

April 6th, 2025 – THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist Parish

Administered by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

4050 Durham Road, Ottsville, PA 18942

Phone 610-847-5521 * Fax 610-847-5522 * www.stjohnsottsville.org



**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING
MASS WITH US TODAY.**

WE ARE GLAD YOU CAME!

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Selvaraj Lucas, M.S.C.
Director of Religious Education: Mary Ann Corcoran
Finance Manager: Carolyn Marchese
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok
Bulletin/Website: Carolyn Marchese
Facilities Manager: Thomas Rimmer

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 & 7:00pm
CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm or by appt.

Register in the Parish: Please contact the Parish Office to register when you move into our parish.

Certificates of Eligibility: May be issued only to registered parishioners who currently reside within our parish boundaries, who have been registered parishioners at least six months, are 16 yrs. and older, who have received all their Sacraments of Initiation, and are actively practicing their faith in our parish.

BAPTISMS: The Sacrament of Baptism may be scheduled to take place on a Saturday at 10am or 11am; or on a Sunday at



11:45am (immediately following the 10:30am Mass). Parents and at least one Godparent are to attend our Enrichment class prior to the Baptism. You will need to call the Parish Office to register for this class. Godparents must be committed, practicing Catholics, over the age of 16, and if from another parish, must provide a *Certificate of Eligibility* from their pastor. A Christian of another denomination may serve as a Christian Witness alongside a Catholic Godparent.

MARRIAGE: The Sacrament of Matrimony Mass may be celebrated no later than 1pm on Saturdays.



Couples planning marriage are to contact the Parish Office & schedule a meeting with our Pastor no later than 6 months in advance of the planned wedding date. Couples are to attend a Pre-Cana program approved by our Diocese.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office at



any time to request a visit from our Pastor for Anointing of the Sick. Communion will be brought to the sick and homebound by our Pastor or one of our Communion Ministers upon request.

We celebrate a Communal Anointing of the Sick in June, near the *Feast of St. John the Baptist*.

Mass Intentions

Week of April 7th – April 13th, 2025

Monday: + Alpee Cormier (*Rachel Cormier*)
Tuesday: Intentions of Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Wednesday: + Bill Saxton (*Georgina Puente*)
Thursday: Intentions of Mary Illari (*Nina Carlineo*)
Friday: + Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)

Palm Sunday Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: Parishioners' Intentions

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

To plan a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, private Confession, please contact our Pastor, Fr. Selvaraj Lucas, through the Parish Office.

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

March 30th – Envelopes \$5,696 - E-Giving \$1,692
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Apr 07: Lenten Bible Study –St Augustine Rm- 9:15am
Tue. Apr 08: Viewing of *The Chosen*- Marian Rm – 6:15pm
Tue. Apr 08: SJB Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Apr 09: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Apr 09: Intercessory Prayer * -Chapel & Zoom- 6:30pm
* **EMAIL LAURA AT sibevangel@stjohnsottsville.org TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.**

A PRAYER FOR PEACE

O Jesus! My Lord and My God! I trust in you, O Prince of Peace!
I pray that you will help all people of this world
to be united as one with You as Our Lord and Savior!
Jesus, I trust in You!

LENT PENANCE SERVICE

MONDAY, APRIL 7TH AT 6:30PM

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available this Monday for all who desire to receive the Sacrament in preparation for Easter. Children of the Parish Religious Education Program will be participating during their class time.

Peace and Joy are among the fruits of this Sacrament.



**THE MSC SEMINARY
APPEAL FOR INDIA
WILL BE THE WEEKEND
OF APRIL 12TH & 13TH.**

From your Pastor

From the beginning to the end, the Scripture has given a litany of God's countless and undeserved acts of mercy for sinners. This same merciful love of God is seen as the main theme in today's readings.

In the first reading Isaiah was a comforter of his people and was their companion during their years of Babylonian exile. He promised that God would repeat the wonders of their exodus from Egypt and lead them home. When the circumstances threatened their hope, it seemed that all were lost then God with great mercy encouraged the people not to dwell on the sins of their past. God was doing something new for them. This newness meant forgiveness and reconciliation for all who would welcome God into their lives and respond to God's love and mercy.

