

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG

" Come to Me,
all you who labor
and are burdened. **"**

MATTHEW 11:28

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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*
Dee Ford, *Youth Ministry*

• ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY 201.664.6364

Ann Mitchell, *Principal*
Penny Jackson, *Tuition Manager / Registrar*
Heather Hurley, *School Secretary*

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,

Welcome to our celebration of the Eucharist on this 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This “Catechetical Sunday,” as we celebrate it in the United States once again this year, is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. We acknowledge, bless and celebrate today all those who have dedicated their lives to assisting us - and especially our children and young people - in our personal growth in faith and being witnesses to the Gospel. At the same time, we all pause for a moment, pray, and rediscover that “catechetical mission” entrusted to each and everyone of us.

One of the great lessons which we learn from the saints is the fact that every day the good Lord is giving us various opportunities to be His witnesses and to bring His love, compassion, mercy, kindness, forgiveness, generosity and the promises of our eternal destiny into the lives of all brothers and sisters whom we encounter, even under the most ordinary circumstances of life. On that journey, the Eucharist and our family of faith have been given to us by our Redeemer as priceless gifts which guide us and sustain us each and every day.

I am so very grateful, as is our entire Parish, to every one of our catechists and “instructors in faith,” beginning with you, our dear parents and grandparents, who are daily making a very conscious and life-giving decision to transmit and share the precious treasure of our Catholic faith with our children and young people.

As we prepare to welcome in our midst next Sunday Fr. Evans Fwamba, CP, a Passionist missionary priest, we also reflect on the “catechetical mission” of all Catholic missionaries who even today bring the message of salvation and God’s love to countless places throughout the world. The religious community of Father Evans is actively involved in various religious and social activities in Kenya, Africa, including the priestly formation of about 40 seminarians and daily administration of an orphanage with 70 orphans. The missionary appeal of Fr. Evans on behalf of the Passionist community in Kenya will give us - next weekend - an opportunity to participate in this life-giving mission. Saint John the Baptist, our great heavenly patron, pray for us, our families, our catechists and missionaries, and all our loved ones!

-Fr. Peter

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

5:00 PM Donna Gambacorta-Ha Kim

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:00 AM Peter Sullivan

10:00 AM James Kerrigan

12:00 PM Eileen Treacy

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

8:00 AM Pietro Luigi Buldo

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8:00 AM James Dowling

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

8:00 AM Betty Mackie

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

8:00 AM James Martorano

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:00 AM James Martorano

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

8:00 AM Anne Ciliberti

5:00 PM Gerald Caulfield

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:00 AM Panfilo De Iorio

10:00 AM Joseph Giancristofaro

12:00 PM Peter Sullivan

THE BREAD & WINE ARE GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF

VALENTIN TARASENKO

AT THE REQUEST OF
HIS WIFE & CHILDREN

THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS
IN MEMORY OF

JAMES MARTORANO

AT THE REQUEST OF
PATRICK & GAIL DONOHUE

SENDING HEALING PRAYERS TO:

Christine Cleary, Odran Seeley, Arlene Norling, James Lyons, Mary Schubert, Robert Francis Mercandino, Gina Mulroy, John Archene, Robert Lax, Bill Coyle, Jim Surovich, Reed Lipnick, Martin Huvane, Justina Greene, Maricarmen Senande, Aaron Scott, Jr., Mike McCrory

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED:

Anthony Prescott, Joan Matuson, Susan Harrison, Ann DePaola, Tina Dembia, Barbara Hazen, Devin Wolfe

WELCOME TO A NEW CATECHETICAL YEAR!

St. John's Parish CCD programs provide an atmosphere of prayer, study, and discussion to increase your child's and family's awareness of God's presence in our daily lives. Parents who have a child that is currently in 1st through 8th grade and would like to register their child/children for CCD, please contact Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar: kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com

FIRST SACRAMENT REGISTRATION is in process and available to parents of our parish community who currently have a child(ren) registered in CCD or St. John's Academy. If you have a child who has been baptized and is entering 2nd grade in September and he or she has completed one year of faith formation (either in Catholic school or a CCD program), you may register your child for First Sacraments. Please contact Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar: kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com

ST. JOHN'S YOUTH CONFIRMATION PROGRAM a two-year program for high school youth that meets throughout the year. Candidates have time for discernment and formation as they seek to follow Christ as one of His disciples. The program includes retreat time and information meetings to guide candidates on the journey. Facilitators, sponsors, and families work with the parish community to assist and empower the candidates as they give witness to their faith in words and actions by using their gifts to live out their Christian vocation. High School students who are not currently enrolled in the Confirmation program can register by contacting Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar: kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com

Reminder to families in our parish community who have a son or daughter enrolled in the Confirmation program - there are two upcoming events. Candidates in the second-year program have a parent meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 7:00pm in the parish center. We are welcoming our new candidates on Saturday, Sept. 30 at 5:00pm Mass. Any questions contact Kathy Breitenbach or Cathy Wollyung at cwollyung@stjohnhillsdale.com.



