

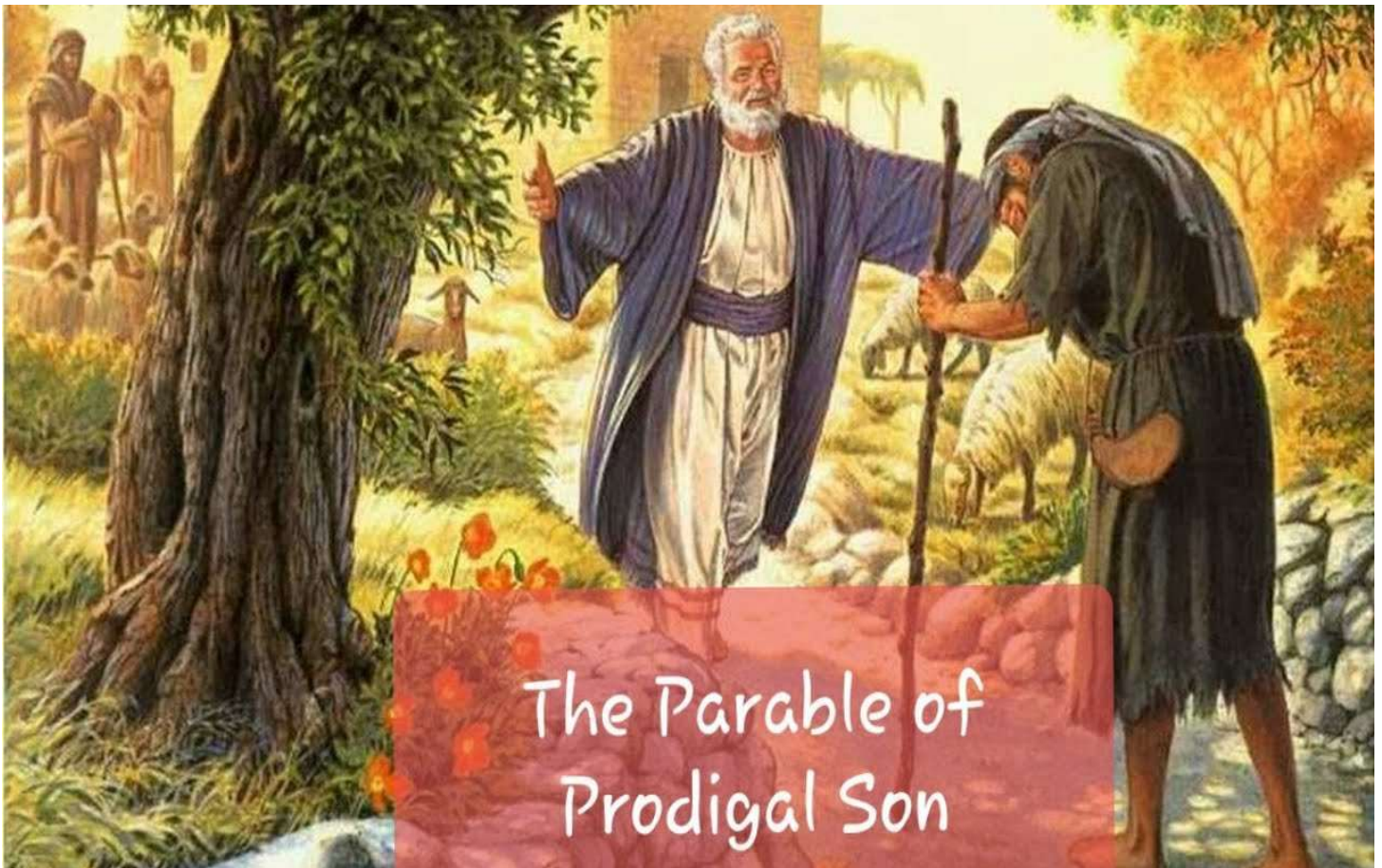
March 30th, 2025 – THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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!

