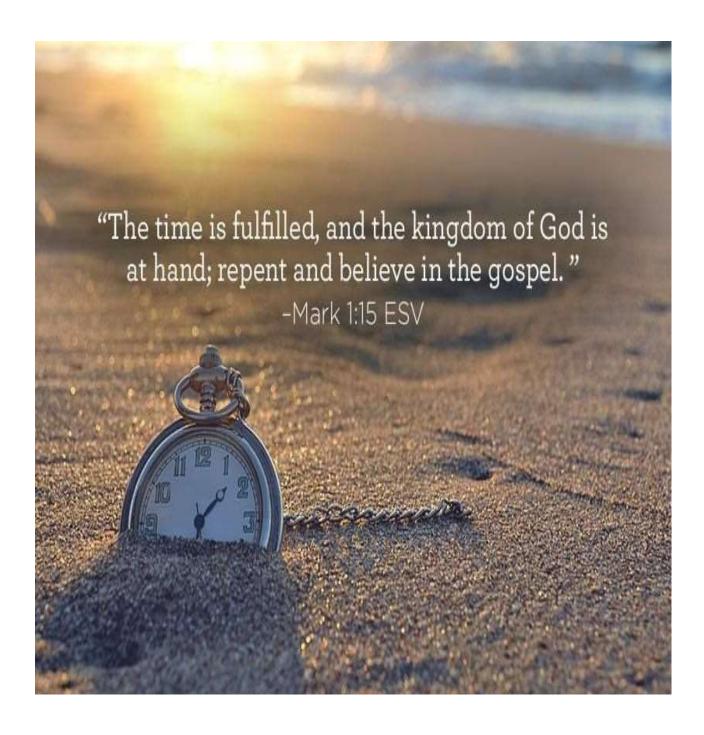
#### February 18th, 2024 - The 1st Sunday of Lent

## 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

#### **M**ASS 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.

**<u>Register in the Parish</u>**: 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 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 19<sup>th</sup> – February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Monday: † Thomas Glick (Joan Beebe)

Tuesday: Intentions of Marianne Scott (Marion Wolf)
Wednesday: † Patricia Bercute (Joe Werner & Family)

Thursday: † Betty Jane Rick (Harold Rick)
Friday: † John Dougherty (Jack Lynch)

#### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 5pm: + Sheila Foote (Dave & Anne Slifer)

Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday 10:30am: † Thomas Glick (Jim & Joan Black)

CONFESSIONS AT 5:30PM AND MASS IN THE CHAPEL AT 6 PM ON WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT.



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 The Parish Office is closed on Monday, February 19th in Observance of Presidents' Day.

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

#### **WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS**

February 11<sup>th</sup> Envelopes \$5,700 \* E-Giving \$1,769 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

#### **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS**

Mon. Feb 19: Knights of Columbus – School Gym - 7:30pm

Tue. Feb 20: The Chosen-Season 3 Study –St. Augustine Rm-7:00pm

Tue. Feb 20: 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 word 'lent' comes from the Latin lente: lengthening of daytime, meaning it's springtime. Yes, the season of Lent is actually that of a spring. Everybody likes the season of spring. The Lord, our God, makes a covenant with Noah and all the creation with him by means of a sign – a bow in the clouds.

A RAINBOW - Everybody likes a rainbow. And this is the Good News. As the spring season marks the springing forth of new sprouts in the place of the withered leaves, so also, we are called to enter into a new life having our past and sinful life withering away. In doing so, as apostle Peter says today, we get to be baptized anew and saved thereby.

As the presence and beauty of a rainbow wows and mesmerizes us, so also, we are called to be wowed and mesmerized by the love of our Lord Jesus Christ who gave up his life for us so that we may live joyfully. If only, in good conscience, we could repent (wither away our sinful lives) and believe in Jesus (the rainbow up above), we can really sprout and become the Good News for others, too.

Let us pray - Lord, help us enter into the Lenten season with a joyful heart knowing that you would forgive us our sins and make us become Good News for others.

