

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 (Thursday at old St. John's Church)
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 June 14 - 20, 2021

Daily Mass: 9am

Mon. Tues. Wed & Friday in St. Joseph's Chapel
Thursday at Old St. John's Church

Monday: Alvin Smith (*Tom & Sue Rogers*)
Tuesday: Elizabeth Petritsch (*Loving Husband*)
Wednesday: Kathleen Lapsley (*John Lapsley*)
Thursday: Marianne Snyder Przyuski (*Mary Miller*)
Friday: Maria Middleton (*Harold Rick*)



Weekend Masses

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Saturday 5pm, Sunday 8am & 10:30am
Intentions for All Fathers and the Men who fill the role of a missing Father. In memory of all our deceased Fathers, Grandfathers & Godfathers.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm / Fri. 9am – 1pm

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

June 6th: Envelopes \$ 5,045.00
E-Giving: \$ 2,904.00

SPECIAL COLLECTION
for OUR Parish Office & School Roof
GOAL \$93,000 vs. COLLECTED: \$38,465.00

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

HE SPOKE TO THEM ONLY IN PARABLES....

Gospel of Mark 4:26-34

The Parable of the Kingdom of God The Parable of the Mustard Seed

A parable is a short story that is a comparison based on a familiar life experience that is used to teach a lesson.

TODAY'S MASS readings are about how God works with us and without us. God's work will be carried out whether we cooperate or not. If we choose not to cooperate, God's plans will not be frustrated but we ourselves will be. In our Gospel today, Jesus uses two parables to explain the Kingdom of God.

In the first parable, Jesus compares the building of the kingdom to the situation of a farmer planting seed on his land. The building of the kingdom is God's work. To belong to the kingdom of God, is to put oneself fully, consciously and deliberately under the power of God, to experience that power and be empowered by it. That power is above all the power of love. It is a creating, enfolding or embracing power, an encouraging power, a power that lifts up and enables us to be what we are called to be.

When we say in the **Lord's Prayer**, "*Your Kingdom come*" we are praying that people everywhere put themselves under this loving power of God.

And our first call as Christians is to belong to, to enter that Kingdom and not just to be a member of the Church. The Church is, when it is being what it should be, the sacrament or visible sign of the Kingdom.

In the second parable, Jesus gives another image of the Kingdom. This time he compares it to a mustard seed. Here the image he give us is to draw our focus to that of how the Kingdom emerges from tiny beginnings. The tiny mustard seed grows into a very large shrub, so big that it can provide shelter for birds in its branches.

This is clearly a parable of encouragement. We need to remember that when these words were written the Church was still relatively small. It consisted of tiny communities scattered in cities, towns and villages all over the Mediterranean area. Today's parable assures the readers of the Gospel that, like the mustard seed, they can grow. How surprised those early Christians would be to see the Church today! How the mustard seed has grown! Christians number well over one billion people today, a figure not even conceivable in olden times. The Gospel's confidence was not misplaced.



Nothing Compares to Being There

"I have greatly desired to eat this Supper with you."

cf. Luke 22:15

All of us know instinctively that nothing compares to "being there" in person. Whether it's being at a friend's wedding, sitting down to have a heart-to-heart conversation, comforting a family member while they are grieving, or watching as your baby takes his first steps, we all know that being physically present makes all the difference. The same logic applies to our life as Catholics. Especially when it comes to the Mass, truly, nothing compares to being there.

2021 is the Year of Saint Joseph

Prayer to Saint Joseph by Pope Francis

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust; with
you Christ became man. Blessed
Joseph, to us too, show yourself a
father and guide us in the path of
life. Obtain for us grace, mercy,
and courage, and defend us from
every evil. Amen.



As our culture is celebrating Pride Month, we bring your attention to discover the ministry of ***Courage International***.

As their website says, "Encounter Christ. Discover yourself. Grow in holiness. A Roman Catholic apostolate for men and women who experience same-sex attractions and those who love them."

Visit couragec.org



TEACH the CHILDREN



Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

2021-2022 REGISTRATION is OPEN!

Back to In-Person...in the Classroom Learning.

If your child is medically unable to attend in-person learning, please contact Donna Sciacca to arrange for an alternate learning platform.

Returning families: Please check your inbox for your registration forms. If you have a child entering 1st grade please download the "New Student" PREP registration form.

New to our Parish Program? If you have a child entering the 1st – 7th grade, contact Donna Sciacca at the parish office to register your child, call 610-847-5521.

Registration forms and our 2021-2022 Calendar are available on our website, www.stjohnsottsville.org



Starting Fall 2021

Children's Mass

10:30am Mass on the 3rd Sunday of the months of: October & November 2021
January, March & May 2022

We are looking to Sign-up Volunteers Now to Serve at these Masses. Open to all registered parish children who have received their Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

2- Lay Readers (age 13 & up)

4- Ushers

3 - Offertory Gift Procession

2- Greeters w/ parents

3- Altar Servers (will be scheduled through our current Ministry of trained servers).

