

DECEMBER 28TH, 2025 – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

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



WISHING YOU A BLESSED & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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 December 29th – January 4th, 2026

Monday: † Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Tuesday: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
Wednesday: **NEW YEAR'S EVE** Parishioners' Intentions
Thursday: **SOLEMNITY OF MARY**
(NEW YEAR'S DAY) Parishioners' Intentions
Friday: † Chris Leahy (*Family*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: † Elizabeth Schuback
(*Eric & Jolene Stephens*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: Intentions of Tom Ruggieri (*Anita Colahan*)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

The Parish Office will re-open Monday, January 5th.

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

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

December 7th - Envelopes \$6,962 - E-Giving \$1,973
December 14th - Envelopes \$2,649 - E-Giving \$3,125
December 21st - Not Available

Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tue. Dec 30: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Dec 31: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Nov 31: Prayers of Petition* - via Zoom - 7:00pm
* **EMAIL LAURA AT sibevangel@stjohnsottsville.org TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.**

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!



**GOD'S
BLESSINGS
ON THE
BAPTISM OF**

MASSIMO JOHN TUMOLO

Baptized November 16, 2025

From Your Pastor-

It is appropriate to reflect about the family on the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family remains as a model for all of us to live our family life in a meaningful way. The first reading lists the blessings that would be poured out on the children who respect and honor their parents.

The second reading lists the essentials that constitute a peaceful and joyful family. The invitation for us today is to live as a joyful family. Is our family joyful? The Holy family experienced an inner joy even during times of crises, difficulties and tensions. It was possible due to the bond of love shared among them. The joy of the Holy family was not centered around material things and luxuries, rather it was based on love, faith and trust.

Thus, true joy comes from a profound harmony existing between persons in the family which we feel in our hearts by mutual love, trust and faith. It is this profound harmony which is a tool to bring joy into our families. When we experience this deep joy in our families, our families become 'a small domestic church' to others. How can our families be joyful? I list some advice from Pope Francis' words to be a joyful family - say these three words - please, sorry and thank you. Do little things for each other, pray together, accept your imperfections, be patient, set an example and light the way. Let our families experience joy and let that joy be contagious.

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, in you do we contemplate the splendor of true love and to you we turn with trust. Grant that our families may become places filled with joy, love and peace.

**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.



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.



MINI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Tables will be set up in the Narthex during the month of December after the Masses. Proceeds will be used for the maintenance of SJB. **THANK YOU!**

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS

WEDNESDAY 4:30PM

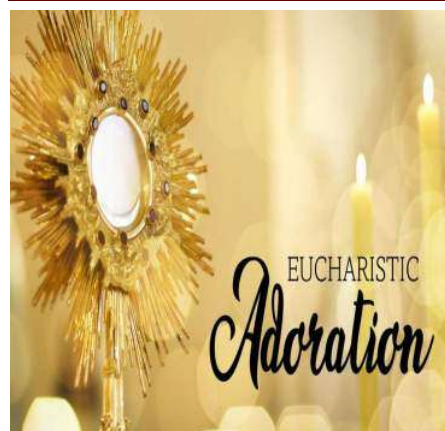
NEW CHURCH

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MASS

(NEW YEAR'S DAY)

THURSDAY 9AM

NEW CHURCH



**1st Friday
Adoration begins
January 2nd
after the
9am Mass
and concludes
Saturday
morning
at 9am
Benediction
& Mass.**



A Message from The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Greetings from Across Campus-

All is peaceful at the Academy as teachers, staff, volunteers, students, and families enjoy a well-deserved break from the daily rhythm of school life. The first half of our year has been filled with countless blessings; moments of growth, joy, and faith that remind us of the strength of our community.

This quiet pause gives us the chance to recharge, reflect, and give thanks for all that has been accomplished. With renewed energy, we look forward to a vibrant second half of the year, filled with activities, traditions, and opportunities to learn and grow together.

May this season of rest bring peace to your homes, and may the months ahead be filled with joy and the light of Christ.

God bless! **Brian Dulin**, President
Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

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



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of December 28th
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-

Would you please consider donating these items this month?
pineapple slices – sugar - baking items- Beef Ramen - whole tomatoes - Chunky soups juice – tea – coffee

Giant or dollar store gift cards are also appreciated!
You will benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staples and help them enjoy a blessed holiday season. 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



SJB COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CLOTHING DRIVE

"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me". – Jesus

Once again, we will be collecting donations for St. John's Hospice for Homeless Men in Center City, Philadelphia. Bins will be in the narthex beginning January 3rd through January 18th. Monetary donations will be welcomed as well as the wish list items below.

CLOTHING: NEW OR GENTLY USED ITEMS ACCEPTED!
Underwear (boxer briefs), Thermal underwear, Socks, Undershirts – (size Large and up), Pants (size 30-38 are most needed), Shorts sizes 30-38 are most needed), Sweat Suits, Shirts, Coats, Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Winter boots, Men's sneakers, Leather belts – all sizes or adjustable, Men's belts – braided

TOILETRIES: *Please remember to save travel-size toiletries when you are staying in hotels! We can also use the following 'full-size' items for residents and to refill travel-size toiletries handed out to day-service guests.*

Body Wash, Shaving Cream, Shampoo, Disposable Razors, Moisturizer, Toothbrushes, Hand Lotion, Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Dental Floss, Deodorant, Mouthwash, Body Powder, Hair Dressing/Grease, Lip Balm, Combs

BEDDING/MISC: Pillows – standard size, Blankets, Full size bath towels, New Twin size white fitted sheets, New White pillowcases – standard size, Men's backpacks, Thick Wash cloths – assorted colors, Headphones for computers

Check out their website for additional ways to donate! saintjohnshospice.org

Breathing in the Breath of God

Christmas is a beautiful season, but it can often be a time of stress. Take a moment for yourself to appreciate the deep meaning of this holy time, when the Word became flesh.

