

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



APRIL 14, 2024

THIRD 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,

The early weeks of Spring are traditionally marked not only by more sunshine and various signs of new life all around us, but our liturgical celebrations often remind us of our own call to the newness of life in Christ. Among those special celebrations are gatherings with children from our parish, and their families, as we celebrate their reception of the Eucharist for the first time in their lives. 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 little brothers and sisters who are receiving their First Holy Communion this Saturday, April 13, as well as on Saturday, May 4, 2024.

Christ, our Redeemer, is once again presented to us in the Gospel of today as our loving Companion on the journey of this life, into the Eternity with Him. This precious friendship is not only some elaborate theological concept but a profound description of the relationship of God with us. Not only that we are eternally loved, but we are also reassured that this love, daily expressed through the self-giving of God in the Eucharist, unites us with heaven. Following that miraculous walk to Emmaus with his Apostles, “while He was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him” (Luke 24:13- 48). Thank you for joining us for our celebrations of the Eucharist, the precious “get-together with the Risen Lord,” right here, in Hillsdale, NJ.

Please, find a moment this week to re-register as members of our parish community in our 2024 Register-Renew-Grow initiative. Many of our parish records regarding our parishioners are outdated and we need to address this situation, with urgency. You will find more information on the following page of our bulletin. Also, my profound “Thank You” to all of you who have already responded to our request of assistance to those in need in our Archdiocese of Newark, through our 2024 Annual Appeal. Let us all join our efforts and our God-given resources in this important charitable initiative. Among those who will benefit from our generosity are children, young people, adults, and elderly who need our human concern and assistance. Thank you for your support and all your kindness, 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

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED:

Rosemary Borgaro, Patrick McManus, Michael Casucci, Catherine Sabino, Elaine Meyer, Gerard Carty, Norah Clohessy

Mass *Intentions*

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

5:00 PM Marie Aziel Kasilag

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:00 AM Theresa Cottone

10:00 AM Clare Pytel

12:00 PM Bernadette K.J. Choo (Living)

MONDAY, APRIL 15

8:00 AM Kevin Kirk

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

8:00 AM Vincent Dolce

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

8:00 AM Edward McLaughlin

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

8:00 AM Amy Kantowitz

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

8:00 AM Edward Sculfort, Sr.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:00 AM McPhillips & Biondo
Families

5:00 PM Ellen & Daniel Caulfield

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:00 AM Norma Ketler

10:00 AM Dolores Kruesch

12:00 PM Charlie Curtin

THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS
IN MEMORY OF

THOMAS CONNOLLY

AT THE REQUEST OF
THE ROSARY SOCIETY

THE BREAD & WINE ARE GIVEN
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF

FRANK D'AQUILA

AT THE REQUEST OF
RAMON & TERESITA KASILAG



REGISTER RENEW GROW

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
HILLSDALE, NJ



renew.stjohnhillsdale.org

Our Phase 1

Holy Thursday, March 28 - Pentecost, May 19, 2024

- 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



“If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life. [...] Jesus does not tire of saying to us:

“Give them something to eat” (Mk 6:37)”.

— Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation *Evaneglii Gaudium*, November 2013, n. 49

OUR *Easter Season* 2024



**FAITH + FAMILY + FRIENDS + GROWTH
THAT IS
OUR PARISH'S
FAITH FORMATION**

REGISTRATION 2024-2025



Our Faith Formation programs are available to all Catholic children in grades 1 - 8 who are attending public elementary school. Our programs are in person or family at home with gathering once a month during a weekday evening for both children and parents. All families registering for faith formation must be registered parishioners of St. John's Parish Community.

St. John's offers several faith formation programs each year:

Sunday Weekly Program (Grades 1st - 6th)

Summer Program with Monthly Family Gatherings (Grades 1st - 8th)

Home Program with Monthly Family Gatherings (Grades 1st - 6th)

Junior High Home Program (for children entering Grades 7 and 8)

Families who currently have a child registered in St. John's Faith Formation Program have received information via email and the link to register.

Registration for the Summer Program will close on Sunday, April 7, and other programs by May 15th. This is for current registered families.

New families to St. John's Parish please contact Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar, Faith Formation: kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com for further info.



Easter opens our hearts to the extraordinary message of God's triumph over evil and death

Easter did not occur simply to console those who mourned the death of Jesus, but to open hearts to the extraordinary message of God's triumph over evil and death. The light of the resurrection was not meant to let the women bask in a transport of joy, but to generate missionary disciples who "return from the tomb" in order to bring to all the Gospel of the risen Christ. That is why, after seeing and hearing, the women ran to proclaim to the disciples the joy of the resurrection. They knew that the others might think they were mad; indeed, the Gospel says that the women's words "seemed to them an idle tale." Yet those women were not concerned for their reputation, for preserving their image; they did not contain their emotions or measure their words. They had only the fire in their hearts with which to bear the news, the proclamation: "The Lord is risen!"

