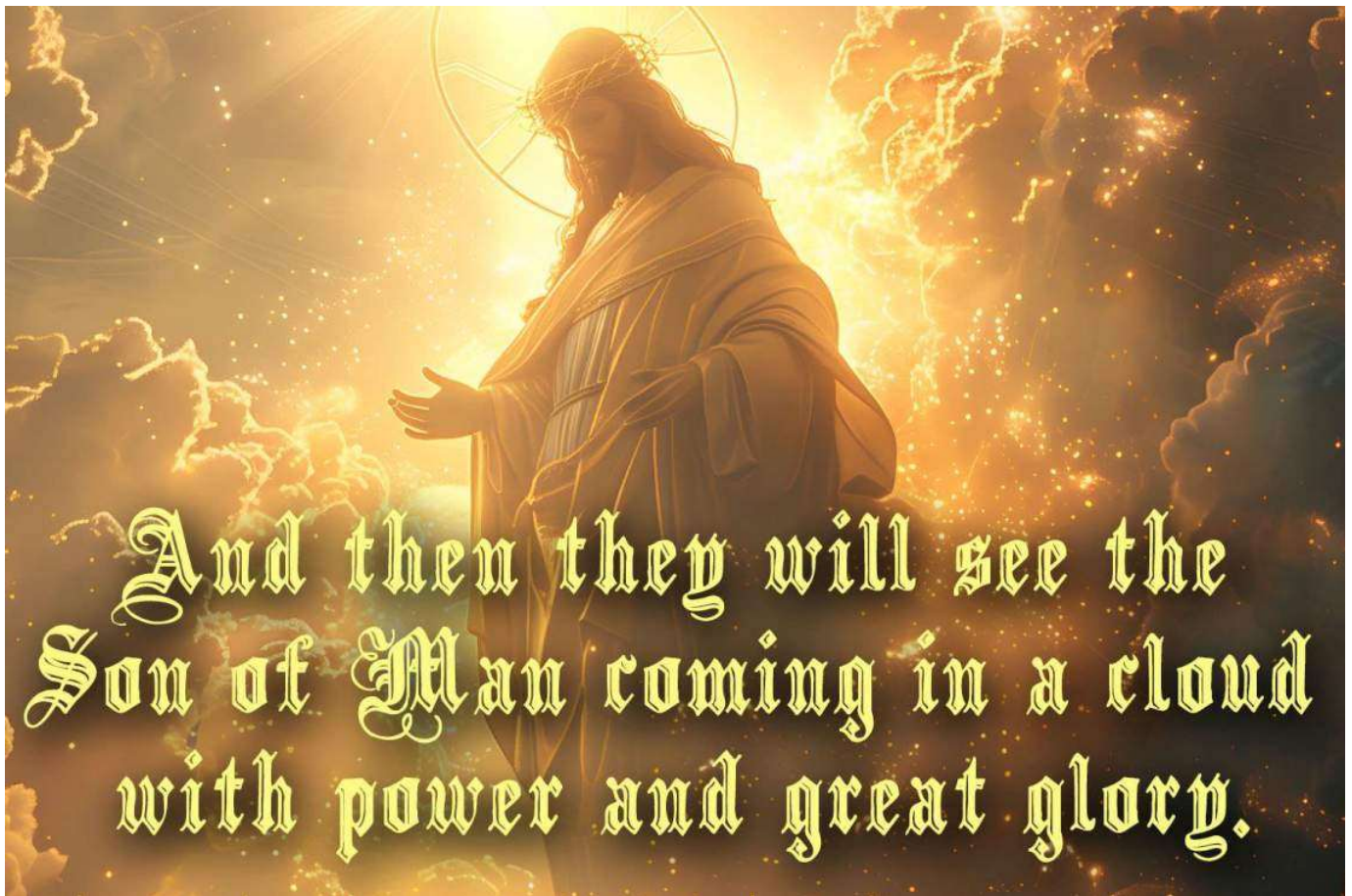


December 1st, 2024 – **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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 December 2nd – December 8th, 2024

