

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 (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 May 10 - 16, 2021

Daily Mass: 9am Monday – Friday

Monday: Maria Middleton (*The Colahans*)

Tuesday: Kathleen Lapsley (*John Lapsley*)

Wednesday: Theresa McFadden (*Ed McMaster*)

Thursday (in the main Church)
Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
9am & 7:30pm

Friday: Marie Louzon (*Gina Puente*)

Weekend Masses

Sat. 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions

Sun. 8am: Intentions of our Priests

10:30am: Rosanne Pacitti (*The Colahans*)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm

Fri. 9am – 1pm

The wearing of a face mask is required for service.

To plan a funeral or purchase a grave in our parish cemetery, call to make an appointment.

MASS COLLECTIONS

May 2, 2021: Envelopes \$4,504.00

E-Giving: \$ 2,858.49

No 2nd Collection on Sunday as it was the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation Mass.

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.

WHAT IS LOVE

Gospel of John 15:9-17

As we look forward to celebrating the Lord's Ascension and Pentecost's coming of his promised Spirit, our Easter season is drawing to a close. The mood of today's liturgy is reflective, inviting us to take in more fully the deep implications of our Easter faith.

Standing out in today's readings is the theme of love. What more important theme is there for our restless human hearts? Yet it is so often trivialized and distorted in today's popular culture. From our earliest years we have learned to know what genuine love is, not from lessons in words, but by being loved ourselves. Today's readings invite us to recognize that the Paschal Mystery that is the center of our Easter celebration is an expression of God's love for us, and an invitation to enter into the love of Jesus and his Father, and to give it expression in our own lives. True love expresses itself in action rather than in words. The Father's love, John's letter tells us, was expressed in our midst when he 'sent into the world his only Son, so that we could have life in him'. The words of Jesus in John's gospel remind us how complete the gift is which he brings, as an expression of the love which he shares with the Father: 'A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friend'.

Genuine love is an unselfish gift. It seeks the good of the beloved rather than its own benefit. God's love is an outreach of utter generosity; it comes before any response on our part, as John's letter points out. (As the continuation of our passage puts it 'God loved us first'.) And our response can give nothing to God except the joy in the heart of the selfless giver. As we contemplate the mystery of God's generosity, we are reminded that, in the end, love is the most precious of all gifts. If it is true that true joy is the finding of what our hearts are made for, then a love that is genuine brings a joy which is without compare: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you ... I have told you this that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete'. The fruit of genuine love is the intimacy of friendship – sharing all that matters in one's life with the beloved: 'You are my friends ... I call you friends because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father'.

Coming to a deeper appreciation of the love the Father and the Son have for us, expressed in the Paschal Mystery, we will find new enthusiasm and energy for the outreach which must express our life in Christ during the coming week: 'You did not choose me, no I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and bear fruit' (We are reading the continuation of the passage about 'the true vine').

In the first reading continues the story of the early Church. As Peter baptizes Cornelius, the first gentile convert, we are reminded of our theme: God's generous love is for all, 'God does not have favorites' anybody 'who fears God (i.e. has a loving reverence before God) and does what it right is acceptable to him'. Like Cornelius, we too have, through our baptismal sharing in the Paschal Mystery, been given to share in the mystery of the love of the Father and the Son.

John Thornhill sm
The Emmaus Series 2021





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

**2021-2022 School Year Registration
is now open for grades pre-K through 8th**



Space is limited so act now!

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

Ascension and **Pentecost** are the two great feasts that signal the end of the Easter season—Understanding Ascension and Pentecost is essential if our young people are going to grow into what Pope Francis has called a Church of “**missionary disciples.**”

When Jesus gave his disciples the Great Commission, he said, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matt 28:19-20). The mission Jesus gave to the disciples at his Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost are crucial parts of his story and that of the Church (ours).

40 days after EASTER...the Ascension of Our Lord, is often considered the crowning event of the ministry of Jesus. On the fortieth day after Easter, the risen Jesus went to the Mount of Olives with his disciples and ascended to heaven before their eyes (Acts 1:1-12). The Christ that the disciples had known on earth had returned to his Father and they now had to wait for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit who would empower them to continue Jesus’ ministry here on earth.

