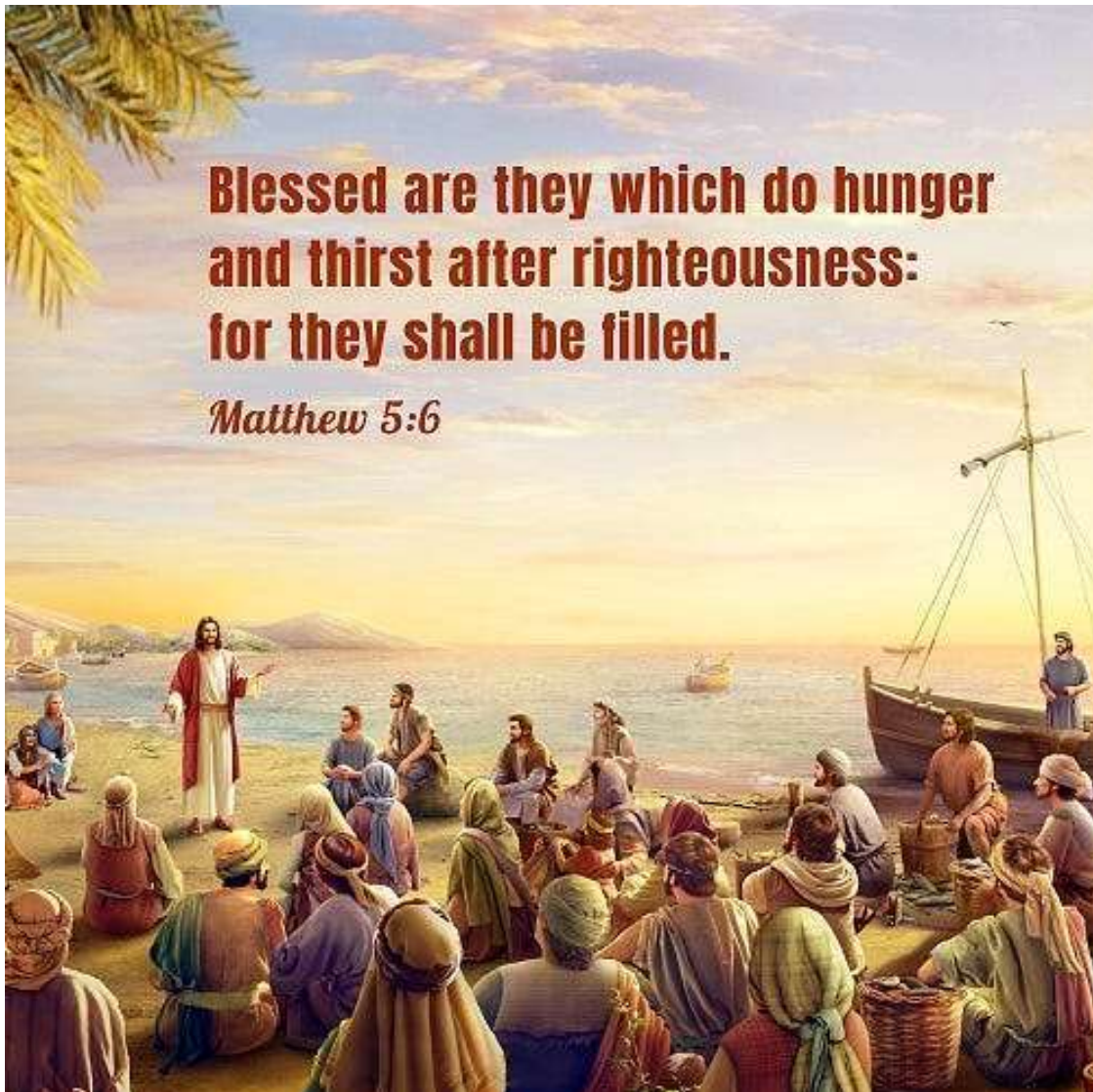


FEBRUARY 1ST, 2026 – THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 February 2nd – February 8th, 2026

Monday: † John F. Lapsley, Sr. (*Hugh D. Lapsley*)
Tuesday: Intentions of Bob Parash
(*Janet Reidler & Family*)
Wednesday: † Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Thursday: Intentions of Ed Jones (*Jim & Joan Black*)
Friday: Intentions of Bob Shopf (*Bernadette Strzelecki*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: Intentions of Joan Beebe (*A Friend*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: † Matthew Wilkinson (*Maggie McArdle*)

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

January 25th - Envelopes \$2,418- E-Giving \$1,991

Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Feb 01: Evangelization Team Mtg – Church – 9:15am
Tue. Feb 03: Viewing of "The Chosen" – Marian Rm - 6pm
Tue. Feb 03: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Feb 04: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Feb 04: 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!

St. Blaise--Blessing of the Throats

St. John the Baptist Parish will have the traditional blessing of the throats at the Masses this weekend.

About St. Blaise

St. Blaise is a bishop and martyr who lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. For a time, Blaise lived in a cave to escape persecution. On his feast the church recalls a miracle cure associated with him and celebrates the blessing of the throats. Blaise apparently saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. The saint said that anyone who lit a candle in his memory would be free of infection, thus candles are used in the traditional throat blessing. He is listed among the Fourteen Holy Helpers, saints revered as healers. He is the patron saint of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading.

