

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Simone Volavola, M.S.C.

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Tony Ripp, M.S.C.

Deacon: Ernest D'Angelo

Dir. of Religious Education: Donna Sciacca

Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok

PARISH SPIRITUALITY

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

Mon - Thurs: 8:35am / Friday 9:00am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:30pm

CONFESSION

Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm or anytime by appointment.

REGISTER: Please register when you move into the parish. This is an opportunity to become acquainted with our faith community and to experience the joy of being part of the Church. Only registered parishioners, in good standing, can receive a Certificate of Eligibility to act as a Godparent or sponsor.



BAPTISMS: The Sacrament of Baptism is administered on the fourth Sunday of every month at 11:30 a.m. Parents are encouraged to invite family members to the 10:30 Mass as the Sacrament of Baptism takes place immediately following the Mass. Parents and Godparents meet for an enrichment class prior to the Baptism. You will need to call the Parish Office to register for this class. A Godparent must be a committed, practicing Catholic, and if from another parish, must have a certificate of eligibility from his/her pastor. This certificate should be brought to the enrichment class. A Christian of other denominations may serve as a Godparent along with a practicing Catholic.



MARRIAGE: Couples planning marriage are expected to attend Pre-Cana Conferences and to meet with the parish priest several times leading up to the marriage. The period of preparation time required is six months unless approved otherwise by our Pastor.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the rectory at any time for the Sacrament of the Sick. Also the Holy Eucharist will be brought to the sick and shut-ins upon request to the Parish Office. We celebrate a Communal Anointing of the Sick in June, near the *Feast of St. John the Baptist.*

Masses for the Week of April 11 – April 17, 2016

Morning Prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, Mon – Fri at 8:15am

Monday, April 11

8:35am (chapel) Justin Eschenburg (The Irvine Family)

6:30pm (church) PREP Mass

Tuesday, April 12

8:35am (chapel) Elizabeth Petritsch (Loving Family)

6:30pm (church) PREP Mass

Wednesday, April 13

8:35am (chapel) Andrew Casazza (Tom & Sur Rogers)

Thursday, April 14

8:35am (chapel) Steve Hancharik (Helen Wall & Sarah Fleck)

Friday, April 15

9:00am (church) John Sabath (Barbara Sabath)

Saturday, April 16

5:00pm (church) Maria Meier (Ron Meier)

Sunday, April 17

8:00am (church) Parishioner' Intentions

10:30am (church) Intentions of our parish CONFIRMANDI



This weeks Altar flowers were donated in honor of Grace Herzig by Marianne Zarillo.

Meetings for the week of April 11-17, 2016

- Mon. April 11:** Conquest, 6:40pm – School
Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7pm – Marian Room
- Tues. April 12:** Choir, 7:30pm - church
- Wed. April 13:** Christ Life, 6-9pm – Narthex
- Thurs. April 14:** Knights of Columbus, 7pm – Marian Room
- Sat. April 16:** Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room
CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL, 6pm – School/church

Mass Collections

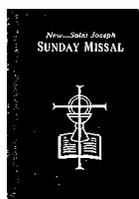
Sunday, April 3, 2016 \$6,127.75

Rice Bowl (to date) \$ 708.00

Thank you for your generosity!



SJB Cleaning Team for the week of April 11th is Team # 1:
Laura Gumprecht, Anita colahan, Susdan Middleton, Kate Irvine, Sharon Forte, Lisa Saab **Your parish thanks you!**



This READINGS for our Masses this weekend can be found in:
Section 906

Gospel Reflections

*A Letter from
Our Pastor, Father Simi*



*Jesus said to Simon Peter,
“Simon, son of John, do you love me more than
these?”
(John 21:15)*

Our Lord’s resurrection from the dead gives hope to all His creatures who are bound by death. The message of the resurrection is then preached to all creatures. This includes those whom we may be very resistant and even violently resistant to the message of the Risen Lord.

Peter gradually is discovering this aspect of the resurrection of his Lord. Even after two appearances of the Risen Lord to him and the rest of his brother apostles, Peter is still not con-vinced of Jesus’ words, “Peace be with you. Just as the Father has sent me, so I send you.” (John 20:21) These are words we heard at last Sunday’s Mass.

