

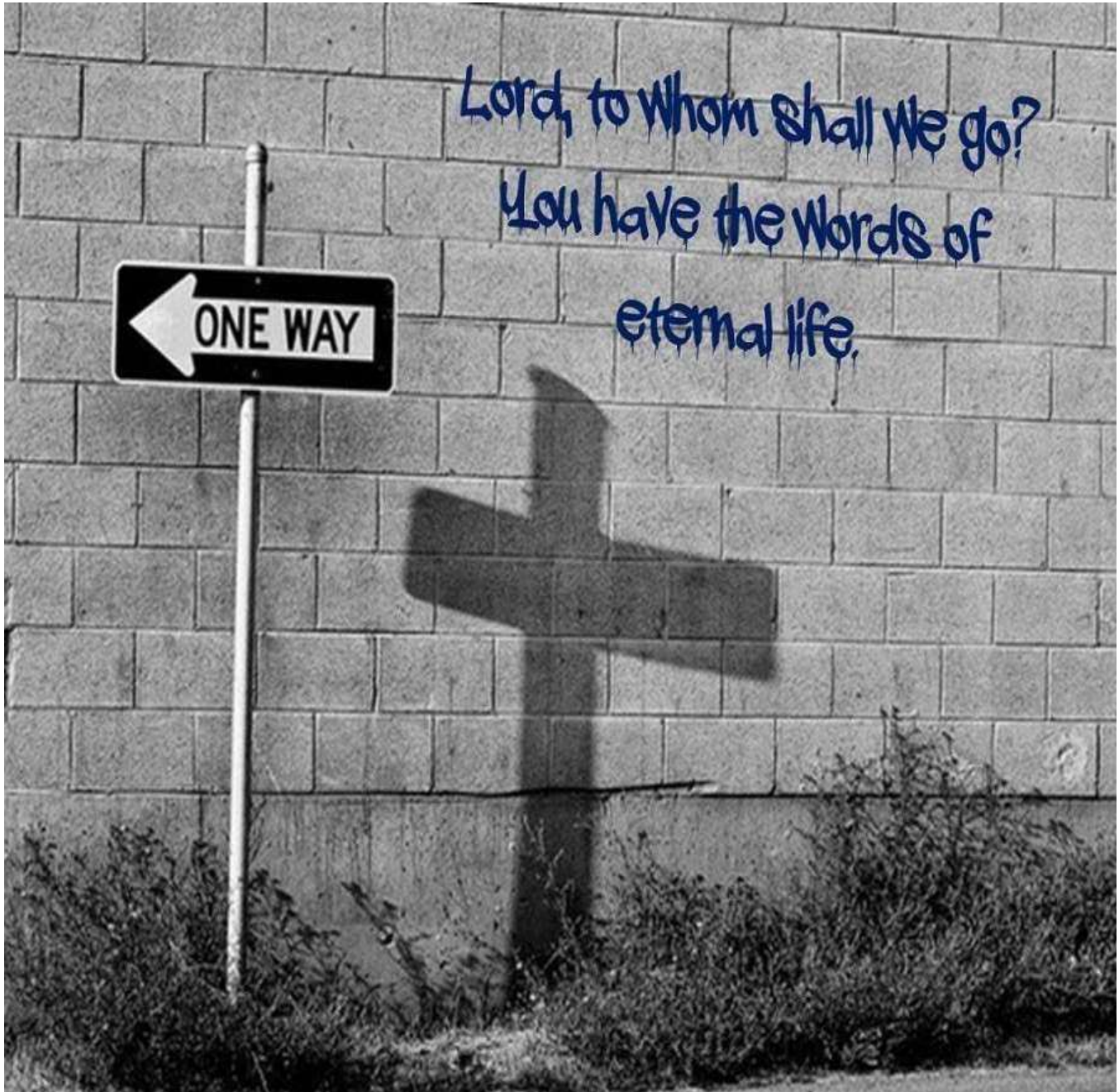
August 25th, 2024 – 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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!**

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 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 August 26th – September 1st, 2024

Monday: + Jerry & Betty Petritsch (*Loving Family*)
Tuesday: + Vic Petrei (*Harold Rick*)
Wednesday: + Thomas (*Bernadette Strzelecki*)
Thursday: + Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
Friday: + Bill Saxton (*Maxine Vogan*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: + Betty Allen (*Michael McHugh*)
Sunday 8am: + Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
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

August 18th Envelopes \$3,638 - E-Giving \$1,744
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

-

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!

SAVE THE DATE! SJB PARISH PICNIC
Sunday, September 15th NOON – 3 PM



We are looking for a sponsor/s for this year's hamburgers and hotdogs for the picnic. If your family or business is interested, please contact Mary at 215-896-4034 or wmckmiller@verizon.net for more information. Any donation is appreciated, and all sponsors will be recognized on our posters.

If you can volunteer to help at the picnic, please contact Mary.

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex so we can get an approximate count for food.

COME JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME!

FROM YOUR PASTOR

In today's Gospel, we hear that the teaching of Jesus on the Bread of Life sparks a wave of confusion and dissent among his followers. Many find his words harsh and unsettling. Those who heard Jesus find it difficult to understand Him and decide to reject Him.

The gospel confronts each one of us with the harsh reality: Following Jesus requires challenging our deepest assumptions, embracing discomfort, and committing to a path that may not always be comfortable. It involves questioning our beliefs, stepping out of our comfort zones, and wholeheartedly embracing a transformative journey of faith.