From Your Pastor-

In today's reading, the prophet Zephaniah reminds Israel that God's favor rests not on the proud, but on the humble who seek righteousness and trust in Him. God promises to preserve "a people humble and lowly," a community that relies on His protection rather than their own strength.

In a noisy world obsessed with status and self-promotion, Zephaniah calls us back to the quiet strength of humility. God shapes His Church through the simple, the faithful, and the honest of heart. When we seek His will above our own, we become that "remnant" who lives in peace and integrity.

In the second reading, St. Paul reminds the Corinthians that God often chooses the "foolish," the "weak," and the "lowly" to reveal His glory. Our salvation and dignity come not from human accomplishments, but from Christ who "became for us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption."

Paul invites us to remember where our true worth lies. We do not boast in talents, wealth, or titles, but in the Lord. Everything we are and everything we have is a gift. God can use anyone, especially those the world overlooks, to bring about His purposes.

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes - His roadmap to holiness and the heart of Christian life. The blessed are the poor in spirit, the merciful, the mourners, the peacemakers, and those who hunger for righteousness. These are not signs of weakness but signs of God's kingdom breaking into the world.

The Beatitudes overturn the values of the world. True happiness is not found in power, comfort, or success, but in living like Christ with compassion, purity of heart, humility, and perseverance in doing good. Jesus assures us that when we live this way, even in trials, our reward is great in heaven.

**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.



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



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

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

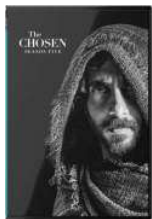
Attention: Parents/Guardians of **7th grade students** who are parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church, who are attending Catholic School and who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Baptist Church in 2026, should contact the Director of Religious Education at: prep@stjohnsottsville.org.

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of
REVEREND ANTHONY J. RIPP, MSC



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen**

DON'T MISS OUT!



It's time for The Chosen, Season 5! Come join us to watch and discuss each episode on Tuesday nights, 6pm, beginning February 3rd. Fr. JoMar Legaspi will once again be leading the discussions! Light refreshments will be available.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.

MINISTRY FAIR

Weekend of February 7th & 8th



Please plan to stop at the Ministry tables in the Narthex after all Masses. We have many ministries in our Parish that you may not be aware of! There will be someone at each table who can explain their ministry to you.

Thank you for supporting our Parish ministries!!

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry

Would you please consider donating these items this month?



- Chunky soups * condiments *
- coffee * tea * juice
- cream of mushroom soup
- canned chicken/ham *
- shampoo * snacks

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



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of February 1st
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.



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

Greetings from Across Campus,

Our students continue to enjoy their studies, even in the crisp winter air. The chilly weather hasn't dampened their spirits; in fact, the cool environment seems to energize them. Perhaps the joy of playing in the snow adds an extra spark to their enthusiasm for learning.

Last week, we were blessed with a wonderful evening at our annual spaghetti dinner. It was a gathering filled with community warmth, lively conversation, and delicious homemade bread and Zeppole, lovingly prepared by our parents and staff. While there were no major winners in our lottery baskets this year, we are deeply grateful to everyone whose generosity and support made the event such a memorable success.

On Thursday, our Talent Show brought smiles to the entire community as students proudly shared their gifts, such as piano performances, dance routines, karate demonstrations, and more. Their confidence and creativity truly lit up the stage.

Please keep the Academy's students and faculty in your prayers, and stay warm during these winter days.

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

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

FEBRUARY 1ST, 2026 – THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council #4545



COMING SOON!



Captain Chucky's Crab Cake Sale

The Knights will be accepting orders after Mass on **February 7th/8th & 14th/15th**.

See SJB Website for Order Form.

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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

RETREAT DAY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Date: Saturday, February 21st, 2026

Time: 10 A.M.

Where: Fatima House Retreat Ctr.

Topic: Seniors Dealing with Faith and Life During Our Senior Years

Lunch provided – Donations accepted

**PLEASE CALL JOAN BLACK,
DIRECTOR, AT 215-795-2947 IF
YOU WISH TO ATTEND.**

From the...

SJB EVANGELIZATION TEAM

Our parish evangelization team is proud to announce that we are holding a retreat on Divine Mercy this March. You may have heard of Divine Mercy or even prayed the novena or the chaplet, but few have heard the story of how God used people throughout many years in history to announce His message and to spread the message of His Divine Mercy.

The retreat will be held Friday night, March 20th through Sunday afternoon, March 22nd at Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown. For more information, please see the flyer in the Narthex.

NUN RUN 5K
April 18 at 10:00 AM
Join us to support the mission & lives of our MSCSisters:
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Become a **SPONSOR**, a **RUNNER/WALKER** or a **VIRTUAL RUNNER/WALKER!**

All registrants receive a Nun Run t-shirt if registered by April 3rd.

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.

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Weez Roney	Liz Torgerson	Julia & Alyssa Byers Christine Wimpenny	Karen Parash Amleto Pucci
SUNDAY 8AM	Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice 1 Volunteer Needed	Jeanne Keller	3 Volunteers Needed	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Frank Balbier Samantha Campbell Laura Gumprecht	Sean Lynch	Elia, Fatu & Siri Logaivau	Sue Rogers SJB Choir

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 Klinges, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Ethan Meyers, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Mike Palmer, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Mary Pucci, Janet Reidler, Thomas Rimmer, 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

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, Michael Kosmin, 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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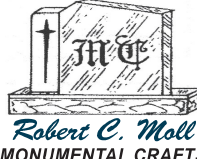


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