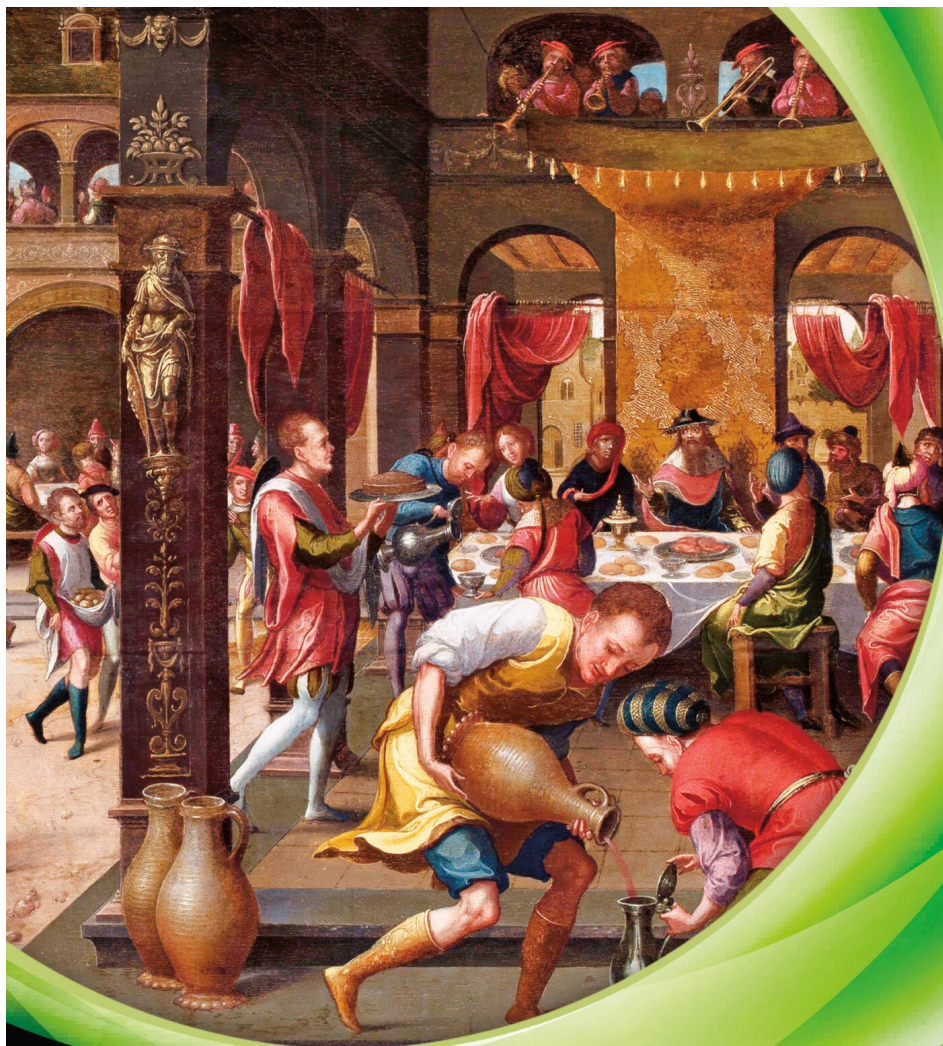


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

October 11, 2026



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Many are invited, but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:14

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

Parish Council President *John Crane*
E-mail johncrane1@mac.com
Choir Director/Organist *David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator *Tina Seiger*
Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
E-mail stjbparrish@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

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service

1-800-276-1562 www.ReportBishopAbuse.org

Diocese of Allentown Website

www.allentowndiocese.org



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.
- ◆ 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.

Communion for the Homebound

If you or a family member, friend, or neighbor who is a member of St. John is confined to home, a nursing home or assisted living facility because of illness, age, or disability and would like to receive Holy Communion on a monthly basis, please call the rectory. We traditionally visit the sick and homebound on or around the first Friday of the month. Please help us meet the spiritual needs of our homebound parishioners.

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: *Sherri Post, Tom Jefferson, Fr. John Schweikert, Joanne Kitsock, Carol Lasco.* **Deceased:** *Joan Grapsy, Thomas Elison*

"Note: We will keep names on the prayer list for a period of three months. Please let us know if you would like your name or your family member's name to remain on the list longer."

