

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

August 21, 2022

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Strive to enter through the narrow door,
for many, I tell you, will attempt
to enter but will not be strong enough”

Luke 13:24



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 20

5:00 p.m. Sadie Post
(Sandi, Sheri, R.J. III,
Bob & Irene Post)

Sunday, August 21

8:15 a.m. Ted Casey
(Family)

Sunday, August 21

10:30 a.m. Stephen Kurtek Jr.
(Kurtek Family)

Monday & Tuesday — No Masses

Wednesday, August 24

9:00 a.m. Jack Scheetz
(Pat, Missy, Amy Scheetz)

Thursday, August 25

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

Friday, August 26

11:15 a.m. John Wollyung
(Time Change) (Ed & Gerry Schwartz)

Saturday, August 27

5:00 p.m. John & Margaret Kasinecz
(John & Barb Powers)

Sunday, August 28

8:15 a.m. Mary Ann Holley
(Florence Miller)

Sunday, August 28

10:30 a.m. Bill & Marie Flynn

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

In the next few weeks we begin a new year of school, religious education, and parish activities. This is an important time of year to think about RCIA: the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. RCIA welcomes adults into full communion with the Catholic Church or helps them complete their Christian Initiation. It is for several categories of people:

1. People who have never been baptized and feel called to enter the Catholic Church.
2. Christians baptized into other traditions (Lutheran, Presbyterian, Evangelical, etc.) who wish to enter full communion with the Catholic Church.
3. Those who were baptized Catholic but, for one reason or another, were not brought up in the faith.
4. Catholics who were brought up in the faith but, for one reason or another, did not receive all of the Sacraments of Initiation, such as Confirmation.

Because we are a relatively small parish, RCIA can easily be adapted to each person's needs. If you or someone in your life falls into one of the above categories and has an interest in entering full communion with the Church or completing initiation into the Church, please speak with me.

If there is someone in your life who you think is open to the Catholic faith, consider sharing this information with them. It is a good way to evangelize. Some people are simply waiting to be invited.

In Christ,

Fr. Bobbin



Eucharistic Adoration

A holy hour takes place 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.

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 • Robert Kline



Next Week's Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
(August 20/21)

Reading I: Isaiah 66:18-21

Reading II: Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

CCD Religious Education

School Shopping

When you are out shopping, please keep our Pre-school and CCD students in mind for this school year. We need supplies and snacks for our classes. Donations can be dropped off at the rectory or in the back of church during the weekend Masses. We thank you in advance for your generosity!

Here is a list to help you with shopping ...

Pencils	Erasers
Colored Pencils	Scissors
Colored Markers	Lined Paper
Colored Tissue Paper	Stickers
Pipe Cleaners	Dry Erase Markers
White Glue	Yarn
Glue Sticks	Beads
Construction Paper	Card Stock paper
(any color)	



Pre-school Registration

Children ages 3 (must be potty trained) to 6 are welcome to join our preschool program. We will have classes twice a month starting in September until May in Longinus Hall from 10:30am to the end of mass. Please register by filling out the form below or using the link listed. To use the link, you will need a Google account.

Google Link: <https://forms.gle/1H3CbZ839QbEiQ7r9>

Parent's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Any Allergies: _____

Circle how you can help: Teacher //Helper / Snacks

Catholic Women's Union—Fundraiser

St. John's Catholic Women's Union are sponsoring a Chicken BBQ or Pulled Pork Dinner on **Saturday, September 10th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

at the former Pizza Hut Parking Lot in Yorkville. Pre-Sale tickets available before and after all Masses August 27/28 in the back of church. Cost—\$12.00. Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or call the Rectory for more information 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



Weekly Collection

August 13/14\$3,663.15

Improv.& Repairs\$2,376.00

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

Thank you for using your Improvements & Repairs envelopes to help us meet the maintenance needs of our parish.

Candles

BVM

1. IMO M/M Joseph Hudak by Becky Weiss
2. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss by Becky Weiss

St. Joseph

- 1&2. IMO M/M Richard H. Weiss by Becky Weiss

Sanctuary

- IMO Richard H. Weiss by Becky Weiss

Guardian Angels

1. IMO Mrs. Anna Melacharek by Becky Weiss
2. IMO Vera Hudak by Becky Weiss
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy & Family

Liturgical Min. Schedule

August 27 —5:00 p.m.

