

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

September 4, 2022

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Whoever does not carry his own cross
and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:27



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 3

5:00 p.m. Robert Santarsiero
(Joseph, Sonya, Joe Halsey)

Sunday, September 4

8:15 a.m. Julian & Mary Chiplonia
(Julia Chiplonia)

Sunday, September 4

10:30 a.m. T. Mary Rinaldo
(Chuck & Daughters)

Monday, September 5—NO MASS

Tuesday, September 6

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

Wednesday, September 7

9:00 a.m. Rita Bartholomew Foley
Theresa Bartholomew Sencak
Janet Bartholomew Whitaker
(Frances Lorenz)

Thursday, September 8

9:00 a.m. Chick Tamburelli
(Herb Tamburelli)

Friday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Frank Hock

Saturday, September 10

5:00 p.m. Ann Lowe
(John & Barb Powers)

Sunday, September 11

8:15 a.m. Philomena & Joseph Ryan
(Donna & Jim Pugh)

Sunday, September 11

10:30 a.m. Joseph & Anna Orłowsky
(Joe Orłowsky & Family)

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

From a faith perspective, Labor Day is a good time to remind ourselves of the value and dignity of work. As much as we enjoy days off, vacations, and holidays, as much as we might count down to retirement when we get to that stage of life, we know that we need work – purposeful, productive activity – in our lives. Otherwise, we will feel empty and unfulfilled, like something is missing.

Labor Day is a good time to pray for those who are unemployed, underemployed, or otherwise struggling financially. We also pray for those who are struggling to find their career path.

We seem to be in a strange time in our country when many businesses are struggling to get enough help. There are many jobs but not enough people to fill them. Politics and economics aside, we pray that more people will appreciate the dignity and necessity of work and that they will have the virtues needed to take up employment: responsibility, commitment, and care for the common good of society.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called not only to pray for these needs, but to lead by example. We approach our various responsibilities in life with effort and care. The reward for a job well done is eternal rest.

In Christ,

Fr. Bobbin

Eucharistic Adoration

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Monday, September 5th.



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.

Next Week's Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(September 10/11)

Reading I: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Reading II: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32

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 • Mary Jean Morgalis

Upcoming Events

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 Class.....	L.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.
24/25	after Masses	Pugh Family Bean Soup Sale	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 Class.....	L.H.

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



Weekly Collection

August 27/28\$4,787.15

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&2. IMO Ronald Kriston by Joan Grapsy & Family

St. Joseph

1. IMO James Cavanaugh by Hahner Family
2. Special Intention by Keith & Mary Jo Laslow

Sanctuary

IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

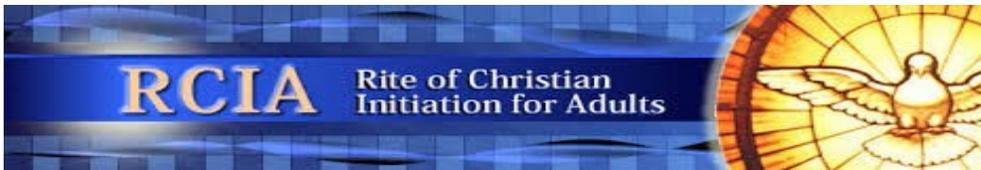
Guardian Angels

1. Grabowsky Family by Stan & Geri Grabowski
2. Sninsky Family by Stan & Geri Grabowski
- 3&4. IMO Marjorie Angelo by Frank Angelo

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.

Healing Mass

Join Father George Winne for a Healing Mass at Cathedral of Saint Catharine of Siena, 1825 West Turner Street, Allentown on September 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Praise and worship music begin at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend.

Attention—Your Help is Needed!

Readers, Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers ... please let us know your plans for **October & November** so that we can get started on the schedule for those months. Please call or email the rectory before **September 19th.**

Liturgical Min. Schedule

September 10 — 5:00 p.m.

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch.Min.: Hermine Murphy
Servers: R.J. Post
Cantor: Dave Derbes

September 11— 8:15 a.m.

Reader: Jeff Naffin
Euch.Min.: Sharon Snyder
Servers: Sophia Palmieri
Cantor: Tina Seiger

September 11— 10:30 a.m.

Reader: Bill Gianfagna
Euch.Min.: Paul Herb
Servers: Maggie & Rhyan Brennan
Cantor: Ed Brahrer



Electric Votive Lights

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

Welcome to St. John's

This week we welcome **Elizabeth Kleckner** to St. John's Parish Family. Elizabeth is retired. Warmly welcome Elizabeth into our parish family with a big dose of St. John's hospitality.

Families Matter

Labor Day and Family.

On this Labor Day weekend we pray that our society acknowledge the need for just wages for all workers in families. We also pray especially for those workers and their families who struggle from paycheck to paycheck.

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.

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."

Sunday School Registration

St. John the Baptist and St. Patrick's Parishes are happy to welcome some of our youngest parishioners to Sunday School beginning this September! Children ages 3 to 6 are welcome to join our laid-back, fun, Catholic Sunday School program. Classes take place twice a month for the duration of the school year from 10:30 am to 11:15 am in Longinus Hall at St. John's Parish. Our September classes will be held on September 11th and 25th. Children must be potty trained or have a parent or guardian stay with them for the program. Sunday School includes a weekly lesson, songs, and snack.

Parent's Name: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Any Allergies: _____

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

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>

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-Cost—\$12.00. Please contact any Catholic Women's Union member or call the Rectory for more information 570-622-5470 ext. 3.



