

### 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 January 18 - 24, 2021  
Daily Mass, 9am Monday – Friday

Monday: John Reidler (*Loving wife Janet*)

Tuesday: Marina Jorge (*Lisa Simkanin*)

Wednesday: Kathleen Lapsley (*John Lapsley*)

Thurs. at old St. John's: Ted Teng (*Anthony & Roaslie Polito*)

Friday: John Mueller (*Frank & Linda Dellmyer*)

### Weekend Masses

Sat. 5pm: Joe Seitzinger (*Bill & Lisa Saxton*)

Sun. 8am: Parishioners' Intentions

Sun. 10:30am: Anna DelMasto (*Donna Sciacca*)

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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

Jan. 10th: Envelopes \$ 4,533.00  
Parish Giving \$ 3,250.00

*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

**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.

## A REFLECTION on the



### Gospel of John 1: 35-42

In these few verses the evangelist John gives us three key titles of Christ, each of which should stir our hearts to gratitude, praise, and adoration.

1. **“Lamb of God.”**
2. **“Messiah,” or “Anointed One”**
3. **“Rabbi,”** which means **“teacher”** or **“master”**

Although Christ’s titles speak of his greatness, his behavior in this first encounter with John and Andrew shows his simplicity and humility. He walks by the place where they and John the Baptist are baptizing. He simply walks by. He makes no grand entrance, employs no intimidating tactics. When John and Andrew finally decide to go after him, he turns around to welcome them. He makes no demands, gives no orders, and passes no judgment. Rather, he engages them in a conversation and issues an invitation to come and spend time with him. This is how Jesus works. This is how he calls us, gently, unexpectedly, personally. The era of flashing fire on the mountaintop is over; the era of good-hearted friendship and intimate companionship with the eternal God has begun.

This is Jesus’ first encounter with his first disciples. It is the beginning of the second half of human history – an important occasion. Surely the evangelist is describing every detail with care, most especially the very first words that Jesus speaks in this Gospel. He asks his future Apostles a simple question: **“What do you want?”** (What do you seek? What are you hoping for?) It is still one of Christ’s favorite questions. Jesus already knows the deepest desires of every heart, but many people never take the time to reflect on their own deepest desires. Jesus poses the question in order to spur that kind of reflection. Unless we take time to examine ourselves and our lives, we can easily end up looking for meaning and happiness in the wrong places, and never drinking of the living water that only he can give.

## *Where is Christ in your Life?*

**Where do you live, Lord?** I want to find you and stay with you. You are the creator of the mountains, the ocean, the clouds, and the stars. You are the wisdom that gives order to the universe. You are the spark of light that gives man a knowing mind and a loving heart. You are the source and goal of all things. And you have come to live in my heart. You are mine, and I am yours. Let me stay with you...

**I need a Teacher, Lord,** and I choose to sit at your feet and listen to you. Sometimes I find myself yearning so much to understand things – to have true wisdom – that I am almost in pain. You made me with a need for truth. You are the Truth. Speak to my heart, Lord. Send your Spirit to teach and guide me. Never take your eyes off of me...

**What do I want?** I want so many things! I want happiness, Lord. I want happiness for myself and for those around me. Fulfillment, meaning, satisfaction. I want my life to bear the fruit you created it to bear. I want to look into your eyes and see you smile on the day you call me home to eternity, and I want to hear you say, “Well done, good and faithful servant...”



Please join us in praying for our two Catechumens as they journey on the path leading them into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.

**Stephanie (Rothenberg) Robbins**  
**Allison (Wright) Reidler**

## **RITE OF WELCOMING**

Sunday, Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30am Mass

## **RITE OF SENDING**

Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30am Mass

## **RITE OF ELECTION**

Saturday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> – 3pm at the Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul, Philadelphia



**“Open my ears, Lord, to hear your word. Give me the courage to follow you wherever you lead.”**

Learning how to listen to the voice of the Lord is key to spiritual growth. Every saint’s life illustrates this point in one way or another. Francis of Assisi heard the Lord say, “Rebuild my Church,” and even though it took him some time to understand what God meant, Francis was faithful to that command. Mother Teresa felt God ask her to leave her order and care for the poorest of the poor. These saints, and so many others, responded because these words had a powerful effect on them.

But it isn’t just in the deep, life-changing moments that God wants to speak to us. In fact, these saints could hear these “big” messages because they had experience discerning the quieter messages that Jesus put in their hearts. And that’s how it can happen for us. When we sense God telling us, “Come to me, and I will give you peace,” we can stop for a moment and turn our hearts to him. Or when we hear “Come and confess your sins,” we can make a quick examination of conscience and ask for his mercy. Responding to these small promptings will bring us closer to the Lord—and they’ll help us hear him in the bigger areas of our lives!

