

March 24th, 2024 – **Palm Sunday**

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 March 25th – March 31st, 2024

Monday: † Lynn Von Mechow (*Mike & Cathy Moreni*)
Tuesday: † Jerry & Betty Petritsch (*Loving Family*)
Wednesday: † Stephen B. Zinelli (*Dan & Maryann Hauber*)
HOLY THURSDAY: Parishioners' Intentions
GOOD FRIDAY: Parishioners' Intentions

Easter Weekend Masses

EASTER VIGIL Saturday 8pm: Parishioners' Intentions
EASTER SUNDAY 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
EASTER SUNDAY 10:30am: Parishioners' Intentions

**CONFESSIONS AT 5:30PM AND
MASS IN THE CHAPEL AT 6 PM
THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27TH.**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY.
To plan a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, private Confession, please contact our Pastor, Fr. Selvaraj Lucas through the Parish Office.

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

March 17th Envelopes \$6,029 * E-Giving \$1,952
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



**THE MSC SEMINARY APPEAL
FOR INDIA IS THIS WEEKEND.
GOD BLESS YOU
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.**

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Mar. 24: Conquest/Challenge – School – 11:30am-2pm
Tue. Mar 26: 'THE CHOSEN' Study –Marian Rm-7:00pm
Tue. Mar 26: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm

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

Palm Sunday is a celebration for honoring Jesus Christ's victorious entry into Jerusalem. Prophet Isaiah declares that God has given him the tongue of a teacher. He has received the grace to stand firm in the Lord. St. Paul tells the Philippians, being born in human likeness and being found in human form, He humbled himself; He remained obedient unto death on the cross.

Today's Gospel invites us to obey God's commands in our lives and motivates us to accept God's will honestly. The Gospel describes Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. We witness the ordinary people's respect for Jesus who spread their cloths on the way and leafy branches which they had cut in the fields. Those who were praising him before, same people said let him be crucified! Jesus gave the testimony of his unconditional love for us by sacrificing his life on the cross.

Jesus offered his life, obeying his father's command. While dying he said, "father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Jesus died on the cross for our salvation and rose on the third day. In the midst of political, social, religion violence and injustice, we need to be united among ourselves to live a Christian life. So we must be obedient like Jesus to God the Father.

Sincerely in Our Lord

REV. S. LUCAS MSC

Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish



Holy Thursday March 28th, Mass of the Lord's Supper, 6PM

Good Friday March 29th, Veneration of the Cross, 3PM
Stations of the Cross follows immediately.

Easter Vigil Mass Saturday, March 30th, 8PM

Easter Sunday Masses March 31st, 8AM & 10:30AM

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.

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 saying 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.



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of March 24th
TEAM 1**

This is a once per month commitment.



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.



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.

LIFE IS A PRECIOUS ISSUE



In PA, protections for the unborn are under attack. JOIN US to learn how to protect the rights of the unborn.

Featuring:

Chuck Derns, PhD: “The Problem with Personhood” and vital points regarding the IVF ruling in Alabama.

Judge Cheryl Allen: Informs on proposed PA legislation that undermines human rights of the unborn.

Saturday, April 27th 9:30 – noon

In Central Bucks County

Register at:

<https://form.jotform.com/240644850607154>

You must register to attend.

Location will be emailed 24 hours prior to the event.

Sponsored by:



Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition
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PRO-LIFE
AMERICA

“THE CHOSEN - SEASON 3” We are viewing “The Chosen–Season 3” on Tuesdays at 7pm in the Marian Room. We are blessed that Fr. Jomar is joining us once again to answer questions and provide his excellent insights! **SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX.**

MARCH MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT



The Hospitality and Community Outreach Ministry exists to serve our parish community and the broader community outside the parish. We welcome ideas that will help bring us together to promote and grow in fellowship, peace, unity, and help to anyone in need. There are many needs. We can work together to focus on a few, but not without YOU! Consider coming forward to join us if the Holy Spirit is calling you to this service! **Remember, to share in this ministry, don't sign up! Just show up! There's a job for you!**

Our events are open to everyone! We hope that you will help to spread the word about our events and that you will **invite family and friends to join with us!**

Contact Mary at wmckmiller@verizon.net or Patti at pbkeyser128@gmail.com.

