

Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church 1282 Yardville - Allentown Road • Allentown, N.J. 08501 www.StJohnRomanCatholic.org



He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord. Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4:17-20



Saint John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church

1282 Yardville-Allentown Road Allentown, NJ 08501 www.StJohnRomanCatholic.org

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Third Sunday After Epiphany January 26, 2025



Sacrament of Confession	Clergy and Parish Staff
Confession is offered on Wednesday from 5:45pm-6:45pm and on Saturday from 4:00pm-4:45pm. Confession is also available by request and as announced on our website. Please contact the Pastor by email at FrMikeWallack@gmail.com with any questions. <u>Contact Information</u> Parish Website StJohnRomanCatholic.org	Very Rev. Michael Wallack, Pastor Email: FrMikeWallack@gmail.com
	Rev. John Garrett, Weekend Assistant
	Mr. Philip Clingerman OCDS, Deacon Email: clingermanocds@gmail.com
	Mr. Paul DeGrazia, Deacon Email: pauldegraz@gmail.com
	Mr. Joseph Hepp, Deacon Email: jjhepp@yahoo.com
	Mr. Michael Scannella, Deacon Email: sfscdeacon@gmail.com
<u>Parish Office</u> Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm	Mrs. Dorothy Conway, Business Manager Email: sjbbusiness@optimum.net
Office Email: stjohnallentown@gmail.com Office Phone: 609-259-3391 Fax: 609-508-1407 For an emergency requiring a priest, please call (609) 538-4126	Mrs. Lauren Walters, Coordinator of Religious Education Enail: sjbrccre@gmail.com Phone: (609)259-3586
	Mr. Peter Carter, Director of Music Email: sjbmusicdirector@gmail.com
	Mrs. Jo-Anne Ruff, Bookkeeper/Cemetery Coordinator Email: sjbbookkeeper@optimum.net Phone: (609)508-1715

Holy Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, January 25		Virginia Kerr (d), requested by Thomas and Carol Toporek Concetta and Joseph Pellini (d), requested by The Pellini Family
Sunday, January 26	11:00 AM	Thomas Damiano (d), requested by Kay Damiano Robert Gervasoni (d), requested by Bob and Kathy Diszler People of the Parish
Monday, January 27	7:00 PM	Robert Gervasoni (d), requested by Mary Beth and Rich Cardillo
Tuesday, January 28	8:00 AM	Frank Sena (d), requested by Robert and Sharon DeLuca
Wednesday, January 29		Josephine Testa (d), requested by Richard Pozzi Families of the Wilberforce School (l), requested by Kerry Ann Gilmour
Thursday, January 30	8:00 AM	P. Joseph Flatley (d), requested by Alice Flatley
Friday, January 31	8:00 AM	The Morton Family (1), requested by Christa Stefanchik
Saturday, February 1		Josephine Testa (d), requested by Dino Testa People of the Parish
Sunday, February 2	11:00 AM	Leo Hannon (d), requested by Scott and Clare Goodwin Stanley C. Dembowski (d), requested by Stephanie and Stephen Dembowski V. Rev. Michael Wallack (l), requested by John and Maryann Schingo

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament



Mondays from Noon until 6:45pm Benediction Holy Sacrifice of the Mass follows at 7:00pm

All are invited to come and spend some time with our Blessed Lord! If you are able to join our Adoration team, please contact Margaret Longto at 609-259-2859.

Is God Calling You to the Fullness of the Catholic Church

If you or someone you know is thinking about entering the Catholic Church, or perhaps was Baptized Catholic but never had an opportunity to receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion and/or Confirmation, please **contact Vince Gelsomino at the Parish Office at 259-3391** for information about our Parish Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Program.

Participants in our RCIA Program will meet through the next few winter months to learn about the truths of the Catholic Faith, and will have the opportunity to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and/or Confirmation during the Saturday, April 19, 2025 Easter Vigil Mass.

Saint John the Baptist Church Information

Sanctuary Lamp

Offerings for your intentions are available on a weekly basis for the Sanctuary Lamp, which burns night and day before Our Lord, truly present in the Tabernacle.

The Sanctuary Lamp is offered this week for personal intentions, requested by Frank Koslowski

Weekly Collection

Sunday, January 19, 2025: \$9,467.00 January Maintenance & Repair: \$3,328.00 (to date)

January Property and Casualty Ins.: \$1,567.00 (to date) We are grateful for the generous donations received in the Mass collections, electronically through Online Giving, and through the mail and direct drop-off.