50 days after EASTER...we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost Sunday, named from the Greek for “fiftieth day” this is an important feast in the calendar of Ancient Israel celebrating the end of Passover and the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt. Sinai. Jewish people came to Jerusalem from all over to celebrate this feast day.

For Christians, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, the beginning of the carrying on of Jesus’ earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations. For this reason, Pentecost is described as the “Birth of the Church.”

When this day came, the Apostles entered the city and went to the upper room where they were staying. All of them had devoted themselves to prayer. “When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest above the head of each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.” (Acts 2:1-4) This was done so that they could speak to all nations, baptizing in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. On that day Peter went out to the crowd and spoke to them and about three thousand people were baptized. These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first Pope of the Catholic Church. The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit. The color of Pentecost is red and the priest wears red vestments.



God’s Plan for Women

During the month of May, we turn our eyes to the person of the Virgin Mary and to the gift of motherhood. These two objects of our contemplation are wonderfully complementary because in Our Lady, we find a beautiful truth revealed: that all women are called to be mothers. It should always be a cause of wonder to us that Mary is both Virgin and Mother simultaneously. In the natural order, this is impossible. And yet we find revealed in Mary what is true for every woman after her, that God has established a new order of fruitfulness for the human race, a fruitfulness that comes not from biology but from grace. For women, this spiritual fruitfulness is called spiritual motherhood. All women, by virtue of being a woman, are capable of the tremendous fruitfulness of spiritual motherhood. When a woman gives herself away for the sake of another (spiritual motherhood), she becomes an icon of God Himself, who is self-giving love. So we find in a woman’s capacity for spiritual motherhood one of the deepest sources of her personal dignity. She is created in the image of God, called to love and give herself as God himself loves and gives. The good news is that every woman is created for this, whether or not she is married or bears children.



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



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
or visit our table in the Narthex.

SJB NITTY GRITTY



OPEN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR CLUB!

We are looking for men & women who enjoy gardening & fellowship to join our group. Please consider sharing your talent (love of gardening) as we work together to keep our parish grounds looking beautiful...all for the glory of God. You can leave a message at the parish office or contact directly Jeanne Keller or Mary Kosmin to join.

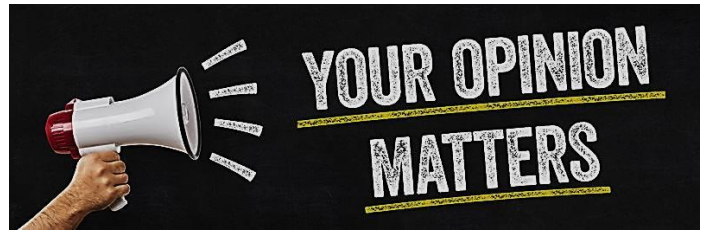
2021 is the Year of Saint Joseph, to honor the 150th



Anniversary of the Saint's Proclamation as Patron of the Universal Church. The year was established so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."

This is a perfect time to prayer to Saint Joseph, as he was a model of taking care of others

and understood the **power of prayer and contemplation.**



We are having a "**BRAINSTORMING SESSION**" in May – Date TBD, soliciting ideas for ways we may bring folks back to our parish and engage our currently active parishioners.

Please consider joining us, we want to hear from you.

We are also seeking *Evangelization Team members.*

If you are interested in participating in either or both of the above initiatives, please contact:

LAURA GUMPRECHT at 267-733-7802 or email
LAGCRITTERS@gmail.com



**CATHOLIC CHARITIES
APPEAL WEEKEND is
MAY 15th & 16th**

**Special Collection Envelopes will be in all pew
pockets next week during all our Masses.**

**As Catholics, we should try to give back to help
others.**

Become a Partner in Hope!

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**

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.

May 15th & 16th - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Liturgical Ministry Schedule				
	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5 PM	Joan Black	Helene Bell	Siobhan Crews Juliet Meyers	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 8AM	Donna Nice	OPEN	Natalie Nice OPEN	Patty Leidner Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe	Patti Keyser	Paige Mattle Fatu Logaivau Sawe Logaivau	Nio Logaivau Karen Parash



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, Louis Belsito, 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 Nalachowski, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Beatrice Bohm Rogers, Barbara Sabath, Pete Shultz, Sr., Ed Van Haute, 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,