

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: 8:35am

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

CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm

or by appointment.

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

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. 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 for the Week of August 10 - 16, 2020 Daily Mass 8:35am in the Main Church

Monday: Jack Glancey (*Janet Reidler & Family*)

Tuesday: Ethel Rick (*Doug & Delores Wormkessel*)

Wednesday: Tom High (*Tom & Sue Rogers*)

Thursday: Ron Mainsenhalter (*Kosmin Family*)

Friday: Dolores Crnkovich (*Regina Skurnowicz*)

Saturday, 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday: 8am: Tom High (*Harold Rick*)

10:30am: Marie Carrella (*Gammello Family*)

Parish Office Summer Hours

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm / Friday 9am – 1pm

No Walk-Ins – All services provided.

Please call ahead for an appt. 610-847-5521

PARISH LIFE - GREEN PHASE - CLARIFICATIONS

On July 29th, the Archdiocese conducted a Webinar to address the many questions the faithful have about what is permissible during this stage of the pandemic. I strongly recommend you view the recording of Rev. Gill and Meagan Coakley, or the printed accessible on their website at: archphila.org/arise

Click on the “Announcements, Updates, Clarifications link to access the print edition of Parish Guidelines - Liturgical and Non-Liturgical Whether inside or outside of the Church, the following precautions are recommended:

- Face coverings, social distancing, frequent washing of hands, or the frequent use of hand sanitizer when soap & water are not available, Most importantly don't touch your face.
- Our parish continues to employ the services of a professional company who comes in weekly to sanitize all surfaces inside our church. To assure it remains free of contaminants until the doors are open for Confession just prior to our Saturday vigil Mass, no gatherings are permitted inside our church from noon on Friday thru Saturday at 4pm.

Mass Collection for Sunday, August 2, 2020

Collection Baskets: \$ 4,763.00

Parish Giving: \$ 4,016.73

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

THE NATURE OF FAITH

Gospel of Matthew 14: 22-33

Even when we are not living in the midst of a pandemic, if we were to write out a list of the things that we worry about or feel anxious about, the list would go on, and on. Just think of all the things we are worried about: parents worried about their children, older children worried about their parents, people worried about their health or that of others, farmers worrying about the weather or their livestock, financial worries, worries about relationships, worries about so many different things.

From time to time we all feel frightened like the disciples in the boat and like them we cry out in fear. But just as in today's Gospel, Jesus comes to us in some way, usually through the help of those near to us and says, "Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid." How often I have heard it said, "If it wasn't for the help of so-and-so, I would never have made it through that time." Therefore when we are worried let us turn to Jesus and continue to trust in him.

When troubles come our way often we forget that God is still with us. It is strange really, but that is what happens to so many people when they get upset. They think God has gone on holiday. But that is not so. God is still with us. We cannot always rely on our feelings, and we can rely on them still less when there is something bothering us. The truth is that God is with us always, whether or not we feel his presence.

Don't ever forget that Jesus and Mary are always with you no matter what your feelings tell you. God and Mary will not abandon you.

Was Jesus ever afraid? Did Jesus ever worry? Yes he did. And what did he do when he had worries and how did he cope? On two occasions in the Gospel we see Jesus afraid. On each of the two occasions he prayed to his Father and in prayer he got the strength to continue and face the difficult situation. Jesus' prayer was answered because he got the strength to face his passion, "Not my will, but yours be done." On another occasion, also thinking of his passion, Jesus said, "Now my soul is troubled." on this occasion also Jesus prayed to his Father and recovered his strength during prayer. When troubles and worries come our way, our best approach is the approach of Jesus. PRAY, and we will get the strength to continue.

A reflection to assure us that Jesus is still with us even when we don't feel his presence.

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonging to him, and the other to the LORD. When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand. He noticed that many times along the path of life there was only one set of footprints. He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

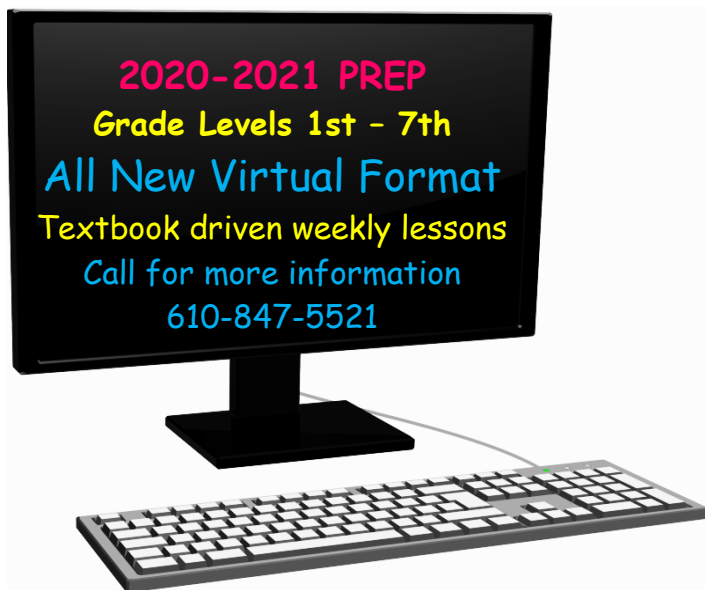
(Footprints in the Sand is by Mary Stevenson © 1984)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(A Holy Day without the obligation to participate in Mass) The evening Mass is the Anticipated Mass for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time.