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 guarreling 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.

# Cemetery Spring Clean-up Saturday, February 24th, 9:30 AM

Snow or rain date: Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:30 AM

All items will be removed. All are welcome to help.

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.



#### **FEBRUARY MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT**



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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:30pm. For information or to join, contact

Grand Knight Frank Balbirer or email KofC4545@aol.com

#### Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

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Across campus at the Regina Academy, we had а busy time lately. We iust wrapped Classical up Schools' week, during which children the participated in multi-age Catholic quiz bowl that

tested their catechism knowledge. The children explored what living like a pioneer must have been like. Fr. Legaspi also celebrated the 35th anniversary of his priesthood, and you just might have had the pleasure of celebrating Mass with him last Saturday at 5 pm. In art class, the students learn the timeless talent of sewing, which has unfortunately been forgotten in recent years. The children also enjoy extracurricular activities like Hot Hoops, family volleyball, and pizza night. The youngest athletes are showing a competitive spirit! Enrollment for the Academy is now open, and there are still spaces available in some of our classes. For more information, please visit our website at www. rasib.org or call the school office at 610-847-5523.

#### BLESSINGS, TAMI KOERBER, HEAD OF SCHOOL

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 13<sup>TH</sup> & 14<sup>TH</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:prep@stjohnsottsville.org">prep@stjohnsottsville.org</a> or call 610-847-5521.

#### FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 – THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



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. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY EASTER FOOD SALE

We are happy to announce the return of our annual St. Mary Polish American Society Easter Food Sale. Food items will include: -Babkas (cheese, cinnamon crumb, or raspberry cheese) for \$16 each from L&M Bakery in Delran, NJ; -Pierogi (potato, potato cheese, or sauerkraut) for \$10 per dozen from Polka Deli in Port Richmond in Philadelphia; Kiełbasa for \$9 per pound from Czerw's in Port Richmond. The deadline to place a food order will be Wednesday March 13th so our suppliers have enough time to process our orders. Order pick-up will be on Friday, March 22nd and Saturday March 23rd from 1 to 4 pm at St. Mary Catholic Church Hall in Conshohocken. Proceeds from the Easter Food Sale support our mission of promoting Polish heritage in Montgomery County, PA and assistance with the restoration of St. Mary Catholic Church in Conshohocken, PA. To place a food order please email foodsale@stmarypolish.org or call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.



#### ST. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY

is accepting applications for the second annual Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship to a qualified student of Polish ancestry residing

within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pursuing full-time undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. Full information about the scholarship is included in the QR code. Scholarship deadline: March 1st. Questions, please call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.





Online Contributing Made Easy! Please visit our website www.stjohnsottsville.org and click on the above link. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program. For more information please call the Parish Office.



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

#### **New Music Ministry Members**





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

Cantor, Musician, Group: Patty: pl\_1967@hotmail.com | phone: (908) 500-3396 ary Time: Liz: foxtail@epix.net | phone: (610)-608-6365 so of Christ: Rob: robgaldo@aol.com | phone: (216-436-6427)

#### PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Ted Fahy - President

Marie Burke - Secretary

Peg Glancey - Moderator

Helene Bell, Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht,

Nancy Kaczinski, Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller Mike Kirk - Finance Council Representative

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Mike Kirk - President/Moderator

Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager - St. John the Baptist

Mary Kosmin - Secretary

Chris Hackley, Jim McHugh, Mary Miller,

Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters

Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative

#### FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 – THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

February 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. 2024

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

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	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Weez Roney Lisa Saxton	Kim Zampirri	Brady Mattle Christine Wimpenny Need 1 Volunteer	Needed
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Jim McHugh	Anita Colahan	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Black Jim Black	Patti Keyser	Fatu Logaivau Elia Logaivau Need 1 Volunteer	Sue Rogers SJB Choir



## 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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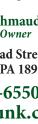
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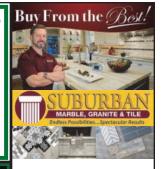


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