauce, two meatballs, salad, bread. Extra meatballs and/or sauce available for purchase.

Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by Holy Family Parish of Minersville on Sunday, October 13th at the Parish Center at Hillcrest. Adults \$13 and \$8 children. Dinner includes pasta, meatballs, sauce, roll, salad, dessert, and drink. Eat in or take out. Pre-orders only must be made by Monday, October 7th at noon by calling 570.544.4741 ext 1.

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.

Back From the Dead Cemetery Walk. This is a walk through the grounds of the Seton Shrine where participants will experience the Saints come back to life for one evening on Friday, October 25th; Cost is \$40 per person. Please bring a brown bag dinner or snacks and a drink as no meals will be provided. Bus departs from the Carroll St. lot at 4 p.m. Estimated arrival time in Emmitsburg is 6-6:30 p.m.. Tours at 7:45 and 8 p.m. Departure 8:30-9 p.m. Time permitting, you can visit the Basilica, say a prayer at Mother Seton, and/or visit the gift shop. Call St. Clare of Assisi Rectory at 570-429-0370 to reserve your seat.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday and Sunday, November 16 & 17

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 28th** at the Russell Building on the following dates:

Drop Off Dates & Times October 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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

Pecans: St. John's Catholic Women's Union will be selling pecans again this year at the Christmas Bazaar. Mammoth Halves—\$15.00 per pound.

Diocesan Events ...

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, 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 or call 610-435-1541 ext. 5334.

MARIAN CONCERT

The choirs of the Cathedral will present a Marian concert on Sunday, October 13th, at 2 PM. The music will consist favorite hymns and songs to Our Blessed Mother. There is no admission fee, but we will have a free will offering. Since this date marks the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima (10/13/17), we invite you to bring a flower or flowers to place at our statue of Mary. We will honor our Mother with blossoms and with music. Hope to see you there – 1825 W Turner St, Allentown!

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.

October 6, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24 | Heb 2:9-11 | Mk 10:2-16

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

Everything in God's creation is intended to reflect his goodness and proclaim his glory. It's not hard to understand this idea when we behold the majesty of the sea. It can be more difficult, however, to remember this is also present in each of us and in our relationships – including that relationship God designed for man and woman: marriage. Our ability to turn away from God means that we sometimes reject, rather than reflect, him. This is one reason why Jesus responds to the Pharisees' question by revoking Moses' allowance for divorce, a concession God had made to the Israelites in the Old Testament. Jesus' statement might be unsettling because, in our time, divorce has affected nearly *everyone* in one way or another. But his words indicate the strength of the covenant the Lord has made with us: his love is permanent and unbreakable. We learn that the unbreakable bond between spouses reflects, in an imperfect way, God's perfectly faithful love for us.

GO EVANGELIZE**PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

We find this truth about love in the wisdom of the Church. Love is not a "feeling." It is an action – a virtue – in which we consistently *will the good of another*. After all, this is who and what God is: a continuous outpouring of love. Our triune God is a relational community of love, and Jesus offers us the preeminent example of this: As the Son and out of love for the Father, he *chose* to remain on the cross, regardless of how he *felt*. Such was his love for us that he willed our redemption and sent us the Spirit to help us remain with him. Marriage, designed by God to mirror this triune communal, covenantal love, likewise requires a *decision to love* that is firm and constant, despite how we might *feel*. If we wish to be capable of the fidelity required for marriage, family life, or simply for our relationship with God, we must make the deliberate choice to love – *and we must do it over and over*. With time and with God's grace, the habit of choosing another's good becomes easier, and we experience the joy of a stable and authentic love.

PRACTICE We can reflect God's faithful love by becoming faithful ourselves. Choose one or two ways to exercise fidelity in little things this week. Examples might be getting up at the same time every morning without hitting the "snooze" button; spending five extra minutes in prayer each day; or offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God every time you are tempted to check your phone unnecessarily.

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..... stjparish@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

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; 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.