

October 26, 2025 / Thirtieth 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 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 Sir 35:12-14, 16-18;

2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

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

11:00 am Kathleen Gabel by The Gabel Family

MONDAY, October 27 Rom 8:12-17; Lk 13:10-17

9:00 am John Maurer & Joan Freedman
by Bob Noonan
& Cen Azcueta by The Alday Family

TUESDAY, October 28 Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16

No Daily Mass

WEDNESDAY, October 29 Rom 8:26-30; Lk 13:22-30

No Daily Mass

THURSDAY, October 30 Rom 8:31b-39; Lk 13:31-35

12:00 pm Edward Bland by Cherie Bland
& James McEvoy by Christine Lopez

FRIDAY, October 31 Rom 9:1-5; Lk 14:1-6

9:00 am Claudia Herrero by Oquendo Family

SATURDAY, November 1

4:00 pm Cecilia Komolafe by Cecilia Komolafe
6:30 pm Arnaudy Camilo
by The Camilo Family and Juan
& Jean Illescas by Tanya Illescas

SUNDAY, November 2

8:30 am Patricia Ann Kolakowski
by Deacon Max & Violette Francois
11:00 am Lance Francois by Mom & Dad

For Those In Need Of Hope, Healing & Health

Consuelo Accomasso, Michael Alotta,
Marius Bondoc, Jessica Lopez,
Brian Martinez, Sal Pomara,
Samantha Rodriquez, 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

Fr. Reichlen will attend the Priests'
Convocation from Oct. 27-30. He will
celebrate Mass on Monday and Thursday, but
there will be **No Mass on Tuesday and
Wednesday (Oct. 28-29).**

All Saints Day – Nov. 1

Mass will be held Saturday at 9:00 am,
followed by Confessions. All Saints Day is not
a Holy Day of Obligation this year because it
falls on a Saturday.

All Souls Day – Nov. 2

At all Weekend Masses, we will remember the
faithful departed and read the names of
parishioners who passed away this past year
in the Book of the Dead.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Peace & Unity Around The World
by The Church of St. John
October 25, 2025 — October 31, 2025

TABERNACLE CANDLE

Edward Bland
by Cherie Bland
October 25, 2025 — October 31, 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 3: Hope Is Rooted in Humility

Jesus’ parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector is one of the most clever in the Gospels, inviting us to look honestly at our own hearts before God. The Pharisee stands apart, confident in his own righteousness, reciting his spiritual achievements, fasting, tithing, and avoiding the sins of others. Meanwhile, the tax collector barely steps inside, cannot even lift his eyes, simply praying, **“O God, be merciful to me, a sinner” (Luke 18:13)**. Jesus surprises every expectation by saying that it is the tax collector, rather than the Pharisee, who leaves the temple justified.

At first glance, the Pharisee’s problem is pride: he trusts in his own goodness and looks down on others; but as the story goes, it becomes clear that the deeper issue is a lack of humility, a refusal to see his need for God’s mercy. The tax collector, on the other hand, embodies true humility by admitting his faults and placing all his hope in God’s grace. In the Kingdom of God, Jesus insists, it is not performance or status that wins God’s approval, but humble trust in his mercy.

Humility is not about denying our gifts or pretending we have no strengths. Rather, it is about being rooted in the truth: that everything good within us is ultimately a gift from God; and that before him, all are in equal need of forgiveness. The Catechism in paragraph 2559 teaches that *“humility is the foundation of prayer,”* because only a humble person is able to recognize both God’s greatness and our own dependence on him. Humility enables real relationship and honest prayer, since we come before God just as we are, trusting in his mercy rather than our own merits.

Hope and humility are deeply connected. When we are humble, we stop relying on our own efforts and become open to what God wants to do in us. The tax collector’s hope is not in his spiritual record, but in God’s willingness to forgive. It is this posture that opens the door to justification, new beginnings, and authentic hope.

For our parish, this week is an invitation to embrace humility with courage. We are called to turn away from comparison and self-justification, and to make a space for God’s transforming grace. The Sacrament of Confession is a concrete way to live out this humility; by naming our need for God’s mercy, we receive hope that is firm and lasting. In humble prayer, in honest relationships, and in an openness to growth, we discover that hope thrives in humble hearts.

Let us remember: **Everyone who exalts themselves will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted (Luke 18:14)**. By rooting ourselves in humility, we make space for God to fill us with His merciful hope.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. How do you see yourself in the parable: more like the Pharisee or the tax collector? Why?
2. What makes humility difficult, especially in spiritual or religious settings?
3. How does humility shape your experience of prayer and your relationship with God?
4. Why is confession (admitting faults) essential for real hope and growth in faith?
5. What practical steps will you take this week to practice greater humility in your spiritual life?

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ELECTION DAY – TUES. NOVEMBER 4

Polls are open 7 AM to 8 PM

Find your Middle Smithfield Township polling location:

Middle Smithfield 1:
 Church of St. John
 5171 Milford Road

Middle Smithfield 2:
 Schoonover Municipal Center
 147 Municipal Drive

Middle Smithfield 3:
 Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church
 5205 Milford Road

Middle Smithfield 4:
 Community & Cultural Center
 5200 Milford Road

More information:
middlesmithfieldtownship.com/212/voting

VOTE BY MAIL: For information, visit monroecountypa.gov/departments/elections
 Dropbox is located at the Library of the Smithfields, 5200 Milford Road

For more information about voting:
 Monroe County Office of Elections: 570-517-3165 | monroecountypa.gov/departments/elections

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