

### 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 29 – April 4, 2021  
HOLY WEEK**

### Daily Mass, 9am Monday – Friday

**Monday: Maria Middleton** (*The Sideris Family*)

**Tuesday: Maria Louzon** (*Gina Puente*)

**Wednesday: John F. Lapsley Sr.** (*John F. Lapsley Jr.*)

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

### TRIDUUM MASSES

**Holy Thurs, 7:30pm - Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**

*Followed by Adoration at the Altar of Repose in the Chapel*

**Good Friday, 3pm – The Lord's Passion**

**Holy Saturday, 1pm – Blessing of the Easter Food**

**EASTER VIGIL MASS, 8pm – Holy Night of Easter**

**EASTER SUNDAY 8am & 10:30am**

**The Resurrection of the Lord**

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**The Parish Office is Closed April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm: Fri. 9am – 1pm

The wearing of a face mask is mandatory.

### MASS COLLECTIONS

March 21st: Envelope \$ 11,178.00  
Electronic Giving \$ 3,469.00

***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**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 12pm**

**Adoration & Prayer for Vocations**

**1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, 10am**

**Rosary, Confession, Mass  
followed by Lunch**

**Call Joan Black for directions, reservations, or more info  
at 215-795-2947.**

## AND SO IT BEGINS....

by Michael Moore, OMI

The story which begins of Palm Sunday is basically a human drama; it is our drama. As Jesus enters into his final week, he takes humanity with him and continues to do so every Easter. We are not just remembering an historical event that happened over two thousand years ago. We celebrating and taking part in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as it happens today to us and for us.

His entry in to the city begins on a huge wave of optimism, joy and hope. The people line the streets; they wave palms, they put their cloaks and garments on the ground and they shout out his name. This was an ancient Roman tradition used to welcome soldiers and armies home after their success in battle. The crowd welcome Jesus in a similar way as they shout out, "*Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*"

Yet, how quickly the crowd changed and turned on Jesus. The same people who were happy to welcome him with shouts of joy, will soon begin to shout "*Crucify him, Crucify him.*" Jesus is even betrayed and denied by his closet friends. The rest of them run and desert him. He is left alone.

There is a real danger that we can get up and lost in getting the liturgy of Palm Sunday and indeed the whole of Holy week just right.

If we are not careful we can lose sight of what we remembering, celebrating and taking part in. As well as celebrating this great week with dignity and reverence, we also need to ask ourselves what it is all about and what it means to each to us.

**Where am I in the unfolding drama that begins on Palm Sunday and plays out over Holy Week and which climaxes on Easter?**

**Where am I as Jesus passes by on the donkey?**

**Am I one of the crowd shouting out his name?**

**Am I like Judas in any way?**

**When have I betrayed others or Jesus?**

**When like Peter, have I denied knowing Jesus?**

**Am I like Pilate when I judge and condemn others?**

**How am I like Simon or Veronica who help Jesus in his time of need?**

Having stood with the crowd shouting out his name and welcoming Jesus, will I stand with the same people spitting out insults as I shout '*Crucify him! Crucify him!*'

As we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, we are called to ask ourselves who and where we are in the crowd. This is a week to pray and then decide what kind of followers of Christ we are and are going to be.

***During this busy week of prayer, liturgies and ceremonies, let us not lose sight of what we are remembering, celebrating and talking part in.***

***As we begin this most holy of weeks, may Jesus be our constant companion.***

***May we enter in the mystery of Jesus' life, death and resurrection with faith and hope.***

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## The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum (trid·yoo-uhm)

From the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil.

Through this yearly cycle, the Catechism of the Catholic Church explains, "the various aspects of the one Paschal mystery unfold"(CCC 1171). The Easter Triduum holds a special place in the liturgical year because it marks the culmination of the yearly celebration in proclaiming the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Latin word triduum refers to a period of three days and has long been used to describe various three-day observances that prepared for a feast day through liturgy, prayer, and fasting. But it is most often used to describe the three days prior to the great feast of Easter: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday and the Easter Vigil. The General Norms for the Liturgical Year state that the Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, "reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday" (par 19).

