

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Simone R. 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 - 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 the 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. 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: 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 anytime 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*.



For the Week of Feb. 18 - 24, 2019

Mass Intentions

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

Mon. – Thurs. 8:35am / Friday 9:00am

Monday: Robert Hueston (*Karen Hueston*)
Tuesday: Adeline Rushatz (*Carolyn Pyatt*)
Wednesday: Joe Shuman (*Marion Wolf*)
Thursday: Mark Tobash (*Jackie Litzenberger*)
Friday: Intentions of Joan Black (*Deacon Ed & Kathy Jones*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday: 8am: Bernice M. Fees (*Chuck Fees*)
10:30am: Thomas Musick (*Elaine Family*)

Ministry Meetings this Week

Mon. Feb. 18: K of C, 7:30 – Parish Hall
Wed. Feb. 20: Flame of Love Rosary, 8am – Church
RCIA, 3:30pm – Parish Office
Thurs. Feb. 21: Garden Club, 7pm – SJB Mtg. Rm.
Sat. Feb. 23: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room & Chapel
Lector Refresher Course, 10am - Church

Weekly Mass Collection

Envelopes / Parish Giving (*Electronic Deposit*)
Feb. 10th: **Not Available at press time** / \$ 600.00
Thank you for your generosity!

WE
NEED
YOUR
HELP

**VOLUNTEER TO
SERVE**
Once a month
**PARISH CLEANING
MINISTRY**

Contact the parish office

PLEASE VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP
TO DATE INFORMATION ON EVENTS AND OTHER NEWS.
www.stjohnsottsville.org



<https://www.facebook.com/ottsville>

*A Letter from
Our Pastor, Father Simi*



Dear brothers and sisters,

***“Blessed are you who are poor,
for the kingdom of God is yours.”***
(Luke 6:20)

Last Sunday, we were led by our Lord to experience our own place in His presence. It is a lowly state, a sinful state, a state that, in the sight of His own holiness and majesty, is truly pitiable and sad. Isaiah, Paul and Peter had nothing they could boast about. They could only be sorrowful for their own sinfulness.

It is different when one is brought to one's own true measure by God than when one is by another human being. When God reveals the state of our souls to us, He makes us see it with the eyes that He sees us with. They are the eyes of love, of compassion, of forgiveness, of healing and hope.

When human beings speak of our sins, they do so with their own fallen eyes that are unforgiving, damning. They are in need of saving themselves and having not experienced the grace of being forgiven by God, they judge only with the eyes that know not forgiveness.

Today, this teaching is confirmed and deepened. The disciples of Christ who gather around Him in today's gospel are those who, like Peter and James and John in last week's gospel, have experienced God's forgiving gaze in their own sinful lives.

Through Jesus, they have seen God's holiness and majesty most expressed in His own merciful love towards them who are so imprisoned in their own sinfulness, sad in their own poverty, astray in their own blindness and oppressed by their foes. They have begun to experience the jubilee year of God's forgiveness of their debts to Him. Remember His first homily in Nazareth? (Luke 4:18-19)

These are the disciples to whom Jesus addresses the beatitudes. The disciples are joined by a multitude of people who have come in from everywhere but it is to His disciples that He addresses the beatitudes.

Peter, James, John, Isaiah, Paul and all those disciples who have known the forgiving love with which God judges them have seen their own state of poverty, of hunger, of weeping, of being

hated, excluded, insulted, denounced as evil on account of the Son of Man.

Jesus, the Son of Man reveals their state to them but with the forgiving eyes of the Father who responds to their poverty with the fullness of His kingdom, to their hunger with the satisfaction of food from heaven, to their weeping with the joy of forgiveness, to their being betrayed with the faithful love of the Father who never betrays His betraying children.

This is how our Lord evangelizes sinners. This is how He converts them. His love, which is the Holy Spirit, is the eyes with which He sees us, forgives us, purifies us and sends us to love others with the same Spirit.

Without the Spirit of the Son of Man revealing us to ourselves with the light of our merciful Father face, we remain in our own sinful state judging and condemning one another with the eyes that cannot forgive.

When we cannot forgive, then we remain in our woeful state of making futile attempts at saving ourselves from our own poverty, hunger, sadness and being acceptable to others. We champion and reward our own independence and self-righteous achievements only to further tighten the chains of sin and death.

