

JANUARY 17, 2016 – THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 January 18 - 24, 2016

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

Monday, Jan. 18

8:35am (chapel) Clyde Niskala (Mr. & Mrs. Harold Rick)

Tuesday, Jan. 19

8:35am (chapel) John DiPete (Jim & Joan Black)

Wednesday, Jan. 20

8:35am (chapel) Maria Meier (Ron Meier)

Thursday, Jan. 21

8:35am (chapel) Fred Furness (Peg & Bob Trouts)

Friday, Jan. 22

9:00am (church) Joyce Krug (Mike & Colette Kirk)

Saturday, Jan. 23

5:00pm (church) Charles & Anna B. McCarty

(Roseann McCarty)

Sunday, Jan. 24

8:00am (church) Parishioners' Intentions

10:30am (church) Elsie McHale (Wendy DeGroot)

Meetings for the week of Jan. 18th – 24th

Mon. Jan 18: Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm, Parish Hall

Tues. Jan. 19: SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION, 6pm

Wed. Jan. 20: Choir Practice, 7pm, church

Thurs. Jan. 21: Nitty Gritty Garden Club, 7pm, Marian Room

Sat. Jan. 23: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room

Sun. Jan. 24: Teen RCIA, 11:45am – Marian Room

Mass Collections

Sunday, Jan. 10, 2015

\$5,425.00

Thank you for your generosity!



SJB Cleaning Team for the week of January 18th is Team # 4:

*Karen Parash, Joyce Vinceguerra, Jean Keller,
Chris Zdanowicz, Dot Cegielski, Diane Watson*



Your parish thanks you!

For those who may have difficulty hearing:

Today's READINGS may be found in Section 933 in the *JourneySongs Missal* book.

Gospel Reflections

*A Letter from
Our Pastor, Father Sími*



Dear brothers and sisters,

***Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.
(John 2:11)***

Last week we began the season of ordinary time by remembering and celebrating the baptism of our Lord. God begins to reveal His glory to us in descending into the waters of our own impurities, our sinfulness.

This theme of God's self-revelation continues today and in fact throughout the whole of Sacred Scriptures. The story of the wedding in Cana is a revelation of God's presence in our midst and what His presence does to us.

In John's gospel, Mary has a very significant role in God's first revelation of His Son to the world. In this wedding in Cana that Jesus and Mary attend, God's delight in His adopted children is revealed.

Jesus lives only for His Father's will and the hour of its fulfillment is here prefigured by the concerns of His own mother for a couple who is now faced with a very embarrassing situation: they have no more wine.

Mary intercedes for the couple. Mary pleads with her Son. Mary teaches us her greatest lesson, the lesson of a virtue she is most blessed with, the lesson of the original holiness and justice that was lost at the Garden of Eden by the first couple, the lesson of obedience: "Do whatever He tell you." (John 2:5)

Jesus listens to Mary's plea. Jesus delights in the longing of His mother to come to our aid, to the aid of this couple who have come up short, who have so quickly come face to face with their own inadequacy to make a joyful beginning to their life together as husband and wife.

Jesus now performs a miracle that will point to a much deeper reality: the fullness of life that was lost by the disobedience of the first couple is now going to be restored to this couple and all couples in whom God begins all families.

Jesus is going to bring about in all families what He has brought about in the life of His own parents on earth. Jesus presence in the marital love

of Mary and Joseph fulfills their wedding vows to one another in a way that completely transcends their own expectations.

Jesus has become the reason for their marriage. Jesus, the author of their lives, has now become the author also of their marriage, (remember that Joseph was prepared to divorce Mary quietly). Jesus' birth into their lives has now transformed the lowly couple of Nazareth into a family that will now encompass every other human family that their own Son has created.

This is the meaning of the first miracle of Jesus. It begins in the marriage of Mary and Joseph and blesses all marriages. Jesus miraculous transformation of water into wine reveals the miraculous transformation of fallen human nature into the glory of the divine.

Yet we remember that this miracle is a sign pointing to the reality of our transformation by Jesus on the cross. The cross is the hour in which God's delight in us was fully revealed. It was the hour in which God poured out His Son's blood to purify and sanctify our lowly and fallen nature into the glory of His divine nature.

Today we already celebrate with such great joy at every Mass the outpouring of God's excessive love on us when He gives Jesus to us; suffering for us, dying for us, rising for us. Our transformation began at our baptism and now continues. What we will be is yet to be revealed.

