

January 28th, 2024 – The 4th 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 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 January 29 – February 04, 2024

Monday: † Russell Davis (*Mary Kosmin*)
Tuesday: † Linda Hayes (*Lisa Simkanin*)
Wednesday: † Ralph Rick (*Harold Rick*)
Thursday: † Jerry Petritsch (*Janet Reidler*)
Friday: † Gregory Geiger (*The Scheliga Family*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Bill Saxton (*Patti & Bruce Keyser*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: Scout Sunday - Boy Scouts' Intentions

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

January 14th Envelopes \$5,211 * E-Giving \$1,854

January 21st Envelopes \$4,143 * E-Giving \$1,782

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Jan 28: Conquest/Challenge – School – 11:30am-2pm
Tue. Jan 30: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm
Wed. Jan 31: Intercessory Prayer – Zoom - 6:30pm
Sat. Feb 03: Men of Faith – Marian Room – 9:00am

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!

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.



**1st Friday Adoration begins
February 2nd after the 9am Mass
and concludes Saturday morning
at 9am Benediction & Mass.**

FROM YOUR PASTOR

In the first reading, Moses foretells the coming of a mighty prophet. The Gospel tells how the people were amazed by the way Jesus taught with authority. The foretold mighty prophet of the first reading connects the authoritative teacher of the New Testament. The Jews anticipated the mighty prophet to have power over the Romans and expected a political messiah. But Jesus came as messiah to bring good news to the poor, to release the captive and the oppressed to freedom.

The authority of the teaching of Jesus challenges us to safeguard the rights of the poor and to have a compassionate heart. It boosts us to have courage, hope, love, concern and compassion. Jesus' preaching gave the compassionate heart to St. Theresa of Kolkata to take care of the street children and beggars. It gave courage and hope to St. Francis Xavier to travel to India and Japan for the mission of the Holy Father. Today the war-ridden and oppressive contexts of our society demand us to be proactive disciples of Christ. Let us ask for the grace to face contemporary challenges and join the poor to work for their liberation and dignified status.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, in a world filled with uncertainty and division, help us to embrace the role of the authoritative servant of Jesus. Grant us the strength to serve with humility, love, and compassion, uniting communities and healing our wounded world. May we be guided by the example of Christ, working together to bring about positive change and promoting peace, justice, and understanding.

Sincerely in Our Lord

REV. S. LUCAS MSC

Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish

Pope Francis' Prayer for Peace

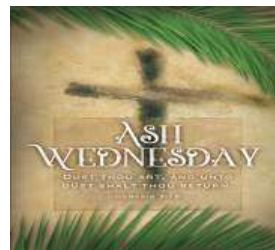
Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

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.



ASH

WEDNESDAY

February 14th

Masses at 9AM and 6PM

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.



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.



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of January 28th
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.



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!

Why pay for a wasteful government program or a legislator's lunch? Please consider enrolling in the Pennsylvania Educational Tax Credit program, better-known as ETC. The Academy will receive 100% of your pledge and you will receive a 90% tax credit for a 2-year commitment and 75% for a 1-year commitment. Individuals and businesses are eligible.

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@rsjb.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.



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.

Please join us for the Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Annual Spaghetti Supper



Saturday, January 27th in the Academy Gym

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Includes Spaghetti, Meatballs, Bread, Salad, Dessert,
and Refreshments

\$10, ages 12 and up

\$5, ages 6-11

Ages 5 and younger are free.

TAKEOUT IS ALSO AVAILABLE

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. 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! Sign up in the Narthex.
3. Apr 13th - Apr 14th, 2024: an overnight retreat at the Czestochowa Shrine **“Live the Mass”**



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.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CLOTHING DRIVE



January cold means a tough time for the homeless.

As promised, the SJB Social Outreach Team will sponsor our annual clothing drive to benefit St. John's Hospice, a

Catholic Social Services shelter for men located in Center City, Philadelphia. Please drop off your donations the NEXT TWO WEEKENDS, on Jan. 27th & 28th and Feb. 3rd & 4th, after all Masses. Bins and plastic bags will be available in the narthex to collect donated items.

Jesus says, "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do to me."

WISH LIST

Thermal Underwear & Socks, Coats, Gloves, Scarves, Hats, Sweat Suits, Sweaters, Blankets, Towels, Men's Backpacks, New or Gently Used Winter Boots, New T-Shirts & Underwear (Size Large and Up), New Twin Size White Fitted & Flat Sheets, White Pillow Cases
Toiletries including Soap, Disposable Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Shampoo, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Floss, Hand Lotion, Combs

Also checks, cash and money orders are accepted! Make all donations out to St. John's Hospice. Please bring to church at the time of the clothing drive **OR** send to: St. John's Hospice, 221 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA. 19107-1694. Be sure to identify yourself as a St. John the Baptist Ottsville parishioner!

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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@epuc.net | phone: (610)-608-6365
Echoes of Christ: Rob: robgaldo@aol.com | phone: (215)-435-5427



FATIMA RETREAT HOUSE

"A Quiet Country Retreat"

601 Rolling Hills Rd, Bedminster, PA

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

OVERNIGHT RETREATS

FOR AN INDIVIDUAL OR A GROUP UP TO 8
DAY PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR GROUPS UP
TO 50 INDIVIDUALS

WEEKLY PRAYER SCHEDULE IN OUR LADY'S CHAPEL

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 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

JANUARY 28TH, 2024 – THE 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 3rd & 4th, 2024

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Christina Crews Adam Crews	Kim Zampirri	Siobhan Crews Amalia Crews Gretchen Meyers	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Jim McHugh	Need 1 Volunteer	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	Kate Irvine Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe Ward Van Haute	Sean Lynch	Max Van Haute Audrey Van Haute Hezekiah Van Haute	Echoes of Christ Cantor Needed



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, 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



SHELLY

Funeral Home Inc.