A Promise to Protect

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the Diocesan Abuse Hotline: 888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

My My

A Note From Our Pastor Very Rev. Michael Wallack

My Dear Parishioners,

When we gather together to take part in the Holy Mass we stand, in an attitude of watchfulness, to hear the Good News that the Gospel always brings us. We have to listen to it with a disposition which is at once attentive, humble and grateful because we know that God is speaking to each one of us in particular. We should hear the Gospel writes St Augustine, as if Our Lord were present and speaking to us. We must not say 'happy were those who could see Him', for many of those who saw Him crucified Him; and many of those who have not seen Him have believed in Him. The very words that came from Our Lord's lips were written down and kept and preserved for us. We can only love someone we know.

In order to get to know Christ, many Christians dedicate some minutes each day to reading and meditating on the Gospels. This practice leads us by the hand, as it were, to the knowledge and contemplation of Jesus Christ. It teaches us to see Him as the Apostles saw Him, to observe His reactions, to watch the way He behaved and listen to His words which were always filled with wisdom and authority. The Gospels show Him to us on some occasions moved with compassion at the plight of people in misery. At other times, they show Him full of understanding for sinners, or firm with the Pharisees who are presenting a false image of their religion. He is full of patience with those disciples who so often do not grasp the meaning of His words. It would be very difficult to love Jesus Christ, to get to know Him really well, if we did not frequently hear the Word of God, if we did not attentively read part of the Gospel each day.

That reading, perhaps lasting only a few minutes, nourishes and increases our piety. At the end of each Reading of Sacred Scripture the priest says, 'This is the Gospel of the Lord', and the faithful reply, 'Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ'. How is it we praise Him? Our Lord is not satisfied with our bare words; Show me, he says. He wants to be praised with deeds. We cannot run the risk of forgetting God's law, of allowing the teaching of the Church to remain in us as little more than truths which are diffuse and inoperative, or of which we have a merely superficial knowledge.

To us, this would mean an exile far more devastating than that of Babylon. God's greatest enemy in the world is ignorance, the cause, and, as it were, the root of all the evils that poison entire nations and perturb many souls. We know well that the one great evil that afflicts so many Christians is the lack of doctrinal formation. What is graver still is that many people are turned astray by error, a sickness even more serious than ignorance. What a pity if we, because we lack the necessary doctrine, cannot show Christ to them and give them the light they need in order to understand His teaching. Let us take the advice of Pope Francis and make good use of reflecting on Sacred Scriptures.

Peace, Fr. Mike



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Knights of Columbus Council 7333 Email: AllentownKnights@gmail.com

Brothers,

Officers and Directors Meeting

There will be an important meeting next Wednesday, January 29 at 7:30 PM. The agenda will include the completion of the Fraternal Survey and the semiannual audit and the completion of outstanding 10784 forms. Refreshments and snacks will be available. The meeting will be in the Knights Hall.

Seminarian Letter Program

The Seminarian Letter Program is still under way. Let us not forget these two brave men who are discerning to give their lives to God and the Church. Please continue to write notes and letters and let them know that we are encouraging and praying for them. Please deliver your letters to the Knights of Columbus via the Parish Office or the collection. I will periodically deliver these letters in bulk. Our Seminarians are George Castiglia and James Moon. Thank you for your support of our seminarians.

Dues Notices

These notices were sent out via email. Check your SPAM folder if you did not receive one. Contact Bill O'Conner if your notice is missing. Dues should be sent to Bill O'Conner.

Holy Hour and Rosary

The next Holy Hour with Adoration, Confession and prayers will be this Wednesday, January 29 beginning at 5:45 PM.

Loaves and Fishes

Our Saint John the Baptist Parish Family has again been asked to take the lead in feeding our needy brothers and sisters on **Saturday, February 15, 2025** at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in Trenton. Pans with the recipe will be available next weekend. Please call Rob McLaughlin for more information at

2025 PLANNED ACTIVITIES

KNIGHT'S RETREAT: Francis House of Prayer is this weekend, January 26, 2025 after 11:00AM Mass. Contact Jim McCaig or Dan Nazarro for details.

PARISH BREAKFAST: Sunday, February 9

COUNCIL MEETING: Monday, February 10

LOAVES AND FISHES: Saturday, February 15. Please see this bulletin for more information.

