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Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



1127 McKinley Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15905

Rectory Phone: 536-6110
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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

2nd Sunday of Easter April 12th, 2026

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Easter Weekday
Private Mass in Rectory

TUESDAY - Easter Weekday
Private Mass in Rectory

WEDNESDAY - Easter Weekday
5:30 PM - Barry Mills
(Req. by Karen & Barry Orner)

THURSDAY - Easter Weekday
12:05 PM - James Rován
(Req. by Chuck & Pat Sura)

FRIDAY - Easter Weekday
12:05 PM - Carmella Cascino
(Req. by Jenó Lecci)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY - Vigil of 3rd Sunday of Easter
4:00 PM - John McMonagle
(Req. by wife, daughter and son)

SUNDAY - 3rd Sunday of Easter
9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE
In Memory of Evelyn A. Haggerty
Req. by Stella Nitkuleníc



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

**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. **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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

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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 - April 5, 2026

Solemnity of Mary.....	\$3.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$3.00
Christmas 2025.....	\$5.00
Initial Offering.....	\$3.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$180.00
Easter Offering.....	\$5203.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$645.00
Good Friday.....	\$772.00
Sanctuary Candle.....	\$10.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$245.00

TOTAL: \$7069.00

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, 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 Petro, 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 Varnecky, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of April 13th to April 19th:



Melanie Mihelic Patrick Costlow
 Brody Nagle

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

Gas Ticket Final Report - THANK YOU to everyone who bought or sold the Sheetz gas tickets. We're very happy to report that **all** the tickets were sold, leaving us with a profit of \$4267.00.



The winner of the Sheetz Gas Gift Card was Teresa Flynn.

Thank you, also, to the parishioners who donated money towards the Sheetz Gift Card.

 On Saturday, April 4th, 2026, we held our Easter Vigil mass at 8:30 PM, led by Fr. Code. During that mass, one of our candidates was able to make her confirmation and be fully initiated into the Catholic Church. Another of our candidates were received into full communion with the Church. With the help of the OCIA team, our secretary Catherine Bennett was guided and fully prepared in making her confirmation. We would also love to extend our warmest welcome to Jill Echevarria as she was supported and guided by the OCIA team. Our OCIA team consists of Fr. John Slovikovski, our diaconate candidate John Fontana, Evelyn Haggerty and Marian Cyburt. A special thank you to Catherine's sponsor Kristyn Amendola and Jill's sponsor Deb Lehman for being wonderful support and friends to both. Congratulations to both Catherine and Jill, Visitation Parish welcomes you both with open and loving arms.

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. 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!!!



Purses & Prizes: A Bingo Extravaganza with Birthright of Johnstown - Join Birthright for a night of fun and a little luck at the Purses and Prizes Bingo Night. 15 rounds of the classic game, high end raffle prizes, new special games and a Plinko board. There are plenty of opportunities to win! It will be held on May 7th, 2026 at the Willow. Doors will open at 4:30 PM and dinner will be at 5:30 PM. Games start at 6:30 PM and the ticket price is \$50.00. You can call Birthright at 814-535-8231 or go online at <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-purses-and-prizes-a-bingo-extravaganza-with-birthright-of-johnstown> to purchase your tickets. Space is limited, so please call or go online to reserve your seat today!

From Pontiff to Pew:

During this past Sunday we celebrated the Resurrection of the Lord. Pope Leo XIV offered the following "URBI ET ORBI" message for the Resurrection of the Lord. Here it is in its entirety:

Brothers and sisters,

Christ is risen! Happy Easter!

For centuries, the Church has joyfully sung of the event that is the origin and foundation of her faith: "Yes, Christ my hope is arisen / Christ indeed from death is risen / Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning" (Easter Sequence).

Easter is the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of love over hatred. It is a victory that came at a very high price: Christ, the Son of the living God (cf. Mt 16:16), had to die – and die on a cross – after suffering an unjust condemnation, being mocked and tortured, and shedding all his blood. As the true immolated Lamb, he took upon himself the sin of the world (cf. Jn 1:29; 1 Pet 1:18-19) and thus freed us all – and with us, all creation – from the dominion of evil.

But how was Jesus able to be victorious? What is the strength with which he defeated once and for all the ancient adversary, the prince of this world (cf. Jn 12:31)? What is the power with which he rose from the dead, not returning to his former life, but entering into eternal life and thus opening in his own flesh the passage from this world to the Father?

