

MARCH 1ST, 2026 – 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



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him." - Mt 17:5b

Thank you for attending Mass with us today, we are glad you came!

Fr. Lucas and the parish family of St. John the Baptist
would like to welcome all our visitors and new members.

MARCH 1ST, 2026 – THE 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Selvaraj Lucas, M.S.C.
Director of Religious Education: Mary Ann Corcoran
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok
Facilities Manager: Thomas Rimmer
Finance Manager/Bulletin/Website: Carolyn Marchese

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30pm
Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am
Mon- Fri: 9:00am (Thursday at old St. John's Church)
Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm
CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:00pm - 4:20pm or by appt.

Register in the Parish Please contact the Parish Office to register when you move into our parish.

Certificates of Eligibility to act as Godparent or Sponsor may be issued only to registered parishioners who have been registered here at St. John the Baptist Parish at least six months, are 16 yrs. and older, have received all their Sacraments of Initiation, and are actively practicing their faith in our parish. If married, your marriage must have been witnessed and blessed by a Catholic Priest or have special permission approved by the Archbishop. A person who has left the Catholic Faith for any reason is not eligible to be a sponsor and, therefore, we cannot issue a Certificate of Eligibility.

BAPTISMS: The Sacrament of Baptism may be scheduled



to take place on a Saturday at 10am or 11am; or on a Sunday at 11:45am (immediately following the 10:30am Mass). 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 March 2nd – March 8th, 2026

Monday: Intentions of Liz Torgerson (*Janet Reidler & Family*)
Tuesday: † Helen Pepkowski (*Family*)
Wednesday: † Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Thursday: † Elizabeth & Jerry Petritsch (*Loving Family*)
Friday: † Jeffrey Miller (*Walter Miller*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: † Tom High (*Jo & Your Girls*)
Sunday 8am: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
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

February 22nd - Envelopes \$4,197 - E-Giving \$1,782
Ash Wednesday \$1,553

Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Mar 01: Lenten Bible Study – Marian Rm - 9:15pm
Sun. Mar 01: Evangelization Team Mtg–Marian Rm-11:45am
Tue. Mar 03: Viewing of “The Chosen” – Marian Rm - 6pm
Tue. Mar 03: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Mar 04: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Thu. Mar 05: Retreat Committee Mtg.- Marian Rm - 6:00pm

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT



**CONFESSIONS
AT 6:30PM
MASS AT 7:00 PM
IN THE CHAPEL**



All are welcome to our Parish Lenten Soup Suppers on Fridays at 6pm during Lent through March 27th. Stations of the Cross follows at 7pm in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread and desserts. Please note: the **Lenten Soup Supper this Friday, March 6th** will **not** be held in the narthex. **The Regina Academy Student Council will host a Lenten Meal at the school at 6pm.** St. John's parishioners are invited to join the Academy for supper and then we'll all go to the church together to pray the Stations of the Cross at 7pm.

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for those who can help set up at 5:30 and for anyone who can bring soup & desserts for dinner.
Thank you & God bless!

For information, please call Mary at 215-896-4034.

From Your Pastor-



Most people like to know where they are going, and I'm one of them. God does not leave us blindfolded in our following of Him. He has shown us where we are going, and that is a major part of what the Transfiguration was all about, as we heard in today's Gospel.

The Transfiguration happened at a very significant moment. It all began with Jesus warning them to tell no one what they had seen until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. The disciples did not understand. And the sight of that glory was to give them a glimpse of the glory that awaits every follower of Christ if we follow Him, in carrying our crosses in life.

In the first reading we hear the example of God's promise to Abraham, when Abraham was called to leave behind the country and people he knew and head off to a distant land he did not know, and what he was given to enable him was the Lord's promise, the promise of BLESSINGS to help him on the way.

The New Covenant that we belong to promises even more blessings and strength to us on our pilgrimage to Heaven. There will be difficulties and hardships in our pilgrimage. So, to conclude, Lent is a time for purification, a time for struggling against sin, at time of employing the remedies for sin: prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Lord God, we throw ourselves into your arms believing that you are there in our hardship and difficult moment of our journey towards you.

**Yours in Jesus Christ,
Rev. S. Lucas, MSC
Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish**



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.

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!



**1st Friday Adoration begins
March 6th after the 9am Mass
and concludes Saturday morning
at 9am Benediction & Mass**



**Cemetery Spring
Clean-up**

**Saturday March 7th
9:30 AM**

All are welcome to help!

