

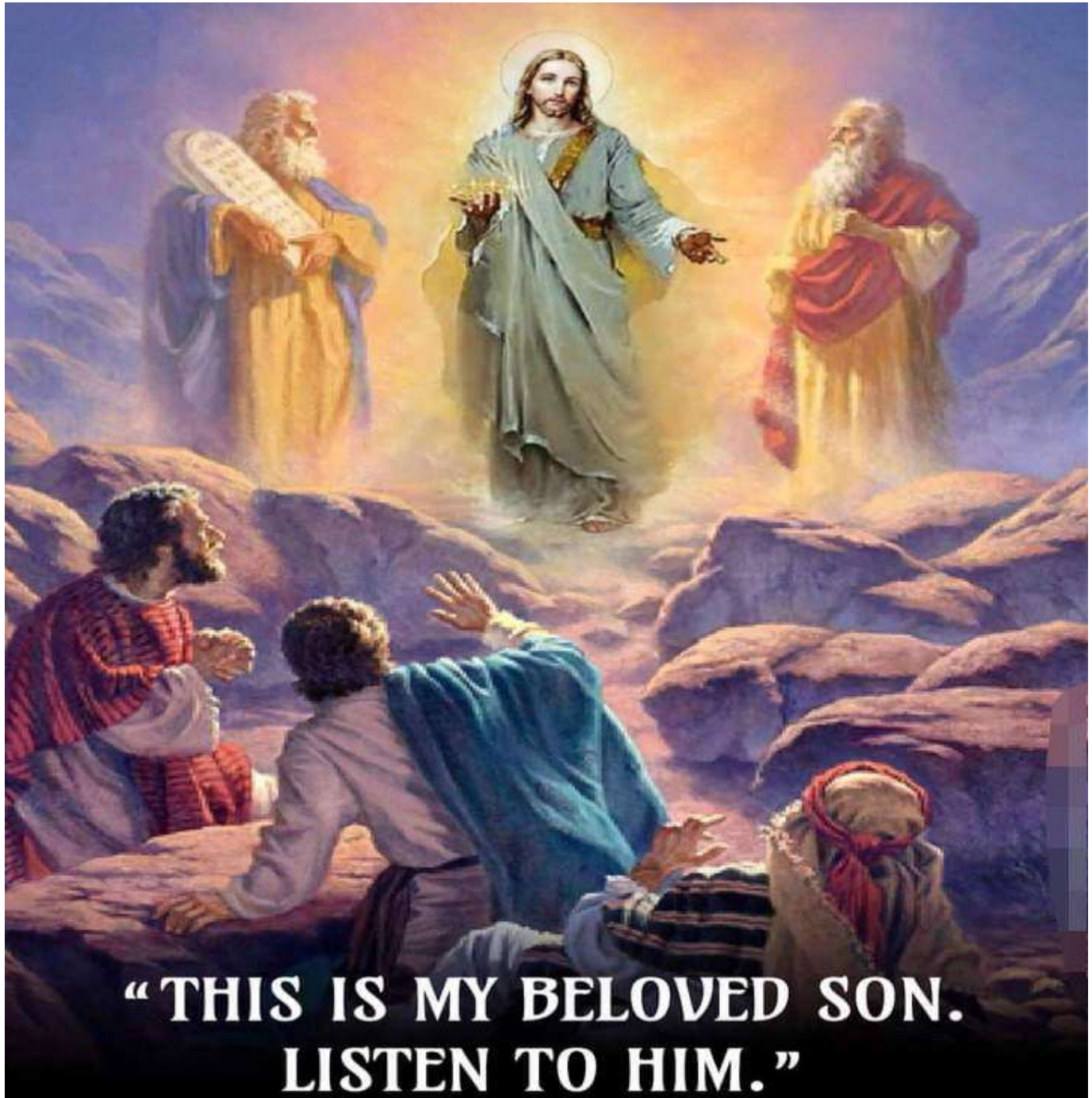
February 25th, 2024 – The 2nd Sunday of Lent

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



**“THIS IS MY BELOVED SON.
LISTEN TO HIM.”**

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 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 26th – March 3rd, 2024

Monday: † Jerry & Betty Petritsch (*Loving Family*)
Tuesday: † Ralph Rick (*Harold Rick*)
Wednesday: † Anthony C. Amentt (*Kelly & Jonathan Kelly*)
Thursday: Intentions of Helene Bell (*Jim & Joan Black*)
Friday: Intentions of John DeChiaro (*Antonelli Family*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Anthony Brandariz (*Mike McHugh*)
Sunday 8am: † Thomas Glick (*Harold Rick*)
Sunday 10:30am: Parishioners' Intentions

