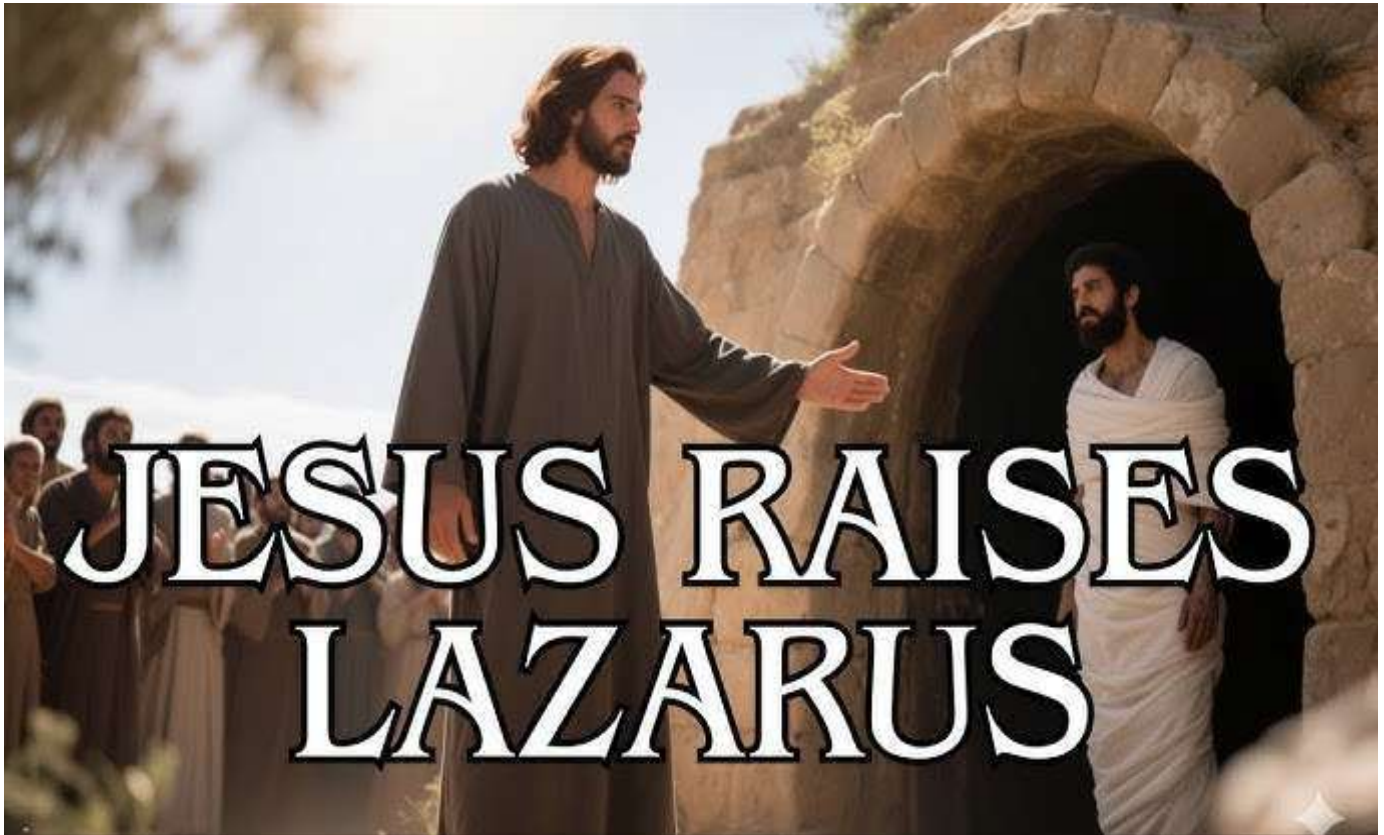


MARCH 22ND, 2026 – THE 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

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



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 22ND, 2026 – THE 5TH 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 23rd – March 29th, 2026

Monday: Intentions of Joan Black (*Joan Beebe*)
Tuesday: Intentions of Vince Morelli (*Jim & Joan Black*)
Wednesday: Intentions of Bob Schopf
(*Bernadette Strzelecki*)
Thursday: † Vic Petrei (*Loving Family*)
Friday: † Helen Pepkowski (*Family*)

Palm Sunday Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
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

March 15th - Envelopes \$7,400- E-Giving \$1,520

Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Mar 22: Lenten Bible Study – Marian Rm - 9:15pm
Tue. Mar 24: Viewing of "The Chosen" – Marian Rm - 6pm
Tue. Mar 24: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Mar 25: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am

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.

