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NAME _____ PHONE _____

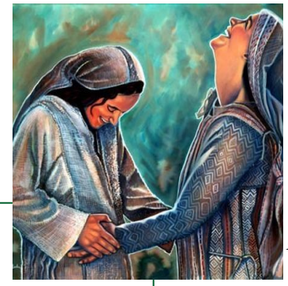
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**Check One:** ❑ New Registration ❑ Change of Address ❑ Moving Out of Parish ❑ Want Envelopes

***Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110***

# *Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



# *1127 McKinley Avenue Johnstown, PA 15905*


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



***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*
***Ms. Chris Houghton,*** *Maintenance*


## *All Saints Day*
## *November 1st, 2026*

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - All Souls' Day**
**9:00 AM - All The Faithful Departed**

**12:05 PM - All The Faithful Departed**

**TUESDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time**
**12:05 PM - Francis Heider**
(Req. by Fran & Charlotte Beaujon)

**WEDNESDAY - Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop**
**5:30 PM - Francis Dietz**
(Req. by John & Marie De Santis)
**Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**THURSDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time**
**12:05 PM - Bernie & Tom Connelly**
(Req. by Pat Sura)

**FRIDAY - Weekday in Ordinary Time**
**12:05 PM - Mary Mattis**
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)
**Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**SATURDAY - Vigil of 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
**4:00 PM - Pro Populo**

**SUNDAY - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
**9:00 AM - Donald Houghton**
(Req. by Family)

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**
**Spiritual and Temporal Welfare of Fr. John**
Req. by Anonymous




*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.

**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 - October 25, 2026**

| | |
|---|---|
| Loose Money | $348.00 |
| Envelopes | $1973.00 |
| Catholic Charities | $25.00 |
| All Souls Day | $80.00 |
| Votive Candles | $156.00 |
| St. Peregrine | $80.00 |
| Parking Lot Rent | $175.00 |

**Total - $2837.00**

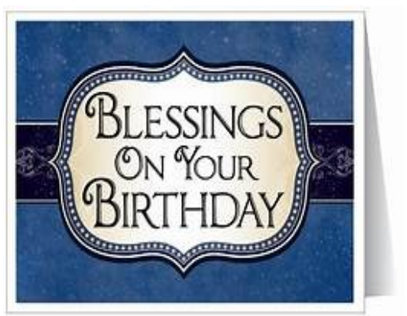
**********

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, Patty Bender, 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, Deb McCaffrey, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Jake Mori- si, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petroro, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovan, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, 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 3rd to November 8th:***




**Brian Nagle** — **Dolores Barto**
**Patti Price** — ***Fr. John Slovikovski***
**Mary Anne Wissinger** — **Charles George**
**Donna Golish** — **Allegra Slick**

## For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

**TURKEY RAFFLE 2026** - Our annual Turkey Raffle is scheduled for Saturday, November 14th, 2026 at the Visitation school gymnasium. Once again, we are calling upon your generosity for various items that are required to make our event a success:

1.**Lottery tickets**, 2. Gift cards for the **Neighborhood** Gift collage, 3. **Spirits** for our Basket of Cheer (State store gift cards are also welcome) and 4. **Readymade baskets** or **new items**. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**As always, we are also in need of volunteers to work the Turkey Raffle** (kitchen workers, raffle ticket sale, runners for prizes and turkey drawings.) Sign-up sheets can be found in the main vesitbule of the Church. Please know that families who benefit from the parish's financial assistance for Catholic Education are encouraged to come forward in good faith. Also, know that we are in need of young persons as volunteers, especially for "running the turkeys. Know that your assistance is GREATLY appreciated. **We need everyone's help in every regard to make this NECESSARY fundraise a success.**



**********

**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 CONTINUE TO SEEK SOME PART-TIME TEMPORARY PAID MAINTENANCE HELP AT THE CHURCH.* This would include regular cleaning and other day-to-day tasks required to upkeep the physical plant. If you are interested, please contact Fr. John by calling the church line. Thank you.

**********

I would like to take this opportunity to SINCERELY THANK all those parishioners (and other friends) who have come out to assist with various cleaning projects (the school cafeteria, the Church, etc.) especially in view of the fact that we have not had a full-time maintenance person for more than four months. Your love for our parish and your pride in our facilities have been a blessing to me during these every difficult times. **- Fr. John**

## *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!

In today's Gospel, the Lord once again leads us to the heart of our faith (cf. Mt 22:34–40). A teacher of the Law, seeking to test Jesus, asks him, "Which commandment in the law is the greatest?" (v. 36). The Teacher responds by quoting a passage from Deuteronomy: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" (v.37; cf. Deut 6:5). Christ places love at the very center of our relationship with God. Indeed, it is not enough to know that God exists, that he is the only God, or that he is the Almighty. The Lord seeks a personal relationship with us: the one true God wants to become our God.

