

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: 8:35am

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 for the Week of September 7 - 13, 2020 Daily Mass 8:35am in the Main Church

Monday: Labor Day – Parishioners' Intentions

Tuesday: Evelyn Mathers (*Giarratana Family*)

Wednesday: Tom High (*Frank & Linda Dellmyer*)

Thursday: Kathleen Lapsley (*John Lapsley, Jr.*)

Friday: Jim Krescholleck (*Mike & Colette Kirk*)

Saturday, 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday: 8am: Elizabeth Petritsch (*Loving husband*)

10:30am: Intentions of Fr. Lucas (*SJB Office Staff*)

Parish Office Summer Hours

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

**No Walk-Ins - All services will be provided by appt.
call 610-847-5521**

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
MONDAY, SEPT. 7th LABOR DAY**

Mass Collection for Sunday, August 30, 2020

Collection Baskets: \$ 4,303.00

Parish Giving: \$ 2,161.00

*Thank you for your continued support
and 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 people.**

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



SEEKING FORGIVENESS BEGINS WITH FORGIVING

Gospel of Matthew 18: 15-20

For some, today's Gospel reading makes them feel uncomfortable. Let's face it, not all of us agree all the time, and these disagreements can lead to conflict within the church community. Jesus instructs us on how to address such conflicts - and the harsh penalty for those who refuse to listen. **It helps to remember that the goal is reconciliation.**

We should remember the situation when this Gospel was written, late in the first century, was when the church was suffering persecution and growing pains from within—the growing pains expressing themselves in various tensions and disputes.

Matthew recalls sayings of Jesus that emphasize the importance of Christians living together in harmony. While there is concern for the individual, the welfare of the *ekklesia*—the church—the community of faith—is paramount.

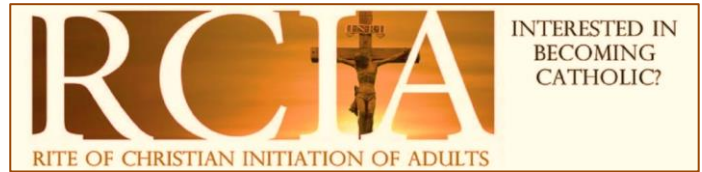
That principle sets us apart from the secular world, where people are more inclined to emphasize individual rights than our responsibilities to each other. In today's world, people often walk away from relationships quickly and easily. Rather than allowing us to just walk away, Jesus calls us to explore possibilities that might lead to reconciliation. He outlines a deliberate, intentional process. He will not let us easily off the hook, but requires us to take the initiative.

It is not easy to love an offensive person, so this is a situation where we must pray for grace before beginning the intervention. We cannot expect to deal effectively with the offender until we have first invited God to deal with us. We have a responsibility to plan this intervention carefully and to invite the Spirit's help.

Both Old and New Testaments call us to confront sin with the hope of restoring the sinner to spiritual health and to membership in the holy community.

While the church regards the offender as a Gentile or tax collector, Matthew's church regards Gentiles and tax collectors as a ***mission field***.

Discipline, when performed rightly, is a necessity.



Who is the RCIA for?

- **Persons who have never been baptized** and wish to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist (Holy Communion) in the Catholic Church.
- **Persons who were baptized in another Christian denomination** and wish to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.
- **Baptized Catholics who have not completed their initiation** by receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist.

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

Visiting an Open Church is Vital We Need Sacred Spaces by Elise Italiano Ureneck

We've been restricted to certain spaces for nearly five months. A few weeks ago, The New Yorker ran a cartoon depicting family members climbing the walls of their living room. The caption read, "It's great to have something we can all do together." Many of us can relate. Our access to people and places has been unnaturally curbed, limited to activities and places that have been deemed "essential" by people charged with protecting our health and safety. Our world has been baby-proofed, so to speak, though for good reason: flattening the curve, protecting those who are most at risk, and supporting those on the front lines of the pandemic.

Keeping ourselves safe, even if we'd prefer to risk it on occasion, is also a worthy reason for being a bit caged in. But as we turn the corner from summer to fall and then fall to winter, I can't help but wonder how long we will be able to manage without more access to certain spaces, particularly those that are sacred.

While social distancing has helped many of us to more intentionally make our homes "domestic churches" by incorporating more religious imagery or scattering sacramentals around, that same space is also where we eat, recreate, work, study, exercise and scroll through social media platforms. But sacred spaces — those where God dwells — are true sanctuaries. You know it viscerally by their silence, their smell, by the creaking kneelers and the draft in the rafters. The air is different inside.

