

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



“I am the light of the world. ✦✦ He who follows me does not walk in the darkness, ✦ but will have the light of life.” ✦✦✦
John 8:12

REGISTER
RENEW
GROW



MAY 5, 2024

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Peter Smutelovic

WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Bogumil Misiuk

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

Cathy Wollyung, Faith Formation

Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar / CCD

Roberto Sabastiani, Director of Music

Sara Armstrong, We Are Young Choir Leader

Paulette Gilchrist, Safe Environment Coordinator

Dee Ford, Youth Ministry

• 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

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 Saint John the Baptist Parish Family
Dear Friends of our Parish,

On this Sixth Sunday of Easter the Gospel of this Sunday invites us to be those disciples of Jesus who remain connected to the source of love and all blessings, with our own personal response to the “Commandment of Love”: *“As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”* (Jn 15:9-17)

Among those special liturgical celebrations when we all, together with the children of our parish, give a clear testimony to our love of God and this community of faith are our annual celebrations of First Holy Communion. These celebrations often remind us of our “First” during those childhood years full of innocence, simplicity, and a child-like trust in the Almighty. We congratulate our 78 little brothers and sisters who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday, April 13, 2024 as well as this Saturday, May 4, 2024, in the four special Liturgies celebrating their reception of the Eucharist. From now on, they will be joining us in the Holy Communion lines as our parish family continues to grow in numbers and holiness through the glorious gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus. In our Catholic tradition we define and appreciate the Eucharist as “the source and summit of the Christian life. In the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself. As we receive the Eucharist we all experience - over and over again - the glory and boundless love of God towards each and every one of us” (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, nn.1324-1326).

Thank you to many of our parishioners and families who have already assisted us in our 2024 Register-Renew-Grow initiative and have re-registered as members of our parish with their current and updated personal information. Those who have not yet done so, I kindly ask you to find a moment today and re-register as members of our community of faith. You will find more information on the following page of our bulletin. Many of our parish records regarding our parishioners are outdated and we need to address this situation with urgency. In addition, we all hope and desire to renew and grow our parish family. Thank you for your support and all your kindness, including the ongoing 2024 Annual Appeal, and the goodness of your hearts. I pray for each one of you, as well as for all your loved ones. And, as always, I humbly ask you to pray for me and for all those who serve and minister to you in our wonderful Parish Family.

-Fr. Peter

SENDING HEALING PRAYERS TO:

Victoria Davis, John Luke Bechtold, Angela Visentini, Sonia Spagnoli, Lucas Kelly, Al Spiegel, Sr., Debbie Kral, Michelle Mangano, Martin Filon, John Bibby, Michael McKay, James Carbone, Mary Schubert, Carole Ann Bersano, Tim Mangano, Lourdes Munson, Jim Lyons, Maxine Fleming, Joanne Hughes, Christine Mulcahy, Carolyn Graham, Ramon Kasilag, Barbara Hudson

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED

Christopher Bedford

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MAY 4

5:00 PM Ellen Caulfield

SUNDAY, MAY 5

8:00 AM Bob Donfield, Sr.

10:00 AM Isabelle Mango

12:00 PM Jennifer Kalajian

MONDAY, MAY 6

8:00 AM Patricia Keller

TUESDAY, MAY 7

8:00 AM Agnes Davis

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

8:00 AM Peter R. Kerr

THURSDAY, MAY 9

8:00 AM Robert Lax

FRIDAY, MAY 10

8:00 AM Jane Forelli

SATURDAY, MAY 11

8:00 AM Joseph Waldhofer

5:00 PM Bob Donfield, Sr.

SUNDAY, MAY 12

8:00 AM Mother’s Day Remembrances

10:00 AM Mother’s Day Remembrances

12:00 PM Mother’s Day Remembrances

THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS
IN MEMORY OF

CHARLES DONOHUE

AT THE REQUEST OF
THE ROSARY SOCIETY

THE BREAD & WINE ARE GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF

CHARLES DONOHUE

AT THE REQUEST OF
MARIA IORIO



REGISTER RENEW GROW

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
HILLSDALE, NJ



renew.stjohnhillsdale.org

Have You Already Re-Registered as a Member of our Community?

