

JANUARY 11, 2015 – THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



"In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased.'"

Mark 1:9-11

Masses for the week of Jan. 12 – Jan. 18, 2015

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

Monday, Jan. 12

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

Tuesday, Jan. 13

8:35am (chapel) Fran Davish (Mallon & Cashman Families)

Wednesday, Jan. 14

8:35am (chapel) Susan Wasson (The Miller Family)

Thursday, Jan. 15

8:35am (chapel) Ruth Houston (Susan Rogers)

Friday, Jan. 16

9:00am (church) Bill Reinbold (Bill & Shirley Quinn)

Saturday, Jan. 17

9:00am (church) Adoration Closing Mass & Benediction

5:00pm (church) Maria Meier (Loving Family)

Sunday, Jan. 18

8:00am (church) John Vinciguerra (Loving Family)

10:30am (church) Parishioners Intentions'

Meetings for the week of Jan. 12 – Jan. 18, 2015

Mon. Jan. 12: Conquest, 6:30pm – School

Prayer Shawl, 7pm – Marian Room

Wed. Jan. 14: Light Weigh One King, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Thurs. Jan. 15: 2015 CONFIRMATION- Final Mtg. for Candidate, Parent, Sponsor, 6:30pm - church (Attendance Required)

Evangelization Committee Meeting, 7:30pm – Marian room

Sat. Jan. 17: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room

Sun. Jan. 18: Teen RCIA, 11:45am – Marian Room



The Church Cleaning Team for the week of January 11th is Team #1:

Laura Gumprecht, Anita Colahan, Susan Middleton, Sharon Forte

Your parish thanks you!



Mass Collection

Christmas 2014: \$16,790.00

Sunday, Dec. 28, 2014: \$5,715.00

Sunday, Jan. 4, 2015: \$5,720.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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, Roger Bahnck, Mary Balbirer, Elizabeth Bartolillo, John & Loretta Bodisch, Ann Burns, Libby Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Bill Dayton, Glen DeKutosli, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice & Charles Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., Kathryn Ferris, Patricia Fite, Sara Fleck, Nancy Fratrik, Mary Gallo, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Judy Green, Susan Gross, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Steve Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Eli Hinkie, Charles Houston, Doris Johnson, Martha Juchnowicz, Kathleen Kershaw, Kimberly Koch, Georgine Kocher, Martha Kocsis, Jack Kocsis, Anthony Kondracki, Grace Korcheck, Deanna Kovner, Barbara Kuehnle, Ryan Leven, Kathy Donahue Lewis, Kathy Lightkep, George & Frances Lovett, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Eileen McCarty, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget Julia McHugh, Michelle McNevin, Anne McNichol, Florence Middleton, Joseph Moore, Jennie Moreno, Nancy Moreno, Wanda Muth, Frances Nowicki, Dorothy Odor, Helen Patzek-Charlton, Ryan Phillips, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Marianne Przyuski, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Joseph Ripp, Valerie Roberts, Sandy Romaszewski, Sim Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Jean Scattergood, Lana Schell, Herbert Scheuermann, Mario Sciacca, Joe Shuman, Gail Silveira, Carolyn Stahley, Sandy Stauffer, Shane Stroup, Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, MaddieTomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan, Tamara Widmer, Ed Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.

Prayer Requests



Edward Armstrong, Jr.,
Fionna M. Boyle,
Derek Brosius,
Christopher Brune,
Kyle Crossland,
Casey de Lauretis,
Steehly de Lauretis,
Michael Froeder,
A.J. Giovino,
Aaron Given,

Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, James Kidd, Stephen Lindmeier,
Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Nicholas Spangler-Loch, Don Valdez, Justin Walsh.

Thank you for serving & protecting our freedoms!



Dear brothers and sisters,

***"I have baptized you with water;
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."***

One of my favorite stories told about praying to our Lord in front of the Blessed Sacrament is about a priest who would notice a parishioner of his sitting in church for long periods of time in prayer. The priest was curious to know, so one day he asked him, "David, I notice you sit for so long in prayer. What are you saying during all that time?" He replied, "Nothing really. I just say in the beginning, "Lord, it's me David."

That story, at once simple and powerful, taught me about the power of sitting in silent adoration in front of our Lord who is present to us in the Blessed Sacrament. The Eucharistic Presence, the church teaches us, is the manner of presence that our Lord chose that is utterly unique and complete.

"In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained." (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1374)

This truth, to be sure, is a truth that cannot be apprehended by the senses, as St. Thomas says, but only by faith. Christ's presence in the blessed sacrament is one that is beyond the senses. It is a presence and an encounter that happen beneath the surface: as in baptism.

Celebrating today's feast of the Baptism of our Lord, we celebrate our Lord's entry into the deep, His immersion in the depth of our broken and sinful lives. You and I go and meet Him there each time we come before Him in silent adoration before His Eucharistic Presence.