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 31st – April 6th, 2025

Monday: † Bill Saxton (*Georgina Puente*)
Tuesday: † Pat White (*Rachel Cormier*)
Wednesday: † Larry Baker (*Dan & Maryann Hauber*)
Thursday: † Keith Soule (*The Kosmin Family*)
Friday: † John Parmigiani (*Regina Academy Faculty & Staff*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
Sunday 8am: Intentions of The Nick Mitcho Family (*The Menna 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

March 23rd – Envelopes \$4,283 - E-Giving \$1,646
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Mar 30: Lenten Bible Study –St Augustine Rm- 9:15am
Tue. Apr 01: Viewing of *The Chosen*- Marian Rm – 6:15pm
Tue. Apr 01: SJB Choir Practice – Church - 7pm
Wed. Apr 02: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Apr 02: Intercessory Prayer * -Chapel & Zoom- 6:30pm
* **EMAIL LAURA AT sibevangel@stjohnsottsville.org TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.**
Wed. Apr 02: Evangelization Team Mtg –St Augustine Rm- 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!



All are Welcome to our Parish's **Lenten Soup Suppers on Fridays during Lent at 6pm** in the Narthex. We will serve soup, crackers, bread & desserts. Afterwards, we will 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. **For information, please call Mary at 215-896-4034.**



1st Friday Adoration begins April 4th after the 9am Mass and concludes Saturday morning at 9am Benediction & Mass

From your Pastor

The interesting thing about today's parable is that it is such a down-to-earth and believable story. The prodigal son wants to leave home, wants to go his own way, and be independent from his family. This is something most of us have experienced, and it is a very natural occurrence.

The younger son goes forward to his father and asks for the portion of his estate that he was set to inherit from his father. This is in many ways an insult to his father. The younger son does not even wait for the death of his father, but instead his relationship with his father is so distant that it is as if his own father were dead to him. The younger son promptly gathers all that he has of his father and sets out to a far country. The younger son, sending himself out from the love and communion of his father, becomes trapped in riotous living, among other sinful ways of life. The younger son returns, but the oldest son cannot accept the return of his brother. The father's love is unbounded, but the eldest son does not even refer to his own father as father, instead looking to him as master, and neither to his brother as brother, but simply as other.

In fact, Jesus gives great importance for the abundant love of the Father. But here we need to think over who the real prodigal son is. Is it the elder or younger son? Once the younger son craved selfish motives and towards the end the experiences made him repentant, but it is contrary to the elder son. How tragic it is that a person who was righteous becomes a villain at the climax of the story. The life of prodigal son is really reflected at the cross. How the good thief was forgiven of his entire notorious past life by repenting from the bottom of his heart at the crucial moment.

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.

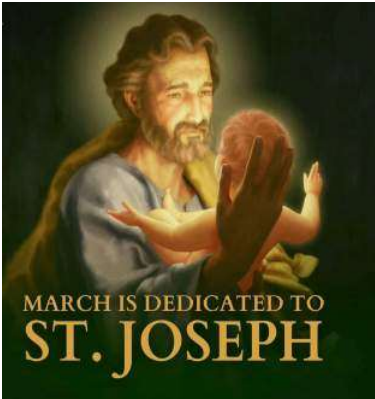


**CONFESSIONS
AT 6:30PM &
MASS AT 7:00 PM
IN THE CHAPEL
ON WEDNESDAYS
DURING LENT.**



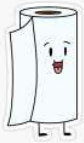
GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THE BAPTISM OF JAMES ROBERT STECK

FEAST DAY HIGHLIGHT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH



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**

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!**



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**. Sign up in the Narthex.



An Invitation from... Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez

Brothers and Sisters,

*Please join me and sign up for a conversation about our Church. Your voice and presence are essential as we plan a **new way forward together** as the Catholic Church of Philadelphia.*

Join an Info Session to Share Your Thoughts.

