

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

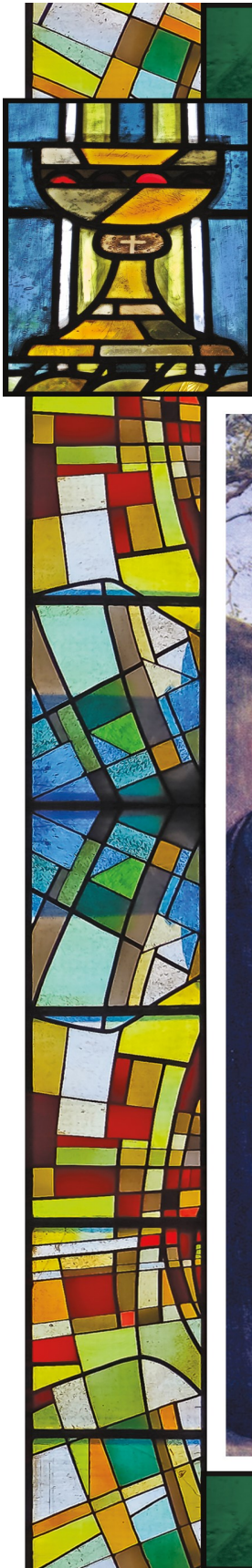
10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

October 27, 2024

## 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to him in reply,  
"What do you want me to do for you?"  
The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see."

MR 10:51



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, October 26

5:00 p.m. M/M William Bercher  
(Scott Williams)

### Sunday, October 27

8:15 a.m. Michael Klembara  
(Anita Klembara)

### Sunday, October 27

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

### Monday, October 28

6:30 p.m. James Cavanaugh  
(Ed & Scott Hahner)

### Tuesday, October 29

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

### Wednesday, October 30

9:00 a.m. Francis & Verna Sauers

### Thursday, October 31

9:00 a.m. Florence Lescavage  
(Linda & Martin Smith)

### All Saints Day

#### Thursday, October 31

7:00 p.m. George Minchhoff  
Elizabeth Dornsife  
(Rita Lotz)

### Friday, November 1

9:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the  
Gustitis & Smith Families  
(John & Annette Lisowski)

### Friday, November 1

5:15 p.m. Deceased of Messer,  
Schultz, McGovern,  
Purcell Families  
(Family)

### All Souls Day

#### Saturday, November 2

5:00 p.m. Memorial Mass

#### Sunday, November 3

8:15 a.m. Fran & Dorothy Purcell  
(Deborah & Mark Purcell)

#### Sunday, November 3

10:30 a.m. John Wollyung  
(Joseph & Suzanne Wollyung)

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

We continue our look at the Old Testament prophets. Last week we introduced Isaiah, the longest and most influential prophetic book of the Bible.

As we mentioned last week, the book seems to divide into at least two, perhaps three parts, reflecting different historical time periods. Chapters 1-39 are generally addressed to Jerusalem and Judah in the second half of the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, when Judah was threatened by the Assyrian Empire. These chapters contain many oracles of judgment against God's people for their failure to keep their covenant with God.

Like other prophets, social justice is a prominent theme in Isaiah: the need to not only worship God with ritual but by being faithful to Him in everyday life. Other themes emerge in Isaiah more so than in other prophets of his time. An understanding begins to develop that Yahweh, the God of Israel, is not *only* the God of Israel, but God of all. He is the Creator and the Lord of all history. There are no other gods. Isaiah highlights the importance of Jerusalem and the line of King David. As we mentioned last week, there are numerous passages that point to the future Messiah, Jesus. See, for example, Isaiah 7:10-14; 9:1-8; 11:1-9.

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.



## Welcome Parish Bookkeeper

We thank everyone who has expressed an interest in the parish bookkeeper position. We are happy to announce that our parishioner, **Ray Petrilla**, will be taking over for Dr. Visot. Ray's background and dedication to our parish make him a great fit for the role. We also thank Dr. Visot for faithfully filling the role of bookkeeper for many years.

### 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*

#### For our Deceased

*Gail Vesay*

**All Saints—Communion of Saints.** We pray today Lord for all those who have gone before us who were witnesses to their faith by their actions, as well as their words. Saints of God, pray for us!

