

April 7th, 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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 of 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 following at 11:45am. 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 8th – April 14th, 2024

Monday: † Ralph Rick (*Harold Rick*)
Tuesday: † Sean Sweeney (*Ken Pattinson*)
Wednesday: † Helen Ford (*A Friend*)
Thursday: † Charles & Bernice Fees (*The Children*)
Friday: † Jerry & Betty Petritsch (*Loving Family*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Uldine Kervick (*Chris Zdanowicz*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: Intentions of the 2024 Confirmation Class

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 24th Envelopes \$4,877 * E-Giving \$1,332
March 31st Envelopes **Not Available** * E-Giving \$1,922
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Mon. Apr 08: Prayer Shawl – Marian Rm – 7:00pm
Tue. Apr 09: **THE CHOSEN** Study – Marian Rm - 7:00pm
Tue. Apr 09: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm
Wed. Apr 10: Intercessory Prayer – Chapel - 6:30pm

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!

PRAYERS TO ST. PEREGRINE

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

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering.

Holy Communion for the Sick & Homebound

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

We will make arrangements to bring the Lord to you.



FROM YOUR PASTOR

Today the church celebrates the Divine Mercy Sunday. Pope John Paul II quotes St. Faustina's diary, "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy". In describing this feast, St. John Paul II says, "Divine Mercy!

This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ, a gift which is offered to all humanity." The message of Divine Mercy is that God loves us. He wants us to approach Him in constant prayer, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and the whole world. He wants us to receive His mercy and to spread it throughout the world through our actions and love for others.

In the first reading, we are reminded to extend mercy to all by sharing and helping those in need and in the second reading we are called to have complete trust in Jesus Christ, the son of God. In the gospel we see Jesus appearing to Thomas. The experience of St. Thomas and the messages of Divine Mercy through St. Faustina both point to the call to trust in the Lord, to seek the mercy of God and show mercy to others in our daily lives.

It is in trusting the Lord we will have the courage to cry, 'My Lord, and My God'. It is a confession of surrender to God, in hope of His mercy upon us. It's only in the reception of mercy in one's life that we will be able to share it with others with great empathy and forgiveness.

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 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.



Join the
Cleaning Team!

Wk. of April 7th
TEAM 3

This is a once per month commitment.

"THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3" We are viewing "The Chosen—Season 3" on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Marian Room. We are blessed that Fr. Jomar is joining us once again to answer questions and provide his excellent insights!

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.



**THE 2024
CONFIRMATION
MASS WILL
TAKE PLACE ON
TUESDAY,
APRIL 16TH
AT 5PM.**



*Founded In Faith.
Rich In Tradition.
Stronger Together.*

Live Catholic Social Teaching – and Welcome the Immigrant!

Please join us – and bring friends and neighbors – to learn more about the immigrants and refugees in our community -- and how we can help.

**Monday, April 15th, 7-8 p.m. at St. Mary's Hall
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Doylestown**

Welcoming the Stranger Executive Director Patricia Lorenz, volunteer Mike Holland (both immigrants!) and their students will help us understand their work and what we can do to help them successfully integrate into American life.

Welcoming the Stranger provides free classes in English, Computer Skills, and Citizenship Preparation for adult immigrants and refugees in Bucks County and surrounding areas, encouraging connections to community and country.

More? <https://welcomingthestranger.org/> or peacejustice@ourladymtcarmel.org.

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Dear Friends –
You may be familiar with the **Think Hope** Foundation

and its importance to the Academy. Not only is it a significant benefactor of the Academy, but its ministry is a way to honor Maria Middleton. Maria was the inspiration behind **Think Hope** and her last entry into her personal journal while she could still journal. These words will always be remembered by those whose lives Maria touched.

Please consider supporting the **Think Hope** Foundation. You can check out their merchandise by clicking on the link below. There is also a link to **Think Hope's** website, where you can learn more about the wonderful ministries that they support.

Thank you for being so supportive, and may God bless you.

[https://www.thinkhope.org/
Think Hope Merchandise](https://www.thinkhope.org/Think Hope Merchandise)



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.



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

for children who attend public school, private non-Catholic school, or at-home secular learning experiences, is provided at St. John the Baptist on Monday evenings from September through May.

Any family not yet registered should contact the Director of Religious Education at prep@stjohnsottsville.org or call 610-847-5521.