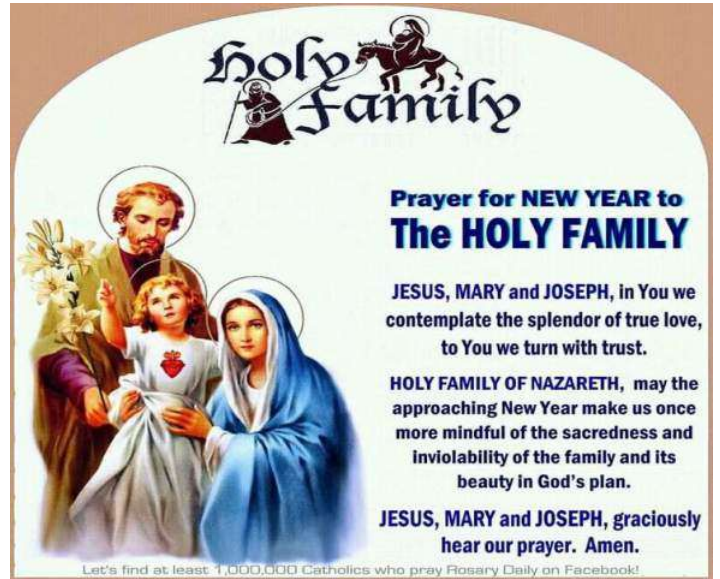
Sit comfortably with your feet firmly on the ground. Close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths slowly in and out. As you breathe in, be conscious of your breath passing in through your mouth or nose, filling your lungs with life-giving oxygen.

Hold your breath for ten seconds, then slowly breathe out, allowing the toxins in your body to be expelled. Imagine the tension, anxieties, and pressure in your body flowing out as you do so.

Come to rest, calm your mind, relax your body. Recite a breathing prayer and sit or stand quietly for a minute in the presence of God.

A BREATHING PRAYER:

- ✚ Breathe in the breath of God
- ✚ Breathe out your cares and concerns
- ✚ Breathe in the love of God
- ✚ Breathe out your doubts and despairs
- ✚ Breathe in the life of God
- ✚ Breathe out your fears and frustrations
- ✚ We sit quietly before the One who gives life and love to all creation
- ✚ We sit in awe of the One who formed us in our mother's womb
- ✚ We sit at peace surrounded by the One who fills every fiber of our being
- ✚ Breathe in the breath of God
- ✚ Breathe out your tensions and turmoil
- ✚ Breathe in the love of God
- ✚ Breathe out your haste and hurry
- ✚ Breathe in the life of God
- ✚ Breathe out your work and worry
- ✚ We sit quietly before the One who gives life and love to all creation
- ✚ We sit in awe of the One who formed us in our mothers' wombs
- ✚ We sit at peace surrounded by the One who fills every fiber of our being. - *Christine Aroney-Sine*



Prayer for NEW YEAR to The HOLY FAMILY

JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH, in You we contemplate the splendor of true love, to You we turn with trust.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, may the approaching New Year make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family and its beauty in God's plan.

JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

Let's find at least 1,000,000 Catholics who pray Rosary Daily on Facebook!



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parents of New Students of any grade level should contact the Parish Office at prep@stjohnsottsville.org or 610-847-5521.

Parents/Guardians of 7th grade students, who are parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church who are attending Catholic School and who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Baptist Church in 2026, should contact the Director of Religious Education at prep@stjohnsottsville.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our Father Stommel Council #4545 meets every 3rd Monday at 7:30pm.

Contact Grand Knight Mark Janik KofC4545@aol.com

Online Contributing Made Easy



Please visit our website www.stjohnsottsville.org and click on the **Parish**

Giving link above. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program. For information, please call the Parish Office.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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Ted Fahy – President

Peg Glancey - Moderator / Marie Burke - Secretary

Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht, Nancy Kaczinski,

Stephen Ktra, Jeanne Keller

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Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager

DECEMBER 28TH, 2025 – THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 31st & January 1st, 2026
January 3rd & 4th, 2026

New Year's Eve & Solemnity of Mary (New Year's Day)
Epiphany of the Lord

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
New Year's Eve WEDNESDAY 4:30PM NEW CHURCH	Laura Gumprecht Nancy Kaczinski Shelby Rogers	Needed	3 Volunteers Needed	Amleto Pucci Sue Rogers
Solemnity of Mary THURSDAY 9:00AM NEW CHURCH	Robyn Piccinic Shelby Rogers Christine Wimpenny	Needed	3 Volunteers Needed	Martin Elsner
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Joel Roney	Kim Zampirri	Jacob & Joshua Roney Christine Wimpenny	Needed
SUNDAY 8AM	Nina Carlineo Bea Romaszewski Vanessa Williams	Marie Burke	3 Volunteers Needed	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Samantha Campbell Laura Gumprecht Patty Salva	Ward Van Haute	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Hezekiah Van Haute	Echoes of Christ

OUR SICK:



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



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

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:

James Gammello, Gianna Gammello, 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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