Just as Sunday is the high point of the week, Easter is the high point of the year. The meaning of the great feast is revealed and anticipated throughout the Triduum, which brings the people of God into contact — through liturgy, symbol, and sacrament — with the central events of the life of Christ: the Last Supper, His trial and crucifixion, His time in the tomb, and His Resurrection from the dead. In this way, "the mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time, until all is subjected to him" (CCC 1169). During these three days of contemplation and anticipation the liturgies emphasize the sacrificial death of Christ on the Cross, and the sacraments of baptism and the Eucharist, by which the faithful enter into the life-giving Passion of Christ and grow in hope of eternal life in Him.

*Excerpt by Carl E. Olson*



During the Easter season spend time together while you watch a movie that will inspire your family to reflect on why we celebrate this holiday. The following movies are available on *Amazon Prime, Netflix or YouTube*.

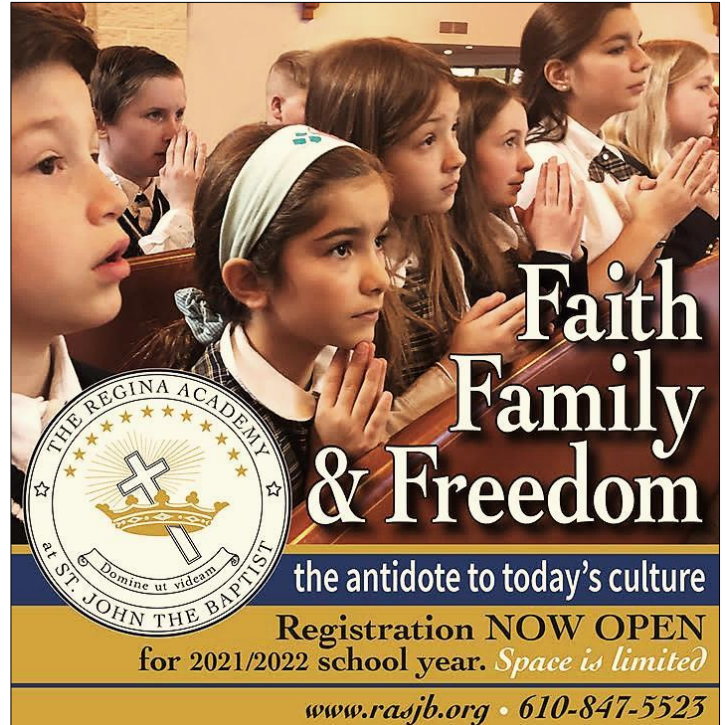
1. **It's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown:** Sometimes you just need a movie to help you smile, and who better to do that than Snoopy and the Peanuts gang?
2. **VeggieTales: An Easter Carol** An Easter Carol teaches the viewers the true meaning of Easter with plenty of laughs and silly songs to boot. Christian parents couldn't ask for a better movie to share the Easter story with their kids.
3. **The Young Messiah** Experience the dramatic story of Jesus and his parents, Mary and Joseph, as you never have before—from the perspective of the 7-year-old savior.
4. **Full Count** When a promising future lies ahead for a college baseball player but then everything falls apart he learns that faith will lead you home.
5. **Big Miracle** Inspired by true events, this story follows a reporter who teams up with the U.S. and U.S.S.R. to rescue whales trapped in the Arctic Circle.
6. **Walk. Ride. Rodeo.** An up-and-coming rodeo star's plans for success are thwarted after she's paralyzed from a car accident. But with help from her mother, she soon rides again.
7. **The Healer** Meet down-on-his-luck Alec who moves to Nova Scotia, where a misleading ad in the local paper guides Alec to discover that he has inherited a special family gift.
8. **The Ten Commandments** Moses, an Egyptian Prince, learns of his true heritage as a Hebrew and his divine mission as the deliverer of his people.
9. **Ben-Hur** the story of Judah Ben-Hur, a member of Jerusalem's Jewish nobility living at the time of Judea's Roman occupation. Set in the same time period, the film offers historical context for the life and crucifixion of Jesus.
10. **The Dog Who Saved Easter** follows former police dog Zeus as he faces off against hapless criminals to save Easter.
11. **The Miracle Maker** motion-animated film tells the story of the life of Jesus Christ, through the eyes of a young girl who he is said to have brought back to life.



