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Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> New Registration <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address <input type="checkbox"/> Moving Out of Parish <input type="checkbox"/> Want Envelopes			
Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110			

## Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rectory Phone: 536-6110  
E-Mail: [visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org](mailto:visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org)  
Website: [www.visitationbvmchurch.com](http://www.visitationbvmchurch.com)  
Fax: 536-3709

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time,  
July 21st, 2024

### MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - NO MASS

TUESDAY - NO MASS

WEDNESDAY - NO MASS

THURSDAY - NO MASS

FRIDAY - NO MASS

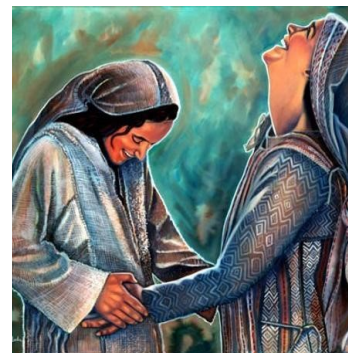
SATURDAY - Vigil of 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:00 PM - Pro Populo

SUNDAY - 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
9:00 AM - Sue Karmanocky  
(Req. by Steve & Cindy McAneny)

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Birthday Remembrance of Charlene Tarnowsky  
Req. by father, John Bair

The daily readings; may be found at either  
[USCCB.ORG](http://USCCB.ORG) or under the headings of daily readings  
listed in back of the missalette.



**1127 McKinley Avenue**  
**Johnstown, PA 15905**

Rev. John J. Slovikovski, PhD, Pastor  
Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE  
Mrs. Kathleen Bumbernick, DMM  
Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC  
Ms. Catherine Bennett, Secretary  
Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-Chairperson, PC  
Mr. Steve Myers, Chairperson, FC  
Ms. Chris Houghton, Maintenance

**Rectory Office Hours: Monday through**  
**Friday, 9:00AM - 3:00PM**

**IN LOVING MEMORY:** The Sanctuary Lamp is available for your intentions by calling the parish office. Please attempt to request your intention as early as possible. A \$10 donation is suggested.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:** Confessions will not be heard regularly until Fr. John has recovered from his liver transplant. **Confession may ALWAYS be arranged with Fr. John personally by calling the rectory office. Please avail yourselves to this life-giving sacrament!**

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Scheduled no less than **nine months** prior to the date of marriage. Four preparation sessions with the pastor, as well as all diocesan requirements, must be met. All Catholic candidates for Marriage must be registered, practicing members of a parish at least 6 months prior to scheduling the wedding.

**INFANT BAPTISM:** Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Pre-baptismal instructions must be completed by the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Catholic godparents must obtain a letter of eligibility from their pastors four weeks in advance. Baptisms are never celebrated during the Season of Lent.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Celebrated after any Sunday Mass as requested and as a parish during the Easter Season.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Forms are located on the back page of the bulletin (or on the parish website) to be filled out and sent to the parish. Registrations are also welcome by phone.

\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$  
 Collection - July 14, 2024

The collection for this week will be reported in next week’s bulletin.

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 Let us continue to pray for the members of our parish community who serve in the military, as well as for the sick, elderly and homebound members of our parish especially:  
 Anonymous Petitioners, Pat Balagusz, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, Francis Dietz, Dorothy Fisher, Barbara Fox, Paul Harnish, Catherine Heinlein, Mary Carol Hill and children, Donna Johnson, Baby Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petroro, Anna Marie Pfeil, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rován, Leonard Russell, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Ernestine Schmidt, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Megan Varmecky, Coralie Williams, Christi Vavrek, Carrie Young  
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Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of July 22nd to July 28th:



- Jeff Figura  
 Dianne Krise  
 Barbara Vedock  
 Mary Ellen Carney  
 Kaitlin Mical
- Katelyn Turner  
 Stephen Katancik  
 George Walters  
 James Mical, Jr.

The invitations to the rosary every Tuesday at 6:00 PM and on Wednesdays to attend the 5:30 Mass followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM. continue to be extended to all parishioners. We also pray the litany of St. Joseph since Wednesday is dedicated to him as the patron of the Universal Church. Remember the parish intention is for Fr. John’s health, however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own.



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 This October, the Church will continue her three year synodal process during which She has asked herself to explore the theological, pastoral and canonical aspects of some of the thorniest questions raised during the synod listening sessions and discussed at the first synod assembly last October so that the Spirit will inspire openness on the part of the hierarchy, religious, and laity about the way that the Church lives out the mission of the Gospel in the Spirit of Vatican II. There are 9 working groups for we will be praying for during the next 5 months. This month we will pray for 2 of them. They are :  
 3. The mission in the digital environment.  
 4. The revision of the Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis in a missionary synodal perspective. This is the document that regulates the process of the formation of seminarians for the priesthood.

Church wide participation in the Synodal Process has the potential of opening her to much needed restoration and revision.
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In the meantime, here are some local churches and their daily mass schedules:  
 St. Clement: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 8:00 AM  
 St John Gualbert: Monday, Tuesday, Friday - 7:00 AM  
 Wednesday, Friday - 12:05 PM  
 St. Patrick: Thursday - 8:00 AM  
 Our Mother of Sorrows: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday - 8:00 AM  
 Wednesday - 6:00 PM  
 St. Benedict: Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 8:00AM  
 Tuesday, Thursday - 12:05 PM  
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Ethnic Fest - Now that July 4th has passed, Labor Day weekend will be fast upon us and with it our participation in the Annual Johnstown Ethnic Fest. As you know, this is one of our major fundraisers throughout the year, and our success allows us to meet our annual budgetary needs. Although it is early, we are beginning to request some essential items for this activity; in particular we are in need of Jello and Spirits for our main source of income, our Jello shots. Our supply of sprits is VERY LOW and we are in desperate need of donations. While items such as vodka (both regular and flavored), rum and tequila are ALWAYS A GREAT NEED FOR US, other forms of spirits are always appreciated. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

From the Pastor’s Desk: Father John is doing well post-transplant and continues to make steady progress. He is expected to be transferred out of Intensive Care by the end of the week. Please keep him in your prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO daily masses scheduled indefinitely. Please call Catherine at the rectory office for any questions or concerns and she’ll do her best to address your issues.