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 10

5:00 p.m. Evelyn Tropp
(Shawn & Karen Schmitt)

Sunday, October 11

8:15 a.m. Gerry Hudock
(Sue & Russ Zimmerman)

Sunday, October 11

10:30 a.m. Deceased of Lenard &
Walkusky Family
(Karen Lenard)

Monday, October 12

6:30 p.m. St. John's Parish Family

Tuesday, October 13

9:00 a.m. Teresa & Joseph Fanelli
(Lucilla Kochol)

Wednesday, October 14

9:00 a.m. Earl & Florence Tropp
Martin J. Kern

Thursday, October 15

9:00 a.m. Marie Murphy
(Family)

Friday, October 16

9:00 a.m. Francis & Mary Burns

Saturday, October 17

5:00 p.m. Michael Klembara
(Anita Klembara)

Sunday, October 18

8:15 a.m. R.J. Post
(Sandi, Sheri, RJ Post)

Sunday, October 18

10:30 a.m. Carl & Barbara Weiss
(Weis Children)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

We've been looking at the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick these last few weeks. How is the sacrament celebrated?

Following the Sign of the Cross and greeting, the priest reads the passage from the Letter of James that we referred to last week (James 5:14-15). Then there is a Penitential Rite like at Mass ("Lord, have mercy..."). Or, if the recipient is able to go to Confession, this might take the place of the Penitential Rite. This is followed by a Scripture reading and a litany, which is essentially a list of petitions, paralleling what we do at Mass.

Then comes the essential elements of the sacrament, the moment when the sacrament actually happens. First the priest will lay hands on the recipient's head for a moment in silence. This recalls Jesus laying hands on the sick (which He is now doing through the priest). There may be a prayer or blessing over the Oil of the Sick, which is then used to anoint the person on the forehead with the words: "Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in his love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit." The person's hands are then anointed with the words: "May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."

The anointing is followed by a prayer, the Our Father, and a final blessing. The recipient may receive Communion after the Our Father if he or she is physically able. A person's final Holy Communion is called Viaticum, meaning food for the journey to eternal life.

There is some flexibility in the way Anointing of the Sick is celebrated. In ideal circumstances, the rite is celebrated as we just described. But in a hospital emergency room or other scenarios when the priest can't get more than a few moments, he may just give the bare essentials of the sacrament: laying hands on the head, and anointing even just part of the body if he cannot anoint both the person's head and hands. Even the bare essentials are the healing touch of Jesus, which is always efficacious.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture: is offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 pm, October 15, 22, and 29. Join us in person in Longinus Hall or at home on Zoom (*Please email Father for the Zoom link: kbobbin@allentowndiocese.org.) Father 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.

Praise, Worship, Adoration

St. John's music ensemble invites you to an opportunity to praise the Lord with uplifting, contemporary Christian music and traditional hymns. We will end with Benediction. This event is open to all, and we welcome children and families. Come and be renewed!

**Sunday, October 25th from 6 to 7 p.m.
in the main Church.**

Next Week's Readings

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(October 17/18)

Reading I: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Gospel: Matthew 22, 15-21

Upcoming Events

October

10	11 am-7 pm	BBQ Chicken Dinner	R.B.
11	11 am-3 pm	BBQ Chicken Dinner	R.B.
11	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
15	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
18	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
18	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School	L.H.
18	10:30 a.m.	Children's Liturgy.....	Chapel
21	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union Mtg.	L.H.
22	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
25	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	R.B.
25	after Mass	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.
25	6:00 p.m.	Adoration Service	Church
29	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.

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

Tuesdays 7 p.m. Weekly Men's Group F.R.

Catholic Women's Union— Meeting

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, October 21st at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall.** Our Harvest Auction will be featured this month. 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, and the Covered Dish Dinner. Your ideas, friendship and membership are welcomed. Join us!

Flowers in Church

Generally speaking, flowers are donations. The parish decorates the church for the Christmas and Easter seasons (partly thanks to your donations). rest of the year, we welcome donations of flowers. Flowers are not appropriate during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent. Flowers are appropriate on:

- Sundays in Ordinary Time
- Sundays in the Easter Season (after the original Easter flowers have died)
- Holy Days—such as—Ascension Thursday, Assumption (August 15), All Saints Day (November 1), Immaculate Conception (December 8)

If you would ever like to donate flowers (perhaps in memory of a loved one), please call the rectory 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

HELP NEEDED

My name is Anthony J. Gaburick. I suffer from a nerve disease that requires treatments for me to stay functional. My treatments are out of town in places such as Allentown, West Hazleton, Wilkes-Barre and Wyomissing. I'm looking for drivers who can help me get to these treatments. Doctors will not allow me to drive myself to and from treatments. If anyone is interested in driving me, please contact the church rectory. I'll be very grateful for your help!