For now we do what Mary says, "Do whatever He tells you." For now we do what He says to do and have been doing since the last supper, "Do this in memory of me."

Father Sími



"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope."
1 Peter 3:15

**Fr. Larry Richards of EWTN
THE REASON FOR OUR HOPE MISSION**

Feb. 15 – 18, 2016 from 7-9pm

St. Agnes Church, Sellersville

Cost: FREE Will at conclusion of Mission.

The themes for these nights are as follows:

First night is God's Love and Prayer;

Second night is done in the context of a Mass, deals with Love of Others; Third night is the talk on the Passion of Christ and the need for Confession and is followed by individual confessions; Last night is on Adoration and Healing and is done in the context of Eucharistic Adoration and a Healing Service.



Monday, Jan. 18th – No PREP, Holiday

Tuesday, Jan. 19th (No PREP Classes)
SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION
6pm (Church) (Snow Date Jan. 21st)

The Wedding at Cana

God reveals his glory in the unlikelyst of places — in a stable at Bethlehem, at a wedding party in Cana, in a muddy Jordan river, and on a bloody cross on Golgotha. Jesus' first public miracle (his first sign) was performed at the insistence of his mother. Jesus blessed a young couple and brought joy to their wedding party. First by his presence, and second by saving them from embarrassment when the wine ran out. Changing water into wine was a remarkable act of kindness; but giving the best to last was unnecessary and unheard of. In the Old Testament wine was often seen as a gift and symbol of God's blessing. That Jesus would miraculously produce 120 gallons of the best wine (many times more than needed) shows the superabundance of the blessings which he came to offer.

This miracle signifies the new rich wine of the Gospel and it points to the "wine of the new covenant" and the "bread of life" which Jesus provides for his disciples in the Lord's Supper or Eucharist. It also points to the Messianic banquet which Jesus will provide at the end of time. The miracles of Jesus demonstrate the power of God's love and mercy for his people. God's kindness knows no limits. And the ultimate expression of his love is revealed in the person of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. He became flesh for our sake, and he died for our redemption, and he rose for our glorification. Do you thirst for God and for the life of holiness he offers?

Let us pray..."Father, you have revealed your glory in our Lord Jesus Christ. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may bring you glory in all that I do and say."
Amen



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

Open House 1/30/16 ~ 4 pm to 7 pm **SPAGHETTI DINNER & ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE**

On January 30 we will have our Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Academy Open House. All of the festivities begin at 4PM and the entire Academy is open for you to visit and to meet our Headmaster, Teachers and Staff and enjoy Dinner too. Should you believe that Children benefit from a Classical Catholic Liberal Arts Education then we invite you to come and explore what The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist has to offer.

Please note the dinner is free for all new prospective families of our September 2016 Enrollment.

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? Has separation or divorce ever crossed your mind?



RETRUVILLE may be the LIFELINE that your need! Rekindle the loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples have successfully

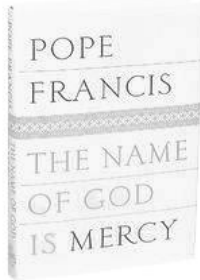
saved their marriages by attending a *Retrouville weekend & the 6 post-sessions that follow*. **The next program begins the weekend of Feb. 12th at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.** Add'l weekends in April and August.

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

All inquiries kept strictly confidential.



Jubilee Year of Mercy



The centrality of mercy, Pope Francis says, is “Jesus’ most important message.” Mercy is essential because all men are sinners, in need of God’s forgiveness and grace, and it’s especially necessary today, at a time when “humanity is wounded,” suffering from “the many slaveries of the third millennium” — not just war and