Peter, in this Sunday’s gospel has yet to be possessed completely by the Holy Spirit which Jesus breathed into them in His last appearance. Peter has yet to experience the peace of that same Spirit. He has yet to experience the power of that Spirit to overcome that fear of the Jews that imprisoned him in the upper room.

Peter, in today’s gospel, would rather prefer to go back to his old way of life: fishing. He feels safer being back at home in Capernaum and fishing for his family and his business. He was more at home there, more at peace there, safer there.

Our Risen Lord does not give up on Peter’s very slow response to the Spirit of the resurrection that Jesus had breathed into him. Our Risen Lord appears to Peter where he is at and cooks breakfast for Peter: grilled fish, Peter’s kind of food.

Then the Lord continues with His persuasion of Peter, drawing him ever more deeply into an intimate relationship with the Risen Jesus, who has chosen Peter to take the lead in bringing the peace and power of the Resurrection Spirit to all creatures bound in sin and death.

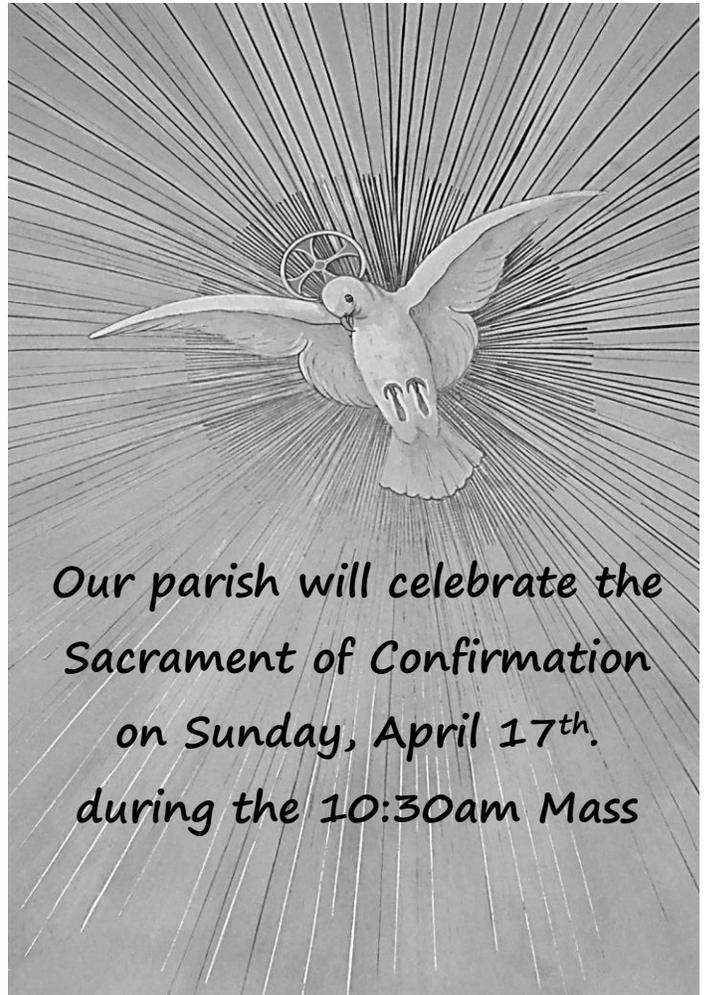
In order that Peter does this, He must love Jesus more than these: his family, his fishing, his business/livelihood, his brothers, indeed his very own life. Peter must make a profession of his love for the Risen Lord.

In order that Peter must be the chief witness of the Risen Lord, he must revisit his own rejection and betrayal of Jesus. Peter must face once more the fear of death in his own heart by which he renounced Jesus to servant maids at the courtyard of Herod on Good Friday.

The three expressions of fear of death must now be replaced by the three expressions of love for Jesus. Fear is slowly replaced with courage. The Spirit who raised Jesus the dead slowly raises Peter from fear.

Jesus is persistent. He does not give up on Peter. Neither does He give up on us. He too slowly dispels our fear of others and of death. With His Spirit He begins to turn our minds and hearts from viewing others as enemies. To Him, there are only lambs, sheep, that need feeding and tending.

