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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

Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rectory Phone: 536-6110
E-Mail: visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org
Website: www.visitationbvmchurch.com
Fax: 536-3709



**Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe**
November 23rd, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and
Companions, Marytrs

12:05 PM - Barry Mills
(Req. by Alan Sidwar)

TUESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 PM - Msgr. Peter Tay
(Req. by Jeno Lecci)

WEDNESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

5:30 PM - James Rovan
(Req. by Dr. Albert & Sharon Pruchnic)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY - Thanksgiving Day

9:00 AM - In Thanksgiving and for All the Poor
throughout the World

FRIDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 PM - John Slovikovski Sr.
(Req. by Maryann Korenoski)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY - Vigil of 1st Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM - Basil Balagusz
(Req. by Family)
Pastoral visit from Bishop Mark Bartchak

SUNDAY - 1st Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Memory of Basil Balagusz

Req. by Family

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

**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 intentions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is suggested.

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 SATURDAY 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 Catholic candidates for Marriage must be registered, practicing members of a parish at least 6 months prior to scheduling the wedding.** **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS.**

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.

EUCARISTIC 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.

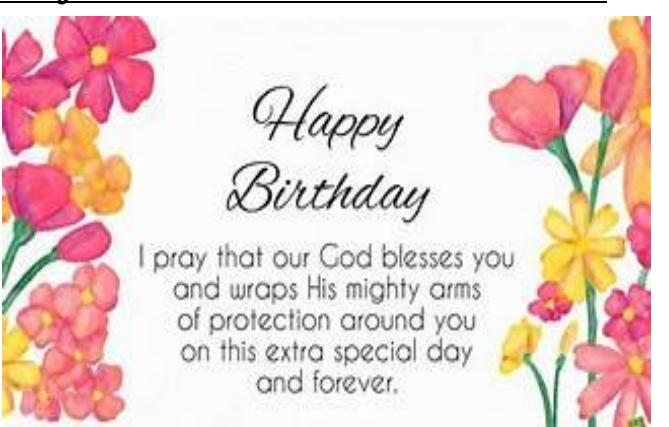
\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$
Collection - November 16, 2025

Loose Money.....	\$451.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2810.00
All Saints Day.....	\$10.00
All Souls' Day.....	\$15.00
Catholic Charities.....	\$29.00
Retired Priests.....	\$5.00
Votive Candles.....	\$100.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$55.00
Hurricane Relief.....	\$110.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$140.00
 TOTAL:	\$3725.00

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, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petroro, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovan, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varmecky, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of November 24th to November 30th:



Daelen Krise
 Justin Horner

Nicolett Stofko
 George Mikesic

TURKEY RAFFLE: Thank you, Thank you! Many thanks to all who worked to make our Turkey Raffle so successful this year. This includes the many parishioners who purchased the parish raffle tickets and the individuals who generously donated gifts of money, gift cards and items for the basket of cheer, door prizes, baskets and lottery tickets. We also are grateful to those parishioners who, knowing that they could not contribute in any other way, gave generously to the fourth and final scheduled second collection of the calendar year.

A simple thank you does not suffice to express our gratitude to all the volunteers who invested so much time and talent to organize and work this event. Your complete dedication to every aspect of this event is appreciated more than you know. Special thanks to Fr. John for his support and guidance.

WINNERS OF PARISH BASKETS

Basket of Cheer

Dave D.

Neighborhood Basket

Katie Jones

Lottery Tree

Devin Dietz

Martella's Basket

Rosemary Turner



Angel Tree 2025 - We are once again planning an Angel Tree. This is an opportunity to share our blessings with those who struggle to provide their children with gifts for Christmas. We will formally begin the project after the Turkey Raffle Fundraiser. Young children should always be blessed with a happy and merry Christmas, so please consider this fine project. More details to follow.

I personally and genuinely continue to implore you to SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SOME EXTRA TIME WITH THE LORD THIS WEEK. We always pray the rosary 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 !! 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!!!

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. Ps 37:5

From Pontiff to Pew:

