

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Parish Family

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

November 21, 2021

CHRIST THE KING



Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 20

5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of
St. John's Beneficial Soc.

Sunday, November 21

8:15 a.m. Peter Darhun
(Joan & Dave Deiter)

Sunday, November 21

10:30 a.m. Deceased of John &
Gretchen Family
(John Lieberman Family)

Monday, November 22

9:00 a.m. Sue Louise Klem Moore
by Joe Moore Jr.

Tuesday, November 23

9:00 a.m. David Musket
(Hazelton Boscov's
Employees & Kim Gormley)

Wednesday, November 24

9:00 a.m. Mary Hahner
(Mary Jane Hahner)

Thursday, November 25

8:00 a.m. St. John's Parish Family

Friday, November 26 NO MASS

Saturday, November 27

5:00 p.m. Carl & Ada Hahner
(Dorothy, Butch, Lois,
Carolyn, Bob)

Sunday, November 28

8:15 a.m. Janet Bartholomew
Whitaker
(Rita & Ellen Foley
Jason & Jared Fedor)

Sunday, November 28

10:30 a.m. Juleanne Steffan
(Steffan Family)

Next Week's Readings

First Sunday of Advent (November 27/28)

Reading I: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4.2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Message from Father Bobbin

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the last Sunday of the Church year. We celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. We are reminded that Jesus is Lord of all. No matter what troubles there are in our own lives or in the world around us, we know the story will have a happy ending, thanks to Jesus' work of salvation, establishing the Kingdom of God.

With this in mind, it is appropriate that we celebrate Thanksgiving this week. Again, whatever our troubles, we each have much to be grateful for. Hopefully you can take some time on or around Thanksgiving Day to think about the many blessings our Lord has given you and offer some prayer of gratitude.

I continue to be extremely grateful that my journey has brought me here to St. John, and to Nativity. I can list all sorts of things I am grateful for about our parish, but by far I am most grateful for all of you. I appreciate the way you have welcomed me, the concern you have shown for me, your kind words and encouragement, your willingness to help, and your strong commitment to our faith.

Finally, as you've probably learned at some point, the word *Eucharist* means "thanksgiving." Every time we come together to celebrate Mass, we are thanking God for the gift of salvation through Jesus. Our lives of faith are centered on gratitude to God. From gratitude comes freedom and joy, even in the midst of troubles.

*In Christ,
Fr. Bobbin*



Year of Real
PRESENCE
CENTERED IN THE HOLY EUCHARIST

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

Patricia Thomas • Sheri Post

Thanksgiving Day.

We give thanks on this day for the many blessings God has bestowed on our families and on our parish community. We also are mindful of those who have less than we do and strive to help those most in need.

Upcoming Events

November

22	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
23	9:30 a.m.	Consecration to Mary	Chapel
25	8:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day Mass	Church
28	11:30 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg	L.H. / Church
29	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
30	9:30 a.m.	Consecration to Mary	Chapel

December

1	6:00 p.m.	Catholic Women’s Christmas Party.....	Blu Tavern
2	7:00 p.m.	First Friday Holy Hour	Church
3	7:00 p.m.	First Reconciliation Rehearsal.....	Church
4	10:00 a.m.	First Reconciliation.....	Church
5	9:15 a.m.	Parent Meeting	L.H.
7	9:30 a.m.	Consecration to Mary	Chapel
8	9:00 a.m.	Mass—Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....	Church
8	5:15 p.m.	Mass—Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....	Church
12	1:00 p.m.	Joyful Mysteries—Advent Reflection.....	Church
13	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Church
13	7:00 p.m.	Parish Council Meeting	L.H.
19	11:30 a.m.	CCD Community Mtg.	L.H.
20	7:00 p.m.	Eucharistic Holy Hour.....	Chapel
24	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass	Church
24	6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass	Church
24	10:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass	Church
25	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass.....	Church

L.H. = Longinus Hall F.R. = Rectory Fellowship Room R.B. = Russell Building
 Tues. 7:15 p.m. Weekly Men’s Group Zoom
 Meeting ID: 824-780-6433 Password: Mary