poverty and social exclusion, but also fatalism, hardheartedness and self-righteousness. If you recall, in Pope Francis’ document called “*Evangelii Gaudium*” (“The Joy of the Gospel”) he advocated decentralizing power in the church, condemned economic injustice and called for focusing on the needs of the marginalized and disenfranchised. Echoing the beliefs of St. Francis, it called for a church devoted to the poor, a church that returned to its roots and the original healing ministry of Jesus. It was critical of self-righteous bureaucrats who would glorify themselves rather than Christ, and deplored those “dour judges bent on rooting out every threat and deviation” from doctrine. In “The Name of God Is Mercy,” Pope Francis speaks about these same matters, chastising “scholars of the law” who “live attached to the letter of the law but who neglect love; men who only know how to close doors and draw boundaries.” Instead, he urges people to think of the church as “a field hospital, where treatment is given above all to those who are most wounded.” Often speaking here more as a pastor than as the vicar of Christ, he emphasizes moral sincerity over dogma, an understanding of the complexities of the world and individual experience over rigid doctrine. On some matters, Francis is utterly direct. Of the poor, the homeless and those “immigrants who have survived the crossing and who land on our shores,” he says, “we touch the flesh of Christ in he who is outcast, hungry, thirsty, naked, imprisoned, ill, unemployed, persecuted, in search of refuge.” On the controversial topics of homosexuality and divorce, he proposes no doctrinal changes but, as he’s done in earlier statements and interviews, urges that the church take a welcoming approach to all — embracing understanding, tolerance and compassion. The pope is most critical of those eager to cast stones. Pride, hypocrisy and the urge to judge others in terms of “preconceived notions and ritual purity” are the targets of his ire. He has chastised church bureaucrats for their “theological narcissism,” and he says in this book that “we must avoid the attitude of someone who judges and condemns from the lofty heights of his own certainty, looking for the splinter in his brother’s eye while remaining unaware of the beam in his own.”

COLDS AND FLU AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRED LITURGY

- ❖ Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands before Mass begins, or even use an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution in the pew before distributing, and after purifying their fingers after the distributing Holy Communion;
- ❖ People feeling ill should avoid receiving Communion from the chalice.
- ❖ It is suggested that the faithful refrain from the use of the Sign of Peace during the celebration of Mass during cold and flu season.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES NIGHT

Saturday, February 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Wells Fargo Center, 3601 South Broad Street, Phila.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia Catholic Charities Appeal will once again partner with the Philadelphia 76ers for Catholic Charities Night. *Catholic Charities will receive on-court recognition as the featured Three Point Partner of the game and Joe Sweeney, who recently retired after 31 years as Secretary for Catholic Human Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, will be honored for his inspired leadership and dedication to the hundreds of programs supported by the Catholic Charities Appeal.*

A portion of the proceeds from tickets purchased through a dedicated link will go directly to the appeal. To purchase tickets to this game against the Brooklyn Nets and support the Catholic Charities Appeal, please visit <http://www.nba.com/sixers/promocode> and enter the promo code: CCA.

Select seating is located in the Mezzanine Level Ends Rows 8 to 15 at \$21 per ticket and in the Lower Level Corners Rows 18 to 26 at \$59 per ticket.

Contact Caroline Kasper to reserve seats or with any questions: 215-558-2758 or carolinekasper@sixers.com.

Palisades Area Girls Softball League

www.palisedessoftball.org

PAGSL

OPEN REGISTRATION GOING ON NOW UNTIL FEB. 14th
for SPRING 2016 season.

Palisades Area Girls Softball League is a fastpitch youth softball league affiliated with the Amateur Softball Association. Our mission is to provide an opportunity for girls, ages 7 to 18 from the Palisades School District in Bucks County PA to participate in organized, recreational fastpitch softball. Teams are organized, coached and operated through PAGSL and its participating Athletic Associations in the townships of Bridgeton, Durham, Revere (Nockamixon), Riegelsville, Silver Creek (Springfield) and Tinicum.

Online registration through our website.

Email questions to: pagsl@palisedessoftball.com

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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, Glenn DeKutowski, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Patricia Fite, 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, Georgine Kocher, Anthony Kondracki, Deanna Kovner, Myron Kressman, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, 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, Lana Schell, Andrew & Florence Schroker, Joe Shuman, Mary Jane Shuman, Gail Silveira, Joseph Simkanin, 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, 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 2016

January 23rd & 24th – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5:00pm Jan. 23, 2016	Joe Cegielski Dot Cegielski NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Jane Ferry	Luke Grindrod Mead Grindrod NOT FILLED	Choir Sue Rogers
Sunday, 8:00am Jan. 24, 2016	Gerri Belsito Jackie Litzenberger Patricia Ott Ron Watson	Jonathan Ott	Danny Froman Samantha Froman Emily Froman	NOT FILLED
Sunday, 10:30am Jan. 24, 2016	Jim Black Wendy DeGroot NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Kathy Fetter	Joey DeVenuto Anna Schmidt Caius VanHaute	Marion Wolf Karen Parash