At the heart of the Gospel lies an undeniable truth: Jesus offers life, eternal and abundant. Yet, this life requires more than passive acceptance. It demands faith, a leap into the unknown, trusting in Christ's words even when they don't align with our earthly understanding. We must also have divine grace to leap into the unknown.

As we reflect on the bread of life, let us ask ourselves; are we willing to grapple with challenging teachings? Can we surrender our limited perspective and embrace the mystery of faith? Do we find ourselves like Peter who was drawn to Jesus despite the uncertainties, knowing He alone offers life-giving words?

Heavenly Father, grant us the courage to embrace your truth, even when it challenges us. Open our hearts to receive your life-giving words, deepen our faith, and guide us along the path to eternal life. Amen.

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 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(s) 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.

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

Religion Classes for Children who attend Public School, or non-Catholic Private School, are held on Monday evenings, from September to May at St. John the Baptist Parish. (6:15 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.) Parents of New Students (first graders or students who have never attended Religious Education classes at St. John the Baptist) should contact the Religious Education Office by email: prep@stjohnsottsville.org or by phone: 610-847-5521 to arrange an appointment to register.

To register a New Student, parents need for child:

- Birth Certificate
- Baptism Certificate (unless baptized at St. John's)
- Fee of \$200. for one child for P.R.E.P. for year

Please call as soon as possible!

Classes begin Monday, September 16th.

The SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION will be celebrated at St. John the Baptist Church on Saturday, March 15th, 2025, during the Vigil Mass.

Adults and Youth 7th grade or older, who are baptized practicing Catholics, who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation, who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2025, and who are not presently enrolled in PREP, are asked to call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521 to declare intention to receive the Sacrament by September 1st or email: prep@stjohnsottsville.org



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of August 25th
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.



SAVE THE DATE!
MSC GOLF OUTING
Friday, September 13th, 2024

Please help us raise funds to continue to help pay for the care of our elderly members. This care becomes more crucial each year because our active salaried members are dwindling, and the number of our dependents is increasing.

May the Sacred Heart reward you for your generosity.



**GOD'S BLESSINGS ON
THE BAPTISM OF
JAMES MASON MILLER
AUGUST 10TH, 2024**

SAVE THE DATE

The Knights of Columbus Council 4545

1¢ 1¢ PENNY PARTY 1¢ 1¢

Join us for a night of fun. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 2024

Cost of admission ticket \$5.00 includes a coffee & dessert.

Come test **your** luck, it only costs a penny per chance!

No one under 16 years of age admitted

Beginning This Fall.....

CONQUEST FOR BOYS
and

CHALLENGE FOR GIRLS

are Catholic youth programs for K-4 and 5-8th grades that inspire children to grow in faith by building a friendship with Christ and living lives of virtue to make a positive impact on their families, friends and the world!

**We meet monthly on the 1st and 3rd
Sundays right after 10:30 Mass!**

Questions: ConquestForChrist@gmail.com



Dear Friends-

A new school year is about to begin, and we hope you might consider donating some healthy snacks and juice packs for the children's lunchboxes.

These goods will benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staple food items, especially the children. 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 generosity and for bringing smiles to the children as they head back to school.

God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers



Mini Christmas Bazaar

Homemade or re-gifted items needed. Tables will be set up in the Narthex during the month of December. All proceeds will be used for the maintenance of SJB. Thank you!

Please contact Kim Zampirri @215-260-7592.



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S
CONFERENCE

Welcome!

The Catholic Women's Conference is a unique event designed for all Catholic women – married,

single, and consecrated. The mission of the conference is three-fold: to invite women into a personal and transformative encounter with Jesus Christ, to form women in the truth about their feminine genius, and to equip women to be a leaven for the world, living their feminine gifts in service to the family, the Church and all aspects of society.

Saturday, October 19, 2024 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
654 FERRY ROAD, DOYLESTOWN, PA**

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

PLEASE DIRECT QUESTIONS TO LAURA

AT SJBEEVANGEL@STJOHNSOTTSTVILLE.ORG

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Ted Fahy - President

Marie Burke - Secretary

Peg Glancey - Moderator

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Stephen Kutra, Jeanne Keller

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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



RCIA, 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 16th from 6:15 - 7:30pm.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521 for more information.



MARRIED COUPLES

When's the last time you gave your marriage a tune-up? Keep your engines running by getting away together on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Weekend! The next in-person experiences are October 11-13 and November 15-17 at Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown.

For more info visit: <https://www.wvme-philly.org>.

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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

AUGUST 31ST & SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2024

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Lisa Saxton Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Martin & Rita Elsner Brady Mattle	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Bea Romaszewski	Anita Colahan	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Frank Balbirer Anne Luna	Tony Luna	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Olivia Luna	Laura Fleck Karen Parash



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Eileen Carlineo, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, **Maryanne Comly**, Lou Cooper, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, Joe Fekete, Melanie Fioretta, Betty Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Stephen Holznagel, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, Steve Katra, John Klings, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, Jimmy O'Hanlon, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, **Fr. Tony Ripp, MSC**, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, 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:

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



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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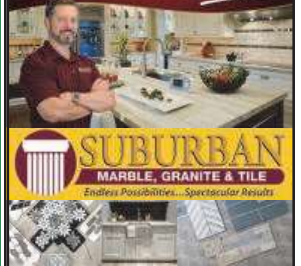
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