

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Selvaraj Lucas, M.S.C.
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Tony Ripp, M.S.C.
Finance Manager: Carolyn Marchese
Dir. of Religious Education: Donna Sciacca
Parish Office Manager: Donna Sciacca
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok
Bulletin Editor/Webmaster: Donna Sciacca

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am

Mon- Fri: 9:00am

Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:30pm

**CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm
or by appointment.**

Register in the Parish: Please contact the parish office to register when you move into our parish.

Certificates of Eligibility: Issued to registered parishioners, 16 yrs. and older, received all of their Sacraments of Initiation, attend MASS regularly at St. John's, and receive the sacraments of Communion and Penance often.

BAPTISMS: The Sacrament of Baptism is administered on the fourth Sunday of every month. Sacrament of Baptism



takes place immediately following the 10:30am Mass. Parents and Godparents must attend 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 provide a *Certificate of Eligibility* from their pastor. A Christian of other denominations may serve as a Godparent along with a practicing Catholic.

MARRIAGE: A Saturday Mass for the Sacrament of Matrimony may be celebrated no later than



1pm. Couples planning marriage are to contact the parish office & schedule a meeting with our wedding coordinator no later than 6 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 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.*



Mass Intentions

Week of April 12 -18, 2021
Daily Mass: 9am Monday – Friday

Monday: Elizabeth Petritsch (*Loving Husband*)
Tuesday: Tony DeCarolis (*Jim & Joan Black*)
Wednesday: Mark Christopher Lapsley (*John F. Lapsley Jr.*)
Thursday(*old SJB Church*): Maria Middleton (*Harold Rick*)
Friday: Maria Louzon (*Gina Puente*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday, 5pm: John Reidler (*Jeanette & Family*)
Sunday, 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
10:30am: Maria Middleton (*Jennie Blandi & Family*)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm: Fri. 9am – 1pm

The wearing of a face mask is required for service.

To plan a funeral or purchase a grave in our parish cemetery, call to make an appointment.

MASS COLLECTIONS

March 28: Envelopes \$6,858.00 / E-Giving: \$2,997.00
April 4: Envelopes \$6,401.00 / E-Giving: \$3,352.46
Easter: \$9,216.00

Thank you for your generosity!

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE

Bedminster, PA

“A Quiet Country Retreat”

Offering Day Retreats for groups up to 50
Overnight Retreats for groups up to 8



Monday, 7pm
Adoration & Prayers
Wednesday, 9:30am
Adoration & Prayers
3rd Sunday, 12pm
Adoration & Prayer for Vocations

1st Saturday, 10am
Rosary, Confession, Mass
followed by Lunch

Call Joan Black for directions, reservations, or more info at 215-795-2947.

“Peace be with you.”

Gospel of John 20:19-31

This is the second time in this chapter that John notes it is “*the first day of the week.*” For centuries the Jewish Sabbath has been associated with the Law symbolizing six days of work followed by a day of rest; but “*The Lord’s Day*”, the first day of the week, is associated with grace so that first comes faith in the living Christ, then follow afterward the works which verify that faith.

Fearing for their life, the apostles were in hiding. They were confused, doubting their ability to profess this new faith, they felt abandoned, like lost sheep. It was then that Jesus came to them in a different kind of body so that they could see for themselves the result of the Resurrection, but He came to them personally in order to comfort and reassure them. He greeted them with, “*Peace be with you*”. He reassured them by His Word and showed them His hands and side so they would come to believe He was indeed their Master and Savior.

True peace is found in the person and work of Christ who died for us, rose from the grave in victory, and now lives for us. He comes to us in grace and reassures us through His Word.

Jesus then commissions them by stating, “*Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.*” 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.*” It was a way of stating that they would now take His place in the world.

Now Thomas, who was not there to see Jesus’ return, did not believe. He wanted proof. When Christ returned the following week to appear to Thomas, Jesus did not rebuke Thomas for doubt but for unbelief: “...do not be unbelieving, but believe.” The transformation from doubt to assurance was accomplished by restoring faith in Christ and His Word; otherwise faith is placed in something else, most often one’s self.

