PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Simione Volavola, M.S.C.
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Tony Ripp, M.S.C.
Dir. of Religious Education: Donna Sciacca
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok
Finance Manager: Carolyn Marchese

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 call the parish office to schedule an appointment with a priest.

REGISTER: Please contact the parish office to register when you move into the parish. 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. 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 must attend an enrichment class approx. 1 month 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 provide a certificate of eligibility from their 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: A Saturday Mass for the Sacrament of

Matrimony may be celebrated no later than 1pm. Couples planning marriage are to contact the parish office & schedule a meeting with our wedding coordinator no later than 6 months in advance of the wedding. Shorter preparation periods must be approved by our Pastor. Couples will meet several times with the Pastor throughout the preparation process. Couples are to attend a Pre-Cana program approved 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.***

Mass Intentions for the Week of Feb. 5 - 11, 2018

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

Monday, Feb. 5
8:35am (chapel) **Intentions of Elaine Jocelyn** (Jim & Joan Black)
Tuesday, Feb. 6
8:35am (chapel) **Andy Shad** (Fleck Family)
Wednesday, Feb. 7
8:35am (chapel) **Paul Moyer** (Joe, Rose & Alicia Ventresca)
Thursday, Feb. 8
8:35am (chapel) **Louis "Buzz" McNichol, Jr.** (Flack Family)
Friday, Feb. 9
9:00am (church) **Intentions of Gerri Belsito** (Jim & Joan BLack)
Saturday, Feb. 10
5:00pm (church) **John & Mary Grida** (Michelle & Dan Walsh)
Sunday, Feb. 11
8:00am (church) **Parishioners' Intentions**
10:30am (church) **Joan Beebe** (Jim & Joan Black)

Meetings for the week of Feb. 5 - 11, 2018

Mon. Feb. 5: Conquest, 6:40pm – Parish Hall
K of C Mtg., 7:30pm – Marian Room
Tues. Feb. 6: Choir Practice, 7pm, Music Room
Wed. Feb. 7: RCIA, 6:30pm – Parish Office
Thurs. Feb. 8: Baptismal Enrichment, 6pm – Parish Office
Sat. Feb. 10: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room, Chapel

VALENTINES DAY DINNER & DANCE,
Saturday, Feb. 10, 6pm – Parish Hall

Weekly Mass Collection

Sunday, January 28, 2018
$6,396.00
Parish Giving
$ 397.00

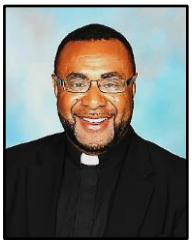
Thank you for your generosity

SJB Cleaning Team for the week of Feb. 5th is Team # 1:
Laura Gumprecht, Anita Colahan, Kate Irvine, Sharon Forte

Your parish Thanks You!

Our Mass READINGS may be found in the *JourneySongs* Hymnal, SECTION 941

Gospel Reflections
A Letter from Our Pastor, Father Simi



Dear brothers and sisters,

"Let us go on to the nearby villages
that I may preach there also.
For this purpose have I come."
(Mark 1:38)

We are still in the first chapter of Mark's gospel where we find ourselves at the beginning of Jesus public ministry. Right away we get the sense of our Lord's resolve to remain steadfast and true to the purpose of His mission, of His life, the purpose that He has received from His Father.

The purpose was to reconcile a lost child to their Father, to reunite members of a family who have been estranged from each other since the beginning of time, to heal the broken hearts of all people who experience in the depths of their hearts emptiness left behind by lost loved ones, lost intimacy.

Our Lord Jesus Christ was so completely and thoroughly driven by this ultimate purpose. It was His whole mission. It was His life. He was never to be distracted from it. He was resolute. His Father's own unfailing love for all of us is that which inspires His every Word, His every action, His whole life.

The love which He enjoys with His Father as HIs child from all eternity, that love which He was engulfed by when He rose up out of the water of His baptism, (Mark 1:11) is that same love which He is sent to return us to.

This purpose of the Father's love was that which drove Him into the desert to face the Evil one who seduces us all in rejecting that love and to settle rather for so much less. All the temptations that the Devil attempted to sway Jesus with could not succeed in losing His focus on that single mission of restoring our intimacy with HIs Father, and our Father.

In today's gospel we witness that resolute and unwavering love at work in our Lord as He enters Peter's house after attending the synagogue service. His Heart is drawn right away to a broken hearted daughter, Peter's mother-in-law.

Her fever is but a symptom of a deeper illness of separation from loved ones. She who no longer enjoys the protection and care of her own husband and sons and her own immediate family, as is customary in Jewish kinship system, is now finding refuge in the home of her son-in-law.

Our Lord experiences her pain of being lost from her own family. He reaches out and grasps her hand and raises her up from her lonely bed of isolation and restores her to her newfound family, Peter's family, in whom God's Son has come to stay.

