

# Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary



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Mrs. Kathleen Bumbernick, DMM  
Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC  
Ms. Catherine Bennett, Secretary  
Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-Chairperson, PC  
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## 3rd Sunday of Easter April 19th, 2026

### MASS SCHEDULE

- MONDAY - Easter Weekday**  
NO MASS
- TUESDAY - Easter Weekday**  
12:05 pm - Carol J. Houghton  
(Req. by Family)
- WEDNESDAY - Easter Weekday**  
5:30 PM - Anna Marie Pfeil - Anniversary  
(Req. by Barb & Rupe)
- THURSDAY - Easter Weekday**  
12:05 PM - Helene Balagusz  
(Req. by Lois & Robert Slivinsky)
- FRIDAY - Easter Weekday**  
12:05 PM - Helen Woznick  
(Req. by Ed & Charlene Torchia)
- SATURDAY - Vigil of 4th Sunday of Easter**  
4:00 PM - Pro Populo
- SUNDAY - 4th Sunday of Easter**  
9:00 AM - Evelyn A. Haggerty  
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**  
In Memory of Fred Zeiler  
Req. by wife Margie Zeiler



The daily readings may be found at either [USCCB.ORG](http://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.

**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 12, 2026**

Loose Money.....	\$345.00
Envelopes.....	\$4525.00
Easter Offering.....	\$380.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$80.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$90.00
Good Friday.....	\$65.00
Votive Candles.....	\$199.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$166.00
Apartment Rent - April.....	\$625.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$70.00

**TOTAL: \$6545.00**

**Basket Party Second Collection \$517.00**

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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, 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*

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Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of April 20th to April 26th:



Lauren Schiffhauer                      Mary Ann Borosky  
 Kevin Michaels

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

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**Theology on Tap - Young Adult Group (18-39):** Our next Theology on Tap is April 22nd at the Boulevard Grill at 6pm with Brother Francisco Whittaker OSB speaking on Divine Mercy. Over the last several months we have been averaging about 45 young adults per month with new members joining monthly. All young adults (18-39) are invited! There is no cost to attend. For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.  
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**Coming soon to Visitation Parish: Music Bingo Night** - Visitation Parish will be having our first ever music bingo night with DJ Tom Hoover. This event will be held on Saturday, June 6th. There will be an informational and planning meeting for this event on Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30 PM in the Visitation school cafeteria. If anyone is interested in volunteering, all are encouraged and invited to attend. More information is to come in future bulletins regarding this event, so keep your eyes open!  
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**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!!!**

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**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:

On Sunday, after the prayerful recitation of the **Regina Caeli**, Pope Leo XIV greeted all of those assembled in Saint Peter's Square. Here it is in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday and happy Easter once again!

Today, on the Second Sunday of Easter, dedicated to Divine Mercy by Saint John Paul II, the Gospel recounts the appearance of the risen Jesus to the Apostle Thomas (cf. Jn 20:19-31). This event took place eight days after Easter, while the community was gathered together. There, Thomas encountered the Master, who invited him to look at the marks of the nails and to put his hand into the wound in his side, and to believe (cf. v. 27). This scene invites us to reflect on our own encounter with the risen Jesus. Where can we find him? How can we recognize him? How can we believe? Saint John, who narrated the event, gives us precise indications: Thomas met Jesus on the eighth day, in the gathered community, and recognized him in the signs of his sacrifice. His profession of faith, the highest in the entire Fourth Gospel, emerged from this experience: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28).

Of course, it is not always easy to believe. It was not easy for Thomas, and it is not easy for us either. Faith needs to be nourished and sustained. For this reason, on the "eighth day" – that is, every Sunday – the Church invites us to do as the first disciples did: gather together and celebrate the Eucharist. During Mass, we listen to the words of Jesus, we pray, we profess our faith, we share God's gifts in charity, we offer our lives in union with the Sacrifice of Christ. His Body and Blood nourish us, so that we too may become witnesses of his Resurrection, as indicated by the term "Mass," which means "sending forth," or "mission" (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1332).

The Sunday Eucharist is indispensable to the Christian life. Tomorrow I will depart for my Apostolic Journey to Africa. Some of the martyrs of the early African Church, particularly the Martyrs of Abitene, have left us a beautiful testimony in this regard. When offered the chance to save their lives by renouncing the celebration of the Eucharist, they replied that they could not live without celebrating the Lord's Day. It is there that our faith grows and is strengthened. It is there that our efforts, though limited, are united by God's grace to the actions of the members of a single body – the Body of Christ – for the accomplishment of a single great plan of salvation that embraces all humanity. It is through the Eucharist that our hands become "the hands of the Risen One," giving witness to his presence, mercy and peace. The signs of work, sacrifice, illness and the passing of the years are often etched into our hands, just as they are in the tenderness of a caress, a handshake, or a gesture of charity.

Dear brothers and sisters, in a world that is in such great need of peace, this calls on us more than ever to be steadfast and faithful in our Eucharistic encounter with the risen Lord, so that we may go forth as witnesses of charity and messengers of reconciliation. May the Virgin Mary help us to do this, she who is blessed because she was the first to believe without seeing (cf. Jn 20:29).

Pope Leo XIV did not have his **Wednesday Audience** since he was traveling to Africa to the countries of Cameroon and Camerun. He did, however, write a message to those

participating in the plenary session of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences who met on April 14th - 16th. The message is dated from April 9th and here it is in its entirety:

I was pleased to learn of the plenary session of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences taking place from 14 to 16 April 2026, and I send prayerful good wishes to all taking part. I express my gratitude to Cardinal Peter Turkson for his dedicated service as Chancellor of the Academy. I likewise thank your President, Sister Helen Alford, for selecting the theme: "The Uses of Power: Legitimacy, Democracy and the Rewriting of the International Order." It is a particularly timely topic, focusing your reflection on the exercise of power, which is a critical element for building peace within and among nations at this moment of profound global change.

Catholic social teaching regards power not as an end in itself, but as a means ordered toward the common good. This implies that the legitimacy of authority depends not on the accumulation of economic or technological strength, but on the wisdom and virtue with which it is exercised for the common good (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1903). For wisdom enables us to discern and pursue the true and the good, rather than apparent goods and vainglory, amid the circumstances of daily life. This wisdom is inseparable from the moral virtues, which strengthen our desire to promote the common good. In particular, we know that justice and fortitude are indispensable for sound decision-making and for putting decisions into practice. Temperance also proves essential for the legitimate use of authority, for a true understanding of temperance restrains inordinate self-exaltation and acts as a guardrail against the abuse of power.

This understanding of legitimate power finds one of its highest expressions in authentic democracy. Far from being a mere procedure, this type of democracy recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good. Reflecting this conviction, Saint John Paul II affirmed that the Church values democracy because it ensures participation in political choices and "the possibility both of electing and holding accountable those who govern them, and of replacing them through peaceful means when appropriate" (Centesimus Annus, 46). Democracy remains healthy, however, only when rooted in the moral law and a true vision of the human person. Lacking this foundation, it risks becoming either a majoritarian tyranny or a mask for the dominance of economic and technological elites.

The same principles that guide the exercise of authority within nations must likewise inform the international order – a truth that is particularly important to recall at a time when strategic rivalries and shifting alliances are reshaping global relations. We must recall that a just and stable international order cannot emerge from the mere balance of power or from a purely technocratic logic. The concentration of technological, economic and military power in a few hands threatens both democratic participation among peoples and international concord.

*(continued on insert)*