

# St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

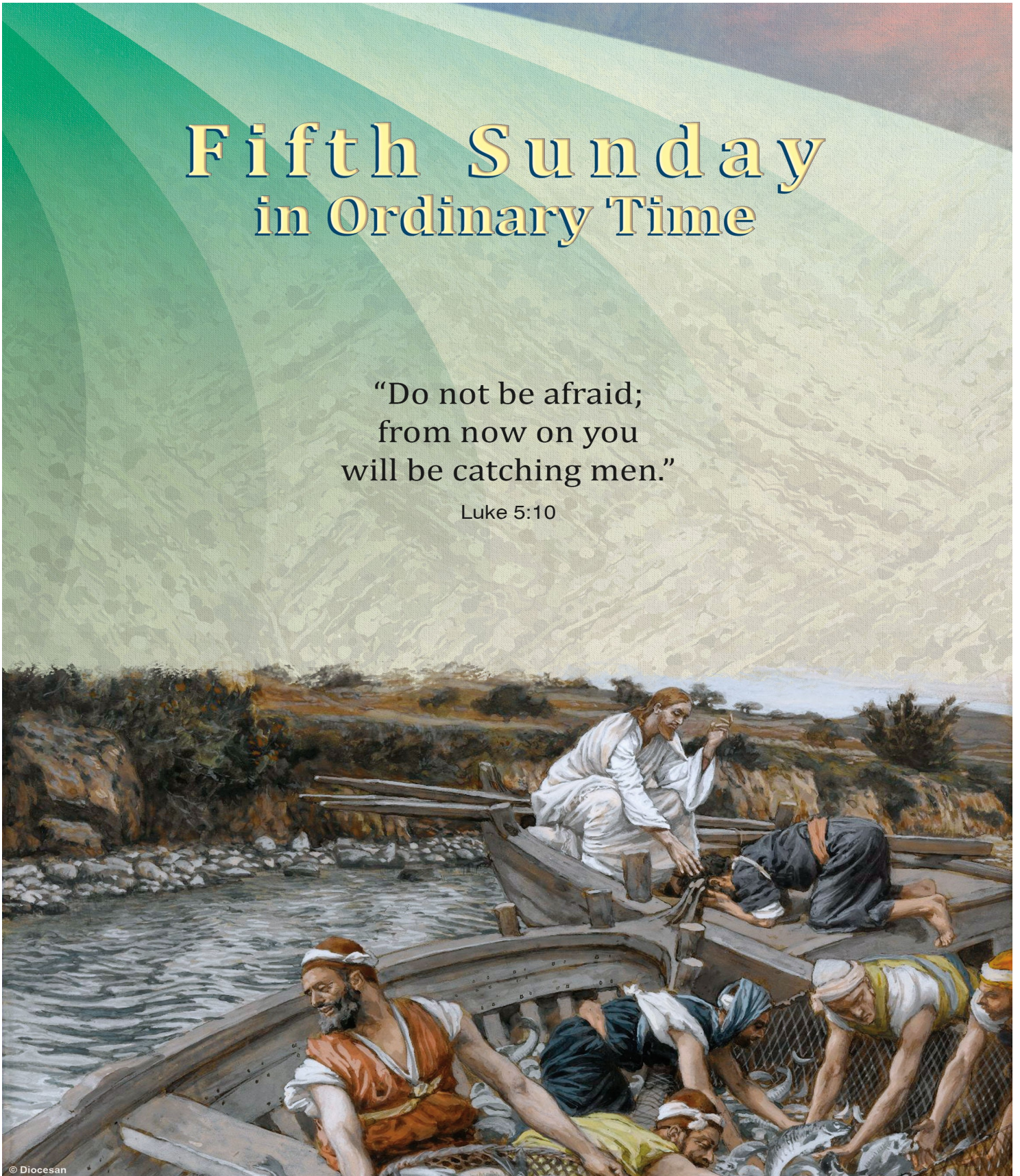
10<sup>th</sup> & Mahantongo Sts., Pottsville, Pa. 17901 • [www.saintjohnpottsville.org](http://www.saintjohnpottsville.org)

February 9, 2025

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Do not be afraid;  
from now on you  
will be catching men.”