What our Lord wishes for Peter's mother-in-law, He wishes for all. The reunion of all God's children with their Father begins in the home of Peter, toward whom all the sick and the possessed from that whole town flocked for healing that evening.

What our Lord wishes for the inhabitants of that town He wishes for all towns and villages, for all people. Fame and popularity was not going to sway Him from this purpose.

Is this the purpose which drives us? In our parish, in our families, in our communities, is this the Spirit which inspires us in all that we say and do? Have we wavered, or strayed from this one Spirit? Do we constantly examine our conscience to ensure that we keep returning to Him who is single-minded in bringing us back Home?

Without this purpose, life has no meaning.

Father Simi

4-Week Lenten Bible Study
Gospel of Mark: Passion & Resurrection
February 18th & 25th
March 4th & 11th
Sundays 9:15am – 10:15am
Marian Room
Sign up sheet will in the Narthex.
After you sign up you may pick –up your *Free* study book at the church office.
Contact Anita Colahan amcolahan@epix.net or 610-847-5426 with questions.

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER
Bedminster, PA
"A Quiet Country Retreat"
Offering Day & Overnight Retreats
for Individuals & Small Groups

Our Programs Are Open to Everyone
Monday, 7:00pm:
Adoration & Prayers
Wednesday, 9:30am:
Adoration & Prayers
3rd Sunday, 12pm:
Adoration & Prayer for Vocations
1st Saturdays, 10am:
Rosary, Confession, Mass. Lunch

For more information or directions please call
Joan Black 215-536-3508

PREP

TEACH THE CHILDREN

FEBRUARY CALENDAR REMINDERS

FEBRUARY 10th 12pm – 5pm
CONFIRAMTION RETREAT
Candidates Only.
Arrival at 11:30am.
Pope John Paul II H.S.,
Royersford, PA

Mon. Feb. 19th: No PREP, Presidents Day

Feb. 14th: ASH WEDNESDAY, 7:30pm Mass

Thurs. Feb. 22nd: Confirmation: Candidate & Sponsor Mtg., 6:30pm

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

Jesus modeled for us a life of prayer. We know from last week's Gospel that Jesus gathered and prayed with the community in the synagogue. Today we learn that Jesus also took the time to pray alone.
Following the example of Jesus, we also pray together with our community in church, and we take the time to pray alone.
Take this opportunity to talk with your children about the importance of your private prayer time, so that through your example, they may learn to make private prayer an important part of their daily lives.
Reread today's Gospel of Mark 1:29-39 with your children. Ask them: "*How did Jesus make time for prayer in his busy day?*" (He woke very early and went to a place where he could be alone to pray.)
Tell them, even though there are many good and important activities that we must do each day, our busy lives cannot become an excuse for failing to pray. Have the young people look back at their daily schedule and ask them to consider quietly what steps they might need to take to be sure that they make time for prayer. WE MUST FOLLOW JESUS and make time to PRAY.

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

UPCOMING EVENTS

Open to the Public

FEBRUARY 15th at 7PM

"PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN IN THE INFORMATION AGE" Seminar

School Headmaster: Mr. John Mundy
Dir. of Institutional Advancement: Geoff Meyer
Ph. 610-847-5523

Peter Lamanna Excellence in Music Scholarship

This scholarship is being offered to High School Seniors Graduating in 2018.

The following criteria must be met:

1. Applicant must be involved in his/her parish liturgy, serving as a cantor or choir member or play an instrument.
2. Applicant must be approved by school principal or Director of Liturgical Music (Liz Torgerson, member of ACMP-Association of church Musicians in Philadelphia) and the pastor.
3. Continue with studies in liturgical music after HS thru workshops and/or conferences.
4. Applicant must present letters of recommendation from HS Principal, Pastor and Director of Liturgical Music in the parish.
5. There will be an interview and instrumental or vocal audition.
6. Application deadline is February 23, 2018.

Award winner will be announced on April 22.

If interested, for more information, or to request an application, please contact Liz Torgerson at 610 346 8527) or email to franandliz@verizon.net

A WALK THROUGH LENT

Mondays, Feb. 5, 12,19th at 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Liturgy Series: This three part series includes the history of Liturgy and the Introductory Rite of Mass, the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. No cost to attend, but a free will offering is appreciated. Registration is recommended.

Guest Presenter: Father Louis Bellopede, Pastor, Saint Mary Parish, Schwenksville

Location: Saint Maria Goretti Parish, Hatfield, PA
www.stmariagoretti.net

To register: Contact Angela McClellan via email at angela.mcclellan@stmariagoretti.net or call 215-721-0199

Friday, February 9, 2018 at 6:30 pm

A Dinner to Celebrate Your Marriage

Come celebrate your marriage with a catered dinner followed by a spiritually enriching talk led by Fr. Michael Mullan. This event will be fun & inspiring, sure to be a blessing for your marriage! Make it an early Valentine for your valentine! We expect it to be a sell out, so don't delay and register today. The cost is $35.00 per couple / Dinner is B.Y.O.B.

