AUGUST 23RD, 2026 – THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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!
Fr. Lucas and the parish family of St. John the Baptist
would like to welcome all our visitors and new members.

PARISH STAFF

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

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30pm
Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am
Mon- Fri: 9:00am (Thursday at old St. John's Church)
Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm
CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:00pm - 4:20pm or by appt.

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

Certificates of Eligibility to act as Godparent or Sponsor may be issued only to registered parishioners who have been registered here at St. John the Baptist Parish at least six months, are 16 yrs. and older, have received all their Sacraments of Initiation, and are actively practicing their faith in our parish. If married, your marriage must have been witnessed and blessed by a Catholic Priest or have special permission approved by the Archbishop. A person who has left the Catholic Faith for any reason is not eligible to be a sponsor and, therefore, we cannot issue a Certificate of Eligibility.

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 August 24th – 30th, 2026

Monday: ✝ **Marie Louzon** *(Gina Puente)*
Tuesday: ***Intentions of*** **Cathy Leidtke** *(Jim & Joan Black)*
Wednesday: ✝ **Gerry Pacitti** *(Pacitti Family)*
Thursday: ✝ **Michael Moreni** *(Harold Rick)*
Friday: ✝ **Father Tony Ripp, MSC** *(Liz Torgerson)*

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: ***Intentions of*** **Mary Kosmin** *(A Friend)*
Sunday 8am: ✝ **Father Tony Ripp, MSC**
(Mike & Mary Kosmin)
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

Aug. 16th - Envelopes $3,292 - E-Giving $1,486
Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed. Aug 26: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Aug 26: Walking Club - 6:45pm
Lake Nockamixon at Marina
Thu. Aug 27: Nitty Gritty Garden Club
Weed & Feed - 6pm on church grounds
Sat. Aug 29: Walking Club - 9:30am
Lake Nockamixon at Marina

Going on our Red Rosary of Hope Pilgrimage to France?

Please attend an informational meeting on **Tuesday, August 25th** at 7pm in the Marian Room. Important updates will be shared. It's an opportunity to meet fellow pilgrims and ask questions. See you there!

SJB GARDEN CLUB

***You are invited to our* WEED and FEED.**

Thursday 8/27 at 6:00pm on the church grounds.
WEED - Please bring your garden gloves.
FEED - Listen to the sounds and voice of the garden and feed your soul working with your parish community.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

FROM YOUR PASTOR -

The world teaches us that life is a ladder. To get ahead, you must climb, compete, and sometimes push others aside. We are told that we are the architects of our own success. This leaves us exhausted and anxious, constantly wondering if someone is about to take our place. But the readings of today turn this logic upside down, showing that God is the one who appoints.

In Isaiah, Shebna was a high official who was full of pride. God simply says, "I will pull you down." In his place, God chose Eliakim, a humble servant and placed the key of authority on his shoulder.

Similarly, in the Gospel, Jesus doesn't give the keys of the Kingdom to the most "qualified" leader. He gave them to Peter, a failing fisherman, not because he was perfect but because he recognized the truth: "You are the Christ."

St. Thérèse of Lisieux understood this well. She said, "The only way to advance is by the elevator of love." She trusted God to lift her up. For us today, this is total freedom. We don't have to claw our way to the top or be perfect to be useful to God.

When you stay close to Christ, He handles the doors. If God opens a door for you, no person, office politics, or global crisis can shut it. Trust His timing; He knows exactly what you need.

Lord, I do not know the future, but I know the one who holds the future. So, I hand the keys of my future to You. Give me the humility of the saints to trust Your promotion over my own struggle.

Yours in Jesus Christ,
Rev. S. Lucas, MSC
Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish

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.

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!

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

"A Quiet Country Retreat"

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR MORE PRAYER IN YOUR LIFE? JOIN US AT FATIMA HOUSE

On Mondays at 7 PM and Wednesdays at 10 AM we have an Hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. We pray the "Liturgy of the Hours", the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. No experience necessary!

DAILY AND OVERNIGHT RETREATS

FOR PRAYER REQUESTS & INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL JOAN BLACK AT 215-795-2947

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of

XANDER RIEXINGER

GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE BAPTISM OF

JETT THOMAS GIROUD

BAPTIZED ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026

WORKS OF MERCY

Let's continue the celebration! America turned 250 years old, and as part of the consecration of the US to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the USCCB has asked that we commit 250 Works of Mercy. These could include praying for a loved one, visiting or bringing Eucharist to a shut-in, or helping a neighbor with yard work. The works of mercy are endless!

See the poster in the Narthex for more information.
Add your Works of Mercy to our list!

Join the Cleaning Team!

Wk. of August 23rd
TEAM 2

This is a once per month commitment.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-

Would you please consider donating these items:

Chunky soups * cream of mushroom soup
coffee * snacks * egg noodles
ramen noodles * whole tomatoes
laundry detergent * shampoo
condiments (ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, mayo)

Giant or dollar store gift cards are also appreciated!

You will 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

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

(Religion Classes for children who attend public school or non-Catholic private school) will begin the 2026-27 year on **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th**. Classes will meet from 6:15 P.M. to 7:45 P.M. every Monday. Registration Forms and Calendar have been mailed to families who qualify as Returning Students. ***Please call 610-847-5521 if your family has not received a letter from P.R.E.P. this month.***

New families and families with a new student should contact the Parish Religious Education Office by email: prep@stjohnsottsville.org.

OCIA, the process in which adults become full participating members of the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, will be starting on **September 14th** at 6:15pm and will be held in the church. There is a brochure in the narthex with information about the program and how to enroll. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

Take a Chance for Life!

