

JUNE 18, 2017 – THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Simone 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 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. 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: Couples planning marriage are to contact the parish office & schedule a meeting with our wedding coordinator approx. 10-12 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 that is 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.*



Masses for the Week of June 19 - 25, 2017

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

Monday, June 19

8:35am (chapel) John A. Malack (The Irvine Family)

Tuesday, June 20

8:35am (chapel) John Reidler (Wife Janet & Family)

Wednesday, June 21

8:35am (chapel) Intentions of Josephine DeRosa (Donna Sciacca)

Thursday, June 22

8:35am (chapel) Joseph Sockak (Jim & Joan Black)

Friday, June 23 – Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:35am (chapel) Parishioner's Intentions

Saturday, June 24 – Nativity of St. John the Baptist

5:00pm (church) Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday, June 25

8:00am (church) Gene & Edna Moninghoff (Debbie & Jerome Smith)

10:30am (church) John & Mary Dougherty (Your family)

Meetings for the week of June 19 - 25, 2017

Tues. June 20: Choir Practice, 7pm, church

Sat. June 24: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room



Weekly Mass Collection

June 11, 2017

Envelopes \$ 5,069.00

Parish Giving \$ 471.00

Thank you for your generosity!

SJB Cleaning Team for the week of June 19th is Team # 3:



*Mary Kosmin, Janice Bebb,
Kathy Vinciguerra, Joanne Peters,
Betty White*

Your parish Thanks You!

Our Mass READINGS for this weekend may be

found in

SECTION 925

of the JourneySongs Hymnal.



Gospel Reflections

A Letter from Our Pastor, Father Simi



Dear brothers and sisters,

Beginning July 17, 2017, I will be taking a six month sabbatical. This will be a time for personal renewal for me.

Taking time out of active ministry here in our parish, I will be away to spend some personal time on prayer, study and visit with my MSC community in Fiji and with my family.

After sixteen years of priestly ordination, I look forward to this period of my ongoing formation as a priest and as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart.

I will return to our parish January 17, 2018.

Held together in Holy Communion by our Lord in the sacrament of His Most Precious Body and Blood, let us remain steadfast in our commitment to serve Him in the mission that He has called each of us to.

God bless you all.

Fr. Simi.

The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ: The Holy Presence by Msgr. Joseph A. Pellegrino

There are many beautiful buildings dedicated to the glory of God. Some of these buildings contain a beauty that surpasses their architecture and interior design. These are Catholic Churches. Whether we are in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome or St. Ignatius of Antioch Church in Tarpon Springs, or in a tiny Catholic Church in a remote village in a mission land, when we walk into a Catholic Church we are overwhelmed by something infinitely greater than interior design, we are overwhelmed by something, Someone, present in the church. We are moved by the Holy Presence. We come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Our Churches are far more than fellowship halls. They are not just places of prayer. Our Churches are tabernacles of the Living God in the Eucharist.

During the Paschal Triduum, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, the Eucharist is removed from the tabernacle as we recall the Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. For those who attended these liturgies, walked

into the church, saw the opened tabernacle and felt the emptiness of a world that rejected its Savior. Perhaps you felt a longing for the Eucharistic Presence. When at the conclusion of the Easter Vigil, the priests placed the consecrated hosts back in the tabernacle, genuflect and then close the tabernacle door, you may have felt a relief that the Lord is once more present in our Church in the unique way of Sacramental Presence.

Perhaps our efforts to facilitate the distribution of communion as well as our efforts to be sure that those who cannot attend our liturgies are able to receive communion, have diminished some people's reverence for the Sacred Presence. The number of Eucharistic Ministers we have at each Mass is necessary so we can provide the Eucharist under both species to all our people, and this is wonderful, but I fear that some people may see the distribution of communion as an act of fellowship, something they receive from a neighbor, rather than an encounter with the Living Presence. Similarly, it is now common place for Eucharistic Ministers to bring communion to the homebound or those in hospitals or assisted living facilities. Thank God for their generous ministry that allows the sick and infirm of our community to be united with us every week in the Mystery of the Body of Christ. However, we have to take care that the Eucharist is transported with the reverence. In times past, the Eucharist would be carried to the sick in a solemn procession, with the priest preceded by a server ringing a bell and flanked by acolytes holding candles. I am not suggesting that these practices be restored or even could be restored, but the meaning they conveyed remains: the Holy Presence is there in that car, being brought from the Church to the sick.

