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Visitation Parish Membership Form

Name _____ Phone _____

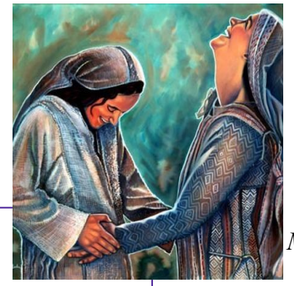
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Check One: ❑ New Registration ❑ Change of Address ❑ Moving Out of Parish ❑ Want Envelopes

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*

First Sunday of Advent
November 29th, 2026

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Advent Weekday
12:05 PM - Spiritual and Temporal Welfare of Connie Pribozie
(Req. by CF & JS)

TUESDAY - Advent Weekday
12:05 PM - Kate Mikesic
(Req. by Husband George)

WEDNESDAY - Advent Weekday
5:30 PM - Dominic Lecci
(Req. by Lecci Family)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

THURSDAY - Advent Weekday
NO MASS

FRIDAY - Advent Weekday
12:05 PM - Anna Marie Pfeil
(Req. by daughter Barb)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY - Vigil of 2nd Sunday of Advent
4:00 PM - Pro Populo

SUNDAY - 2nd Sunday of Advent
9:00 AM - Kevin Cyburt
(Req. by Marian & George)

SANCTUARY CANDLE
In Memory of Basil Balagusz
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.

Please note: The secretary will be out of the office from Thursday, December 3rd @ 12 PM to Monday, December 7th. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, December 8th.

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 - November 22, 2026

Loose Money.....$557.00
Envelopes.....$2622.00
Catholic Charities.....$20.00
Parking Lot Rent.....$35.00
Extraordinary Donation.....$250.00

Total - $3484.00

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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, Patty Bender, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, Marcy Davies, 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 Main- hart, Eric Mangiafico, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Deb McCaffrey, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Jake Morisi, 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

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Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of November 30th to December 6th:



Everett Hancock
Kyla Daly
Joseph Majcher
Dolores Foust
Linda Gorentz
William Kuswara

Jeanne Skovensky
Catherine Kessler
Bryon Mihelic
Kevin Petak
Brian Krise
James Lentz

Margaret Zeiler

Turkey Raffle Wrap-Up Meeting - On Tuesday, December 1st, there will be a turkey raffle wrap-up meeting in the school cafeteria @ 6PM. We will discussing this year's event as well as begin to plan for next year. If anyone is interested in volunteering for next year, they are encouraged to attend.

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Angel Tree 2026 - We are once again having our Annual Angel Tree. This is a wonderful 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 *WITH* THEIR ORIGINAL ANGEL TAG NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 13TH BEFORE OR AFTER MASS!**



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FOSTER OUR 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 WIRH 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!!!



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Advent Prayer Partners - This will be our fifth year to engage in our Advent Prayer Partner Project. Please be sure to pick up your envelope with your prayer partner's name in it. They will be on a table in the back of the vestibule.

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Advent Penance Service - Save the Date: Our Annual Advent Penance Service is scheduled for Thursday, December 17th at 5:30 PM. Please take this opportunity to receive God's gift of mercy by celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation with us. Regardless, even if we think that we don't need to celebrate the sacrament of Penance (which is probably an indicator that we do), think about the tremendous graces that are gained through this wonderful gift that God has given to His Church. Incidentally, I love the sacrament and I avail myself to it on a regular basis.

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!

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. The Gospel we have just heard presents him to us as the Lord who reveals the true meaning of justice through a dialogue in which everyone is involved — both the righteous and the wicked (cf. Mt 25:31-46). Christ is the measure of justice because he is the author of salvation; by illuminating our relationships, he reveals their truth in himself, in opposition to all forms of corruption.

Indeed, justice is that which sustains life: as the Lord says, "I was hungry and you gave me food" (v. 35). Justice establishes bonds of fraternity among peoples: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (ibid.). Justice upholds human dignity: "I was naked and you gave me clothing" (v. 36). Justice restores freedom: "I was in prison and you visited me" (ibid.). Jesus' discourse applies to all times and all peoples (cf. v. 32); we are all equal before the law of God.