Reader: Janet Daubert

Euch.Min.: Heidi Gorski

Servers: Aleksander Gorski

Cantor: Stanley Gorski

August 28— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Ann Blankenhorn

Euch.Min.: Debbie Herb

Servers: Leah & Jude Scheidel

Cantor: Tina Seiger

August 28— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Vince Balulis

Euch.Min.: Justina Majestic

Servers: Vincent Prestileo

Michael Prestileo



Electric Votive Lights

In the interest of fire safety, we will be replacing some of our real votive candles with two racks of electric votive lights. We would be grateful for any donations to defray the cost of these new candle racks.

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, Debbie Kubilus, Judy Meseravage, Ray Petrilla, Lisa Schlitzer, Theresa Skrobak, Mim Tirjan, Joanne Wood.

The more the merrier — new-comers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning.

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."

Upcoming Events

August

21 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Parent Mtg.L.H.

September

8 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study.....L.H.

9 4-7 p.m. Yard Sale R.B.

10 9-12 noon Yard Sale R.B.

11 8:15 a.m. Confirmation Inscription Mass..... Church

11 9:15 a.m. CCD Parent Meeting.....L.H.

11 10:15 a.m. Little Children's Sunday Pre-school.....L.H.

11 6:30 p.m. Confirmation ClassL.H.

14 8:00 p.m. St. John's Beneficial Society Mtg.....F.R.

15 6:30 p.m. Scripture Study.....L.H.

21 7:00 p.m. Catholic Women's Union Mtg.....L.H.

25 10:15 a.m. Little Children's Sunday Pre-school.....L.H.

25 11:30 a.m. CCD Community Mtg. R.B.

25 6:30 p.m. Confirmation ClassL.H.

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

Tuesdays 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men's GroupZoom

Meeting ID: 824-780-6433 Password: Mary

SCRIPTURE STUDY

Fr. Bobbin's Scripture Study:

will be offered Thursday evenings 6:30-7:30 on September 8, 15, October 13, 20, 27, and November 17. Join us in person in Longinus Hall (usually) 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.



RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming Catholic or in updating and deepening their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Are you interested in deepening your own faith? Or do you know anyone who has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic? Please invite them to join us. Have them call St. John's Rectory, 622-5470, to register for the RCIA sessions. All are welcome to attend any or all of the sessions.

Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Diocese of Allentown celebrates the Vocation of Marriage by offering a Mass for married couples celebrating a milestone anniversary (5,10, 15, 25, etc.). All attending couples are invited to renew their vows and thank God for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage during the Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass held each September. The 2022 Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 2:00PM at the Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, Allentown. Couples can register here: <https://www.allentowndiocese.org/anniversarymass>



August 21, 2022 | Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:18-21 | Heb 12:5-7, 11-13 | Lk 13:22-30

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

We all have things that come easily to us and things that seem hard. I can bake a delicious pie, but I cannot flip a fried egg. I can resurrect your dead iPhone, but I can't keep a houseplant alive. The list goes on for each of us. Fortunately, neither our natural talents nor foibles will get us into or keep us out of heaven. "Strive to enter through the narrow gate," Jesus tells us. When I first read that passage, I said to myself, "What's the narrow gate?" But I think the key word here might be strive, a verb meaning "to devote serious effort or energy." Getting to heaven, then, requires more than knowing who Jesus is or even going to Mass each week. It takes energy, effort, and persistence. It means establishing a relationship with Jesus – through prayer and following his commandment to love one another – such that he will "know where [we] are from" when we knock on the door. In doing so, we can hope to be among the people who recline at the table of the Lord in the kingdom of God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When Jesus was asked how many people will be saved and spoke of the narrow gate, he went on to say, "Many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Where do we find the strength we will need to pass through this gate that will lead to eternal life? By following Christ with all our being and not taking the easier, mainstream path when it conflicts with our Christian values. By recognizing that our salvation is a gift from our Savior, who willingly took on our human form and died for us. By understanding that Christ's sacrifice on the cross requires a response from us. God invites; we must respond. *Jesus* is our strength, and he is the only way to get through that narrow gate. Let us *strive* to do so, and in turn help the others whom God has put in our lives, accompanying them on this journey.

PRAY Make a list of the people in your life who have helped you grow closer to Jesus. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for each of them.

Moving? Relocating? Let us Know!

