

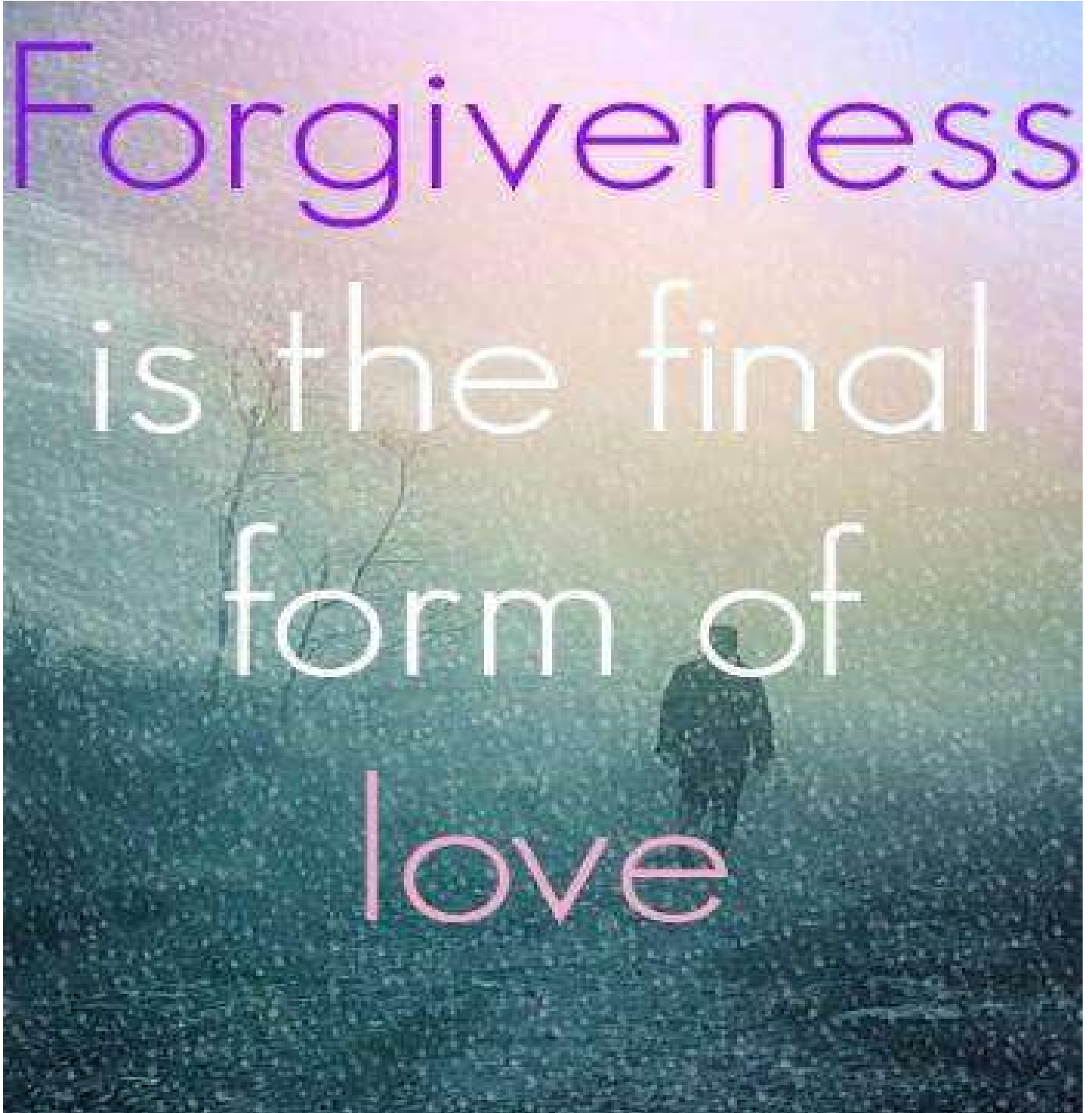
September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 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)



**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 September 18 – September 24, 2023

Monday: + Bill Saxton (Joanne & Jerry Peters)  
Tuesday: + Alice Moninghoff Godown (Brother Tom)  
Wednesday: + Michael Farrell (Maryanne Comly)  
Thursday: + Myles Muth (Dianne Brenner)  
Friday: + Mr. Legaspi (Mike & Mary Kosmin)

### Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: + Ceil Cook (Meg Falance)  
Sunday 8am: + Evelyn & William Wismer (Ed Wismer)  
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

September 10th Envelopes \$4,581 \* E-Giving \$1,848

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Wed. Sep 20: Intercessory Prayer – Chapel - 6:30pm  
Thu. Sep 21: SJB Book Club – St. Augustine Rm – 7:00pm  
Sat. Sep 23: Men of Faith – Marian Room – 9:00am

### A Prayer for the People of the Ukraine



*We fly to Your patronage, O Virgin Mother of God. Despise not our prayers in our needs, but deliver us from all dangers, since you alone are pure and blessed.  
O most glorious ever-Virgin Mary, the Mother of Christ our God, accept our prayers and present them to Your Son and our God, that for the sake of you, He enlighten and save our souls.*

## CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

This Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, throughout the United States, Catholic Parishes celebrate CATECHETICAL SUNDAY, a day to recognize, bless, and commission all those in the Church who formally Share the Good News and teach the Message of Jesus. At St. John the Baptist, at the 10:30 A.M. Mass, Father Lucas will recognize, bless, and commission the catechists of our Parish Religious Education Program as well as other parishioners who impart the Gospel Message of Jesus in other teaching ministries of the parish community.

