

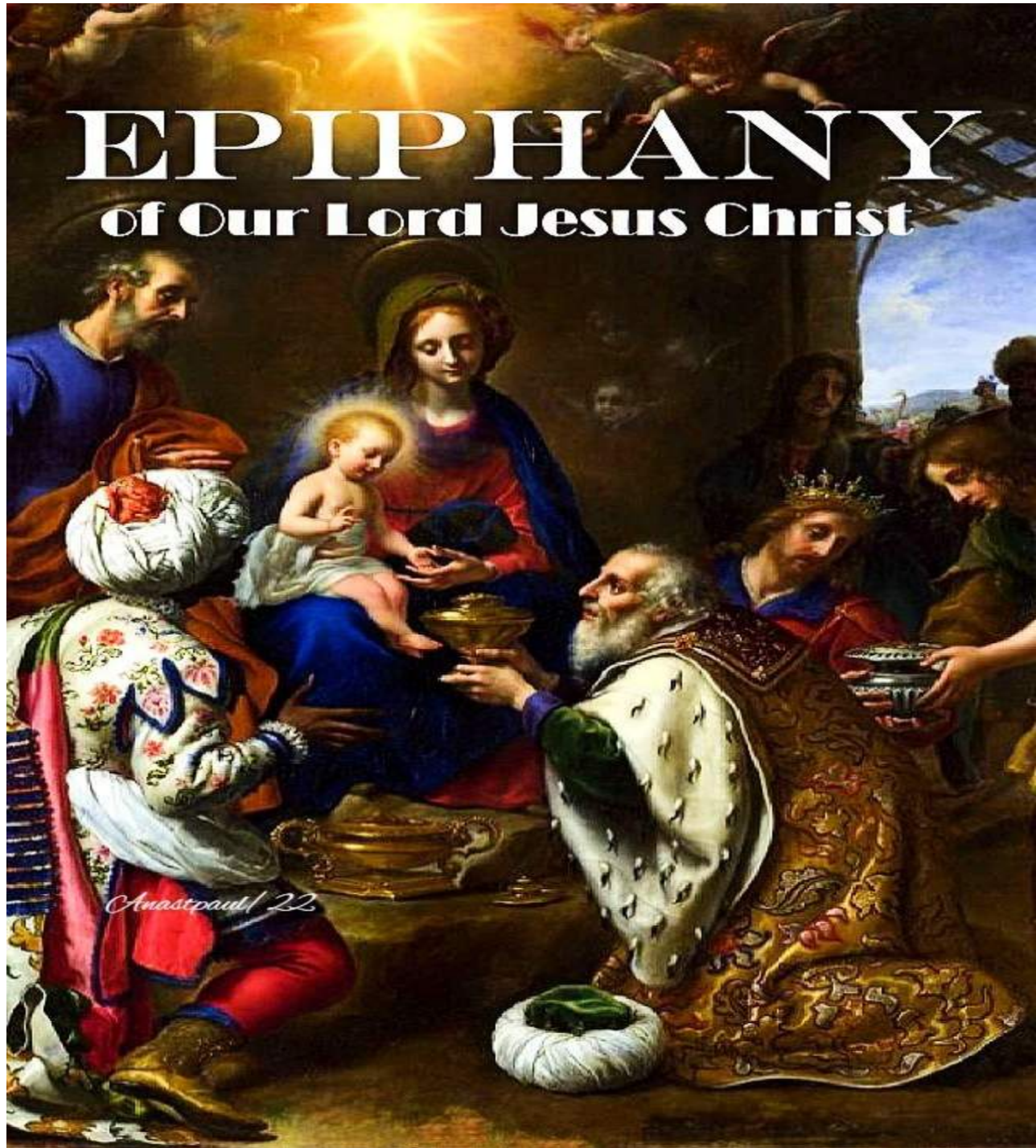
January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – The Epiphany of the Lord

## 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](http://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 08 – January 14, 2024**

Monday: † Joan McParland (*Tom & Sue Rogers*)  
Tuesday: † Bud Angello (*Joan Beebe*)  
Wednesday: Intentions of Tony & Janet Souza  
(*Tony & Janet Souza*)  
Thursday: † Jerry Petritsch (*Joan Beebe*)  
Friday: † Robert Galdo, Sr. (*Mike & Colette Kirk*)

### **Weekend Masses**

Saturday 5pm: † Vince Hill (*Jim & Terry*)  
Sunday 8am: Intentions of Helene Bell  
(*The Jerry Petritsch Family*)  
Sunday 10:30am: Parishioners' 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**

December 24<sup>th</sup> Envelopes \$2,994 \* E-Giving \$2,719  
Christmas \$12,306

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

### **WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS**

Mon. Jan 08: Prayer Shawl – Marian Room - 7:00pm  
Tue. Jan 09: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm  
Wed. Jan 10: Intercessory Prayer – Zoom - 6:30pm  
Sat. Jan 13: Men of Faith – Marian Room – 9:00am  
Sun. Jan 14: Conquest/Challenge – School – 11:30am-2pm

### **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.**



## FROM YOUR PASTOR

Today, the Church celebrates the feast of 'Epiphany of the Lord'. 'Epiphany' means manifestation. However, it doesn't mean that the manifestation of Jesus was only for the three wise men, but also for the whole world symbolically.

