

October 19, 2025 / Twenty-ninth 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

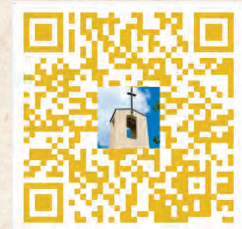
stjohnfr@gmail.com

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, October 18

4:00 pm Mary Bridget McGeough
by Desmond McGeough & Family
6:30 pm People of the Parish

SUNDAY, October 19 Ex 17:8-13; 2 Tm 3:14-4:2; Lk 18:1-8

8:30 am Nancy Bialkowski by Jill Sippel
11:00 am Florito Sipalay by Nejar & Arlene & Family

MONDAY, October 20 Rom 4:20-25; Lk 12:13-21

9:00 am Rosanne McEvoy by Christine Lopez

TUESDAY, October 21 Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21; Lk 12:35-38

12:00 pm Deacon Eduardo Sencion by Sencion Family

WEDNESDAY, October 22 Rom 6:12-18; Lk 12:39-48

9:00 am James Novak by Bob Noonan

THURSDAY, October 23 Rom 6:19-23; Lk 12:49-53

12:00 pm Michael Sikoryak by Teresa Sikoryak

FRIDAY, October 24 Rom 7:18-25a; Lk 12:54-59

9:00 am Betty Noonan & Martin Loughlin
by Bob Noonan

SATURDAY, October 25

4:00 pm Louis & Rosemary Knaub by Kaitlin Pecha
6:30 pm The Deceased Family Members of the
Ortez and Canales Families
by Amanda & Luvis Ortez Canales

SUNDAY, October 26

8:30 am Curdy Fils Angrand &
Marie-Jeanne C. Angrand
by The Angrand Family
11:00 am Kathleen Gabel by The Gabel Family

For Those In Need Of Hope, Healing & Health

Consuelo Accomasso, Michael Alotta,
Marius Bondoc, Jessica Lopez,
Brian Martinez, Sal Pomara,
Samantha Rodriguez, Jannielou Squires,
Rob Truex, Elizabeth Valentine

For The Souls Of Our Dearly Departed

Kathryn Capobianco,
Edward & Beatrice Crosby, Michael Dwyer,
Catherine Fusco, Danilo & Norma de Guzman,
Dion Lissimore, William Mulero,
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

All parishioners and families are invited to
our Annual **Holy Hour for Families on Sunday**
October 19 at 12:15 pm, after the 11 am
Mass.

All are invited to a special **Anti-Bullying**
Talk on Sunday, October 26 at 9:45 AM during
Faith Formation classes.

One of our parishioners will be sharing
valuable insights on how we can help our
children recognize, prevent, and respond to
bullying with compassion and faith. Parents
are encouraged to attend while the children
are in class. Come together as a faith
community to promote kindness, respect, and
Christ's love in our homes and schools.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Peace & Unity Around The World
by The Church of St. John
October 18, 2025 — October 24, 2025

TABERNACLE CANDLE

Feast of All Saints Day
by The Church of St. John
October 18, 2025 — October 24, 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.



“Pilgrims of Hope” Week 2: Hope that God Hears Our Prayers

Jesus’ parable of the persistent widow (**Luke 18:1-8**) offers us a provocative image of prayer and hope. The widow comes again and again to the judge, demanding justice. The judge is indifferent, even unjust; yet he finally gives in, not out of compassion, but annoyance at her persistence. Jesus uses this exaggeration to contrast God’s character with that of the judge: if even an unjust man can be moved by persistence, how much more will our loving Father respond to the prayers of his children?

This story invites us to reflect honestly on our own experience of prayer. Many of us have felt, at times, as if our prayers go unanswered, that God is distant, silent, or slow to act. It’s easy to become discouraged or feel as though praying is a waste of time. Yet Jesus insists to **pray – always – and not lose heart (Luke 18:1)**. This challenge asks us to view prayer not as a one-time request but as a relationship sustained over time, a trust that God is attentive even in moments of silence.

The widow’s determination models the kind of faith Jesus wants for his followers. Her persistence is not a sign of doubt but of hope: she keeps returning because she knows there is a possibility for justice, a chance that she will be heard. Hope in prayer means daring to believe that God’s heart is moved not only by our words, but by our continued trust in his goodness. Jesus assures us that God’s answer may not always be “yes;” it may be “not yet” or even a “I have something better.” Faithful prayer means remaining open to God’s wisdom, trusting that his work is often deeper and wider than our requests.

As we pray, hope invites us to ask, seek, and knock; but also to listen, to wait, and to accept what God gives. Prayer redirects our hearts to God, shapes us in humility, and reminds us of our dependence on Him. Sometimes God’s answer is the transformation of our own desires or a deeper peace that allows us to keep on moving forward. Sometimes prayer becomes the channel through which God strengthens, guides, and prepares us for the very answer He intends to give.

In our parish, we are called this week to recommit to persistent prayer, personally, in families, and together as a community. The **Family Holy Hour after the 11am Mass** on Sunday and **our Adoration Chapel**, open daily, are visible signs of our trust that God hears. More than just words spoken, hope in prayer is a lived expectation that God cares, listens, and responds. Through prayer, God invites us to be honest, vulnerable, and tenacious, never afraid to “bother” him.

Hope in prayer is not about being perfect or saying the right words but about returning again and again to the One who loves us, certain that every prayer is heard. This week, let us lean into that hope, showing up before God, and for each other, with hearts open to his answer. Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. When have you found it difficult to persist in prayer, and what helped you keep going?
2. What do you think Jesus means by “pray always and do not lose heart”?
3. Have you ever experienced an unexpected answer to prayer, something better than you asked for?
4. How can our parish encourage each other to stay faithful in prayer, especially in discouraging times?
5. In what specific ways will you commit to praying this week, individually or with others?

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