In the second reading Paul experienced the merciful love of God that made him see everything as rubbish in front of knowing Christ. In the Gospel, we see the mercy of God incarnated in the words and actions of Jesus. The people were willing and ready to stone the woman for adultery. Jesus asked them to look within themselves.

When we pray "Our Father" and say that we belong to Christ, then there can be no other way for us than the way of mercy. Pope Francis wrote that the mercy of God is the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. It is essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she live and testify to mercy.

SINCERELY IN OUR LORD

REV. S. LUCAS MSC

PASTOR, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide us to our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen



PRAYERS TO ST. PEREGRINE

Every Tuesday morning, following the 9am Mass, we will be praying to St. Peregrine for those who are suffering from cancer and other diseases.

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering.

Holy Communion for the Sick & Homebound



Are you or a family member unable to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion? If you'd like to receive Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521.

We will make arrangements to bring the Lord to you.



Please consider a leaving a legacy to St. John the Baptist Parish. A gift to SJB in your will enables you to support the Church and makes a difference in the lives of future generations. Thank you. God bless.



**CONFESSIONS
AT 6:30PM &
MASS AT 7:00 PM
IN THE CHAPEL
ON WEDNESDAYS
DURING LENT.**



GOD'S BLESSINGS
ON THE
BAPTISM OF
**GLA GLANNA
BRIGIDI**

FEAST DAY HIGHLIGHT FOR APRIL
Easter Triduum



The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—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.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



During April, would you please consider donating:

- **Cake Mix & Frosting**
- **Pie Crust & Filling**
- **Pineapple Slices**
- **Crispy French-Fried Onions &**
- **Sweet Potatoes**

to benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staples. We believe that with God's blessings and the help of our community, we can show our support for those most in need. Thank you for your loving generosity!

God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers



It is with humble gratitude that the SJB Respect Life Team offers their thanks to all the parishioners who supported the St. Margaret of Costello Maternity Home Gift Card drive in March. Because of your tremendous generosity, we were able to purchase \$1,600 worth of gift cards! This is outstanding support from our small parish! And remember, a percentage of the sales goes back to the Parish, so this is a win for our Parish as well! **Thank you again!**



An Invitation from Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez

*Brothers and Sisters, Please join me and sign up for a conversation about our Church. Your voice and presence are essential as we plan a **new way forward together** as the Catholic Church of Philadelphia. Join an Info Session to Share Your Thoughts.*

+ Nelson J. Pérez

Archbishop Pérez recently released a pastoral letter, at the core of which is a call to a pastoral change of heart, a conversion to the lifestyle and mindset of a missionary disciple. The letter shares with us the Archbishop's vision for the future of the Church of Philadelphia through an introduction to the initiative known as "The Fourth Way". It also inaugurates a period of consultation regarding this initiative. All Catholics of the Archdiocese are invited to attend a consultation session to learn more about this plan and offer your input. The Archbishop's letter, video and registration information can be found at trustandhope.org.

The closest session is at: **Our Lady of Guadalupe Doylestown, PA – Thursday, April 24th - 6:30 – 8:30pm**

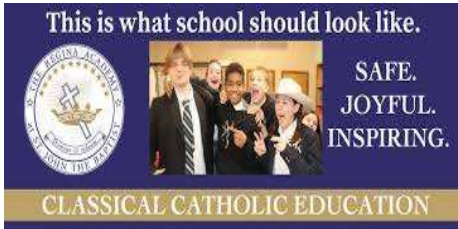


All are Welcome to our Parish's **Lenten Soup Suppers on Fridays during Lent at 6pm** in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread & desserts.

Afterwards, we will pray the Stations of the Cross at 7pm. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for those who can help set up at 5:30 and for anyone who can bring soup & desserts for dinner. **For information, please call Mary at 215-896-4034.**



Our Lenten Bible study this year is the document **'Hope Does Not Disappoint'** by Pope Francis. This is the Pope's proclamation for the 2025 Jubilee Year. Come join us on **Sundays at 9:15am**. Sign up in the Narthex.



supported our School Easter Flower sale. Thanks to your incredible support, the sale was a resounding success! The beautiful blooms will be available for pick-up at the school on April 11, ready to brighten your spring decorations.

