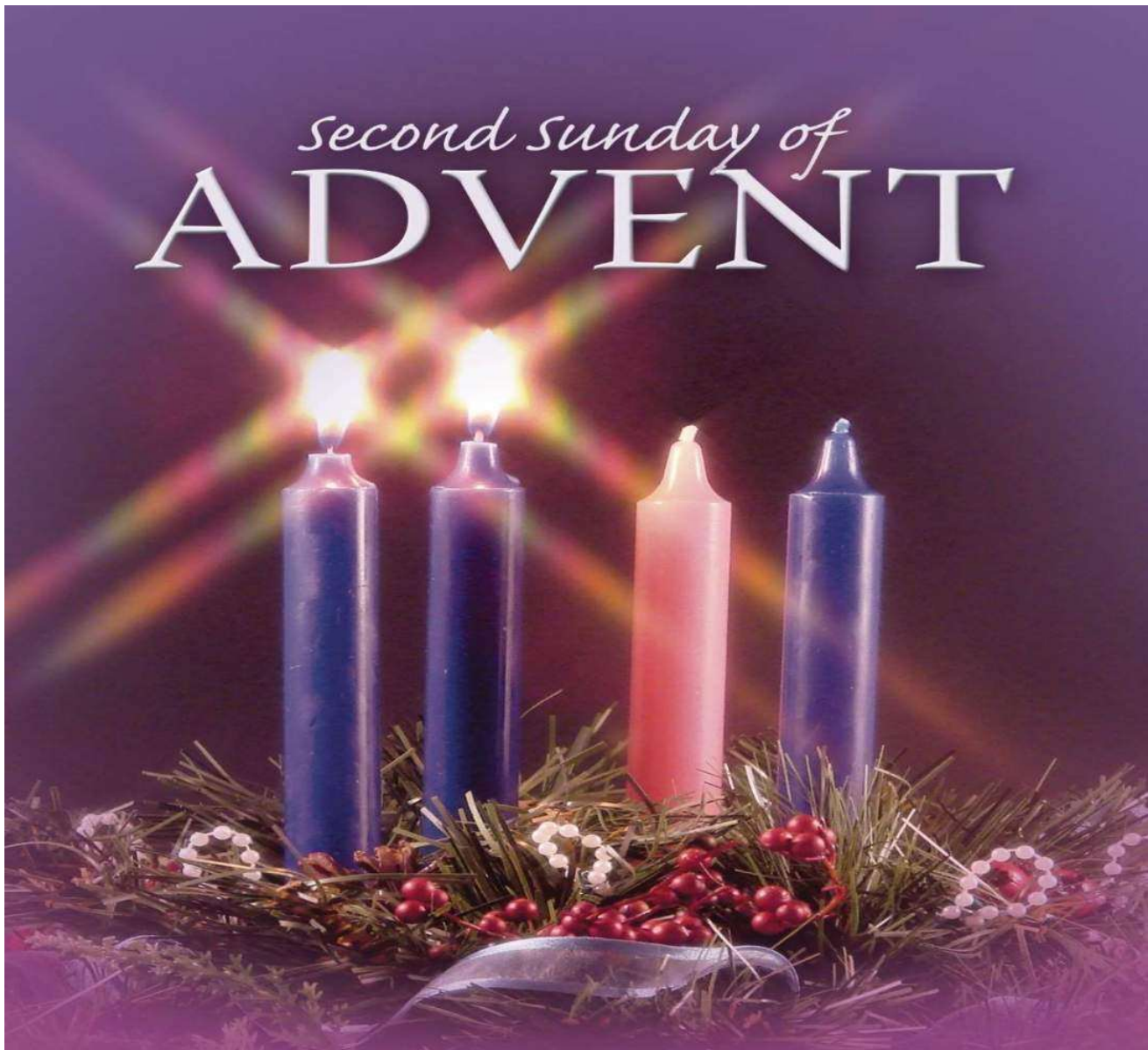


December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## 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](http://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 9<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Monday: **Immaculate Conception** Parishioners' Intentions  
Tuesday: † **Bill Saxton** (*Harold Rick*)  
Wednesday: † **Jim Wismer** (*Brother Ed Wismer*)  
Thursday: † **Jerry & Betty Petritsch** (*Loving Family*)  
Friday: † **Marie Louzon** (*Georgina Puente*)