In our encounter with him, the commandment of love is neither an obligation nor an imposition. Indeed, one cannot love "on command." Love for God is the very essence of human desire, which finds its fulfillment in communion with him. For this reason, our love can be authentic only when it is a response to his love, which always precedes us. From this arises the need for a total commitment that involves the whole person: heart, soul and mind.

To the first commandment, the Lord adds a second: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:39). This rule of life springs from the same source; that is why Jesus says that it is similar to the first. Thanks to our close relationship with God, we are able to look at ourselves and our neighbors through the eyes of Christ, from his perspective. In this way, selfishness is overcome and even love for oneself becomes charity: our existence turns toward the other and becomes a gift for those around us.

Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus understood this well: "Love alone," she wrote, makes "the Church's members act, and if Love ever became extinct, apostles would not preach the Gospel" (cf. Complete Works, Manuscript B, 3v°, Rome 1997, 223). Indeed, without love, our faith would be deprived of its essence, our good works would be reduced to mere moralism, and our hope would be in vain.

Dear friends, we cannot truly love God unless this love overflows into love for our brothers and sisters. And we cannot truly love our neighbor except as children of the same Father who loved us first in his Son, Jesus.

Let us ask the Lord for the grace of a new heart, capable of embracing and living out the greatest of all commandments. May the Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for us, in whose Immaculate Heart there is nothing but love.

In his weekly Wednesday Audience, Pope Leo began his exploration of the Documents of the Second Vatican Council. IV. Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et spes. 7. The relationship between faith and culture (GS, 53-62). Here it is in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The Second Vatican Council could not fail to address the subject of culture and its relationship with the Christian faith. It does so in the second chapter of the second part of the Constitution Gaudium et Spes (GS).

The Catholic Church has always been concerned with accompanying the preaching of the Gospel with the establishment of schools of every kind, aimed at advancing the human, cultural and spiritual formation of men and women across the five continents. Medieval universities, as we know, were born from the heart of the Church, making a decisive contribution to the development of Western civilization. At the same time, the progress of culture and knowledge raises ever new and deeper questions, prompting believers to give an account of their faith (cf. 1 Pet 3:15–17). Finally, as expressions of the spiritual dimension of the human being, the various manifestations of culture contribute to opening minds to the perennial questions on the meaning of the world and of human existence, thus preparing people to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The relationship between faith and culture finds its primary foundation in the Incarnation: if the divine Word became flesh and came to dwell among us (cf. Jn 1:14), then faith too is an incarnate reality, interwoven with the culture in which it is immersed. It is also required to become culture, that is, to reach the person in their living environment, made up of human words, traditions, religious meaning, art and poetry, thought and science. As Saint John Paul II loved to repeat, "a faith that does not become culture is a faith not fully accepted, not entirely thought out, not faithfully lived". [1]

Faith can be embodied in all cultures, because it does not identify itself with any of them in a specific one. It dwells within them, shaping them from within according to the "form" of Jesus Christ; that is, through charity, service and the filial recognition of God's fatherhood. In this way, the Church draws from the various cultures all that is good, beautiful and true, in order to embody and transmit the message of the Gospel. At the same time, "the Church, sent to all peoples of every time and place, is not bound exclusively and indissolubly to any race or nation, any particular way of life or any customary way of life recent or ancient. Faithful to her own tradition and at the same time conscious of her universal mission, she can enter into communion with the various civilizations, to their enrichment and the enrichment of the Church herself" (GS, 58).

The Church promotes culture because it is a good in itself, a service to the human being and to the fulfilment of her vocation on earth. For this reason, Gaudium et Spes exhorts the international community to ensure that everyone has access to fundamental cultural goods, by overcoming illiteracy and the lack of education. All those who are capable of accessing higher education – the Council boldly states – must be placed in a position to do so in practice. Furthermore, "it will belong to all to acknowledge and favour the proper and necessary participation of women in the cultural life" (GS, 60).

In addition, Gaudium et Spes upholds the need to direct teaching towards a certain unity of knowledge,

*(Continued on insert)*