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# Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rectory Phone: 536-6110  
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Website: [www.visitationbvmchurch.com](http://www.visitationbvmchurch.com)  
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1127 McKinley Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15905

Rev. John J. Slovikovski, PhD, Pastor  
Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE  
Mrs. Kathleen Bumbnick, 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**

## The Most Holy Trinity June 15th, 2025

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY** - Weekday - Ordinary Time  
NO MASS

**TUESDAY** - Weekday - Ordinary Time  
NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY** - Weekday - Ordinary Time  
5:30 PM - Elizabeth Worthington  
(Req. by Rose Hubbard)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following Mass

**THURSDAY** - Weekday - Ordinary Time  
12:05 PM - Albert Reynolds Sr.  
(Req. by Family)

**FRIDAY** - Weekday - Ordinary Time  
9:00 AM - Dorothy Rosemas  
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)  
**\*Rescheduled from 6-12-25\***

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following Mass  
for one half hour.

**SATURDAY** - Vigil of the Solemnity of the Most Holy  
Body & Blood of Christ  
4:00 PM - Mary Mihalik Subich  
(Req. by daughter Karen & son-in-law Reggie)

**SUNDAY** - Solemnity of the Most Holy Body & Blood  
of Christ  
9:00 AM - Pro Populo

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

All Fathers Living & Deceased

The daily readings may be found at  
either USCCB.ORG or with the  
daily readings listed in the back of  
the missalette.

**IN LOVING MEMORY:** The Sanctuary Lamp is avail-  
able for your intentions by calling the  
parish office. Please attempt to request your inten-  
tions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is sug-  
gested.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:** Confessions are heard  
from 6:30 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday Evenings.  
**DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR, CONFESSIONS WILL BE  
HEARD FROM 3:00 PM until 3:40 PM THE FIRST SATUR-  
DAY OF EVERY MONTH. 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 Cath-  
olic candidates for Marriage must be registered,  
practicing members of a parish at least 6 months  
prior to scheduling the wedding. There are NO EX-  
CEPTIONS.**

**INFANT BAPTISM:** Baptisms are generally celebrat-  
ed 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.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Every Wednesday and  
Friday following Mass.

**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.

VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Moving Out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110



\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$  
 Collection - June 8, 2025

Loose Money.....	\$316.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$3173.00
Ascension.....	\$5.00
Father’s Day.....	\$160.00
Learning Lamp Rent - June.....	\$3800.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$925.00

TOTAL:       **\$8379.00**

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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, John Bair, 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, Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Dick Krumenacker, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Lori Nixon, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petroro, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovon, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varmecky, Christi Vavrek, Carrie Young

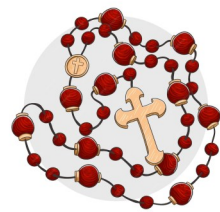
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**Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of June 16th to June 22nd:**



Shawn O'Donnell	Joseph Martella Jr.
Mary Billotte	Paul Molchany
Teresa Flynn	Janet Lorditch
Angela Moore	Alice Stahr
William Williams	John Valinsky
Margaret Mekis	Pauline Molchany

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part of it



**A NEW NOTE:** The invitations to participate in all of the devotions associated with the spiritual life and vigor of our parish continue to be extended to all parishioners. We pray the rosary every Saturday evening at approximately 3:30 PM prior to Mass as well as every Tuesday at 6:00 PM. On Wednesdays, Mass is celebrated at 5:30 PM

followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament also occurs on Friday following the 12:05 PM Mass until 1:30 PM. 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 for the rosary is for Fr. John’s health, however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own. **BOTH OF THESE PRACTICES HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOR THE BETTER! A VISITATION WITH OUR LORD PRESENT IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS NEARLY A PERFECT FORM OF PRAYER AND CAN HELP YOU TO BELIEVE THAT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!!**

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**PARKING:** This note is merely a gentle request that when you park, especially in the lower part of the Church parking lot (behind the rectory), that you please back your car fully into the parking space so as to allow all of the parking spaces to be utilized. Mass, at the very longest takes 50 to 52 minutes. You cannot be in that great of a hurry to leave that you prevent others from having a parking place that is close to the church. Thank you for your future cooperation in this matter.

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**Liturgical Ministry:** Recently someone said to me, “We always see the same people serving at Mass” to which I replied, “Well, you are welcome to become our first new face.” **We really are in need of liturgical ministers at both of our Sunday Masses: Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ministers of Hospitality/Ushers.** This is a wonderful way to serve God and our community of faith, by sharing your gifts and talents in a tangible way that helps us to celebrate the Eucharistic liturgy with style and grace. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to a liturgical ministry, please contact Fr. John by calling the rectory at any time. Your service to our community would be greatly appreciated!!!

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025 – THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST:** From 12:00 Noon until 2:00 PM on Sunday June 22, 2025 there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with benediction. This is one of the holiest days of the Church year. I am asking that you consider spending at least 15 minutes with our Eucharistic Lord that day, praying before the Blessed Sacrament before coming to celebrate Christ in community at our annual Church picnic. There are sign-up sheets located in the back of the Church where you can commit yourself to a specific period of time to be with Christ that day. Thank you for considering giving a bit more of yourself to Jesus on his special feast day!!!