**Weekend Masses**

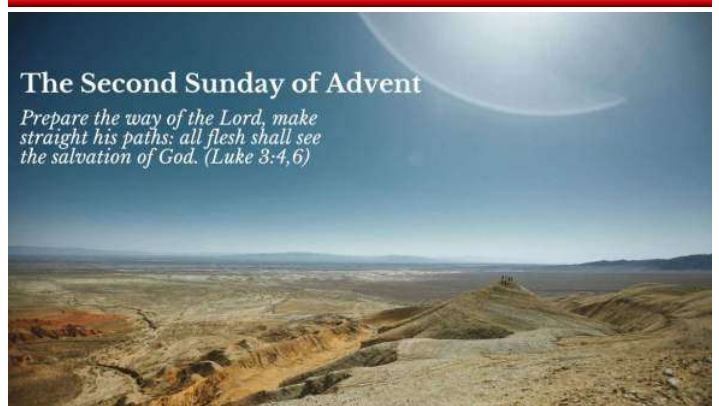
Saturday 5pm: † **Anthony Brandariz** (*Michael McHugh*)  
Sunday 8am: **Parishioners' Intentions**  
Sunday 10:30am: † **William Hayes** (*Lisa Simkanin*)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm**  
**The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> for Immaculate Conception**

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

**WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS**

December 1<sup>st</sup> - Envelopes \$5,355 - E-Giving \$1,674  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



**WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS**

Sun. Dec 08: Advent Bible Study – Marian Rm – 9:15am  
Mon. Dec 09: Prayer Shawl – Marian Rm - 7pm  
Wed. Dec 11: Flame of Love - Chapel – 8am  
Wed. Dec 11: Intercessory Prayer – Zoom - 6:30pm  
Wed. Dec 11: Evangelization Mtg – St. Augustine Rm - 7pm

**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 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

The season of advent is an invitation to wait and hope for the coming of the Lord. The readings of the day help us to prepare ourselves as we await in joyful hope for the coming of our redeemer and savior. The first reading is an expression of great joy and enthusiasm as we see the exiled children of Jerusalem returning to their homeland.

The Lord has turned their mourning into dancing. It is a poem of hope and encouragement. We see how God is constantly at work in our lives, saving us and bringing us back to him. However, we also need to cooperate and contribute to this mission of God. Hence, St. Paul, in the second reading, encourages us to be prepared so that we be pure and blameless on the day when Jesus comes.

In the gospel, John the Baptist is proclaiming the message of repentance. Interestingly, God could have chosen the rulers or kings to proclaim the message of the kingdom of God. However, he chooses the lowly voice crying out in the wilderness. Even today we see that there could have been many wealthy people and leaders who could have possibly brought joy into the lives of the oppressed and the poor. However, it is not them but simple ordinary people who raise prophetic voices enabling God's justice and glory to be manifest here on earth. In the midst of despair, they fill our lives with joyful expectation.

Lord Jesus we pray that we may lead lives of optimism and hope as we continue to be surrounded by your goodness and blessings. We pray for all those who are the prophets of our times and work for the uplift of the poor and downtrodden.

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 THIS  
SUNDAY.**

LOVE IN THE FACE OF REPENTANCE  
REVEALS MERCY!



ADVENT  
PENANCE  
SERVICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> - 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 (1<sup>st</sup> graders or students who have never attended Religious Education at SJB) should contact the Religious Education Office at [prep@stjohnsottsville.org](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup>  
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.