Please pray for our volunteer catechists and our Catholic school teachers, that they grow in love of Christ themselves and that they are strengthened to teach the Message of Truth of Jesus with love, authority, and clarity.

## FROM YOUR PASTOR

The readings for this Twenty-Fourth Sunday concern forgiving those who wound us and being reconciled with them. All three readings today remind us of the path to forgiveness, mercy, and reconciliation and challenge us to walk this, the only Way to Life.

Sirach, in the first reading, reminds his listeners that if they don't heal and forgive and show mercy, they can't expect to receive mercy from God in return. It is unwise to nurse grudges and wise to forgive because our life span is very short and our eternal destiny is decided by how we forgive, how we work for reconciliation with those who wound us, and how we render humble and loving service to them.

In today's [Psalm](#), (Ps 103), the Psalmist sings, "*The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.*" In the second reading, Paul reminds us that we have to forgive others because we belong to Christ who, by his own example in forgiving those who killed Him, taught us how we must forgive in our turn. Since we humans are related to each other as brothers and sisters of Jesus, we are in the family of God, so hatred and bitterness toward anyone should have no place in our hearts.

In today's Gospel, through the parable of the two debtors, Jesus teaches us that there should be no limit to our forgiveness and no conditions attached to our reconciliation. We represent the greater debtor in the parable because we commit sins every day and, so, we need God's forgiveness every day. But we must forgive in order to be forgiven. Jesus explains, after teaching us the prayer *Our Father*, "*For if you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father also will forgive you.*"

Sincerely in Our Lord  
REV. S. LUCAS MSC

Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish



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.*

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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 doing the 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.**



RCIA, the process in which adults become full participating members of the Catholic Church by receiving the sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation, will be starting back up in September.

Please contact Tom & Jeanne Keller

at [sjbrcia@stjohnsottsville.org](mailto:sjbrcia@stjohnsottsville.org)

or call the Parish Office for more information.



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### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our Father Stommel Council # 4545 **meets** the **1<sup>st</sup>** and **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).



Please pray for  
the repose of  
the soul of

Sr. Josanne  
Huber, MSC



# 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.

**Religious Education Classes for 2023-24 begin on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.**

*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.*



## SJB Parish Picnic SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> NOON – 3 PM

Rain ☁️ (gym) or Shine ☀️ (field behind the church)

Bring chairs or a blanket and join us for food, fun, games, prizes and music.

Please sign up in the Narthex if you think you can make it, so we have a food count.

Hamburgers and hotdogs provided by this year's sponsors, *Chris and Eileen Leahy*.

We will have kid's games and prizes. Form a team of 2 from your parish ministry, family or friends and sign up at the picnic to challenge other teams in the cornhole tournament or come to play for fun in separate lanes.

If your last name begins with:

**A-E** bring a side dish

**F-J** bring chips, pretzels, etc.

**K-O** bring pickles, olives, relish, onions, lettuce, tomato

**P-S** bring dessert

**T-Z** bring non-alcoholic drinks and ice

**Looking forward to seeing you all there!**

## Conquest for Boys & Challenge for Girls

are **Catholic youth programs** for **K-4 & 5-8th grades** that inspire children to **grow in faith** by building a **friendship with Christ** and living **lives of virtue** to make a **positive impact** on their **families, friends and the world!** We meet monthly on the 2nd and 4th Sundays right after 10:30 Mass!

**Questions:** [ConquestForChrist@gmail.com](mailto:ConquestForChrist@gmail.com)

## Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist

The only Catholic, Classical School in Bucks County!

- Authentic Catholic education that develops strong morals and character
- Small class sizes without screens
- Tight knit, like minded community
- Montessori Pre-K, Classical K-8th Grade



## Regina Academy at St. John the Baptist is Hiring!

The only Catholic classical school in Bucks County is seeking ardent Catholics who can teach across the curriculum and integrate the Faith as part of the formation of the memory, intellect, will and heart of the students. Teacher certification is not required.

### We have openings for:

**Office Manager Full-Time**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher (Full-Time)**

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Catechist (Part-Time)**

Please direct resumés and questions to Tami Koerber, Head of School, [tkoerber@rasib.org](mailto:tkoerber@rasib.org) - 610-847-5523.

