

### 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 Tirpock  
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 February 29 – March 7, 2021  
Daily Mass, 9am Monday – Friday**

**Monday: Edward Miller** (*John F. Lapsley*)

**Tuesday: Michael Kehan** (*McDevitt Family*)

**Wednesday: Intentions of the Koch Family**  
(*Jerry & Linda McCaffrey*)

**Wed. 7pm Confession followed by 7:30pm Mass**

**Thurs. (Old St. John's): Mary Jane Glatz** (*Mary Kosmin*)

**Friday: Intentions of Elaine Jocelyn** (*Jim & Joan Black*)

**Friday - 7:30pm – Stations of the Cross**

### Weekend Masses

**Sat. 5pm: Rita Loughery** (*Andrew & Bernadette*)

**Sun. 8am: Parishioners' Intentions**

**Sun. 10:30am: Intentions of Jim & Joan Black** (*a Friend*)

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### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**The Parish Office is **Closed** to  
walk-in services.**

**Please call 610-847-5521 for service.**

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### MASS COLLECTIONS

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>: Envelopes \$ 3,396.00**

**Parish Giving \$ 1,952.91**

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>: Parish Giving \$ 2,279.52**

***Thank you for your generosity!***

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### 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**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 12pm**

**Adoration & Prayer for Vocations**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 10am**

**Rosary, Confession, Mass followed by Lunch**

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

## NOT TO DAZZLE BUT TO DIE

Gospel of Mark 9:2-10

By Fr. John Patrick Kenrick, O.P.

Our readiness to make sacrifices for those we claim to love is a good indicator of the true extent of that love. A sacrifice can take many forms; sometimes we are just being asked to take someone seriously, to give a person some of our time. In the Old Testament there are occasions on which God asks for sacrifices, but there are also moments when He indicates that the wrong kind of sacrifices are being made; token offerings instead of a real change of heart.

Abraham is a fascinating character, the endearing qualities that make him stand out - above all his deep piety and the seriousness with which he treats God. Not only is he willing to offer God his only child, he also has a mystical trust that 'God will provide Himself the lamb for a burnt offering'.

Abraham was not mistaken in his trust; in due course the divine response to this first expression of true faith would be a Son for a son. God always gives much more than He asks of us. In Lent we are being asked to grow in friendship with God by making sacrifices of the good things He has given us. To the rational creatures that we are it only makes sense to sacrifice something good for something better. The story of Abraham tells us not to be afraid of being generous to God, and to entrust our lives and our well-being to Him. As Saint Paul tells us in the letter to the Romans, 'since God did not spare His own Son ... He will not refuse anything He can give'.

Sometimes our faith faces a particularly tough challenge and we need a special grace to endure. That may be one reason why the chosen three apostles, to whom Jesus has revealed his coming Passion, are allowed to see Jesus transfigured. His divine nature suffuses his human body with radiant light. Saint Ephrem tells us that Jesus wanted to reveal his divinity so that the disciples would know that He was crucified not because of his own powerlessness but because He chose to suffer for our salvation. The transfiguration also tells us something else - it is a clue to the nature of Christ's kingdom.

In St. Mark's day many people believed in some kind of resurrection from the dead, and they instinctively thought in communal terms, of the restoration of Israel or the resurrection of all of Christ's followers. Jesus's meeting with Elijah and Moses is a sign that heaven is going to be recognisably human, a great reunion, not only with those we already know and love but all the great and

good in human history - in other words it will be a place in which there are no longer any barriers to human friendship and we will finally have time for everyone. So in this Gospel we not only see Jesus transfigured - we also glimpse humanity transformed.

For just a moment it seemed to Peter that this new kingdom could be had without effort. He doesn't want the beautiful vision to end. But the disciples have not been brought to this mountain to escape from the world. The voice of God is heard telling them to listen to Jesus and once again they find themselves alone with Him. Now they must take to the road again. A more difficult and more profound revelation lies ahead - the revelation of divine love crucified.

In Lent we are being asked to embrace the cross so that we can be transformed into the likeness of Christ's humanity. We are not being asked to dazzle but to die - to die to ourselves so that His love may possess us more completely. True sacrifice is the fruit of a contrite heart. It simply means taking God seriously and being attentive to His will. It is the only way to His kingdom.

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DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA MISSION YOUTH



**MARCH 28 - APRIL 4**  
**HOLY WEEK 2021**



### Holy Week Missions 2021

#### Age 15+

Our biggest mission of the year is just around the corner! Save the date to come and encounter Christ for a whole week of missions leading up to the Easter Vigil. We will be doing Mission Youth evangelization and outreach simultaneously with hundreds of other cities around the world!

**There will be a week-long mission Mar 28 - April 3, as well as a 3-day and single day mission option.**

See you there!

For more information or to register, visit:

<https://missionyouthphilly.com/>



† TEACH the CHILDREN †

## Important Dates

- † **SACRAMENT of FIRST RECONCILIATION**  
Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - 6pm in the Church
- † **LENTEN PARISH PENANCE SERVICE**  
Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> - 6:30pm in the Church  
PREP students in grades 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> in preparation for Easter.
- † **Palm Sunday - Holy Week Begins**
- † **March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> No Classes, Easter Break**
- † **Holy Thursday - The Last Supper of the Lord**  
(Mass 7:30pm)
- † **Good Friday - The Passion of Our Lord**  
(Service at 3pm)
- † **Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil Mass at 7:30pm**
- † **EASTER SUNDAY (Holy Day of Obligation)**

Visit any of these websites for a number of Lenten Activities to do with your children.