This celebration of Corpus Christi is given to us to remind us that the great gift of the Eucharist is a holy mystery. This is Jesus, present in a way beyond our understanding. We take Him into ourselves when we receive communion. We are united to Him sacrificing Himself on the Cross for each of us and all of us when we pray the Mass in its fullness and eat the Sacred Meal. We come before His Presence whenever we are in a sanctuary where the Eucharist is reposed in a tabernacle. He was present with the Father and the Spirit at the creation of the universe. He is present with the angels and saints in heaven. He is present here in the Blessed Sacrament.

And we take the Holy Presence into ourselves. Today, we thank God for the gift of the Eucharist, and we ask Him to help us grow in reverence for this great sacrament.





All families are encouraged to **REGISTER NOW** for the **2017-2018 PREP SCHOOL YEAR**. *Registration forms are available for download on our parish website or may be obtained through the parish office.* **PREP is for children attending public and charter schools or who are homeschooled in grades 1 to 7. A minimum of two years of formal religious education is required for the reception of the Sacraments.**

St. John the Baptist Parish Religious Education Program recognizes and embraces parents in their role as the primary catechists of their children. Canon Law, the law of the Church, states that “parents above others are obliged to form their children in the faith and practice of Christian life by word and example; godparents and those who take the place of parents are bound by an equivalent obligation” (Can. 774 §2).

Both the General Directory and the National Directory for Catechesis echo the same sentiment.

It is our mission to provide catechesis on the Catechism and teachings of the Catholic Church so that your child will be formed in the faith and heritage of Catholic tradition.

Our program provides children an opportunity to live their faith through catechesis, service, worship, and fellowship, developing and deepening their personal relationship with Our Lord.

Our program embraces all of its children regardless of special need or disability. We will make every effort to accommodate these children and provide them with an inclusive environment in our program. However, in order to provide the best accommodations possible, it may be necessary for the participant to attend another parish program that is better equipped to meet the participant's needs. If your child has a special need or disability you are encouraged to contact our Director of Religious Education, Donna Sciacca at 610-847-5521 or via email at prep@stjohnsottsville.org to discuss your concerns and enrollment options.



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

Catholic Education—You Can Help Educate a Child or Children

Do you know what local businesses “Froman Excavating, DiPalantino Paving, and Milham Ford” have in common?

All are participating in the **Pennsylvania Educational Income Tax Credit Program**. Their PA corporate state taxes are directed to Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist to fund financial aid scholarships for students for the 2017-18 School Year. Participating has little or no cost and it is as easy as filling out a one-page form. If you own your own business, your action could make a real difference in the life of a child.

For more information, go to BLOCS.org and click on the tax credits tab or contact Geoff Meyer at (610)960-7062. **The application deadline for the 2018-19 school year funding is July 3!**

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

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Daily Programs for up to 50 People
Offering Private & Small
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Available for Individuals &
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Programs Open to Everyone

Monday 7:30PM – Adoration & Prayers

Wednesday 9:30AM – Adoration & Prayers

3rd Sunday 12PM – Adoration & Prayer for Vocations.

1st Saturdays 10am Mass, Confession, Rosary & Lunch

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

Eucharistic Miracles

These are miracles that occurred during Mass when the bread changed into the form of flesh during the consecration and the wine changed into the form of blood during the consecration. Many such Eucharistic Miracles have occurred in various parts of the world and throughout the two millennia of Christian history and have been authenticated by the Church.

In the year 1263 a priest from Prague was on route to Rome making a pilgrimage asking God for help to strengthen his faith since he was having doubts about his vocation. Along the way he stopped in Bolsena 70 miles north of Rome. While celebrating Mass there, as he raised the host during the consecration, the bread turned into flesh and began to bleed. The drops of blood fell onto the small white cloth on the altar, called the corporal. The following year, 1264, Pope Urban IV instituted the feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus, today's feast, Corpus Christi. The Pope asked St Thomas Aquinas, living at that time, to write hymns for the feast and he wrote two, the Tantum Ergo and O' Salutaris. That blood-stained corporal is still in the Basilica of Orvieto north of Rome.

Although that is the Eucharistic miracle that led to the institution of this feast, a more famous Eucharistic miracle is the Eucharistic miracle of Lanciano, also in Italy, which took place many centuries earlier, in the year 700. A monk who feared he was losing his vocation was celebrating Mass, and during the consecration the host turned into flesh and the wine turned into blood. Despite the fact that the miracle took place almost 1300 years ago, you may still see the flesh in a monstrance which is exposed every day and the blood in a glass chalice. The blood has congealed and is now in five clots in the glass chalice. In 1971 and 1981 a hospital laboratory tested the flesh and blood and discovered that the flesh is myocardium, which is heart muscular tissue, so we could say it is the heart of Jesus, the Sacred Heart, and the blood is of the blood group AB. In 1978 NASA scientists tested the blood on the Turin Shroud and interestingly also discovered that it is of the blood group AB. (The Sudarium, Face Cloth of Christ, in John 20:6 is also of the blood group AB.) Despite the fact that human flesh and blood should not have remained preserved for 1300 years the hospital lab tests found no trace of any preservatives. One final interesting point about the five blood clots in the chalice is that when you weigh one of them, it is the same weight as all five together two of them together weigh the same as all five. In fact no matter

what way you combine the blood clots individually or in a group to weigh them, they always weigh the same. (This shows that the full Jesus is present in a particle of the Eucharist no matter how small.)

