

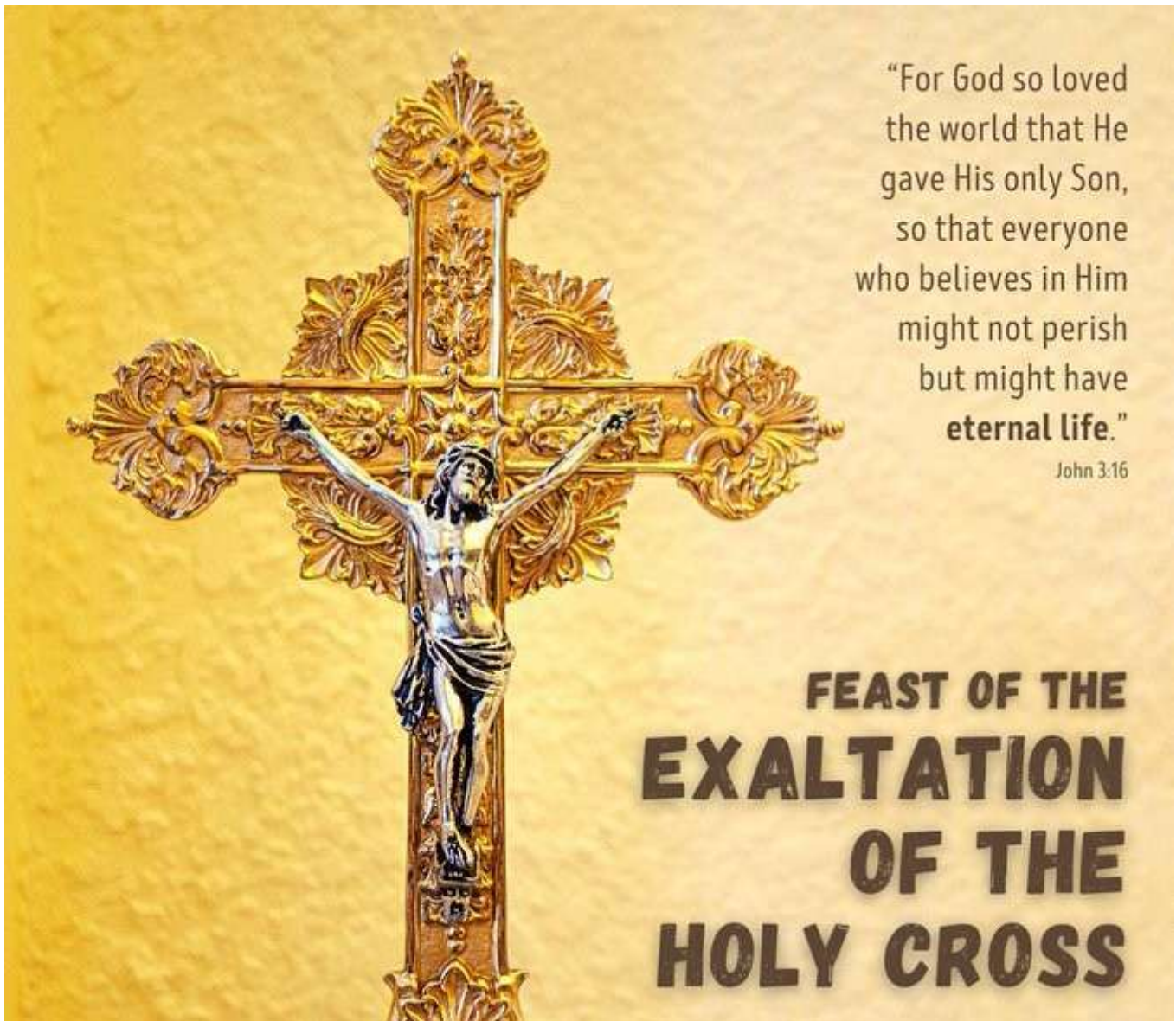
SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025 – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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 of our visitors and new members.

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025 – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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: 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 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 September 15th – September 21st, 2025

Monday: † Jerry & Elizabeth Petritsch (*Geri Petrei*)
Tuesday: Intentions of Joe Fekete (*A Friend*)
Wednesday: Intentions of Becky Tirpok (*A Friend*)
Thursday: † Maryanne Comly (*Mike & Mary Kosmin*)
Friday: Intentions of Francis Koerber (*RA Faculty & Staff*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 8am: † Freeh-Johnson Family
(*Dave & Mary Grace Tillotson*)
Catechetical Sunday 10:30am: Intentions of all Catechists, PREP Families & OCIA Participants

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

September 7th - Envelopes \$4,218 * E-Giving \$1,872

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed. Sep 17: Flame of Love - Chapel - 8am
Wed. Sep 17: 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!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF DEANNA SUDER

Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace. Amen.