## Annual Regina Academy Donum A Deo Gala



# \$10,000.00

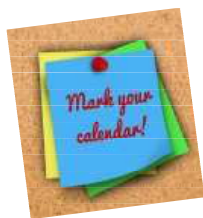
Win \$10,000.00 at our Annual Regina Academy  
Donum A Deo Gala  
Saturday - November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
\$50.00 per ticket

\*need not be present to win  
Visit:

[RASJB23.GIVESMART.com](http://RASJB23.GIVESMART.com)



SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2023 – 24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We at St. John the Baptist have planned the following:

1. SJB Book Club: currently reading *"This Is My Body"* by Bishop Barron - all are welcome to join us now on the

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.

2. Advent Bible Study: *"The Eucharist"* by Fr. Mitch Pacwa

3. Lenten Bible Study : *"Jesus and the Jewish Roots"* by Brant Pitre

4. April 13 - April 14, 2024: an overnight retreat at the Czestochowa Shrine- *"Live the Mass"*



**Join the Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of September 17<sup>th</sup> TEAM 4**

*This is a once per month commitment.*

## 2023 EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

In response to the USCCB's call, the Archdiocese has planned the Eucharistic Congress on **Saturday, Sept 30th.**

**"THE GIFT OF FINEST WHEAT:  
THIS IS MY BODY GIVEN UP FOR YOU"**

Although the **in-person event is sold out**, you can participate virtually in the Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress by registering to access the livestream. Virtual participation is \$20 per household.

**Note:** Only the events/talks for the Adult English Track will be live-streamed.

**Register for VIRTUAL participation at**  
<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=U7s42v>

St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Riegelsville is sponsoring a **CROP Hunger Walk** on October 29<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser will help fight hunger locally and around the world. The Lord's Pantry will receive 25% of the funds raised and will participate in a variety of ways. Please come out and support the CROP Hunger Walk.

PALISADES AREA  
CROP HUNGER WALK



OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Registration Opens @ 1:00 pm  
Starts and ends at  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church at  
720 Edgewood Rd, Riegelsville, PA 18077

Walk as far as you want:

Location	Each Way (Miles)	Round Trip (Miles)
Durham Aqueduct (Routes 212 & 611)	1.25	2.5
Trauger's Farm (Island Rd.)	2.25	4.5

25% of donations go to support  
The Lord's Pantry in Ottsville  
75% goes to feed the hungry around the world

Scan to register or donate:



Call 610-346-8500 or email  
[cropwalkcoordinator@durhamlutheran.org](mailto:cropwalkcoordinator@durhamlutheran.org) for  
registration material.

## PARISH SURVEY

The Pastoral Council is making progress on reviewing results from the Parish Survey and prioritizing areas to be addressed in 2023 and 2024. If you have not already provided your name to be part of a Focus Group and are interested in providing feedback to Pastoral Council on their interpretation of the data, please sign up in the Narthex by Sept 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have already provided your name when completing the survey, look for an email from Pastoral Council. If you have not received an email, please contact the Parish Office.



PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR  
LIFE  
OCTOBER 16, 2023  
Harrisburg, PA

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Guadalupe parishes are organizing a bus to Harrisburg, PA to support the sanctity of human life in PA. Please join us!

**Departure From:** Our Lady of Guadalupe, Doylestown, PA

**Time:** 8:00AM

**Departure from PA State Capital Building:** Between 1:30pm to 3:00pm depending on modification to the final schedule.

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

10:00 AM – Prayer and Praise Pre-Rally

11:00 AM – Pennsylvania March for Life Rally

12:00 PM – Pennsylvania March for Life

We hope to meet with some of our legislators during the visit. The cost is \$20 per person. Teenagers and younger are free. If you would like to join us, please email Kathleen Wilson at [Twav5@aol.com](mailto:Twav5@aol.com) to register. Please indicate in the subject line "March for Life bus - PA RSVP". If there are any questions, please call Kathleen at 215-262-3998.

For updates, information, updates and FAQ visit: [PA.MarchforLife.org](http://PA.MarchforLife.org)



SAVE THE DATE

The Knights of Columbus Council 4545

PENNY PARTY

Join us for a night of fun

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023

Doors Open 5:00 pm

Cost of admission ticket \$5.00 includes a coffee & dessert  
Come test your luck, it only cost a penny per chance!

Door Prizes and 50/50 and Extravaganza also available

Food, Snacks and Drinks (non-alcoholic\*) for sale

\*You may bring your own adult beverage

NO ONE UNDER 16 YEARS OF AGE ADMITTED





	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Weez Roney Marion Wolf	Kim Zampirri	Rita Elsner Martin Elsner Brady Mattle	Kate Irvine Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Tom Keller Jim McHugh	Jeanne Keller	Alaina Butler Need 2 Volunteers	-
CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 10:30AM	Frank Balbirer Wendy DeGroot	Patti Keyser	Jean Furmaniak Need 2 Volunteers	Echoes of Christ



## PLEASE PRAY FOR...



### OUR SICK:

Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Loretta Bodisch, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, Melanie Fioretta, Betty Fleck, Tom Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Stephen Holznagel, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klenges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Loretta Malloy, Roseann McCarty, Bridget McHugh, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, Jeff Olimpo, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Beatrice Bohm Rogers, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Bella Sosa, 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, Jason Litschauer, Dan O'Connor, McKenna Pason, Dusty Rhodes, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva, 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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