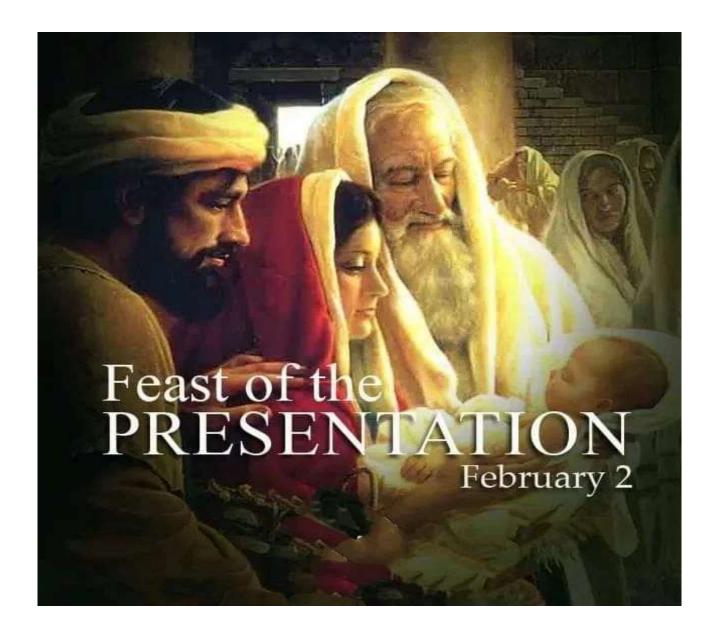
February 2nd, 2025 – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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 February 3rd - February 9th, 2025

Monday: * Marie Louzon (Gina Puente)

Tuesday: * Paul J. Burlaga (Janet Reidler & Family) Wednesday: Intentions of Jim & Joan Black

(Janet Reidler & Family)

Thursday: Intentions of Chris Leahy (Family) Friday: * Frank Santacrose (Sue & Tom Rogers)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: * Darlene Bittenmaster (Mr. & Mrs. Steve Cherrybon) **Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions**

Sunday 10:30am: * Donna Campbell (Loving Family)

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 19th - Envelopes \$7,981 - E-Giving \$1,719 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tue. Feb 04: Choir Practice - Church - 7pm Wed. Feb 05: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am

Wed. Feb 05: Intercessory Prayer * - Zoom - 6:30pm

* EMAIL LAURA AT SJBEVANGEL@STJOHNSOTTVILLE.ORG TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.

Wed. Feb 05: Evangelization Team Mtg –St. Augustine Rm- 7pm



THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD YEAR C

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

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord Jesus in the Temple. It commemorates Simeon's famous prophecy that Jesus would be a "light of revelation to the Gentiles." It is also known as Candle mass, since it is the day that candles are blessed for use throughout the Church year.

In the first reading, God promised that the leader whom the people were seeking would suddenly come to his Temple and there will be a pure sacrifice offered worldwide pleasing to God. The second reading teaches us that Jesus was made our source of perfect salvation through sufferings. As we suffer in life, he suffered for our sake. The gospel tells about the Holy Family, Joseph, Mary and Jesus and the prophesy and blessing of Simeon the Prophet. Today the Holy Family is given to us as an example for all Christian families to look towards this earthly trinity as an example, inspiration and encouragement.

In the fast-approaching world people are busy accumulating material things without thinking that there are some people struggling to get at least minimum things.

But interestingly, Mother Mary is being so generous that she has given what was given to her by God. As we are given many talents, gifts, blessings, gospel values, we are also expected to give, share, and spread what was given to us.

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.



BLESSING OF THE THROATS

will take place immediately after Mass.

Also, there will be Blessed Candles available for purchase in the Narthex after Mass. The cost is \$5.00 per box.



1st Friday Adoration begins
February 7th after the 9am Mass
and concludes Saturday morning
at 9am Benediction & Mass



GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE BAPTISM OF

RAPHAEL JUDE ANTONELLI



Everywhere that Jesus went, the little lambs were sure to go....

The Pastoral Council is reaching out to our parishioners to see if there is interest in bringing back "The Little Lambs Club".

