

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



OCTOBER 18, 2026

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands.
Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. — Psalm 96:1,3*

PASTOR
Rev. Msgr. Peter Smutelovic

WEEKEND ASSISTANTS
Rev. Bogumil Misiuk
Rev. Frank Lennie

DEACONS
Deacon Jack Gray
Deacon Albert Ganter

- **RECTORY 201.664.3131**
Cathy Williamson, Office Manager/Outreach
Jennifer Cannon, Business Administrator
Glen Ford, Plant Superintendent
- **PARISH CENTER 201.666.2707**
Donald Caputo, Director of Lifelong
Faith Formation
Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar / CCD
Roberto Sabastiani, Director of Music
Paulette Gilchrist, Safe Environment Coordinator
- **ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY 201.664.6364**
Ann Mitchell, Principal

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL
5:00 PM

SUNDAY, THE LORD'S DAY
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

WEEKDAYS & SATURDAY
8:00 AM

HOLY DAYS
8:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 7:00 PM

CONFESSIONS
- Saturdays 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- After 8:00 AM Mass—Weekdays
- Any time by appointment

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Saint John the Baptist Parish Family,
Dear Friends of Our Parish,

As we gather today to celebrate the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, several weeks into the start of the school year, I would like to once again highlight the importance of children and young people in the life and mission of our parish. I also wish to reaffirm my assurance that our pastoral ministry and outreach to all our young parishioners and their families remain among our most important pastoral priorities.

Throughout His public ministry two thousand years ago, and ever since in the life and history of the Church and all humanity, Jesus has continually affirmed the irreplaceable role of children and young people in our human and spiritual lives. Their presence among us is not simply a blessing to be cherished; it is also a reminder of the love, trust, faith, and openness that are essential to our relationship with God and with one another.

In the ninth chapter of the Gospel according to Mark, Jesus tells us: *"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me"* (Mark 9:37). With these words, our Lord reminds us that welcoming and caring for children is, in a very real sense, welcoming and serving Him. In the same chapter, Jesus also issues a solemn warning, urging us to remain ever mindful of the harm we may cause children and young people through our poor example, careless words, or sinful actions: *"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were put around his neck and he were thrown into the sea"* (Mark 9:42). These powerful words challenge us to recognize our responsibility to protect, guide, encourage, and nurture the young, helping them grow in faith and develop into compassionate, responsible, and faithful members of our community.

In the following chapter of Mark's Gospel, our Savior takes this message one step further. He invites us to examine our own ways of living, including our words, actions, and attitudes, and to rediscover the childlike love, trust, faith, and simplicity that should characterize our relationship with God. Jesus proclaims: *"Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it"* (Mark 10:14-15).

As a parish family, may we always take these words to heart. May we create an environment in which every child and young person feels welcomed, valued, loved, and encouraged to grow in faith. May our words and actions reflect the tenderness of Christ, and may our parish community be a place where young people and their families can encounter Jesus, deepen their relationship with Him, and discover the joy of belonging to His Church.

As we honor our Blessed Mother throughout October, the month of the Holy Rosary, may Our Lady, Saint Joseph, her faithful protector and most chaste spouse, and our heavenly patron, Saint John the Baptist, continue to accompany us on our journey of faith and intercede for us before the Lord.

Let us pray for God's guidance, wisdom, and inspiration, so that our parish may continue to serve children, young people, and their families with unwavering dedication, genuine concern, and pastoral zeal. Let us never cease to invite them to join us for our Sunday liturgies and to participate fully in the spiritual life and mission of our parish community, journeying together with Jesus, our Friend, our Lord, and our Redeemer. May we always remember that **we all need them, and they all need the Parish of Saint John the Baptist.**

— Fr. Peter

Mass Intentions

*We remember our loved ones
and community*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

5:00 PM Dita Filipa Medina

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

8:00 AM Martin Filon

10:00 AM Marie Weir

12:00 PM Patrick & Norah
Clohessy

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

8:00 AM Martin Filon

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

8:00 AM Lois Signe Clapp

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

8:00 AM Susan Rodriguez

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

8:00 AM Quintin Kennedy

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:00 AM Maria Sculforte

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

8:00 AM Barbara Sullivan

5:00 PM Nunzia Maria Di Maria
Palladino

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00 AM Ruben Medina

10:00 AM Michael Treacy

12:00 PM Marie Theresa Purita

The **Votive Candle** burns
in memory of

TACELLI BRUNO

at the request of
Lee Jackson & Family

Prayers for Healing and Peace:

Thomas Tobin, Terry Medino, Ann Walsh, Baby Rocco, Caroline Bisi, Baby Nellie, Eileen Stasiunis, Bruce Hawkinson, Walter Minx, Mary Lou Wilson, John Manning, Alex Rodriguez, Ruth Dell Valle, Linda Palumbo, Anthony Delasey, Joseph Camilleri, Grace Calabro

Remembering Those Who Have Passed.

