

NOVEMBER 23RD, 2025 – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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.

NOVEMBER 23RD, 2025 – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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 November 24th – November 30th, 2025

Monday: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
Tuesday: † Katherine Brennan Kavanagh (*Gina Giarratana*)
Wednesday: † Chris Leahy (*Family*)
Thursday: **Thanksgiving Day Mass in the Old Church**
Parishioners' Intentions
Friday: † Atticus Jones (*Mr. & Mrs. Charles Oxenford*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:30pm: † Pat Kreschollek (*Phil & Mary Lou Crossley*)
Sunday 8am: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)
Sunday 10:30am: Parishioners' Intentions

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm

Parish Office will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 27th & 28th for Thanksgiving.

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

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

November 16th - Envelopes \$3,999 * E-Giving \$1,885

Thank you for your generosity!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Sun. Nov 23: Ministry Coordinators meeting - 9:15am

Tue. Nov 25: Choir Practice – Church - 7pm

Wed. Nov 26: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am

Wed. Nov 26: Prayers of Petition* - via Zoom - 6:30pm

* **EMAIL LAURA AT sibevangel@stjohnsottsville.org TO JOIN IN PRAYER, OR TO SUBMIT PRAYER REQUESTS.**

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!



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Sat. Nov 29th at 9:30AM

Helpers Welcome! Please Bring Gloves.

Attention Parish Family:

Prior to the clean-up, please remove any ornamental items you may have placed on the grave of a loved one that you would like to keep. **All non-Christmas items will be removed.**

From Your Pastor-

The attitude of humility and service to others can make a leader great. Christ, our humble and servant king, makes his journey from the valley of darkness and sin to back to paradise. Looking at the miracles and the great charism of Jesus, people were inspired to proclaim Him a king.

King David too possessed a priceless charism that could lift people's souls and inspire them to do remarkable things. King David's natural charism was greatly enhanced by God's grace. God was with him. Jesus was acclaimed a king three times during his life, and each time He refused to be a king.

The first time after the Loaves Miracle people wanted Him to be a king and in the second instance on the entry into Jerusalem, people welcomed Him like a king with resounding acclamation. The type of kingship the people wanted to thrust upon was not the kind Jesus wanted. The third case occurred in the dungeon of Antonia Fortress.

The Roman soldiers knelt there before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" This is the only time in His life that Christ wore a crown (of thorns). King David at Jerusalem reigned over all Israel and Judah for thirty- three years. Christ, our king, lived thirty-three years in this world, but reigns forever in our hearts.

Today, we pray for the leaders of the World, especially the Church leaders, that they may imitate Christ's attitude of humility and service to others.

**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.

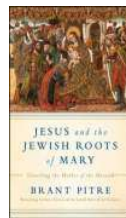
We will make arrangements to bring the Lord to you.



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.

Join our **ADVENT BOOK CLUB**



We will be reading '*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary: Unveiling the Mother of the Messiah*' by Brant James Pitre.

The cost is \$15 (payment due at the first meeting). Discussions will be held at 9:15 am in the St. Augustine Room on Sundays in Advent.

November 30th, December 7th, 14th, 21st

The last weekend that the **SJB NITTY GRITTY GARDEN CLUB** will be taking orders for poinsettias and grave blankets is **November 22nd - 23rd**. Your orders may be picked up on the weekend of December 6th-7th in the narthex during our *Winter Wonderland Display*.



It's that time of year again! The **NGGC** kindly asks our parish members to please gather your greenery cuttings (cedar, fir, holly, pine, juniper, etc.). Please drop them off at the entrance to our church by the bench on these dates:

November 22nd-23rd, 29th-30th



SAVE THE DATE: December 6th – 7th
The **NGGC** invites you to take a stroll in our *Winter Wonderland Display* in the narthex. Poinsettias and grave blankets will be displayed along with fresh green arrangements, outdoor bird-seed ornaments of all different sizes and Epiphany blessing sign kits. *Santa's garden elves truly appreciate your much needed support!*

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



The month of November reminds us to be thankful for many blessings in our lives. Would you please consider donating these items this month?

**turkey gravy - stuffing - cranberry sauce - yams
coffee - juice - chunky soups - tissues**

Giant or Dollar Store gift cards are also appreciated.

You will benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staples and help them enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving. 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

MINI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



Tables will be set up in the Narthex during the month of December after the Masses. All proceeds will be used for the maintenance of SJB.

THANK YOU!



**PARISH RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

Parents of New Students of any grade level for 2025-26 should contact the Parish Office: prep@stjohnsottsville.org or 610-847-5521.

Parents/Guardians of 7th grade students, who are parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church who are attending Catholic School and who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. John the Baptist Church in 2026, should contact the Director of Religious Education at prep@stjohnsottsville.org.



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of November 23rd
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Our Father Stommel Council #4545 meets every 3rd Monday at 7:30pm. For information or to join, Contact Grand Knight Mark Janik KofC4545@aol.com



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

Greetings from Across Campus

What a joyful start to the week it was at Regina Academy! Even the brisk November winds could not dampen our students' enthusiasm, who embraced their recess and activities with energy and cheer. This week has been a true celebration of gratitude and grace.