FOURTH DEGREE EXEMPLIFICATION: February 22 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC.

CATHOLIC MEN FOR JESUS CHRIST CONFERENCE: February 22. St. Mary, Mother of God Parish in Middletown, NJ.

SUPER 50/50 DRAWING: May 11, 2025 at the Parish Breakfast. Details will be forthcoming.

Vivat Jesus! GK Richard Ruff

The Sacred Music of the Mass The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon:	O sing a new song	
Kyrie:	Mass XVI	100
Gloria:	Heritage Mass	192
Responsorial Psalm:	Your words, Lord	
Alleluia:	The Lord sent me	
Offertory Antiphon:	The right hand of the Lord	
Offertory Hymn:	Be Thou My Vision	452
Sanctus:	Roman Missal Chant	
Memorial Acclamation:	Roman Missal Chant	
Agnus Dei:	Roman Missal Chant	
Communion Chant:	Look toward the Lord	
Communion Hymn:	Gift of Finest Wheat	528
Recessional:	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	426

The Mass Antiphons are included in the Source and Summit Missalette, while the numbered the hymns and Ordinary of the Mass can be found in the St. Michael Hymnal.

That Man Is You meets on Saturdays in the Knights Hall.

- ♦ 6:30 AM Breakfast and Fellowship
- ◆ 7:00 AM Inspiring video
- ◆ 7:30 AM Discussion

Contact Jim Hannon at 609-577-4643 with questions about this spiritually-enriching opportunity for men.



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY Saint John the Baptist Conference president1svdp@gmail.com

Anyone needing the support of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society or anyone wishing to donate, please call the Parish Office at 609-259-3391 or contact us through the SVdP email (president1svdp@gmail.com). We are sincerely grateful for all donations to those most in need.

Local Food Bank Donations for the Poor

Monthly donations of nonperishable and non-expired food are collected on the first weekend of every month. **The next collection weekend will be February 1-2.** Containers will be available at all three of the Church entrances for your donations. Thank you for your continued generosity.



ST. JOHN'S 50+ CLUB

Once a year we celebrate the birthdays of all of our members! This year, the **BIRTHDAY BASH** will be on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 1:00PM in the Church Hall. Come and celebrate your birthday with all of our members.

In March, we will enjoy **St. Patrick's Day** with corned beef and cabbage on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 1:00pm at La-Piazza Restaurant in Allentown. Please sign up and pay at our February 12 meeting. The cost will be only \$38.00/person. The luncheon will consist of salad, purses with pesto sauce, corned beef, cabbage, Irish Soda Bread and chicken with veggies, soda, coffee and cake. Wow! Don't miss this!

Next Weekend (February 1-2) Is Loaves and Fishes Sign-Up Weekend! Please look for us in the Church Hall after all of the Masses.

You can sign up for any or all of the following:

Make Baked Ziti

- We will provide the recipe and a pan a lid.
- You buy the ingredients, cook and refrigerate the Baked Ziti.
- You return the refrigerated Ziti to us at St John's on Friday, February 14 between 4PM and 6PM.

• Work With One of Our Youth or Adult Teams at the Cathedral on Saturday, February 15

- Set up and prepare.
- Serve lunch and clean up.

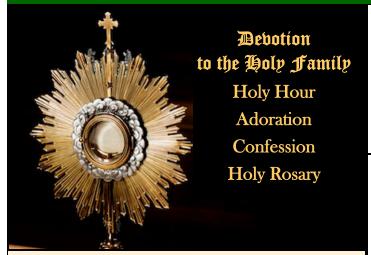
• Not Available To Cook Or Serve?

• Place a monetary donation (cash or check made out to Knight Of Columbus Council 7333) in an envelope labeled "Loaves & Fishes" and place it in the collection basket.

• Bonus Sock or Personal Item Bag Collection!

• Place new socks, soap, or deodorant in the baskets located in the Church vestibules.

Thank you for your support with this important ministry, and if you have any questions, please text or call Rob McLaughlin at 609-259-2782.



