

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 March 16 - 22, 2021
Daily Mass, 9am Monday – Friday**

Monday: Elizabeth R. Lapsley (*John F. Lapsley*)

Tuesday: Joseph Christiano (*McCord Family*)

Wednesday: Maria Middleton (*Harold Rick*)

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

Thurs. (Old St. John's): Lucky Lambing (*Loving wife Lorraine*)

Friday: Maria Middleton (*Gammello Family*)

Friday - 7:30pm – Stations of the Cross

Weekend Masses

Sat. 5pm: Mark Koch (*Jerry & Linda McCaffrey*)

Sun. 8am: Parishioners' Intentions

Sun. 10:30am: John Nigro (*Loving Family*)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is OPEN.

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm: Fri. 9am – 1pm

The wearing of a face mask is mandatory.

MASS COLLECTIONS

March 7th: Envelopes \$ 10,100.00

E-Giving \$ 2,818.81

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.**



The entirety of today's Gospel selection from John 3:16-21 should be firmly in our minds. There is so much here, especially about our relationship with faith and deed.

Christ does not want the world to suffer; John 3:17 makes clear that salvation is possible for the whole world. We should do what we can to spread the word to as much of the world as we can. God wants the whole world saved, and it falls to those of us outside of and within the fold to do what we can to make this happen. We are tellers of truth. People preferred darkness. We as Christians have chosen a lighter path, but at the time of the Crucifixion, the crowds wanted Barabbas, and there are still far too many people today who want Barabbas. We should remain ever humble in our hopes that those who have yet to see the light do so before it is too late.

If you read the fullness of this most-beloved Gospel selection, there is a clear and distinct association between works and deeds.

"For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God."

It's true that we cannot "buy" our way into heaven with good deeds; rather, good deeds are a result of living a true, honest, considered life with Christ. And when we're trying to form lives with Jesus, performing Christ-focused good works can develop the discipline and habits needed to live as free from sin as we possibly can.

Accept Christ in your heart and know that through him salvation is possible. But it is in deeds that the light of Christ is brought into the world. As Pope Francis said on July 21, 2013, "In our Christian life . . . may prayer and action always be deeply united. A prayer that does not lead you to practical action for your brother — the poor, the sick, those in need of help, a brother in difficulty — is a sterile and incomplete prayer." So, then, may the truth of God's love for the world spur us to joy, to hope for salvation for all, and — perhaps most importantly — to action.

Excerpts from A Catholic Moment – Steven Marsh

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE Tuesday, March 23rd at 6:30pm



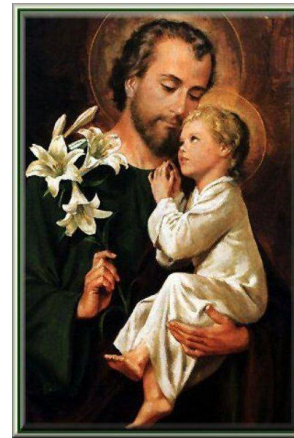
"Morning Joe" Retreat

Mar 19, 2021 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

National Centre for Parde Pio

111 Barto Road, Barto PA, 19504

610.845.3000



Celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph with a "Morning Joe" Retreat, led by Father Chris Walsh of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This retreat includes the traditional "Saint Joseph's Table" of bread and pastries, a spiritual conference, opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, praying of the Rosary, Mass and the Stations of the Cross. There is no cost to attend this event; however, free will offerings are always welcomed and gratefully accepted. Participants are also invited to pack a lunch and stay longer after the conclusion of the retreat, if they so desire, to tour the museum and visit our gift shop.

Pre-registration is required, reserve your tickets. Visit <https://www.padrepio.org/events/morning-joe-retreat/>



✝ TEACH the CHILDREN ✝

Today, at about the midpoint of Lent, the Church celebrates **Laetare Sunday**, which is taken from the first word of today's Mass entrance antiphon:

"Laetare, Jerusalem Rejoice, Jerusalem and all who love her."

The Prophet Isaiah announced (Is 66:10-11) to the Jews who were captive in Babylon, where they used to sit by the streams and weep, where they had hung up their harps and were too sad to sing because they were remembering all that they had squandered because of their sins.

But God didn't stop loving them. Out of love, he permitted the Jewish people to be captured by the Babylonians so they would have the time to grow closer to Him and turn away from their sinful life.

