

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Simone 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 Jan. 28 – Feb. 3, 2019

Mass Intentions

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

Mon. – Thurs. 8:35am / Friday 9:00am

Monday: Arlene Cassel (*Lisa Simkanin*)
Tuesday: Bill & Mary Mallon (*Kathy Vinceguerra*)
Wednesday: June Vogt (*Father Simi*)
Thursday: Michael McKenna (*Kosmin Family*)
First Friday: Adeline Rushatz (*RA @ SJB Family*)

24 Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament opens immediately following Mass.

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 9am **Benediction & Adoration closing Mass**
5pm: Jean Marx (*Andy & Vanessa Shutt*)
Sunday: 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
10:30am: Mary DeBenedetto (*Gloria Garther*)

Ministry Meetings this Week

Mon. Jan. 28: Christ Life Prayer Group, 7:30pm - Chapel
Wed. Jan. 30: Flame of Love Rosary, 8am – church
Sat. Feb. 2: Men of Faith, 8am – Marian Room & Chapel

Sunday Mass Collection

Collection Baskets / Parish Giving (*electronic tithing*)
January 20th - Not Available at press time / \$ 646.00
Thank you for your generosity!

VOLUNTEER TODAY!
ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE?

**OUR CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS
URGENTLY NEED HELP.**

Please CONTACT Marion Wolf or call the parish office to volunteer.

Our READINGS this week may be found in the Journeysongs Hymnal-Missal:

Section 936



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

*A Letter from
Our Pastor, Father Simi*



Dear brothers and sisters,

***“He stood up to read
and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.”***
(Luke 4:16-17)

The readings for today’s Mass focus on the good news of God’s saving acts recorded in the words of the old sacred scriptures and now fulfilled today in the Person of the Word, Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

The first reading recalls for us the liturgy of the word in a synagogue service where the saving acts of God are recorded in the sacred scriptures of our descendants in faith, the Jews. The Torah consists of not only their laws, commandments and precepts but also the marvelous deeds the Lord wrought in, through and for them, most prominent of which is their liberation from slavery in Egypt and their becoming a people with a unique identity that is based on their unique covenant relationship with God.

Within that body or canon of sacred scriptures are also contained the even greater works that God promises to fulfill for them. These promises of the definitive and eschatological and saving works of God are to be brought about through another servant, another very David-like king who possessed also the qualities of a great prophet and a holy priest.

This is the servant that Jesus reads about in the scroll from Isaiah that was handed to Him in the synagogue in Nazareth. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.” (Isaiah 42)

In one simple and very distinct line He reveals Himself as that promised servant: “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:21)

So for us then today, to know and understand who we are as disciples and as members of Christ’s

body, the Church, we will always need to be connected to our roots in Sacred Scriptures and in accumulated treasury of teachings that the living Christ continues to reveal to His ordered body of believers: Church Tradition.

Sacred Scriptures and Church Tradition are where we find our identity and our mission as individuals and community of believers. These are the two lungs with which we breathe and speak and act. God the Father who sent His Son that He has anointed with His Spirit continues to reveal to us who we are and what we are to do through the Sacred Scripture and Tradition.

Therefore all our prayers, reflections, discussions about our identity as individual disciples, as a married couple, as a family, as a parish community, as a diocese, as a country and as a global family must, for us a Christians, be always discovered, rediscovered, informed and inspired by Sacred Scripture and Tradition.

Jesus still leads the world as its Priest, Prophet and King through His Spirit-filled words recorded in Sacred Scriptures and Traditions. To neglect or deny these two expressions of His ongoing presence in our midst is to neglect and deny our very selves, our identity, and our mission.

We can never underestimate the importance of Sacred Scriptures and Church Tradition whether in its proclamation in our Sacred Liturgy or as an integral part of our daily lives.

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:

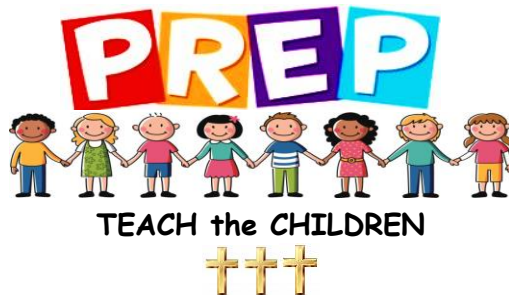
Adoration & Prayers

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



Love of God and love of neighbor cannot be separated.

To help us keep these two connected, the Church provides us with **Catholic Social Teachings** which promote justice and dignity for all human beings.

These are the basic tenets of Catholic Social Teaching.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person - The Catholic belief in the life and dignity of the human person is the foundation of our moral vision. All life is sacred, and all people must be treated with dignity.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation - Participation in family and community is central to our faith and to a healthy society. From this foundation people participate in society, fostering a community spirit and promoting the well-being of all, especially those who are poor or vulnerable.

Rights and Responsibilities - The Catholic Church teaches that every person has a right to life as well as a right to those things required for human decency. As Catholics, we are responsible for protecting these fundamental human rights in order to achieve a healthy society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable - As Catholics, we are called to pay special attention to the needs of poor people. We can follow Jesus' example by making a specific effort to defend and promote the dignity of those who are poor or vulnerable and to meet their immediate material needs.

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers - The Catholic Church teaches that the basic rights of workers must be respected: the right to productive work, to fair wages, and to private property, and the right to organize and join unions and to pursue economic opportunity. Moreover, Catholics believe that the economy is meant to serve people, not the other way around.

