

JUNE 4, 2017 – PENTECOST SUNDAY

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 5 - 11, 2017

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

Monday, June 5

8:35am (Chapel) Josephine Vinceguerra (Kathy Vinceguerra)

Tuesday, June 6

8:35am (chapel) Phyllis Schmerbeck (SJB Staff)

Wednesday, June 7

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

Thursday, June 8

8:35am (chapel) Lawrence Coleburn (Mike Witaneck)

Friday, June 9

8:35am (chapel) Virginia Moratti Young (Tom Fink)

Saturday, June 10

5:00pm (church) John Reidler (Scott, Jeanette & Family)

Sunday, June 11

8:00am (church) Parishioners' Intentions

10:30am (church) Hank Tancredi (Arlene)

Meetings for the week of June 4 - 11, 2017

Mon. June 5: Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm – Marian Room

Conquest, 6:40pm – School Gym

Tues. June 6: Choir Practice, 7pm – church

Thurs. June 8: Baptismal Class, 6pm – Parish Office

Sat. June 10: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room



**Weekly Mass Collection
May 28, 2017**

Not Available at Press Time

Thank you for your generosity!

SJB Cleaning Team for the week of June 11th is Team # 1:

*Laura Gumprecht, Anita Colahan, Kate
Irvine, Sharone Forte, Lisa Saab*



Your parish Thanks You!

Our Mass READINGS for this weekend may be

found in

SECTION 920

of the JourneySongs Hymnal.



Gospel Reflections

A Letter from Our Pastor, Father Simi



Dear brothers and sisters,

***"And when he had said this,
he breathed on them and said to them,
"Receive the Holy Spirit.
Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them,
and whose sins you retain are retained."***

The season of Easter today ends with the great Solemnity of Pentecost. Our Lord Jesus Christ breathes into us the Person of the Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate the gift of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity breathed into us by the Father and the Son on the day of our baptism.

Immersed into the life of the Holy Trinity, we all find ourselves at the Home where we truly belong. We today celebrate our being united to God and to each other as one family. This is the sin that is forgiven us at baptism, the sin of being separated from our true Home. The Greek word for sin, "hamartain" means to miss the mark.

The Holy Spirit given to us at our baptism does not miss the mark but is the only power that is able to hit the mark of unity with the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is the only power that is able to hit the mark of unity of human beings.

The Holy Spirit continues to manifest His powerful presence in the existence of the Church, the Body of Christ. As St. Paul teaches us in the second reading, the Holy Spirit is the one force that is able to bind together members of the church who are so diverse, so different.

We only need to think of how the same Spirit of God is able to gather at the altar of Christ disciples of all walks of life, varying languages, diverse personalities, temperaments, gifts, skills, cultures, ethnicities, sex.

The same Spirit manifests its powerful presence also and very intimately in the family. Spouses who are different in many ways are joined together as one flesh by the one Spirit. Each of their child, different and gifted with varied personalities and temperaments and charisms are bound together by the love of the one Spirit.

In an environment that is increasingly divisive today, we need to be more open to the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. More and more, fear of the other has taken over.

Like the apostles in the gospel, we seem to be locking ourselves more in the dark and stuffy rooms of our own individual 'isms' very afraid of those "Jews" who disagree with us, who might even threaten our walled-in existence.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to help us see our own fears that drive us into our ill conception of others who reject us. Just as the Father has sent His Son to us, so does the Son send his disciples to the very Jews who militantly disapprove of them and their faith in our Lord.

Let us remember that Pentecost took place in Jerusalem, in the upper room of fear, where the fearful disciples are emboldened to face those they were once afraid of and to see them as their very own brothers and sisters.

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to also embolden us with the peace of being one family with all humanity, empowering us to appreciate the variety of gifts that the Holy Spirit has blessed each of us with and to forgive and tear down the walls that our fears put up against each other.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Fr. Simi



FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER Bedminster, PA "A QUIET COUNTRY RETREAT"

Daily Programs for up
to 50 People
Offering Private and
Small Group Retreats
Overnight Retreats

Available for Individuals & Small Groups

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



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

CONGRATULATIONS

to the CLASS of 2017

*They have amassed
scholarships in excess of*

\$150,000.00

Job Well Done!

