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

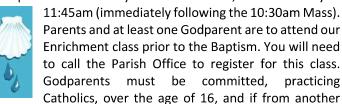
CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm or by appt.

Register in the Parish: Please contact the Parish Office

to register when you move into our parish.

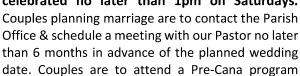
<u>Certificates of Eligibility</u>: May be issued only to registered parishioners who currently reside within our parish boundaries, who have been registered parishioners at least six months, are 16 yrs. and older, who have received all their Sacraments of Initiation, and are actively practicing their 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



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.



approved by our Diocese.

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 17th – February 23rd, 2025

Monday: + Helene Bell (Georgina Puente)

Tuesday: † Darlene Bittenmaster (Jim & Joan Black)
Wednesday: † Bill Saxton (Georgina Puente)
Thursday: Intentions of Mike & Colette Kirk

(Janet Reidler & Family)

Friday: + Freeh-Johnson Family (David & Mary Grace Tillotson)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 8am: + Marie Louzon (Georgina Puente)
Sunday 10:30am: + Darlene Bittenmaster (Mrs. Celia Bialas)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
The Parish Office is closed on Monday,
February 17th in Observance of Presidents' Day.
No PREP Classes on Monday, February 17th
To plan a Partism Woodding Funeral private Confession places

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

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

February 9th - Envelopes \$12,549 - E-Giving \$1,892 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

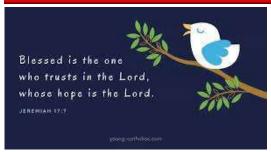
Mon. Feb 17: Women's Retreat Mtg – Marian Room - 7pm **Mon. Feb 17:** Knights of Columbus – School Gym – 7:30pm

Wed. Feb 19: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am

Wed. Feb 19: Intercessory Prayer * - Zoom - 6:30pm

* EMAIL LAURA AT <u>sjbevangel@stjohnsottsville.org</u>
TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.

Thu. Feb 20: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm



The Sixth
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!

FROM YOUR PASTOR

In the reading today, we find God pronouncing blessings upon people for trusting in Him alone and curses them all from various infirmities for the same reason. Though a curse is something negative there is a meaningful purpose behind it, to have self-actualization in order to make our lives Christ-centered.

Thus, we are to possess and nurture His life-giving values in us. Trusting in oneself alone will make us like thistles. Though we may possess all the worldly values but trusting in Him alone we'll be like an evergreen tree around the water, growing spiritually, physically, socially and intellectually in Him.

In today's gospel Jesus' blessing is a call and a hope addressed to the forgotten world, beginning with the poor among His people. It is a call of conversion of one's heart and mind to have total trust in Him with one's genuine efforts without having selfish motives. Through that Jesus is revealing God the Father to us and also revealing ourselves to us for who we are and what Jesus wants us to be like and has bridged the broken relationship between us and God. He is also assuring His people that the Kingdom of God is theirs.

Here, the Kingdom of God means God is in all who put their trust in Him alone. This will transform us making our lives as reflections of God's Kingdom. Our lives will be able to reflect God's blessings, love, forgiveness, mercy and endless caring for many more people. Thus, the Kingdom signifies a new society filled with Jesus' values and the annihilation of worldly values as he blesses the poor not the poverty.

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.



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.



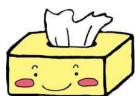
FEAST DAY
HIGHLIGHT FOR
THE MONTH OF
FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 16TH, 2025 – THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 4545 is selling **CAPTAIN CHUCKY'S CRAB CAKES** just in time for Lent. Order forms with details are in the narthex and on the parish website. Knights will be accepting order forms after Mass on February 15 & 16 and February 22 & 23.

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*



GREETINGS FROM ACROSS CAMPUS!

I want to introduce you to our Montessori program and invite you to come and take a tour.

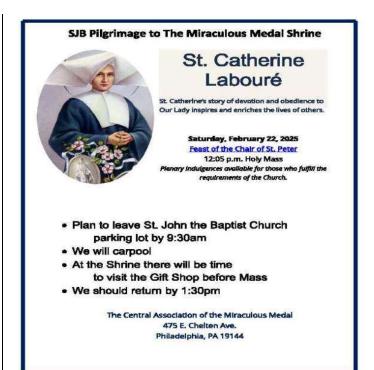
At The Regina Academy Montessori preschool, we create a nurturing and stimulating environment that fosters a love for learning in young children. Our carefully designed classroom has age-appropriate materials encouraging exploration, creativity, and independence. We embrace the Montessori philosophy, allowing children to learn at their own pace and choose activities that resonate with their interests. Individualized instruction and mixed-age group interactions promote social development and collaboration. Our dedicated teachers guide each child's journey, ensuring they build essential skills while fostering curiosity and self-confidence.

We foster a nurturing Catholic community that promotes lifelong learning for all.

Blessings, Tami Koerber, Head of School

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.



THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE NARTHEX. For more information, please contact Anita Colahan at amcolahan@epix.net

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



St. John's Hospice for Homeless Men in Center City Philadelphia is again in need of our help. Our collection of needed items

in the narthex will 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. <u>Jeans will be most appreciated!</u>

- Jeans with waist sizes 30", 32", 34" and 36"
- Underwear-all sizes
- Boots/shoes
- Light weather clothing
- Bedding- Twin size, white <u>fitted</u> 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.



The 2025 Knights of Columbus 4545 Free Throw Competition was held on February 3rd in the Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist gvm.



1st place: Alexis Davidow & Aidan Herbert 2nd place: Blythe Rojas & Ben Ivenz 3rd place: Rita Elsner & (tie) Matthew Trotter & Julian Brigidi Thank you to all who participated!

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER "A Quiet Country Retreat"

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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



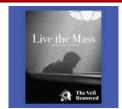
Archbishop Ryan 2025 Winter Social Party with a purpose!

Saturday, March 29, 2025 (7 PM to 12am)

Philadelphia Ballroom - 2014 Hornig Rd. - Philadelphia, PA 19116 Tickets incl. Live Entertainment, Top Shelf Open Bar, Buffet Dinner

www.arhs.me/wintersocial

Email friendsofryan.team@gmail.com for questions



"LIVE THE MASS"

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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.



Contributing Made Easy! Online Please visit website our

www.stjohnsottsville.org and click on the Parish Giving link. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program.

For more information, please call the Parish Office.

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

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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

FEBRUARY 22ND & 23RD, 2025

THE 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Laura Gumprecht Lisa Saxton Need 1 Volunteer	Kim Zampirri	Julia & Alyssa Byers Christine Wimpenny	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Tom Keller Jim McHugh	Jeanne Keller	Alaina Butler Blake & Max Nowicki	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe Melissa Demusz Anne Luna	Tony Luna	Khloe Demusz Olivia Luna Need 1 Volunteer	Sue Rogers SJB Choir



O 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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by your parish community and is SO appreciated!

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Benefiting student arishioners attending The Regina Academy at SJB

A non-profit endowment fund www.roberthuestonfund.org PO Box 363, Ottsville



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