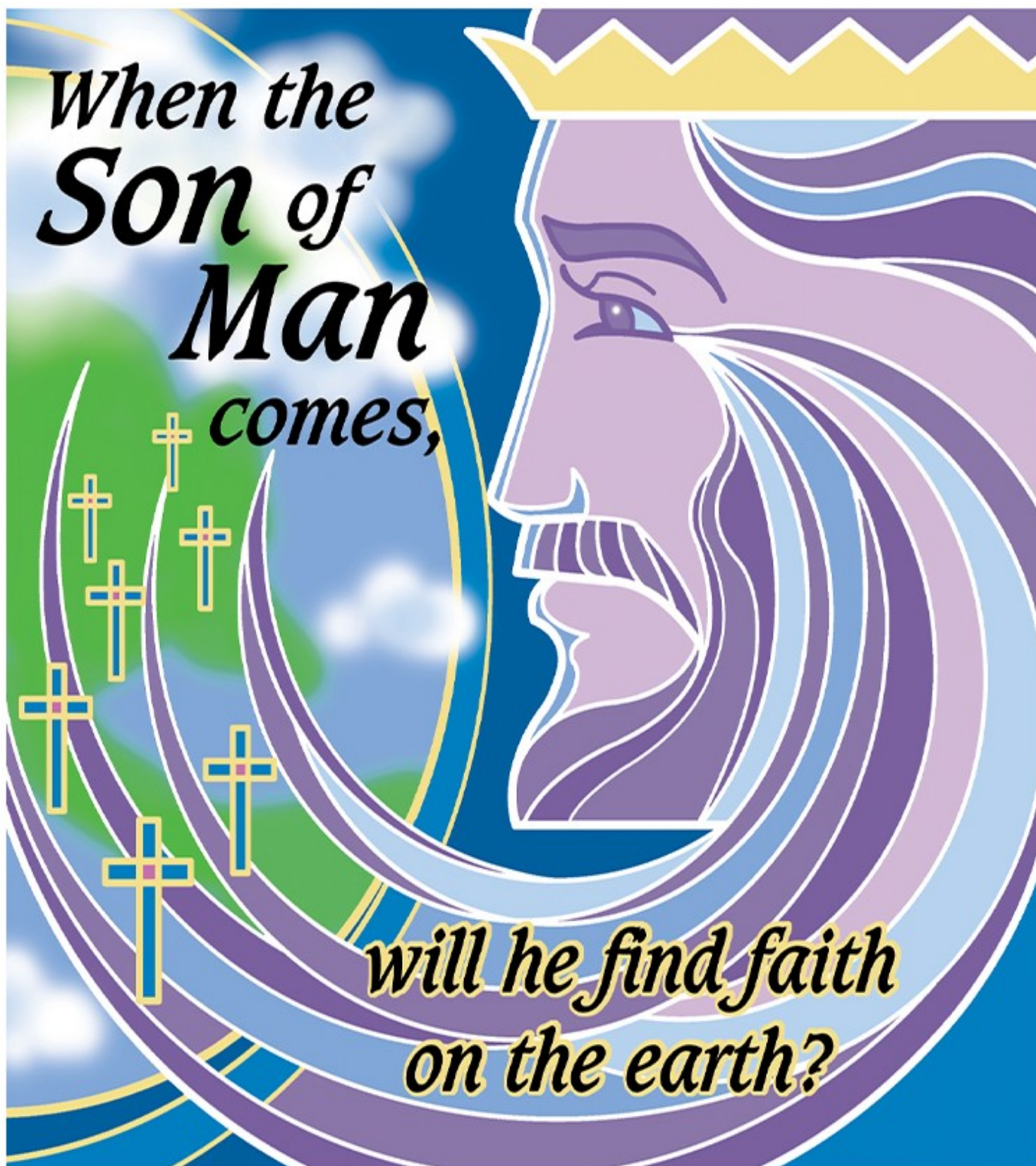


St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

October 19, 2025 • 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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.....*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

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, Doug Broughton, Kathy Vicic, Joanne Kitsock, Jane Baker, Brenda Helt.*

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 18

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

Sunday, October 19

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

Sunday, October 19

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

Monday, October 20

6:30 p.m. Gail Vesay
(Pat Zaharis & Family)

Tuesday, October 21

6:30 p.m. St. John's Parish Family
(Time Change)