In his **Sunday Angelus** Message last weekend, Pope Leo reflected upon the gospel of the day which, as the liturgical year draws to a close, invites us to reflect on the travails of history and the end times. He noted that looking at these events and knowing our hearts, Jesus invites us not to be overcome by fear: "When you hear of wars and insurrections," he says, "do not be terrified" (v. 9). His appeal is very timely because unfortunately we receive daily news about conflicts, disasters and persecutions that torment millions of men and women. However, in the face of these afflictions, and in the face of the indifference that seeks to ignore them, Jesus' words proclaim that the attack of evil cannot destroy the hope of those who trust in him. The darker the hour, the more faith shines like the sun. Twice, in fact, Christ affirms that "because of my name" many will suffer violence and betrayal (Lk 21:12, 17), but precisely then they will have the opportunity to bear witness (cf. v. 13). We are called to follow the example of the Master, who revealed the immensity of his love on the cross. This encouragement concerns us all. Indeed, the persecution of Christians does not only happen through mistreatment and weapons, but also with words, that is, through lies and ideological manipulation. Especially when we are oppressed by these evils, both physical and moral, we are called to bear witness to the truth that saves the world; to the justice that redeems peoples from oppression; to the hope that shows everyone the way to peace. Jesus' words, in a prophetic way, attest to the fact that the disasters and sorrows of history will come to an end. At the same time, the joy of those who recognize him as Savior, is destined to last forever. "By your endurance you will gain your souls" (Lk 21:19): this promise of the Lord gives us the strength to resist the threatening events of history and every offense. We do not remain powerless in the face of suffering, because he himself gives us "words and a wisdom" (v. 15) always to do the good with a fervent heart.

Throughout the history of the Church, it is above all the martyrs who remind us that God's grace is capable of transforming even violence into a sign of redemption. Therefore, joining with our brothers and sisters who suffer for the name of Jesus, let us confidently seek the intercession of Mary, Help of Christians. In every trial and difficulty, may the Blessed Virgin console and sustain us..

In this past **Wednesday Audience**, Pope Leo VIX reflected upon *Easter Spirituality and Integral Ecology*. He said:

We are reflecting, in this Jubilee Year dedicated to hope, on the relationship between the Resurrection of Christ and the challenges of the contemporary world, that is, our challenges. At times, Jesus, the Living One, wants to ask us too: "Why do you weep? Who do you seek?". Indeed, challenges cannot be faced alone and tears are a gift of life when they purify our eyes and liberate our gaze.

John the Evangelist draws to our attention a detail that we do not find in the other Gospels: weeping near the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene did not immediately recognize the risen Jesus, but thought he was the gardener. Indeed, already narrating the burial of Jesus, at sunset on Good Friday, the text was very precise: "Now in the place where he was crucified there

was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there" (Jn 19:40-41). Thus, in the peace of the Sabbath and the beauty of a garden, the dramatic struggle between darkness and light that began with the betrayal, arrest, abandonment, condemnation, humiliation and killing of the Son, who "having loved his own who were in the world ... loved them to the end" (Jn 13:1), comes to a close. Cultivating and keeping the garden is the original task (cf. Gen 2:15) that Jesus brought to fulfilment. His last words on the cross - "It is finished" (Jn 19:30) - invite each of us to rediscover the same task, our task. For this reason, "he bowed his head and gave up his spirit" (v. 30).

Dear brothers and sisters, Mary Magdalene was not entirely mistaken then, believing she had encountered the gardener! Indeed, she had to hear her own name again and understand her task from the new Man, the one who in another text of John says: "Behold, I make all things new" (Rev 21:5). Pope Francis, with the Encyclical *Laudato si'*, showed us the extreme need for a contemplative gaze: if he is not the custodian of the garden, the human being becomes its destroyer. Christian hope therefore responds to the challenges to which all humanity is exposed today by dwelling in the garden where the Crucified One was laid as a seed, to rise again and bear much fruit. Paradise is not lost, but found again. In this way, the death and resurrection of Jesus are the foundation of a spirituality of integral ecology, outside of which the words of faith have no hold on reality and the words of science remain outside the heart. "Ecological culture cannot be reduced to a series of urgent and partial responses to the immediate problems of pollution, environmental decay and the depletion of natural resources. There needs to be a distinctive way of looking at things, a way of thinking, policies, an educational programme, a lifestyle and a spirituality which together generate resistance" (*Laudato si'*, 111). For this reason, we speak of an ecological conversion, which Christians cannot separate from the reversal of course that Jesus asks of them. A sign of this is Mary's turning around on that Easter morning: only by conversion after conversion do we pass through that vale of tears to the new Jerusalem. This passage, which begins in the heart and is spiritual, changes history, engages us publicly, and activates solidarity that now protects people and creatures from the longings of wolves, in the name and power of the Lamb-Shepherd. In this way, the sons and daughters of the Church can now meet millions of young people and other men and women of good will who have heard the cry of the poor and the earth, letting it touch their hearts. There are also many people who desire, through a more direct relationship with creation, a new harmony that will lead them beyond so many divisions. On the other hand, still "the heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world" (Ps 18:1-4).

May the Spirit give us the ability to listen to the voice of those who have no voice. We will see, then, what the eyes do not yet see: that garden, or Paradise, which we will only reach by welcoming and fulfilling our own task.