The Evangelization Team would like you to join them for weekly Advent Bible study! Study began on Sunday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and ends Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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**

**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!



**THE LORD'S  
PANTRY  
Giving Tree**

is set up in the Narthex.

**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.

**Walmart & Giant gift cards can be purchased through the Parish Office.**

Gifts need to be placed back under the tree by next Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>



**Dear Friends –**

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

**God's Blessings be upon you!**

If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Keller at 610-999-8322.

**DECEMBER MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT**

*The Evangelization Ministry*



**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!



**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



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

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

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church  
Doylestown, PA

For tickets and info visit [www.buckschoral.org](http://www.buckschoral.org)  
or call 215-230-3836.

**FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER**

*"A Quiet Country Retreat"*

**OVERNIGHT RETREATS** Individual or Group up to 8  
**DAY PROGRAMS** Groups up to 50 Individuals

**EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT, ROSARY, LITURGY of the HOURS (books provided) and DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:**

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

**~SAVE THE DATE~ "Live the Mass"**

**ENCORE Women's Retreat** at Czestochowa Shrine.  
Friday Eve, March 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday afternoon, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> & 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Lisa Saxton	Kim Zampirri	Brady Mattle Blake & Max Nowicki	Patty Leidner Musician Needed
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Nina Carlineo Renee Moyer	Marie Burke	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Wendy DeGroot Laura Gumprecht Ward Van Haute	Sean Lynch	Audrey, Max & Hezekiah Van Haute	Laura Fleck 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, 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](mailto: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*



# SHELLY

**Funeral Home Inc.**

*Family Owned & Operated*

PLUMSTEADVILLE  
215-766-8800

Steven M. Shelly, Supervisor

WARRINGTON  
215-343-3040

Frank L. Shelly, Supervisor

[www.shellyfuneralhomes.com](http://www.shellyfuneralhomes.com)

Joseph M. McGhee, Funeral Home Director

# Crews Surveying, LLC

[www.crewssurveying.com](http://www.crewssurveying.com)

215-766-2477 215-297-8666



Surveying Greater Bucks County for over 40 years!

**catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>**  
Pennsylvania



[CatholicMatch.com/  
datePA](http://CatholicMatch.com/datePA)

# Morgan

**basement waterproofing**

*In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service*

**French Drains  
Foundation Repair  
Mold Remediation**

All Work Guaranteed

**215-639-8500**

[www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com](http://www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com)

## Mallory's Army Foundation

**United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...**

**Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!**



[www.MallorysArmy.com](http://www.MallorysArmy.com)

(973) 440-8657 • [info@mallorysarmy.org](mailto:info@mallorysarmy.org)

*It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send  
your email address by text message:*

**Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.**

Message and data rates may apply.

**Welcome  
to Our Church!**



## Karen Kovacs

**Church Bulletin Representative**

***I'm here to help your business  
be noticed!***



[kkovacs@jppc.net](mailto:kkovacs@jppc.net)

**913-744-6337**

[www.jppcadvertising.com](http://www.jppcadvertising.com)



**JOHN PATRICK**

**publishing company, inc.**

27 Richard Road • Ivyland, PA 18974



***Advertise your business  
in the Church Bulletin***

- In print, online and interactive app
- Reaches parish families and visitors each week
- Constant presence keeps a strong link between you and customers
- Well-read publication - a trusted source
- Affordable Advertising – local, targeted to community

**DAVE'S SERVICE**  
 LLC  
**TREE CARE  
 LAWN SERVICE**  
 Firewood • Mulching  
 Stump Grinding,  
 Chipping & Removal  
**215-778-6110**  
 davesservicesreelawn@yahoo.com  
 PA 017595

MONUMENTS | FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES | PRE-PLANNING

*C.R. Strunk*  
**FUNERAL HOME, INC.**  
 Est. 1926

Locally & Family Owned  
 & Operated

Michael B. Schmauder  
 Supervisor & Funeral Director

Andrew J. Stout  
 President & Funeral Director

821 West Broad St. | Quakertown, PA | 215-536-6550 | www.CRStrunk.com

Buy From the *Best!*

**SUBURBAN**  
 MARBLE, GRANITE & TILE  
 Endless Possibilities...Spectacular Results

**Robert C. Mall**  
 MONUMENTAL CRAFTS

Complete line of services for the  
 monument industry

ALL TYPES OF GRANITE & BRONZE

Engraving, custom etchings,  
 cemetery lettering & granite cleaning.