Speaker: Father Michael Mullen, Parochial Vicar, St. Agnes Parish

Location: Mater Dei Catholic School Gym at 493 East Main Street, Lansdale, PA 19446

To learn more: chiggins290@gmail.com (215) 939-6732

The Cross and the Light

St. John Bosco Parish Parish
Hatboro, PA

Invite you to a powerful Passion Play event called *The Cross* TCTL is an international, critically acclaimed musical and multi-sensory video experience of Jesus' Death, Resurrection and the Coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Its purpose is to offer the audience an encounter with the living Christ by boldly proclaiming what He has done for us.

Performance Schedule:

Thurs, March 8 at 10 am and 7 pm
Fri, March 9 at 10 am and 7 pm
Sat, March 10 at 1 pm and 7 pm

Sunday, March 18, 2018, 2:30pm

Beethoven's Ode to Joy

Beethoven's great masterpiece, the Symphony No. 9, rings through the Cathedral Basilica as the Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia joins forces with Symphony in C.

Location: Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, N18th St. and Benjamin Franklin Parkway

For more info visit www.archphila.org

Catholic Charities Night with the

Philadelphia 76ers vs. Charlotte Hornets
March 19th at 7:00 pm

Join the Catholic Charities Appeal for CCA Night with the Philadelphia 76ers!

A portion of all tickets sold will directly benefit Catholic Charities Appeal programs which provide support to the homeless, special needs students, food cupboards, afterschool programs and so much more. If we reach our goal of 250 tickets sold, CCA beneficiaries will receive on-court recognition, high five tunnels and much more!

If you aren't able to make it to the game you can still show your support by purchasing and donating tickets so that worthy beneficiaries can attend.

gdecolli@catholicfoundationphila.org

Saints for Life
Saint Maria Goretti Parish Center

Lower Level ~ 9:30am – 11am

Each week of Lent we will explore the life of a saint who spearheaded the Church's rebirth after the turbulence and confusion caused by the Protestant Reformation. You'll want to stay friends with these saints for life, even into eternity, as you discover that their call to follow Christ is just as compelling today as it was 55 years ago. **Each session includes breakfast refreshments, 30-40min DVD, and a brief discussion.**

Register at angela.mcclellan@stmariagoretti.net
or 215-721-0199 x 202

First session:

Tuesday, February 13, 2018:
Saint Thomas More and the Age of the Author

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

Susan Ackerman, Lillian Appleman, Patricia Baker, Nancy Beans, Loretta Bodisch, Emmalee Bryan, Patti Bucci, Libby Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Marvin Eichlin, Bernice Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Patricia Fite, Crystal Fleck, Sarah Fleck, Thomas Fleck, Claire Fratrik, Janet Galen, Kathi Gallegher, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Baby Girl Gonzales, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Sharon Horvath, Charles Houston, Martha Juchnowicz, Georgine Kocher, Valerie Korbar, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Maria DeLuca-Lorenzo, Charles Lutcavage, Loretta Malloy, Jill Martindell, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Harvey Mueller, Emma Michael, Joseph Moore, Nancy Moreno, Lorraine Mosolgo, Wanda Muth, James O'Hanlon, Gabrialle Otero, Jonathan Ott,
Marie Lastella-Palazzola, Gary Palmer, Helen Pepkowski, Joseph Pepkowski, Victoria Pepkowski, Nicholas Powell, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Harry Reckner, Rachael Rice, Carol Reardon, Gregory Rickert, Joy & Teddy Rodman, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Lana Schell, Florence Schroker, Ronald Schultz, Sr., Frank & Joyce, Joe Shuman, Mary Jane Shuman, Baby Ella Stack, Shane Stroup, Nick Tscheschlog, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas Toner, Betty Ventresca, Helen Wall, Diane Wesoski, Maryjane Whealton, Tamara Widmer, Edward Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder, Liem Zbyszinski

Jamie Steven Ayuso, 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.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING & PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS.

2018 Upcoming Ministry Schedule
February 10 & 11 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Lent Begins - Feb. 14 - Ash Wednesday

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5pm	Dorothy Cegielski Joe Cegielski Peg Glancey Joel Roney	Helene Bell	Emily Saab Brigid Froman NOT FILLED	Ordinary Time
Sunday 8am	Frank Balbirer Jackie Litzenberger Marianne McEvoy Jim McHugh	Kathy Fetter	Joseph Fetter Tommy Loughran Violet Williams	Susan Middleton Karen Parash
Sunday 10:30am	Donna Sciacca Gerri Belsito Wendy DeGroot Phil Donahue	Ward VanHaute	Audrry VanHaute Caius VanHaute Joey DeVenuto	Mary Pucci Karen Parash
Ash Wed. 9am **7:30pm**	Joan Black Ron Watson	Jim Black Jeanne Keller	Brigid Froman Danny Froman Samantha Froman Joseph Gonzales James Gammello Gianna Gammello	Mary Pucci Karen Parash