Neighboring Events

Swahili Catholic Mass

... celebrated by Fr. Barnabas Shayo, A.J. on **September 11th** at 2 p.m. in St. Patrick's Church. All are welcome to experience the African way of celebrating Mass. There will be African food and drinks at the Parish Center following Mass. Tickets are needed for the dinner because space is limited. Please RSVP by August 28th by calling Debbie at 570-622-1802 ext. 0.

Fall Fest

St. Ambrose Fall Fest Has Returned! The Wine and Beer Festival at St. Ambrose (302 Randel St., Sch. Haven) will be held on **Saturday, September 17** from 5:30 until 10:30 pm and will feature local wineries, craft beers, food trucks, crafts, and music by Another Side and Sapphire. Admission, parking, and music are all free. Check out St. Ambrose Fall Festival on Facebook for more information.

St. John's Yard Sale—Curiosity Shop

Friday, September 9 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon

Russell Building at 9th & Schuylkill Ave. Pottsville

Don't miss it! If you like yard sales, this is the place to be! Various items including ... knick-knacks, dishes, kitchen items, appliances, jewelry, holiday decorations, framed prints, special Vintage Section and much, much more. Something for everyone!

Food is available for purchase ... BBQ / Pierogies / Hot Dogs / Refreshments / Desserts
... Take Out Only.

Desserts/Baked Goods needed—If you would like to donate a dessert, please drop off at the times listed above . Please individually wrap or bag all dessert items to be sold.

Something for everyone! Join us! Call the Rectory office 622-5470 ext. 3 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.

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.

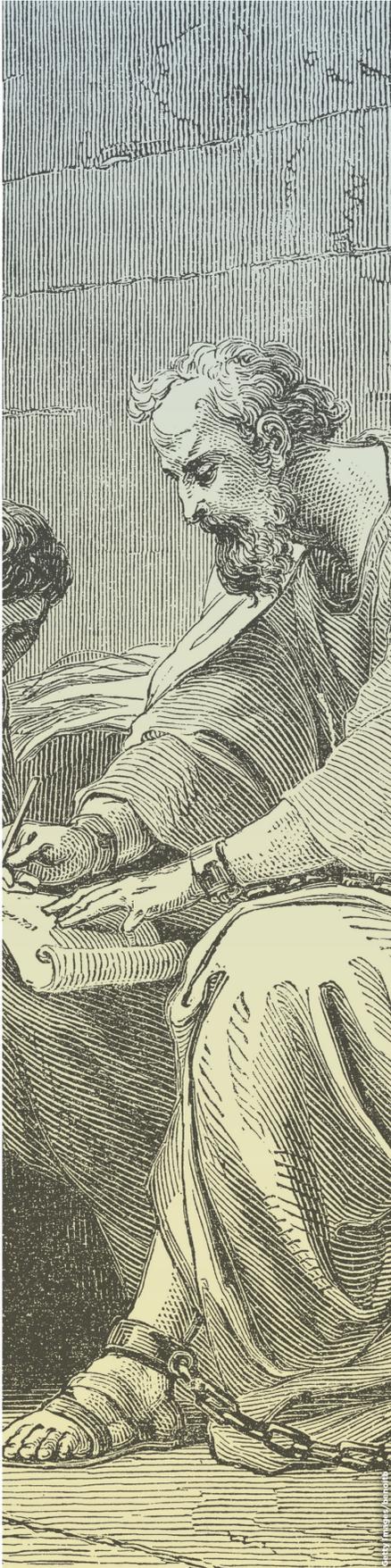


Communion to the Sick and Homebound

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.

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 records!



September 4, 2022

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 9:13-18b | Phmn 9-10, 12-17 | Lk 14:25-33

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Often, before writing these reflections, I take a minute to pray. I decided to add a minute of mindfulness using my new Apple Watch, which conveniently provides a meditation prompt. Today's happened to be: "Bring to mind a close relationship that can be challenging, and think about what it can teach you." Like those paper messages in fortune cookies, even this auto-generated prompt carried a grain of truth. Our thoughts may turn to our spouse, a prickly co-worker, or a moody teen. However, given today's readings, it struck me that this description can also fit our relationship with Jesus. Yes, we know that Jesus loves us, shepherds us, forgives us ... but he also challenges us! He reminds us today that being a disciple requires that we go all in, prepared to place our relationship with Jesus above all else. Easier said than done. But we can start, one minute at a time, with our prayers, priorities, and actions. We can also follow the example of saints such as Paul, imprisoned for preaching the Gospel, and the saints among us who teach us by example.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I bet we all know people we would consider saints, or at least well on their way: A compassionate friend, a priest or lay minister at our parish, a generous neighbor, that person who has not let suffering and loss shake their faith. Then there are the saints we Catholics celebrate each day: Francis, who threw off the cloak of privilege to live for Christ; Mother Teresa, who served others day in and day out even as she faced a spiritual drought; Paul, the one-time persecutor who built up the early Church and whose letters continue to inspire Christians. Each of them took Jesus' words at face value and laid down their lives for him. Learning how to be a disciple of Christ from studying the lives of the saints can be an ongoing pursuit throughout our lives. But perhaps we can also learn from a "living saint," if the opportunity presents itself, and ask, in so many words, "what's your secret?" It may be praying first thing in the morning, or something practical that we had not considered, such as managing their time in such a way that allows them to volunteer regularly or to be a continuous presence in the life of someone who needs them. If other priorities have gotten in the way of our relationship with Jesus, perhaps we can challenge ourselves to develop new habits. Even an incremental change – such as spending less time or money on nonessentials or reading an inspirational book – can help us reignite our faith and free up our time to focus on someone or something other than ourselves.

STUDY Take time to read about the lives of a few saints. What habits did they create to lead holy lives? What vices did they give up for Christ's sake to truly become his disciple?

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@allentowndioocese.org