“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” The Resurrection miracle was not exclusive for those alive at the time it took place, but is experienced by every Believer of every age regardless. **It comes to all who “see” Christ by faith.**

Ever wonder why Divine Mercy Sunday follows Resurrection Sunday?

The Resurrection of Jesus was the most important event in the history of the world. When the Lord appeared in the 'Upper Room' to the apostles pointing out His wounds, it was to demonstrate He was the Crucified Christ, and to show He had resurrected from the dead. The final proof that He was God. He then bestowed on the apostles the power to forgive sins, which was in effect Divine Mercy coming into the world. It was the beginning of the Church on earth.

In Catholicism, divine Mercy is a devotion to Jesus Christ associated with the apparitions of Jesus to Saint Faustina Kowalska. The primary focus of the Divine Mercy devotion is the merciful love of God and the desire to let that love and mercy flow through one's own heart towards those in need of it.

From St. Faustina’s Diary....

On February 22, 1931, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ appeared to this simple nun, bringing with Him a wonderful message of Mercy for all mankind. He asked her to teach the world again of why he died on the Cross to give sinners another chance of obtaining God's Divine Mercy, and pardon their sins if they returned to living by God’s commandments. He was also reminding man that His death on the Cross, Divine Mercy was for all mankind *“In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in Blessing the other was touching the garment at the breast. From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy. After a while Jesus said to me, 'paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You.'” (Diary 47) Some time later, Our Lord again spoke to her: “The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous; the red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls...These two rays issued forth from the depths of My most tender Mercy at that time when My agonizing Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross....” (Diary 299)*

“I have not come to call the righteous, but to call sinners to repentance.” For the same reason He appeared again on earth to Saint Faustina, to save sinners from eternal damnation. His message of Divine Mercy is a warning to mankind to exercise their conscience, come back to God and live by the Commandments.



First Holy Communion



Rehearsal, Thurs., April 22nd at 6pm in the Church.

Bring your child's Banner; Photo Order Form with payment.

Sacrament Mass – Saturday, April 24th 10 AM in the Church

Communicants are to arrive by 9am for their pictures.



Rehearsal – Sat. May 1st at 10 AM in the Church
Candidate & Sponsor attendance mandatory

RITE OF CONFIRMATION within the MASS
Sunday, May 2nd 10:30 AM Mass

Candidate & Sponsor to arrive by 9:45 AM



LIVING OUT OUR EASTER CALL

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that the Resurrection “transcends and surpasses history” (No. 647). To mark such a monumental event, one day of celebration is not enough, which is why the Church has dedicated 50 days to the Easter season.

Pope St. John Paul II said, **“We are an Easter people, and alleluia is our song!”**

There’s a little-known Catholic devotion called the **Via Lucis** that is beautiful to pray with during the Easter season. Also known as the *Stations of the Resurrection*, it is the Easter counterpart of the traditional Lenten Stations of the Cross. Through these stations, we walk with Jesus after the resurrection and learn from his interactions with the apostles and other disciples. Even if you only have the opportunity to pray these once or twice during the season, you’ll gain a better appreciation for what Christ was doing after his resurrection and what those actions meant for the beginnings of the Church.

Visit <http://www.vialucis.org/images/pdf/Via-Lucis-Inglese-comunita.pdf> - print out prayer to follow.



THE REGINA ACADEMY
at **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**
Knowing ~ Loving ~ Serving

Registration is now open
at The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist
pre-K through 8th grade
for the 2021-2022 school year.

Space is limited and filling up quickly.

Faith Family & Freedom
the antidote to today's culture
Registration **NOW OPEN**
for 2021/2022 school year. *Space is limited*
www.rasjb.org • 610-847-5523

Monday, April 19, 2021
Regina Academies Declamation Contest at Martin Saints High School

Wishing our students abundant blessings as they go forth and represent our school in this annual competition.