### Upcoming Events

#### October

27	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
27	4:00 p.m.	Chronic Pain Support Group.....	L.H.
31	7:00 p.m.	All Saints Day Mass.....	Church

#### November

1	9:00 a.m.	All Saints Day Mass.....	Church
1	5:15 p.m.	All Saints Day Mass.....	Church
2	5:00 p.m.	All Souls Day Memorial Mass.....	Church
3	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg.....	L.H.
3	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
7	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study.....	L.H.
10	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
14	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study.....	L.H.
14	7:30 p.m.	Summer Festival Planning Mtg.....	L.H.
16/17		Christmas Bazaar.....	R.B.
17	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg.....	L.H.
17	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
20	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union Mtg.....	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

October 19/20.....3,253.50  
Mission Sunday..... 916.00

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 Marie Fitzpatrick by Kathleen Scheibelhut

#### St. Joseph

1. IMO Edward Buber by Paul & JoAnna Buber
2. IMO Edward & Mary Buber by Paul & JoAnna Buber

#### Sanctuary

IMO Robert Holdyk & Family by Paul & JoAnna Buber

#### Guardian Angels

1. IMO John & Bertha Kralick by Paul & JoAnna Buber
2. IMO James Cavanaugh by Hahner Family
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy & Family

### Liturgical Min.Schedule

#### 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### November 2 — 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: John Crane

Euch.Min.: Dan Murphy  
Hermine Murphy

Server/Sacristan: R.J. Post

Cantor: Lucilla Kochol

#### November 3 — 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Bob Bechtel

Euch.Min.: Bill Gianfagna  
Ray Petrilla

Servers: Maggie & Rhyan Brennan

Cantor: Dave Derbes

#### November 3— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis

Euch.Min.: Debbie Herb  
Justina Majestic

Servers: Michael & Spencer Prestileo

Cantor: Marianna Wollyung

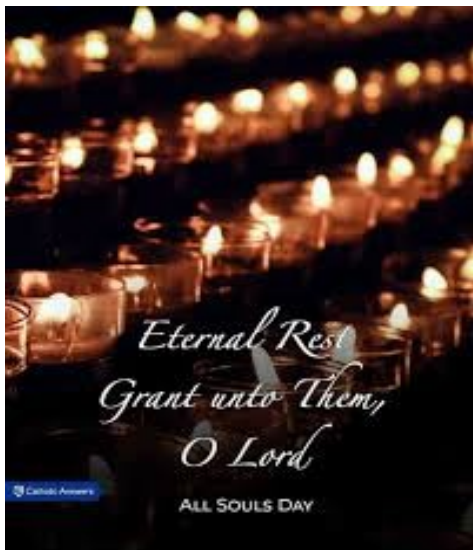
## SCRIPTURE STUDY

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

### Remembering Our Faithful Departed

Please remember in your prayers those who during the past year have completed their pilgrimage of faith on earth.



- Charles Bowers*
- James Cunningham Jr.*
- James Cunningham Sr.*
- Anthony S. Gaburick*
- Mark Griffin*
- Timothy Haley*
- Gerald Hudock*
- Lawrence Kelly*
- Robert Kline*
- William Lecher Jr.*
- Rita Lotz*
- Susan Mengle*
- Robert Porter Jr.*
- Xenia Pristas*
- Gail Vesay*

## Liturgical Schedule

All those involved in ministries at the altar—Readers, Servers, Eucharistic Ministers — please email the Rectory to let us know your schedule for December 2024 and January 2025. Please do so **by November 11th**. Thank you.

## All Souls Day Envelopes

Please drop your All Souls Day envelope in the collection as soon as possible so your intentions can be placed on the altar for All Souls Day. Additional envelopes for your intentions can be found at the church exits.

## 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

## World Mission Sunday

THANK YOU for your generous response to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith last weekend on World Mission Sunday. Our parish raised **\$916.00**. You may stay connected year-round to the Pope's missions, continuing the commitment of World Mission Sunday, by visiting MIS-SIO.org.

## Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Committee News

In an effort to keep our parishioners updated on progress with the DMI Survey results, we are sharing with you some of the things we've accomplished so far.

Our first success was getting the survey results published in the bulletin. We hope you saw the results and are excited about our growth as a parish. Our committee gathered for several meetings to compile results and complete a data analysis. This process helped us identify our parish's greatest strengths as well as our areas for growth.

Our second big success was identifying the three Pastoral Priorities that will be the focus of our work for this two-year process. These Pastoral Priorities came from our analysis of the survey results and are as follows:

1. Faith Formation/Confidence in the Church's Teachings
2. Enriching our Sunday Mass Experience
3. Outreach and Evangelization (with an emphasis on young families)

We are currently in the process of creating Focus Groups to help us identify the most critical part of this process, which involves creating goals and action steps. Our ultimate hope is that these steps will enrich all of our parishioners' spiritual journeys. Stay tuned for our next update!