Lord have mercy on us. Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Father Simi

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

Bedminster, PA

“A Quiet Country Retreat Center”

Offering Day & Overnight Retreats
for Individuals & Small Groups



Monday, 7pm:

Adoration & Prayers

Wednesday, 9:30am:

Adoration & Prayers

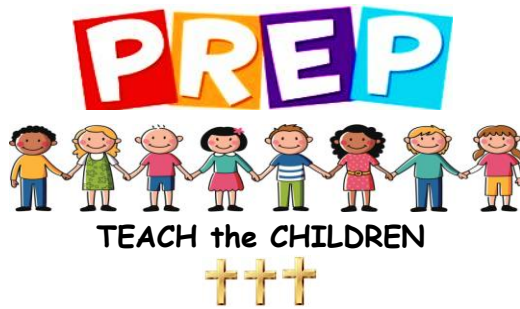
3rd Sunday, 12pm:

Adoration & Prayer for
Vocations

1st Saturday:

**10am- Rosary, Confession,
Mass, & Lunch**

For more information or directions, please call Joan Black at 215-536-3508, or visit us at fatimahousebedminster.webs.com



February Family Devotion to The Holy Family

Many Catholics observe special devotions around a particular theme each month—the Holy Name of Jesus in January, or the Blessed Virgin Mary in October & May. This practice is a way to observe the liturgical calendar at home. It is also a way to recognize Christ's lordship over all time—plus, it's fun! Here are some ways to celebrate the popular devotion for February, the Holy Family.

Teach Your Children: Jesus was born into a poor and humble family. He did not have the best toys or clothes. However, what he did have is something that all parents strive to give to their children: love. Mary, Joseph and Jesus show us how each family should live.

Shortly after Jesus was born, King Herod was worried that Jesus would come to have more power and influence over the citizens in Judea. Not wanting this, King Herod ordered that all male babies be murdered. God sent an angel to Joseph to warn him of the impending danger. The Holy Family left the few things they had behind and fled to Egypt. They lived in Egypt for many years until it was safe for them to return to Nazareth. The Holy Family teaches us that family members should put aside their own desires and do what is best for others. This often means making sacrifices and doing things that are hard. As Jesus grew up, Mary and Joseph taught Jesus his prayers and made sure that he lived his life as a traditional Jewish person. As a child, Jesus was obedient to God, his mother Mary and his earthly father Joseph. Together, they lived a simple life and worked hard for everything they had. They never bragged about Jesus being the Son of God or made other people think they were better than them. The Holy Family is said to have lived a life of silence while they waited, with anticipation, God's plan (*Catechism*, 525-534).

Prayer Prompts: How can we live more like the Holy Family? What can we do to show our family members that we love them?

Perhaps you or your children know someone facing a challenging moment in his or her life. Just as Joseph protected Mary and Jesus, what can your family do to assist others? Do you know someone who is... Sacrificing personal time to care for a loved one with a disability, cancer or some other grave illness? Suffering the loss of a loved one? Suffering the loss of a job? Does not have enough to eat?



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

The Catholic Classical Curriculum You Have A Choice

The Classical curriculum is a time proven method that nurtures student's intellectual and spiritual potential, inspiring them to want to learn. It teaches them logic, reason and critical thinking; showing them how not just what to think.

A Classical education develops students' analytical and critical thinking skills by teaching them how to use reason and think logically. This prepares children for higher-level learning, teaches them to become solutions-oriented problem-solvers, and develops independent thinkers who seek the truth; all through the lens of our Catholic Faith.

Does this time tested approach still work in today's education systems where standardized tests have taken over?

The answer is a resounding YES! Students who learn through this method have been shown to:

1. Have higher SAT scores in reading, math and writing as compared to those from other public, independent and religious schools (1).
2. Will learn to speak and write more effectively, more articulately and more persuasively.
3. Will develop the skills, self-confidence and moral filter needed to navigate our increasingly complex society.

Phone, Email, Visit...

We look forward to meeting you and answering your questions. Let us introduce you to The Academy as you seek the right school for your family.

Mr. John Mundy, Headmaster

610-847-5523 / jmundy@rasjb.org

Mr. Geoff Meyer, Dir. of Institutional Advancement

610-960-7062 / gmeyer@rasjb.org

Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director: 267-424-5762

www.rasjb.org



LOOKING FOR MONTHLY ADORERS!

Short & Long term commitments available.

Come spend some time with JESUS before
THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

Fri.: 7pm – 8pm, Need 1 Adorer
Sat.: 12am – 1am, Need 1 Adorer
Sat.: 1am – 2am, Need 1 Adorer
Sat.: 2am – 3am, Need 2 Adorers
Sat.: 3am – 4am, Need 1 Adorer



SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE NARTHEX

CONGRATULATIONS ENA ALTIER!



Ena earned exemplary
academic status by
achieving a first semester
grade point average (GPA)
of at least 4.000 for
First Honors.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE. SAVE THE DATE...March 29, 2019

St. John's and St. Lawrence's parish community will take part in the **Spring 40 Days for Life** ... a groundbreaking, coordinated international mobilization. We pray that, with God's help, this will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in our city — and beyond.