- I We have now launched our Register-Renew-Grow parish journey of updating all our parishioners' data and contact information, in the process of our parish's renewal and growth. Our secure website renew.stjohnhillsdale.org contains a renewal and registration form which is very easy to complete. For those who would rather fill out a paper renewal and registration form, those forms are now provided in our church's entrance and exit doors and areas.

- II We will reach out, via a personal letter to all our parishioners who have not been active in our parish during the past two years, who continue to receive, at our parish's expense, donation envelopes and who have not made any (even \$1) contribution to the parish community during these past two years. Through our internal review, we have identified a very large number of registered individual parishioners and families who are in this category.



To Jesus, our Friend and Redeemer &



To the Parish and Community We



OUR *Easter Season* 2024

A Prayer for This Week

Bless us with Love, O Merciful God;
that we may Love as you Love!

That we may show patience, tolerance,
kindness, caring and love to all!

Give us knowledge that we may be one with
our surroundings and be good stewards of all
You have entrusted to us.

Grant us compassion that we may
reach out and help all those in need!

Bless us with your Love, O God.
Amen.



To love others is about more than simply offering something of ours to others; it is about giving them our very selves.

The love that we receive from the Lord is the force that transforms our lives. It opens our hearts and enables us to love. For this reason, Jesus says - here is the second element - “as I have loved you, so must you love one another”. That word “as” is not simply an invitation to imitate Jesus’ love; it tells us that we are able to love only because he has loved us, because he pours into our hearts his own Spirit, the Spirit of holiness, love that heals and transforms. As a result, we can make decisions and perform works of love in every situation and for every brother and sister whom we meet, because we ourselves are loved and we have the power to love. As I myself am loved, so I can love others. The love I give is united to Jesus’ love for me. “As” he loved me, so I can love others. The Christian life is just that simple. Let’s not make it more complicated with so many things. It is just that simple.

In practice, what does it mean to live this love? Before giving us this commandment, Jesus had washed the disciples’ feet; then, after giving it, he gave himself up to the wood of the cross. To love means this: to serve and to give one’s life. To serve, that is, not to put our own interests first: to clear our systems of the poison of greed and competitiveness; to fight the cancer of indifference and the worm of self-referentiality; to share the charisms and gifts that God has given us. Indeed, it means to give one’s life. This is about more than simply offering something of ours to others; it is about giving them our very selves.

Pope Francis, 6th Sunday of Easter mass and Canonization, May 22, 2022



We sincerely congratulate our adult brothers and sisters who this past Sunday, April 28, 2024, received the Sacrament of Confirmation and completed their Christian initiation.

Stefano Bravi

Donna Grace Dawson

Roman John Janosik

Mary Grace Jose

Jeremy Lebled

Rick Ramos

Richard Stabile

Kellie Elizabeth Weil

You are in our prayers. All of you, with your unique talents, gifts, and God’s blessings will contribute in the future to making our parish an even more special and authentic place of faith, love, spiritual growth, friendship and our Lord’s discipleship.

**GOD LOVES YOU
ALWAYS HAS
ALWAYS WILL**

OUR *Easter Season* 2024



EASTER SEASON WEEKLY *Devotions*

Daily Mass

8:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Church is Open Daily

7:00 am - 7:00 pm

CONGRATULATIONS

to our Children who Received their First Communion on April 13 and May 4



Hudson Aknay	Christian Alam	Preston Alexander
Cristina Anaya	Hannah P. Angliongto	Morgan Apostol
Viviana R. Astorino	Olivia Banholzer	Luke Banicki
Chase R. Barthelemy	Andrew J. Bianchi	Avery Bradley
Olivia C.M. Burne	Aubrey L. Ciliento	Chase Clark
Jack J. Compesi	Aiden Conklin	Christian Costa
Viviana M. DeBartolo	Jaxson A. DelCorso	Viviana Delos Reyes
Jack DeSimone	Ashlynn DiMaria	Emilia M. Dorr
Evan Esperon	Charles Feinberg	Matthew Flynn
Ava Godlewski	Giavanna Gramuglia	Vincent C. Harvey
Isabella M. Hastings	Noah Hernandez	Jackson Hough
Jonathan Huff	Madison C. Iemma	Jordan Ingenito
Nicolas Jose	James Kennedy	Milania R. Kouvel
Anthony C. Lisa	Kian Littleton	Nicholas Luciano
Jack J. Malyso	Joseph Marchiano	Ava G. Mastropole
Callie Matassa	Colin McManus	Michela Menasian
Charlotte S. Mendes	Charlie Morgan	James Morgan
Brielle Morgan	Amelia S. Obarzanek	Emma Oxnard
Stella Putrino	Sofia Putrino	Eva D. Robalino
Sadie Rojas	Ashley Romero-Tamayo	Lucy Rosica
Robert Ruane	Mia G. Sabatie	James T. Salvatore
Lucas Sande	Katy Saoud	Michael Sassano
Michael Saunders	Adalynn Sayers	Nicholas R. Schiller
Olivia Tarabocchia	Ciara S. Topps	Dominic Trottere
Matteo R. Uzzi	Capriana Viggiani	Scarlett E. Villaggio
Luca Virtuoso	Mia Virula	Hunter Zink