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BLOOD DRIVE

The Regina Academy at
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Gym/Auditorium, 4040 Durham
Road, Ottsville, PA 18942

Tuesday, April 2, 2024 - 1:00 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Please call 1-800 RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: rasjb to schedule an appointment.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman
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Helene Bell, Chris Grindrod, Laura Gumprecht,
Nancy Kaczinski, Stephen Katra, Jeanne Keller
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FINANCE COUNCIL

Father Lucas - Chairman
Mike Kirk - President/Moderator
Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager – St. John the Baptist
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Vince Morelli, Jerry Peters
Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative

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. SJB Women's Retreat "**Live the Mass**" weekend is April 13th & 14th and will be hosted at the Czestochowa Shrine. Father Ray Diesbourg, MSC will be joining us for the retreat. Information & registration forms for the Retreat are in the Narthex. **Space is limited. Please prayerfully consider signing up.**
Blessings, The Evangelization Ministry

Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday May 4, 2024-Cathedral Basilica 5 PM

The annual Wedding Anniversary mass is celebrated with couples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia who have been married 1-5 years, 25 years, and 50 years. We are observing the mass on May 4, 2024 this year. You can RSVP through the link provided here:

<https://form.jotform.com/230443950527152>



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Over the course of the experience – typically a weekend – three couples and a priest will provide new tools, using examples from their own lives, to help you work through common themes we can all relate to, such as:

- Exploring our personality styles
- Appreciating our differences.
- Listening in a new way
- Communicating intimately
- Addressing difficult topics
- Discovering God's desire for our marriage
- Continuing the journey

There is no group discussion. It's just about the two of you, learning to be the best, most loving and thriving couple you can be.

Married couples of any denomination, mixed faith, or without religious affiliation are welcome.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is an enrichment for [married couples](#) who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. It is also for [priests and religious](#) who want to strengthen their relationships with their church communities.

Want to attend? Need more information?

Our Next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences:

LOCATION

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Doylestown, PA**

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July 12-14

Oct. 11-13

Nov. 15-17

For more information visit our website at:

www.wme-philly.org

or contact Al & Mary Liz at:

Applications@wme-philly.org

Phone: 610-449-1859

"It was amazing! The most fruitful weekend my wife and I have ever had. Do whatever it takes and schedule yours now!" **Bruce R.**

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

MARCH 28TH & MARCH 29TH, 2024
MARCH 30TH & 31ST, 2024

HOLY THURSDAY & **GOOD FRIDAY**
EASTER SUNDAY

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
HOLY THURSDAY 6PM	Jim Black Dave Slifer	Patti Keyser	Martin, Alice & Rita Elsner Joel, Jacob & Joshua Roney	SJB Choir Sue Rogers
GOOD FRIDAY 3PM	Peg Glancey Becca Van Haute	Sean Lynch Ward Van Haute	Audrey, Hezekiah & Max Van Haute	Fred Furmaniak Liz Torgerson
EASTER VIGIL SATURDAY 8PM	Joan Beebe Tom Keller	Jeanne Keller Patti Keyser Kim Zampirri	Martin, Alice & Rita Elsner Joel, Jacob & Joshua Roney	SJB Choir Sue Rogers
EASTER SUNDAY 8AM	Nancy Kaczinski Donna Nice	Jane Ferry	Alaina Butler Alexander Nice Justin Nice	Karen Parash Amleto Pucci
EASTER SUNDAY 10:30AM	Wendy DeGroot Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Elia Logaivau Fatu Logaivau Gretchen Meyers	Ordinary Time



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Helene Bell, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, 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, Don Stahley, 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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