The Pro-Life Legal Fund of Southeast PA is selling tickets for their Summer Raffle. Tickets are only $25 for a chance to win $5,000. Prizes range from $100 to $5,000, and only 2,500 tickets will be sold.

Tickets are available in the Narthex until Sept 20th.

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.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman
Ted Fahy – President
Peg Glancey - Moderator / Marie Burke - Secretary
Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht, Nancy Kaczinski,
Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller
Mike Kirk - Finance Council Representative

FINANCE COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman
Mike Kirk - President/Moderator
Chris Hackley - Chief Financial Advisor / Mary Kosmin - Secretary
Jim McHugh, Mary Miller, Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters
Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative
Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager

The Respect Life Corner

Lauren is at week 29. The baby may begin to smile this week, especially in their sleep, is continuing to hiccup, and as this little one plumps up it is getting a bit cramped, so those hard kicks will be more like jabs and pokes now. Lauren shared her ultrasound.

Anne is at week 17. This little one is learning to suck and swallow, is developing their fingerprints, and is starting to hear us.

This is an exciting time! Please continue to keep Lauren, Anne, their babies, and all our pregnant moms in your prayers.

Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Protectress of the Unborn,
Pray for us!

40th Annual MSC Golf Benefit

Friday, September 11th

At Whitetail Golf Club in Bath, PA - 10:00 AM Shotgun Start

Registration forms are available on the SJB website/News & Events.

Saturday, September 19th

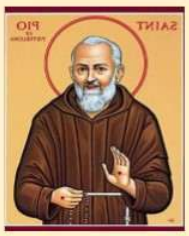
AbbeyFest 2026 is coming!

Family pack and group rates are only available until September 18th.

Gates open at noon, music begins at 12:30pm, Mass at 3:35pm.

Location: The National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa,

Tickets & More Information: Visit theabbeyfest.com



SAVE THE DATE!

11th Annual Padre Pio Festival

St. Bede the Venerable Parish
1071 Holland Road, Holland, PA
(Southampton, PA)

Saturday, and Sunday, September 26 & 27, 2026

All Weekend:
Display and Veneration of Holy Relics of Padre Pio
Music, Games, Amusements for Children, Craft Vendors, Food Trucks
Picnic Areas Available

Saturday Sept. 26:
All-American Family Picnic (tickets can be purchased on-site)
Vigil Mass at 5:30 pm (includes blessing with holy relics)
FREE Evening Concert: "The Jersey Tenors"

Sunday Sept. 27:
Festival Mass at 11:30am
(Celebrant/Homilist Most Rev. Keith Chylinski)
Street Procession accompanied by the Verdi Band of Norristown
Confessions and Healing Service with holy relics follow

Visit **padrepiofestival.org** for more details. Groups are welcome!
Please call **215-357- 5720**.

MSC Oktoberfest

benefitting the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart

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MSCreading.org

Like to Walk?

SJB has started a Walking Club that meets every Wednesday at 6:45pm through November! We will be walking at 4 different parks on a rotating basis. **We have added morning walks every Saturday at the Marina at Lake Nockamixon starting at 9:30am.** See the **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS** on Pg.1 for this week's location. **Please join us. All are welcome.**

Knights of Columbus

Our Father Stommel Council #4545 meets every 3rd Monday at 7:30pm.
For information or to join, contact:
Grand Knight Mark Janik KofC4545@aol.com

August 29th & 30th, 2026 | The 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Joel Roney	Kim Zampirri	Rita Elsner Jacob & Joshua Roney	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Donna & Natalie Nice Nancy Kaczinski	Jeanne Keller	Alexander & Justin Nice 1 Volunteer Needed	Martin Elsner
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe Samantha Campbell Wendy DeGroot	Sean Lynch	Elia, Fatu & Siri Logaivau	Ordinary Time

OUR SICK: PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Jessie Alfaro, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camilleri, Eileen Carlineo, Katie Carty, Caleb Cerino, Steve & Patty Combs, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Robert Ferrari, Marilyn Fitz, Betty Fleck, Barney Fontenot, Thomas Frankson, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Emilio J. Gonzales, Kathy Hancharik, Sylvia Holznagel, Doreen Illis, Baby Isla Johnston, Benjamin Kaczinski, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Craig Litzenberger, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiore, Ethan Meyers, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Mary Pucci, Janet Reidler, Thomas Rimmer, Barbara Sabath, Mary Ann Catherine Spier, Adriana Salvucci, Lisa Saxton, Thomas Shepherd, Megan Slabicki, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Joanne Stoney, Bernadette Strzelecki, Riley Telesco, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Thomas Wardle, Danielle Watson, Addie Lou Willis, Ed Wismer

If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself or for someone you know, please call the Parish Office 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, Lane Charles Frankenfield, 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, Kathryn Salva, Jack Salva, Anne Salva, Thomas Salva, Jared Scott, 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

A Prayer for OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

Gianna Gammello, Reese Kucher, Natalie Nice, Violet Williams

Heavenly Father, we lift up all college students to You today. We ask that You surround them with Your protection, keep them safe, guard their health and keep them strong and well. Protect their spiritual and emotional well-being as well. Keep them from negative influences and temptation, and ground them in faith, wisdom, and Your word. Grant them the discernment to make wise choices and the courage to flee evil. Please go where we cannot, give strength where we are weak, and bring them safely home. May they feel Your presence and know Your love surrounding them each and every day. We trust in Your power to protect and guide them. Amen.

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