

February 9th, 2025 – THE FIFTH 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!

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 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 10th – February 16th, 2025

Monday: + Darlene Bittenmaster (*Marion Wolf*)
Tuesday: + William Benedict (*Maryann Hauber*)
Wednesday: + Ruth Beauseigneur
(*Janet Reidler & Family*)
Thursday: + Louie Murphy (*Mike & Mary Kosmin*)
Friday: + Marie Louzon (*Gina Puente*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: + Jerry & Elizabeth Petritsch (*Geri Petrei*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: + Robert Hueston (*Anita Colahan*)

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

February 2nd - Envelopes \$5,131 - E-Giving \$1,437
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Mon. Feb 10: Prayer Shawl – Marian Room - 7pm
Wed. Feb 12: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Feb 12: Intercessory Prayer * - Zoom - 6:30pm

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



THE FIFTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
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

The readings speak about the greater revelation of God which ends up with the greater response from Isaiah, St. Paul and Simon Peter. The first part of the readings vividly speaks about the Holiness and greatness of God. God’s Holiness stands apart, unique, unapproachable, incomprehensible and unattainable. It is ineffable. The three personalities Isaiah, St. Paul and Simon Peter in the readings recognize the magnanimity of the Holy God who takes initiative to call them and acknowledge their unworthiness humbly.

When we see God, we see ourselves in the true light. No one has ever encountered God and remained the same in history. Chan says, ‘A greater revelation of God demands a greater response towards him’. God doesn’t call the qualified, rather He qualifies the called. God touches the unclean tongue of Isaiah and makes him clean to do His Mission.

Jesus calls poor fisherman Simon Peter and promises to make him a humble servant to preach good news to the poor and to lay his life down for God’s mission. God is more concerned about what He is doing in us than through us. When we truly understand God as He is, our immediate response is that of Isaiah’s response, “Here am I, send me”.

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.

THIS WEEKEND!

PARISH SOCIAL AFTER MASS

PLEASE STOP BY!



This 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!



**FEAST DAY
HIGHLIGHT FOR
THE MONTH OF
FEBRUARY**

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



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"

for children from ages 3 to 1st grade. 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. They can be young adults, parents, or older parishioners. All adult volunteers must obtain Archdiocesan clearances prior to beginning and be willing to complete training. There will be two signup sheets in the Narthex for anyone interested in enrolling their children and for anyone willing to volunteer as an 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.



RA@SJB 8TH GRADE CLASS BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

On behalf of the 8th Grade Class at The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist Parish, we want to express our sincere gratitude for supporting our Bake Sale fundraiser. 100% of your support will directly help make our field trip to the Sight & Sounds Theater at the end of the school year possible. Thank You and God Bless You!

SJB Pilgrimage to The Miraculous Medal Shrine
St. Catherine Labouré
St. Catherine's story of devotion and obedience to Our Lady inspires and enriches the lives of others.
Saturday, February 22, 2025
Feast of the Chair of St. Peter
12:05 p.m. Holy Mass
Plenary indulgences available for those who fulfill the requirements of the Church.
Plan to leave St. John the Baptist Church parking lot by 9:30am
We will carpool
At the Shrine there will be time to visit the Gift Shop before Mass
We should return by 1:30pm
The Central Association of the Miraculous Medal
475 E. Chelton Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19144

THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:



St. John's Hospice for Homeless Men in Center City Philadelphia is again in need of our help. We will begin our collection of

needed items in the narthex on Monday, February 10, and continue for 2 weeks through the weekend of February 22-23. Below is the list of needs. All outer clothing and boots/shoes can be new or gently used. Underwear, bedding, towels and toiletries should be new. Jeans will be most appreciated!

- Jeans with waist sizes 30", 32", 34" and 36"
• Underwear-all sizes
• Boots/shoes
• Light weather clothing
• Bedding- Twin size, white fitted sheets, and pillowcases only, please
• Towels & washcloths
• Toiletries including full size deodorant

Thank you in advance for your participation and your kind generosity!

"For I was...naked and you clothed me" ...
'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'
-Matthew 26: 35-36, 40.



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of February 9th
TEAM 2**

This is a once per month commitment.

Gift Card Sales

Due to popular demand, we will begin selling gift cards after all Masses once a month, the same weekends that we have our After Mass Socials.

Please mark your calendars for the following weekends to purchase or order gift cards after all Masses, from popular merchants such as Amazon, CVS, Dunkin' Donuts, Giant, Home Depot, Starbucks, TJ Maxx/Marshalls/Home Goods, Walmart, & Wawa. Remember, you'll earn credits toward your favorite Catholic charity, Catholic school tuition & PREP fees, or SJB ministries with each purchase, as well as benefit our Parish. Cards will still be sold at the Parish Office on weekdays.

CASH OR CHECK PAYMENT ONLY

Upcoming dates and purchasing suggestions are:

February 8-9	Valentine's Day ♥
March 8-9	Benefit Pro-Life Month
April 12-13	Easter outfits and candy ☼
May 10-11	Mother's Day, First Holy Communion, & Graduations
June 14-15	Father's Day & Gardening
July 12-13	Summer Fun ☀
August 9-10	Back-to-School 🎒
September 13-14	Fall yard clean-up supplies 🍂
October 11-12	Halloween costumes & candy 🎃
November 8-9	Thanksgiving dinner 🦃
December 13-14	Christmas & SJB Giving Tree

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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



RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

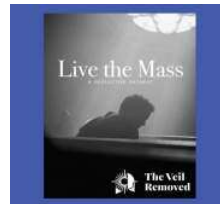
Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held February 14 - 16, 2025 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman
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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.

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Martin & Rita Elsner Brady Mattle	Patty Leidner Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Nina Carlineo Renee Moyer Bea Romaszewski	Jeanne Keller	Blake & Max Nowicki Need 1 Volunteer	Karen Parash Amleto Pucci
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Black Samantha Campbell Need 1 Volunteer	Patti Keyser	Elia, Fatu & Siri Logaivau	Ordinary Time



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 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:



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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