

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 January 24 - 31, 2021
Daily Mass, 9am Monday – Friday

Monday: Kathleen Lapsley *req. by John F. Lapsley*

Tuesday: Elizabeth Petritsch *req. by Loving husband*

Wednesday: Mark C. Lapsley *req. by John F. Lapsley*

Thurs. at old St. John's: Michael Davis *req. by Kosmin Family*

Friday: Finbar MacCarthy *req. by Carolyn & Donna*

Weekend Masses

Sat. 5pm: Edward George Goble *req. by James Goble*

Sun. 8am: Parishioners' Intentions

Sun. 10:30am: Lois Thatcher *req. by the Pyatt Family*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is **Closed** to
walk-in services.
Please call 610-847-5521 for service.

MASS COLLECTIONS

Jan. 10th: Envelopes \$ 4,916.00
Parish Giving \$ 2,890.92

Thank you for your generosity!

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.

NETTING A NEW FAMILY

Gospel of Mark 1: 14-20

It sounds so simple: Jesus walked up to two total strangers, called to them, and they walked away from it all – their old way of life, their livelihood, their friends and family.

You'd think that if Jesus intended to usher in the kingdom of God on earth, he would've gone straight to the Temple and asked the chief priests and scribes to help him; that he would have gotten the blessings of the Sanhedrin, the Jewish council.

But no, he went first to Galilean fishermen, who had no formal religious training or social standing. Why John was probably no more than a teenager at the time! And, if go on to study the lives of all twelve disciples, you'll find that none of them – not one – had what we would call the "right stuff" to lead a movement that would eventually turn the world upside down.

The truth is God calls the most unlikely folks to be the church, the body of Christ in the world today, not those who are particularly gifted. God's call often comes slowly, over time. It also comes to common ordinary people – people like these young Galilean fishermen – people like you and me.

God's call usually comes about gradually over a long period of time. Most often, it's something you've thought about and perhaps talked about with others. You may have even given it a trial run.

God calls common, ordinary people to do his bidding, but in order to answer God's call you have to be willing to put him first, and that usually involves making some tough decisions. The promise is when we say yes to God's call, the most amazing things happen.

In St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, he writes: "For you see your calling, brothers, that not many are wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, and not many noble; but God chose the foolish things of the world that he might put to shame those who are wise.

God chose the weak things of the world, and God chose the lowly things of the world, and the things that are despised...that no flesh should boast before God." So let us join with Isaiah, and respond, *"Here I am Lord. Send me!"*



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

TODAY RITE OF WELCOMING, during the 10:30am Mass

Rite of Sending - Cancelled

Update from the Diocese:

The RITE OF ELECTION of CATECHUMENS,

The Archbishop delegates the priests of the Archdiocese to conduct these rites in their home parish.

This decision was made due to a variety of circumstances surrounding the fitting celebration of the Sacred Liturgy and the pandemic.

The Rite must be celebrated on the first Sunday of Lent, Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021.

**The Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
Healing and Mercy Mass**

Friday, February 5, 2021 at 7pm

In the main Church followed by the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and a prayer for spiritual and physical healing.

World Day for Consecrated Life

On February 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, we also celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life. It was instituted in 1997 by Pope Saint John Paul II as a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life.

Let us reflect on the life dedicated to God and let us pray for those who have consecrated themselves to God by entering religious life.



† TEACH the CHILDREN †



2021 Sacraments Updates

Parent Meeting for the
Sacrament of 1st Reconciliation,
Feb. 25, 6:30pm Zoom Session

**Sacrament of First Reconciliation,
March 10th, 6pm in the Church**

Parent Meeting for the
Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion
March 18, 6:30pm Zoom Session.

All other Sacrament related dates remain as noted on the PREP calendar until further notice.

FOLLOWING JESUS

Gospel of Mark 1:14-20

Imagine you are fishing on the edge of the lake, and Jesus walks by and asks you to come follow him, what would you do? Do you think you would be willing to drop what you are doing, leave everything behind, and follow him?

