



# ST JOHN BAPTIST DE LA SALLE

A CATHOLIC  
FAMILY OF FAITH



WE ARE A CATHOLIC FAMILY OF FAITH CALLED TO BE INTENTIONAL DISCIPLES, WHO SEEK TO CARRY ON CHRIST'S MISSION THROUGH WORD, SACRAMENT AND SERVICE

**PARISH OFFICE**  
610.777.1697

**PARISH EMAIL**  
st.johnbdls@gmail.com

**PARISH OFFICE  
FAX**  
610.777.4468

**PASTOR'S EMAIL**  
pastor.essig@aol.com

**LA SALLE  
ACADEMY**  
610.777.7392

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil:** 4:00PM

**Sunday:** 8:30AM & 10:30AM

**Holy Days:** *Please consult bulletin*

**Daily:** Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri: 8AM  
Thu: 7PM

## JOIN SAINT JOHN'S

If you are new to the area, please register at the Parish Office. If you are moving, a call would be appreciated. Thank you.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Saturdays:** 3:00PM-3:45PM

**Sundays:** 7:50AM-8:20AM  
9:50AM-10:20AM

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated on the 2nd Sunday of the month.

Pre-Baptism Instructions are necessary for parents. Please contact the parish office 3 months prior to the proposed date of your Baptism.

## HOSPITALIZED

Please notify the parish office when someone is admitted to the hospital. Thank you.

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Diocesan regulations states that arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of date chosen for weddings. Pre-Cana and FOCCUS participation is required. Please call Father Essig at the parish office: 610.777.1697

## ADORATION

**Saturdays:** 3:00PM-3:50PM

## DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE

Contact Ms Wendy Krisak Kalamar  
Direct Phone #: 800.791.9209

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Contact Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S.  
*Secretary, Youth Protection,  
and Catholic Human Services*  
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105  
610.871.5200 x 2204  
prusso@allentowndiocese.org

## PARISH SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR

Contact Bernadette Yohn  
St. John Baptist de la Salle  
610.777.1697

FOR THE LATEST PARISH NEWS & SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT,  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.STJOHNSFAMILYOFFAITH.COM](http://WWW.STJOHNSFAMILYOFFAITH.COM)



## PARISH STAFF, MINISTRY DIRECTORY, AND CONTACT INFORMATION

### PARISH STAFF & MAILING ADDRESS

**Parish Mailing Address**

420 Holland Street, Shillington, PA 19607

**Pastor**

Rev. Edward Essig

**Deacon**

Deacon F. Joseph Lombardo: 610.777.1697

**Principal of La Salle Academy**

Mr. Stephen Mickulik: 610.777.7392

**Parish Secretary**

Bernadette Yohn: 610.777.1697

**Parish Communications Coordinator**

Sarah Capato: 610.850.4978

**Director of Religious Education**

Bernadette Yohn: 610.777.1697

**Director of Music**

Andrew Angstadt: 610.451.5664

### OUTREACH & PARISH MINISTRIES

**Culture of Life**

Contact: Bob Peters at 610.775.8965

**Bereavement Ministry**

Contact: Roseann Kumor at 610.775.7431

**Justice in Action Ministry**

Contact: Arlene Seeber at 484.794.8027

**Breaking Bread Social Committee**

Contact: Lois Lombardo at 610.777.2542

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Contact: Elaine Strick at 484.824.1577

**Food Pantry / Emergency Meals**

Contact: Kate Roche at 610.777.4792

**Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities**

Contact: Kate Roche at 610.777.4792

**Parish Nurse Ministry**

Contact: Sharon Shingler at 610.775.9998

### ORGANIZATIONS

**Prime Timers**

Contact: Bob Peters at 610.775.8965

**Knights of Columbus**

Contact: David Pray at 610.780.9431

**Church Cleaners**

Contact: Carol Bensing at 610.401.6561

**CYO** (*Christian Youth Organization*)

Contact: Cassandra Jones at 814.441.3557

Lyndsey Gable at 484.256.3464

**Parish Gardeners**

Contact: David Pray at 610.780.9431

### CATHOLIC BISHOP ABUSE REPORTING

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by phone at 800.276.1562.