Like David in the story told above, we do not say much; there is no talking underwater. We silently immerse ourselves into the depths of our hearts, where our Lord Has chosen to enter through the very same sacrament of His body and blood that we received at Holy Communion.

It makes perfect sense that we go beneath the surface. All of our lives begin there; our whole life of choices and actions begin beneath the surface, in the depths of our being where words fail, where a different mode of communication takes over.

In the hour or in the thirty minutes or in the fifteen minutes or five minutes what you and I are quietly present to our Lord who is quietly present to us in the blessed sacrament, we are allowing our Lord to speak to us in the language that John says, only Jesus can speak: the language of the Holy Spirit, the powerful language of grace.

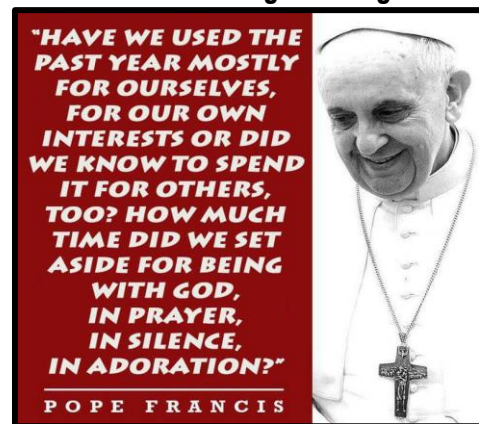
This is where change, real substantial change begins. It is there that we find our true identity as a child, a son, a daughter, a husband, a wife. In that silent encounter with our Lord beneath the surface, we become what He intended us to be.

Emerging from that encounter, we hear the Father's voice, impressed upon our souls in the language of His Holy Spirit, the very same grace He spoke to His Son, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

When we hear these words, like Jesus we can then begin with Jesus the mission of saving our families His Father sent Him to accomplish. Let us like John the Baptist acknowledge the Eucharistic presence of the One whose sandal straps we are unworthy to untie. He bids us come.

*God bless you all -
Fr. Simi.*

In preparation for the celebration of the World Meeting of Families 2015, we will now offer, "For the healing of families" Adoration through the Night!



Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

**3rd Week each Month
Starting at 10am Friday (immediately after 9am Mass) concluding with the 9am Mass on Saturday**

There is also a need for substitutes, those willing to step in when an assigned adorer finds themselves unable to fulfill their commitment.

Sponsored by the SJB Evangelization Committee



FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, Bedminster, PA

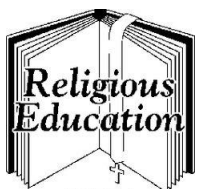
Please join us in...
Prayer for Vocations and World Peace.

Weekly Prayers

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

Wednesday at 9:30 -10:30am in Our Lady's Chapel: Liturgy of The Hour, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet

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



JESUS IS BAPTIZED BY JOHN IN THE RIVER JORDAN

Why did Jesus, the Sinless One, submit himself to John's baptism? In this humble act of submission we see a foreshadowing of the "baptism" of his bloody death upon the cross. Jesus' baptism is the acceptance and the beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allowed himself to be numbered among sinners. Jesus submitted himself entirely to his Father's will. Out of love he consented to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. *Do you know the joy of trust and submission to God?* God the Father proclaimed his delight in his Son and spoke audibly for all to hear saying, "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased." The Holy Spirit, too, was present as he anointed Jesus for his ministry which began that day as he rose from the waters of the Jordan River. Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all who come to believe in him. At his baptism the heavens were opened and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, signifying the beginning of a new creation.

Do you ever feel compelled or driven to do something for God? Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit to spend forty days and nights in prayer and fasting in a lonely place. Why was he compelled to seek solitude for such a lengthy period? Was it simply a test to prepare him for his ministry? Or did Satan want to lure him into a trap? The word tempt usually means to entice one to sin. The scriptural word here means test in the sense of proving and purifying someone to see if they are ready for the task at hand. God tests his servants to see if they are fit to be used by him. God tested Abraham to prove his faith. Jesus was no exception to this testing. Satan will try his best to persuade us to choose our will over God's will. If he cannot persuade us to sin mortally, he will then try to get us to make choices that will lead us away from what God wants for us. Jesus was tempted like us and he overcame not by his own human strength but by the grace and strength which his Father gave to him. He had to renounce his will for the will of his Father. He succeeded because he wanted to please his Father and he trusted that his Father would give him the strength to overcome the obstacles that stood in the way. The Lord gives us his Holy Spirit to be our strength and guide and our consoler in temptation and testing. God the Father is ready to give us all that we need to live in his way of love and righteousness.

Gregory of Nazianzus, a seventh century Church father tells us: ***"Let us be buried with Christ by Baptism to rise with him; let us go down with him to be raised with him; and let us rise with him to be glorified with him."*** *Do you want to see changes in your life? And do you want to become a more effective instrument of the gospel?* Examine Jesus' humility and ask the Holy Spirit to place this same attitude in your heart. As you do, heaven will open for you as well. The Lord is ever ready to renew us in his Spirit and to anoint us for mission. We are called to be "light" and "salt" to those around us. The Lord wants his love and truth to shine through us that others may see the goodness and truth of God's message of salvation. Ask the Lord to fill you with his Holy Spirit that you may radiate the joy of the gospel to those around you.