Ann Pachert

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From Your Pastor

We celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross for two reasons: (1) to understand the history of the discovery and recovery of the True Cross and (2) to appreciate better the importance of the symbol and reality of Christ's sacrificial love, namely, the cross in the daily life of every Christian.

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is one of twelve "Master feasts" celebrated in the Church to honor Jesus Christ, our Lord and Master. This feast is celebrated to memorialize the first installation of the remnants of the true cross of Jesus in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on Mount Calvary, September 14, AD 335, and its reinstallation on September 14, AD 630. The original cross on which Jesus was crucified was excavated in AD 326 by a team led by St. Helena, the mother of the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine. The emperor built the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on Calvary, it was consecrated on September 14, AD 335, and the remains of the cross were installed in it by Archbishop Maccharios of Jerusalem.

After three centuries, the Persians invaded Jerusalem, plundered it of all valuables and took with them the relic of the Holy Cross. In AD 630, Emperor Heraclius II defeated the Persians, recaptured the casket containing the holy relic, and reinstalled it in the rebuilt Church, which was destroyed by Muslims in 1009. The crusaders rebuilt it as the present Church of the Holy Sepulcher in 1149. The largest fragment of the holy cross is now kept in Santa Croce Church in Rome.

To this day, the Eastern Churches, Catholic and Orthodox alike, celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on the September anniversary of the basilica's dedication. The feast entered the Western calendar in the seventh century after Emperor Heraclius recovered the cross from the Persians.

**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.



SJB Parish Picnic
Sunday, September 14th
Noon – 3 pm

**The Parish Picnic is
being held this weekend!**
We hope you will all be joining us!

THIS WEEKEND



**GIFT CARDS FOR
SALE AFTER MASS**

We will be selling and taking orders for gift cards after the Masses this weekend. Please visit us in the Narthex to get your order form and sign-up for program benefits!

Feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena and celebrates the central role of the Cross in the Christian faith as a symbol of salvation and hope. It is a time for reflection on the sacrifice of Jesus and the call to carry our own crosses in life. These prayers can be used individually or in community settings to deepen one's faith and connection to the significance of the Holy Cross.

Prayer for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

"O God, who willed that your Only Begotten Son should undergo the Cross to save the human race, grant, we pray, that we who have known his mystery on earth may merit the grace of his redemption in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen."

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025 – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Catechetical Sunday – September 21st



Catholic Churches in the United States celebrate **CATECHETICAL SUNDAY** every year on the third Sunday of September. Parishes are asked to bless and commission those who teach the Catholic Faith and those who volunteer in any way in this ministry. Pope Francis elevated this ministry to a higher level of calling, during his papacy. Here at Saint John the Baptist Parish, on September 21 this year, Father Selvaraj Lucas, MSC, our Pastor, will bless and commission those who teach and volunteer in the P.R.E.P. Program and those who hand on the faith in the O.C.I.A. Please join with the Parish Community and the Universal Church to pray for and support these Grace-filled persons who share the Good News with our Youth, our Families, and those seeking to know and love God.

Registration Forms for Returning Students for 2025-26 have been mailed. Parents of New Students of any grade level for 2025-26 should contact the Parish Office: prep@stjohnsottsville.org OR 610-847-5521.



PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**2025 – 2026 Registration is Open for PREP
Classes Begin Monday, September 15th, 2025
Class time: 6:15 – 7:30pm Monday in the school**

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 by September 30th, 2025.

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 by September 30th, 2025.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



Now that September is upon us, it seems that we can almost smell Fall in the air! Would you please consider donating these baking supplies.

Sugar - Cake Mixes - Brownie Mixes - Pie Filling

You will benefit our struggling families affected by the increased prices of staples and bring happiness and comfort to them and delicious smells to their kitchens! 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

Evangelization Ministry



This year **Abbeyfest** is at the Shrine in Doylestown on Saturday, September 20th. Come for a great day of music, Mass and Adoration. See the flyer in the narthex for details. Ticket prices dramatically reduced for groups of 15 or more, so sign up in the narthex for the reduced rate.

The Harrisburg **March for Life** is Monday, Sept 22nd. There is a sign up in the narthex for the bus out of St. Robert Bellarmine in Warrington. Cost is \$30 for adults. Teens and under ride free. **See flyer in the narthex for other available buses.**



From August to November, SJB will be running a raffle through the **RaiseRight** program for a chance to win a \$250 Giant gift card! For each \$100 purchased (in a single transaction) you will receive one ticket to be entered in the raffle. Gift cards can be purchased after the Masses on the weekend when there is a Parish Social, or through the Parish Office during the week. The raffle will be drawn and the winner announced at the November Social after 10:30 Mass.