### WORSHIP

**Eucharistic Adoration**

TBA

**Altar Servers**

Students from Grade 4 to Seniors in High School

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Adult Funeral Servers**

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Contact: Bernadette Yohn at 610.777.1697 or 610.777.6297

**Lectors**

Contact: Deacon Joe Lombardo at 610.777.2542

**Ministers of Hospitality**

Contact: Deacon Joe Lombardo at 610.777.2542

**Liturgical Music** ([stjohnmusicministry.weebly.com](http://stjohnmusicministry.weebly.com))

Contact: Andrew Angstadt at 610.451.5664 or  
angstadtstjohnmusic@gmail.com

**Cantors**

Contact: Andrew Angstadt at 610.451.5664

**Baptismal Prep**

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Baptismal Bibs**

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Sacristans**

Contact: Elaine Strick at 610.856.7264

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

**OCIA (Order of Christian for Adults)**

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Adult Education (Seasonal)**

Contact: Parish Office at 610.777.1697

**Faith Sharing for Women**

Contact: Arlene Seeber at 484.794.8027

**Parish Prayer Line**

Contact: Judy Peters at 610.775.8965

### COMPREHENSIVE CATHOLIC EDUCATION

**La Salle Academy:** Preschool, Pre Kindergarten, K-8th Grade

Mr. Stephen Mickulik, Principal: 610.777.7392

**Berks Catholic High School:** 9th-12th Grade

Mr. John Petruzzelli, Principal: 610.374.8361 ext. 230

**Parish Religious Education Program:** 1st-8th Grade

Mrs. Bernadette Yohn, DRE: 610.777.1697

**OCIA:** Age 18+

Mrs. Bernadette Yohn, DRE: 610.777.1697

### SCHEDULING USE OF PARISH FACILITIES

**For those interested in using the Father Lyons room for a meeting or special event, please contact the Parish Office at 610.777.1697**

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

April 27	Rev. Quinn Gomez, FSSP
April 28	Rev. Msgr. John Grabish
April 29	Rev. James Greenfield, OSFS
April 30	Rev. Eric Gruber
May 1	His Holiness Pope Francis
May 2	Bishop Alfred Schlert
May 3	Rev. Francis Grundowski

## SPIRITUAL THOUGHT

In dangers of sinning, when assailed by temptations, when doubtful as to how you should act, remember that Mary can help you, and if you call upon her, she will instantly help you. Saint Alphonsus Ligouri—Mary, Full of Grace

The tongue weighs practically nothing, but few can hold it.



**Congratulations to the following students who made their First Communion this weekend:**

***Kamila Benitez, Robert Calcagni, Memphis Draper, Avanleigh Galbraith, Nicholas Galbraith, Gavin Graber, Annalise Hannum, Jack Hannum, Camille Hernandez-Goris, Isabel Henneman. Emma Mastromarino, Harper Nelson, Brooklyn Payton, Gizzelle Payton, Christian Renninger, Casey Strick, Joshua Tran, Elena Walker, Felicity West***

**LENTEN DONATIONS TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** The parish donations during Lent to benefit Habitat of Humanity totaled \$1851.00. Such parish generosity testifies to our collective conscious awareness of the members of our extended community who desire to own a home and need assistance in procuring a home for their family. Habitat for Humanity will use well the generous support offered by our parish. Thank You!



### Save the Date!

Saints and Scholars- An Evening of Giving  
LaSalle Academy, May 10, 2025 5PM  
Join us for a night of dining, dancing, and giving back to Las Salle Academy! Enjoy an elegant dinner, exciting live and silent auctions, and time to connect with our wonderful school community. Tickets go on sale March 10, 2025



### Save the Date

St. John's annual blood drive is scheduled for Wednesday June 4th from 9am-2pm. Please consider giving the gift only you can give. More info to follow.

## PRIME TIMERS NEWS



**PRIMETIMER GENERAL MEETING:** Our next **General Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, May 6 at 11:00 am in the Fr. Lyons Room.** We'll be having our **Annual May Madness Auction!!!** Nancy has a **fantastic** assortment of items to **bid** on, and **EVERY ITEM IS BRAND NEW!!!** This is our most **FUN EVENT** of the year, so bring your extra dollars (*you know we never go too high*) to bid on an item for yourself or as a gift for a family member and/or friend!!! Spring has come and the flowers are blooming the smile of an ever joyful nature, so **bring along a friend as a guest** so they too can join in the excitement that our Auction always brings!! We also always have a delectable assortment of goodies for all to enjoy!! Let's fill the room with lots of eager bidders and those who just like to sit back and enjoy a rousing afternoon of fun guaranteed to put a smile on your face!!! Sure hope you can join us!!!!