## Nativity BVM High School

The month of November, Nativity's Green and Gold Club will be selling Gift Card Calendars. Anyone who would like to donate a \$25 gift card, it would be greatly appreciated. The Club will be mailing out 5 calendars to each Nativity family to sell and additional calendars will be available in the main office. The cost of each calendar is \$10.00.

On Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, Nativity will be hosting a New Student Information Night for potential students for the 2025-2026 school year beginning at 5:00 PM at the school. Nativity BVM High School administration, faculty, staff, students, parents and Board Members will be on hand to discuss specific information about academics, financial aid, guidance services and opportunities for students. This information will be particularly helpful for incoming freshmen, transfer students, new students and potential host families. We invite you and your family to join us for this event. No pre-registration is required. All are welcome! Please contact the school at 570-622-8110 or [jldaubert@nativitybvm.net](mailto:jldaubert@nativitybvm.net) with any questions.

## Neighboring Events

**City Chicken Dinner** ... sponsored by Holy Family Parish of Minersville on Sunday, November 3rd. Dinner includes 3 city chicken, mashed potatoes, col slaw, roll, green beans or corn. Additional city chicken available for \$2 a piece. PRE-ORDER ONLY due by Sunday, October 27th. Cost \$12.00. Call Rosalie at 570-544-2172 or Jean at 570-640-6140 to place your order.

**24th Annual Basket Auction** ... sponsored by St. Nicholas School in Minersville on Sunday, November 3rd at St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose. Great Prizes ... Great Food! Shop and Drop on Thursday 10/31 from 4-7 p.m.; Friday 11/1 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4 to -7 p.m.; Saturday 11/2 from 4-7 p.m.; Sunday 11/3 from 10 a.m. - noon. Tickets pulled at 1 p.m. Kitchen open Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday. More info call 570-544-2800.

**Fall Roofstock 2024.** ... Saturday, November 16th from 7 to 11 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Parish Hall (Annunciation BVM), 9 S. Broad Mt. Ave. in Frackville. Advances Tickets \$10; at the door \$15. Band "Another Side" ... Refreshments and adult beverages available for purchase. Must be 21 year of age or older.

# 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**.

Final drop-off date for baskets is **October 28th (4:30-5:30 p.m.)** at the Russell Building.