**Event: Call from the Crucified Heart:
Relics from the Passion**

Sunday, March 1, 2026, from 3pm-8pm

Join us at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish for an encounter with nine rare Relics of Christ's Passion. This powerful program is a 60-minute meditational experience supported with Eucharistic Exposition, music and prayer. Veneration of the relics will be available before and after the program. A collection such as this is generally seen only in Rome or the Holy Land.

Relics will be available for public veneration from 3pm-5pm and 6pm-8pm. There will be a 60-minute guided and prayerful meditation and program from 5pm-6pm. **Questions?** Contact Lisa Kopertowski at youthministry@olguadalupe.org.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



Would you please consider donating these items:
Chunky soups
condiments (ketchup, mustard, salad dressings, mayo)

coffee * tea * juice * cream of mushroom soup
canned chicken/ham * whole tomatoes * shampoo
snacks * laundry detergent * scalloped potatoes

Giant or dollar store gift cards are also appreciated!

You will 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 loving generosity! **God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers**



Join the Cleaning Team!
Wk. of March 1st
TEAM 2

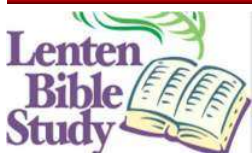
This is a once per month commitment.



Select International
PILGRIMAGE TOURS & CRUISES



Red Rosary of Hope Pilgrimage to France
including Paris, Lisieux, Normandy Beaches, Mont Saint-Michel, and Lourdes
with Fr. Selva Lucas MSC
12 Days October 2-13, 2026



Please join us for our Lenten Bible Study on Sundays at 9:15am in the Marian Room. This year we will view videos explaining the gospels and other relevant topics. Presenters include Scott Hahn, Brandt Pitre, Edward Sri, and Fr. Chris Alar. You won't want to miss the insights offered by these popular Catholic leaders! **Sign up in the Narthex**



A Message from The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Greetings from across campus,

We've made it through another snowstorm, and like many of us, the students at the Academy are eagerly looking forward to spring. Even with the winter weather, this past week was filled with joy, especially during our much-loved Movie Night. The children had a wonderful time, and their laughter brought warmth to the whole school.

We are especially blessed at the Academy to have Mrs. Patricia Murphy as our Music Director. Mrs. Murphy brings tremendous passion to teaching our students not only how to play musical instruments, but also how to read and understand music. Her engaging lessons help children grow in skill and confidence as they explore keyboards, ukuleles, bells, and many other instruments. She nurtures in them a deep appreciation for the beauty of music and the discipline it inspires.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Murphy led our students in our annual Winter Concert. For those who were able to attend, it was truly a spectacular performance. Watching the children sing, play, and participate so joyfully was inspiring, and it reflected the countless hours of preparation and care that Mrs. Murphy pours into her work. We are deeply grateful for her dedication to our students and to the mission of our Academy.

Mrs. Murphy's goal is that every student graduates 8th grade able to read music and play an instrument—an extraordinary gift that will stay with them for life, building confidence and fostering a lifelong love of music.

Please keep us in your prayers as we do for all the parishioners. Have a wonderful week.

God bless. **Brian Dulin**, President
Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

PREP PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Attention: Parents of **New Students** of any grade level should contact the Parish Office at:
610-847-5521 or prep@stjohnsottsville.org.

Attention: Parents/Guardians of **7th grade students** who are parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church, who are attending Catholic School and who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Baptist Church in 2026, should contact the Director of Religious Education.

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR MORE PRAYER IN YOUR LIFE? JOIN US AT FATIMA HOUSE



On Mondays at 7 PM and Wednesdays at 10 AM we have an Hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. We pray the “Liturgy of the Hours”, the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. No experience necessary!

DAILY AND OVERNIGHT RETREATS

FOR PRAYER REQUESTS & INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL JOAN BLACK AT 215-795-2947

RACHEL'S VINEYARD
A PLACE TO HEAL FROM ABORTION

DATES: MARCH 6-8, 2026
LOCATION: IHM SPIRITUALITY CENTER
210 IHM DRIVE MALVERN, PA 19355

If you or someone you love has been suffering from the emotional and spiritual pains of an abortion – no matter how much time has passed – please know that a Rachel's Vineyard retreat weekend will help your soul transform that pain into a hope for the future. Rachel's Vineyard retreats bring healing and God's forgiveness to the trauma and darkness of abortion for those who think they have committed the unforgivable sin. God's mercy is greater than sin and is waiting for us to reach out for it. Join us for a safe, loving and confidential weekend to experience the healing power of God's infinite mercy.