In today's Gospel, we find two different types of people: King Herod and the three wise men. Herod wanted to kill Jesus by all means, because he felt that Jesus would be a threat to him as he wanted to hold on to his power and throne. He was unable to see Jesus as the Messiah or a King who was born to redeem His people who were living in the clutches of sin and death; whereas, the wise men followed the star and left for an unknown destination to worship the child Jesus. Not only that, their encounter with Lord Jesus was so empowering and enlightening, that they even defied the orders of King Herod and went home through some other way.

Like the wise men from the East, we too need to recognize the signs of the time and try to find our Savior in our hearts and in our daily lives. We should not close our eyes to the truth though it may not be pleasant; or otherwise, we too, like Herod, may fall into selfishness and sin and thereby fail to find goodness outside of ourselves.

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.



### NEXT WEEKEND!

**PARISH SOCIAL AFTER MASS**  
**PLEASE STOP BY!**

Next 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!**



### 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](mailto:KofC4545@aol.com).

## NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE FRIDAY, JANUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

A bus has been reserved for St. John & St. Lawrence parishioners to attend the 2024 March for Life in Washington, DC. Retaining this reservation will depend upon having enough folks committing to attend. The National March for Life is an opportunity to bear witness to the beautiful gift of life that Our Lord shares with us. The bus will leave from St. John the Baptist to DC on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024.



*"The greatest love story of all time is  
contained in a tiny white Host."*

Archbishop Fulton Sheen

Thank you for being part of this love story and being present at Mass to nourish yourself and all others who gather with us. In this time of Eucharistic Revival, invite someone you know who has been away from Mass to join you on a Sunday in the weeks to come.



**Join the  
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of January 7<sup>th</sup>  
TEAM 5**

**This is a once per month commitment.**

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

The only Catholic, Classical School in Bucks County!

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- Small class sizes without screens
- Tight knit, like minded community
- Montessori Pre-K, Classical K-8th Grade



### **The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist is Hiring!**

The only Catholic classical school in Bucks County is seeking ardent Catholics who can teach across the curriculum and integrate the Faith as part of the formation of the memory, intellect, will and heart of the students.

#### **We have openings for:**

Office Manager Full-Time

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher (Full-Time)

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Catechist (Part-Time)

Substitute Teachers

**Teacher certification is not required.**

***Come and learn the beauty of Catholic, classical education!***

Please direct resumés and questions to Tami Koerber, Head of School, [tkoerber@rasjb.org](mailto:tkoerber@rasjb.org) - 610-847-5523.

### **Conquest for Boys & Challenge for Girls**

are Catholic youth programs for K-4 & 5-8th grades that inspire children to grow in faith by building a friendship with Christ and living lives of virtue to make a positive impact on their families, friends and the world! We meet monthly on the 2nd and 4th Sundays right after 10:30 Mass!

**QUESTIONS: [CONQUESTFORCHRIST@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CONQUESTFORCHRIST@GMAIL.COM)**

## **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](mailto:pl_1967@hotmail.com) | phone: (908) 500-3398

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

Echoes of Christ: Rob: [robgaldo@aol.com](mailto:robgaldo@aol.com) | phone: (215)-435-5427



### **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](mailto:prep@stjohnsottsville.org) or call 610-847-5521.***

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

- 1. Lenten Bible Study: "Jesus and the Jewish Roots"** by Brant Pitre
- 2. Apr 13<sup>th</sup> - Apr 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024: an overnight retreat at the Czestochowa Shrine "Live the Mass"**

Ministry Highlight for the month of January

## ADORATION Ministry

During the month of January, we at St. John's are recognizing the prayerful support the *Adoration Ministry* provides to our parish and fellow parishioners. Spending an hour in Adoration with the Lord is a wonderful way to slow down and reconnect with your soul. Adoration occurs the first Friday of every month beginning after the 9am Mass. Anyone can take a few minutes to drop in and pray.

“Adoration is prayer that prolongs the celebration and Eucharistic communion and in which the soul continues to be nourished: It is nourished with love, truth, peace; it is nourished with hope, because the One before whom we prostrate ourselves does not judge us, does not crush us, but liberates and transforms us.”

~ Pope Benedict XVI Homily for the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, 2008

## ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE CLOTHING DRIVE



January cold means a tough time for the homeless. The SJB Outreach Team will once again collect clothing for St.

John's Hospice, a Catholic Social Services shelter for men located in Center City, Philadelphia. Please make a note of the **Wish List** now, to prepare for our clothing drive later in January. More details to come!

### 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!**



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ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH  
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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



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.*

## 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 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
<b>SATURDAY 5PM</b>	Weez Roney Lisa Saxton	Sean Lynch	Brady Mattle Jacob Roney Joel Roney	Karen Parash Amleto Pucci
<b>SUNDAY 8AM</b>	Jim McHugh Bea Romaszewski	Marie Burke	<b>Need 3 Volunteers</b>	Sue Rogers Liz Torgerson
<b>SUNDAY 10:30AM</b>	Jim Black Joan Black	Leona Russell	Fatu Logaivau Elia Logaivau <b>Need 1 Volunteer</b>	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, 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 Sabbath, 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*



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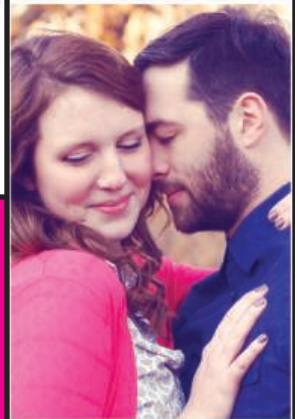
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