Jesus tells us that Martha "chose the better part." But what do you do for months — maybe a year or more — when you can't sit at his feet?



† TEACH the CHILDREN †

2020-2021 PREP

Online Classes start Oct. 5th

Textbook & materials Pick-Up: Sept. 8th-21st
Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm, at the parish office.

PREP OPENING MASS

Catechetical Sunday

September 20, 2020 at the 10:30am Mass



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

Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

PREP "MEET & GREET"

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING MASS IN THE REAR
PARKING LOT.

STUDENTS COME MEET YOUR TEACHER!

2020 SACRAMENT of CONFIRMATION

Wed., Sept. 30, 2020 @ 3pm

Welcoming

Most Reverend Edward M. Deliman



Rehearsal - Candidates & Sponsors

Sat., Sept. 26th at 10am in the main Church.



The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Knowing - Loving - Serving - Leading

Save the Date!

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist's 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 Auctions
featuring Many Exciting Items*

Raffle: A Chance to Win \$10,000

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



CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

GIVING HOPE TO ALL 2020

WHEN YOU SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES
APPEAL YOU ARE HELPING:

- Over 100 Catholic Social Services and Nutritional Development Services organizations and programs. LAST YEAR, OVER 925K PEOPLE WERE POSITIVELY IMPACTED.
- STUDENTS IN THE 4 SCHOOLS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia that receive tuition assistance and support.
- THE 18 PROGRAMS AND OFFICES that are providing Evangelization, Parish & Spiritual Life to our community.
- 154 RETIRED PRIESTS who need care and support.
- 16 MISSION PARISHES in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia revitalize and sustain their parishes.

Contribution envelopes are available for you to pick up from the tables in the Narthex. You may drop your donation envelope in our weekly Mass contribution basket or send it to the parish office.

Visit <https://www.catholiccharitiesappeal.org/>

From the Archdiocese of Philadelphia:

Save these 2021 Dates!

- February 4-7, 2021 - FOCUS Seek Conference (Virtual)
- Feb 20-21, 2021 - Rite of Election
- March 6, 2021 - Man-Up Philly Men's Spirituality Conference
- April 9, 2021 - Making Missionary Disciples Workshop with Dr. Ted Sri, Wynnewood, PA (re-scheduled from April 2020)
- June 9-13th, 2021- 2021 GIVEN Catholic Young Women's Leadership Forum, Washington D.C.
- October 23, 2021 - Catholic Women's Conference, Doylestown

Visit The Office for New Evangelization for more info or to register for any of the above events.

www.archphila.org



In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia's new Arise podcast series, Father Richard Owens, O.F.M. Cap., Father Eric Banecker, and Gina Christian present the truth, beauty, and goodness of the Catholic faith to Catholics, fellow Christians, and all those who seek something more.

Renowned Bible teacher, author and speaker Jeff Cavins shares with the Arise team why it's vital to create a "culture of Scripture" in order to face not only a pandemic and a time of social unrest, but life itself.

Visit:

<https://soundcloud.com/catholic-philly/the-arise-podcast-jeff-cavins-and-creating-a-culture-of-scripture>

A Time for Love and Humility

We are about to enter two months of relentless conflict...here comes the Elections.

It is a time rife with temptation to rage, resent, and "right off."

What if we focused on nothing but emptying ourselves during this time, to be filled with the grace of God to do nothing but love our brothers and sisters? What if every opportunity for our heads to explode was an opportunity to directly love people who make us feel that way? What if we drove away every thought of self-righteous condemnation and anger with actionable love?

We are rightly unsettled by the lack of love in the structure of our society. But the only answer to this apathy, this hurt, this injustice and this separation from God, is love.

"LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU."

~ Jesus

Ministry Schedule for: September 12th & 13th, 2020 – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Extraordinary Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music
Saturday 5pm	Marion Wolf	Jane Ferry	Julia Byers Juliet Myers	Denny Litzenberger Karen Parash
Sunday 8am	Renee Moyer	Patti Keyser	Mead Grindrod	Patti Leidner Karen Prash
Sunday 10:30am	Joan Black	Leona Russell	Joseph Gonzales-Fleck Leighanna Fleck	Liz Torgerson Bob Galdo



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.