Wednesday, October 22

9:00 a.m. Leo A. Leinheiser Jr.
(Mary Kietsock & Family)

Thursday, October 23

6:00 p.m. Brian Eckley
(Time Change) (Joyce Gerace)

Friday, October 24

9:00 a.m. Gregory Glunz
(Ron & Pat Lombel)

Saturday, October 25

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

Sunday, October 26

8:15 a.m. Jack & Dot Ryan
(John & Chris Eagan)

Sunday, October 26

10:30 a.m. Jerry Hudock
(Gregory Sekela)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

The last few weeks we looked at Acts of the Apostles. There is a lot more we can say about Acts, but let's move on to the next collection of New Testament writings: the letters of Saint Paul.

Paul is one of the major figures at the foundation of Christianity. We learn a lot about him from Acts and from his own letters. He was an educated Jewish rabbi, a member of the Pharisees, who was so zealous for his religion that he actively persecuted the disciples of Jesus. Paul had a conversion experience, meeting the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus. (This event is so significant for Paul, it is described three times in Acts and alluded to several times in Paul's letters.) Paul realized that Jesus was the missing key to his life and religion. He discerned a new mission: bringing the Gospel to the Gentiles. Paul is known as the Apostle to the Gentiles. Although he was not one of the original twelve Apostles, it is correct to call him an apostle insofar as he had an encounter with the risen Jesus who sent him on a mission.

Acts of the Apostles describes Paul's travels to spread the Gospel. As Paul formed relationships with Christians in various places, he communicated with them by letter to teach the faith, encourage the first Christians, and answer questions. Thus, we have a collection of Paul's letters in the New Testament, the letters to the Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon. Note that these letters are arranged from longest to shortest in the Bible. We will look at each of them briefly in the coming weeks.

In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study: will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on **Oct. 23, and Nov. 13**. 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.

Today is World Mission Sunday

Today every parish across the globe joins together for the only **worldwide collection** mandated by Canon Law. Your generosity today supports the **Pope's missions** in more than 1,124 territories, where the Church is young or struggling.

This year's theme — *"Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples"* — a call to embody the love of God poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5.5). Your offering today provides Hope where despair too often dominates — through the building of churches, formation of seminarians and religious sisters, healthcare clinics, and Catholic schools.

Thank you for responding with faith, love, and generosity. As Pope Francis told us, "Each of us is a mission on this earth" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 275). Together, we share in that mission by ensuring that no one is excluded from the invitation to encounter Christ.

Next Week's Readings

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(October 25/26)

Reading I: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

Reading II: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

Upcoming Events

October

19	9:00 a.m.	CCD Service Project	L.H.
19	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School & children's Liturgy	L.H.
19	6:00 p.m.	Praise, Worship, Adoration.....	Church
20	4:30 p.m.	Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off	R.B.
20	6:30 p.m.	Mass with Bishop Schlert, Reception afterwards	Church
22	4:30 p.m.	Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off	R.B.
23	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
25	2:00 p.m.	Trunk or Treat	R.B.
26	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class	L.H.
27	4:30 p.m.	Christmas Bazaar Basket Drop Off	R.B.

November

2	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class	L.H.
2	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School / Children's Liturgy	L.H.
9	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
12	7:00 p.m.	Women's Fellowship	L.H.
13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study	L.H.
16	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class—Service Project	L.H.
16	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School / Children's Liturgy	L.H.
19	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women's Union	L.H.
23	after Masses	Coffee & Donuts	L.H.
30	9:00 a.m.	CCD Class—Service Project	L.H.
30	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School / Children's Liturgy	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.

Mass with Bishop Schlert

Bishop Schlert will celebrate Daily Masses at parishes in every county in the Diocese in honor of individuals and families who give and benefit from the Because We Are Catholic Annual Appeal.

All are invited to attend Mass on **Monday, October 20th at 6:30 p.m.** here at St. John's. A reception will take place afterwards in Longinus Hall. Please join us!

Mass Intention Book

The Mass Intention Book for the year 2026

is open until October 22nd

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 2026.

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.