Family Owned & Operated

PLUMSTEADVILLE
215-766-8800
Steven M. Shelly, Supervisor

WARRINGTON
215-343-3040
Frank L. Shelly, Supervisor

www.shellyfuneralhomes.com

Joseph M. McGhee, Funeral Home Director

Crews Surveying, LLC
www.crewssurveying.com 215-766-2477 215-297-8666



Surveying Greater Bucks County for over 40 years!

catholicmatch[®]
Pennsylvania



[CatholicMatch.com/
datePA](http://CatholicMatch.com/datePA)

WORSHIP



WITH US

**Wouldn't your business
look GREAT here?**

**To advertise call
800-333-3166
ext. 161**

**or visit
www.jppc.net**



Make a Difference in Your Community

VOLUNTEER

with the American Red Cross

Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...

Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!



www.MallorysArmy.com

(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send
your email address by text message:

Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.

Message and data rates may apply.



Morgan

basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

**French Drains
Foundation Repair
Mold Remediation**

All Work Guaranteed

215-639-8500

www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com

Special Savings Offer for All Parish Members!

**10% DISCOUNT ON
BURIAL SPACE***

**Advance Planning helps save families from emotional
and financial burdens at the time of death!**

CALL 215.302.9390



AN ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC CEMETERY

*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com

**RIDESHARE
ZONE**

**S top
A sk
M atch
I nform**

#WHATSMYNAME

DAVE'S SERVICE LLC TREE CARE LAWN SERVICE

Firewood • Mulching
Stump Grinding,
Chipping & Removal

215-778-6110

davesservicestreeandlawn@yahoo.com
PA 017595

Personalized funeral & cremation services • Pre-planning & pre-funding available



C.R. Strunk

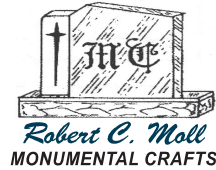
FUNERAL HOME INC.

Michael B. Schmauder
Supervisor, Owner

821 West Broad Street
Quakertown, PA 18951

215-536-6550
www.crstrunk.com

Buy From the *Best!*



Robert C. Moll
MONUMENTAL CRAFTS

Complete line of services for the
monument industry

ALL TYPES OF GRANITE & BRONZE

Engraving, custom etchings,
cemetery lettering & granite cleaning.

SERVICING LEHIGH VALLEY SINCE 1979

LETTERING AND MONUMENT SERVICES OFFERED BY SOME FUNERAL HOMES
& CEMETERIES CAN COST YOU MORE THAN DEALING DIRECTLY WITH US.

84 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055
www.monumentalcrafts.net

Bus: 610-838-8251
Fax: 610-838-6308

"WE SHOW YOUR LOVE TODAY IS EVERLASTING"

Bucks County Nursery & Florist

RETAIL GARDEN CENTER/NURSERY
FULL SERVICE FLORIST
GREENHOUSE/GIFT SHOPPE
LANDSCAPE • HARDSCAPE

Route 412 & Gessner Road
Kintnersville, PA 18930
across from Palisades High School

610-847-8146

www.buckscountynurseryandflorist.com
Customerservice@buckscountynurseryandflorist.com

Button
Popper



**CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY
& UPHOLSTERY REPAIR**

Quality Craftsmanship
Personal Touch

215-262-8201

Michael Patton • Perkasie, PA

**Kitchen
Countertops,
bathroom
vanities,
tile and
more!**

1010 Pulinski Rd
Ivyland
Bucks County, PA 18974

215.734.9100

Open Monday Thru Saturday

www.SuburbanMarble.com

Contractor #PA 007452

Robert W. Snyder FUNERAL HOME

327 Easton Road
Riegelsville, PA 18077
610-749-2421

Amy L. Snyder, F.D.

Serving the Riegelsville
area since 1951

Robert Hueston Scholarship Fund

Benefiting student
parishioners attending
The Regina Academy
at SJB

A non-profit endowment fund
www.roberthuestonfund.org

PO Box 363, Ottsville

**Welcome
to Our Church!**



**Support Your
Community**

...and your Church!

SHOP
LOCAL

SPEND
LOCAL



BEECHWOOD
MEMORIALS

No Pressure Guidance,
Fair Pricing, Quality Service

- Headstones •
- Inscriptions •
- Garden Benches •
- Civic Memorials •
- Columbaria •
- Mausoleums •

www.BeechwoodMemorials.com

For Information or
Appointments
call (215) 766 - 2946

Thank You

to our
bulletin sponsors
for their support
during the past year!

Your continued support has not gone unnoticed
by your parish community and is SO appreciated!

OUR SPONSORS & OUR COMMUNITY



Sponsors can offer
promotions, discounts
and/or up-to-date contact
information to the
ENTIRE community

Finding **FABER**

ANYONE in the community,
not only Parishioners, can
access realtime offers
from their favorite sponsors
to save, share & support

