

### 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:** Please contact the parish office to register when you move into our parish.

*Only registered parishioners, in good standing, can receive a Certificate of Eligibility to act as a Godparent or sponsor.*

**BAPTISMS:** The Sacrament of Baptism is administered on the fourth Sunday of every month. Parents are encouraged



to invite family members to the 10:30 Mass as the Sacrament of Baptism takes place immediately following the Mass. Parents and Godparents must attend an enrichment class approx. 1 month 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 Nov. 16 - 22, 2020**

**Daily Mass Monday – Friday 9am**

**Monday:** John Zadanowciz (*Team 4 Cleaning Crew*)

**Tuesday:** Dona Cramer (*Mary Canon*)

**Wednesday:** Tom High (*Ron Meier*)

**Thursday:** Anna Walsh (*The McCords*)

**Friday:** James Bonner (*Lisa Simkanin*)

### **Weekend Masses**

**Saturday Vigil, 5pm:** Tom High (*Chris Zdanowicz*)

**Sunday, 8am:** Jack Glancey (*Loving Wife & Family*)

**Sun: 10:30am:** Parishioners' Intentions

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**Parish Office Hours:**

**Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm / Friday 9am – 1pm**

Please all the parish office to schedule an appointment for all Cemetery related business.

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### **Mass Collection November 8, 2020**

**Collection Baskets: \$5,784.00**

**Parish Giving: \$ 2,363.65**

*Thank you for your continued support and generosity!*

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### **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.**



## The Parable of the Talents

### Gospel of Matthew 25: 14-30

There is no time like the present. Now is the time, to reflect on the words of Jesus in this Gospel parable when we are either “good and faithful servants or we are wicked and lazy servants.” That future judgment, good and faithful or wicked and lazy, all depends on now, on how we serve now.

The Parable of the Talents is urging us to be ready for the master’s return. Jesus is that master who went on a journey when he ascended to heaven. After a long time the master, Jesus will return, which is either at the moment of our death or at his Second Coming. Whenever he comes again we will stand before him with our talents.

Like the servants in this parable, Jesus does not gift us with an equal number of talents, nor with the same talents. We are not expected to produce the same fruit as our neighbor, what we are expected is to produce fruit for the kingdom. Jesus said they were distributed to each according to his ability. Therefore each one of us receives just the right number of talents, gifts, charisms, to match his ability; not too many in order that any would go to waste unused, and not too few in order that we don’t grow frustrated with untapped abilities.

Now is an important time, now is an exciting time. The Lord does not give us a blueprint for every hour of every day but the Lord expects diligence in using the gifts natural, spiritual and academic, theological that we have received. It is up to us to figure how best to use with what we have received. If we have buried a talent, now is the time to dig it up so that we can hear the Lord say to us, “Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share your master’s joy.”

God expects us to be enterprising and entrepreneurial for the kingdom. We are not to waste time trying to figure out when the Second Coming of Jesus will be, as we heard Paul reminding the Thessalonians in the second reading. Yet not knowing when Jesus will come again is not an excuse to do nothing as Paul also reminded us when he wrote, “let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.” Now is an exciting time. God has given us talents. He trusts us how to use them. We best figure out and decide how best to use our talents for the kingdom.

Give thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good; His love endures forever.  
- Psalm 118:1

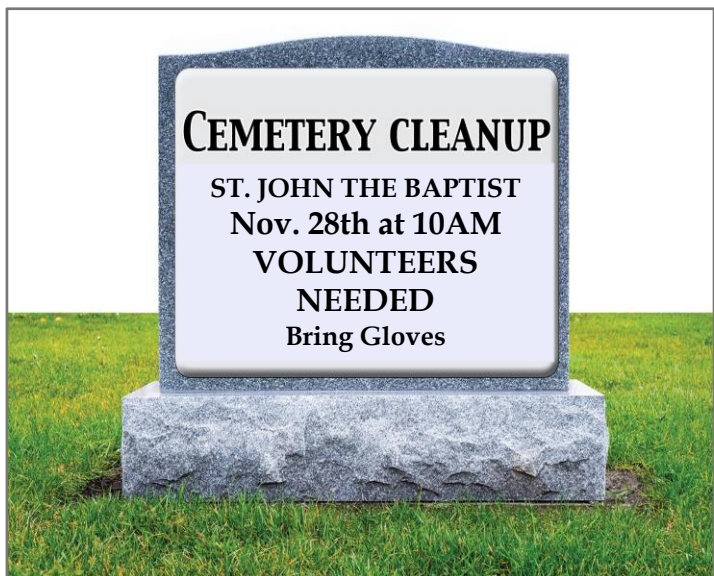


Advent Penance Service  
Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm



### CEMETERY CLEANUP

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
Nov. 28th at 10AM  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED  
Bring Gloves



#### **Attention Parish Family:**

**Prior to our clean-up, please remove any ornamental item you may have placed on the grave of a loved one that you would like to keep.**





### For Our Parents, A Family Connection to the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about the correlation between faithfulness and responsibilities. Family life provides many opportunities to illustrate this connection for children. As children prove themselves trustworthy, they can be trusted to take on greater responsibilities. Jesus teaches us in this parable that when we show ourselves to be trustworthy in small matters, we can be trusted to participate in greater matters of responsibility.

As you gather as a family, take some time to recall how each child in the family has matured and can now be trusted with greater responsibilities.

**Parents tell your children...** In today's Gospel, Jesus talked about how our trustworthiness in small matters shows that we can also be trusted to share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven. **Read Matthew 15:14-30. Say:** We share in the work of serving the Kingdom of Heaven when we use our talents to help and serve others.