Weekly Collection

October 11/12\$5,208.00

Parish Improv.&Repairs . \$2,054.00

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

Candles

BVM

1&2. Special Intention
by Mary Jean Morgalis

St. Joseph

1&2. Special Intention
by Mary Jean Morgalis

Sanctuary

IMO William Schmitt
by Shawn & Karen Schmitt

Guardian Angels

1. Special Blessings
2. IMO Christine Bowers
by Joan Bowers
3&4. Health of Msgr. Edward Domin
by Messer Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 25th —5:00 p.m. Mass

Reader: Heidi Gorski

EM: Danny & Hermine Murphy

Servers: Maggie & Rhyann Brennan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

October 26th — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

EM: Bill Gianfagna, Joseph Palmieri

Servers: Gabriel Scheidel

Sophia Palmieri

Cantor: Tina Seiger

October 26th —10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Janet Daubert

EM: Justina Majestic, Frank Murphy

Server: Ryan Grabowski

Cantor: Dave Derbes

Weekend Sacristan: R.J. Post

World Mission Sunday

*I have made you a light to the Gentiles,
That you may be an instrument of
Salvation to the ends of the earth."*
Acts 13:47

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday and Sunday, November 15 & 16

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'** 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 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 27th** at the Russell Building on the following dates:

Drop Off Dates & Times Mondays, October 20—27 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, October 22 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.

Donated Baskets

Autumn Lantern—Pod & Petal Florist
 Barbie Basket—Lucilla Kochol
 Tea & Snack Basket—Parishioners
 Wine Basket—Luis & Virginia Visot

Sponsors

\$25.00— Dorothy & Joe Stangl
 \$50.00—Barbara Wollyung

Praise, Worship & Adoration An Evening with the Ensemble

..... **Sunday, October 19th from 6 to 7 p.m.**

St. John's Ensemble invites you to an opportunity to praise the Lord with uplifting, contemporary Christian music and traditional hymns in our church . Father Bobbin will start with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Scripture and singing to the themes of Praising God and God's Mercy. We will close with Benediction. Come share our love of music and faith and be renewed!



Trunk or Treat — Saturday, October 25 — 2 to 4 p.m.

We are excited to have our Trunk or Treat event again this year! This will take place on **Saturday, October 25th from 2 to 4 p.m.** at the Russell Building parking lot. We could still use a few more cars .. Join us!

All participating trunks should arrive at 1 p.m. in the Russell Building parking lot at 9th St. & Schuylkill Ave. We would like to close the lot off to incoming traffic by 1:30 p.m. for safety purposes.

We are hoping to have lots of children join us for trick or treat! Please tell a neighbor, family and friends!

There will be light refreshments available and spooky fun for everyone!

There is a sign-up sheet for participating vehicles in the back of church. Join us!

Pray the Rosary



The month of October and May are dedicated by the Church to the Blessed Mother.

There is no prayer more pleasing to Our Lady and more efficacious in asking for her intercession.

CYO BASKETBALL

CYO basketball is back! Any girl in grades 5, 6, 7 or 8 that attends a Diocesan Elementary School or is a member of the following Parishes is welcome to join the CYO basketball program this year: St. John the Baptist, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose, St. Clare of Assisi, Holy Family (Minersville), Holy Cross, Most Blessed Trinity, and St. Nicholas (Minersville). Practice and home games will be held at Nativity BVM High School. Use the link below to register for the season which starts the last week of October.

<https://forms.gle/FdYWJim8rqkEVq3YA>

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.

Food Drive for Thanksgiving Baskets

We are seeking non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving Baskets that our Religious Education students will be making for those in need in our community. Below is a list of desired items. **Please do not donate expired food items or food in glass containers.**

Large tote containers will be placed in the back of church starting the weekend of October 11th and 12th. We are also seeking anyone willing to donate a gift card or monetary donation for a turkey or ham. If you are interested in helping, please contact Miss Kochol at the rectory, 570-622-5470.

Canned Soup	Chicken or Vegetable Broth	Biscuit Mix
Canned Pumpkin	Instant Mashed Potatoes	Canned Apple Sauce
Canned Gravy	White or Brown Rice	Stuffing Mix
Canned Vegetables	Canned Cranberry Sauce	Canned Yams
Canned Fruit	Macaroni & Cheese	Cooking Oil
Corn Bread	Coffee or Tea	

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Rosary and Rosè

All women ages 21+ are invited to join the new Women's Fellowship group to kick off our first meeting. Our goal is to build up our community of strong, faithful women in our parish and support them to be bold in their catholic faith.