Monday: + Mark & Betty Koch
(Happy Birthday, Mom from Children)
Tuesday: + Herm Freeh *(Bob & Anne “Johnson” Durison)*
Wednesday: + Herm Freeh *(Liz Torgerson)*
Thursday: + Fran Torgerson *(Liz Torgerson)*
Friday: + Bill Saxton *(A Friend)*

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: + Bernadette Phillips *(Buzz & Colleen Cerino)*
Sunday 8am: Parishioners’ Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: + Donna Campbell *(A Friend)*

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

November 24th - Envelopes \$3,068 - E-Giving \$1,814
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



First Sunday of Advent Year B

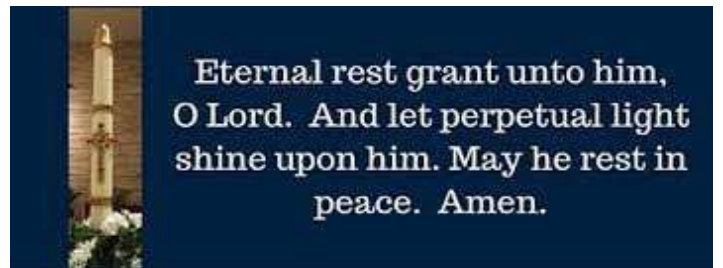
WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tue. Dec 03: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Dec 04: Flame of Love - Chapel – 8:00am
Wed. Dec 04: Intercessory Prayer – Zoom - 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!

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
LAWRENCE “LARRY” THOMAS BAKER**



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.*

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. On this day, the Church invites us to be ready and prepared to receive the Lord. 'Advent' means joyful waiting - waiting for someone with love and finding joy in that waiting. When the coming of someone is delayed, we usually become anxious and worried. However, today's readings invite us to find joy in our waiting.

During this season, we first participate in the waiting of the Israelites who were expecting their Messiah. Secondly, we wait for the coming of Jesus in the breaking of the Word and of the Bread in the Eucharistic celebration. Besides the Eucharist, we also wait for the coming of Jesus in the lives of the oppressed so that the situation of their lives might get better. Finally, we look forward to our future with hope and wait for the coming of Jesus at the end of time to judge the world. Thus, the Church invites us to make use of the Advent and prepare ourselves in such a way that by means of promoting justice, hope, love and peace in our lives and those of others, we get to witness the promises about the coming of Jesus being fulfilled in our time, here and now.

Lord Jesus, help us get rid of anxiety and fear so that we may find joy in our waiting for your second coming

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.



In the Way of St. Andrew, Bishop Cooke Ready to Bring Others to 'Friendship with God'

**PLEASE
WELCOME
BISHOP COOKE
AS HE
CELEBRATES THE
10:30 MASS ON
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH**



1st Friday Adoration begins
December 6th after the 9am Mass
and concludes Saturday morning
at 9am Benediction & Mass

**LOVE IN THE FACE OF REPENTANCE
REVEALS MERCY!**



**ADVENT
PENANCE
SERVICE**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9th - 6:30 P.M.

All Parishioners are invited to receive The Gift of God's Grace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. P.R.E.P. students will have Class at regular time and participate in the opportunity to receive the Sacrament.

PREP PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

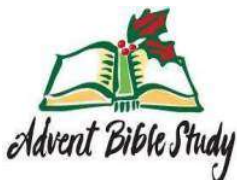
Religion Classes for Children who attend Public School, or non-Catholic Private School, are held on Monday evenings, September to May at St. John the Baptist Parish from 6:15PM-7:30PM. Parents of New Students (1st graders or students who have never attended Religious Education at SJB) should contact the Religious Education Office at prep@stjohnsottsville.org or 610-847-5521 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.



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of December 1st
TEAM 2**

This is a once per month commitment.