Weekly Collection

November 13/14.....\$4,782.33
Improvements & Repairs . \$700.00

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

Candles

BVM

1. IMO Mary Hahner by Hahner Family
2. Wedding Anniversary of Joe & Dorothy Stangl

St. Joseph

1. Wedding Anniversary of Joe & Dorothy Stangl
2. Birthday Wishes for Joe Stangl by Dorothy Stangl

Sanctuary

IMO Joe Wollyung
 by Barbara Wollyung

Guardian Angels

- 1&2. IMO Steve Prokop by Peggy Ebling
- 3&4. IMO Ramon Grapsy by Joan Grapsy

Liturgical Minister Schedule

November 27— 5 p.m. Mass

Reader: Lucilla Kochol
Euch.Min.: Nick Quinn
Servers: Emma Lieberman

November 28 — 8:15 a.m. Mass

Reader: Michelle Ambrose
Euch.Min.: Jeff Naffin
Server: R.J. Post

November 28 —10:30 a.m. Mass

Reader: Paul Gombola
Euch.Min.: Janet Daubert
Server: Maggie & Ryan Brennan



Eucharistic Adoration

A holy hour in the **chapel every Monday evening** (unless announced otherwise) from **7:00 to 8:00 p.m.** This will be 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.

The Joyful Mysteries: An Advent Reflection

... will be offered by Fr. Bobbin on **Sunday, December 12, from 1 to 3 p.m.** in the main church. Join us for an afternoon of talks, music, and prayer to help you prepare for Christmas. There is no cost and no need to register in advance.



Contemporary Music Ensemble

We are looking for new members! We are interested in both singers and instrumentalists. Commitment is minimal (2-3 hours per month) and musical experience/reading music is NOT required. Children and families are encouraged! We encourage parishioners who are interested in making a joyful noise to the Lord! Please email or call the rectory to join us! See you in the choir loft!

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. Please email or call the rectory for more information.

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:

Michelle Ambrose, Sandy Frinzi, Judy Meseravage, Patty Miller, Naomi Neifert, Ray Petrilla, Theresa Skrobak, Mim Tirjan, Joanne Wood.

Newcomers are always welcome — please call the rectory if interested or just show up at our next cleaning on Dec. 18.

Please Note: The Rectory Office will be closed Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26.



reaching out to those who have meant so much and saying we love them and wish them the blessings of Christmas.

Thanksgiving Liturgy

There is so much for which we have to be thankful! As a family, join us in church for our **Annual Thanksgiving Day Mass – 8 a.m. – November 25th**

Each year attendance has grown and our spirit of communal support and praise of God has been reflected in the enthusiasm and shared depth of feeling experienced at this Mass. As a country, parish family, and individuals, we have many reasons to come together on this special day. Please join us!

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving memorializes the kindness and generosity that Native people showed toward the European colonists. In the United States, Thanksgiving is a day set aside for the entire nation to celebrate the gifts of God in their lives. It is a legal holiday that commemorates an event in history. Even a secular society finds the need to thank God and for all that has been given.

Parishes all over the country celebrate with liturgies of Thanksgiving and projects to help the needy. It is a time when those who have been blessed can show their gratitude by sharing their riches, spiritual and material with others. It is a time to remember the gifts that have been bestowed upon you and your families.

Thanksgiving

And now, bless the God of all, who has done wondrous things on earth; Who fosters people's growth from their mother's womb, and fashions them according to his will! May he grant you joy of heart and may peace abide among you; May his goodness toward us endure in Israel to deliver us in our days.

... Sir 50:22-24

Catholic Women's Christmas Party

Attention Catholic Women's Union Members. Our Annual Christmas Party will take place on Wednesday, **December 1st** at the Blu Tavern at 6 p.m. Cost is \$25.00.

Menu choices: Stuffed Chicken Breast with filling or Broiled Haddock with Lemon or Virginia Baked Ham. We will also exchange a \$10.00 gift — please wrap your item.

For more information please call the Rectory at 570-622-5470 ext. 3.

Assumption BVM School—Open House

Discover what Assumption BVM School has to offer on **Sunday, November 21st** from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.—located at 112 South 7th St. in Pottsville (main entrance on Howard Ave.) For more information, please contact Mrs. Tara Mengel at 570-622-0106 or tmengel@assumptionbvmschool.net





November 21, 2021

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Dn 7:13-14 | Rv 1:5-8 | Jn 18:33b-37