Spring 40 Days for Life 24-Hour Prayer Vigil will be held outside the Warminster "Planned Parenthood" abortion mill. **All time slots are currently open. A sign-up sheet are in the Narthex starting this week.**

Planned Parenthood
610 Louis Drive, Warminster, Pennsylvania

IF YOU WILL BE JOINING US, PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX

**SJB
LENTEN
'MEATLESS'
POT LUCK
SUPPER**

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE
MEATLESS DISH AND JOIN US EACH
FRIDAY EVENING DURING LENT AT
6PM IN THE PARISH GYM

- Fr. Simi will share a Lenten reflection
- Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm in the Church

**Daylight
Savings**



**Sunday
March 10**

Don't forget to set your clocks forward **one** hour.

Designer Bag

BINGO

March 23
7:00PM

**Our Lady of Czestochowa Youth Group
Pilgrimage to Poland**

On Saturday, March 23rd the OLOC Youth Group is hosting a Designer Bag Bingo at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. All proceeds benefit the youth group Pilgrimage to Poland. Doors open at 6:00 PM, with BINGO starting at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door. This is a BYOB event, so bring drinks and snacks and have a great time! Contact Kathy Fetter at 267-221-4090 for tickets or go to: <https://oloc-bag-bingo.eventbrite.com>



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

Susan Ackerman, Lillian Appleman, Patricia Baker, Nancy Beans, John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Patti Bucci, Dominic Chiarello, Anne Colyer, Charlene Cornell, Matthew Crance, Jim Crawford, Chrissy Davis, Joy Davis, MaryJane Deutsch, Larry & Joanne Diehl, Terry Dunn, Arlene Eichlin, Marvin Eichlin, George Farrelly, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Vincent Fioretta, Patricia Fite, Crystal Fleck, Sarah Fleck, Thomas Fleck, Herman Fleck, Claire Fratrik, Janet Galen, Kathi Gallagher, Kathleen Gaughan, Dylan Geroni, Kathy Geroni, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Anna Giebler, Mary Halwski, Maryann Hauber, Bill Hejnor, Joyceann Heley, Michael Heuston, Sharon Horvath, Charles Houston, Martha Juchnowicz, Carol Knight, Valerie Korbar, Aleena Lang, Nate Leidtke, Ryan Leven, Kathy Lightkep, Marie Louzon, Charles Lutcavage, Loretta Malloy, Jill Martindell, Adelaide McElderry, Carol McGlinchey, Bridget McHugh, Anne McLaughlin, Anne McNichol, Emma Michael, Maria Middleton, Nancy Moreno, Lorraine Mosolgo, Harvey Mueller, Charles Murphy, James O'Hanlon, Gabriel Otero,

Gary Palmer, Helen Pepkowski, Victoria Pepkowski, Nicholas Powell, Judielynn Protentis, Don Raman, Mike Ramos, Rachael Rice, Gregory Rickert, Joy & Teddy Rodman, Sandy Romaszewski, Sam Rothman, Frederick R. Rude, Dolly Rutherford, Zina Sauerwine, Bob Sheetz, Lana Schell, Ronald Schultz, Sr., Frank & Joyce, Mary Jane Shuman, Baby Ella Stack, Jenna Stanzio, Shane Stroup, Sean Thatcher, Baby William Patrick Thomas, Cynthia Tocci, Maddie Tomaszewski, Douglas Toner, Betty Ventresca, Helen Wall, Diane Wesoski, Maryjane Whealton, Tamara Widmer, Edward Wismer, Baby Logan Yoder, Liem Zbyszinski



THANK YOU FOR SERVING & PROTECTING OUR FREEDOMS.

Jamie Steven Ayuso, Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, Casey 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.

**February 23rd & 24th
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5 PM	Joan Black Peg Glancey Jackie Litzenberger NOT FILLED	Jane Ferry	NEED 2 VOLUNTEERS	Choir Denny Litzenberger Sue Rogers & Nio
Sunday 8 AM	Renee Moyer Kevin Murphy Weez Roney Ron Watson	Patti Keyser	Mead Grindrod Tommy Loughran Natalie Nice	Mary Pucci Karen Parash
Sunday 10:30 AM	Frank Balbirer Wendy DeGroot Phil DOnahue Dolly Kovacs	Sean Lynch	Dakota Campbell Emily Vinal Brickston Vinal	Ordinary Time

ALL BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED by 12:00 pm on the Monday preceding the intended bulletin publication date.

Email submissions to prep@stjohnsottsville.org