School Headmaster: Mr. Michael J. Patterson
Dir. of Institutional Advancement: Geoff Meyer
Ph: 610-847-5523

www.sjbottsville.org

PENTECOST COLORING PAGE



Faith~Family~Fun



SJB 5th ANNUAL PARISH CARNIVAL
Wed. June 7th thru Sat. June 10th
Food ~ Games ~ Rides ~ Music nightly

**Spend time together and enjoy the sights,
sounds and flavor of our Carnival.**

VOLUNTEER AS A FAMILY

Sign-Up sheets are in the Narthex

WED & THURS ~ \$20 wrist band nights

FRIDAY ~ DESIGNER BAG BINGO

Doors open @ 5pm / Bingo @ 6:30pm

Tickets \$25 in advance / \$30 at the door

GRAND PRIZE

\$1,000.00 Louis Vuitton Handbag!!!!

~ SATURDAY ~

**"FREE to Enter" bicycle raffle
for children ages 12 and under.**



ALL NEW

Music Trivia

by our host DJ

**Carnival Closes with A SPECTACULAR
FIREWORKS SHOW!**



HONORING OUR VETERANS

For more information call Margaret McArdle at 215-534-1970
or Visit our parish website.



Like us on Facebook @ St. John the Baptist Carnival

What It Means to Be a Peacemaker

**"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called
children of God." – Matthew 5:9**

What does it mean to be a peacemaker? First, let's look at what peace means. In the Bible, it has several different meanings. In terms of human beings, peace has to do with a sense of well-being in all aspects of our lives. It is sometimes described as a feeling of harmony or tranquility. In the Old Testament, the Israelites came to realize that peace is a gift from God. There's a great story in Chapter 6 of the book of Judges that illustrates this realization.

The story goes that the Israelites were being terrorized by the people of Midian because they offended God. For instance, as soon as the Israelites had finished sowing their fields, the Midians would swoop in and destroy the produce and even the livestock. The Israelites were left with nothing for food, and they were reduced to misery. They turned to God for help. Here's where we meet Gideon in a surprising twist. God sends his angel not to a great warrior or a famous leader who could save the Israelites in a single bound. No, God sent his angel to Manasseh, the lowliest family of the Israelites. And God chose Gideon, the youngest and most insignificant member of the family, to save Israel from the Midians. After much protest, Gideon listened to God, for God promised that he would be with Gideon and would give him strength, saying "Be calm, do not fear. You shall not die." (Judges 6:23) Gideon built an altar to God and called it *Yahweh-shalom*, which means "the Lord is peace." Gideon came face to face with the God of peace, the one who could transform the lowest of the low into a great leader. Gideon went on to save Israel from the Midians and to bring peace to the land.

This story tells us not only how the Israelites came to realize that God is the source of peace, but that God empowers us to be bearers of peace. Sometimes we might feel insignificant like Gideon, especially when the problems we face are huge: a relationship in conflict, violence in our communities, or poverty and hunger. There are no easy answers to these problems.

Sometimes we are called to tackle issues in a big way. A 12-year-old boy named Craig Kielburger started an organization with some friends to help children throughout the world who were being exploited in the workforce. He didn't give into the temptation to believe (as Gideon had tried on God) that he was too insignificant to do anything. He stepped up to the plate and went to bat for children around the world.

How are you going to be a peacemaker? How will you help develop a sense of well-being and harmony in your own life? What social problems move you to want to make a difference? Remember, even when you feel like you're the last person in the world who is cut out to be a peacemaker, think about Gideon's story and God's promise of peace, strength, and courage.

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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, Joe Fite, Patricia Fite, Crystal Fleck, Sarah Fleck, Thomas Fleck, Claire Fratrik, 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, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Sally Lindenmuth, Barbara Lavelle, Charles Lutcavage, Julia Maher, Loretta Malloy, Ray Malachowski, Jill Martindell, Adelaide McElderry, Bridget Julia McHugh, Anne McNichol, Emma Michael, Joseph Moore, Nancy Moreno, Lorraine Mosolgo, Wanda Muth, James O'Hanlon, 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 10TH & 11TH – HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5pm	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Cathy Leidtke Joel Roney	Sean Lynch	Not Filled NEED VOLUNTEER ALTAR SERVERS	Kate Irvine Karen Parash
Sunday 8am	Mark Fetter Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice Ron Watson	Jeannie Keller	Joseph Fetter Samantha Froman Natalie Nice	Tom & Denny Sue Rogers
Sunday 10:30am	Jim Black Joan Black Dolly Kovacs Jackie Litzenberger	Laura Fleck	Joseph Gonzales Fleck Emily Saab Alexia Brennan	Choir