<https://www.catholicicing.com/lenten-activities-for-children/>

<https://catholicprouts.com/40-faith-building-lenten-activities/>

<https://www.reallifeathome.com/40-lenten-activities-for-catholic-families/>

View Lenten Videos on **Youtube** from:

Catholic Kids Media                      EWTN

TradKids TV

Outside da Box

Brother Francis Online.com



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

## Students Prepare for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Regina Academies Declamation Contest

While these competitions date from at least ancient Roman times and were once a common feature in schools across the nation, they have largely disappeared in the last 50 years.

Declamation contests feature elementary and middle school students reciting from memory large portions of text — poetry, historic speeches, literature. The student uses feeling, inflection, facial gestures and body movement to impress upon the audience what is being said.

And while they've largely fallen by the wayside, thanks to the area's Regina Academies, they're not a completely dead art form.

The system of five independent schools offers a classical education in which the students learn reasoning, logic and critical thinking skills as well as mastery of reading, writing and mathematics. Latin and Greek are also part of the core curriculum.

"We understand that having the confidence to present and defend your ideas in public creates leaders who will someday improve both our church and our society."

After all, "leaders in business and technology are rarely the highest IQ people but rather those who can express their ideas and get others to follow."

## March 12<sup>th</sup> Declamation Contest All Regina Academies

**Mrs. Tami Koerber, Head of School**  
**Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director**  
[www.rasjb.org](http://www.rasjb.org)  
610-847-5523



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL PARTNERS IN HOPE

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia's most important fundraiser, Catholic Charities Appeal, gives 'joy, hope and strength,' says Archbishop Perez, he is asking the faithful to "look deep into (their) hearts" to aid "those who have been so deeply affected by COVID." It benefits hundreds of thousands of people through numerous organizations and ministries throughout the five-county Archdiocese serving thousands of our most vulnerable people.

The beneficiaries of the Catholic Charities Appeal focus on five key areas:

**Education; Social Services; Evangelization; Parish and Spiritual Life; Clergy; and Local Mission Activities.**

Become a Partner in Hope and make an impact all year round! To make your donation online, visit:

<https://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org/>

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## BROTHERS OF BORROMEO VOCATION CAMP (B.B.V.C.) IS BACK!

**Calling all young men in 6th, 7th and 8th grade to B.B.V.C.!**

The Vocation Office for the Diocesan Priesthood and Philadelphia seminarians are hosting this awesome **One-Day Camp on Saturday, April 10, 2021!**

Held at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, the day includes **great food, games, activities, confession, prayer, and lunch.**

Registration fee of \$25 includes t-shirt and lunch/snacks.

**The deadline for registration is March 24, 2021.**

For more information or to register please call 610-667-5778 or go to: [HeedTheCall.org/BBVC](https://HeedTheCall.org/BBVC)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4545  
FR. STOMMEL COUNCIL**  
Is sponsoring the



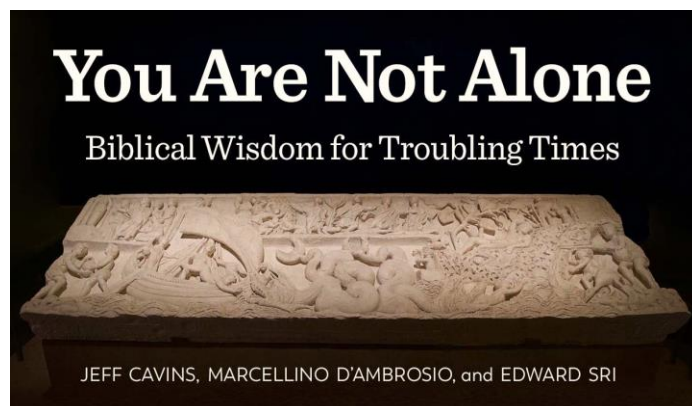
## "BIG CASH RAFFLE"

**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

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NEW VIDEO SERIES from ASCENSION PRESS



This video experience is for everyone who has wondered...

### **Where is God during these difficult times?**

In this heart-moving video, participants will learn how, from the beginning of time until now, God always has a plan for his people. Subscription purchase provides you with immediate access to the video for one year, no workbook needed.

**Experience this one-of-a-kind cinematic experience this Lent.**

To purchase your subscription visit:  
<https://ascensionpress.com/products/you-are-not-alone-biblical-wisdom-for-troubling-times>

Ministry Schedule for: **Friday, March 5th – Stations of the Cross**  
**March 6th & 7th – Third Sunday of Lent**

Ministry Schedule:	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
<b>Stations of the Cross</b> Fri. March 5th 7:30pm	N/A	N/A	OPEN	Denny Litzenberger Bob Galdo
<b>SATURDAY</b> 5pm	Marion Wolf	Anne Slifer	Julia Byers Juliet Meyers	Liz Torgerson Bob Galdo
<b>SUNDAY</b> 8am	Renee Moyer	Patti Keyser	Open	Deny Litzenbeeger Karen Parash
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10:30am	Joan Beebe	Tony Luna	Olivia Luna Paige Mattle	Ordinary Time



## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

\* New Name Added

**NEW CYCLE:** Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

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



### OUR SICK:

Roger Bahnck Sr., Roger Bahnck, Jr., Tara Bahnck, John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Steve Combs, Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, MaryAnn Hauber, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Kathie Mandra, Roseann McCarty, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Nancy Moreno, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, **Beatrice Bohm Rogers**, Barbara Sabath, Pete Shultz, Sr., Steve & Wendy Snyder, Riley Telesco, Cynthia Tocci, Helen Wall, 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, and all who we have lost to the Coronavirus.