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VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

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



1st Sunday of Advent
November 30th, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Advent Weekday

12:05 PM - Dr. Larry Rutledge
(Req. by Mr. & Mrs. William Rippin)

TUESDAY - Advent Weekday

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY - Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

5:30 PM - Anna Marie Pfeil
(Req. by Mary Ann & Amy Wissinger)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY - Advent Weekday

12:05 PM - Loretta Meyers
(Req. by Family & Friends)

FRIDAY - Advent Weekday

12:30 PM - Albert Reynolds Jr.
(Req. by Family)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY - Vigil of 2nd Sunday of Advent

4:00 PM - Melissa Lovette
(Req. by Mom & Brothers)

SUNDAY - 2nd Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE

For the Spiritual and Temporal Welfare
of Fr. John



The daily readings may be found at
either USCCB.ORG or with the
daily readings listed in the 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 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 23, 2025

Loose Money.....	\$381.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2974.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$20.00
All Saints Day.....	\$25.00
Catholic Charities.....	\$75.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$100.00

TOTAL: \$3575.00

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 December 1st to December 7th:

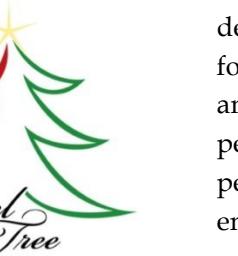


Everett Hancock
 Germaine Zemba
 Kyla Daly
 Catherine Kessler
 Dolores Foust
 Margaret Gawlas
 Brian Krise

James Lentz

Jeanne Skovensky
 Carmela Cascino
 Thomas Gahagan
 Bryon Mihelic
 Kevin Petak
 Linda Gorenzt
 William Kuswara

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. The tags for the gifts are currently hanging on the tree in the back of the vestibule. Young children should always be blessed with a happy and merry Christmas, so please consider this fine project. **PLEASE BE SURE TO RETURN YOUR ANGEL TREE GIFTS NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 21ST BEFORE OR AFTER MASS!**



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!!!



The 2026 Yearly Calendars of Prizes are now available! The 2026 Yearly Calendars have now arrived and are available for purchase beginning this weekend in the main vestibule of the Church. This is potentially our largest fundraiser of the year. Please help us with this project by purchasing a calendar. They make wonderful Christmas gifts. Thank you.



CCW Advent Program - A day of reflection titled: "Christmas at the Nativity" will be offered at the CCW Incarnation Center on December 5, 2025 from 10 AM - 3 PM. Pope Francis writes in his book by the same title: The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of Scripture. As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman. Materials and lunch will be provided. Registration required by December 1. To register, email CommunityofficeCCW@gmail.com or srmari-lynw@CCWcommunity.org, or call 814-886-4098. A free-will offering is appreciated.

Public Rosary - There will be a public rosary for keeping Christ in Christmas on Thursday, December 11th at 6:30 PM at St. Clement Church and on Saturday, December 13th at noon at the St. Anne Shrine at St. John Gualbert Cathedral.

From Pontiff to Pew:

In his **Sunday Angelus** Message last weekend, Pope Leo reflected upon the kidnapping of priests, faithful, and students in Nigeria and Cameroon. He feels great pain, above all for the many young men and women who have been abducted and for their distressed families. Pope Leo makes a heartfelt appeal for the immediate release of the hostages and urge the competent authorities to take appropriate and timely decisions to ensure their release. Let us pray for these brothers and sisters of ours, and that churches and schools may always and everywhere remain places of safety and hope.

Today, dioceses around the world are celebrating World Youth Day. I bless and spiritually embrace all those taking part in the various celebrations and initiatives. On the feast of Christ the King, I pray that every young person may discover the beauty and joy of following him, the Lord, and dedicating him or herself to his Kingdom of love, justice and peace.

His Apostolic Journey to Türkiye and Lebanon is now close. In Türkiye, the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea will be celebrated. For this reason, the Apostolic Letter *In Unitate Fidei* is being published today, commemorating this historic event.