Luke 5:10



## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, February 8

5:00 p.m. Joe Brahler, 5th Anniv.  
(Kathy Brahler & Family)

### Sunday, February 9

8:15 a.m. Mary Louise Hornberger  
& Dot Ryan  
(Crystal Pugh)

### Sunday, February 9

10:30 a.m. Leonard Yenilaitus  
(Mary Zambo)

### Monday, February 10

6:30 p.m. Carolyn Leinheiser  
(Bob & Kathy Verbosh)

### Tuesday, February 11

9:00 a.m. Helene Calabrese  
(Robert & Margaret  
Daniels)

### Wednesday, February 12

9:00 a.m. Porter & Becker Families  
(Mary Porter)

### Thursday, February 13

9:00 a.m. Andrew Premich  
(Joseph Palmieri)

### Friday, February 14

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

### Saturday, February 15

5:00 p.m. George S. & Sadie Post  
(Bob & Irene Post)

### Sunday, February 16

8:15 a.m. Scottie Glunz  
(Karen Lenard)

### Sunday, February 16

10:30 a.m. John Crane Sr.  
(John Crane & Family)

## Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

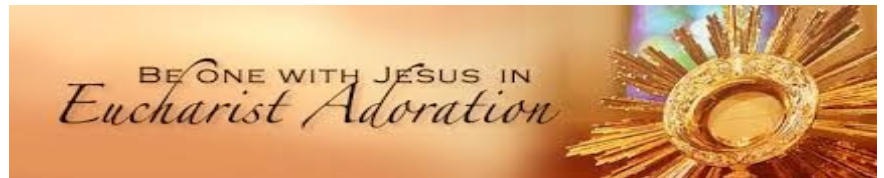
Last week we introduced the Wisdom books, the last part of the Old Testament on our tour. We start with the Book of Proverbs because it represents a very early stage of Israel's wisdom tradition. This book is mostly a collection of individual sayings – proverbs – that are meant to make us reflect.

The proverbs reflect a wisdom that is very “concrete,” in other words, very practical and based on lived experience. For Israel, wisdom is not something just “religious” but the art of living, the art of navigating through life. In fact, there is surprisingly little mention of God in the Book of Proverbs and other wisdom books. Wisdom is valuable and necessary on a basic human level.

In the Book of Proverbs and other wisdom books, Wisdom is personified as a woman. Proverbs opens with Lady Wisdom calling out in the streets, urging people to follow her. Meanwhile, Lady Folly beckons people to follow her instead. This reflects an understanding that there are two paths one may take through life. Every choice we make is a step down either the right path or the wrong path. Lady Wisdom calling out in the busy city streets is a reminder that wisdom is found in experience, in living life. Laziness and ignorance are held in contempt because they are opposed to growing in wisdom.

Consider picking up the Book of Proverbs and pondering just a few of the sayings collected there. Many are very simple on the surface but, the more we think about them, the less clear they become and the more they cause us to think. That's precisely the goal of the proverbs.

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.

## Next Week's Readings

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(February 15/16)

**Reading I:** Jeremiah 17:5-8

**Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

**Gospel:** Luke 6:17, 20-26

## 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 • Doug Broughton  
Angie (Pfeil) Hamm • Mary Zambo • Karla Garland*

### For our Deceased

*Brian Eckley*

### Upcoming Events

#### February

9	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg .....	L.H.
13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
15	10:00 a.m.	Confirmation Retreat.....	Nativity BVM
16	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
19	7:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Union .....	L.H.
20	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.
23	9:00 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg .....	L.H.
23	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
27	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	L.H.

#### March

2	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School.....	L.H.
2	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class.....	L.H.
9	9:00 a.m.	CCD Parent Mtg .....	L.H.
12	8:00 p.m.	St. John’s Beneficial Society.....	F.R.
13	6:30 p.m.	Scripture Study .....	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

February 1/2 ..... \$5,144.75  
Parish Dues ..... \$1,346.00

### Candles

#### BVM

1. IMO Sharon Lonergan by Mary Porter
2. Special Intention by Marianne Wollyung

#### St. Joseph

1. IMO Sharon Lonergan by Mary Porter
2. IMO Joe Rehnert by Mary Porter

#### Sanctuary

Deceased of Porter Family by Mary Porter

#### Guardian Angels

1. IMO Florence Burnavage by Mary Porter
2. IMO John Wollyung by Marianne Wollyung
3. IMO Sky Kishlo by Daniel & Ann Marie Wachter
4. IMO April Kishlo by Daniel & Ann Marie Wachter

### Liturgical Min. Schedule

#### 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### February 15 — 5 p.m. Mass

**Reader:** Raymond Petrilla  
**Euch.Min.:** Dan & Hermine Murphy  
**Servers:** Connor, Cooper, Cole Felty  
**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

#### February 16 — 8:15 a.m.

**Reader:** Patty O’Neill  
**Euch.Min.:** John O’Neill  
John Corbacio  
**Servers:** Michael & Spencer Prestileo  
**Cantor:** Vincent Prestileo

#### February 16 — 10:30 a.m.

**Reader:** Ann Blankenhorn  
**Euch.Min.:** Gerry Schwartz  
Sharon Snyder  
**Servers:** Preston & Kyle McCormick  
**Cantor:** Dave Derbes

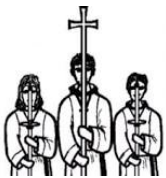
**Weekend Sacristan:** Luke Schane

# SCRIPTURE STUDY

**Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:** will be offered **Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on February 13, 20, 27, March 13, 20, 27, April 10, 24, May 8 and 15.** 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.