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

**Registration is Now Open** in pre-K through 8th grade for the **2021-2022 School Year**.

**Space is limited and filling up quickly.**



**POSTPONED**

**Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist**  
**In-House Declamation Contest**  
**April 9<sup>th</sup>**

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

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2021 Catholic Charities Appeal, please email [CCA@thecfcp.org](mailto:CCA@thecfcp.org) or call 215.587.5650.

### *Deliverance from Sin and Death* ~ Romans 6

*"We were baptized in Christ Jesus... We went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.... Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more... He died, once and for all, to sin, so his life is now life with God... you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Jesus Christ."*

## A Holy Thursday tradition: Pilgrimage to seven churches

At the end of the Holy Thursday Mass, the Eucharist is placed on a temporary "altar of repose" away from the sanctuary. It is customary for the faithful to process together to this altar and spend time in quiet prayer and adoration. In the Roman Missal, it states: "The faithful are invited to continue adoration before the Blessed Sacrament for a suitable length of time during the night, according to circumstance."

**The Seven Churches Visitation** is a tradition that grew out of this time of prayer and adoration. Catholics remember when Jesus asked his disciples to stay and watch with Him while they were in the garden. This tradition of mindful watching is a sort of pilgrimage to various altars of repose, in different churches that correspond to each of the seven places, or "stations," that were made by Jesus between the Last Supper in the Upper Room to His crucifixion on the cross.

The seven stations consist of: Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22: 39-46), Jesus bound and taken before Annas (John 18: 19-22), Jesus taken before the High Priest, Caiaphas (Matthew 26: 63-65), Jesus taken before Pilate (John 18, 35-37), Jesus taken before Herod (Luke 23: 8-9; 11), Jesus taken before Pilate again (Matthew 27: 22-26) and Jesus given the crown of thorns and led to his crucifixion (Matthew 27: 27-31).

Upon entering each church, pilgrims visit the altar of repose, kneel, make the sign of the cross, read the appropriate scripture for each station and engage in private prayer and adoration. Some may add other prayers as well. At the seventh station, many will close their pilgrimage by opting to observe a Holy Hour.

The origin of the Seven Churches Visitation is typically credited to St. Philip Neri and is practiced by Catholics around the world, including in Poland, Mexico, Italy and the Philippines. The devotion can also be traced back to the Station Churches of Rome, where the tradition is still practiced.

**National Centre for Padre Pio**  
**111 Barto Road Barto, PA 19504**

**Holy Saturday, April 3, 2021**  
**The Shroud of Turin Replica**  
**Exposition and Presentation**  
**Rosary 11:30 AM / Presentation 12:00 PM**

Join us for a prayerful and grace-filled Holy Saturday as we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. Following the Rosary, using a life-size replica of the Shroud, Mr. Massimo Paris will offer a presentation on the Shroud of Turin based on his life-long study and research. There is no cost to attend this event; however, free will offerings are always welcomed and gratefully accepted. To register for this presentation, please email: [Angela@padrepio.org](mailto:Angela@padrepio.org)

Ministry Schedule for: **April 1 – 4, 2021 HOLY WEEK**

Ministry Schedule:	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
<b>Holy Thursday</b> 7:30PM Mass of the Lord's Last Supper	Lynn Gammello Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Siobhan Crews Gianna Gammello Olivia Luna Sawe Logaivau	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
<b>Good Friday</b> 3PM Lord's Passion	N/A	Tom Costello Leona Russell	Audrey Van Haute Caius Van Haute Max Van Haute	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
<b>Holy Saturday</b> Easter Vigil 8PM	Weez Roney Donna Sciacca	Pam Altier Sam Altier Tony Luna Leona Russell Megan Gilbert	Leader: Joel Roney Julia Byers Gianna Gammello Olivia Luna OPEN	Patty Leidner Liz Torgerson Sue Rogers
<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 8AM	Donna Nice	Helene Bell	Natalie Nice Alex Nice	Ordinary Time
<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 10:30AM	Ward Van Haute	Dolly Kovacs	Caius Van Haute Max Van Haute	Nio Logaivau Rob Galdo



**PLEASE PRAY FOR...**

\* New Name Added

**NEW CYCLE:** March 1 – June 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, 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.

*May God protect and watch over our troops.*