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-



The Word of God in all the three readings of this Sunday clearly tells us that there is no life without God. In the first reading prophet

Ezekiel is commanded by God to speak to the Valley of Dry Bones and to let them know that he is God and he will breathe His spirit into them and they shall live.

Similarly, the second reading tells us that there is no life without the Spirit of God and if Christ is in us, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness. In the Gospel we see Jesus bringing Lazarus back to life and showing us that he is the resurrection and the life and without him we have no life.

All the three readings emphasize that God is actively laboring towards humanity with life to bring the humanity close to him. He is a God of the living and not of the dead and so He wants all of us to be part of Him.

Most often we as humans go away from God in various ways and live as dead corpses in the world without any meaning to our lives. The fact that we are disconnected from God by sinning, by taking ill of the other, by destroying the image and dignity of the other, by plotting against the other and in many other ways when we do not live in accordance with God, we are dead even though we are living physically.

Lord, help us to be connected with you always because you are the resurrection and the life. Pour out your spirit of life in our hearts so that we may always live in 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!

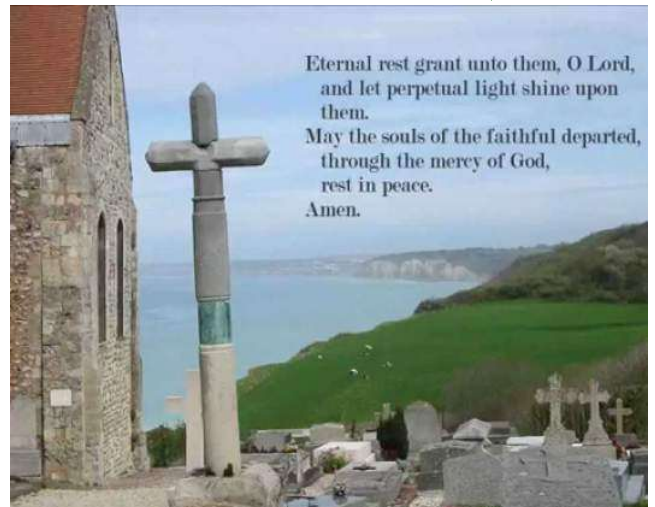
I pray that you will help all people of this world to be united as one with You as Our Lord and Savior!

Jesus, I trust in You!



**THE MSC SEMINARY
APPEAL FOR INDIA
WILL BE NEXT WEEKEND
MARCH 28TH & 29TH**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE
REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF
SHIRLEY MARIE QUINN**



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.



GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE BAPTISMS OF

RICHARD CAMERON YOUNG
ANNETTA GRACE YOUNG
ROSALIE ELIZABETH YOUNG
BAPTIZED ON SUNDAY,
MARCH 8, 2026

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry



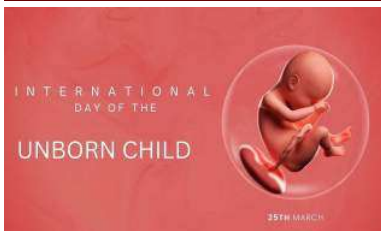
Would you please consider donating these items:

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**



Did you know?

March 25th is the International Day of the Unborn Child! Since this is exactly nine months before Christ's birth on December 25th, we are

asking everyone to join the SJB Respect Life Team in praying a 9-month Novena for the unborn.

Please find the prayer sheets in the Narthex.



Join the Cleaning Team!

Wk. of March 22nd TEAM 5

This is a once per month commitment.



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


Greetings from across campus,

The Academy has been especially blessed in recent years with the presence of Father Jomar on our staff. Father is not only a devoted priest who celebrates daily Mass with our students, but also an accomplished and engaging science instructor. His classroom is filled with curiosity and energy as he leads students through hands-on experiments and demonstrations. Our Upper Wing students, in particular, love learning from him; whether he is showing them how a microscope works or guiding them through a theorem he has written on the board.

Father Jomar also serves as a co-leader of the Academy's Student Council. Throughout the year, the council participates in projects that support our parish, the wider community, and the Lord's Pantry. Father helps the students understand the inner workings of student government, giving them a meaningful and practical education in leadership and service.

