

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



MAY 10, 2026

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER & MOTHER'S DAY

*Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him,
and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him. — John 14:23*

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

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

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,

Our celebrations of Mother's Day this year are particularly adorned by the Scripture readings of the Sixth Sunday of Easter which invite us to experience the love of Jesus as the true sign of His eternal presence: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you" (Jn 14:15-21). This beautiful passage from John's Gospel helps us to rediscover in the love of mothers that ongoing manifestation of God's love. In every single moment of our lives we can trace so much of "who we are" - humanly and spiritually - to the love and self-giving of our mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, godmothers and other special "mother-like" women in our lives. At the same time, on our personal journeys of faith we pray for the loving intercession and guidance of our heavenly Mother, Blessed Virgin Mary, whom we honor in a special way during the month of May.

Saint Monica, beautifully etched on the glass entrance doors to our church, is one of the most recognized patronesses of all mothers. In so many ways throughout her life she also personified that special God's commandment of love lived often in the most difficult and seemingly hopeless situations. As a young widow left alone with three children and experiencing countless difficulties trying to raise them in faith, she humbly realized that only by being a true witness of God's love and unceasingly praying for her children will lead them to their human and spiritual conversion and prosperity. One of the most memorable quotes of this wonderful patroness of all our dear mothers was her gentle motherly request addressed to Augustine, now Saint Augustine, but for about three decades of her life the source of many sorrows, problems and disappointments in her life due to his troubling ways of life: "Bury my body wherever you will; let not care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be."

As we gather for our Sunday Masses in our church and as we unite ourselves in prayer with all our loved ones, remember and pray for all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, godmothers and all those "mother-like" women who were "gifted to us" by the Almighty, so that they can teach us how to love and assist us on our personal journeys to the fullness of God's love in heaven. And may those who have gone before us rest in the peace of our Risen Lord, until we meet them and embrace them once again in the Eternal Kingdom.

— Fr. Peter

Prayers for Healing and Peace:

Kim Costa, Thomas Tobin, Anthony K., Peter Spaccarotella, Florence Sacco, Jim Derbyshire, James Carbone, Terry Medino, Anita Lawrence, Ann Walsh, Elaine McBreen, Baby Rocco, Edward Sandt, Jr., Caroline Bisi, Baby Nellie, Liam Fanning, Ken McGlone, Christina Perlis

Remembering Those Who Have Passed:

Margaret Coyne, Florence Sacco, Deanna Perrotto

Mass Intentions

*We remember our loved ones
and community*

SATURDAY, MAY 9

5:00 PM Margaret Coyne

SUNDAY, MAY 10

8:00 AM Mother's Day
Remembrances

10:00 AM Mother's Day
Remembrances

12:00 PM Mother's Day
Remembrances

MONDAY, MAY 11

8:00 AM Jozef Smutelovic

TUESDAY, MAY 12

8:00 AM Vivian Fogarty

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

8:00 AM Joseph Colletti

THURSDAY, MAY 14

8:00 AM Michael J. Coughlin

FRIDAY, MAY 15

8:00 AM Margaret Coyne

SATURDAY, MAY 16

8:00 AM Edward Striegel

5:00 PM Ellen Caulfield

SUNDAY, MAY 17

8:00 AM Matthew Cohen

10:00 AM Patti Barone

12:00 PM James Carbone (*Living*)

The **Bread & Wine** are given
in memory of

**KATHLEEN ROONEY &
GENEVIEVE RYAN HUVANE**

*at the request of
The Huvane Family*

The **Votive Candle** burns
in memory of

MARGARET COYNE

*at the request of
The Rosary Society*



ST. MONICA - THE PATRON SAINT OF MOTHERS

Saint Monica was born in the 4th century. Her faith and dedication to motherhood played a pivotal role in the spiritual formation of one of the most brilliant philosophers and well-known saints of all time – Saint Augustine, her son.

Dedicated to Motherhood - After her husband's premature death, St. Monica dedicated her life to raising her children. As a single mother of three, she persevered in the face of many difficulties. Her greatest desire was for her children to follow Christ. Although later in life he was known as a fervent man of God, St. Augustine did not easily come to see God's truth. As a child, he proved to be quite difficult, causing Monica much grief, and as a young adult he remained uninterested in Christianity. But St. Monica never stopped praying for his eternal soul, in spite of the circumstances. On one particular occasion, when she was discussing the matter with a priest, he urged her to remain steadfast in her prayers, stating that it was "not possible that the son of so many tears should perish."