This strength, this power, is God himself for he is Love who creates and generates, Love who is faithful to the end and Love who forgives and redeems.

Christ, our "victorious King," fought and won his battle through trusting abandonment to the Father's will, to his plan of salvation (cf. Mt 26:42). Thus he walked the path of dialogue to the very end, not in words but in deeds: to find us who were lost, he became flesh; to free us who were slaves, he became a slave; to give life to us mortals, he allowed himself to be killed on the cross.

The power with which Christ rose is entirely nonviolent. It is like that of a grain of wheat which, having rotted in the earth, grows, breaks through the clods, sprouts, and becomes a golden ear of wheat. It is even more like that of a human heart which, wounded by an offense, rejects the instinct for revenge and, filled with compassion, prays for the one who has committed the offense.

Brothers and sisters, this is the true strength that brings peace to humanity, because it fosters respectful relationships at every level: among individuals, families, social groups, and nations. It does not seek private interests, but the common good; it does not seek to impose its own plan, but to help design and carry out a plan together with others.

Yes, Christ's resurrection is the beginning of a new humanity; it is the entrance into the true promised land, where justice, freedom, and peace reign, where all recognize one another as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father who is Love, Life, and Light.

Brothers and sisters, through his resurrection, the Lord confronts us even more powerfully with the dramatic reality of our freedom. Before the empty tomb, we can be filled with hope and wonder, like the disciples, or with fear like the guards and the Pharisees, forced to resort to lies and subterfuge rather than acknowledge that the one who had been condemned is truly risen (cf. Mt 28:11-15)!

In the light of Easter, let us allow ourselves to be

amazed by Christ! Let us allow our hearts to be transformed by his immense love for us! Let those who have weapons lay them down! Let those who have the power to unleash wars choose peace! Not a peace imposed by force, but through dialogue! Not with the desire to dominate others, but to encounter them!

We are growing accustomed to violence, resigning ourselves to it, and becoming indifferent. Indifferent to the deaths of thousands of people. Indifferent to the repercussions of hatred and division that conflicts sow. Indifferent to the economic and social consequences they produce, which we all feel. There is an ever-increasing "globalization of indifference," to borrow an expression dear to Pope Francis, who one year ago from this loggia addressed his final words to the world, reminding us: "What a great thirst for death, for killing, we witness each day in the many conflicts raging in different parts of the world!" (Urbi et Orbi Message, 20 April 2025).

The cross of Christ always reminds us of the suffering and pain that surround death and the agony it entails. We are all afraid of death, and out of fear we turn away, preferring not to look. We cannot continue to be indifferent! And we cannot resign ourselves to evil! Saint Augustine teaches: "If you fear death, love the resurrection!" (Sermon 124, 4). Let us too love the resurrection, which reminds us that evil is not the last word, because it has been defeated by the Risen One.

He passed through death to give us life and peace: "I leave you peace; I give you my peace. Not as the world gives it, I give it to you" (Jn 14:27). The peace that Jesus gives us is not merely the silence of weapons, but the peace that touches and transforms the heart of each one of us! Let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the peace of Christ! Let us make heard the cry for peace that springs from our hearts! For this reason, I invite everyone to join me in a prayer vigil for peace that we will celebrate here in Saint Peter's Basilica next Saturday, April 11.

On this day of celebration, let us abandon every desire for conflict, domination, and power, and implore the Lord to grant his peace to a world ravaged by wars and marked by a hatred and indifference that make us feel powerless in the face of evil. To the Lord we entrust all hearts that suffer and await the true peace that only he can give. Let us entrust ourselves to him and open our hearts to him! He is the only one who makes all things new (cf. Rev 21:5). Happy Easter!

In his weekly **Wednesday Audience**, Pope Leo continued his exploration of the Conciliar Constitution *Lumen gentium*, the dogmatic Constitution on the Church, The Documents of Vatican Council II, Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen gentium*. 7. Holiness and evangelical counsels in the Church. Here is the Wednesday Audience in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The Constitution of the Second Vatican Council *Lumen gentium* (LG) on the Church dedicates an entire chapter, the fifth, to the universal vocation to holiness of all the faithful: every one of us is called to live in the grace of *(continued on insert)*