The Evangelization Team would like you to join us for weekly Advent Bible study! Study begins on Sunday, Dec. 1st and ends Dec. 22nd. Sign up in the narthex.



MINI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Homemade or re-gifted items are 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



**THE LORD'S
PANTRY
Giving Tree**

will be set up in the Narthex beginning
Saturday, November 30th.

This year ALL gifts will be in the form of gift cards.
Wrapped gifts must have the original "Gift Tag" taken off the tree attached to the wrapping for identification purposes.

Gift cards may be purchased through the Parish Office.

Gifts need to be placed back under the tree
by Sunday, December 15th.

Thank you and God Bless!

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



During December, would you please consider donating **tea, coffee, pineapple slices, yams, flour and sugar**. These products will not only benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staple products but help them enjoy a Blessed Christmas. 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!

God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers

**SJB NITTY GRITTY GARDEN CLUB
2024 Christmas Poinsettia & Wreath Sale**

Poinsettia/Wreath Pick Up – December 7th & 8th



Dear Friends –

**Thank you for supporting our Christmas
Poinsettia & Wreath Sale.**

God's Blessings be upon you!

Any questions, please contact Jeanne Keller
at 610-999-8322.

DECEMBER MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

The Evangelization Ministry

Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Greetings from across campus!



In November we celebrated our Veterans and it was a huge success! Thanks to all our Veterans that represented our country's past and present servicemen and women.

The Academy has been busy every month collecting items for the Lord's Pantry. November was especially fruitful as our community realizes the importance of giving back.



The children started their Thanksgiving break, by taking part in our annual Turkey Bowl. The Turkey Bowl is an intramural football game for all ages. It is one of Regina Academy's fall favorites.



Looking ahead, we will have our Christmas Tableau on December 19th, more details to follow.

God Bless, Tami Koerber
Head of school.



Featuring the Fairmount Brass Quintet
the TrebleChoir of the Princeton Boychoir
and Timothy Urban, hurdy-gurdy

Saturday, December 14 @ 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 15 @ 4:00 pm

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Or call 215-230-3836

~SAVE THE DATE~ "Live the Mass"

ENCORE Women's Retreat at Czestochowa Shrine.

Friday Eve, March 28th to Sunday afternoon, March 30th, 2025



K of C and Regina Academy



Annual Christmas Party

Dec 15, 2024 • Noon to 3:00 P.M.
RA@SJB School Gym

All are invited! This is the perfect time for all RA@SJB Families, St. John the Baptist, St. Lawrence Parishioners, and the regional community to come together and have a wonderful Christmas celebration.

- Drinks Pretzels---Popcorn---Coffee/Tea---Goodies
- Pizza & Cotton Candy!
- Decoration Making / Craft Tables
- Toy Train Display
- Christmas Tree
- and of course... a visit with gifts from Jolly Old St. Nick!



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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

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Ted Fahy - President

Marie Burke - Secretary

Peg Glancey - Moderator

Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht, Nancy Kaczinski,

Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller

Mike Kirk - Finance Council Representative

FINANCE COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Mike Kirk - President/Moderator

Mary Kosmin - Secretary

Chris Hackley, Jim McHugh, Mary Miller,

Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters

Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative

Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager – St. John the Baptist

DECEMBER 1ST, 2024 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7TH & DECEMBER 8TH, 2024

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Ted Fahy Laura Gumprecht Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Blake & Max Nowicki Christine Wimpenny	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Nancy Kaczinski Donna & Natalie Nice	Marie Burke	Gretchen Meyers Alexander & Justin Nice	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM Welcome Bishop Cooke	Joan Beebe Joan Black Anne Luna	Patti Keyser Tony Luna	Olivia Luna Joel, Jacob & Joshua Roney Audrey, Max & Hezekiah Van Haute	Sue Rogers SJB Choir



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Lou Bucci, 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, **Maria D'Angelo**, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, 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, Steve Katra, John Klinges, 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, 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:

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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