Father Simi





**CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL
SATURDAY, APRIL 16th at 6PM
BOTH CANDIDATE & SPONSOR MUST ATTEND.**



Do you want the fire of God's love to burn in your heart? John the evangelist tells us that God is love. His love is unconditional, unmerited, and without limit. It lasts forever. It's the beginning and the end – it's the reason God created us and why he wants us to be united with him. And it's the essence of what it means to be a Christian – one who knows God's love and forgiveness and who loves God in return with all one's heart, soul, mind, body, and strength. God's love heals and transforms our lives and frees us from fear, selfishness, and greed. It draws us to the very heart of God and it compels us to give to him the best we have and all we possess – our gifts, our time, our resources, our very lives.

Paul the Apostle tells us that God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. Why did Jesus question Peter's love three times in front of the other apostles? It must have caused Peter pain and sorrow since he had publicly denied Jesus three times. Now Peter, full of remorse and humility, unequivocally stated that he loved his master and was willing to serve him whatever it might cost. When Jesus asks him "do you love me more than these?" Jesus may have pointed to the boats, nets and catch of fish. He may have challenged Peter to abandon his work as a fisherman for the task of shepherding God's people. Jesus also may have pointed to the other disciples and to Peter's previous boast: "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Peter now makes no boast or comparison but humbly responds: "You know I love you."

The Lord Jesus calls each one of us, even in our weakness, sin, and failings, to love him above all else.

Nothing but our sinful pride and willfulness can keep us from the love of God.

It is a free gift, unmerited and beyond payment. We can never outmatch God in giving love. He loved us first and our love for him is a response to his exceeding graciousness and mercy towards us.

Do you allow God's love to change and transform your heart? **Let us pray... "Lord Jesus, inflame my heart with your love and remove everything that is unloving, unkind, ungrateful, unholy, and not in accord with your will." Amen**



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

Have you visited with us yet?

KNOWING~LOVING~SERVING~LEADING

School Tours available each month.

Visit our website for a tours dates.

Call Geoff Meyers to register for one of our upcoming tours.

School Headmaster: Mr. Michael Patterson

Dir. of Institutional Advancement: Geoff Meyer

Ph: 610-847-5523 www.sjbottsville.org

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, Bedminster, PA

Join us in Praying for Vocations & World Peace

Weekly Prayers

Mondays at 7pm in Our Lady's Chapel: *Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet*

Wednesdays at 9:30am in Our Lady's Chapel:

Adoration, Liturgy of the Hour, Rosary, Divine Mercy Hours, Chaplet

Every 3rd Sunday at 12-1pm in Our Lady's Chapel: *Adoration, Prayers for vocations to the Priesthood*



For information or directions, call Joan Black at 215-795-2947.

Rediscover the Love in Your Marriage!

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting or do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking only



make it worse? Retrouvaille may be the LIFELINE that you need! It is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving

relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it. **The next program begins on the weekend of April 15 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.**

Another weekend will also be held beginning August 12.

For more information, or to register for one of our weekends, visit our web site at: www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.



Annunciation is feast of saying ‘yes’ to God, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) —When people do not want to say “yes” to God, they usually do not say “no,” they just hide like Adam and Eve did after they sinned, Pope Francis said.

“Today is the feast of ‘yes,’” the pope said during his early morning Mass April 4, the transferred feast of the Annunciation. The Latin-rite church usually celebrates the Angel Gabriel’s annunciation to Mary March 25, but transfers the feast when it occurs during Holy Week.

A group of priests celebrating the 50th anniversary of their ordinations and a group of Vincentian Sisters who are called to renew their vows each year joined Pope Francis for the Mass in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae.

Even after the sin of Adam and Eve, the pope said, God continually reached out to holy men and women — from Abraham to Moses to the prophets — asking them to cooperate in his plan of salvation.

“Today the Gospel speaks to us of the end of that ‘yes’ chain and the beginning of another” with Mary’s willingness to carry God’s son, he said. “With this ‘yes’ God not only watches how humanity is proceeding, he not only walks with his people, but he becomes one of us and takes on our flesh.”

