

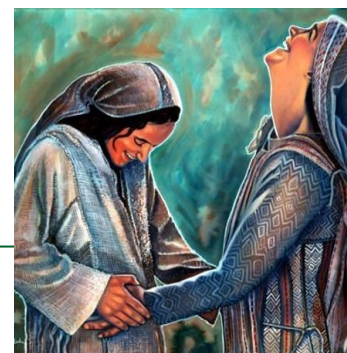
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NAME _____	PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____	
CITY _____	ZIP _____
Check One: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Moving Out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes	
Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110	

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



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time August 9th, 2026

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 PM - Richard Bair
(Req. by John Bair)

TUESDAY - Saint Clare, Virgin

5:30 PM - Bernie & Tom Connelly
(Req. by Pat Sura)

WEDNESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

5:30 PM - Fr. Ken Keene
(Req. by Fr. John)

Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time

12:05 PM - Mary Mattes
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)

FRIDAY - Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr

12:05 PM - Paul Molchany
(Req. by Pauline Springer & Frank Costa)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 PM - Betty Petro
(Req. by husband Frank)

SUNDAY - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Memory of Helene Balagusz
Birthday Remebrance
Req. by Family



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
Rev. Mr. John Fontana, Deacon
Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE
Mrs. Kathleen Bumbnick, DMM
Ms. Catherine Bennett, Secretary
Ms. Chris Houghton, Maintenance
Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC
Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-Chairperson, PC
Mr. Steve Myers, Chairperson, FC

**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.

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.

\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$
 Collection - August 2, 2026

Loose Money.....	\$300.00
Envelopes.....	\$2839.00
Holy Father.....	\$5.00
Votive Candles.....	\$104.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$16.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$105.00

TOTAL: \$3369.00

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, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Dick Krumenacker, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Eric Mangiafico, 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 Rován, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovickowski, Shirley Slovickowski, Ken Turner, Megan Varnecky, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of August 10th to August 16th:



Patrick Cascino	Erin Schiffhauer
Leona Cowan	Keegan Leis
Savannah Marano	Mary Werzyn
Bradley Rastall	

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

Volunteer Picnic

There will be a picnic for all parish volunteers on Sunday, **August 23 at 2:00 PM** in the school cafeteria. All those who volunteer (especially whose presence in a staple at parish events and fundraisers) and encouraged to come to celebrate my gratitude for all that you do throughout the year. Please save the date in your calendar and sign up on the sheet in the main vestibule of the Church or call the rectory no later than Wednesday, August 19th . Thank you. Fr. John

Visitation Parish Labor Day Gas Card Giveaway

On **Labor Day Monday, September 7th, 2026**, Visitation Parish will be chancing off a ticket for \$500 of Sheetz Gasoline. The Winning number will be taken from the first three (straight) numbers drawn of the **7 PM official Pick 3 daily** Pennsylvania Lottery. If the winning ticket is not sold, the winner will be determined by a random drawing. The cost of one ticket is \$5, or 5 tickets may be purchased for \$20. Please support this fundraiser that is earmarked to assist with the budgetary deficit caused by the present lack of a renter for our school building.

Ethnic Fest - Now that **July 4th** has passed, **Labor Day** weekend will be fast upon us and with it our participation in the **Annual Johnstown Ethnic Fest**. As you know, this is one of our major fundraisers throughout the year, and our success allows us to meet our annual budgetary needs. We are requesting some essential items for this activity; in particular we are in need of Jello and Spirits for our main source of income, our Jello shots. Our supply of sprits is **VERY, VERY LOW** and we are in desperate need of donations. While items such as vodka (both regular and flavored), rum and tequila are **ALWAYS A GREAT NEED FOR US**, other forms of spirits are always appreciated. Please check the bulletin insert to see what we need.

FOSTER YOUR DEVOTIONAL LIFE: 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 the foster father of Jesus as the patron of the Universal Church. Remember the perpetual parish intention for the rosary is for Fr. John’s health, however, all 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 IT CAN MOVE YOU TO BELIEVE THAT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!!

We will be making Jello shots for the Ethnic Fest on **Monday, August 24th at 10 AM** in the school cafeteria. All who are able and willing to help are encouraged to attend!



From Pontiff to Pew:

During this past **Sunday’s Angelus**, Pope Leo XIV offered the following reflection in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, happy Sunday!

When we listen to the Gospel, we frequently hear that Jesus performed signs, which are acts that reveal his special dedication to us and the salvation that he brings to the world. The Lord is presented as the One who gives meaning to our lives, freeing us from evil and sin.