Well that is exactly what the first disciples did when they first saw Jesus. They heard him call and were willing to drop everything in order to make Jesus, and the Kingdom of God, the most important things in their lives.

Have you ever had something happen that required your immediate attention? How did you feel about dropping what you were doing to attend to this immediate need? A bit unsettled, maybe even upset.

Our faith teaches us that this is exactly what we need to do if we are to follow Our Lord. We need to set aside time to just be with him. We need to separate ourselves from the world around us, leave behind yourself and follow him.

Eucharistic Adoration, which our parish offers each month on **First Fridays, 10am – 7pm** gives each of us time to just be in his presence. Bring your child and sit quietly with the Lord. Focus all of you on the Lord and follow him.

Pray the Lord's Prayer with your family.



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



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

From January 31 to February 6, 2021, we will host a traditional Celebrate Catholic Schools Week. The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist, the best choice when families are looking to find the right school for their children.



**The Regina Academy @ St. John's
will kick-off Catholic Schools Week with
Mass on Sunday, January 31st at 10:30am.**

**Mrs. Tami Koerber, Head of School
Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director**
www.rasjb.org
610-847-5523

Sunday of the Word of God

Importance of Sacred Scripture in our lives

Last year, Pope Francis instituted “**The Sunday of the Word of God**” to be held every year on the third Sunday of Ordinary Time, which just so happens to be TODAY! Intended as a day dedicated to the celebration, reflection and dissemination of “*The Word*.”

Salvation, faith, unity and mercy all depend on knowing Christ and sacred Scripture.

The Sunday of the Word of God is a means to help people “reawaken an awareness of the importance of Sacred Scripture for our lives as believers, beginning with its resonance in the liturgy which places us in living and permanent dialogue with God.” That “**through the proclaimed biblical readings in the liturgy, God speaks to his people and Christ himself proclaims his Gospel.**”

"The relationship between the risen Lord, the community of believers and sacred Scripture is essential to our identity as Christians," the pope said on Sept. 30, the feast of St. Jerome, patron saint of biblical scholars.

"The Bible is the most widely distributed book, but it is also perhaps the one most covered in dust because it is not held in our hands."

"The Bible cannot be just the heritage of some, much less a collection of books for the benefit of a privileged few. It belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognize themselves in its words," the pope wrote.

"The Bible is the book of the Lord's people, who, in listening to it, move from dispersion and division toward unity" as well as come to understand God's love and become inspired to share it with others, he added.

Without the Lord who opens people's minds to his word, it is impossible to understand the Scriptures in depth, yet "without the Scriptures, the events of the mission of Jesus and of his church in this world would remain incomprehensible." the pope

"invites us to hold the word of God in our hands every day as much as possible so that it becomes our prayer" and a greater part of one's lived experience, he said.

Francis said in the letter, "A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a yearlong event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers."

"We need to develop a closer relationship with sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, struck as we are by so many forms of blindness," he wrote.

Sacred Scripture and the sacraments are inseparable, he wrote. Jesus speaks to everyone with his word in sacred Scripture, and if people "hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us." he said.

The third Sunday in Ordinary Time falls during that part of the year when the church is encouraged to strengthen its bonds with the Jewish people and to pray for Christian unity. That means the celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God "has ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity."

The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 4545

are currently taking orders, in the Narthex
after all Masses:



Captain Chucky's Crab Cakes Sale



The deadline to place your order is
Sun., Feb. 7th.

Payment is due at the time of ordering.

Pick-up your delicious crab delicacies
on Saturday Feb. 13th from 1-4pm
in front of the church.

Ministry Schedule for:

January 30th & 31st – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ministry Schedule:				
	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5pm	Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	OPEN	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 8am	Donna Nice	Megan Gilbert	Natalie Nice Alexander Nice	Denny Litzenberger Karen Parash
Catholic Schools Week SUNDAY 10:30am Kick-off Mass for the Regina Academy @ SJB	Joan Black	Tony Luna	Andrew Hughes Olivia Luna	School Choir



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

* New Name Added

NEW CYCLE: Dec. 1st, 2020 – March 1st, 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.