"WE ARE YOUNG" CHOIR

ALL PRIMARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL
FRIENDS OF JESUS ARE INVITED!

9:15 AM REHEARSAL

10:00 AM MASS

MAY 12 & MAY 19

JUNE 2 & JUNE 16

Contact Sara Armstrong to sign up
or with any questions:
sarmstrong@sj-hillsdale.org

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

		2023	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$ 7,863	\$ 7,803	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via Faith Direct:	\$ 5,073	\$ 5,114	\$ 5,000
TOTAL	\$12,936	\$ 12,917	\$12,900

*Your financial support enables our parish home to continue the mission of the Church.
Thank you and God bless you!*



**Thank you for your support & personal sacrifices on behalf of our parish.
Please continue to generously support our spiritual home.**

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

Saint Paul’s Letter to Galatians 6:2

DIAPER DRIVE AT ST. JOHN’S

The Respect Life Ministry is conducting its Annual Baby Diaper Drive April 28 - May 12! The proceeds will be given to New Hope, an outreach organization in Westwood which assists first time single mothers. New Hope is in desperate need of large size baby diapers. Your donations may be placed in the porta-cribs at the church entrances. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Thank you for your generosity, and may God bless you always.

HELPING HAND FOOD PANTRY

Can you help stock the shelves? While there is a need for a variety of food items, the following items are always needed:

Cake & brownie mixes, boxed potatoes, canned fruit, apple sauce, apple juice, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, bagged white rice, pancake mix, maple syrup, flour, sugar, oil, coffee, shelf stable milk, canned meats, pasta, meat sauce, chunky soup, peanut butter, jelly, cookies, crackers, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, pump or bar hand soap, paper towels, facial tissues, toilet paper, diapers (sizes 5, 6 & 7), all types of cleaning products, laundry detergent. Please ensure all food items are within their expiration dates. In addition, supermarket gift cards are always accepted and appreciated.

Donations may be brought directly to the Pantry which is located at the corner of Magnolia and Hillsdale Avenues - at the South entrance of Hillsdale United Methodist Church. THANK YOU!

www.helpinghandfoodpantry.com

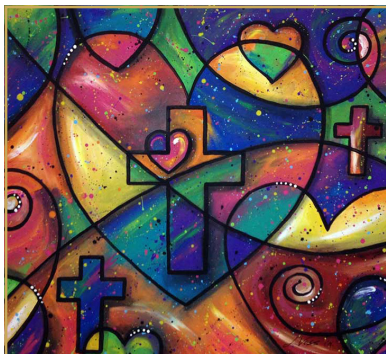
ARCHDIOCESE of NEWARK ANNUAL 2024 APPEAL



Our **SINCERE THANKS** to all who have supported the 2024 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. Saint John the Baptist Parish Community has a BIG and CARING HEART, and never forgets those who are much less fortunate than we are. In addition, we are among the first parishes in the Archdiocese to meet and exceed our goal of \$71,444.

So far we have received \$85,674 in pledges and donations that will help those in need through the 2024 Archbishop’s Annual Appeal. We thank the 210 individuals and families who have already pledged. We continue the Appeal according to Archdiocesan guidelines. Half of any additional funds will come back to our parish, and the other half will help needy inner-city parishes in dire need of assistance. We humbly ask those of our parishioners who can still assist us in this significant charitable effort....

Please visit www.rcan.org/sharing and make a pledge online. May God bless you always!



“Love one another with the charity of Christ; let the love you have in your hearts be shown outwardly in your deeds.”

— St. Clare of Assisi (1194 - 1253)