And how beautiful is a Church that can run this way through the streets of our world! Without fear, without schemes and stratagems, but solely with the desire to lead everyone to the joy of the Gospel. That is what we are called to do: to experience the risen Christ and to share the experience with others; to roll away the stone from the tomb where we may have enclosed the Lord, in order to spread his joy in the world. Let us make Jesus, the Living One, rise again from all those tombs in which we have sealed him. Let us set him free from the narrow cells in which we have so often imprisoned him. Let us awaken from our peaceful slumber and let him disturb and inconvenience us. Let us bring him into our everyday lives: through gestures of peace in these days marked by the horrors of war, through acts of reconciliation amid broken relationships, acts of compassion towards those in need, acts of justice amid situations of inequality and of truth in the midst of lies. And above all, through works of love and fraternity.

Our hope has a name: the name of Jesus. Let us celebrate Easter with Christ! He is alive!

*Pope Francis, Homily for Easter Vigil 2022,
St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, April 16, 2022*

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

"WE ARE YOUNG" CHOIR

ALL PRIMARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL
FRIENDS OF JESUS ARE INVITED!

9:15 AM REHEARSAL

10:00 AM MASS

APRIL 14 & APRIL 28

MAY 12 & MAY 19

JUNE 2 & JUNE 16

Contact Sara Armstrong to sign up
or with any questions:
sarmstrong@sjahillsdale.org

THE CATHOLIC TABLE

FINDING JOY WHERE
FAITH AND FOOD MEET

Faith Video & Discussion Study



It's unavoidable. We all must eat. But as Catholics, we know that how we eat matters as much as what we eat. Through this video and discussion series, learn how food is a sign of God's love and a foretaste of the Eucharist.

In The Catholic Table video series, you'll discover what the Church teaches about creation, the body, feasting, fasting, the Eucharist—and so much more.

Thursdays
April 18 - May 23*
7:30 - 9:00pm

For more information, please contact:

Olivia Carbonaro

carbono819@gmail.com

201.248.3391

Linda Parisi

lppeanuts@msn.com

201.906.1041

*The last session on May 23 will run
6:30 - 8:30pm for a special gathering.

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

		2023	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$ 6,999	\$ 6,969	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via Faith Direct:	\$ 5,136	\$ 5,113	\$ 5,000
TOTAL	\$12,135	\$ 12,082	\$12,900

Our Easter collection to date is \$44,917, compared to last year \$ 42,330. Our budget is \$ 41,000. Over the next weeks we will provide you with a more complete report as additional donations are received.

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.

FIRST COMMUNION OUTFITS THANK YOU

The parish collection of First Communion Outfits for 2024 was a wonderful success! We were able to dress about 146 children (76 girls and 70 boys) with the beautiful dresses, suits, jackets, shirts, headpieces, shoes and monies that were so generously donated to make their day one to cherish! We want to especially thank Maria Peponias, the owner of Axia Creations in Washington Township for generously donating 8 dresses! A huge thank you to Herma Friedman, the owner of Little Nikki’s in Hohokus for donating 24 pairs of white shoes, 132 pr. of white socks, and 2 doz. white gloves! A huge thank you also to Rose Brue of Washington Township, who made and donated 32 lace-trimmed Communion veils, each with an attached cross! Outfits were first distributed to needy children in the local area. Then we distributed them in Newark to St. Rose of Lima Parish, New Community Corp., founded by Msgr. William Linder, and Sacred Heart Cathedral. Thank you for your continued, wonderful support, caring and generosity. You have made a HUGE difference in the lives of so many children. May God bless you!

ARCHDIOCESE of NEWARK ANNUAL 2024 APPEAL

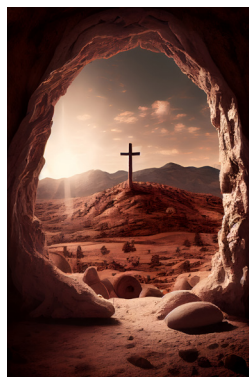


Please complete a pledge envelope - they are at the doors of the church, and have also been mailed to your home. The envelopes may be returned in the collection basket or to the Rectory Office, or even mailed directly to the Archdiocese. You may also make your pledge online at www.rcan.org/sharing or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

May God bless you always for helping those less fortunate than ourselves. Let us make our annual goal together, as a family of faith. Every donation counts and every donation makes a big difference, as every donation demonstrates far beyond our local area the great spirit of Saint John the Baptist Parish!

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

The Parish Center will be closed from Monday, April 15 through Wednesday, April 17.



“Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being.”

— Pope Benedict XVI (1927 – 2022 A.D.)