+ Nelson J. Pérez

Archbishop Pérez recently released a pastoral letter, at the core of which is a call to a pastoral change of heart, a conversion to the lifestyle and mindset of a missionary disciple. The letter shares with us the Archbishop's vision for the future of the Church of Philadelphia through an introduction to the initiative known as "The Fourth Way". It also inaugurates a period of consultation regarding this initiative. The Archbishop's letter and video can be found on the website trustandhope.org.

All Catholics of the Archdiocese are invited to attend a consultation session to learn more about this plan and offer your input. Dates, locations and registration for the consultation sessions can be found on the website.

The closest session is at:

- **Our Lady of Guadalupe, Doylestown, PA – Thursday, April 24th - 6:30 – 8:30pm**

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of

PATRICIA J. KRESCHOLLEK

Patricia's Funeral Mass will be held at 11:30am on Saturday April 5, 2025, at St. John the Baptist Church. The family will have visitation at the church from 10:30am until the time of Mass. Interment will be held privately.



FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

"A Quiet Country Retreat"



OVERNIGHT RETREATS Individual or Group up to 8

DAY PROGRAMS Groups up to 50 Individuals

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



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of March 30th
TEAM 4**

This is a once per month commitment.

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

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING YOUR 40+ FELLOW PARISHIONERS FOR 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.

16TH ANNUAL

NUN RUN

5K

MSC Sisters
MSCreading.org

Fun Walk 2025



April 12, 2025

Taking place in the scenic Muhlenberg area, the all-macadam course winds through the grounds of Holy Guardian Angels

Regional School and Gethsemane Cemetery. The 5K course does include inclines. Start and Finish are located at HGA Regional School. Families encouraged, strollers permitted, and pets welcome. **5K timing provided by Pretzel City Sports.**

\$25 Registration Fee due by 4/9/25 • \$30 Fee Thereafter
To Register: <https://mscreading.org/nun-run-2025/>

PREP 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.

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

APRIL 5TH & 6TH, 2025

The 5th Sunday of Lent

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Peg Glancey Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Blake & Max Nowicki Need 1 Volunteer	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Nancy Kaczinski Donna & Natalie Nice	Anita Colahan	Alexander & Justin Nice Need 1 Volunteer	Cantor & Musician Needed
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Joan Beebe Joan Black Samantha Campbell	Need 1 Volunteer	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Need 1 Volunteer	Echoes of Christ



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, Christie Feikel, 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 Klings, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiore, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, 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



SHELLY

Funeral Home Inc.

Family Owned & Operated

PLUMSTEADVILLE
215-766-8800

Steven M. Shelly, Supervisor

WARRINGTON
215-343-3040

Frank L. Shelly, Supervisor

www.shellyfuneralhomes.com

Joseph M. McGhee, Funeral Home Director

Crews Surveying, LLC

www.crewssurveying.com

215-766-2477 215-297-8666



Surveying Greater Bucks County for over 40 years!

catholicmatch[®]
Pennsylvania



CatholicMatch.com/datePA

Morgan

basement waterproofing

In Our 4th Decade of Quality Service

**French Drains
Foundation Repair
Mold Remediation**

All Work Guaranteed

215-639-8500

www.morganbasementwaterproofing.com



American Red Cross

Make a Difference in Your Community

VOLUNTEER

with the American Red Cross

Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

Mallory's Army Foundation

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...

Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com

(973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:

Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

check out the latest offerings by
your bulletin sponsors by
downloading our free app

Finding FABER



GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

**Welcome
to Our Church!**



Karen Kovacs
Church Bulletin Representative

I'm here to help your business be noticed!



kkovacs@jppc.net
913-744-6337

www.jppcadvertising.com



JOHN PATRICK
publishing company, inc.