As we embark on our last trimester of the school year, there's an unmistakable sense of joy and learning filling our halls. The excitement is palpable as we look forward to the highly anticipated school play, "Charlotte's Web," scheduled for May 1. The children have dedicated countless hours rehearsing, and their passion and commitment promise to dazzle everyone with a captivating performance.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to enjoy a delightful day of theater - it's open to all! For more information and tickets, please contact the school office. We can't wait to see you there!

Blessings, Tami Koerber Head of school

NEXT WEEKEND! PARISH SOCIAL AFTER MASS PLEASE STOP BY!



Next weekend we'll have a Parish Social after each Mass. All are welcome to stay, enjoy hospitality & get to know your church family.

Hope to see you!

WE WILL BE SELLING AND TAKING ORDERS FOR GIFT CARDS AFTER ALL THE MASSES NEXT WEEKEND, APRIL 12 & 13. PLEASE VISIT US IN THE NARTHEX TO GET YOUR ORDER FORM AND SIGN-UP FOR PROGRAM BENEFITS! THANK YOU.



Please Consider Joining Your 40+ Fellow Parishioners for Online Contributing Made Easy



Please visit our website
www.stjohnsottsville.org
and click on the **Parish**

Giving link above. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program. For information, please call the Parish Office.

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MONDAY EVENING 7PM–8PM. Our Lady's Chapel

WEDNESDAY MORNING 10AM–11AM. Our Lady's Chapel

THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH:

12PM-1PM. ST. Joseph's Chapel (large chapel, name on front of the building)

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH:

BEGINS AT 10AM Mass, Rosary, Confession and Luncheon (free).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER.

To schedule your retreat and for additional information please call Joan Black at 215-795-2947



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religion Classes for Children who attend Public School, or non-Catholic Private School, are held on Monday evenings, September to May at St. John the Baptist Parish from 6:15PM-7:30PM. Parents of New Students (1st graders or students who have never attended Religious Education at SJB) should contact the Religious Education Office at 610-847-5521 or prep@stjohnsottsville.org to arrange an appt. to register. To register a New Student, parents need the child's Birth Certificate & Baptism Certificate (unless baptized at SJB), Fee of \$200 for one child for PREP for year.

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APRIL 12TH & 13TH, 2025

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Weez Roney	Patti Keyser Kim Zampirri	Joel, Jacob & Joshua Roney	Sue Rogers SJB Choir
SUNDAY 8AM	Nina Carlineo Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice	Marie Burke Need 1 Volunteer	Alaina Butler Alexander & Justin Nice	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Black Samantha Campbell Adam Crews	Christina Crews Leona Russell	Siobhan & Amalia Crews Need 1 Volunteer	Katie Minster Karen Parash



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Lou Bucci, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camillier, Eileen Carlineo, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maryanne Comly, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klings, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Fr. Tony Ripp, MSC, Barbara Sabbath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Megan Slabicki, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Bernadette Strzelecki, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer, Judy Woodroffe

**If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself or for someone you know,
please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521 or email tojo@epix.net.**

If someone no longer needs prayers, please advise the Parish Office so that we may keep the list up to date.

OUR TROOPS:



May God protect and watch over our troops



Jamie Steven Ayuso, Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, David Fisher, Anthony J. Fleck, Joseph V. Fleck, Michael Froeder, A.J. Giovino, Aaron Given, Michael Griffin, Matthew Gumprecht, Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, Aileen Lauer, Stephen Lindmeier, Dan O'Connor, McKenna Pason, Dusty Rhodes, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva, Steven Siegert, Kendall Smith

A Prayer for OUR FIRST RESPONDERS:

Lord, please watch over all the men & women who work as first responders. We pray for their safety and that they return to their families at the end of each shift. We give thanks for their selfless service, compassion and care for everyone. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



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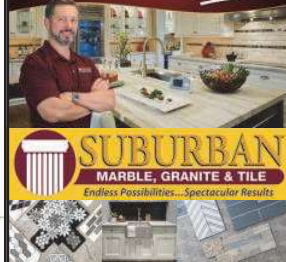
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