Science Fair
April 19 – 22, 2021

Mrs. Tami Koerber, Head of School
Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director
www.rasjb.org
610-847-5523



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4545
FR. STOMMEL COUNCIL
"BIG CASH RAFFLE"
300 Chances
\$50.00 per Chance
Winning Draw on Dec. 4, 2021
Cash Prizes of:
\$5,000.00 / \$3,000.00 / \$1,000.00**

To purchase your "Chance" to WIN BIG, contact:
Vince Morelli (215) 399-6025 Mike Kirk (215) 870-4140



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL
Partners In Hope**

When you become a Partner in Hope, you make an impact all year long. Just \$1 a day can help a special needs student, a mother struggling to feed her family or a veteran barely making ends meet. By becoming a Partner in Hope, you will shine a light of hope on many of your brothers and sisters in need.

**\$1/Day - \$30.42 per month - \$365 a year.
Please consider joining us today!**

Make your secure payment, pledge or gift online today at: www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2021 Catholic Charities Appeal, please email CCA@thecfgp.org or call 215.587.5650.

**High School Workshop on
"Catholicism and the Common Good"**

Monday, June 28 - Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Join the Collegium Institute for our first summer seminar of the Young Catholic Leaders Initiative for advanced high school students. Over the course of three days, Catholicism and the Common Good will focus on one of the 'three necessary societies' stipulated by Catholic Social Teaching, namely, the family, the state, and the Church. Through a combination of keynote lectures and seminars with Penn faculty, panel discussions and city tours with experts in local history, we will explore the principles undergirding Catholic thought on the common good by engaging with thinkers ranging from Augustine and Aquinas to Weil and Wojtyla, as well as seeking to apply those principles to our contemporary American context.

For more information and to Register visit:
<https://forms.gle/hvGcHx4Lo67D7P496>



**Annual Wedding Anniversary
Mass
Saturday, May 1, 2021
5:15 PM Vigil Mass**

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? The Annual Archdiocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul with Archbishop Nelson Pérez presiding. This Mass will be commemorating all married couples who are newlyweds or celebrating their 5, 10, 25 or 50 year wedding anniversary milestones. **Wedding vows will be renewed. Friends and family are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

To Register please call The Office for Life and Family at 215-587-0500.

For more details see the flyer on the wall in our Narthex



**Malvern
Retreat House**

315 S. Warren Ave.
Malvern, PA 19355
610.644.0400

April 16 - 18, 2021

**Retrouvaille: Rediscover the Love in Your
Marriage**

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises.

For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. **All inquiries are strictly confidential**

**Forming a People of Life Faith Formation
"Safeguarding the Dignity of Man"**

June 16, 2021

7:00 – 8:30 pm

**Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul
1723 Race St, Philadelphia, PA 19103**

Join us as we explore the Church's teachings on the urgent social issues of our day so as to be strengthened in our resolve to defend them and also be equipped to dialogue fruitfully with other.

Speaker: Meghan Cokeley, Office for the New Evangelization

For more information visit,
<http://cathedralphila.org/life/>

**Ministry Schedule for
April 17th & 18th Third Sunday of Easter**

Ministry Schedule:				
	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
Saturday 5 PM	Lynn Gammello	Christina Crews	Siobhan Crews Paige Mattle	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Joan Black	Patti Keyser	Brigid Froman OPEN	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe	Tom Costello	Leighanna Fleck Joey Gonzales-Fleck	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

*** New Name Added**

NEW CYCLE: March 1 – June 1, 2021



To RENEW or to ADD a name to our prayer list, please call the parish office.

OUR SICK:

Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Cathy & Mark Hancharik, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Roseann McCarty, Bridget McHugh, Nancy Moreno, Ray Nalachowski, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Beatrice Bohm Rogers, Barbara Sabath, Pete Shultz, Sr., Ed Wismer, Christine Zdanowicz, and all those afflicted by the Coronavirus.

TROOPS:

Jamie Steven Ayuso, Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, David Fisher, Michael Froeder, A.J. Giovino, Aaron Given, Matthew Gumprecht, Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, Aileen Lauer, Stephen Lindmeier, Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva.

May God protect and watch over our troops.