**Advertise your business
in the Church Bulletin**

- In print, online and interactive app
- Reaches parish families and visitors each week
- Constant presence keeps a strong link between you and customers
- Well-read publication - a trusted source
- Affordable Advertising – local, targeted to community

DAVE'S SERVICE
 LLC
**TREE CARE
 LAWN SERVICE**
 Firewood • Mulching
 Stump Grinding,
 Chipping & Removal
215-778-6110
 davesservicestreelawn@yahoo.com
 PA 017595

MONUMENTS | FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES | PRE-PLANNING



Locally & Family Owned
 & Operated

Michael B. Schmauder
 Supervisor & Funeral Director
 Andrew J. Stout
 President & Funeral Director

821 West Broad St. | Quakertown, PA | 215-536-6550 | www.CRStrunk.com

Buy From the *Best!*

SUBURBAN
 MARBLE, GRANITE & TILE
 Endless Possibilities...Spectacular Results

Complete line of services for the monument industry
 ALL TYPES OF GRANITE & BRONZE
 Engraving, custom etchings,
 cemetery lettering & granite cleaning.
 SERVICING LEHIGH VALLEY SINCE 1979

LETTERING AND MONUMENT SERVICES OFFERED BY SOME FUNERAL HOMES & CEMETERIES CAN COST YOU MORE THAN DEALING DIRECTLY WITH US.

84 Main St., Hellertown, PA 18055 Bus: 610-838-8251
 www.monumentalcrafts.net Fax: 610-838-6308

"WE SHOW YOUR LOVE TODAY IS EVERLASTING"

**Bucks County
 Nursery & Florist**
 RETAIL GARDEN CENTER/NURSERY
 FULL SERVICE FLORIST
 GREENHOUSE/GIFT SHOPPE
 LANDSCAPE • HARDSCAPE
 Route 412 & Gessner Road
 Kintnersville, PA 18930
 across from Palisades High School
610-847-8146
 www.buckscountynurseryandflorist.com
 customerservice@buckscountynurseryandflorist.com

**Button
 Popper**

**CUSTOM UPHOLSTERY
 & UPHOLSTERY REPAIR**
 Quality Craftsmanship
 Personal Touch
215-262-8201
 Michael Patton • Perkasie, PA

**Kitchen
 Countertops,
 bathroom
 vanities,
 tile and
 more!**

1010 Pulinski Rd
 Ivyland
 Bucks County, PA 18974
215.734.9100
 Open Monday Thru Saturday
 www.SuburbanMarble.com
 Contractor #PA 007452

**Robert W. Snyder
 FUNERAL HOME**
 327 Easton Road
 Riegelsville, PA 18077
 610-749-2421
 Amy L. Snyder, F.D.
 Serving the Riegelsville
 area since 1951

Join Us...
 for our Pre-Planning Seminars

Get your ducks in a row.
 We'll guide you through the steps of preparing your final wishes, options for placement of your remains, funeral personalization, and addressing the financial options of final expenses.

Call Us For More Info About
 Upcoming Dates & Locations!
844-451-9614
 www.PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com

PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC CEMETERIES.COM

PHILADELPHIA • BUCKS • MONTCO • DELAWARE • CHESTER

**Putney Plumbing
 & Heating, Inc.**
 Thomas K. Putney
 Registered Master Plumber
267.875.8068
 tkpplumber@gmail.com
 Your Full Service
 Contractor
 PA State Reg. #027202

ASK **#WHATS
 MYNAME**

in remembrance of *Samantha Josephson*

**BEFORE YOU GET
 IN A RIDE SHARE**

SAMI
 STOP | ASK
 MATCH | INFORM

**Robert Hueston
 Scholarship Fund**
 Benefiting student
 parishioners attending
 The Regina Academy at SJB
 A non-profit endowment fund
 roberthuestonfund.org
 PO Box 363, Ottsville

**Putney Plumbing
 & Heating, Inc.**
 Thomas K. Putney
 Registered Master Plumber
267.875.8068
 tkpplumber@gmail.com
 Your Full Service
 Contractor
 PA State Reg. #027202

QUALITY ADVERTISERS
Quality Results

FAMILIAR - TRUSTED - PROVEN EFFECTIVE
NOW THAT'S ADVERTISING!

800-333-3166 ext. 161 | www.JPPC.net

JP JOHN PATRICK
 publishing company, inc.

Thank You

to our
 bulletin sponsors
 for their support
 during the past year!

Your continued support has not gone unnoticed
 by your parish community and is SO appreciated!