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

St. John's Choir

St. John's Choir is welcoming new and current members to the choir to sing Saturday 5:00 p.m. Masses and special Masses. This is a very rewarding experience for anyone seeking to become more involved in our Parish Family. No prior singing experience or reading of music is required. Contact St. John's Rectory 570-622-5470 for more information.



St. John's Ensemble



The purpose of this ministry is to serve the parish at Mass, singing liturgical hymns, using contemporary instruments like the guitar, keyboard, drums or other instruments, and using contemporary music arrangements.

We invite **ANYONE** in the parish wanting to share his or her voice and musical gifts whether you are a beginner or more experienced. Arrangements are not complicated and songs are familiar. You do not need to know how to read music to join us. We will teach anyone who has a willing heart.

Our goal is to play/sing once a month at one of the weekend Masses. This is a great way to participate in parish life and have fun with only a small commitment of your time.

Why not give it a try and give back to your parish family by sharing the gifts God has given to you? If interested please call the rectory 570-622-5470.

Saint Pius X



On June 2, 1835, Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto saw the light of earth at Riese, Province of Treviso, in Venice; on August 20, 1914, he saw the light of heaven; and on May 29, 1954, he who had become the two hundred fifty-ninth pope was canonized St. Pius X.

Two of the most outstanding accomplishments of this saintly Pope were the inauguration of the liturgical renewal and the restoration of frequent communion from childhood. He also waged an unwavering war against the heresy and evils of Modernism, gave great impetus to biblical studies, and brought about the codification of Canon Law. His overriding concern was to renew all things in Christ.

Above all, his holiness shone forth conspicuously. From St. Pius X we learn again that "the folly of the Cross", simplicity of life, and humility of heart are still the highest wisdom and the indispensable conditions of a perfect Christian life, for they are the very source of all apostolic fruitfulness.

Pope Pius X (Italian: *Pio X*; born **Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto**; was head of the Catholic Church from 4 August 1903 to his death in 1914. Pius X is known for vigorously opposing modernist interpretations of Catholic doctrine, promoting liturgical reforms and scholastic theology. He initiated the preparation of the 1917 Code of Canon Law, the first comprehensive and systemic work of its kind. He is venerated as a saint in the Catholic Church and is the namesake of the traditionalist Catholic Priestly Fraternity of Saint Pius X.

Pius X was devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Confidence; while his papal encyclical *Ad diem illum* took on a sense of renewal that was reflected in the motto of his pontificate. He advanced the Liturgical Movement by formulating the principle of *participatio actiosa* (active participation of the faithful) in his motu proprio, *Tra le sollecitudini* (1903). He encouraged the frequent reception of Holy Communion, and he lowered the age for First Communion, which became a lasting innovation of his papacy.

Like his predecessors, he promoted Thomism as the principal philosophical method to be taught in Catholic institutions. He vehemently opposed various nineteenth-century philosophies which he viewed as an intrusion of secular errors incompatible with Catholic dogma, especially modernism, which he critiqued as the synthesis of every heresy.

Pius X was known for his firm demeanour and sense of personal poverty, reflected by his membership of the Third Order of Saint Francis. He regularly gave sermons from the pulpit, a rare practice at the time. After the 1908 Messina earthquake he filled the Apostolic Palace with refugees, long before the Italian government acted. He rejected any kind of favours for his family, and his close relatives chose to remain in poverty, living near Rome.

He also undertook a reform of the Roman Curia with the Apostolic Constitution *Sapienti consilio* in 1908.

After his death, a strong cult of devotion followed his reputation for piety and holiness. He was beatified in 1951 and canonized in 1954 by Pope Pius XII. A statue bearing his name stands within St. Peter's Basilica; and his birth town was renamed Riese Pio X after his death.

His last will and testament bears the striking sentence:

"I was born poor, I have lived in poverty, and I wish to die poor."

Feastday: August 21st



The statue of Pius X in St. Peter's Basilica

Pastor..... *Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin*
Deacon.....*Lawrence Lonergan*

Parish Council President*Robert Bechtel*
Choir Director/Organist*David Derbes*
CCD Coordinator..... *Lucilla Kochol*

Rectory (570) 622-5470
Rectory Fax (570) 622-4589
E-mail.....stjbparish@comcast.net
Russell Building (570) 628-3002
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



Back to School



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

Book	Study
Bus	Math
Quiz	Ruler
Friends	Teacher
Pencil	Reading
Sports	Writing

