

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG

DECEMBER 7-8, 2025



2nd Sunday of Advent & The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I.
I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. — Matthew 3:11*

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
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

2nd Sunday of Advent & The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary • December 7-8, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Saint John the Baptist Parish Family,
Dear Friends of our Parish,

On this Second Sunday of Advent, as we once again hear in the Gospel the name of our great patron - Saint John the Baptist, we also prepare for the annual celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Heavenly Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, which we will celebrate on Monday, December 8. For us Catholics of the United States this important feast day also has a very special patriotic meaning, as we honor Mary under that precious title as our national patroness. In May 1846, during the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore, the bishops of the United States had proclaimed Mary, under the title of her Immaculate Conception, the principal patroness of the whole country. Since that historic day all Catholics of our land have been praying to Mary for her protection and intercessions, asking that she, conceived into this world without any stain of sin, will continue to guide and protect us all. One of the many prayers of consecration to the Immaculate Conception, "An Act of Consecration" in the Book of Sacred Novenas from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., expresses this cherished devotion of our United States Catholics also in these touching words:

Most Holy Trinity, we put the United States of America into the hands of Mary Immaculate in order that she may present the country to you. Through her we wish to thank you for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage. Through the intercession of Mary, have mercy on the Catholic Church in America. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our President and on all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the precious gift of many religious vocations. Through the intercession of our Mother, have mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners - on all who are in need. Mary, Immaculate Virgin, our Mother, patroness of our land, we praise you and honor you and give our country and ourselves to your sorrowful and immaculate heart. O Sorrowful and immaculate heart of Mary, pierced by the sword of sorrow prophesied by Simeon, save us from degeneration, disaster and war. Protect us from all harm. O sorrowful and immaculate heart of Mary, you who bore the sufferings of your son in the depths of your heart, be our advocate. Pray for us, that acting always according to your will and the will of your divine son, we may live and die pleasing to God. Amen.

May our loving Mother, the Immaculate Virgin Mary, and our great heavenly patron, Saint John the Baptist, continue to accompany us and intercede for all of us.

— Fr. Peter

Mass Intentions

*We remember our loved ones
and community*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

5:00 PM Judy Hammett

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00 AM Benedetto Pedata

10:00 AM Androni Ki Kolovou

12:00 PM Dianne Tamburro

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 AM Jo-Ann Cogan

12:00 PM Livio Udina

7:00 PM People of the Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 AM Magaly Trujillo
(2nd Anniversary)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 AM Larry Campbell

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 AM Ryan Onderdonk

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:00 AM Maria Luisa Diaz

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00 AM People of the Parish

5:00 PM Teresita Kasilag

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:00 AM Judith Hammett

12:00 PM Pete Fimble

Prayers for Healing and Peace:

Michael Delehanty, Maricarmen Senande, Dash Richards, Theresa Gorman, Rosalind Campos, Pamela Osbourne, Mark Miller, Joe Wolfe, James Carbone, Ramona Suarez-Rose, Joe Seymour, Kim Costa, Rose Lyons, Thomas Tobin, Anthony K., Peter Spaccarotella, Frank Angioletti

Remembering Those Who Have Passed:

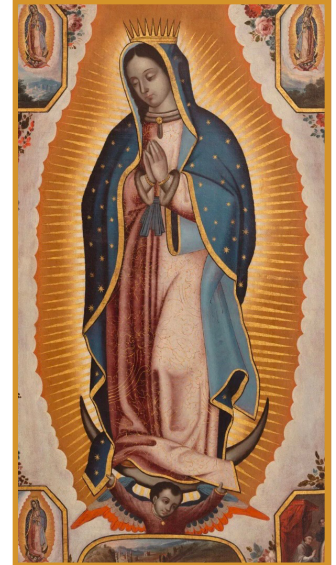
Doris Wulff, Diane Barbera, MaryAnn Jones, Virginia Danaher, Raymond Breitenbach, Marlene Iapalucci

The **Votive Candle** burns in memory of **RYAN ONDERDONK** at the request of Joanna Onderdonk.

Join Us...

IN CELEBRATING OUR HEAVENLY MOTHER

The Blessed Virgin Mary, in her
Immaculate Conception and as
Our Lady of Guadalupe



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025

4:10 pm — *Prayer & Rosary led by our Rosary Society in Church*

4:30 pm — *Mariachi Sones Songs & Praises*

5:00 pm — *Holy Mass*

6:00 pm — *Lighting and blessing of our “Tilted Christmas Tree”
and “a little party” in honor of our Mother Mary*

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH, HILLSDALE NJ

presents

A VERY
BROADWAY
Christmas
2025

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 14

Featuring

CONCERT AT
4:00PM



Heather
Bixler



Michael
Kaish



Ciarán
Sheehan



Laird
Mackintosh



Rachel
Gold

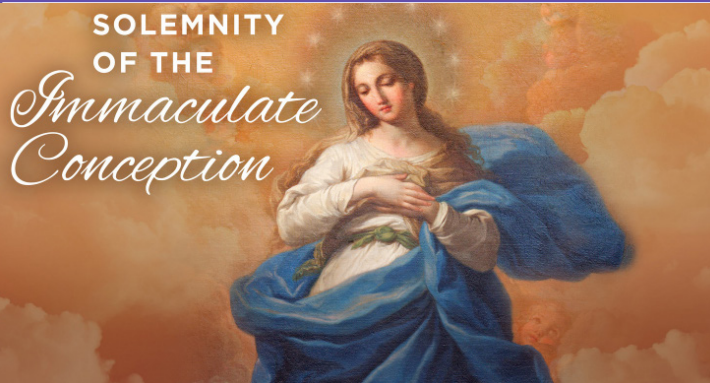


Irish tenor and Broadway star Ciarán Sheehan (*Phantom, Phantom of the Opera*) returns once again to Hillsdale, NJ for A Very Broadway Christmas!