These are just two Eucharistic miracles which have been authenticated by the Church after investigation. Many more Eucharistic miracles throughout the world have been authenticated by the Church. All of these authenticated Eucharistic miracles throughout the world are surely an answer to any doubts we may have about Jesus in the Eucharist. Jesus is really with us in the Eucharist. Jesus comes to us in every Mass under the form of bread and wine. The Eucharist is a celebration of the love of Jesus for us, his blood shed for us in love and his body scourged, crowned with thorns and crucified for us. The wine poured and the bread broken is the love of Jesus for us, body and blood given for us. Because the Eucharist is the love of Jesus for us we always approach Jesus in the Eucharist with great respect and asking pardon for our sins. That's why it is so necessary at the start of every Mass to ask Jesus for mercy because we are so unworthy of his love, and again before receiving Jesus we express our unworthiness, *"Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."* Think of how precious that moment is during Mass when we receive Jesus in Holy Communion. When we receive Jesus, Jesus is in us and we are with Jesus. It is like what Genesis says about the marriage of man and woman, no longer two but one (Gen 2:24). It is the same when we receive Jesus. We are no longer two but one. *"He who eats my flesh abides in me and I in him."* (John 6:57). Come to Jesus, come in trust, surrender, believe and receive his love. Tell Jesus that you believe He is really present in the Blessed Sacrament and watch your faith grow from merely believing, to loving Jesus, and being loved by Jesus. Come to visit Jesus in the Tabernacle here in church often where you will have a wonderful opportunity to trust, surrender, believe and receive the love of Jesus.

May Jesus in the Eucharist always be the very center and heart of our church, the center and heart of our faith, the center and heart of our parish, and the center and heart in the lives of each of us.

**O'Sacrament most holy,
O'Sacrament divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving
Be every moment thine.**

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PRAYER REQUEST

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

Susan Ackerman, Lillian Appleman, Larry Baker, Patricia Baker, Nancy Beans, John & Loretta Bodisch, Emmalee Bryan, Patti Bucci, Libby Chapman, Dorothy Cegielski, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Ernest D'Angelo, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Bernice Fees, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Patricia Fite, Crystal Fleck, Sarah Fleck, Thomas Fleck, Claire Fratrick, Violet Freeh, Janet Galen, Patricia Gall, Kathi Gallegher, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Mary Halwski, Florence Hancharik, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Charles Houston, Martha Juchnowicz, Dotsy Keenan, Georgine Kocher, Valerie Korbar, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Sally Lindenmuth, Barbara Lavelle, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Loretta Malloy, Ray Malachowski, Jill Martindell, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Emma Michael, Joseph Moore, Nancy Moreno, Lorraine Mosolgo, Wanda Muth, James O'Hanlon, Jonathan Ott, Gary Palmer, Joseph and Mary Victoria Pepkowski, Nicholas Powell, Gladys Proca, Don Raman,

Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Betty Rick, Gregory Rickert, Joy & Teddy Rodman, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Andrew Schad, Lana Schell, Florence Schroker, Ginny Schulberger, Ronald Schultz, Sr., Frank & Joyce, Joe Shuman, Mary Jane Shuman, Gail Silveira, Baby Ella Stack, Carolyn Stahley, Shane Stroup Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas Toner, Betty Ventresca, Diane Wesoski, Maryjane Whealton, Tamara Widmer, 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

June 24th & 25th THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

| | Extraordinary Minister | Lector | Altar Server | Music |
|---------------------------|--|---------------------|---|---|
| Saturday 5pm | Jim Black Peg Glancey Joel Roney Dave Slifer | Sean Lynch | Luke Grindrod Mead Grindrod | CHOIR |
| Sunday 8am | Marianne McEvoy Jim McHugh Renee Moyer Kevin Murphy | Kathy Fetter | Joseph Fetter Mikayla Irvine Toby Irvine | Patty Leidner Karen Parash |
| Sunday 10:30am | Gerri Belsito Phil Donahue Lynn Gammello Dolly Kovacs | Linda Russo | Gianna Gammello Olivia Luna Luke Luna | Susan Middleton Nio Logaivau |