Next Holy Hour: Wednesday, January 29, 20259:00pmOur next Holy Hour with Adoration, Confession and the
recitation of the Holy Rosary will be on Wednesday, Janu
ary 29 from 5:45pm until Benediction at 6:45pm. The
7:00pm Traditional Latin Low Mass will follow Benediction
of the Blessed Sacrament.9:00pm12:00am



Saint John the Baptist Church First Friday Divine Mercy Chaplet

Friday, February 7, 2025 3:00pm in Church

We will honor Our Lord by praying the Chaplet of Mercy during the 3:00pm hour of Divine Mercy. All are invited to join us



TWO HEARTS VIGIL OF REPARATION

First Friday, February 7, 2025 Traditional Latin Low Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Adoration, Confession, Prayers

Saturday, February 8, 2025 Traditional Latin Low Mass in honor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary The Diocese of Trenton Celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass





High Mass

Very Rev. Michael Wallack Celebrant

Hlass Intention Pro Populo (People of the Parish)

Husic Intention In loving memory of Michael Pribula (d) requested by the Conway Family

Lunch Convivium Today

Please join us after Mass today for a great lunch Convivium downstairs in the Church Hall. There is no charge, and it is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and fun! We invite you to also visit our Traditional Latin Mass showcase for a wonderful selection of hand missals, books, mantillas, rosaries, CDs and other devotional items.

CANDLEMAS

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



SOLEMN HIGH TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS with blessing and distribution of candles

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025 12:30PM FOLLOWED BY LUNCH CONVIVIUM

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH 1282 YARDVILLE-ALLENTOWN RD ALLENTOWN, NJ 08501 STJOHNROMANCATHOLIC.ORG

The Sacred Music of the Mass

Processional:	Be Thou My Vision	452
Sprinkling Rite:	Asperges Me	207
Introit:	Adorate Deum	
Kyrie:	Mass XI	117
Gloria:	Mass XI	118
Gradual:	Timébunt géntes	
Alleluia:	Dóminus regnávit	
Credo:	Credo I	212
Offertory:	Déxtera Dómini	
Offertory Motet:	A Prayer of Henry VI - Ley	
Sanctus:	Mass XI	119
Agnus Dei:	Mass XI	120
Communion:	Mirabántur ómnes	
Communion Motet:	Portas Caeli - McCain	
Marian Anthem:	Alma Redemptoris Mater	428
Recessional:	Alleluia! Sing to Jesus	426

We are grateful to Sacred Music Director Peter Carter, our Schola Cantorum and our Choristers for this afternoon's beautiful Sacred Music. Professional recordings of our Sacred Music are available on our YouTube channel, *The Schola Cantorum of St. John the Baptist.*

Today's Marian Anthem After the Last Gospel

We will sing the *Alma Redemptoris Mater* as today's Marian Anthem at the Last Gospel. This seasonal Marian anthem is traditionally sung from the first Sunday of Advent until the Feast of the Purification on February 2 (the original ending date of the Christmas season). This prayer tells of Gabriel's announcement and of Mary's Divine motherhood.







OHM Teresa of Ávila





OHF John of the Cross

The Carmelite Corner

Readings: Rom 12:16-21 Mt 8:1-13

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

 \dot{V} . Praised be Jesus Christ... \dot{R} . Now and forever!

Adoráte Deum omnes Ángeli ejus: audivit, et lætáta est Sion: et exsultavérunt filiæ Judæ. Adore God, all ye his Angels: Sion heard, and was glad: and the daughters of Juda rejoiced. [Ps. 96:7,8]

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, the Gospel of today brings us to Our Lord being well on His mission. Already multitudes are following, so His fame must have been spreading for a while. In Jewish society of the day, a leper had no business being in public. They were declared unclean, and, in Jewish thought, this surely was recompense for some sin. The poor man is an outcast, and sin casts us out of friendship with Christ. And yet – the leper is undaunted by his state – he KNOWS that Jesus can cure him, if He wills. Jesus rewards the man's faith; do we KNOW that He can do this for us, as well?