From Pontiff to Pew:

In his homily for Mass on the Solemnity of Pentecost, Pope Leo XIV noted that “The reading from the Acts of the Apostles tells us that in Jerusalem at that time there was a multitude of people from various backgrounds, yet “each one heard them speaking in his own native tongue” (v. 6). In a word, at Pentecost, the doors of the Upper Room were opened because the Spirit opens borders. As Benedict XVI explained: “The Holy Spirit bestows understanding. The Spirit overcomes the ‘breach’ that began in Babel, the confusion of mind and heart that sets us one against the other. The Spirit opens borders... The Church must always become anew what she already is. She must open the borders between peoples and break down the barriers between class and race. In her, there cannot be those who are neglected or disdained. In the Church there are only free men and women, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ” (Homily for Pentecost, 15 May 2005). Here we have an eloquent image of Pentecost, one that I would like to pause for a moment and reflect upon with you.” He then proceeded to articulate three ways in which the Holy Spirit opens borders:

**First,** he noted that *the Spirit opens borders in our hearts*. He is the Gift that opens our lives to love. His presence breaks down our hardness of heart, our narrowness of mind, our selfishness, the fears that enchain us and the narcissism that makes us think only of ourselves. He puts us in touch with our inmost self, beneath all the masks we wear. He leads us to an encounter with the Lord by teaching us to experience the joy that is his gift. The Spirit opens our interior borders, so that our lives become places of welcome and refreshment. **Second,** *the Spirit opens borders in our relationship with others*. Jesus tells us that this Gift is the love between him and the Father that comes to dwell within us. We then become capable of opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, overcoming our rigidity, moving beyond our fear of those who are different, and mastering the passions that stir within. The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, brings to maturity within us the fruits that enable us to cultivate good and healthy relationships: “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control” (Gal 5:22) If there are no borders or divisions among us; if we are able to dialogue and accept one another in the Church, and to reconcile our diversities; and if, as Church, we become a welcoming and hospitable place for all. **Third,** *the Spirit also opens borders between peoples*. The Spirit breaks down barriers and tears down the walls of indifference and hatred because he “teaches us all things” and “reminds us of Jesus’ words” (cf. Jn 14:26). He teaches us, reminds us, and writes in our hearts before all else the commandment of love that the Lord has made the center and summit of everything. Pope Leo ended by invoking the Spirit of love and peace, that he may open borders, break down walls, dispel hatred and help us to live as children of our one Father who is in heaven.

In his **Wednesday Audience**, Pope Leo continued his Jubilee catechesis on the parables of Jesus, focusing upon Blind Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus means “son of Timaeus”: the man is described through a relationship, and yet he is dramatically alone. This name, though, could also mean “son of honor” or “of admiration”, exactly the opposite of the situation in which he finds himself. And since the name is so important in Jewish culture, it means that Bartimaeus fails to live up to what he is called

to be. Yet the blind beggar is in need of assistance and he calls out, even in the face of others (a lesson to all that we must never be deterred from calling upon Christ.) The cry of Bartimaeus, in the Gospel of Mark – “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me!” – has become a very well-known prayer in the Eastern tradition, which we too can use: “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have pity on me, a sinner”. Bartimaeus is blind, but paradoxically he sees better than the others, and he recognizes who Jesus is! It seems strange that, in front of a blind man, Jesus does not go immediately to him; but, if we think about it, it is the way to reactivate Bartimaeus’ life: He spurs him to get up again, He trusts in his ability to walk. That man can get up on his feet again, he can rise from the throes of death. But in order to do this, he must perform a very meaningful gesture: he must throw away his cloak! For a beggar, the cloak is everything: it is his safety, it is his house, it is the defense that protects him. Even the law protected the beggar’s cloak, and imposed that it be returned in the evening if taken as a pledge (cf. Ex 22:25). And yet, many times, it is precisely our apparent securities that stand in our way – what we have put on to defend ourselves and which instead prevent us from walking. To go to Jesus and let himself be healed, Bartimaeus must show himself to Him in all his vulnerability. Even the question that Jesus asks him seems strange: “What do you want me to do for you?” But, in reality, it is not given that we want to be healed from our ailments; at times we prefer to stay still so as not to take responsibility. Bartimaeus’ reply is profound: he uses the verb *anablepein*, which can mean “to see again”, but which we can also translate as “to look up”. Indeed, Bartimaeus does not want only to see again; he wants to regain his dignity!

What saves Bartimaeus, and each one of us, is faith. Jesus heals us so that we can become free. He does not invite Bartimaeus to follow him, but tells him to go, to set out on his way (cf. v.52). However, Mark concludes the story by saying that Bartimaeus began to follow Jesus: he freely chose to follow him, He who is the Way. Pope Leo XIV therefore, invites us to trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones;. He asks us to bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. He encourages us to us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us and stop.

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SAVE THE JUBILEE DATES:

**June 29th: Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**  
 Mass, St. Michael’s Basilica, Loretto, PA

**We have a car pool going to the mass!!**

**October 17th: Pilgrimage – Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception**  
 Washington, D.C.

(Please note that only a **limited number of buses** will be departing from the Johnstown area for this tour, so it is imperative that you sign up once the announcement is formally posted). **We will be putting up sign-up sheets the last week of July – please sign up as soon as possible. When the buses are filled there are no other.**