

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



FEBRUARY 8, 2026

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. — Matthew 5:16

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 Sebastiani, 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

CONFESIONS

- 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,

Thank you for joining our family of faith in celebration of this Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, as we will hear in the Gospel a beautiful, but so very challenging, personal note of our Savior: (Yes, I call it a personal note because if Jesus would be writing and mailing us personal notes, this would certainly be one of them.)

You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lampstand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father. (Matthew 5:13-16)

These powerful words certainly give us an opportunity to reflect on so many ways in which we are being called either as individuals or as a community of the Lord's disciples "to be that light" in the lives of others through our love, care, kindness, generosity and the daily witness of our faith. Somewhere between those two "*being the light of the world*" lies the true meaning, purpose, and challenge of our annual charitable fundraising effort on behalf of our brothers and sisters in need in our Archdiocese. Among them are children, young people, and elderly; those who have had a great life blessing to be born and grow up in our beautiful country, but also those immigrants who need urgent assistance through Catholic Charities. Among those who will benefit from our personal sacrificial gifts are countless lay people, but also our Archdiocesan seminarians, religious women and men, deacons, and priests. The Appeal provides an opportunity for a caring community like St. John's to support a broad variety of charitable efforts of our local Catholic Church. It funds essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission - namely to proclaim the Gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins. In order to assure that our sacrificial gift will get exactly "where you want it to go," we are free to restrict our contributions on the back side of the Annual Appeal donation envelopes (which can be found by the doors of the church) and "direct them" to our most favorite charitable causes, while always noting that we are members of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hillsdale.

Please, know that I am very grateful for your support and all your kindness, witness of your faith, and the goodness of your hearts. Please, let's all together "shine the light" of this wonderful community of faith to the entire Archdiocese of Newark.

— Fr. Peter

Mass Intentions

We remember our loved ones and community

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

5:00 PM Ciro Jimenez

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:00 AM People of the Parish
10:00 AM Robert & Florence Conti
12:00 PM T.J. Farrell

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:00 AM Aly Belisonzi

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

8:00 AM Bridget Rooney

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:00 AM Bridget Rooney

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12

8:00 AM Joe Felice

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

8:00 AM Mary Mores

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

8:00 AM Nicholas Donato, Sr.
5:00 PM Joseph Haskins

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

8:00 AM Margaret Persico
(2nd Anniversary)
10:00 AM Crystal Santana
12:00 PM Jim Rocco

Prayers for Healing and Peace:

Kim Costa, Rose Lyons, Thomas Tobin, Anthony K., Peter Spaccarotella, Frank Angiolelli, Ronnie Verra, Florence Sacco, Daniel Tintle, Jr., Jim Derbyshire, Chuck Wintermute, James Carbone, Terry Medino, Anita Lawrence, Nick Hodgman, Deacon Jack Gray, Ann Walsh, Cathy Tempesta

Remembering Those Who Have Passed:

Carol Gunby, Peter Lombardi, Carolyn Sozanski

ANNUAL APPEAL 2026



The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! This is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for the Archdiocese to carry out the important work that we are all called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus. Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing or by scanning the QR code. Be sure to list St. John the Baptist, Hillsdale as your parish!

WOMEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT – MARCH 6&7

Is God inviting you to slow down for a moment? Cornerstone is a chance to pause, breathe, and reconnect—with God, with others, and with yourself. In the midst of busy schedules and full hearts, this retreat creates space for quiet reflection, meaningful conversation, and gentle spiritual renewal.

You'll be welcomed into a supportive community of women, all at different places in life, coming together to listen, share, and grow in faith. Meals, materials, and details are lovingly prepared—your only job is to arrive open-hearted. Whether you come on your own or with a friend, you'll leave feeling rested, encouraged, and renewed in spirit.

The retreat begins Friday, March 6 from 7:00–10:00 PM and continues Saturday, March 7 from 7:00 AM–8:00 PM in the parish center. Invitations are available at the church doors. Please take one and prayerfully consider joining us.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Suzanne Pearson: 201-267-7502
Stefanie Streeter: 201-415-2577
Email: SJWCornerstone@gmail.com



NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK FEBRUARY 7–14, 2026

“May Saint Joseph inspire in all families a creative courage, so essential for these times of epochal change.

May Our Lady help you to foster in your married lives the culture of encounter that we so urgently need in order to face today's problems and troubles.

No amount of difficulty can take away the joy of those who know that they are walking with the Lord ever at their side.

Live out your vocation with enthusiasm. Never allow your faces to grow sad or gloomy; your husband or wife needs your smile. Your children need your looks of encouragement. Your priests and other families need your presence and your joy: the joy that comes from the Lord!”

Pope Francis, Letter to Married Couple for the Amoris Laetitia Year, 2021-22

www.foryourmarriage.org

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$8,391	2025	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via ParishSOFT:	5,241		\$5,000
TOTAL	\$13,632	\$ 12,212	\$12,900

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



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY!

**SATURDAY, MARCH 21 • 6:00PM
IN OUR PARISH CENTER**

**A lot of wonderful food & complimentary
GUINNESS BEER, live music by Mary G and
Frankie Lees, Irish dancers & lots of fun!**

\$50/person

*Reservation forms may be found
by the church doors.*

Please bring your reservation and payment
to the RECTORY OFFICE at your earliest
convenience, as seating is limited.

Questions? Please call us at **201-664-3131**.

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY'S RED & WHITE GALA

St. John's Academy in Hillsdale, NJ is thrilled to host the 26th Annual Red & White Gala on Thursday, March 19, 2026 from 6-10pm at the beautiful Edgewood Country Club located at 449 Rivervale Road in River Vale, NJ! The SJA Red & White Gala is a tremendously popular annual event that draws people from far and wide for a night of fun, food and prizes! Tickets go on sale on February 2nd! Tickets are \$125 if purchased before March 2nd, after March 2nd tickets will cost \$150. To register to attend, please visit: <https://sjahillsdale.org/gala/>. The night includes a cocktail hour, sit-down dinner and hundreds of amazing prizes!

Sponsorships are also available! Questions? Please contact Christina Uzzi and Andrea Scirocco, St. John's Academy Red & White Gala Co-Chairs: sjaredandwhitegala@gmail.com or contact St. John's Academy at (201) 664-6364.

HUMAN CONCERN MINISTRY MEETING

...On Wednesday, February 11th at 1:00pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome.



AN INVITATION TO PRAYER

Join us every **Thursday from 3:00 – 6:00 PM** for Eucharistic Adoration. We gather for **Benediction & Community Prayer** just before **6:00 PM**.

Daily Mass is celebrated each morning at **8:00 AM**.

The Blessed Mother delights in the presence of her children.
Her doors are open **365 days a year** — come in, linger awhile,
say a pray, and light a candle in hope and love.



WE ARE HIS
WITNESSES

Visit WeAreHisWitnesses.org
for updates, timelines and resources.

*“Never measure your generosity by what you give,
but rather by what you have left.”*

— Venerable Fulton J. Sheen (1895 - 1979)