Join us in Longinus Hall (basement of the church) on **Wednesday, October 22nd from 7 to 8pm.** We will pray the Rosary and then enjoy rosè and light refreshments after our prayer time. You are welcome to bring a friend, and non-parishioners are invited as well. Please sign up in the back of church or you may call the rectory to register. 570-622-5470.

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: *Sandy Frinzi, Phyllis Hess, Ray Petrilla, Lisa Schlitzer, Theresa Skrobak, Joanne Wood*

The more the merrier — newcomers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning in November.

**ONE DAY ONLY - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025
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:

Presale

10 a.m.—2 p.m.

October 20, 21

12 noon to 3 p.m.

October 19

October 22—8 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**Thank you in advance
for your support!**



By John Everett Millais,
Public Domain

October 19, 2025

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 17:8-13 | 2 Tim 3:14—4:2 | Luke 18:1-8

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Studying Scripture is not a side dish on the plate of practicing the faith. It is an essential component of the virtuous life, and without it, our faith will surely falter. In his second letter to Timothy, Saint Paul reminds us that the Scriptures are the inspired Word of God and they train us in righteous living and equip us for every good work. There will undoubtedly be times when we feel ill-equipped – when we are fatigued, frustrated, or concerned. It is precisely in these moments that we're invited to go quickly to the holy Word of God! Read it, pray with it, and invite the Spirit to speak to you through it. There you will find the wisdom needed to face every circumstance.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our faith journey was never meant to be a solitary endeavor! We see this in today's first reading when Aaron and Hur stand beside Moses, holding his weary arms in the air as the battle rages on against the Amalekites. This image of the three men on the mountain – Moses with his arms raised high, Aaron and Hur on either side supporting them – is a powerful image of companionship in the Christian life. When you feel too weary to pray, look around – the Lord has likely given you companions who can support you precisely in the ways you need at this time. Pay attention, too, to who God might be inviting you to support in prayer. Our Gospel tells us that God always hears our prayer and calls us to be persistent in prayer. Certainly, God will “secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night.” God calls us to persist in prayer because it reveals our faith and trust in him that we constantly bring our needs before him.

REFLECT

Our readings offer helpful tools to turn to when discouragement or isolation may cloud our spiritual vision. Take some time this week to listen to the Lord's voice in Scripture. Or, if you're feeling weary, ask a few friends to pray with and for you. Remember that although God may seem distant, he always hears us. Be persistent in bringing your needs to him and wait with patience – surely, he will come swiftly to your aid.

Diocesan Events

Healing and Deliverance Service. Join us for a Healing and Deliverance service on Tuesday, November 11 from 6-9 p.m. at St. Thomas More Church, Allentown. There will be Mass and Healing Adoration led by Fr. Dominic Valanmanal, a world-renowned Catholic priest with the charisms of healing and deliverance. Admission is free.

Rachel's Vineyard: Healing Retreat from Abortion. Are you struggling from an abortion? Whether you were pressured into an abortion, were unable to prevent a family member from having one, or you were a part of the abortion decision, this retreat will help you move beyond any guilt, shame, or anger you have. Our weekend retreats are uniquely designed to help you experience the mercy and compassion of God in a safe, confidential, non-judgmental group environment. This weekend will help you find a new voice and transform the pain of the past into hope. Discover peace and healing.

When: November 21-23 2025 in Washington, NJ. To register, or for more information, please contact Leah by email at leah@soulfilledbygrace.co.site or text/call (609)709-3479 and Ana at ana@soulfilledbygrace.co.site or text/call (908)319-2950. Website is rachelvineyard.org.

2025 Apple Dumpling Festival

... sponsored by St. Clare of Assisi Parish in St. Clair on October 25th from 12 noon to 6 p.m. and October 26th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Taking orders for Apple Dumplings and Roast Beef Platters. Orders and payment must be received no later than Monday, October 20th. Lottery style tickets will be available for prizes valued at \$200 or more. \$10 per ticket or four for \$35. Tickets also available for \$1,000 50/50 cash drawing, \$1,000 gift card wreath drawing and \$1,000 lottery ticket jar drawing. \$2 per ticket or three for \$5. Tickets also available for \$300 or better prizes. \$10 per tickets. Please call 570-429-0370 for more information