**November 12, 2025:** "Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn" at Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. Cost per person: \$135.00. Before the show enjoy their full-service salad bar, classic American favorite entrees, potato and vegetable side dishes, and their favorite delectable dessert buffet! Cost per person: \$135.00, package includes Motor Coach Transportation, Lunch, and Show, and Driver Gratuity. Bus will depart from St. John's parking lot at 10:30 AM with an approximate return of 4:45 PM. **Deadline for Payment and Registration is September 24. For more information and registration please contact Mary Stadelmeyer at 484.955.9492.**

**Mifflin Community Food Ministry Update:** Thanks to all who remember the food ministry with weekly food donations. Through your continued generosity, the food ministry is able to assist more than 100 families each month in the Mifflin area! The Mifflin Community Food Ministry's next food distribution will be on Saturday, May 17th, 2025, between 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. **A request for the following food items would be greatly appreciated:** Instant potatoes, canned pasta (ravioli), canned chicken breast, canned tuna fish, canned peaches, canned pineapple, 100% juice, peanut butter and toilet paper. Your donated items are very much appreciated. Please place donations in the baskets at church entrances. The Mifflin Community Food Ministry is also accepting donations of food on the porch of 54 Chestnut Street, Mohnton, Pa. 19540. There is no contact, just a drop off. For those writing a check, please make check out to : Mifflin Community Food Ministry. Thank you for your continued generosity! Any concerns, please contact Kate Roché @ keroche13@gmail.com

## A WORD FROM OUR PARISH NURSES MINISTRY

### Social Isolation

One important aspect of a healthy life that is often overlooked is our relationships with others, particularly in terms of being part of a social group. Spending time with others can be just as crucial for our mental health as managing stress. Staying connected allows us to combat depression, anxiety, and other mental health challenges. However, unlike during our school days, when we were surrounded by peers and involved in similar activities, it can be difficult to make new friends as adults.

Here are some ways to build and maintain meaningful connections:

1. **Volunteer** - Get involved in community organizations that focus on causes you're passionate about. Volunteering is a great way to meet like-minded people while contributing to a cause you care about.
  2. **Join a Church Group** - St. John's, for example, offers several groups that provide opportunities for social interaction. Breaking Bread and the Knights of Columbus are just two examples of groups that foster connection and community.
  3. **Join a Gym** - Gyms aren't just for physical fitness; they also provide opportunities for social interaction. Participating in fitness classes or working out with others can help you meet people while staying healthy.
  4. **Nurture Existing Relationships** - Reach out to friends you haven't spoken to in a while. Take time to listen and offer support. Sometimes, being there for others can also help take your mind off your own worries.
  5. **Explore New Hobbies or Revisit Old Ones** - If you once enjoyed theater, consider joining a community theater group. If running was your thing, look for a local running group. Love reading? A book club could be the perfect way to connect with others who share your interests.
  6. **Plan Family Time** - The saying "we only see each other at weddings and funerals" doesn't have to be true. Make an effort to spend quality time with family, even outside of major events.
- Make Socializing a Habit** - It's easy to get caught up in daily routines. If we don't intentionally plan to call or meet up with others, it often won't happen. Make social interaction a regular part of your schedule.

For more information: The hurt of loneliness and social isolation. *Nat. Mental Health* **2**, 255-256 (2024).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s44220-024-00221-5>



### POOR BOX DONATIONS EASTER SEASON BENEFIT LIFELINE OF BERKS COUNTY AND MARY'S SHELTER

**Lifeline of Berks County**, also known as North Star Women's Center is currently located at 612 Reading Avenue in West Reading. This non-profit organization offers up-to-date accurate information about all options for pregnant women regardless of age, race, nationality, religion, or disability. All services are confidential and include pregnancy testing, STI testing, mentoring, and ultrasounds, offered at no cost to the clients. Staff nurses and advocates help keep mothers healthy and offer support throughout the pregnancy. All services are for education and are not meant to replace a mother's regular medical care. Lifeline does not provide or refer for abortions.