A Testament to the Power of Prayer - After many years of prayer, Saint Monica finally saw her son give his life to the service of God. St. Augustine declared that his mother's resilience and dedication to prayer is what led him to become the man of God he was meant to be. He stated that St. Monica was not only his mother, but "the source of his Christianity." According to Pope Benedict XVI: *"Augustine himself was to say, his mother gave birth to him twice; the second time required a lengthy spiritual travail of prayers and tears, but it was crowned at last with the joy of seeing him not only embrace the faith and receive Baptism, but also dedicate himself without reserve to the service of Christ."* St. Monica passed away in A.D. 387, shortly after St. Augustine was baptized. Her legacy serves as a reminder for all Christians to never stop praying for those who do not yet know Christ. As Pope Benedict XVI has related: *"St. Monica and St. Augustine invite us to turn confidently to Mary, Seat of Wisdom. Let us entrust Christian parents to her so that, like Monica, they may accompany their children's progress with their own example and prayers."*

Credits: www.nationalshrine.org/blog/st-monica-the-patron-saint-of-mothers – The National Shrine, Washington D.C.



All-loving God, on this Mother's Day,
we give you thanks and praise
for all our dearest mothers, for mothers who
are with us and those who have already
returned to your loving and eternal embrace.

We pray for mothers who give and sustain life,
and tend to every need of children in our families,
our parish and in the world of today.
May they be blessed with love, patience
and tenderness to care for their families
and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers
who have nurtured and cared for us.
May they continue to guide us
in strong and gentle ways.

We also remember mothers who are
separated from their children because of
poverty, economic hardships, war or conflicts.
May they feel the loving embrace
of our God who wipes every tear away.

We give you thanks and praise for the mission
of grandmothers, great-grandmothers, and
godmothers in our lives and in the world of today.
We all need so very much their witness of
love, faith, generosity, and concern for others.

We pray for women who are not mothers
but still love and shape us
with motherly care, goodness and compassion.

We pray for our mothers, grandmothers,
great-grandmothers and godmothers
who have preceded us into eternity and are
sharing in your promise of eternal joy
and happiness for them, their children and
their families. May they rest in your
loving embrace and in the presence of our
Mother, Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the Saints,
until we see them and embrace them again.

May all Saints-Mothers continue to intercede
for us on our journeys of life, always closer
to you. May Saint Elizabeth, mother of our patron -
Saint John the Baptist, continue to inspire us
by her faith, love, perseverance in the times
of trials and difficulties. May she assist us
in constantly rediscovering your mighty presence
and guidance in our lives.

We ask this through Christ, our Risen Lord & Redeemer.
AMEN.



CALLED BY NAME

*HONORING FAITHFUL YOUNG MEN IN
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK*

Cardinal Tobin is asking us to identify faithful young men (ages 15-35) who exhibit a love of God and neighbor, and who may be open to learning more about the priesthood. **To submit names, please visit newarkpriest.com.** The men whose names you submit will receive a letter of encouragement from Cardinal Tobin, invitations to discernment events, and support from our Vocation Team. Thank you for supporting vocations!

SAVE THE DATE...

**Archdiocesan-Wide Holy Hour
for our Men to be Ordained
Transitional Deacons and Priests**

**Friday, May 15, 2026
7:00 pm**



I invite everyone – in families, parishes and religious communities, as well as bishops, priests, deacons, catechists, educators and all the faithful – to commit themselves more fully to creating conditions that allow the gift of religious vocations to be embraced, nourished, protected and accompanied, so that it may bear abundant fruit. Only when our surroundings are illumined by living faith, sustained by constant prayer and enriched by fraternal accompaniment can God’s call blossom and mature, becoming a path of happiness and salvation for individuals and for the world. By embarking on the path that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, shows us, we come to know more deeply both ourselves and the God who calls us. [...]