By restoring sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf, Christ is doing more than merely performing miraculous deeds; he is proclaiming to all that the Kingdom of God is near. In this way, today’s Gospel (Mt 14:13–21) bears witness that Jesus not only restores the senses of those who lack them, but that he also fills our senses with good things. To the deaf man, who regains his hearing, the Lord proclaims the Good News to be heard; to the blind man, who regains his sight, he shows the magnificent work of redemption being accomplished for him. Similarly, Jesus gives food to those who are hungry. The account of the multiplication of the loaves shows us that the encounter with the Lord is a nourishing experience. In the desert, that is, when we are in need, Christ is the bread of life. With him, our needs are abundantly met: “All ate and were filled,” and there were “twelve baskets full” left over (v. 20). This number highlights that the Lord’s gift is universal, and that his providential care for us never fails.

Dear friends, Christ truly satisfies humanity’s hunger, our hunger for truth and life. His gesture teaches us that nothing is discarded when it is shared. Hoarding and waste, on the contrary, are two sides of the same evil: greed. This spiritual sickness numbs the senses, which become intoxicated with wealth, to the point of making people forget those who weep from hunger and cry out from thirst. And so, in the face of an opulence that reeks of decay, we find the outstretched hands of those who have no nourishment, the burned homes of those who have no peace.

Faced with the deserts of war and arrogance, let us consider with what kindness the Lord “looked up to heaven, and blessed,” “broke the loaves, and gave them” to his disciples, so that they might distribute them to the crowd (cf. v. 19). In this miracle of charity, we recognize the characteristic actions of Jesus, which find their culmination in the Last Supper, for it was then that the Son of God gave us his very life as our brother in humanity. As we savor the grace of the Eucharist, let us commit ourselves to bearing witness to its beauty in our daily actions, beginning with blessing meals at the table with family and friends. In Jesus’ company, even vacations can become a time of fraternal serenity, if we reach out to our neighbors in need.

Let us therefore ask the Virgin Mary, our loving Mother, to help us grow in charity, so that no one may lack their daily bread.

In his weekly **Wednesday Audience**, Pope Leo began his exploration of the Documents of the Second Vatican Council. III. Constitution Sacrosanctum Concilium. 5. The prayer of the Church. Here it is in its entirety:

Brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

In this catechism, we will resume our reflection on the Conciliar Constitution on the liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium (SC). Today we will look at the ecclesial dimension of liturgical prayer.

As the Apostle Paul suggests, it is the Holy Spirit who teaches us to pray. From the day of Pentecost, the Spirit dwells in the Church, inspiring every one of her activities and, in particular, prayer. The life of the first community, born in Jerusalem after the Pasch of Jesus, is life in the Spirit given by the risen Lord. “From that time onwards the Church has never failed to come together to celebrate the paschal mystery: reading those things ‘which were in all the scriptures concerning him’ (Lk 24:27), celebrating the Eucharist in which ‘the victory and triumph of his death are again made present’, and at the same time giving thanks ‘to God for his unspeakable gift’ (2 Cor 9:15) in Christ Jesus, ‘in praise of his glory’ (Eph. 1:12), through the power of the Holy Spirit” (SC, 6).

In our time, in contexts dominated by an efficiency-driven and consumerist mindset, prayer may seem pointless and trivial. In a world where science and technology claim to provide all the answers, praying may appear to be a form of escapism. Furthermore, even in many Christian families, the tradition of prayer is no longer passed on, whilst many people risk confusing it with just another technique, of a psychological nature aimed at personal well-being. Prayer, however, as a fundamental dimension of our humanity, is worth rediscovering in its true form.

The Constitution Sacrosanctum Concilium took this need seriously. This greatly pleased Pope Saint Paul VI, who, on promulgating this first document approved by the Second Vatican Council, stated: “God comes first; prayer is our primary duty; the liturgy is the primary source of the divine life communicated to us, the primary school of our spiritual life” (Address, Saint Peter’s Basilica, 4 December 1963).

Indeed, in the Constitution, the term “prayer” designates the liturgy as a whole. This perspective is decisive, for it guided the liturgical reform, making the active participation of the faithful its central pillar. The liturgy is presented first and foremost as the place of encounter, of God’s initiative in drawing near to humanity in his Son, “the Word made flesh, anointed by the Holy Spirit” (SC, 5), to whom we may respond “through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit”, that is to say, thanks to “the very prayer which Christ Himself, together with His Body, addresses to the Father” (SC, 84).

For this reason, Saint Paul VI ardently desired that the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church’s daily public prayer, inseparable from the Eucharist, might deeply permeate, enliven, guide and express all Christian prayer, and effectively nourish the spiritual life of the People of God (cf. Apostolic Constitution Laudis Canticum).

For this desire to be fulfilled, the Liturgy of the Hours needs to be more fully embraced and lived out in the daily lives of the baptized and of the communities. To the many people who wish to learn to pray, especially catechumens, it can offer the path and the school of Christian prayer.

Every week and every day, the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours are the breath of the life of the Church, which makes the Holy Spirit circulate through her Body. In this prayer, Christ “joins the entire community of *(continued in insert)*