Thank you to everyone who has come forward to help me with transportation to my medical appointments. Your help is so very appreciated. I am truly grateful. Thank you again!

Weekly Collection

Oct. 3/4\$5,431.20

Dues\$1,029.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. Deceased of Lenard & Walkusky Families

by Karen Lenard

2. IMO Barbara Weiss

by Sandy Clauser

St. Joseph

1. IMO Carl Weiss

by Sandy Clauser

2. IMO Evelyn Tropp

by Shawn & Karen Schmitt

Sanctuary

IMO Barbara & Carl Weiss

by Sandy Clauser

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Joe Wollyung Jr.

by Barb Wollyung & Family

2, 3, 4. IMO Evelyn Tropp

by Shawn & Karen Schmitt

Liturgical Min. Schedule

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 17— 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Francis Mozloom

EM: Frank Murphy, John O'Neill

Server: Frank Murphy

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

October 18 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Bill Gianfagna

EM: Bob Bechtel, Gerry Schwartz

Servers: Kyle & Preston

McCormick

Cantor: Dave Derbes

October 18 —10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Janet Daubert

EM: Ann Bankenhorn,

Ray Petrilla

Servers: Luke Lieberman

Maria Neifert

Cantor: Ed Brahler

Sacristan: R. J. Post

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday and Sunday, November 14 & 15

We are asking families to donate a **Theme Basket** with a suggested value of at least **\$25.00 Baskets must be completed and wrapped.** 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**' and "**Gift Cards**" 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 -- Sponsors -- 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 26th** at the Russell Building on the following dates:

Drop Off Dates & Times

Mondays, October 12, 19, 26 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, October 14, 21 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

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.

Trunk or Treat — Saturday, October 24 — 1 to 3 p.m.

We are excited to have our Trunk or Treat event again this year! This will take place on **Saturday, October 24th from 1 to 3 p.m.** at the Russell Building parking lot.

A Trunk or Treat is when you park your vehicle in our lot, open the trunk and decorate it for Halloween and hand out your treats to all the trick or treaters. If you don't have a vehicle available, we can offer a space and chairs for you to hand out your candy or treats! Candy donations can also be accepted.

Everyone is welcome, including spectators! Light refreshments will be available and a prize given for the best dressed trunk!

There is a sign-up sheet for participating vehicles in the back of church. We want to ensure that we have enough interest. Join us!

Boscov's Friends helping Friends ... One Day Only ...

Wednesday, October 21st ... Shop 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. 25% Off lowest sale prices.

Shopping Pass .. \$5.00 donation per Pass.

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

Presale: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20;

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on October 17;

12 noon to 2 p.m. on October 11, 18;

8 a.m. to 11 p.m. on October 21..

Thank you in advance for your support!

Married in Christ

...We extend our warmest congratulations to **Allison Darhun and Owen Valderbilt** who were joined in Holy Matrimony in the presence of Fr. Bobbin. They are called now to total dedication to each other. May their love each day draw them closer to God and to each other.

OCIA

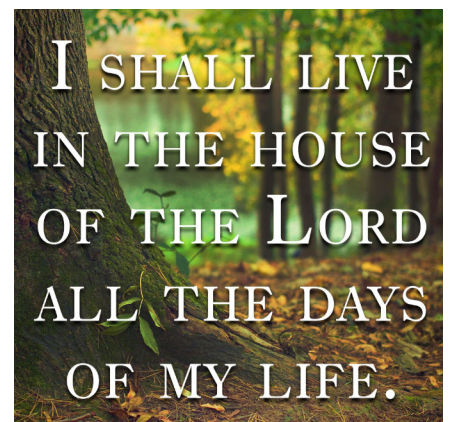
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

....is for anyone who desires to enter the Catholic Church or complete his or her initiation into the Church (i.e. people who are baptized Catholic but have not received Communion and/or Confirmation). If you or someone you know is interested, please call the rectory at 570-622-5470.

There is hope in the battle against pornography.