Registration forms available to download.

www.stjohnsottsville.org

SHARE JESUS WITH YOUR CHILD



If you have a child
entering
the 1st grade in
September,
or if you are
new in our parish and
have a child in grades
1 - 7 please call the
parish office to register them in our Parish
Religious Education Program.

Many of our PREP families are experiencing
financial difficulty at this time.

If you would like to make a donation toward
the cost of materials for their education,
please send a check to the parish office,
payable to: St. John the Baptist PREP

Thank You for your donation!



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

Register for our 2020/2021 School Year
Limited Spots Available
Full Time & In Person – September 1st

**\$1500 transfer grants are available for
students transferring from another school.**

You Have a Choice!

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

- Joy-Filled Authentic Catholic Community
- Catholic Classical Curriculum
- Protective & Nurturing Environment



- Schools Starts Full Time & In Person September 1st!
- Limited Spots Available.

Contact us today:
(267) 424-5762
www.RASJB.org

CALL TO REGISTER TODAY 267-424-5762

Mrs. Tami Koerber, Head of School
Mrs. Jackie Lenox, Asst. Head of School
Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director
www.rasjb.org

FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE, Bedminster, PA
"A Quiet Country Retreat"

**Offering Day & Overnight Retreats
for Small Groups & Individuals**



Monday, 7pm
Adoration & Prayers
Wednesday, 9:30am
Adoration & Prayers
3rd Sunday, 12pm
Adoration & Prayer for Vocations
1st Saturday, 10am
Rosary, Confession, Mass & Lunch



Father Stommel Council 4545
**KNIGHTS of
COLUMBUS**

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Knights of Columbus Council 4545 are
pleased to announce:

BILL SAXTON

As our newly elected GRAND KNIGHT

Bill Saxton will represent the Knights of
Columbus for both St. John the Baptist and St.
Lawrence Parishes.

Bill has served our parish communities as a
member of the Knights of Columbus for many
years. His dedication to the priests and
parishioners of these parishes continues to
thrive in his newly appointed role of Grand
Knight.

Freedom in the Face of Mandates for Masks

The best way to beat COVID-19 is to unify. The
motto "In unity there is strength" reminds us of
this.

Rugged individuals going their own way reminds
us of another saying: "And divided we fall."

When genuine people assume an importance
greater than their own affairs, I-thou
relationships, the basis of true love, happen,
creating respectful attentiveness to one another.

It is difficult to possess an interior life in our
chaotic times. The pandemic, however, will be
conquered only by thoughtful people with a moral
conscience.

Morality is the sum of what ought to be done, the
good. The good ought to be done, not because the
alternative would be unpleasant or harmful, but
on account of its own worth.

Do masks have a worth of their own? Where is the
worth in rejecting them? Freedom's worth is the
good it ultimately produces for the common good.

Excerpt from Father Eugene Hemrick, CatholicPhilly.com



**Missionaries of
the Sacred Heart
USA Province**

35th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT CANCELLED

Announcement from the MSC Golf Committee:

Due to the inability to *guarantee* a risk-free
environment during this pandemic, even with
following all the guidelines, we were left with no
choice but to cancel our annual golf tournament
fundraiser this year.

This is a very important event for our retired
MSC Priests and Brothers, who rely upon the
support from the monies raised during this
annual fundraiser.

**If you are able to make a donation for the
continued support of our retired priests &
brothers, it would be greatly appreciated.**

Checks should be made payable to:

MSC GOLF BENEFIT

And mail to:

MSC GOLF BENEFIT

**330 Station Avenue
Center Valley, PA 18034**

With much gratitude and appreciation!

~ The MSC GOLF COMMITTEE

Fuel your faith with these Christian films

Messiah available on Netflix

Free Burma Rangers available on Amazon

I Still Believe available on Amazon

Home Sweet Home available on Pure Flix



Ministry Schedule for: August 15th & 16th, 2020 – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5pm	Joe Cegielski	Christina Crews	Siobhan Crews	Liz Torgerson Bob Galdo
Sunday 8am	Donna Nice	Megan Gilbert		Karen Parash (no Cantor)
Sunday 10:30am	Bruce Keyser	Patti Keyser		Patty Leidner Karen Parash



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

* New Name Added



June 1st – Sept. 1st

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, Ross Brinkert, Steve Combs, Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Patricia Fite, Maddie Gardner, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, MaryAnn Hauber, Valerie Korbar, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Maria Middleton, Nancy Moreno, Mark Neustadter, James O'Hanlon, Gerry Pacitti, Pete Shultz, Sr., Steve & Wendy Snyder, Riley Telesco, Cynthia Tocci, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer.

OUR 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, Stephen Lindmeier, Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva.