## MARCH 8, 2015 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



1 Corinthians 3:16

#### Masses for the week of March 9 - 15, 2015

Morning Prayer in St. Joseph Chapel, 8:15am Mon to Fri. Monday, March 9 8:35am (chapel) Baby Nowicki (Hollander Family) Tuesday, March 10 8:35am (chapel) Greg Vogan (Maxine Vogan) Wednesday, March 11 8:35am (chapel) The Pulli Family (Stephanie Crawford & Nancy McGinnis) 7:30pm (chapel) Parishioners' Intentions Thursday, March 12 8:35am (chapel) Elizabeth Petritsch (Loving Family) Friday, March 13 9:00am (church) Joseph Hooven Sr. (Joe Hooven & Family) 7:30pm (church) Stations of the Cross Saturday, March 14 5:00pm (church) Maria Meier (Ron Meier) Sunday, March 15 8:00am (church) James Gammello Sr. (Middleton Family) 10:30am (church) Parishioners' Intentions Meetings for the week of March 9 - 15, 2015

Mon. March 9: Conquest, 6:40pm – School Light Weigh, 7pm – Parish Office Prayer Shawl, 7:00pm – Marian Room Thurs. March 12: Knights of Columbus, 7:30pm – Marian Room Sat. March 14: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room Sun. March 15: Teen RCIA, 11:45am – Marian Room



The Church Cleaning Team for the week of March 9th is Team #5: Marion Wolf, Janet, Reidler, Fred Furmaniak, Beth Baird, Peggy Farley, Patricia Combs Your parish thanks you!

Mass Collection Sunday, March 1, 2015 \$ 8,794.00 Thank you for your generosity!



With great joy, we welcome the newestHolymember of our SJB parish familyBaptismthrough the Sacrament of Baptism:Alyssa Karina Byers

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, **Emily Bryant**, Ann Burns, Libby



Chapman, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, Glen DeKutosli, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Josephine Fasano, Bernice 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, Deanna Kovner, Barbara Kuehnle, Ryan Leven, Kathy Donahue Lewis, Kathy Lightkep, George 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, 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, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Jean Scattergood, Lana Schell, Herbert Scheuermann, Mario Sciacca, Kenneth Scheetz, Joe Shuman, Gail Silveira, Carolyn Stahley, Shane Stroup, Michael Suder, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas & Frank Toner, Barbara Vogan, Tamara Widmer, Ed Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder.



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!

### MARCH 8, 2015 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

## Gospel Reflections A Letter from Our Pastor, Father Simi

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

### His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. John 2:17

While we cannot fully understand the mystery of God's love now, we can certainly begin to head towards a full understanding. We must continue on that journey of understanding now. Our Lord Himself in the coming weeks of Lent will begin to reveal to us the meaning of the choices and actions He took on that most important of all weeks: Holy Week.

Today, we are taken by John in his gospel to the temple. We see how Jesus acts in a very violent yet decisive way: He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." (John 2:15-16) Fulfillment: Jesus was fulfilling the promises that the rituals of sacrifice in the temple were pointing to but could not bring about. Doves, sheep and oxen were being sacrificed by priests in the temple with the hope that this sacrifice will appease the God they have offended with their sins.

The reconciliation between God and humanity that all the rituals of sacrifice in the temple were trying to bring about, and the effects of that reconciliation that they hoped to enjoy, all this was to be fulfilled now in the person of Jesus Christ.

In chasing out everyone from the temple, in violently emptying the temple, He was replacing the temple with Himself. Destroy this temple and in three days I will build it again. (John 2:19) In Himself, He was going to embody the one and only sacrifice that is going to truly bring about our reconciliation with God. There will be no longer any need of that temple. He is now the temple.

In the fullness of His own Person as God's only divine Son, and in His two natures as divine and human, in His soul, divinity, flesh and blood, He is going to embody the temple, the lamb of sacrifice, the altar of sacrifice and the priest who sacrifices.

On His holy and unblemished Person, He is going to take on all the unholy and sinful blemishes of mankind and swallow it all up with the merciful love that the Father has filled His Son with. The violent death inflicted on an innocent and unblemished lamb is now going to be inflicted on His sinless Self.

Without knowing it, the priests of the temple are going to help bring about this new temple sacrifice. The death that they would ritually inflict on the unblemished lambs, they themselves were going to inflict on Jesus, the Lamb of God who alone can truly take away the sins of the world.

This is the great and deep mystery of Holy Week that you and I are preparing to enter into in the coming weeks. Let us be decisive about our celebration of this mystery on Holy Week. It seems that each year, we increasingly find more important things to do than being with Jesus as His body, as His temple.

More and more we seem to remove ourselves farther away from this Holiest of Weeks. Could it be that we are resorting to making excuses with our Lord and bargaining with Him about our salvation, still turning the Father's temple of our bodies and souls to marketplaces?

Let us ask our Lord to give us a spirit of true contrition that recognizes how we still inflict the Temple of His body and soul with the sins our own bodies and souls, especially the sins of indifference toward Him whose zeal for us who are His Temple consumes Him.

#### Fr. Símí.

#### 24-Hour ADORATION continues the 3rd week each month.



Day and night Jesus dwells in the Blessed Sacrament because you are the most important person in the world to him! "Christ is reserved in our churches as the spiritual center of the heart of the community, the universal Church and all humanity, since within the veil of the species, Christ is contained, the invisible heart of the Church, the Redeemer of the world, the center of all hearts, by him all things are and of whom we exist." (Pope Paul IV, Mysterium Fidei)

If Jesus were actually visible in church, everyone would run to welcome him, but he remains hidden in the Sacred Host under the appearance of bread, because he is calling us to faith, that we many come to him in humility. "The Blessed Sacrament is the 'Living Heart' of each of our churches and it is our very sweet duty to honor and adore the Blessed Host, which our eyes see, the Incarnate Word, whom they cannot see." (Pope Paul VI, Credo of the People of God)

# **Parish Religious Education Program**

In today's Gospel Jesus' dramatic cleansing of the temple was seen by his disciples as a prophetic sign of God's action. The temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among his people. When God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them through the sea, and finally to Mount Sinai where he made a covenant with them and gave them a new way of life embodied in the Ten Commandments. God gave Moses instruction for worship and for making the Tabernacle, or tent of meeting, which was later replaced by the temple. Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us. He seeks to cleanse us of sin and make us living temples of his Holy Spirit. Jesus referred to the temple as his Father's house which was being made into "house of trade" "a den of robbers." That is why he used physical force to expel the money-changers. Jesus' disciples recalled the words of Psalm 69: "Zeal for your house will consume me." Here the disciples saw more clearly Jesus as the Messiah who burned with zeal for God's house. The Jewish authorities wanted proof that Jesus had divine authority to act as he did. They demanded a sign from God otherwise they would treat Jesus as an imposter. Jesus replied "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews did not understand that the temple Jesus referred to was his own body. The "tent of his body" had to be destroyed to open the way to the presence of God for us. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus not only reconciles us with God, but he fills us with his Holy Spirit and makes us temples of the living God. God's word enlightens our minds and purifies our hearts that we may offer God fitting worship and enjoy his presence both now and forever. You and I are among those who have accepted saving grace. We have been incorporated into the Body of Christ by our baptism. As Church community, we are to be the sacred dwelling place of God in our world. And each of us has been taught to reverence our body as a temple of the Holy Spirit.

Hearing the account of Jesus cleansing the Temple is a good Lenten reminder to us individually and as a community. Am I keeping the temple of my body sacred? What kind of effort do I make to keep the community sacred? Is Jesus inviting me to a cleansing in some way?

Let us pray..."Lord Jesus, you are the power and wisdom of God. Open each of us to the cleansing you want to do in your temple during this





## **CONFIRMATION INTERVIEWS**

Mon. 3/9, Tues. 3/10 (PREP students) & Thurs. 3/4 (school students) during class time. PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

Mon. 3/16 students are to arrive 6:15pm in the Narthex Attendance will be taken. All PREP students are expected to attend.

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist



# **Upcoming Events**

An opportunity for you to get to know us better:

## Regional "Classical" Forum 3/12/15

Please join us for this very important event on Thursday, March 12, 6:30 p.m. at Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist in Ottsville. Dr. Daniel Guernsey is a national expert who has written extensively on the contrast between Common Core and Classical Education. Anyone desiring to know about these contrasts as it relates to the education of our children all are invited to attend.

> For Information and to Register please call the School Office at 610-847-5523

THE REGINA ACADEMY at ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



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Visit us at

www.sjbottsville.org

## Spring Sports registration has



begun...Track, Volleyball & Softball. Registration forms can be obtained on the Parish website.