The Carmelite realizes that all of humanity has 'leprosy' of some kind – this presents itself as attachment to sin. The Gospel admonition of, "*Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. [MT 5:48]*" is taken very seriously and literally. We promise to live a life in conformance to the evangelical counsels of chastity [according to our state in life], poverty, and obedience. Also, we live according to the Beatitudes. The Secular Order member works a job and supports a family – it is not the same brand of poverty as is it is for the Nuns – they have a cross, a bed, a desk, and a chair in their cells – and that is about it. The one life that God has granted each of these Nuns is spent in joyful prayer and penance – a truly remarkable and beautiful vocation! The poverty for *all of Carmel* consists primarily in poverty of spirit – a poverty that consists of vocation to continual prayer, and of detachment from the world, while on a mission to do good. Those in the world have their spiritual "cells" where one goes to pray in detachment, working as anonymously as possible for any good that can be achieved. Again, literally, "*But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. [MT 6:6].*" As we progress in Carmel, it becomes more joyful to follow "*a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity [Is 53:3a].*"

Returning to our themes of today – the leper is what we all should be like – abiding in abject humility, but with unshakable confidence ["con" = "with" & "fides" = "faith"] in the good God who can do any and all things, according to His holy and adorable will. Prayer is our "invincible arms" with which we beg Our Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, to grant desires of our hearts and for all needful things in this often difficult world – that these be for our good and may redound to His glory – and to Jesus Christ be all glory!

"Miserable though I am, I firmly believe that You can do what You will; and greater are Your marvels that I hear spoken of, and the more I reflect that You can work others still greater, the stronger grows my faith and the greater is the resolution with which I believe that You will hear my requests."

~ from **"Exclamations of the Soul to God," #42** ~ OHM St. Teresa of Jesus [Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda y Ahumada 1515-1582] OCD, V.,D.



600 Meadowlands Parkway Suite 251 Secaucus, NJ 07094 (201) 795-0637

Michael Phelps from Good Counsel homes will speak at all of the weekend Masses on the following dates:

February 8 - 9

Good Counsel, a nationally recognized nonprofit leader and innovator since 1985, receives ALL homeless, expectant, and new mothers and their children. Our four homes, three in NY and one in South Jersey, are staffed with dedicated individuals who cultivate an environment of love, care, and mercy. Mothers are provided with the necessary resources and skills to break the cycle of abuse, addiction and poverty.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.GOODCOUNSELHOMES.ORG OR SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE.

Stay Connected



/goodcounselhomes

/goodcounselorg

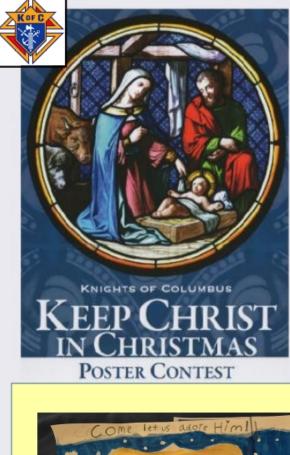








/goodcounselhomes





Winner Age Group 8-10 Years Amelia Camp



Runner Up Age Group 11-14 Years Natalia Marciano

Sponsored By Allentown KOC Council #7333

Congratulations Poster Contest Winners



Winner Age Group 11-14 Years Lily Fanning



Winner Age Group 5-7 Years Felicity Camp

Our winners were each awarded a \$50.00 Gift Card and now move on to compete at the state level. Our Runner Up was awarded a \$25 Gift Card.

	2025 Saint John	the Baptist: Mass Request Form			
1.	We can accept ONE REQUEST FORM PI	ER FAMILY PER MONTH.			
2.	Two 2025 Masses can be requested per Form. Due to high demand, we can only schedule ONE 12:30PM SUNDAY TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS PER REQUEST FORM. The suggested Mass stipend is \$10.				
3.	Due to the high demand for our weekend M	Masses, availability is on a first come, first served basis.			
4.	We are unable to accept any requests by pl	hone or email.			
Na	me of Person requesting the Mass(es):				
-					
Be	st contact telephone number:				
Nu	umber of Masses requested (limit 2):	1 2 (circle choice)			
Ma	ass #1: TODAY'S DATE:				
	2025 Date Requested:	Mass time			
	Mass intention is for:	Deceased Living (circle choice)			
	Do you need a Mass card?	Yes No (circle choice)			
	Name(s) for Mass intention:				
Ma	ass #2: TODAY'S DATE:				
	2025 Date Requested:	Mass time			
	Mass intention is for:	Deceased Living (circle choice)			
	Do you need a Mass card?	Yes No (circle choice)			
	Name(s) for Mass intention:				
are		rring business hours to request a Mass intention in person. If you complete this form, enclose the Mass stipend (checks made pay- lection basket or mail to:			
	1282 \	s Church: 2025 Mass Request Yardville-Allentown Road Allentown, NJ 08501 1/5/25			
		1/3/23			



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

St. John the Baptist, Allentown, NJ 03-4121