People ask what is the meaning of the word, Catechetical or Catechesis. It sounds strange yet the word might be more familiar than you think. Many Catholics have used the word "catechism" for years, and they know it has something to do with the compendium of the Church's teachings. The root word, "catechesis," is from a Greek word meaning "to echo, or resound." Catechesis is the act of resounding or bringing the Church's teachings to the world. A catechist is one who teaches in the name of the Church.

The Vatican published a document in 1935 directing that every country acknowledge the importance of the ministry of Catechesis. The Bishops of the United States established Catechetical Sunday on the third Sunday of September. Each year they choose a theme. This year: **"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened."**

Each year we honor those who actively serve as Catechists with a special blessing at each Mass. We are grateful for our volunteers and teachers who serve in this ministry. There is a special role of parents who are truly the primary teachers of the faith. We commend our parents and guardians who plant the seeds of faith by their lives.

A PARENT'S PRAYER

Loving God, may our children come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.

May their ears hear your voice. May their eyes see your presence in all things.

May their lips proclaim your word. May their hearts be your dwelling place.

May their hands do works of charity.

May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

Amen. (*Loyola Press*)

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10:

		2022	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$9,151	\$ 7,349	\$10,627
Online Giving via Faith Direct:	\$5,168	\$ 5,034	\$ 3,370
TOTAL	\$14,319	\$12,383	\$13,997

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



CATHOLIC MISSIONS APPEAL

Once a year, at the request of the Mission Office of the Archdiocese of Newark, we welcome to our parish an oversees missionary, and assist through our humble means in an important mission of bringing the Catholic faith and the redeeming love of Jesus to our brothers and sisters in missionary lands. Next weekend, September 23rd-24th, 2023, Fr. Evans Fwamba, CP, a Passionist Priest from Kenya, will be with us at all our Masses.

Congregation of the Passion of Jesus Christ or the 'Passionists' is a global order of Roman Catholic priests, religious brothers & sisters, as well as laity, who proclaim God's love for the world revealed through the Passion of Christ. Founded in 1720, today the Congregation continues to carry a message of compassion and hope to 61 countries throughout the world. The Passionists in Kenya celebrate the Sacraments, organize and preach retreats, form new priests and religious, provide care and shelter to orphans and poor widows in their numerous missions. Thank you for your kind assistance to them in all their noble missionary efforts.

**SIGN UP TODAY:
ONLINE GIVING!**

Visit www.faithdirect.net & enroll online using our parish code NJ48

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD IS BACK!

The Children's Liturgy of the Word program gathers children, ages 4 to 10, for an age-appropriate experience of God's word, song, and activities. CLOW is offered during the Sunday 10:00am Mass on most weekends from September through April. After receiving a blessing in the church, the children meet in the parish center to hear the readings and reflect on the Gospel. The children return to Mass after the profession of faith and intercessions.

This ministry exists because of the willing hearts of volunteers. We have two specific needs:

- 1 – Liturgists who will lead the worship time with an outline that is provided each Sunday
- 2 – Volunteers to provide supervision & extra helping hands

This is a wonderful opportunity for service for our teens and confirmation candidates, as well as for all the moms and dads of the children participating in the program. We need your help!

Please join us!

Contact Megan Callea: megancallea@gmail.com

PLANNING TO ATTEND CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL? COOP EXAM REGISTRATION INFO

Attention families of 8th grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in Fall 2024! The High School Placement Test (HSPT) administered as part of the Cooperative Admissions Exam Program for Catholic High Schools will be given on Friday, November 10, 2023. Registration for the HSPT exam is available online now at www.njcoopexam.org. For more information about the Cooperative Admissions Program, go to www.catholicchools.nj.org.

**"The primary goal in the education
of children is to teach, and to
give the example of a virtuous life."**

— Saint John Crystostom (347 - 407 A.D.)