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 DURING LENT AT 5 PM** in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread & desserts. Afterwards, we will pray the **STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT 6PM.**

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 18th Envelopes **Not Available** E-Giving \$1,857
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Feb 25: Conquest/Challenge – School – 11:30am-2pm
Tue. Feb 27: **The Chosen-Season 3** Study –St. Augustine Rm-7:00pm
Tue. Feb 27: 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 talks about God’s command to Abraham, the father of faith and his response. The second reading assures us stating that if God is with us who can be against us. The strange thing besides the transformative experience of the transfiguration occurs in the Gospel of Mark, at once Jesus had been recognized by his fellow disciples as the true Messiah.

Thus, the Gospel reading invites us to be simply still and allow the divine word and love to fill your heart and mind. Are you listening to him? Of innumerable powerful plus soft voices in this universe, could anyone identify any trust worthy voice?

A voice from above echoes that we can trust Jesus. Listen to him by lending your ears to the words of the eternal life holder. Listen to him who is the provider of the immortal treasure, inner peace and deep joy. Only in his words lies our salvation.

God is available 24/7, waiting for His beloved sons and daughters to eagerly listen to their voices so that in turn we could do the same. He is ready. Are we ready for this? Because where there is love there would be listening –itself a profound act of prayer.

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.

1ST FRIDAY ADORATION

**BEGINS MARCH 1ST
AFTER THE 9AM MASS
AND CONCLUDES
AT 4:30PM WITH
BENEDICTION.**



GOD’S BLESSINGS ON THE BAPTISMS OF



*Genevieve Autumn Maule
Mason Russell Maule
Owen Patrick Walsh*

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.

“THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3”

We will be viewing “The Chosen – Season 3” on Tuesdays at 7pm in the St. Augustine 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



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 25th TEAM 2

This is a once per month commitment.

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.

Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

The only Catholic, Classical School in Bucks County!

- Authentic Catholic education that develops strong morals and character
- Small class sizes without screens
- Tight knit, like minded community
- Montessori Pre-K, Classical K-8th Grade



This week, across the campus, Regina Academy students are preparing for Lent with the receiving of Ashes.

The students also put their skills and drills to work with the KOC free throw competition. Congratulations to Roman Brigidi, Overall Champ, with 11 shots made in total.

The Academy welcomes parishioners who would like to visit to see the classical curriculum shaping the children's minds in the timeless instruction of liberal arts education. Please call the office if you would like to have a tour at 610-847-5523. The Academy is now open for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year.

Mark your calendar for the Academy presentation of The Lion, the Witch, and Wardrobe coming in May—more information to follow.

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 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. MARY POLISH AMERICAN SOCIETY

is accepting applications for the second annual Felicia Jemionek Rzeknik 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.

	NUN RUN 5K
	April 13 at 10:00 AM
	Join us to support the mission and lives of our MSC Sisters: Sponsorships Live & Virtual Options
	Visit: MSCreading.org CWhitmoyer@mscreading.org
	Fun Walk 2024 T-SHIRT DEADLINE 3/20

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

The K of C Council 4545 held their annual Free Throw Competition in the Regina Academy at SJB gym on February 12th, 2024.

The Council Champion was Roman Brigidi. Second Place went to Brady Mattie.

Winners of age / grade categories were Blythe Rojas, Matthew Trotter, Mikele D'Alessio, and Mary Fauerbach.

Congrats and thank you to all who participated!

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WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 10 AM – 11 AM

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ON THE 1ST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

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PLEASE COME AND JOIN US IN PRAYER

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

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) 500-3388

Ordinary Time: Liz: foxtail@epix.net | phone: (610) 608-6365

Echoes of Christ: Rob: robaldos@aol.com | phone: (215) 435-5427

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 25TH, 2024 – THE 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 2nd & 3rd, 2024

3rd Sunday of Lent

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey	Kim Zampirri	Jacob Roney Joshua Roney Need 1 Volunteer	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Gretchen Meyers Christine Wimpenny Need 1 Volunteer	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Leona Russell Ward Van Haute	Patti Keyser	Max Van Haute Audrey Van Haute Hezekiah Van Haute	Echoes of Christ



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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