### Parish Retreat

**Renewed in Faith**, our first **parish retreat**, will be held on **Saturday, March 29**, in Longinus Hall, beginning at 9:00am and concluding with the 5:00pm Mass. Consider joining us for a day of talks, prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Lunch will be included. It is necessary to register in advance. **RSVP by March 19** by calling the rectory. We ask a \$10 registration fee to help cover the costs of lunch and supplies. Please see Fr. Bobbin with any questions.



### New Altar Servers

We invite any boys and girls currently finishing fourth grade or older to consider becoming altar servers. Parents, please speak with Father Bobbin or call the rectory. We will arrange a mutually convenient time to meet for training.

### Live Streaming Mass

A suggestion was made at parish council to resume live streaming Sunday Mass for the benefit of our homebound parishioners, to help them be more connected with our parish family. If anyone has the knowledge and ability to do this and would be willing to take this on as a project, we would be grateful to hear from you.



## Flowers at the Altar

In Memory of  
Joe Brahler

Donated by  
Kathy Brahler & Family

## Welcome Visitors

Thank you for worshiping 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.

## Family Matters

### Parents of Young Children.

We pray for parents of young children — that they can survive today's challenges well and that God continues to strengthen them in responding to the ever-changing needs of their little ones.

## 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."*

## 2024 Contribution Record

You can request a copy of your 2024 Contribution Record by calling the rectory Monday thru Thursday ... 622-5470 ext 3.



## Communion to the Sick and 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.

## St. John's Catholic Women's Union

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, February 19th, at 7 p.m. in Longinus Hall**. 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!



## Nativity BVM High School

**Head Girls Softball Coach.** Head coaching experience preferred. Interested candidates should send resume, certifications and all clearances to: Nativity BVM High School, Attn. Mrs. Lynn Sabol, Principal, One Lawton's Hill, Pottsville, Pa. 17901 or email [Isabol@nativitybvm.net](mailto:Isabol@nativitybvm.net).

## Assumption BVM School

**Fuel Raffle** sponsored by Assumption BVM School ... \$500 worth of fuel for the winter months (oil, gas, coal, etc.). Please note that you do not have to live in the Schuylkill County area to participate in this raffle. This fundraiser will directly benefit the school and its students. Tickets are \$10.00 each (small games of chance license #9762). Drawing held on February 20th. Chances available from any Assumption BVM family or the school (phone 570-622-0106 or email: [eschoepflin@assumptionbvmschool.net](mailto:eschoepflin@assumptionbvmschool.net).) Thank you for your help in making our Fuel Raffle a success!

## St. Joseph Center for Special Learning

St. Joseph Center for Special Learning is making a Joyful Noise! We are participating in the **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE**, an online lip dubbing competition to raise funds for our Catholic schools in the Diocese of Allentown, and SJC needs your help! Visit [www.weloveourcatholicsschools.com](http://www.weloveourcatholicsschools.com) to see SJC celebrate the spirit and joy of Catholic education. Please dance, sing, and **VOTE by February 23<sup>rd</sup>**! All voting proceeds benefit our school. Thanks for making St. Joseph Center for Special Learning a winner!

## 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!

## Pot Luck Stand ..... Summer Festival

We are still in search of someone or group of people to help organize and run our Potluck Stand at the Summer Festival. We will offer assistance and guidance. Unfortunately, if we do not get any volunteers we will not be able to have the Potluck Stand. It is such a popular stand loved by many; it is also one of the most profitable stands at the festival. Please consider possibly volunteering! For more information please call the rectory 622-5470 ext. 3 or Shanna Deibert 570-617-4769.



## Thank You — Giving Tree

### The Jewel Team

Dear St. John the Baptist Catholic Church,

We want to thank you sincerely for all the beautiful and generous Christmas presents for the clients of Jewel Women's Center, Christmas was truly brighter for many families! We are so very grateful for the many blessings.