Now let us turn to the Virgin Mary, entrusting all these intentions and our prayer for peace to her maternal intercession.

Pope Leo's **Wednesday Audience** continued his catechesis on the Jubilee theme of "**Jesus Christ Our Hope**," The Resurrection of Christ and the Challenges of the Contemporary World. Here is the Wednesday Audience in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome! The Pasch of Christ illuminates the mystery of life and allows us to look at it with hope. This is not always easy or obvious. Many lives, in every part of the world, appear laborious, painful, filled with problems and obstacles to be overcome. Yet human beings receive life as a gift: they do not ask for it, they do not choose it, they experience it in its mystery from the first to the last day. Life has its own extraordinary specificity: it is offered to us, we cannot give it to ourselves, but it must be constantly nurtured: it needs care to maintain, energize, protect and revive it.

One could say that the question about life is one of the most profound concerns of the human heart. We entered life without having done anything to decide to do so. The questions of all ages gush forth from this fact, like an overflowing river: Who are we? Where do we come from? Where are we going? What is the ultimate meaning of this journey?

Indeed, living invokes meaning, direction, hope. And hope acts as the deep-seated drive that keeps us walking in difficulty, that prevents us from giving up in the fatigue of the journey, that makes us certain that the pilgrimage of existence will lead us home. Without hope, life risks appearing to be a

parenthesis between two eternal nights, a brief pause between the before and the after of our journey on earth. To hope in life means instead to anticipate the destination, to believe as certain what we still cannot see or touch, to trust and to entrust ourselves to the love of a Father who created us because he wanted us with love, and wants us to be happy.

Dear friends, there is a widespread sickness in the world: the lack of confidence in life. It is as if we have resigned ourselves to a negative fatalism, to renunciation. Life risks no longer representing a gift, but an unknown, almost a threat from which to protect ourselves so as not to end up disappointed. For this reason, the courage to live and to generate life, to bear witness that God is the quintessential "lover of life", as the Book of Wisdom (11:26) affirms, is today a more urgent call than ever.

In the Gospel, Jesus constantly confirms his concern for healing the sick, restoring wounded bodies and spirits, and giving life back to the dead. By doing so, the incarnate Son reveals the Father: he restores dignity to sinners, grants the forgiveness of sins, and includes everyone, especially the desperate, the excluded, those who are far from his promise of salvation.

Begotten by the Father, Christ is life and has generated life without reserve, to the point of giving his own, and he invites us too to give our lives. To generate means to bring someone else to life. The universe of the living has expanded via this law, which in the symphony of creatures experiences a wonderful "crescendo" culminating in the duet of man and woman: God created them in his own image and entrusted them with the mission of generating in his image, that is, for love and in love.

From the beginning, Sacred Scripture reveals to us that life, precisely in its highest form, the human form, receives the gift of freedom and becomes a tragedy. In this way, human relationships are also marked by contradiction, even to the point of fratricide. Cain perceives his brother Abel as a rival, a threat, and in his frustration, he feels unable to love him and respect him. Here we see jealousy, envy, and bloodshed (Gen 4:1-16). God's logic, instead, is completely different. God always stays faithful to his plan of love and life; he does not tire of supporting humanity even when, following in Cain's footsteps, it obeys the blind instinct of violence in war, discrimination, racism, and the many forms of slavery.

To generate, then, means to trust in the God of life and to promote humanity in all its expressions: first and foremost, in the wonderful adventure of motherhood and fatherhood, even in social contexts in which families struggle to bear the burden of daily life, and are often held back in their plans and dreams. According to this same logic, to generate is to be committed to an economy based on solidarity, striving for a common good equally enjoyed by all, respecting and caring for creation, offering comfort through listening, presence, and concrete and selfless help. Brothers and sisters, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the strength that supports us in this challenge, even when the darkness of evil obscures the heart and the mind. When life seems to have been extinguished, obstructed, the Risen Lord still passes by, until the end of time, and walks with us and for us. He is our hope.