Contact our team to register or for questions:
Susan - 610-716-4795, susiemck@boomcat.net
Georgann - 484-955-4278, geemcgarry@gmail.com

SJB Nitty Gritty Garden Club

Let's think Spring!

Thursday, March 26th at 6:00 pm

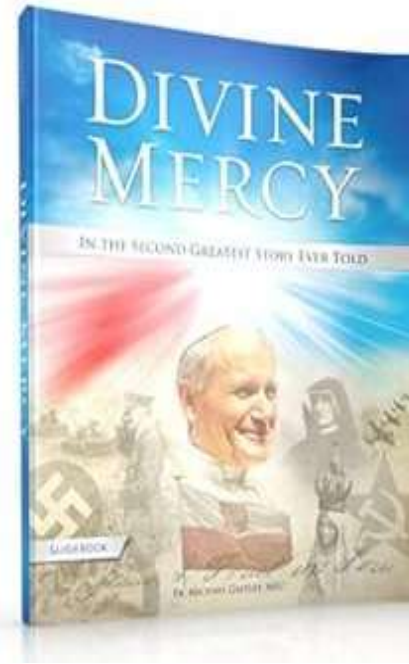


We will be hosting a talk from the Garden Girl Company based in Ottsville and owned by Jackie and Daniel Chapman. Jackie will be speaking about pruning invasive plants of Bucks County and wildflowers - hope you can be there!

More details in our newsletter in March



SJB EVANGELIZATION TEAM



“Divine Mercy in the Second Greatest Story Ever Told”

retreat for adults 18 and older.
Friday, March 20th 6:30pm to Sunday, March 22nd 4pm
at Our Lady of Czestochowa

Retreat House in Doylestown.

Cost is determined by room choice and includes 3 meals on Saturday and 2 meals on Sunday. Single room \$220, double room \$160, triple room \$125 each.

Registration ends March 1st.

Can't attend? Please be a prayer warrior and pray for the retreat team members and participants.

Questions? sjbevangal@stjohnsottsville.org

Registration Form available on SJB website

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman

Ted Fahy – President

Peg Glancey - Moderator / Marie Burke - Secretary

Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht, Nancy Kaczinski,

Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller

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Online Contributing Made Easy



Please visit our website

www.stjohnsottsville.org

and click on the **Parish**

Giving link above. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program. For information, please call the Parish Office.

MARCH 1ST, 2026 – THE 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 7th & 8th, 2026

The 3rd Sunday of Lent

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Julia & Alyssa Byers 1 Volunteer Needed	Sue Rogers SJB Choir
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Bea Romaszewski Vanessa Williams	Needed	Alaina Butler 2 Volunteers Needed	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Samantha Campbell Laura Gumprecht Anne Luna	Tony Luna	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Olivia Luna	Laura Fleck Karen Parash

OUR SICK:



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



Jessie Alfaro, Caleb Cerino, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camilleri, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Barney Fontenot, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Emilio J. Gonzales, Kathy Hancharik, Sylvia Holznagel, **Doreen Illis**, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klings, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiore, Ethan Meyers, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Mike Palmer, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Mary Pucci, Janet Reidler, Thomas Rimmer, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Lisa Saxton, Thomas Shepherd, Megan Slabicki, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Bernadette Strzelecki, Riley Telesco, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Danielle Watson, Ed Wismer

If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself or for someone you know, please call the Parish Office 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, Lane Charles Frankenfield, 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, Kathryn Salva, Jack Salva, Anne Salva, Thomas Salva, Jared Scott, 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

A Prayer for OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS:

James Gammello, Gianna Gammello, Michael Kosmin, Natalie Nice, Violet Williams

Heavenly Father, we lift up all college students to You today. We ask that You surround them with Your protection, keep them safe, guard their health and keep them strong and well. Protect their spiritual and emotional well-being as well. Keep them from negative influences and temptation, and ground them in faith, wisdom, and Your word. Grant them the discernment to make wise choices and the courage to flee evil. Please go where we cannot, give strength where we are weak, and bring them safely home. May they feel Your presence and know Your love surrounding them each and every day. We trust in Your power to protect and guide them. Amen.



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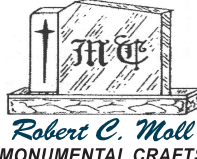


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 to Our Church!**




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