Paul Savas, Hector Gonzalez, Kathleen Haddad

ANNUAL ALL SOULS DAY MASS



On Wednesday, November 4th, our Annual All Souls Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated at 6:30pm.

All parishioners are welcome and encouraged to join us.

The names of those buried from St. John the Baptist, as well as those names that have appeared in the bulletin, will be remembered that night.

If you have a loved one who has passed from last November to the present and would like their name listed, please contact Cathy Williamson at 201-664-3131.

ALL SOULS NOVENA 2026

*Masses & Prayers Offered
for our Beloved Faithful Departed*



Starting on Monday, November 2 and continuing through Tuesday, November 10 a Novena of Nine (9) Days of Masses will be celebrated for the souls of those who have gone before us. All our Parish Mass intentions during that time will be offered for our faithful departed and for those loved ones and friends who recently died.

If you would like a deceased family member or friend to be remembered during this Novena, please fill out their names on our traditional All Souls envelopes and drop them off in our collection baskets or leave at any time in our rectory mail slot. Throughout the entire Nine Day Mass Novena these requests will also be placed symbolically on the altar of our church.

OCTOBER

MONTH OF
THE ROSARY

The Solemnity of Our Lady of the Rosary, annually celebrated on October 7, commemorates a victorious naval battle fought in Lepanto, off the western coast of Greece, on October 7th in 1571 between the Catholic Holy League, and the Turkish forces which had, ultimately, threatened the future of the Christian faith in Europe. As the Christian civilization was under threat during that time, the Dominican pope, Saint Pius V, led processions in Rome, and asked the Christian people to pray the Rosary, that beautiful and distinctive Dominican prayer.



Praying together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the center, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the center of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory. May Mary help us to welcome within ourselves the grace emanating from these mysteries, so that through us we can "water" society, beginning with our daily relationships, and purifying them from so many negative forces, thus opening them to the newness of God. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings, in fact, peace and reconciliation. It contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the center of each "Hail Mary".

Pope Benedict XVI, *Recitation of the Holy Rosary*,
Basilica St. Mary Major, May 3, 2008

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$7,367	\$ 9,796	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via ParishSOFT:	<u>6,814</u>	<u>\$ 4,755</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>

TOTAL	\$14,181	\$ 14,551	\$12,900
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Your financial support enables our parish home to continue the mission of the Church. Thank you and God bless you!



BOYS' SCHOOLS

Bergen Catholic, Oradell

Sun, Oct. 25 at 12:00 PM
Register - bergencatholic.org

Don Bosco Prep, Ramsey

Sun, Oct. 18 at 12:00 PM
Register - donboscoprep.org

St. Joseph Regional, Montvale

Tues, Nov. 3 at 6:30 PM
Reserve your spot - sjrnj.org

GIRLS' SCHOOLS

Academy of the Holy Angels, Demarest

Wed, Nov. 18 at 5:30 PM
Register - holyanjels.org

Immaculate Heart Academy, Twp. Washington

Sun, Oct. 18 at 11:00 AM
Thurs, Oct. 22 at 6:30 PM
More Info - ihanj.org

CO-ED SCHOOLS

Paramus Catholic, Paramus

Wed, Oct. 21 at 6:00 PM
More Info - paramuscatholic.com

Albertus Magnus, Bardonia

Sun, Oct. 25 at 12:00 PM
Register - albertusmagnus.net

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY CLASS OF 2027 CAR WASH

Get your car sparkling clean while supporting the St. John's Academy Class of 2027! Join us for a Car Wash Fundraiser on Saturday, October 24, from 2:00-5:00 PM at St. John's Academy. The cost is \$10 per car. Students will be selling tickets after mass on October 17 & 18. Please note - there is no rain date. Thank you for supporting St. John's Academy Class of 2027!

PLANNING TO ATTEND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL? CoOp Exam Registration Info

Attention families of 8th grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in Fall 2027! The High School Placement Test (HSPT) administered as part of the Cooperative Admissions Program for Catholic High Schools will be given on Friday, November 6, 2026. Registration is open, but will close on October 23, 2026. Information for the HSPT exam is online at www.njcoopexam.org. For more information about the Cooperative Admissions Program, go to:

www.catholicschoolsnj.org/hs-admissions



JOIN US FOR PUMPKIN DECORATING,



hosted by the Women of St. John the Baptist Parish!

When: Sunday, October 18 at 11:00 am

Where: Parish Center

Details: Pumpkins, decorating supplies and treats will be provided. Prizes awarded for the scariest, funniest, and most creative pumpkins! All are welcome. Scan the QR code to register.



"The secret to happiness is to love moment by moment and to thank God for what He is sending us every day in His goodness"

— Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (1922 - 1962)