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

## **Donated Baskets & Sponsors:**

*Auto Supplies Bucket - Advanced Auto Parts*

*Afghan - Carol Rehnert*

*Art — Mary Beth Harvey*

*Baking - Chris Black*

*Baking Supplies - Parishioners*

*Bicycle - Mary Bound*

*Candy - Mother Bears Candy*

*Cheers - Parishioners*

*Christmas Wreath - Queen Bee*

*Christmas Gnome - Mary Bound*

*Cookies & Milk - Parishioners*

*Doll House - Phil & Carol Lasco*

*Everything Red - Parishioners*

*Game Night - Pat & Bill Pugh*

*Gingerbread Mr. & Mrs. - J. Robert & Ellen Zane*

*Hair Care - Rosann Sitkus*

*Harvest Blessings - Lucilla Kochol*

*Holiday Décor - Donna & Jim Pugh*

*Holiday Mix - Parishioners*

*Just Add Ice Cream - Phil & Carol Lasco*



*Kitchen Gadgets - Parishioners*

*Ladies - Parishioners*

*Lottery—Michael & Janet Dzurarin*

*Lowe's \$75 Gift Card - Martin & Linda Smith*

*Nativity BVM High School*

*Penn State - Dan & Hermine Murphy*

*Pizza Air Fryer Over - Pat Scheetz*

*Schuylkill county AAA - Vera Bradley Purse*

*Scratch, Snack, Sip - Carl & Kathy Hughes*

*Snacks - Miller Distributing*

*Snowmen - Natalie Setlock*

*Teas & Snacks - Hydrangea Cottage Teas & Gifts*

*Various Crafts & Wreaths - Mary Bound*

*Wine - Larry Steficek*

*Wine - Luis & Virginia Visot*

*Wine/Snack - Joan Bowers*

*Wine & Supplies - Parishioners*

*Sponsor: John B. Lieberman*

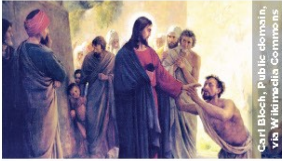
*Sponsor: Dianne Stoudt*

*Sponsor: Barbara Wollyung—\$50.00*

*Sponsor: J. Robert & Ellen Zane—\$50.00*

## Summer Festival—Pot Luck Stand

We are in search of a person, people, or family to take over our Pot Luck Stand for the Summer Festival. Maureen and Kelly Derbes will offer guidance and suggestions to make things run smoother. It is an exciting stand with great prizes! We recently utilized an Amazon gift registry that helped immensely with donations and hope to do so again next year, we will assist with that as well. Other tasks are: acquiring gift cards, numbering and organizing the prizes, and help running the stand. All in which the committee will be happy to assist and help. We would like to thank Maureen, Kelly and the Derbes family for all the years they dedicated to the stand. We appreciate all your hard work and continued dedication! This was one of our best years yet at the Potluck stand. It is a huge fundraiser and a big necessity for the festival. Please consider helping or possibly starting your own festival tradition with our Potluck stand! Please call the rectory or Shanna Deibert (570) 617-4769 for more information or please join us at our next meeting 11/14 at 7:30 pm in Longinus Hall.



October 27, 2024 | Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 31:7-9 | Heb 5:1-6 | Mk 10:46-52

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Although today's Gospel recounts the healing of Bartimaeus' physical blindness, the story is a summons for each of us to be healed of our spiritual blindness. Spiritual blindness, an effect of sin, clouds our ability to perceive who we are and who God is. Paradoxically, Bartimaeus' spiritual eyesight is clear; he recognizes who Jesus is and he sees his own desperate need for Jesus' help. For us, however, sin acts like dust, obstructing our vision and preventing us from perceiving God's presence. We find it difficult to recognize God in other people and in the sacraments; and we likewise become incapable of perceiving ourselves as God sees us. If we wish to have our spiritual eyesight restored, we would do well to imitate Bartimaeus' humble, confident prayer: "Master, I want to see." Acknowledging our need before God and begging for his help, we invite him to heal our hearts, so that we, like Bartimaeus, may follow Jesus "on the way."

**PRAY** Choose a regular time to take advantage of the two opportunities for healing we've discussed - confession and Eucharistic adoration. If you do not already go to confession regularly, consider making it a monthly commitment. Finally, set aside time this week to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, either in Eucharistic adoration or before the tabernacle in your church. Try visiting him weekly - and then watch how your time in his presence transforms you.

## Knights of Columbus—Turkey Dinner

The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will deliver a Turkey Dinner complete with Turkey, Filling, Yams, Gravy, Vegetable, and Dessert to all residents of Schuylkill County who are in need of a meal for this Thanksgiving Day (November 28). If you or person you know is in need of a meal, please call either 570-773-0627 or 570-516-9514 or 570-628-3333 and leave the your name and phone number and we will return your call. You can also contact us at KofC431@yahoo.com. The only requirement for the meal is that the person be home. Closing date to order is November 22 at 5 p.m. in order for us to order the required items for the meal. Thank You. **Help Needed:** anyone who can help with delivery is asked to come to St. Patrick's Social Hall in Pottsville on Thanksgiving Day by 8 a.m. You can sign up to deliver meals to an area you know or any area. We usually finish approximately 1 p.m. Thank you in advance for you help.



**Thank You, LORD!**

## Blessing Blankets

### St John's Service Project for the Homeless in Schuylkill County

You are invited to make 'Blessing Blankets' for the homeless in our county on November 9th from 2- 4:30 p.m. in Longinus Hall. The blankets will be part of the Servants to All ministry's outreach program to supply the homeless in our city and county with warm blankets, food and information about local resources.

Sewing skills are not needed, just an open heart to help the poor in our county. A free will offering will be accepted to help defray the cost of the material. A Sign-up sheet will be in the back of church that will help us to be better prepare for that day.

If you have sharp sturdy material scissors to cut the fleece, their use would be appreciated. Contact the rectory if you have any questions 570 622-5470 or Gerry Schwartz 570 449-6212.

**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

**A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY**

O Most Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed with the burden of the sins of our nations, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in your motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life. Amen.

**Mary Immaculate, Patroness of the United States**  
**Pray for Us.**



Almighty God, Lord of Life and King of all Nations, we beg you to look kindly upon our country and help us to wisely choose our new leaders. Inform our consciences and enlighten our judgement, that we may elect those who will mercifully uphold justice and strive to protect the least among us. Help us to discern which candidates will uphold both the letter and spirit of the law. May our nation once again respect religious freedom, authentic marriage, the importance of family and the value of every human life — from conception to natural death. Heal the divisions which wound our unity and help us to overlook political tensions that keep us from becoming a united force for good. May our great land, built on both personal responsibility and charity towards the less fortunate, always balance prosperity with care for the elderly, the poor, the sick and the abandoned. May we elect honest and trustworthy candidates who will always uphold the common good and protect our God-given rights. In concert with the great founders of our nation, may we confidently proclaim, "In God we trust". Amen.