SERVICING LEHIGH VALLEY SINCE 1979

LETTERING AND MONUMENT SERVICES OFFERED BY SOME FUNERAL HOMES  
 & CEMETERIES CAN COST YOU MORE THAN DEALING DIRECTLY WITH US.

84 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055 Bus: 610-838-8251  
 www.monumentalcrafts.net Fax: 610-838-6308

**"WE SHOW YOUR LOVE TODAY IS EVERLASTING"**

**Bucks County  
 Nursery & Florist**

RETAIL GARDEN CENTER/NURSERY  
 FULL SERVICE FLORIST  
 GREENHOUSE/GIFT SHOPPE  
 LANDSCAPE • HARDSCAPE

Route 412 & Gessner Road  
 Kintnersville, PA 18930  
 across from Palisades High School

**610-847-8146**  
 www.buckscountynurseryandflorist.com  
 Customerservice@buckscountynurseryandflorist.com

**Button  
 Popper**

CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY  
 & UPHOLSTERY REPAIR

Quality Craftsmanship  
 Personal Touch

**215-262-8201**  
 Michael Patton • Perkasie, PA

**Kitchen  
 Countertops,  
 bathroom  
 vanities,  
 tile and  
 more!**

1010 Pulinski Rd  
 Ivyland  
 Bucks County, PA 18974

**215.734.9100**

Open Monday Thru Saturday  
 www.SuburbanMarble.com

Contractor #PA 007452

**Robert W. Snyder**  
**FUNERAL HOME**

327 Easton Road  
 Riegelsville, PA 18077  
 610-749-2421  
 Amy L. Snyder, F.D.  
 Serving the Riegelsville  
 area since 1951

**ATTENTION: Archdiocese of Philadelphia Employees**

**Employee Benefit Program**

- Family will receive up to 20% discount on product and services.
- Special Financing Available
- Free Family Estate Planning Guide
- Free Will Kit

We hope we can help you get all your ducks in a row.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

**844-451-9614**  
 www.PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com

\*This offer is for pre-need only and ends December 31, 2024 and cannot be combined with any other offers.

**Putney Plumbing  
 & Heating, Inc.**

**Thomas K. Putney**  
 Registered Master Plumber

**267.875.8068**  
 tkpplumber@gmail.com  
 Your Full Service  
 Contractor  
 PA State Reg. #027202

WORSHIP

WITH US

check out the latest offerings by  
 your bulletin sponsors by  
 downloading our free app

**Finding FIBER**

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

**Robert Hueston  
 Scholarship Fund**

Benefiting student  
 parishioners attending  
 The Regina Academy  
 at SJB

A non-profit endowment fund  
 www.roberthuestonfund.org  
 PO Box 363, Ottsville

IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
 SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

**S A M I**

STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

ASK #WHATSMYNAME  
 BEFORE YOU GET IN A RIDE SHARE

**Support Your  
 Community**  
 ...and your Church!

**SHOP LOCAL**

**SPEND LOCAL**

**Thank You**

to our  
 bulletin sponsors  
 for their support  
 during the past year!

Your continued support has not gone unnoticed  
 by your parish community and is SO appreciated!

**American  
 Red Cross**

Make a Difference in Your Community

**VOLUNTEER**  
 with the American Red Cross

Join today at [redcross.org/Volunteer](http://redcross.org/Volunteer)