Parents if you have a child(ren) who would like to serve at one of these Masses please contact Donna Sciacca, DRE at prep@stjohnsottsville.org



THE REGINA ACADEMY
at St. John the Baptist
Knowing ~ Loving ~ Serving

2021-2022 School Year Registration



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



**Strong and Beautiful
Mini-Conferences**

Saturday, October 23, 2021

National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa
654 Ferry Road - Doylestown, PA

CWC2021 will be a highly modified version of our usual event due to continued pandemic limitations. This year, Catholic women are invited to attend one, 2-hour, in-person mini-conference – morning or afternoon – and then enjoy four video talks at home at your leisure.

Morning keynote by Lisa Brenninkmeyer, Afternoon keynote by Mother Clare Matthias, CFR.

For more info or to register visit:

<http://www.catholicwomensconference.org/>



Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille. If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of August 13 - 15, 2021 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.

For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

Anniversary of the Canonization of Padre Pio

Jun 16, 2021 9:30 am - 2:00 pm

National Centre for Padre Pio, Spirituality Centre
111 Barto Road, Barto, PA

Rededicate yourself to Christ's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that Jesus is present to us in many ways, but only in the Holy Eucharist is he uniquely and substantially present – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. (CCC 1373-1374)

There is no cost for this day of spiritual renewal; however, a free will offering will be taken up to support the mission of the National Centre for Padre Pio.

The day includes morning prayer, opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a media presentation on the Real Presence, Mass, a Holy Hour with Conference & Benediction.

Participants are encouraged to pack a lunch and extend the celebration by enjoying the grounds, museum, and gift shop.

There is no cost to attend, but attendance is limited to reserve your free tickets visit:
<https://www.padrepio.org/events/canonization-anniversary/>

Solidarity in Freedom' is theme of Religious Freedom Week June 22-29 the USCCB invites Catholics "to pray, reflect and act to promote religious freedom" during this week. The first day of the observance is the feast of two English martyrs who fought religious persecution, **Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher**. The week includes **the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, June 24, and ends with the feast of two apostles martyred in Rome — SS. Peter and Paul**. Resources prepared by the USCCB for Catholics to "Pray, Reflect, Act" on the day's theme can be found at: www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek.

APOSTOLIC LETTER issued "MOTU PROPIO" by the SUPREME PONTIFF FRANCIS "ANTIQUUM MINISTERIUM" INSTITUTING THE MINISTRY OF CATECHIST

Excerpt from full Document: The ministry of Catechist in the Church is an ancient one. Theologians commonly hold that the first examples are already present in the writings of the New Testament. The service of catechesis may be traced back to those "teachers" mentioned by the Apostle Paul in writing to the community of Corinth: "Some people God has designated in the Church to be, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers...(1 Cor 12:28-31).

The lay apostolate is unquestionably "secular." It requires that the laity "seek the kingdom of God by engaging in temporal affairs and directing them according to God's will" (cf. SECOND VATICAN ECUMENICAL COUNCIL Dogmatic Constitution on the Church Lumen Gentium, 31).

The role of a catechist is one specific form of service among others within the Christian community. Catechists are called first to be expert in the pastoral service of transmitting the faith as it develops through its different stages from the initial proclamation of the kerygma to the instruction that presents our new life in Christ and prepares for the sacraments of Christian initiation, and then to the ongoing formation that can allow each person to give an accounting of the hope within them (cf. 1 Pet 3:15). At the same time, every catechist must be a witness to the faith, a teacher and mystagogue, a companion and pedagogue, who teaches for the Church. Only through prayer, study, and direct participation in the life of the community can they grow in this identity and the integrity and responsibility that it entails (cf. Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, Directory for Catechesis, 113). **To read the entire text from the Pope's Apostolic Letter visit:**

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/motu_proprio/documents/papa-francesco-motu-proprio-20210510_antiquum-ministerium.html

June 19th & 20th, 2021 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time - **Father's Day**

Liturgical Ministry Schedule				
	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5 PM	Weez Roney	Jane Ferry	Martin Elsner Alice Elsner	Patty Leidner Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Mark Fetter	Helene Bell	Brigid Froman	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Jim Black	Tom Costello	Leighanna Fleck Heze Van Haute	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak



PLEASE PRAY FOR...

* New Name Added

NEW CYCLE: June 1 – Sept. 1, 2021

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



OUR SICK:

Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Joe Cegielski, Steve & Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Tom Fleck, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Cathy & Mark Hancharik, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Roseann McCarty, Bridget McHugh, Nancy Moreno, Ray Malachowski, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Beatrice Bohm Rogers, Barbara Sabbath, Pete Shultz, Sr., Ed Van Haute, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer

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

May God protect and watch over our troops.