

September 7, 2025 / Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



Church of St. John

LOVE GOD · LOVE PEOPLE · MAKE DISCIPLES

5171 Milford Road East Stroudsburg, PA 18302-9106
Phone: 570-223-9144 Website: www.churchofstjohn.com



PARISH VISION

To both welcome the unchurched in the Eastern Pocono Region and beyond, and to nourish and challenge all current church members by forming leaders and creating an irresistible weekend experience at the Church of St. John.

Mass Schedule

Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 9:00 AM
Tuesday and Thursday – 12:00 PM
Saturday – 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM (Spanish Mass)
Sunday – 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Live stream available on Saturday and Sunday on our YouTube channel, Facebook page, and church website.

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Mon, Wed, Thurs & Frid: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Tuesday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM &
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Sacrament of Confession

Saturdays: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Or by appointment

Main E-mail

stjohnchurchmain@gmail.com

Reverend Gregory A. Reichlen

Pastor

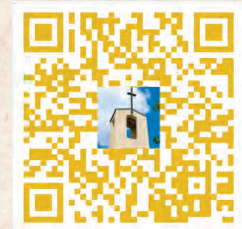
stjohnfr@gmail.com

Deacon Max Francois

Permanent Deacon

Scan the QR Code to Access

- Monthly Event Schedule
- Mass Live Stream
- Give Online
- Social Media & More...



Word, Worship and Prayer

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, September 6

4:00 pm Cecilia Komolafe by Cecilia Komolafe
6:30 pm Arnaudy Camilo by The Camilo Family

SUNDAY, September 7 Wis 9:13-18b; Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

8:30 am Ludiuina L Tan
by Cesario & Lumapat Family
11:00 am Zbigniew "Ziggy" Paryzki &
Jerzy "George" Chyzy by Paryzki Family

MONDAY, September 8 Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

9:00 am Nancy Walsh by Joe & Mary Galayda

TUESDAY, September 9 Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19

12:00 pm Nancy Giletto Bialkowski
by Andy & Ginger Slionski

WEDNESDAY, September 10 Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26

9:00 am Nancy Ann Bialkowski
by The St. John's Columbiettes

THURSDAY, September 11 Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38

12:00 pm Larry O'Brien by Janet Broda

FRIDAY, September 12 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Lk 6:39-42

9:00 am Carol Memminger by Crane Family

SATURDAY, September 13

4:00 pm Joseph Maenza by Marie Maenza
6:30 pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, September 14

8:30 am Nancy Walsh by Fr. Greg & St. John's Parish
11:00 am Anna Susie Reichlen
by Cathy & Peter Sterling

For Those In Need Of Hope, Healing & Health

Consuelo Accomasso, Michael Alotta,
Marius Bondoc, Catherine Jennifer Fusco,
Lisa Jones, April Pollak, Thomas Pollak,
Lenny Rapisardi, Samantha Rodriquez,
Jannielou Squires, Rob Truex,
Elizabeth Valentine

For The Souls Of Our Dearly Departed

Kathryn Capobianco,
Edward & Beatrice Crosby, Michael Dwyer,
Kathy Goeke, Danilo & Norma de Guzman,
Paul Keyes, Dion Lissimore, Juana Quinones,
Wendell Lissimore Senior, Jose Neil Sipalay,
Florito Sipalay Sr., Juanita Valentin,
Elizabeth White, Anthony Zanella

*To add to this list, please email:
stjohnbultn@gmail.com*

Announcements for this Week

Silver Circle is a membership program that benefits our retired IHM Sisters. For \$25 per membership, your name will be entered in more than 324 drawings from October through June, with cash prizes from \$50 to \$1,000!

As a member, you will also be remembered in a monthly Mass for benefactors and in the daily prayers of the IHM Sisters.
Contact: Sister Mary Alice Kane, IHM
Phone: 570-421-1132 or 570-421-3651.



SANCTUARY CANDLE

For the Lives Lost on 9/11
by The Church of St. John
September 6, 2025 — September 12, 2025

TABERNACLE CANDLE

Peace and Unity Around The World
by The Church of St. John
September 6, 2025 — September 12, 2025

You may reserve a candle for your special intentions—
whether in memory of a loved one, for healing, or to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and other
meaningful occasions. A special card is available to accompany the reservation.

To arrange this, please contact the Parish Office.



**“Everything Must Go” Week 1: Introduction
Counting the Cost & Putting God First**

Following Jesus is life-changing but it’s also costly. In **Luke 14:25–33**, Jesus paints a vivid picture for His followers: discipleship means counting the cost, making intentional decisions, and placing Him above everything, including our possessions. For some, those words might feel extreme. After all, aren’t money and possessions just “normal parts of life”? Why would Jesus link them so closely to our ability to follow Him?

The truth is, Jesus understood something we often try to ignore, that our money and our heart are deeply connected (Matthew 6:21). The way we view, handle, and prioritize our resources often reveals what we really trust in. Many people today live with financial tension: rising costs, debt, not enough income, or regret from past money decisions. We carry unspoken anxiety and sometimes shame that quietly shapes how we live and give. Jesus wasn’t condemning possessions, nor was He asking us to live deprived of things. He was warning us not to let possessions take the position of “master” in our lives. Money is a necessary tool; we need it to live, to care for our families, to enjoy life, and to help others; but tools are meant to be used.

Putting God first in the area of money means surrendering the illusion that we are the ultimate providers for ourselves. It means recognizing that every dollar, every possession, and every opportunity ultimately belongs to Him, and we are simply stewards. This shift in thinking changes everything, instead of asking, “How much of my money should I give to God?” we begin to ask, “How would God want me to use what He has entrusted to me today?” For some, putting God first might mean reshaping spending habits, creating a budget that prioritizes generosity over impulse purchases. For others, it might look like releasing the pride or fear that keeps us from trusting Him with giving; and for many, it’s a deeply personal journey of letting Jesus into a place of life that’s often guarded – our financial story.

When we put God first financially, we also replace fear with peace. Our security is no longer defined by the balance in our bank account but by the promises of a faithful Father who provides for His children. The more we live this out, the more our faith grows, and the more our finances become a source of blessing instead of stress.

As you reflect on this topic this week, remember that surrender in this area of life is not about loss; it’s about freedom. A life where Jesus is first, even with our money and possessions, is a life marked by trust, peace, and purpose.


Reflection & Discussion Questions:

1. In Luke 14:25–33, Jesus urges us to “count the cost” of following Him. What does that look like in your life, especially related to money and possessions?
2. Why do you think money can be such a difficult area to surrender to God?
3. How have you seen God provide for you when you’ve put Him first financially?
4. What is one small, practical step you could take this week to align your finances more closely with God’s priorities?
5. How could our group better encourage and support one another in living with God first in our finances?

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Do you know someone awesome? Nominate your hero for the Person of the Year Award!
 Middle Smithfield Township seeks nominations for the **2025 MST Person of the Year Award**
 Nominees must be unpaid volunteers who live in or volunteer in Middle Smithfield Township
 The winner and two runners up will receive \$1,500 and \$1,000 for their cause.
 Nominations open in September.
 To nominate your hero, or for more info:
www.mstpersonoftheyear.com | 570-223-8920 x132 | hdennis@mstowship.com
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