In his Sunday Angelus Message, Pope Francis reflects on Jesus sending His disciples “two by two”, and recommends something important: to take with them only what is necessary. He calls us to remember that we do not proclaim the Gospel alone. No: it is proclaimed together, as a community, and to do this it is important to know how to preserve sobriety: to know how to be sober in the use of things, sharing resources, capacities and gifts, and doing without the superfluous; to contribute actively to the mission; and then to be sober in thoughts, and feelings and abandoning our preconceived ideas and abandoning the inflexibility that, weigh us down and hinder the journey, fostering discussion and listening instead, and thus making witness more effective. what happens Francis asks in our families and our communities: when we are content with what is necessary, even with little, with God’s help we are able to go forward and get along, sharing what there is, everyone renouncing something and supporting each other literally embodies the beauty of Jesus’ message in the tangibility of life. Indeed, a family or a community that lives in this way creates around it an environment rich in love, in which it is easier to open oneself to faith and the newness of the Gospel, and from which one starts out better, one starts out more serene.

If, on the other hand, everyone goes his or her way, if only material things count – is something lethal, a poison! – individualism and envy prevail, the air becomes heavy, life becomes difficult, and encounters become an occasion of restlessness, sadness and discouragement, rather than an occasion of joy. Community and sobriety are important values for our Christian life: communion, harmony among us, and sobriety are important values, indispensable values for a Church to be missionary at all levels. The Pope asks us then: do we desire the pleasure of proclaiming the Gospel, of bringing, where I live, the joy and light that come from an encounter with the Lord? And in order to do we commit ourselves to walking together with others, sharing ideas and skills with them, with an open mind and with a generous heart? And finally: do I know how to cultivate a lifestyle that is sober, a lifestyle that is attentive to the needs of my brothers and sisters?

In his weekly Wednesday Audience, Pope Francis continues his catechesis on the Holy Spirit, who teaches the Church, as the Bride of Christ, how to pray. For our symphony of prayer in preparation for the upcoming Jubilee, we turn to the poetry of the Psalms, just as that great “orchestra”, the communion of praise. Like all symphonies, it has various “movements”, that is, various genres of prayer: praise, thanksgiving, supplication, lamentation, narration, sapiential reflection, and others, both in the personal form and in the choral form of the whole people. These are songs that the Spirit himself placed on the lips of the Bride, his Church. As the pope mentioned last time, all the Books of the Bible are inspired by the Holy Spirit, but the Books of Psalms is also so in the sense that it is full of poetic inspiration. What makes the Psalms worthy of our attention is that they were

From the Pastor’s Desk (continued):  
 Jesus, of Mary, of the Apostles and of all the Christian generations that came before us. When we recite them, God listens to them with that grandiose “orchestration” that is the communion of Saints. But we cannot only live on the legacy of the past: it is necessary to make the Psalms our prayer. It was written that, in a certain sense, we must ourselves become the “scribes” of the Psalms, making them ours and praying with them. If there are Psalms, or just verses, that speak to our heart, it is good to repeat them and pray them throughout the day. Psalms are prayers “for all seasons”: there is no state of mind or need that does not find in them the best words to be transformed into prayer. Unlike other prayers, Psalms do not lose their effectiveness by being repeated; on the contrary, they increase it. Why? Because they are inspired by God and “breathe” God, every time they are read with faith. Psalms allow us not to impoverish our prayer by reducing it merely to requests, to a continuous “give me, give us...”. Let us learn from the Lord’s Prayer, which, before asking for our “daily bread”, says “Hallowed by thy name; thy Kingdom come, thy will be done.” The Psalms help us to open ourselves to a prayer that is less focused on ourselves: a prayer of praise, of blessing, of thanksgiving; and they also help us give voice to all creation, involving it in our praise. Brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit, who gave the Church Bride the words to pray to her divine Bridegroom, help us to make them resound in the Church today, and to make this year of preparation for the Jubilee a true symphony of prayer.

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 Environmental Ethics: Summary of Francis’ Letter, World Day of Creation, 2016 (continued)  
 4. Changing course... Examining our consciences, repentance and confession to our Father who is rich in mercy lead to a firm purpose of amendment. This in turn must translate into concrete ways of thinking and acting that are more respectful of creation We must not think that these efforts are too small to improve our world. They “call forth a goodness which, albeit unseen, inevitably tends to spread” and encourage “a prophetic and contemplative lifestyle, one capable of deep enjoyment free of the obsession with consumption” (ibid., 212, 222). In the same way, the resolve to live differently should affect our various contributions to shaping the culture and society in which we live. Economics, politics, society and culture urgently need to be redirected to the common good, which includes sustainability and care for creation. Repaying the “ecological debt” between the global north and south (cf. Laudato Si’, 51-2). Repaying it would require treating the environments of poorer nations with care and providing the financial resources and technical assistance needed to help them deal with climate change and promote sustainable development....Changing course thus means “keeping the original commandment to preserve creation from all harm, both for our sake and for the sake of our fellow human beings.” A single question can keep our eyes fixed on the goal: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” ( Laudato Si’, 160)