

### 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 – Thurs: 8:35am; Fri. 9am

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 September 21-27, 2020**

**Daily Mass Mon – Thurs 8:35am; Fri. 9am  
in the Main Church**

**Monday:** Ron Maisenhalter (*Janet Reidler & Family*)

**Tuesday:** Tom High (*Liz Torgerson*)

**Wednesday:** Roger Burdick (*Tom & Sue Rogers*)

**Thursday:** Joyce Moninghoss (*Loving husband Tom*)

**Friday, 9am:** William & Evelyn Wismer (*Ed Wismer*)

**Saturday, 5pm:** Steven G. Salva (*Donna Sciacca*)

**Sunday: 8am:** Parishioners' Intentions

**10:30am:** Intention of our Confirmation Candidates  
(*Donna Sciacca*)

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### Parish Office Hours

**Mon-Thurs 9am – 5pm**

**Friday 9am – 1pm**

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### **Mass Collection September 13, 2020**

**Collection Baskets: \$4,441.00**

**Parish Giving: \$2,105.67**

**Parish Giving from 9/6/20: \$2,131.10**

*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**



## IS GOD FAIR?

Gospel of Matthew 20: 1-16

It's not fair! That was the reaction of the laborers who'd worked all day in the heat. They expected to receive a higher wage than those who'd worked for only an hour in the cool of the evening.

But this parable is not about wages or hours worked, it is about the Kingdom of Heaven, and God's generosity and compassion in welcoming the most unlikely people. Imagine if God was concerned only with how much compassion each of us deserves, rather than how much we need.

God wants, and even needs all of us to work for Him in bringing about His Kingdom. For our part, we all need His mercy and long for His salvation. This He has promised us if we do His work. Some respond to His call throughout their lives. They are faithful servants who bear the heat of the day, resisting temptations, and even persecution. But then there are those who only turn to God at the last moment. Only then do they do His will.

This parable may well have been inspired by the resentment at Jesus making sinners so welcome. That was true of the 'good thief' whom Jesus promised to welcome into paradise that very day, as they both died on the cross.

And there's the Prodigal Son who, after enjoying a dissolute life, repented and was given such a warm welcome home. Our sympathies are with the faithful son, who protested that this was unfair. We think he had good reason to resent his wayward brother being given the reward, which he thought he deserved.

And we may think it unfair that some people, who have lived wicked lives, are, after a late repentance, welcomed into heaven, while the rest of us are expected to serve God for the whole of our lives.

But shouldn't we think about it this way, devoting our whole lives to serving God brings out the very best in us. While someone may enjoy a dissolute, godless life, he or she brings out the worst in themselves and

often harms others. In the end, such a life is empty and meaningless.

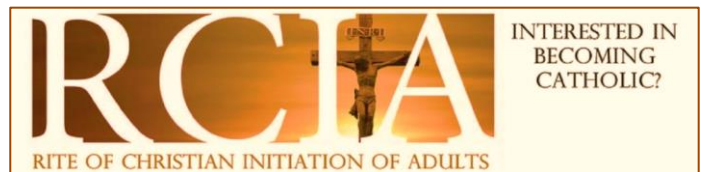
God, our employer, shows a generosity which transcends what any of us deserves. He offers all of us, His workers, the salvation we need, regardless of when we respond to His call.

**WHAT GOD GIVES EACH OF US, HIS LABORERS, IS NOTHING LESS THAN THE TOTAL GIFT OF HIMSELF! HE IS OUR REWARD!**

Instead of complaining that God is unjust in offering salvation and eternal happiness to late coming sinners, we should rejoice that He is so generous and merciful to all of us.

Never should we be so mean-hearted as to begrudge the sinner forgiveness.

God's generosity doesn't mean that he's unjust to any of us. Like with the father in the parable of the Prodigal Son we should rejoice. His son or daughter –our brother or sister –was dead, and is now alive!



RCIA is for adults who, after having their hearts opened to conversion and faith by the Holy Spirit, seek to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.

The RCIA process assists them in becoming full, conscious, active and ongoing participants in a life with Christ and His Church. RCIA welcomes those who are not baptized, those who are baptized in another Christian tradition and those who are baptized Catholic but never received the Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

Catechetical classes for RCIA take place from early October through early May. Bi-Monthly Classes are held in the evening.

**For more information, or to Register, visit our website, or contact Donna Sciacca, DRE at the parish office.**



† TEACH the CHILDREN †

Today we celebrate **Catechetical Sunday**



This year's theme is, ***"I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you."***

As we embark on a new PREP year, due to the pandemic the face of our program has changed dramatically. Placing above all else, the safety and well-being of our students, we moved to a *Virtual Program*. We are now doing more with less. We were sad to say good-bye to many of our Catechists but their personal family obligations must come first. With this new platform of teaching came many challenges. Especially since we must find a way to work around the demands day school curriculums place on our PREP children during this pandemic. The following Catechists stepped up & stepped out of the proverbial Classroom teaching box, and embraced the challenges Virtual teaching, I applaud these dedicated souls who had to first learn before teaching the complexity of passing on our faith in this new arena. In many ways it has proven to be more complicated and is certainly more time consuming, yet their dedication to the role that each plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel is honorable.