This week, our students enjoyed a wonderful visit from the DaVinci Science Center. Father Jomar stepped into a supportive, behind-the-scenes role as the children explored the fascinating dynamics of matter. It was an inspiring experience for everyone involved and a joyful reminder of how science and faith can work hand in hand to spark wonder.

Have a wonderful week and God bless,
Brian Dulin, President
Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Red Rosary of Hope Pilgrimage to France
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with Fr. Selva Lucas MSC
12 Days October 2-13, 2026

For more information:
<https://selectinternationaltours.com/fr-selva-lucas-msc/>

SJB Nitty Gritty Garden Club

You are invited!

Guest Speaker: Jackie Chapman, Founder, The Garden Girl Company



What You'll Learn: • Proper Pruning Techniques • Managing Invasive Bedding Plants • Starting a Beautiful Wildflower Garden

Thursday, March 26 • 6:00 PM \$10.00 at the door
• Open to Members & Guests Light Refreshments • Q & A After the Talk

About The Garden Girl Company

The Garden Girl Company is a Bucks County-based fine-gardening business founded in 2011 by Jackie Chapman. Specializing in seasonal container design, garden maintenance, and property care, the company blends horticultural expertise with thoughtful design to create outdoor spaces that feel welcoming and alive. Known for its commitment to community and education, Garden Girl is passionate about helping others grow with confidence.

Come Learn. Get Inspired. Grow This Spring.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



A very belated *THANK YOU* to all those who donated to St. John's Hospice in January. This was the largest amount of clothing, items, and monetary donations we have

collected so far. Especially appreciated as "such a sweet gesture" were the "love notes" and candy, written and donated by our children and young people. Your generosity is a blessing to those in need. May God bless you for reaching out and loving your neighbors in this way!

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

- Father Lucas - Chairman
- Mike Kirk - President/Moderator
- Chris Hackley - Chief Financial Advisor / Mary Kosmin - Secretary
- Jim McHugh, Mary Miller, Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters
- Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative
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DAILY AND OVERNIGHT RETREATS

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

On Saturday, April 25, 2026, Archbishop Wood High School will celebrate excellence, leadership, and Viking pride at our **2026 Hall of Fame & Hall of Excellence Induction Ceremony** — and we invite you to be part of this meaningful evening. This year, we will proudly honor:

While the Hall of Fame & Hall of Excellence celebrates extraordinary achievement, the impact of this evening extends far beyond one night. Proceeds from sponsorships and program ads directly support **student scholarships**, helping ensure that a Wood education remains accessible to deserving young men and women — the leaders of tomorrow. When you sponsor this event, you are not only honoring our inductees — *you are investing in the next generation of Vikings.* For tickets and sponsorships visit www.archwood.org/halloffame

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Laura Gumprecht Weez Roney Kim Zampirri	Patti Keyser Liz Torgerson	Martin & Rita Elsner 1 Volunteer Needed	Laura Fleck Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Laura Gumprecht Nancy Kaczinski Mary Kosmin	Jeanne Keller Liz Torgerson	3 Volunteers Needed	Ordinary Time
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Black Claire Froman 1 Volunteer Needed	Anita Colahan 1 Volunteer Needed	3 Volunteers Needed	Echoes of Christ

OUR SICK:



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



Jessie Alfaro, Caleb Cerino, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., Robert Balbirer, John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camilleri, **Eileen Carlineo**, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Robert Ferrari, Betty Fleck, Barney Fontenot, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Emilio J. Gonzales, Kathy Hancharik, Dan Hauber, Sylvia Holznagel, Doreen Illis, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, 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

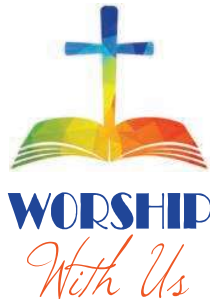
Heavenly Father, we lift up all college students to You today. We ask that You surround them with Your protection, keep them safe, guard their health and keep them strong and well. Protect their spiritual and emotional well-being as well. Keep them from negative influences and temptation, and ground 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



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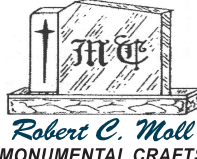
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SAMI
 In remembrance of *samantha josephson*

**Welcome
 to Our Church!**





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