**Please contact Claire** at cmgeib@aol.com with any questions.



### MARCH 8, 2015 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

## FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, Bedminster, PA

Please join us in... *Prayer for Vocations and World Peace.* <u>Weekly Prayers</u>



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.



"MORNING JOE" Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> Following the 7:30am Mass Celebrate the Solemnity of Saint

Joseph's Day with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Pope Francis' Pontificate with a hot cup of coffee and the traditional "St.

Joseph's Table" of bread and pastries while enjoying good friends & conversation. **A special gift will be given to anyone with the name "Joseph!"** Are you on your way to work? Don't worry! Have your "Morning Joe" to go! There is no cost to participate and no registration is required.

Corpus Christi Church – Religious Education Room Lansdale, PA

## SJB STUDENTS EXCEL at HIGH SCHOOL

Our Parish recently received notification on the performance of our high school students on their First Semester Report. We are particularly proud of those who demonstrated academic excellence. Among those earning honors are:

EMILY FROMAN at Villa Joseph Marie High School COLIN FRANCIS KELLY at Archbishop Wood High School SHANE MCARDLE at Archbishop Wood High School ASHLEY MARIE RUCH at Archbishop Wood High School



2nd Annual Spring Gala April 10th, 2015 Blue Bell Country Club Tickets \$125 single; \$200 couple and \$900 table of 10. Limited to 250 guests. Order Tickets: email mark@thekingsmen.org. Visit the website to make a donation <u>www.thekingsmen.us</u> Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary Legion of Mary Mary, Mother of the Blessed Sacrament Praesidium



Invites you to the 22nd Annual MARIAN DAY Saturday, March 21, 2015 9:00 - 4:00 pm "Saint Louis Marie de Montfort: Priest and Preacher of The True Devotion to Mary" 9:00 am Registration / 9:30 Morning Session 11:15 Mass 12:00 pm Lunch 1:15 Afternoon Session / 2:45 Holy Hour RSVP before March 13, 2015 at advancement@scs.edu or 610.785.6270

> 10 Monthly Themes Bulletin Reflection March 2015: Creating the Future

#### **Chapter 5: Creating the Future**

Sexual intimacy between a man and a woman raises the possibility of children. There are many other honorable relationships which include degrees of commitment and affection, but marriage has a unique mission: to integrate the fertility of male and female with the fidelity of God's covenant. Catholic parenting relies on the same rationale as sacramental marriage: love in the shape of service, sacrifice, trust, and openness to God's will. If and when a marriage is blessed with children, love orients parents to their children's education and spiritual formation. Jesus said to his disciples "Let the children come unto me," and it is the responsibility of all Catholic adults to shepherd children into a relationship with God and the people of God. The whole parish should be involved in supporting marriages, families and children. We build the future of our society child by child, family by family. Vatican II called the family a "domestic church," and the little church of the family takes its orientation from the faith and mission of the larger Church. It is a mother's and a father's responsibility to be with children at home and in church, and to pray together regularly. Children will learn the faith only when they are taught. The way a family responds to adversity, or gathers for meals, or makes financial decisions and sets priorities - these and many other aspects of "home economics" shape the values and identities of our children. "Love is our mission" because even in the middle of our humble daily routines, Catholics live with a bold and glorious purpose.

- Christopher C. Roberts, catechism editor



# 6 MONTHS & COUNTING.... Have you registered yet????

Visit www.worldmeeting.org to REGISTER today!

VISIT <u>http://www.phillyevang.org/wmof</u> FOR A SCHEDULE OF LOCAL MARRIAGE AND FAMILY EVENTS.

## **MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday, 5pm	Joan Black Jim Black Cathy Leidtke Bill McGowan	Jane Ferry	Luke Grindrod Johann Krug Brendan Krug	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
Sunday, 8:00am	Richard McEvoy Marianne McEvoy Renee Moyer Patricia Ott	Jonathan Ott	Danny Froman Emily Froman ?	Marion Wolf Sue Rogers
Sunday, 10:30am	Phil Donahue Lynn Gammello Dolly Kovacs Leona Russell	Melissa Johnson	Nicole DeCicco James Gammello Gianna Gammello	Choir Sue Rogers
Friday, Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup> Stations of the Cross 7:30pm			Samantha Froman Danny Froman	

## PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

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