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

Many Americans have a fascination with royalty. We love to follow the royal family in real life and via the binge-worthy *Crown* series on Netflix. As royal-watchers know, the crown isn't all it's cracked up to be! History and experience, too, show that earthly kingdoms include their share of divisiveness, betrayal and, at times, a total disregard for other people. Jesus gives us a different kind of kingdom and kingship to aspire to - one based on truth not fiction, and born of suffering and not succession. Jesus did not seek earthly glory but endured a crown of thorns and death on a cross to establish the kingdom of heaven - a kingdom that perfects us and unites us with the Holy Trinity. So it is fitting that as we end the liturgical year, we honor Jesus as King of the Universe - heaven, earth, and all creation. Jesus established his kingdom by sacrificing himself out of love for us. By our baptism we have a share in this holy identity, and therefore, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we have the authority and power to proclaim Christ's Kingship to all the world by our words and deeds. In this way we are able to serve the one true king, and participate in building God's kingdom on earth.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Some people aren't shy about saying where they stand: I'm especially fascinated by bumper stickers. We don't like to talk about politics or religion, but somehow it's OK to proclaim our most deeply held beliefs as we tool down the highway. As we celebrate Jesus as King of the Universe, it's a good time to ask ourselves: Is Jesus king of *our* universe? If so, how do we proclaim it? Bumper stickers can be fun, but sharing our belief in Jesus as our Savior requires human interaction. Introverts like me may find it difficult, but we can witness to our faith in a number of ways: Yes, through conversation, but also through the priorities we choose and the examples we set. As members of the kingdom of God - present on earth but not yet fully realized - our baptismal vocation is to participate in Christ's priestly, prophetic, and kingly mission. We can ask Jesus to help us find the words and actions that best help us do so.

PREPARE Advent starts next Sunday! Just as we prepare for major holidays like Christmas and Thanksgiving, we can start roughing out an Advent "menu." How will we observe as a family this year? What are our goals for the season? What can I accomplish in the week ahead to free up Advent for prayerful preparation?

St. Cecelia



In the fourth century a Greek religious romance on the Loves of Cecilia and Valerian was written in glorification of virginal life with the purpose of taking the place of then-popular sensual romances.

Consequently, until better evidence is produced, we must conclude that St. Cecilia was not known or venerated in Rome until about the time when Pope Gelasius (496) introduced her name into his Sacramentary.

It is said that there was a church dedicated to St. Cecilia in Rome in the fifth century, in which Pope Symmachus held a council in 500.

The story of St. Cecilia is not without beauty or merit. She is said to have been quite close to God and prayed often:

In the city of Rome there was a virgin named Cecilia, who came from an extremely rich family and was given in marriage to a youth named Valerian. She wore sackcloth next to her skin, fasted, and invoked the saints, angels, and virgins, beseeching them to guard her virginity

During her wedding ceremony she was said to have sung in her heart to God and before the consummation of her nuptials, she told her husband she had taken a vow of virginity and had an angel protecting her. Valerian asked to see the angel as proof, and Cecilia told him he would have eyes to see once he traveled to the third milestone on the Via Appia (Appian Way) and was baptized by Pope Urbanus.

Following his baptism, Valerian returned to his wife and found an angel at her side. The angel then crowned Cecilia with a chaplet of rose and lily and when Valerian's brother, Tibertius, heard of the angel and his brother's baptism, he also was baptized and together the brothers dedicated their lives to burying the saints who were murdered each day by the prefect of the city, Turcius Almachius. Both brothers were eventually arrested and brought before the prefect where they were executed after they refused to offer a sacrifice to the gods. As her husband and brother-in-law buried the dead, St. Cecilia spent her time preaching and in her lifetime was able to convert over four hundred people, most of whom were baptized by Pope Urban.

Cecilia was later arrested and condemned to be suffocated in the baths. She was shut in for one night and one day, as fires were heaped up and stoked to a terrifying heat - but Cecilia did not even sweat. When Almachius heard this, he sent an executioner to cut off her head in the baths. The executioner struck her three times but was unable to decapitate her so he left her bleeding and she lived for three days. Crowds came to her and collected her blood while she preached to them or prayed. On the third day she died and was buried by Pope Urban and his deacons.

St. Cecilia is regarded as the patroness of music, because she heard heavenly music in her heart when she was married, and is represented in art with an organ or organ-pipes in her hand.

Officials exhumed her body in 1599 and found her to be incorrupt, the first of all incorrupt saints. She was draped in a silk veil and wore a gold embroidered dress. Officials only looked through the veil in an act of holy reverence and made no further examinations. They also reported a "mysterious and delightful flower-like odor which proceeded from the coffin."

St. Cecilia's remains were transferred to Cecilia's titular church in Trastevere and placed under the high altar. In 1599 Cardinal Paolo Emilio Sfondrati, nephew of Pope Gregory XIV, rebuilt the church of St. Cecilia.

Feastday: November 22

Patron: of musicians

Birth: 2nd century

Death: 3rd century

Parochial Administrator *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

Tuesday 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

First Sunday of each month 11:30 a.m.
Second Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass
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
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