He'll be joined by an incredible lineup, including Laird Mackintosh (*Phantom, Final Broadway Performances of Phantom of the Opera*), Michael Kaish (*Pianist & Music Director*), Heather Bixler (*Classical Violinist & Irish Fiddler*), and Rachel Gold (*Christine, Phantom of the Opera*). Experience an unforgettable evening filled with Broadway favorites and beloved Christmas classics!

ChristmasConcert.StJohnHillsdale.org

69 Valley St, Hillsdale, NJ • 201-664-3131



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Monday December 8, is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.**

**OUR MASS SCHEDULE IS
8:00 AM, 12:00 PM & 7:00 PM**

Please also know that the **PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED** on that day. Thank you.



Be careful because we can become “sleepy Christians” – and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness

“Be vigilant”: *vigilance*. Let us focus on this important aspect of the Christian life. Vigilance means this: not to allow our hearts to become lazy or our spiritual life to soften into mediocrity. Be careful because we can become “sleepy Christians” – and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness - Christians without spiritual fervor, without intensity in prayer, without enthusiasm for mission, without passion for the Gospel; Christians who always look inwards, incapable of looking to the horizon. And this leads to “dozing off”: to move things along by inertia, to fall into apathy, indifferent to everything except what is comfortable for us.

We need to be vigilant so that our daily life does not become routine, and, as Jesus says, so we are not burdened by life’s anxieties. So today is a good moment to ask ourselves: what weighs on my heart? What weighs on my spirit? What makes me go to sit in the lazy chair? It is sad to see Christians “in the armchair”! What are the mediocrities that paralyze me, the vices that crush me to the ground and prevent me from raising my head? And regarding the burdens that weigh on the shoulders of our brothers and sisters, am I aware of them or indifferent to them? These are good questions to ask ourselves, because they help *guard our hearts against apathy*. What then is apathy? It is a great enemy of the spiritual life and also of Christian life. Apathy is a type of laziness that makes us slide into sadness, it takes away zest for life and the will to do things. It is a negative spirit that traps the soul in apathy, robbing it of its joy.

Pope Francis, Angelus Prayer, Saint Peter’s Square, November 28, 2021

**JOIN US FOR
CHRISTMAS
MASS!**

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 pm
(Children’s Liturgy)

6:30 pm

10:00 pm

12:00 am
(Midnight Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 am

10:00 am

12:00 pm

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

		2024	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$9,977	\$9,924	\$7,900
Online Giving via Faith Direct:	4,876	4,842	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$14,853	\$14,766	\$12,900

In addition, the collection on November 23 was \$14,254, compared to \$12,373 the previous year.

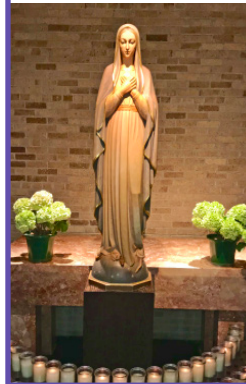
Your financial support enables our parish home to continue the mission of the Church. Thank you and God bless you!

GIVING TREES AT ST. JOHN'S

St. John's Human Concerns Committee is working to make the holidays a joyous time for those in need, especially the children. A "Giving Tree" has been placed at each door of the church. On the trees are suggestions for gift cards. If you are able, we ask that you donate one of these cards to help the needy. Checks are also appreciated. We ask that all gifts be placed in the Sunday collection basket, or brought to the Rectory Office by December 18.

We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

The Blessed Mother loves her children's visits.



**Mother's
doors are open
365 days a year.**

- ✦ Stop by
- ✦ Say a prayer
- ✦ Light a candle

OUR 2026 PARISH CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED!

PLEASE GET YOUR COPY TODAY!

They may be found on the tables by the doors of the church. We are very grateful to Becker Funeral Home for their generosity in underwriting the cost of the calendars each year.

Following the star to Bethlehem

A live nativity and our journey to Jesus

A live nativity and our journey to Jesus Sunday, December 7, 1pm - 4pm. Please join St. John's Parish & St. John's Academy after Sunday 12:00 Mass for a fun celebration! Activities include: Saint Nicholas, Live Nativity with Petting Zoo, hot chocolate, s'mores, crafts, carols & food! All are welcome!

*Together in Christ, We Find
Peace, Hope & Strength*

DAILY MASS: 8:00 AM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Benediction & Prayer just before 6pm

All Are Welcome



Visit **WeAreHisWitnesses.org**
for updates, timelines and resources.

HUMAN CONCERNS MINISTRY

Will meet on Wednesday, December 10th at 1:00pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome.

*"Let the soul of Mary be in each of us
to magnify the Lord, and the spirit of
Mary be in each of us to rejoice in God."
— St. Anslem (1033 - 1109)*