### Catholic Charities

Thank you for participating in our Giving Tree project. Your generous donations to the Giving Tree of Catholic Charities Pregnancy and Parenting Support Services has already provided much needed help. We are grateful to your commitment to help us promote life-affirming services to mothers, children and families, including supportive counseling and material assistance in the form of diapers, formula, baby food and clothing. Catholic Charities could not do what it does without the support of a caring community. Thank you again for your generosity.

## Diocesan Events

The next St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour of Petition and Hope will take place at St. Theresa Church, 1408 Easton Road, Hellertown on Tuesday, February 11 at 6:00pm. All are invited to bring their petitions before the Most Blessed Sacrament, invoking the particular intercession of St. Monica for their fallen-away loved ones. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, let us pray with renewed trust in Our Lord's mercy. For information, please email [StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com](mailto:StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com)

## Neighboring Events

**M & J Big Band** sponsored by Holy Cross & St. Clare of Assisi Parishes. M&J Band is an 18-piece big band who provides musical listeners with the great big band and jazz hits. Join us on Saturday, February 22nd at Holy Cross Parish Center, 99 Lombard St. in New Philadelphia from 7 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person; \$25 per couple OR reserve an entire table at a reduced price of \$10 per person. Tables of 6, 8, 10 are available. Snacks and drinks available for purchase. To reserve your seat, please call 570-429-0370.

**Pilgrimage.** St. Ambrose Church in Schuylkill Haven will be making a pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes while also visiting the great cities of Lisbon and Barcelona. Date are ... October 15 to October 25. The all-inclusive price is \$5,395. For complete details including the full itinerary, please visit [stambrosehaven.com](http://stambrosehaven.com) or call Barbara at 570-385-1031. An informational meeting will take place on Monday, February 24th at 6 p.m. If interested please email [stambroseoffice@comcast.net](mailto:stambroseoffice@comcast.net) or call Barbara at 570-385-1031. This is not a commitment but will help plan for refreshments at the meeting.

## 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.

## Valentine's Day—the real meaning

Happy Valentine's Day! Skip the cards and chocolate. Valentine's Day is about extending our love to each and every person we meet. Share your love just as God freely gives His love to you and to me. Call your parents, neighbor, friend, etc. and let them know that you are thinking about them.





February 9, 2025

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 | 1 Cor 15:1-11 | Lk 5:1-11

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

“Woe is me, I am doomed!” “I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle.” “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Do you notice a theme today? Each of these lines – taken from our readings – reveals the humbling reality that when humans stand in the glorious presence of God, we must confront the Truth, look at ourselves honestly, and recognize our sin. We are reminded of the Garden, when original sin disfigured human nature and Adam and Eve, realizing their nakedness, hid themselves from God. The story would be tragic if that had been the end. But in today’s readings and in our own lives, the crippling effects of our sin are *not* the end. By becoming aware of our sin – agonizing though this may be – we invite the Lord in. It’s the crack in the door that he will enter, bringing mercy and freedom found only in him.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Each of today’s readings shows how God’s presence leads us to acknowledge our lack; however, that’s only “step one.” Notice what happens next in each instance. “Your wickedness is removed, your sin purged.” “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective.” “Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid.’” See how, in each example, hearts are transformed from shame and guilt to courage and confidence. The readings explain how as each person is freed, they are compelled to act boldly. So, what changed? The same thing that can happen in our own lives: as we acknowledge our sin, we open ourselves to the flow of grace. We allow the Lord to heal and free us, making us radiant and setting our hearts on fire with love.

### PLAN

Choose one virtue you’d like to cultivate in order to root out a sinful habit. Then make a plan to practice that virtue. It can be as simple as “I will always pray to the Holy Spirit before I talk to that person at work who bothers me.” Make sure your plan is: (1) specific [“I will never sin again” doesn’t count], and (2) doable [“I will pray every day for six hours to grow in patience” is not possible for most people]. Finally, offer your plan to God and ask him for whatever strength, grace, and healing you need to grow in that virtue.

**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**..... *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

## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

R	L	V	F	H	L	N	H	B	Y	F
T	A	U	G	H	T	O	E	A	B	I
G	F	G	E	D	L	X	W	T	R	Q
A	J	D	B	O	A	T	S	E	S	L
M	C	A	U	G	H	T	P	S	R	M
U	S	U	L	E	N	Y	T	E	Q	U
O	N	H	C	O	M	M	A	N	D	D
M	Y	C	O	C	R	O	W	D	V	X
T	I	J	I	R	D	L	N	Z	Y	A
L	A	K	E	Z	E	B	M	J	K	R
K	H	F	I	L	L	E	D	F	J	W

- Crowd
- Lake
- Boats
- Nets
- Shore
- Taught
- Lower
- Command
- Caught
- Filled



SUNDAYKIDZ