Solidarity - Because God is our Father, we are all brothers and sisters with the responsibility to care for one another. This spirit of solidarity unites all people whether they are rich or poor, weak or strong. It also helps to create a society that recognizes that we live in an interdependent world.

Care for God's Creation - God is the creator of all people and all things, and he wants us to enjoy his creation. We are called to make the moral and ethical choices that protect the ecological balance of creation both locally and worldwide.



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2019



JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2

"Suggested" Daily Themes for Catholic Schools Week:

Sunday: Celebrating Your Parish Catholic schools benefit all year long from the religious guidance, prayers and support parishes provide.

Monday: Celebrating Your Community The importance of service to others. When students take part in service activities they demonstrate the values and faith gained through Catholic education.

Tuesday: Celebrating the Students Schools celebrate students by planning enjoyable and meaningful activities for them and recognizing their accomplishments.

Wednesday: Celebrating Vocations By focusing on faith, knowledge and service, Catholic schools prepare children to use their God-given talents to the fullest later in life.

Thursday: Celebrating Faculty, Staff & Volunteers On this day, schools honor teachers, the headmaster, staff who support them in their important work and thank the parents, grandparents, alumni, parishioners and school board members who provide volunteer service.

Friday: – Early Dismissal

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

The Beatitudes are the true way of life for the Christian

Pope Francis said that some people believe themselves to be good Catholics but don't even act like good Christians as indicated by the Beatitudes.

According to the Pope, we can learn about the Christian style by first knowing our attitudes that don't belong to the Christian style. In this regard, he points to 3 of them: the "accusatory style", the "worldly style" and the "selfish style." The Pope says that the accusatory style belongs to those who always try and live by accusing others, disqualifying others, acting as absent promoters of justice. But they don't realize that it's the style of the devil: in the Bible, the devil is called the "great accuser", who is always accusing others.

This was the same in the time of Jesus who in a few cases reproached the accusers: "Instead of looking at the speck in the eyes of others, look at the beam in yours." Speaking about worldliness, Pope Francis calls it an attitude of Catholics who can "recite the Creed", but live on "vanity, pride and attachment to money", believing themselves to be self-sufficient. Humility that is part of the Christian style, like that of Our Lady and St. Joseph, is lacking, the Pope says. Selfishness, indifference

Commenting on the third un-Christian style, the Pope says it is the selfish spirit, the spirit of indifference that is common in our communities.

One believes oneself to be a good Catholic but doesn't worry about the problems of others – wars, illnesses and the suffering of our neighbours. This, the Pope says, is the hypocrisy that Jesus reproached the doctors of the law for. What then is the Christian style?

According to the Pope, the Christian style is that of the Beatitudes: meekness, humility, patience in suffering, love for justice, ability to endure persecution, not judging others... If a Catholic wants to learn the Christian style, so as not to fall into this accusatory style, the worldly style and the selfish style, he/ she must read the Beatitudes.



In Mass, Word of God comes through clergy and people

Our first of four parish assemblies was held on Saturday, January 12th was very well attended and a HUGE success!

The focus of this Assembly was on Divine Worship – The Liturgy. We discussed the various ministries who contribute to our Sunday Mass weekly, Altar Servers, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Music Groups, Ushers, and the Welcome Committee that brings the Word Alive during the Mass.

As Fr. Simi explained, we did not come together to change the Liturgy because the Liturgy is already Perfect, perfected by the Trinitarian love of our Lord. Our purpose was to "take the temperature" of our parish community on what makes the Sunday Mass special to each of us. When all was said & done, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. The majority of us had expressed similar comments.

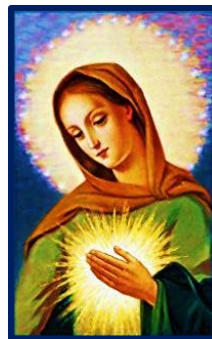
What a wonderful, and joyous experience!

If you missed this assembly, it's not too late to join us. Registration for our February 9th Assembly on EVANGELIZATION is ongoing.

Please answer the Evangelization survey which is available on our website or you may take a printed copy from the table in our Narthex.

Follow the instructions to Register for the Assembly. (Attendance at the past Assembly does not automatically register you for upcoming assemblies, you must register for each assembly you plan to attend).

Mary is the door that leads us to Christ.



Please join us in each Wednesday at 8am, main church in front of Mary statue as we gather to pray,

The Flame of Love Rosary of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Visit www.holymary@theflameoflove.org for more information.

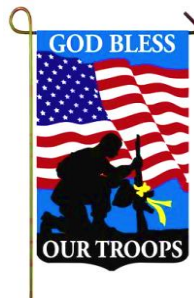


Please remember in your prayers our parishioners, who are sick, homebound, in the hospital, under hospice or residential care.

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, Charles Fees, Jr., John Finn, Antonino Fioretta, 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 McNichol, , Emma Michael, 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 2nd & 3rd
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5 PM	Joe Cegielski Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey	Helene Bell	NEED VOLUNTEERS	Julia Costello Karen Parash
Sunday 8 AM	Nancy Kaczinski Jackie Litzenberger Donna Nice Bea Romaszewski	Patti Keyser	Tommy Loughran Natalie Nice Violet Williams	Patti Leidner Karen Parash
Sunday 10:30 AM	Joan Beebe Gerri Belsito Wendy DeGroot Dolly Kovacs	Laura Fleck	Dakota Campbell Joseph Gonzales-Fleck Caius Van Haute	Children's Choir

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

Email submissions to prep@stjohnsottsville.org