

February 11th, 2024 – The 6th 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 Tirpock
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 of 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 12th – February 18th, 2024

Monday: † Josie (Mike & Colette Kirk)
Tuesday: † Lynne Personius (Tom & Sue Rogers)
ASH WEDNESDAY: PARISHIONERS' INTENTIONS
Thursday: Intentions of Helene Bell (Mike & Cathy Moreni)
Friday: † Thomas Glick (Maxine Vogan)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Betty Wismer (Loving Husband Ed)
Sunday 8am: † Diane Collins (Mike & Cathy Moreni)
Sunday 10:30am: Parishioners' Intentions

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14th
Masses at 9AM and 6PM



All are Welcome to our Parish's Lenten Soup on Fridays at 5 PM during Lent before the Stations of Cross in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread and desserts.

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 4th Envelopes \$12,437 * E-Giving \$1,788
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Feb 11: Conquest/Challenge – School – 11:30am-2pm
Mon. Feb 12: Prayer Shawl – Marian Rm - 7:00pm
Tue. Feb13: **The Chosen-Season 3** Study – Marian Rm-7:00pm
Tue. Feb13: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm

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!

FROM YOUR PASTOR

The first reading gives us an account of how the lepers were treated in the Hebrew society. The victim is treated as an unclean person and hence has to segregate himself. Moreover, she/he has to cry out loud saying 'unclean, unclean' whenever she/he sees a group of people coming his/her way. Such was the treatment meted out to a leper by the Jewish society. However, we read in the Gospel today that Jesus did not follow all these norms. He sees the leper, is moved with compassion and cures him.

In the second reading, Paul calls us to imitate Jesus. Imitating Jesus is to promote life as in the Gospel passage of the day. It means, seeing the world as He saw, making choices for the least as He made, and acting on the least's behalf as He acted. This act of Imitation of Jesus needs to be consistent in every act of ours through constant discernment.

As Pope Francis mentions in 'Fratelli Tutti', each day, we have to decide whether to be good Samaritans by extending ourselves to the others in need or to acting as indifferent bystanders, doing nothing. Therefore, the invitation for us today is to embrace and engage with the people in need and act like Jesus to promote life.

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 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.

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!



Starting on February 13th, we will be viewing
"THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3"

on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Marian Room. We are blessed that Fr. Jomar will be joining us once again to answer questions and provide his excellent insights!

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.

PRAYERS TO ST. PEREGRINE

Every Tuesday morning, following the 9am Mass we will be praying for those who are suffering from cancer and other diseases. We will be doing the Prayers to St. Peregrine.

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering

Holy Communion for the Sick & Homebound



Are you or your family member unable to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion? If you would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521.

We will make arrangements to bring the Lord to you.

PARISH SURVEY



THE PASTORAL COUNCIL IS READY TO LAUNCH **PHASE 2** OF THE PARISH SURVEY RESPONSE.

IN DECEMBER WE HANDED OUT THE SUMMARY OF RESULTS TO PARISHIONERS. NOW WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SIGN UP FOR FOCUS GROUPS TO ADDRESS THE OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM THE SURVEY. WE ARE ASKING ALL THOSE WHO SIGNED UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOCUS GROUPS TO SIGN UP FOR ONE GROUP. IF YOU DID NOT SIGN UP PREVIOUSLY, BUT ARE INTERESTED, YOU ARE WELCOME TO SIGN UP. ALSO, YOU ARE WELCOME TO SIGN UP EVEN IF YOU DID NOT COMPLETE THE SURVEY.

SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE NARTHEX.

Join the Cleaning Team!
Wk. of February 11th TEAM 5
This is a once per month commitment.

FEBRUARY MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT



Parish church clean and inviting for all who come to the daily and Sunday Masses.

The SJB Cleaning Ministry currently has 23 volunteers who give an hour or two of their time once a month to keep our Parish church clean and inviting for all who come to the daily and Sunday Masses. We currently have five cleaning teams. Working together as a team makes the job go faster and there is a sense of camaraderie that accompanies each team in the work of keeping our Parish polished and clean. It is truly an honor to do this task for Our Lord! Lifelong friendships develop from cheerfully working alongside one another each month. Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers. If interested in joining a team, please contact: Anita Colahan amcolahan@epix.net.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Our Father Stommel Council #4545 meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays at 7:30pm.

For information or to join, contact

Grand Knight Frank Balbirer or email KofC4545@aol.com



As you prepare to file your taxes, you have a huge opportunity to receive an up to 90% tax credit while supporting Catholic education at Regina Academy, at little or no cost to you!

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Check-out line 12 of your 2022 PA State return to get an indication of the amount you can pledge. The minimum contribution is \$1,000.