The One who speaks to us is neither a despot who threatens nor a tyrant who crushes others with his power. He is the true King who, through his omnipotence, redeems us; he is the true man, the Master of humanity. Christ therefore lifts us up from the dust of passing time, raising all peoples from death to the new life to which he calls them. In this work, the Son is one with the Father who creates all things out of nothing and gives life to all through his Holy Spirit. Thus, the one God reveals his justice.

Dear friends, the Solemnity of Christ the King is celebrated at the end of the liturgical year because it points to the fulfillment of all history: the encounter with God, which is realized in the Last Judgment — that is, in the word that the Lord addresses to all humanity for the sake of our lives. This judgment is, in fact, salvation. The word that God speaks to the world is a proclamation of mercy. It is his Word made flesh for us, Jesus Christ. At the same time, this judgment is the condemnation of all iniquity: "Just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me" (v. 45). Thus, the King of the universe stands alongside the least and the oppressed to redeem them from all evil.

As we ponder these words, let us recall Pope Pius XI's intention in establishing today's solemnity. In an era marked by tensions and conflicts, my predecessor wished to emphasize that the Lord of history is the King of peace and justice for all the peoples of the world. As a pilgrim through the centuries, the Church renews this teaching, proclaiming that the Kingdom of God is coming and will endure forever.

May the Virgin Mary, whom we venerate as Queen of Heaven, accompany us as we persevere in this expectant waiting.

In his weekly Wednesday Audience, Pope Leo continues his exploration of the Documents of the Second Vatican Council. IV. Pastoral Constitution Gaudium et spes. Here it is in its entirety:

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

Today we continue our reflection on Chapter V of Gaudium et Spes (GS), dedicated to the promotion of peace. The Council Fathers first of all admire God's plan for humanity, namely, that "in Christ Jesus this family is called to the family of the sons of God" (GS, 92). As such, in the name of the Lord, we are called to be brothers and sisters, and to build a world of peace. This perspective, full of hope, is intended to embrace not only humanity, but also the whole of creation, as suggested in Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

Through Christ and for Him, in fact God was pleased "to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross" (Col 1:20). The peace that springs from the cross of Christ is offered as the fruit of redemption to all peoples and to the whole of creation. This peace is both a gift of grace, to be received, and a commitment to freedom, to be lived out in accordance with the beatitude proclaimed by Jesus: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Mt 5:9).

The teaching of Gaudium et Spes is not at all naïve; aware of human sin, we know that "peace is never attained once and for all, but must be built up ceaselessly" (GS 78). Therefore, there is no room for resignation, as if violence were inevitable. On the contrary, the nature of modern wars leads the Council Fathers to update the Church's teaching on the matter: such atrocities, they say, "compel us to undertake an evaluation of war with an entirely new attitude" (GS 80).

This is indeed an "obligation", sustained by the Holy Spirit, so that Christ's disciples may observe history today in the light of the Gospel. As we, too, renew this focus, we see that "the digital revolution is changing the nature of conflict. Alongside conventional warfare, there are hybrid forms such as cyberattacks, information manipulation, campaigns of influence and the automation of strategic decisions. … What is created for defence can be rapidly repurposed for offence, and the fine line between protection and aggression becomes blurred" (Magnifica Humanitas, 183). Conflicts, which today appear increasingly inhuman and devastating, fuel hatred and injustice amongst peoples, whilst also disfiguring creation and its beauty.

No one can ignore the suffering afflicting men and women of all ages. The Council's solemn appeal to convert minds and hearts to Christ, the King of Peace, calls upon all people to break the ideological and economic chains that enslave them to war. In this regard, it must be strongly reiterated that "the arms race is an utterly treacherous trap for humanity, and one which ensnares the poor to an intolerable degree. It is much to be feared that if this race persists, it will eventually spawn all the lethal ruin whose path it is now making ready" (GS 81). These prophetic words of the Council resound today as an even more urgent warning: indeed, they are the very cry that rises to the world's powerful from the suffering of peoples, of children killed and maimed, and of destroyed families.

(Continued on insert)