LIFE IS A PRECIOUS ISSUE



In PA, protections for the unborn are under attack. JOIN US to learn how to protect the rights of the unborn.

Featuring:

Chuck Derns, PhD: "The Problem with Personhood" and vital points regarding the IVF ruling in Alabama.

Det. James Wood: Shares his experiences with the Gosnell case and why this case is still important.

Judge Cheryl Allen: Informs on proposed PA legislation that undermines human rights of the unborn.

Saturday, April 27th 9:30 – noon

**Location: St. Robert Bellarmine Parish
856 Euclid Ave, Warrington, PA**

Sponsored by:



Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition
PO Box 7068
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Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday May 4, 2024-Cathedral Basilica 5 PM

The annual Wedding Anniversary mass is celebrated with couples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia who have been married 1-5 years, 25 years, and 50 years. We are observing the mass on May 4, 2024 this year. You can RSVP through the link provided here:
<https://form.jotform.com/230443950527152>



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass is celebrated with couples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia who have been married 1-5 years, 25 years and 50 years.

Saturday, May 4, 2024
5:15 pm Anticipated Mass

Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul
Archbishop Nelson Pérez
Principal Celebrant

RSVP

To RSVP, click the link above or call 215-587-0500
Accommodations can be made

WE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST HAVE PLANNED THE FOLLOWING AS PART OF THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

1. SJB Women's Retreat "**Live the Mass**" weekend is April 13th & 14th and will be hosted at the Czestochowa Shrine. Father Ray Diesbourg, MSC will be joining us for the retreat. Information & registration forms for the Retreat are in the Narthex. **Space is limited. Please prayerfully consider signing up.**

Blessings, The Evangelization Ministry



April is **Abortion Recovery Awareness Month**

Are you or someone you love suffering from a traumatic pregnancy loss and experiencing:

- Depression
- Anxiety and panic attacks
- Intense grief, sadness, rage
- Feelings of shame and guilt
- Suicidal thinking and behavior
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Problems maintaining intimate relationships
- Eating disorders
- Nightmares, flashbacks

you can find healing

Experience forgiveness and be freed from shame. Confidential, compassionate, non-judgmental help is available. You're not alone:

- For an in-person weekend retreat:
RachelsVineyard.org
- For online and/or in-person* Bible-based programs:
HerChoiceToHeal.com (part of RamahInternational.org)
SaveOne.org
SheFoundHisGrace.org

ABORTION RECOVERY AWARENESS
Because no heart is too broken to be healed

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Our Father Stommel Council #4545 meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays at 7:30pm.

For information or to join, contact

Grand Knight Frank Balbirer or email KofC4545@aol.com

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!



Catholic Support for Mental Health Website
archphila.org/support

Resources to assist with healing, accompaniment & flourishing.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia has launched a website with resources to support those who are experiencing mental health struggles and those who love them. The website offers links to find Catholic clinicians, local crisis response phone numbers and ministries that can assist with recovery and healing. In addition, there are tools to help parishes, schools and institutions cultivate a deeper awareness of and responsiveness to these realities, suffered by so many. Visit the **BE ENCOURAGED** website at archphila.org/support.

APRIL 7TH, 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

APRIL 13TH & 14TH, 2024

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 8PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey	Jane Ferry	Martin & Rita Elsner Need 1 Volunteer	Fred Furmaniak Liz Torgerson
SUNDAY 8AM	Jim McHugh Need 1 Volunteer	Marie Burke	Gretchen Meyers Need 2 Volunteers	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Frank Balbirer Joan Black	Sean Lynch	Fatu & Elia Logaivau Need 1 Volunteer	Patty Leidner

 **PLEASE PRAY FOR...** 

OUR SICK:

Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Helene Bell, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, Joe Fekete, Melanie Fioretta, Betty Fleck, Tom Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Stephen Holznagel, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Loretta Malloy, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Helen Pepkowski, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Don Stahley, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer

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

OUR TROOPS:

Jamie Steven Ayuso, Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, David Fisher, Anthony James 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



May God protect and watch over our troops.



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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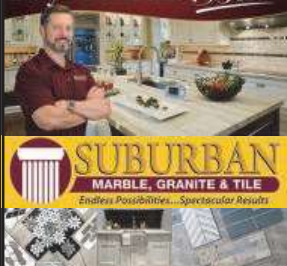

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