

March 2nd, 2025 – **THE EIGHTH 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 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 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.*

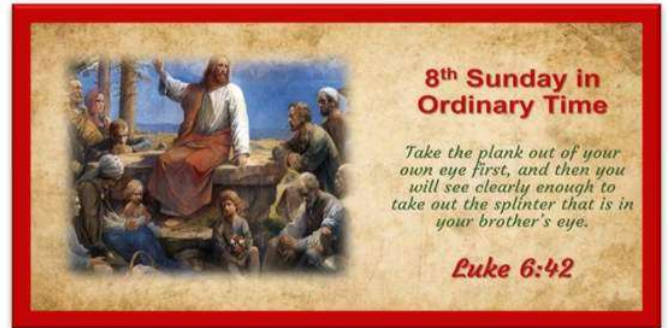
Mass Intentions

Week of March 3rd – March 9th, 2025

Monday: † Darlene Bittenmaster (*Janet Reidler & Family*)
Tuesday: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
ASH WEDNESDAY: Parishioners' Intentions
Thursday: Intentions of Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Friday: † Helene Bell (*Georgina Puente*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Tom High (*Jo & Your Girls*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: † Darlene Bittenmaster (*Richard Cherrybon*)



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

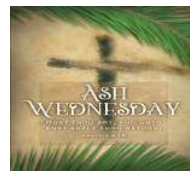
To plan a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, private Confession, please contact our Pastor, Fr. Selvaraj Lucas, through the Parish Office.

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

February 16th – Envelopes \$5,660 - E-Giving \$1,529
February 23rd – Envelopes \$4,093 - E-Giving \$1,700
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Tue. Mar 04: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm
Tue. Mar 04: Viewing of *The Chosen* - Marian Rm - 7:00pm
Wed. Mar 05: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Mar 05: Intercessory Prayer * - Zoom - 6:30pm
* EMAIL LAURA AT sjbevangel@stjohnsottsville.org
TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.



ASH WEDNESDAY
March 5th - Masses at 9AM & 7PM

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

Some time ago a national magazine carried an article about lucky people. It began by pointing out that some people seem to get all the breaks, while other people seem to get none of the breaks. It is said that lucky people are often the cause of their good luck, while unlucky people are the cause of their bad luck. Lucky people have an upbeat attitude. They are people who are positive and affirming. Above all, they are people who have a talent for focusing on the good side of things, especially the good side of other people.

In contrast, unlucky people have a downbeat attitude. They are people who are negative and hostile. Above all, they are people who have the habit of focusing on the bad side of everything, especially the bad side of people. They are people who are prone to criticize. They are people who are prone to find fault.

They are the kind of people Jesus is talking about in today's Gospel. When He says, "why do you notice the splinter in your brother's eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own? He is indicating the shallowness of a person's character to relate freely with other people. We ourselves have been the object of observation as well. Therefore, let us stop judging others. As our beloved Pope says, who am I to judge?"

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 us to 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



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.



**1st Friday Adoration begins
March 7th after the 9am Mass
and concludes Saturday morning
at 9am Benediction & Mass**

FEAST DAY HIGHLIGHT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

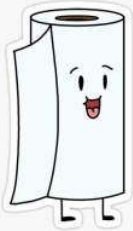


March 19, Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Let us be inspired by the life of Saint Joseph: His humility, His willingness to listen to the voice of God. His unconditional love and protection for his wife and his child.

How can we celebrate the Feast of our spiritual father? Perhaps by spending time reflecting upon his life and his “yes” to the Lord in becoming the foster father for Jesus here on earth.

Dear Friends of The Lord’s Pantry-



During March, would you please consider donating **Paper Towels, Toilet Paper & Tissues** to 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 generosity!

God bless, The Lord’s Pantry Volunteers

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!

WE WILL BE SELLING AND TAKING ORDERS FOR GIFT CARDS AFTER ALL THE MASSES NEXT WEEKEND, MARCH 8 & 9. PLEASE VISIT US IN THE NARTHEX TO GET YOUR ORDER FORM AND SIGN-UP FOR PROGRAM BENEFITS! THANK YOU.



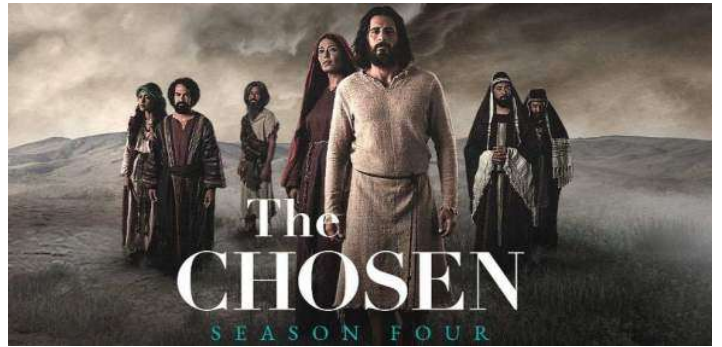
Cemetery Spring Clean-up

Saturday March 8th, 9:30 AM
All are welcome to help!

DON'T MISS OUT!!