It is with much appreciation and gratitude that we introduce you to our 2020-2021 PREP Catechists:

**Kathleen Angello / Michelle Byers**

**Terri DeVenuto / Lynn Gammello**

**Donna Nice / Dorothy Scherer**

**Lisa Simkanin / Terry Spigel**

**Donna Sciacca, DRE**



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

## Save the Date!

The Regina Academy at  
St. John the Baptist  
**2nd Annual Fall Gala**

## Donum a Deo

*Donum a Deo is Latin for "Gift from God".  
Come celebrate the many gifts God has bestowed  
upon the RASJB community: our children, our  
teachers, our head of school, our families, and you!*

**Cocktails, Dining and Dancing  
under the Stars**

**Friday, October 9th, 2020  
7pm**

**The Froman Property  
in rural Bucks County**  
26 Wormansville Road, Pipersville

### Silent and Live Auction

**Gala Tickets \$100/per person**  
available online at [www.rasjb.org](http://www.rasjb.org) or at school office.

**Raffle: A Chance to Win \$10,000**

**Raffle Tickets \$50 each**  
may be purchased from the school office 8am – 5pm

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





The Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition is sponsoring 40 Days of Prayer and Repentance at Warminster Planned Parenthood. It will encompass praying not only for the sanctity of life and an end to abortion, but also prayers of repentance for the sins of our Nation, the Church and the Body of Christ.

Prayer is one of our most powerful weapons to overcome darkness and the evil that has invaded our land and silenced the Church. Christians must gather in prayer to fight this demonic battle for the soul of our nation.

**40 Days of Prayer and Repentance begins on Wednesday, September 23rd and ends with a Life Chain on Sunday, November 1st.**

**For the members of St. John the Baptist and St. Lawrence parishes, our designated date is:**

**Friday, Oct. 9, 2020  
from 9:00 AM to Noon.**

**We're asking for four church members for each hour.  
There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.**

### **Prayer to End Abortions**

Lord God, I thank you today for the gift of my life, and for the lives of all my brothers and sisters. I know there is nothing that destroys more life than abortion, yet I rejoice that You have conquered death by the Resurrection of Your Son. I am ready to do my part in ending abortion. Today I commit myself never to be silent, never to be passive, never to be forgetful of the unborn. I commit myself to be active in the pro-life movement, and never to stop defending life until all my brothers and sisters are protected, and our nation once again becomes a nation with liberty and justice not just for some, but for all, through Christ our Lord. Amen!

**ATTN: Families with Young Children**  
**Don't forget to visit our parish website**  
**each week! [www.stjohnsottsville.org](http://www.stjohnsottsville.org)**  
**Click on Faith Formation - click on PREP,**  
**scroll down to Children's Resources and**  
**find children's videos on the weekly**  
**Gospel, Prayers, Bibles & Saint Stories.**

*A Message More Urgent Than Ever!*



*Public Square*

**ROSARY  
RALLY**

**October  
10<sup>th</sup>~12pm**

**at Fatima House  
Bedminster, PA**

At Fatima, Portugal in 1917 our Blessed Mother appeared to three young children and gave them a prophetic message to give to the world.

**Our Lady told the children to tell the people,  
"They must pray the Rosary every day for  
world peace."**

Today, our world is plagued with sin, and it's people are drowning daily in strife and violence. America Needs Fatima is planning a worldwide Rosary Rally on October 10, 2020 at 12noon. **Join us - bring your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers...we all need world peace!**

**AT THE HEART OF CHARITY IS Love**

**Donation envelopes are on the tables in our Narthex near the exit doors.**


"During this difficult time, the Catholic Charities Appeal is needed now more than ever. Despite the need for social isolation, there are many who require aid and assistance. Thousands across our region are suffering, and we need to come together as a community to provide the vital resources they need to survive. When you support the CCA you are providing food to families in need, sheltering the homeless, and helping to educate special needs students currently working at home. This support goes right to the front lines. May God bless you and your families."

**William J. Phelan  
CCA BOARD PRESIDENT**




Ministry Schedule for: September 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
<b>Saturday 5pm</b>	Joe Cegielski	Kim Zampirri	Martin Elsner Paige Mattle	Liz Torgerson Bob Galdo
<b>Sunday 8am</b>	Donna Nice	Jeanne KLeller	Alexander Nice Natalie Nice	Denny Litzenberger Sue Rogers
<b>Sunday 10:30am</b>	Joan Black	Ward VanHaute	Caius VanHaute Max VanHaute	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers



## 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, Valerie Korbar, Nate Leidtke, Jackie Litzenberger, Bridget McHugh, Anne McNichol, Maria Middleton, Nancy Moreno, Jeff Olimpo, Gerry Pacitti, Pete Shultz, Sr., Steve & Wendy Snyder, Riley Telesco, Joyce Vinciguerra, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer.

**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.