Jesus himself is God’s “yes,” the pope said.

The feast of the Annunciation, he said, is a perfect occasion to think about one’s life and whether or not “we always say ‘yes’ or often hide, with our heads down, like Adam and Eve,” not exactly saying “no,” but pretending not to know what God is asking.



THE LORD’S PANTRY collection for Palisades Community Closet Seeking Clothing Donations

The Palisades Community Closet is collecting gently used, clean clothing. All donations stay in our community and go to help our neighbors in need.

Our next giveaway will be held April 11, 12, and 14, and we are particularly looking for baby and children’s clothing. There is a “green” collection bin in the parish office reception area where you may drop off your donations during regular office hours. Please do not leave donations at the church, outside the office or The Lord’s Pantry doors.

If you wish to make arrangements for someone to pick up your donation instead, please call Anne Debczak at [215-900-1284](tel:215-900-1284).

Thank you for helping us help our neighbors in need.

You Are Invited!

“Transforming Lives Here and Abroad”
 Crossroads Pregnancy Care’s
Annual Fundraising Banquet 2016
*“...and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,
 and to the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

April 14th and 15th
 Indian Valley Country Club
 Dinner served promptly at 6:30 pm

Join us for an evening of praise and fellowship as we rejoice in what God has done and will continue to do through the ministry of Crossroads Pregnancy Care

Please RSVP by April 7th

For Reservations or to Contact Us:
 EMAIL: kim@crossroadspregnancy.care or PHE: 215-538-7003 x207
 Or visit our website: www.crossroadspregnancy.care

Crossroads—Moms Group Craft Project

Ukraine—Celebrating a Mother’s Choice for Life



Thank you to all who came and and donated blood to our drive.

We collected 38 units of blood which helped 111 patients.

Thank you -

Sylvia Holtznagle



APRIL 10, 2016 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Please remember in your prayers our parishioners who are sick, homebound, in the hospital, under hospice or residential care.

Susan Ackerman, Rose Marie Alex, Lillian Appleman, Mary Balbirer, John & Loretta Bodisch, Emmalee Bryan, Libby Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Janet Dillard, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Patricia Fite, Crystal Fleck, Sarah Fleck, Nancy Fratrick, Mary Gallo, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Susan Gross, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Charles Houston, Anna Jesiolowski, Martha Juchnowicz, Donald B. Knight, Denise Kinker, Georgine Kocher, Anthony Kondracki, Deanna Kovner, Myron Kressman, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Sally Lindenmuth, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Loretta Malloy, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget Julia McHugh, Michelle McNevin, Anne McNichol, Emma Michael, Joseph Moore, Jennie Moreno, Nancy Moreno, Lorraine Mosolgo, Wanda Muth, Frances Nowicki, Nancy,

James O'Hanlon, Gary Palmer, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Marianne Przyuski, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Valerie Roberts, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Kelsey Russell, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Andrew Schad, Lana Schell, Andrew & Florence Schroker, Joe Shuman, Mary Jane Shuman, Gail Silveira, Baby Ella Stack, Carolyn Stahley, Shane Stroup, Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan, Diane Wesoski, Tamara Widmer, Betty Wismer, Edward Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.

Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle



Crossland, Casey de Lauretis, Steehly de Lauretis, Michael Froeder, A.J. Giovino, Aaron Given, Matthew Gumprecht, Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, Stephen Lindmeier, Jason

Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Don Valdez, Justin Walsh.

Thank you for serving & protecting our freedoms.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

April 16th & 17th, 2016 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5:00PM April 16, 2016	Darelene Bittenmaster Cathy Leidtke Dave Slifer Marion Wolf	Anne Slifer	Mead Grindrod Luke Grindrod Hannah Hughes	Susan Middleton Karen Parash
Sunday, 8:00am April 17, 2016	Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice Joel Roney Weez Roney	Open	Natalie Nice Open Open	Pattie Leidner Elaine Jocelyn
Sunday, 10:30am April 17, 2016 <u>CONFIRMATION</u>	N/A	Pam Altier Kathy Fetter	Grace Altier Jacob Fetter Gabriel Fetter Grace McArdle Gavin Reshetar	Ordinary Time