#### Using those talents:

As a family, choose one thing to do this week to serve others. Conclude in prayer together, asking God's help so that your family may serve others more faithfully.

#### Let us pray...

#### Prayer to the Holy Spirit

**Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.**

**And kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.**

**And you will renew the face of the earth.**

**Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit**

**you have taught the hearts of your faithful.**

**In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**



## THE REGINA ACADEMY at ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

### Now forming an On- Call list for SUBSTITUTE Teachers

The role of an on-call substitute greatly benefits the stability of our Regina Academy @ SJB school. This is a part-time position.

- ~ Substitutes must be available weekdays during the academic year from 8:30am-3:30pm.
- ~ Applicants must be practicing Catholics, be able to sign an Oath of Fidelity to the Catholic Church, and have a deep love for the Catholic faith.
- ~ All staff must complete a background check and Safe Child training prior to teaching at Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist.

Please send your resume accompanied by a cover letter, and references to our Headmaster, Tami Koerber at 4040 Durham Rd., Ottsville, PA 18942

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

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### OUR PARISH CLEANING MINISTRY is in **URGENT NEED** of VOLUNTEERS Men & women 18 yrs. & up



**5 TEAMS ROTATE MONTHLY** (you serve only once every 5 weeks). Flexible schedules. Clean at your convenience during your team's assigned week. Call the parish office if you are able to volunteer at 610-847-5521.



The Giving Tree will be in the Narthex the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent.

Due to pandemic restrictions we will be giving our Pantry families Gift Cards this year. The tree tags will indicate the preferred gift card (Target, Walmart, Giant). Gift cards may be purchased through the parish office.

Gifts need to be placed back under the tree by Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>.



### SAMARITAN'S PURSE

#### "OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD"

Each year our PREP children & families come together to pack, wrap & ship filled to the brim shoeboxes to these needy children who live impoverished lives. Due to the pandemic social distancing requirements...we will be making a **MONETARY CONTRIBUTION** instead. **Our minimum goal is to send \$1,000.00!** If you are able, will you join us? Every \$1.00 donated brings us closer to our goal. To make a contribution - place a check or cash in either the monthly contribution envelope you received, or a plain envelope, write Operation Christmas Child on the front of the envelope & drop it in our Mass collection basket, at the parish office, or in the mail to the parish office. Check's payable to: St. John the Baptist PREP (on the note line write Operation Christmas Child). **Our deadline to mail our check is November 18th.**

## The 4 Things You Can Do When Life Seems Hopeless

It seems that in our world today, many become overwhelmed and begin to feel hopeless. Why do so many lose hope in the midst of their temporary circumstances?

Maybe it is because they have not been told about the mercy and love of God. As Christians, we can point to and provide the Hope that is often lost.

### *What is hope?*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains it more beautifully than I ever could:

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. "Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful."84 "The Holy Spirit . . . he poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life." The virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man; it takes up the hopes that inspire men's activities and purifies them so as to order them to the Kingdom of heaven; it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment; it opens up his heart in expectation of eternal beatitude. Buoyed up by hope, he is preserved from selfishness and led to the happiness that flows from charity." – CCC 1817-18

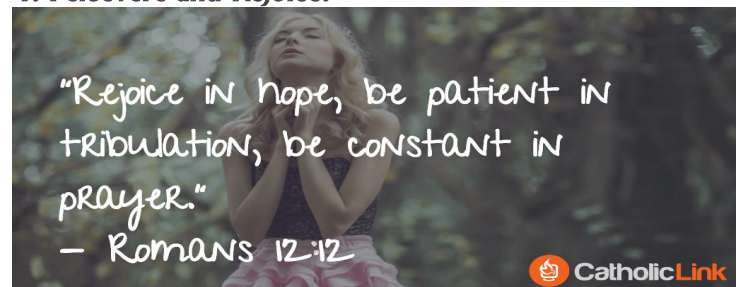
### *1. Know the reason for your hope. God!*

God alone is both the reason for and the source of our hope. He provides the strength for us to be able to find hope in all circumstances through the many graces He pours upon us and the gift of His Holy Spirit. Though the world will try to distract us, we must keep our focus on God.

### *2. Read the Bible, as well as the teachings of the Catholic Church and writings of the Saints.*

### *3. Attend Mass and actively take part in the Sacraments.*


### *4. Persevere and Rejoice.*




**Ministry Schedule:**

**Nov. 21 & 22, 2020 - Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ the King of the Universe**

**Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Day**

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
<b>Saturday 5pm</b>	Joel Roney	Helene Bell	Siobhan Crews Paige Mattle	Denny Litzenberger Sue Rogers
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	Donna Nice	Anne Slifer	OPEN	Liz Torgerson Fred Furmaniak
<b>Sunday 10:30am</b>	Joan Black	Sean Lynch	Max VanHaute Audrey VanHaute	Liz Torgerson Bob Galdo
<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>  <b>9AM</b>	Jim Black	Helene Bell	OPEN	Karen Parash



**PLEASE PRAY FOR...**

*\* New Name Added*

**NEW CYCLE:** Sept. 1st – Dec. 1st

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, Steve Combs, Patty Combs, Julia Ferguson, Patricia Fite, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, MaryAnn Hauber, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Kathie Mandra, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Nancy Moreno, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Janet Reidler, Pete Shultz, Sr., Steve & Wendy Snyder, Riley Telesco, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer, Christine Zdanowicz.

**OUR 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, Stephen Lindmeier, Jason Litschauer, Cory Litzenberger, Dan O'Connor, Jonathan Pucci, Dusty Rhodes, Craig Russell, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva.

