

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

## 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](http://www.stjohnsottsville.org)



**CHRIST IS RISEN, HE IS  
RISEN INDEED! HALLELUJAH!**

*Happy Easter*

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING MASS WITH US TODAY. WE ARE GLAD YOU CAME!

# MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

## 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 April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Monday: + Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)  
Tuesday: Intentions of Chris Leahy (*Family*)  
Wednesday: + Uldine Kervick (*Barbara & Dave McHenry*)  
Thursday: + Sean Sweeney (*David & Cheryl Harrison*)  
Friday: + Bill Saxton (*A Friend*)

## Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: + Louise Harmer (*Jim & Terry*)  
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions  
Sunday 10:30am: + Alpee Cormier (*Daughter Rachel*)

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## PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>.  
NO PREP ON MONDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>.**

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

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## WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

March 24<sup>th</sup> Envelopes & E-Giving **Not Available**

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## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Mon. Apr 01: Knights of Columbus – Marian Rm – 7:30pm  
Tue. Apr 02: 'THE CHOSEN' Study – Marian Rm - 7:00pm  
Tue. Apr 02: SJB Choir Practice - 7:00pm  
Wed. Apr 03: Intercessory Prayer – Chapel - 6:30pm

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## 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  
April 5<sup>th</sup> after the 9am Mass and  
concludes Saturday morning  
at 9am Benediction & Mass**





## FROM YOUR PASTOR

Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a “Resurrection People.” This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, and dangerous addictions. It gives us the Good News that no tomb can hold us down anymore - not the tomb of despair, discouragement or doubt, nor that of death. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives.

Resurrection is Good News, but at the same time, it’s painful because it involves death. Before the power of the Resurrection can take hold in our own lives, we’re called to die to sin, to die to self. We may even have to die to our dreams so that God can do what He wants to do with our lives. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way.

Early that Easter morning, Mary Magdalene did not find what she was looking for. The empty tomb would have been a painful experience for her. But even from that emptiness, she found the Risen Jesus. Encountering Jesus in the empty tomb is the experience of Easter. Chaos and painful experience can become opportunities for us to encounter the Risen Lord. This we have to aspire as well for those who diligently seek the Lord will find the Lord.

Let us pray to Lord, help us to live in the experience of Resurrection in and through my love, mercy, compassion, and self-sacrificing service; let me share the joy of Easter with everyone!

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 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.

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## 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.*

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## 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 31<sup>st</sup> TEAM 2**

*This is a once per month commitment.*

**“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](mailto:wmckmiller@verizon.net) or Patti at [pbkeyser128@gmail.com](mailto:pbkeyser128@gmail.com).

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**BLOOD DRIVE**

The Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist  
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](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: rasjb to schedule an appointment.



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.*

**PREP 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](mailto: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 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

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Chris Hackley, Jim McHugh, Mary Miller,  
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Ted Fahy - Pastoral Council Representative

## 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>



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

### Wedding Anniversary Mass

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.

Saturday, May 4, 2024  
5:15 pm Anticipated Mass

Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter & Paul

Archbishop Nelson Pérez  
Principal Celebrant

**RSVP**

To RSVP, click the link above or call 215-587-0500  
Accommodations can be made

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am. Sign up in the Narthex.
2. SJB Women's Retreat "**Live the Mass**" weekend is April 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> 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*



## Live your best life in love

Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage

### What happens in a WWME experience?

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**  
Our Lady of Czestochowa  
Doylestown, PA  
April 19-21, 2024  
July 12-14  
Oct. 11-13  
Nov. 15-17

For more information visit our website at: [www.wwme-philly.org](http://www.wwme-philly.org)  
or contact Al & Mary Liz at: [Applications@wwme-philly.org](mailto:Applications@wwme-philly.org)  
Phone: 610-449-3859

"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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays at 7:30pm.

For information or to join, contact Grand Knight Frank Balbirer or email [KofC4545@aol.com](mailto:KofC4545@aol.com)

**MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024 – EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

**APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
<b>SATURDAY 8PM</b>	Weez Roney Lisa Saxton	<b>Need 1 Volunteer</b>	Martin, Alice & Rita Elsner	SJB Choir Sue Rogers
<b>SUNDAY 8AM</b>	Jackie Butler Bea Romaszewski	Marie Burke	Alaina Butler <b>Need 2 Volunteers</b>	<b>Needed</b>
<b>SUNDAY 10:30AM</b>	Laura Gumprecht Anne Luna	Tony Luna	Melissa & Khloe Demusz Olivia Luna	Echoes of Christ



**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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\*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

[PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com](http://PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com)

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