**Mary's Shelter** is located at 615 Kenhorst Blvd in Reading and is committed to empowering homeless youth by providing housing, education, and social services programs. Through compassion, respect and empowerment, this non-profit aims to break the cycle of homelessness and create a future where youth are provided with the skills to have independence, resilience and confidence to thrive. The youth programs are available for those aged 14-21 and address the needs of young people living on the streets by offering a home-like atmosphere, counseling, and referrals to outside services. The YESS (Youth Empowerment Support Services) Residential Program is a 21-day program and the STRONG Transitional Youth Housing Services program can extend up to 18 months. In addition, Mary's Shelter offers Maternity and Family Services. Maternity services include temporary housing, counseling, on-site classes and help with coordinating prenatal care, education, and housing. A Family Wellness Program includes counseling, community referrals, as well as assistance with diapers and other baby supplies for families with newborns and/or children up to 3 years of age.

**Please take note: Mass on Monday, April 28 will be at 6:30 PM for the Repose of the Soul of Pope Francis, there is no 8 AM Mass. There is NO Mass on Thursday, May 1. Mass on Friday, May 2 is at 8:30 AM**

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**MONDAY, APR. 28 - Easter Weekday,** St. Peter Chanel & St. Louis Grignon de Montfort  
Pope Francis  
**6:30 p.m.**

**TUESDAY, APR. 29 - Easter Weekday**  
*St. Catharine of Siena*  
Arthur Bromirski  
8:00 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY, APR. 30 - Easter Weekday,** St. Pius V  
Claire Causa  
8:00 a.m.

**THURSDAY, MAY 1 - Easter Weekday,** St. Joseph the Worker  
**NO MASS**  
7:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, MAY 2 - First Friday,** St. Athanasius  
Memorial Society Members  
**8:30 a.m.**

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

**SATURDAY, MAY 2**  
4:00 p.m. Paul Namiotka

**SUNDAY, MAY 3**  
8:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
10:30 a.m. Kevin Quigley

## UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### SATURDAY, MAY 3- 4:00PM

**Lector:** Don Muzyka  
**Servers:** Alyssa Reali  
**EM:** Renee Reali, Vicki Pinder, Francine Claytor

**SUNDAY, MAY 4 - 8:30AM**  
**Lector:** Britt Kobularcik  
**Servers:** Catherine Weisman  
**EM:** Susan Artz, Nick Bentz, Lois Lombardo

**SUNDAY, MAY 4 - 10:30AM**  
**Lector:** Steve Hetzel  
**Servers:** Sonya Stonaha  
**EM:** Kristen Kellenberger, Kathy Mihalik, Cindy Trygar

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY 4/13: \$14,675.00  
EASTER SUNDAY: 4/20: \$15,449.00  
SUNDAY: 4/20: \$4,718.00  
**Thank you for your generosity**



**Sanctuary Lamp for the week of April 27-May 3**  
will burn in loving memory of Dr. Craig Johnson  
(requested by Susan Johnson)

## TODAYS READINGS

### First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

The people held the apostles in great esteem and brought sick people to them to be healed. Although some were afraid to be known, the number of Jesus' followers continued to grow steadily.

### Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

John depicts a vision of lamp-stands of gold and one like the Son of Man in a robe with a sash of gold. This apparition told John he had nothing to fear and then described himself as one who was dead but now lived again. He then instructed John to record any other visions he might have.

### Gospel: John 20:19-31

Jesus appeared to the disciples and breathed on them saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit." He gives them the power to forgive people's sins or hold them accountable. Thomas, who was not present, refused to believe Jesus had appeared until he came to them once more. Jesus told Thomas to believe and added, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday

Acts 5:12-16; Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

### Monday

Acts 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8

### Tuesday

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7b-15

### Wednesday

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

### Thursday

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

### First Friday

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

### First Saturday

1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14

## THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

### Sunday, April 27

6:00 PM Rel Ed

### Tuesday, April 29

1:00 PM Prime Timers Board Meeting