Educate yourself, protect yourself and your family, and seek help and healing. Explore the resources offered by:

1. Integrity Restored (integrityrestored.com)
2. The Diocese of Allentown's Lumen Christi Commission (adlumenchristi.org)
3. Or contact Fr. Bobbin for a confidential appointment.



Nativity BVM High School

Homecoming Football Game 50/50

Our annual Homecoming 50/50 Drawing is one of Nativity's biggest fundraisers of the year, and we are excited to continue this important tradition!

This year's Homecoming Football Game against Shenandoah Valley will be held at St. Clair on **Friday, October 16th at 7 p.m.**

We greatly appreciate your continued support of Nativity and our 50/50 Drawing. Your participation helps make this fundraiser a success and directly supports our school and students. Please call us at 622-8110 to get your tickets.

Sports passes are also available in our Main Office. The cost is \$75 and is good for all home (non playoff) games all year long.

CYO Basketball Sign-ups

CYO Basketball is back in Schuylkill County! Any girl or boy in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 that attends a Diocesan Elementary School or is a member of An Allentown Schuylkill County Parish is eligible to participate. Use the link below to register for the season.

<https://forms.gle/FdYWJm8rqkEVq3YA>.

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning Is Hiring!

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is seeking a dedicated and compassionate Principal to lead our school community. This is an opportunity to build on a strong foundation and continue the mission of providing quality education and support to students and adults with special needs.

If you or someone you know may be a good fit for this important role, please help us spread the word. For more information about the Principal position, application instructions, and other current employment opportunities at SJC, please visit <https://stjosephctr.com/employment-opportunities/>

71st Anniversary Gala, "Changing Lives, One Gift at a Time", sponsored by St. Joseph Center for Special Learning on Saturday, October 17th at Mountain Valley Golf Course. We are still welcoming guests to join us for this special evening celebrating the students and adults we serve and the generous community that helps make our mission possible. There is still time to reserve your spot, but please contact Monica Walborn at 570-622-4638 to make arrangements.

Neighboring Events ...

2026 Apple Dumpling Festival sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Parish in St. Clair ... October 17th from 12 noon to 6 p.m. and October 18th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - pick up at 250 E. Hancock St. in St. Clair. They are taking orders for Apple Dumplings and Roast Pork Platters. Apple Dumplings are \$5.00; Roast Pork Platters are \$15.00 which include roast pork, sauerkraut OR baked apples, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce and roll. Tickets available for cash & gift card prizes, 50/50 cash drawing, \$1,000 in lottery tickets. Eat in or Take Out. For more information and to order, please call 570-429-0370.

ADVANCE PRE-PAID ORDERS ONLY - DEADLINE TO ORDER IS OCTOBER 12TH.

Holly Jolly Holiday sponsored by St. Patrick Church on November 20th at the Dutch Apple Theatre in Lancaster. Cost \$125 which includes bus, buffet, tax, gratuity, and the show which must be paid by October 19th. For more information and details, please call Debbie at 570-622-1801 ext. 3



**MANY ARE INVITED
BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN**



Bulletin Boosters

IMO Carl Bartholomew
IMO Harold Bartholomew
IMO James J. Bartholomew
IMO Robert Berger
IMO Rita Bartholomew Foley
John & Mildred Fredericks
Fr. Don Henry
IMO M/M Herbert Henry
IMO Joanne Hepler
IMO Clare & Linda Houser
MO Charles Lorenz
IMO Charles & Matilda Schaeffer
IMO Charlie & Catherine Schaeffer
IMO Erika Stangl Seasock
IMO Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
IMO Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
IMO Margaret & Guy Zelinsky
Living & Deceased of St. John's
CYO Program

*Thank you for supporting our
bulletin this month!*

Families Matter

Domestic Abuse. Please pray today for those suffering from domestic abuse. We pray that they be given the strength to seek the help they need to sustain them during their struggles. We also pray that the Lord protect them and keep them safe during this difficult time.