Let us pray....

"Lord, fill me with your Holy Spirit and inflame my heart with the joy of the gospel. May I find joy in seeking to please you just as you found joy in seeking to please your Father." Amen

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

But Jesus Said, "Let The Children Come To Me, And Do Not Prevent Them; For The Kingdom Of Heaven Belongs To Such As These." - Matthew 19:14

January 24, 2015

**OPEN HOUSE
&
SPAGHETTI
7PM**



DINNER 4-

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~ Belief in Our
Gifts*



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DID YOU KNOW? St. John the Baptist Parish has a lending library of almost 500 books and several VHS/videos at your disposal? You are welcome to borrow anything in the library which is located in the Marian Room.



Just sign them out and return in a timely manner.

Thank you! SJB OASIS LIBRARY



Returns to SJB

In Light Weigh you will learn a new approach to eating that leads to peace with God, peace with yourself and peace with food.

**Orientation Meeting Wednesday, Jan. 14th
7:30pm in the Marian Room**



2015 MARCH FOR LIFE
Thursday, January 22, 2015
National Mall, Washington, DC



Rally at 12 noon
March begins a 1pm

A Mass for the faithful of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia who are attending the March for Life will be celebrated by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. at 10:00 a.m. at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.



The Knights of Columbus will once again be sponsoring a bus from our parish parking lot. The bus will board at 7am.

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

The Retrouvaille Marriage Program offers help for struggling marriages. Tens of thousands of couples have successfully saved their marriages by attending a Retrouvaille weekend and the six post sessions that follow it.

Retrouvaille is not just a social gathering or series of seminars, but rather a way to rediscover and rekindle the loving relations in your marriage.

The next program begins on the weekend of February 13-15 at The Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.

For more information, or to register, visit our website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com or call 1-800-470-2230.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

From the WELLNESS MINISTRY OF SJB as recommended by the Diocese
COLDS AND FLU & THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRED LITURGY

If you are feeling ill, have a scratchy throat, cold or cough:

- You should avoid receiving Communion from the chalice.
- Consider refraining from the use of the Sign of Peace during the celebration of Mass

THE EASTER UPPER BUCKS SENIORS invites you to join us for....

"The World's Greatest Musical Impersonator Show!" Starring The Mahoney Brothers

Wednesday
February 18, 2015
(Carpool arriving at 11am)



Tickets are \$61.50 per person for less than 20 people; \$55.00 per person for more than 20 people.

Call Jim at 610-847-2305 for info and reservations.

Monthly reflection from "Love is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive" a continuation of our preparation for the World Meeting of Families:

January 2015: Chapter 3: The Meaning of Human Sexuality "Love is Our Mission" because God created us for a reason: to love us, and for us to love one another (Chapter 1). God's covenant with Israel and the Church reveals what God's love is like: tender and passionate, but also steadfast and sacrificial (Chapter 2). In Chapter 3, we learn that the bodily, earthly world has spiritual significance. Tangible things - sacramentals, acts of charity, sacred art and culture, our liturgical feasts and fasts - have the capacity to reveal the glory of God. Marriage, as one of the sacraments, reveals this to us in a special way. The bodies of the spouses, in the complementarity of their masculinity and femininity, have the unique role of revealing God's nature as a communion of life-giving love. How can a man and a woman imitate God's love together? How can they live in a way that is intimate and committed, joyful and merciful, forgiving and fertile? Through their participation in the life of the Church, this kind of love becomes possible. God's love is not an audition, or a temporary experiment, or a self-seeking negotiation. In the same way, marriage is never a private, inward romance, but always discovers its true nature in relation to God and his wider purposes. A sacramental marriage is called to be a little parable of God's love, always ordered to joy and service. All Catholic sexual ethics flow from these ideas.

In our next chapter, we will reflect in depth on marriage, followed by the next chapter about celibacy.

– Dr. Christopher C. Roberts and Meghan Cokeley

8 MONTHS & COUNTING....
World Meeting of Families 2015

Visit www.worldmeeting.org
and REGISTER today!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 17 - 18, 2015

2ND Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5pm	John Becker Darlene Bittenmaster Bill McGowen Joel Roney	Marie Louzon	Luke Grindrod Kiera Maxwell Emily Vinal	Marion Wolf Jim Roney
Sunday, 8:00am	Mark Fetter Renee Moyer Harry Reckner Ron Watson	John Zdanowicz	Danny Froman Samantha Froman Emily Froman	Patty Leidner Karen Parash
Sunday, 10:30am	Jim Black Joan Black Patti Keyser Bruce Keyser	Linda Russo	Nicole DeCicco Audrey Giovino Anna Schmidt	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak



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