Questions? Contact Laura: sjbevanangel@stjohnsottsville.org

Calling All Walkers!

There are several walking/running events this Fall that support important charities around the area. Check them out!

Saturday, Sept 27th: Thinkhope Run. 5K run or 1K walk. Peace Valley Park, Sailor's Point parking lot. Sign up at thinkhope.org/events

Saturday, Oct 4th: 5K run and walk supporting Crossroads Pregnancy Care. Location: The Park at 4th, Quakertown <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Quakertown/5KRunandWalkforLife>

Saturday, Oct 4th: Warminster Run for Life supports **A Baby's Breath**. Come Run, Walk or Wheel at Tyler State Park Rt. 332 (Richboro-Newtown Road) at No. 1 Lane Trail Richboro, PA 18954 (Earth Center for the Arts Entrance). <https://ababysbreath.org/warminster/warminster-run-for-life/>

Saturday, Nov 8th: Walking with Moms in Need. 1- and 2-mile walk (or run) at Anglers Pier, Peace Valley Park. Supports Bucks County Pro-Life Coalition. More info is coming soon!

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 or email KofC4545@aol.com



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of September 14th
TEAM 3**

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.



Pastoral Council is reaching out to our parishioners to see if there is interest in bringing back

The Little Lambs Club.

The Little Lambs Club is a way to introduce the Gospel message and Eucharistic celebration at the children's own level. We are seeking two active registered parishioners to take on this leadership role for both Sunday Mass at 8AM & 10:30AM.

There are two signup sheets in the Narthex. One is for anyone interested in having their children enrolled. The other signup sheet is for anyone willing to volunteer for instruction of the children.

All adult volunteers must obtain Archdiocesan clearances prior to beginning service and be willing to complete trainings. Call the parish office for details on applying for clearances and training, and/or visit the Office for Child Youth Protection website: childyouthprotection.org

FATIMA HOUSE RETREAT CENTER

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR
MORE PRAYER IN YOUR LIFE?
JOIN US AT FATIMA HOUSE



On Mondays at 7 PM and Wednesdays at 10 AM we have an Hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. We pray the "Liturgy of the Hours", the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. No experience necessary!

DAILY AND OVERNIGHT RETREATS

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

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

SJB NITTY GRITTY GARDEN CLUB



NGGC would like to invite you to our Fall "Make it and Take it" event on September 25th at 6:30. We will be making a garden stake, jack-o'-lantern or welcome sign.

You're Invited!

The cost is \$15. All materials are provided and refreshments also. Please sign up at our garden table located in the back of the church by 9/21.

Our Mission Statement:

Honoring God through the gifts HE has given us, by beautifying the campus, maintaining and expanding our gardens, and educating members.



Meetings are held in the Narthex meeting rooms on the 4th Thursday of each month from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Any questions/concerns please feel free to contact: Janice Meiser at 215-534-0064 and/or Janice Bebb at 215-266-1508 or creationsbyjanice@comcast.net.

We need many seeds to keep our gardens flourishing.



Palisades Area CROP Hunger Walk Sunday, September 28th 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
St Peter's Lutheran Church, 720 Edgewood Rd. Riegelsville, PA
The route will go south on the Delaware canal to Trauger's Farm and back.
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/riegelsvillepa>

The Knights of Columbus Council 4545



Join us for a night of fun. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8th

Cost of admission ticket of \$5.00 includes coffee & dessert.

Come test **your** luck, it only costs a penny per chance!

No one under 13 years of age admitted

SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2025 – THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS
September 20th & 21st, 2025 | **25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Joan Black Weez Roney Dave Slifer	Anne Slifer	Blake & Max Nowicki Christine Wimpenny	Fred Furmaniak Liz Torgerson
SUNDAY 8AM	Nina Carlineo Nancy Kaczinski Renee Moyer	Needed	Alexander & Justin Nice 1 Volunteer Needed	Anita Colahan Karen Parash
SUNDAY 10:30AM Catechetical Sunday	Samantha Campbell Claire Froman Lynn Gammello	Marie Burke	Melissa & Khloe Demusz 1 Volunteer Needed	Karen Parash Amleto Pucci



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Brent Camillier, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin & Arlene Eichlin, Carol Engel, Christie Feikel, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy Hancharik, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klings, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Kimberly Markulec, Rosanne McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Helene Nastro, Dennis O'Connell, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, 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 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, 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



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in remembrance of *samantha josephson*

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