The Holy Spirit never tires of telling us that Jesus has redeemed us and is offering us new life. He never tires of nudging us toward more virtuous behavior so that we can become more like Christ. He never tires of helping us find the way to peace, the peace that comes from aligning ourselves with his will.

Yielding to the Lord and letting him have an effect on us—this is our great challenge. It’s easy to go our own way without listening for God’s word. But when we see the fruit of hearing and following him, we know it is the greatest treasure we can possibly have.



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



**Celebrate Catholic Schools Week  
2021  
January 31 – February 6**

Let us show you what makes  
**The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist,  
the best choice when families are looking to  
find the right school for their children.**

From January 31 to February 6, 2021, we will  
host a *traditional* Celebrate Catholic  
Schools Week.

Schools typically observe the week with  
Masses, assemblies and other activities for  
students, families, parishioners and  
community members to celebrate and  
congratulate.

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



## Norbertines see sign of growth across tumultuous 900 years



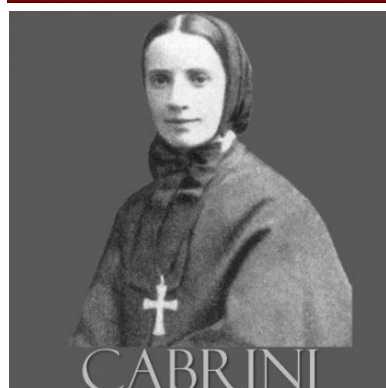
The Hebrew Bible's Book of Leviticus (chapter 25) describes an institution that scholars agree may never have been implemented – **the Jubilee Year. Every 50th year a jubilee was proclaimed.**

**The first Sunday of**

**Advent in the church's current liturgical year (Nov. 29, 2020) opened a 14-month Norbertine Jubilee that will culminate on Christmas Day 2021, the 900th anniversary of the founding of our order when St. Norbert and his first disciples made their profession of vows in the little chapel of St. John the Baptist at Premontre, France where they had settled in the spring of 1120.**

At the beginning of this jubilee we are in a precarious time. Except in India, the Congo, Brazil and St. Michael's Abbey in California, vocations are fewer than in decades past or non-existent. An advantage of a 900-year history is that a community can dare to believe that it can once again thrive, despite pandemics, oppressive governments, economic and environmental peril, and secularized cultures that see religious belief as a non-starter.

As we remember what has been, we give thanks for a present which, though precarious, is a cause for hope. Our 900-year history has never before seen the kind of association and collaboration of professed members with laity who have helped make us who we are and commit themselves to walk with us into an uncertain future.



COMING  
SPRING 2021

“CABRINI”  
THE MOVIE

## National Prayer Vigil for Life will be Virtual this Year

Catholics across the country are instead being encouraged to take part in a nationwide prayer vigil from Jan. 28 through Jan. 29, marking the 48th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions legalizing abortion.

The vigil will begin with a live broadcast at 8 p.m. EST on Thursday, Jan. 28 from the basilica, starting with the praying of the rosary followed by Mass. Bishops from across the country will leading Holy Hours throughout the night in the livestreamed vigil.

The service can be viewed on EWTN or livestreams from the basilica or from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The principal celebrant and homilist for the opening Mass will be Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, USCCB's chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities. The vigil will end at 8 a.m. Jan. 29 in a closing Mass.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2021

**9am Mass at the Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul**  
**10:30am March kickoff**  
**12pm Rally at Independence Mall**

\*We will be practicing social distancing, and we ask that everyone wear a mask while at the event.

<p><b>9:00AM Roman Catholic Mass (All are Welcome!)</b></p> <p>Archbishop Nelson Perez will kick off the day by celebrating mass at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul (parking will be available at the Cathedral).</p>	<p><b>10:30AM Let the March Begin!</b></p> <p>The march will begin at the Cathedral and proceed to Independence Mall with several stops along the route, including Philadelphia Women's Center, where 6,500 abortions are committed each year.</p>
<p><b>12:00PM Rally</b></p> <p>We will conclude the day with a rally at Independence Mall!</p>	

**Ministry Schedule for:**

**January 23rd & 24th – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Ministry Schedule:				
	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
<b>SATURDAY</b> 5pm	Lynn Gammello	Helene Bell	Julia Byers	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
<b>SUNDAY</b> 8am	Mark Fetter	OPEN	Mead Grindrod	Ordinary Time
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10:30am	Donna Sciacca	Tony Luna	Joe Gonzales-Fleck Oliva Luna	Denny Litzenberger Karen Parash



**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, Patricia Fite, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, 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, 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.