Join us to see Season Four of ‘The Chosen’ on Tuesdays beginning March 4th at 7pm in the Marian Room. Featuring discussions with Fr. JoMar Legaspi. Light refreshments will be provided.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religion Classes for Children who attend Public School, or non-Catholic Private School, are held on Monday evenings, September to May at St. John the Baptist Parish from 6:15PM-7:30PM. Parents of New Students (1st graders or students who have never attended Religious Education at SJB) should contact the Religious Education Office at **610-847-5521** or prep@stjohnsottsville.org to arrange an appt. to register. To register a New Student, parents need the child’s Birth Certificate & Baptism Certificate (unless baptized at SJB), Fee of \$200 for one child for PREP for year.

MARCH PRO-LIFE PROMOTION



Each weekend in March the Pro-Life Ministry will be selling gifts cards for Saint Margaret of Castello Maternity Home. This

Maternity Home is a residential home for pregnant women offering support, guidance, and physical security in a loving atmosphere throughout a woman’s pregnancy. We also provide services to pregnant women and parents in the community. Our services are free of charge. Please visit our table in the Narthex for the list of gift cards needed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

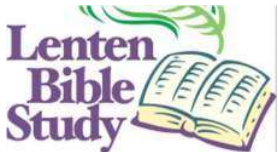
**Wk. of March 2nd
TEAM 5**

This is a once per month commitment.

All are Welcome to our Parish's Lenten Soup Suppers on Fridays at 6pm during Lent before the Stations of Cross in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread and desserts.



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. For information, please call Mary at 215-896-4034. *Thank you & God bless!*



Our Lenten Bible study this year will be the document **'Hope Does Not Disappoint'** by Pope Francis. This is the Pope's proclamation for the 2025 Jubilee Year. Come join us on Sundays at 9:15am starting March 9th. Sign up in the Narthex.

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"A Quiet Country Retreat"



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DAY PROGRAMS Groups up to 50
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EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT, ROSARY, LITURGY of the HOURS (books provided) and DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:

MONDAY EVENING 7PM–8PM. Our Lady's Chapel
WEDNESDAY MORNING 10AM–11AM. Our Lady's Chapel

THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

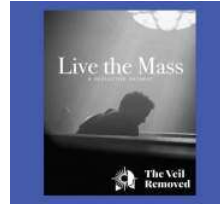
12PM-1PM. ST. Joseph's Chapel (large chapel, name on front of the building)

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

BEGINS AT 10AM Mass, Rosary, Confession and Luncheon (free).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER.

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



"LIVE THE MASS"

*a reflective retreat
for women*

Join us for an "overnight retreat" and experience the Mass on a deeper level that will amaze you! It promises to provide a new perspective of the most powerful prayer available to the human person: Including growing your personal relationship with Jesus, scripture, Praise, reconciliation, graces of the Eucharist, Jewish history of the Mass, presence of angels, and much more! There will be opportunities for Adoration and Confession. **WHEN:** March 28, 29 & 30, 2025

(Friday eve, Saturday & Sunday)

TIME: Friday 7pm Mar 28th - Sunday 4pm Mar 30th

WHERE: Ave Maria Retreat House at the **Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa**

COST: Determined by room choice. All 5 meals (3 on Sat, 2 on Sun) are included in the room cost.

Friday evening snacks are provided by the Evangelization team.

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 12, 2025

16TH ANNUAL

NUN RUN



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Fun Walk 2025



Online Contributing Made Easy!

Please visit our website www.stjohnsottsville.org and click on the Parish Giving link. Follow the prompts to join our e-giving program.

For more information, please call the Parish Office.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Father Lucas - Chairman
- Ted Fahy - President • Marie Burke - Secretary
- Peg Glancey - Moderator
- Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht, Nancy Kaczinski, Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller
- Mike Kirk - Finance Council Representative

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Father Lucas - Chairman
- Mike Kirk - President/Moderator • Mary Kosmin - Secretary
- Chris Hackley, Jim McHugh, Mary Miller, Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters
- Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative
- Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager

MARCH 5TH, 8TH & 9TH, 2025

Ash Wednesday & The 1st Sunday of Lent

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
Ash Wednesday 9AM	TBD – Joan Black	TBD – Joan Black	TBD – Joan Black	Anita Colahan Sue Rogers
Ash Wednesday 7PM	TBD – Joan Black	TBD – Joan Black	TBD – Joan Black	Ordinary Time
SATURDAY 5PM	Ted Fahy Weez Roney Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Blake & Max Nowicki 1 Volunteer Needed	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Jackie Butler Nina Carlineo Renee Moyer	Marie Burke	Alaina Butler 2 Volunteers Needed	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Black Patty Salva Ward Van Haute	Patti Keyser	Audrey, Max & Hezekiah Van Haute	Sue Rogers SJB Choir



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Lou Bucci, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, **Brent Camillier**, Eileen Carlineo, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maryanne Comly, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, **Dennis O'Connell**, Jimmy O'Hanlon, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Fr. Tony Ripp, MSC, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Megan Slabicki, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Bernadette Strzelecki, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer, Judy Woodroffe

If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself or for someone you know,
please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521 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, 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

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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ASK **#WHATS
 MYNAME**

in remembrance of *Samantha Josephson*

**BEFORE YOU GET
 IN A RIDE SHARE**

SAMI
 STOP | ASK
 MATCH | INFORM

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 SPIN-IN**

**RIDE FOR
 LITTLE HEARTS**

Saturday & Sunday
 March 8-9, 2025

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