On Thursday, our 8th-grade students joined our preschool children for a Thanksgiving feast, offering thanks to the Lord and to the family and friends who bless our lives. In the spirit of our Montessori program, the preschoolers took an active role in preparing for the celebration, churning fresh butter from milk by hand. Their delight in sharing this simple, homemade gift reminded us that gratitude often shines brightest in the smallest acts. The butter was enjoyed with warm breads, adding a touch of joy and tradition to the feast.

As we look ahead to Thanksgiving with our loved ones, we pause to give thanks for our parish community. Your prayers and support sustain the Academy and help us nurture the whole child, mind, body, and spirit. Each day, our children and staff lift you up in prayer, grateful for the gift of belonging to a faith-filled family that walks together in Christ.

Blessings, **Brian Dulin**, President
Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

Christmas Cookie Swap



Dear Parishioners:

You are cordially invited to the Christmas Cookie Swap on Sunday Dec 7th at 11:30am in the Marian Room.

Start the Holiday Season by sharing your favorite cookies with old and new friends!

To participate you must:

- bring 3 dozen HOMEMADE COOKIES... packaged in bags...4 cookies per bag
- label each bag with the kind of cookie and any food allergies (like nuts)

**Light refreshments will be provided
by the Evangelization Team.**



THE LORD'S PANTRY Giving Tree

will be set up in the Narthex beginning Saturday, November 29th.

ALL gifts need to be in the form of gift cards.

Gifts must have the original "Gift Tag" taken off the Christmas tree attached to the gift for identification purposes.

Gift cards may be purchased through the Parish Office.

Gifts need to be placed back under the tree by Monday, December 15th at the latest!

Thank you and God Bless!



K of C and Regina Academy



Annual Christmas Party

Dec 14, 2025 • Noon to 3:00 P.M.
RA@SJB School Gym

All are invited! This is the perfect time for all RA@SJB Families, St. John the Baptist, St. Lawrence Parishioners, and the regional community to come together and have a wonderful Christmas celebration. **No fee to attend.**

Donations for the Lord's Pantry are encouraged and appreciated at this time of year. There will be a box dedicated for items donated to the Pantry at the RA school foyer / entrance.

- Drinks Pretzels—Popcorn—Coffee/Tea—Goodies
- Pizza & Cotton Candy!
- Decoration Making / Craft Tables
- Christmas Tree
- and of course ... a visit with gifts from Jolly Old St. Nick!



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

Carolyn Marchese - Finance Manager

Words of Gratitude from **A Woman's Place**

"Thank you again...the gift cards are so useful for our clients, especially as the holidays approach. We also will immediately be able to use the food and other supplies."

Thank you to everyone who supported our drive to support A Woman's Place! In addition to collecting material goods ranging from food items to clothing to linens, we were able to provide \$525 in gift cards! Thank you everyone for supporting women experiencing domestic violence!

Mental Health Minute

Pope Leo XIV asks us to pray this month for those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts – that they may find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

"Finding someone who cries with you and gives you strength is a medicine that we cannot do without, because it is a sign of love. Where pain is deep, the hope that comes from communion must be even stronger." Pope Leo XIV during the Jubilee of Consolation

19.7% of U.S. Veterans experienced a mental illness in 2020

<https://www.nami.org/about-mental-illness/mental-health-by-the-numbers/>

For Catholic mental health support, visit: www.archphila.org/support

Available October until January, 2026



Michelangelo PIETA



Is Now at Saint Bede Church!

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Exactly identical in size to the original Michelangelo masterpiece in St. Peter's Basilica, yet accessible for pilgrims, visitors and art enthusiasts alike! This perfect re-creation will reside in the lower chapel of St. Bede the Venerable Church for all to view and venerate.

The Pietà will be on exhibit in the chapel:
- Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 2:30pm
- Saturdays from 8:00am to 4:00pm
- Sundays between the Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, 11am and 12:30pm



NOVEMBER 23RD, 2025 – OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

November 29th & 30th, 2025

1st Sunday of Advent

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 4:30PM	Weez Roney Christine Wimpenny Kim Zampirri	Patti Keyser	Joel, Jacob & Joshua Roney	Katie Minster Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Nancy Kaczinski Donna & Natalie Nice	Jeanne Keller	Alexander & Justin Nice 1 Volunteer Needed	Patty Leidner Sue Rogers
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Claire Froman Anne Luna Patty Salva	Tony Luna	Olivia Luna 2 Volunteers Needed	Sue Rogers SJB Choir



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Caleb Cerino, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camilleri, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Carol Engel, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Barney Fontenot, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, **Emilio J. Gonzales**, Kathy Hancharik, Sylvia Holzmagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Ethan Meyers, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Mike Palmer, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Mary Pucci, Janet Reidler, Thomas Rimmer, Fr. Tony Ripp, MSC, 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, Judy Woodroffe

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, 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 guide them. Amen.



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