Please scan the QR code below or contact office@rasjb.org for more information. If you enroll by July 1, you can get your tax credit for your 2024 tax return filing.

There is no better investment than in our children! Thank you for your commitment to this worthy cause and making a difference in the lives of the children.



WE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST HAVE PLANNED THE FOLLOWING AS PART OF THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

1. **Bible / Faith Study for Lent** - This Lent we will be reading "[Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist](#)" by Brant Pitre. Please join Maxine Vogan as she leads us through discussions on one of the greatest mysteries of the Catholic faith: Jesus present in the Eucharist! We will meet Sundays starting Feb 18th at 9:15am. Sign up in the Narthex.
2. **WOMEN'S RETREAT "LIVE THE MASS" WEEKEND IS APRIL 13TH & 14TH AT THE CZESTOCHOWA SHRINE. INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THE RETREAT ARE IN THE NARTHEX. SPACE IS LIMITED FOR THE RETREAT, SO PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SIGNING UP.**

Blessings, The Evangelization Ministry



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

for children who attend public school, private non-Catholic school, or at-home secular learning experiences, is provided at St. John the Baptist on Monday evenings from September through May.

Any family not yet registered should contact the Director of Religious Education at prep@stjohnsottsville.org or call 610-847-5521.



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.



ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CLOTHING DRIVE

A HUGE THANK YOU to all who contributed to the clothing drive for St. John's Hospice, Phila. They were extremely grateful for your participation and amazing generosity!

If you still would like to make a financial contribution to the Hospice, it can be mailed to:

**ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE, 221 RACE ST.
PHILA., PA 19107-1694.**

And be sure to identify yourself as a parishioner at St. John the Baptist, Ottsville!!!

New Music Ministry Members



Welcome!

Do you find yourself singing along with the songs at Mass?

Thinking about how to be more involved in the Mass?

Why not join the Music Ministry?

The Choir, Ordinary Time, Echoes of Christ, and Cantors are always looking for new members.

No special training needed, just a willingness to join in and contribute.

**We are also in great need of Musicians:
Organists, Pianists as well as other Instrumentalists.
New Groups are also welcome.**

Contacts:

Choir, Cantor, Musician, Group: Patty: pl_1967@hotmail.com | phone: (908) 500-3398
Ordinary Time: Liz: foxtail@epix.net | phone: (610)-608-6365
Echoes of Christ: Rob: robgaldo@aol.com | phone: (215)-435-6427



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MONDAY EVENING AT 7 PM – 8 PM

WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 10 AM-11AM

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, rosary, Chaplet of
Divine Mercy and Liturgy of the Hours

ON THE 1ST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
IN ST. JOSEPH'S HALL

Beginning at 10 am

Rosary, confessions, Mass and lunch

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US IN PRAYER

To schedule your retreat and for additional
information please call Joan Black at 215-795-2947

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Ted Fahy - President

Marie Burke - Secretary

Peg Glancey - Moderator

Helene Bell, Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht,

Nancy Kaczinski, Stephen Kutra, Jeanne Keller

Mike Kirk - Finance Council Representative

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Father Lucas - Chairman

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Fun Walk 2024

**February 14th, 2024
February 17th & 18th, 2024**

**Ash Wednesday
1st Sunday of Lent**

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
ASH WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAY 9AM	Jim Black Joan Black	Sean Lynch	Regina Academy Students	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
ASH WEDNESDAY WEDNESDAY 6PM	Joan Beebe Weez Roney	Kim Zampirri	Khloe Demusz Melissa Demusz Christine Wimpenny	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SATURDAY 5PM	Lisa Saxton Need 1 Volunteer	Patti Keyser	Jacob Roney Joshua Roney Need 1 Volunteer	Needed
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Tom Keller	Jeanne Keller	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Wendy DeGroot Laura Gumprecht	Ward Van Haute	Max Van Haute Audrey Van Haute Hezekiah Van Haute	Ordinary Time



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Helene Bell, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, Joe Fekete, Melanie Fioretta, Betty Fleck, Tom Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Stephen Holznagel, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Loretta Malloy, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Helen Pepkowski, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, **Don Stahley**, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer

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 James 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



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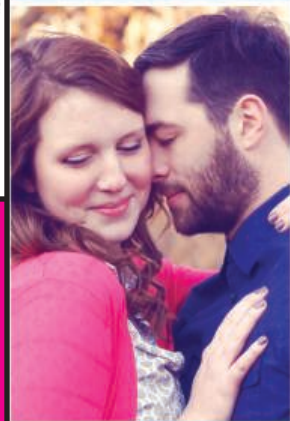
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