A vocation is not a fixed point, but a dynamic process of maturation sustained by intimacy with our Lord. To grow in one’s vocation means being with Jesus, allowing the Holy Spirit to act in our hearts and in the circumstances of life, and reinterpreting everything in light of this gift. Like the vine and the branches (cf. Jn 15:1-8), our whole lives must be rooted in a strong and vital bond with the Lord, so that we may more wholeheartedly respond to his call through our trials and necessary “pruning.” [...] A vocation, therefore, is not an immediate possession - something “given” once and for all. Instead, it is a path that unfolds much like life itself. The gift we have received must not only be protected but also nourished by a daily relationship with God in order to grow and bear fruit. This is helpful, since it situates our whole life in relation to the God who loves us. It makes us realize that nothing is the result of pure chance but that everything in our lives can become a way of responding to the Lord, who has a wonderful plan for us.

Pope Leo XIV – The Message for the 63rd Day of Prayers for Vocations, April 26, 2026



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

Monthly Gas & Electric Bills

(These amounts exclude the school building and areas of Saint John's Academy, which is paid separately by the Academy.)

November 2025	\$7,029.69
December 2025	\$9,869.13
January 2026	\$11,485.54
February 2026	\$9,240.10
March 2026	\$8,197.68



The benefits of ParishSOFT[®] Giving



<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnhillsdale>

Once you are in the Parish Soft giving page, to begin a giving account, please click on Sign In. Thank you.

BENEFITS TO YOU

CONVENIENT: Access your account anytime and anywhere via the internet or your cell phone.

SIMPLE: You manage your own account online. No phone calls or visits to the bank or parish.

FUNCTIONAL: Receive notifications for each transaction made or scheduled.

SECURE: Adheres to strict banking security standards (PCI/DSS) to ensure your account is secure and confidential.

PERSONALIZED: You choose whether you would like to contribute via credit card or direct withdrawal from your checking account. You can also choose between several different funds in order to support electronically the Sunday offering, maintenance, etc. You select from the drop down what you would like to support and at what frequency.

BENEFITS TO THE PARISH

CONSISTENT: Regularly scheduled gifts occur automatically, allowing the parish to effectively manage monthly expenses based on consistent support.

EFFICIENT: Decreases the time and expenses related to bookkeeping for the parish.

CONVENIENT: Easily allows people to contribute to the parish on their terms and update their information as it changes.

SECURE: No need to store parishioner's confidential information.

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

		2025	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$8,624	\$ 7,860	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via ParishSOFT:	<u>5,284</u>	<u>\$ 5,039</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
TOTAL	\$13,908	\$ 12,899	\$12,900

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



Our sincere **THANK YOU** to the families of our First Communicants and our newly confirmed young people who, in response to our Parish's many needs, and as a sign of their love and concern for our Spiritual Home, so far contributed \$16,319 on the occasions of the First Communions and Confirmation. This amount includes both the individual donations from 95 families and the collections on those Saturdays in late April and early May. May our good and loving God continue to bless our young people on their life journeys, and may he reward the kindness and generosity of their parents and families.



ARCHDIOCESE
of NEWARK **ANNUAL APPEAL** 2026

**PLEASE HELP US
REACH OUR GOAL!**

So far we have received \$89,266 in pledges and donations for the 2026 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. We are very grateful to the 192 families and individual parishioners who have helped us with this campaign. Every donation gets us closer to our goal of \$98,750.



Please complete a pledge envelope — they are at the doors of the church. The envelopes may be returned in the collection basket or to the Rectory Office or even mailed directly. You may also make your pledge online by using the QR code or by visiting www.rcan.org/sharing. **Please indicate on all pledges and donations that you are a member of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hillsdale.**

May God bless you always for helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

ANNUAL DIAPER DRIVE AT ST. JOHN'S MAY 2-10!

St John's Respect Life Ministry will forward all proceeds to New Hope, an outreach organization in Westwood which assists first time single mothers. Large size baby diapers are especially needed. Donations may be placed in the porta-cribs at the church entrances. Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.



*“The loveliest masterpiece
of the heart of God
is the heart of a mother.”*

— Saint Therese of Lisieux (1873 - 1897 A.D.)



**WE ARE HIS
WITNESSES**

WeAreHisWitnesses.org
for updates, timelines
and resources.