Welcome Visitors

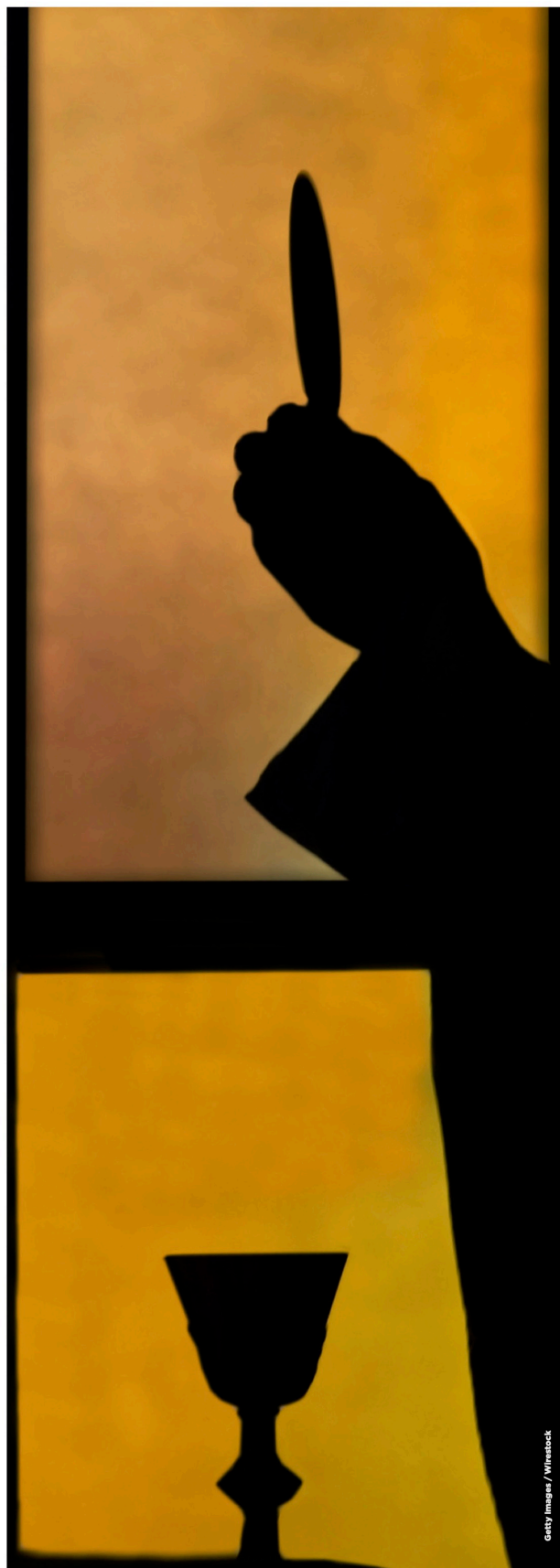
Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you are visiting our beautiful church, please know you are most welcome!

If you have questions or are interested in joining our parish family, please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

Moving? Relocating?

Let us Know!

Have you moved, changed your phone or email address? If so, please contact the Rectory Office at 570-622-5470 ext. 3. Help us update our records!



October 11, 2026

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Is 25:6-10a | Phil 4:12-14, 19-20 | Mt 22:1-14

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

Today's Gospel comes from the latter chapters of Matthew, in which Jesus repeatedly speaks about our readiness for the end times and the coming judgment. This parable concludes with the striking image of a man being thrown out of the king's feast because he was not dressed in a proper wedding garment. While Tradition has often used this passage to communicate the importance of being properly disposed when approaching holy Communion, we ought not forget its other sense. To find a place at both the *earthly* and the *heavenly* wedding feast of the Lamb, we must strive to clothe ourselves with righteous deeds (see Rev. 19:7-9), cooperating with the grace the Lord has given us in baptism.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our readings today reveal God's astonishing invitation to all humanity. Isaiah tells us that God "will provide for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines." The king in Jesus' parable announces this same divine invitation: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready; come to the feast." In his letter *Desiderio desideravi*, Pope Francis wrote: "The world still does not know it, but everyone is *invited to the supper of the wedding of the Lamb* (Re: 19:9)." (5) As disciples of Jesus, our task is to be like the servants of the king in today's Gospel. So, too, the Lord sends us out to bring whomever we find to the feast. And, as Pope Francis said, "We must not allow ourselves even a moment of rest, knowing that still not everyone has received an invitation to this Supper or knowing that others have forgotten or have got lost along the way." (5)

PRAY

Immediately following baptism, infants, children, and adults are clothed in a white garment as an outward sign of the grace just received in the sacrament. In the prayer that accompanies this part of the baptismal rite, the celebrant exhorts the newly baptized to bring this garment unstained before the judgment seat of Christ. Take a moment this day to pray for all the newly baptized in your community, and indeed, for all the baptized - that together, we may strive for the holiness that is fitting for those who have "put on Christ" (Gal 3:27) and so come to share in his heavenly feast.