Today, on **Laetare Sunday**, recalls the joyous day the Jews were freed from Babylon. That joy is because of the unmeasurable love of God that would stop at nothing to redeem us.

When the human race was in a far worse situation than the Jews in Babylon, God himself sent someone greater to set us free. He sent his own Son. In today's Gospel of John, that same love is expressed to us when we hear, ***"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish, but might have eternal life."*** St. John adds, ***"God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but so that the world might be saved through him."***

When God the Father had a choice to allow us to die in eternal exile or allow his Son to take our place on death row and be brutally mocked and crucified, he loved us so much that He chose to save our life by allowing his Son to give his.

This indescribable love is an incredible cause for joy! That love of God that would pull out all the stops in order to save us is the root of all Christian joy. ***Happy Laetare Sunday to All!***



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

Registration is now open at The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist in pre K through 8th grade for the 2021-2022 school year.

Space is limited and filling up quickly.



**Faith
Family
& Freedom**

the antidote to today's culture

Registration NOW OPEN
for 2021/2022 school year. *Space is limited*

www.raajb.org • 610-847-5523

POSTPONED

Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

In-House Declamation Contest
April 9th

Mrs. Tami Koerber, Head of School
Mrs. Amy Mattle, Admissions Director

www.raajb.org

610-847-5523

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 4545
FR. STOMMEL COUNCIL**



"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



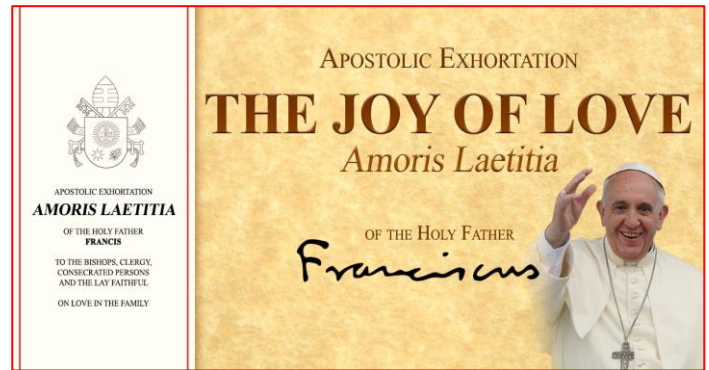
CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

Partners In Hope

When you become a Partner in Hope, you make an impact all year long. Just \$1 a day can help a special needs student, a mother struggling to feed her family or a veteran barely making ends meet. By becoming a Partner in Hope, you will shine a light of hope on many of your brothers and sisters in need. \$1 A DAY - \$30.42 per month - \$365 a year. Please consider joining us today!

Make your secure payment, pledge or gift online today at: www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2021 Catholic Charities Appeal, please email CCA@thecfgp.org or call 215.587.5650.



Pope Francis marks the 5th anniversary of 'Amoris Laetitia' with a year *dedicated to Family*.

On March 19, 2021, the feast of St. Joseph, marks five years since the signing of “Amoris Laetitia” (The Joy of Love).

“The pandemic experience has highlighted the central role of the family as the domestic Church and has shown the importance of community ties between families, which make the Church an authentic ‘family of families.’”

“Through the spiritual, pastoral, and cultural initiatives planned in the Year **“*Amoris Laetitia Family*,”** Pope Francis intends to address all ecclesial communities throughout the world, exhorting each person to be a witness of family love.”

“Resources will be shared within parishes, dioceses, universities, and in the context of ecclesial movements and family associations, on: family spirituality, formation and pastoral activity for marriage preparation, young people education in affective maturity, and on the holiness of married couples and families who live out the grace of the sacrament in their daily life.”

The commemoration will conclude June 26, 2022, on the occasion of the “World Meeting of Families in Rome.”



Ministry Schedule for: **Friday, March 19th – Stations of the Cross**
March 20th & 21st – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ministry Schedule:	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
Stations of the Cross Fri. March 12th 7:30pm	N/A	N/A	OPEN	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
SATURDAY 5pm	Joel Roney	Tom Costello	Julia Byers Juliet Meyers	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 8am	Nancy Kazcinski	Jeanne Keller	Natalie Nice Alexander Nice	Denny Litzenberger Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30am	Phil Donahue	Sean Lynch	Fatu Logaivau Sawe Logaivau	Nio Logaivau Bob Galdo



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., John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Cathy & Mark Hancharik, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, 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., 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.