This was brought to our attention by a few of the focus groups last year. This club was active several years ago for children from ages 3 to 1st grade. The children should be present at the beginning of the Mass until the end of the Introductory Rites, when the priest invites them to leave for their own celebration. The children are brought back to their parents immediately after the Prayers of the Faithful by a member of the liturgy team. The children are introduced to the Gospel message and Eucharistic celebration at their own level.

We are seeking two registered parishioners to take on the leadership role for each Mass (8AM & 10:30AM) on Sunday mornings. They can be young adults, parents, or older parishioners. All adult volunteers must obtain Archdiocesan clearances prior to beginning service and be willing to complete training. This weekend there will be two signup sheets in the Narthex. One will be for anyone interested in having their children enrolled. The other will be for anyone willing to volunteer as a Little Lambs Club instructor.



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 610-847-5521 or prep@stjohnsottsville.org 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.



Hello from across campus!

We want to share a heartfelt thanks to everyone who joined us for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner. It was truly a delightful evening, filled with laughter and joy. A big congratulations to Liz Torgerson for winning the lottery tree!

Our spaghetti dinner has always been a festive way to kick off Catholic Schools Week! On Monday, the Academy had a blast participating in Bible bingo, where students enjoyed competing and winning fun prizes. Wednesday brought even more excitement as we celebrated Classical Schools Day, diving into the wonderful Medieval period. The students embraced the theme beautifully, dressing up as peasants, court jesters, fair maidens, queens, and more! We had so much fun learning period dances, creating charming lanterns, and designing our very own family coat of arms.

We're excited to invite you to our Open House breakfast forum on Thursday, February 6th at 8:30 am. Come see what everyone's talking about!

Our Academy Hot Hoops program is buzzing with energy, with our Lower Wing students participating after school on Wednesdays. Feel free to stop by and cheer on our little athletes!

At Regina Academy, we are sincerely thankful for being part of such a supportive parish that values Catholic Classical Education. Wishing you all a fantastic week ahead!

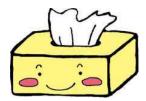
Warm blessings, Tami Koerber, Head of School



Feast Day
Highlight for
the Month of
February

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2025 – THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



During February, would you please consider donating tissues, Vitamin C drops, cough drops, deodorant & sanitary pads to 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 generosity!

God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers



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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

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!

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

Mental Health Minute

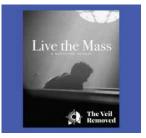
Each February 11, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes the World Day of the Sick is celebrated.

Pope Benedict XVI's message for the 14th World Day of the Sick, stated, "I...would like to reflect...on the situation of the mentally ill...and to call for the commitment of Ecclesial Communities to bear witness to the tender mercy of God towards them."

1 in 5 U.S. Adults experience mental illness each year.

https://www.nami.org/about-mentallliness/mental-health-by-the-numbers/

For Catholic mental health support, visit: www.archphila.org/support



"LIVE THE MASS"

a reflective retreat for women

Join us for an "overnight retreat" and experience the Mass on a deeper level that will amaze you! It promises to provide a new perspective of the most powerful prayer available to the human person: Including growing your personal relationship with Jesus, scripture, Praise, reconciliation, graces of the Eucharist, Jewish history of the Mass, presence of angels, and much more!

There will be opportunities for Adoration and Confession.

WHEN: March 28, 29 & 30, 2025 (Friday eve, Saturday &

Sunday)

TIME: Friday 7pm Mar 28th - Sunday 4pm Mar 30th

WHERE: Ave Maria Retreat House at the

Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

COST: Determined by room choice. All 5 meals (3 on Sat, 2 on Sun) are included in the room cost.

Friday evening snacks are provided by the Evangelization team.

FEBRUARY 8TH & 9TH, 2025

THE 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Lisa Saxton Need 2 Volunteers	Kim Zampirri	Julia & Alyssa Byers Max Nowicki	Sue Rogers SJB Choir
SUNDAY 8AM	Nina Carlineo Tom Keller Renee Moyer	Jeanne Keller	Need 3 Volunteers	Patty Leidner Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Wendy DeGroot Laura Gumprecht Patty Salva	Patti Keyser	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Need 1 Volunteer	Katie Minster 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, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene 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, John Klinges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiore, 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:



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, 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

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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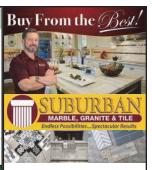


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In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson



A





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INFORM

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March 8-9, 2025

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