

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



NOVEMBER 27, 2022

1st Sunday OF ADVENT

May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father.
— 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

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**
Theresa Cabrera, Interim 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,

On this First Sunday of Advent, we have gathered at the right place to “await” and celebrate - we have come to our Saint John the Baptist Spiritual Home. There are three “spiritual faith-filled giants” of the very last months and years of the era called “B.C. – before Christ”: Our Heavenly Mother and Mother of Jesus - Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, and our great patron, Saint John the Baptist. It was John who humbly but resolutely declared that he came into the world in order to prepare the way for the Messiah and His might and splendor will be so great that he is not even worthy to “stoop down and untie His sandals” (Mark 1:7).

While Mary is the “par excellence” example of the Christian longing and awaiting the birth of the Messiah, and we will celebrate her Immaculate Conception once again on December 8, Saint Joseph provided, what we would call in our modern language “the logistics” for all that needed to be taken care of prior to the birth of Christ so that both Mary and her expected baby would always be guarded and protected. When Pope Francis in the late part of 2020 declared the period in the life of the Church between the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception in 2020 (December 8, 2020) and the same Solemnity last year (December 8, 2021) as the Year of Saint Joseph, he particularly highlighted this significant mission of Saint Joseph - the protector of Christ, Mary, the Church, and also of each and every one of us. And, Saint Joseph always, as the Pope continues to remind us, fulfills this noble mission discreetly, humbly and silently, but with an unfailing presence and utter fidelity, in good times and bad, even when he finds it hard to understand. He is there at every moment with loving care. In the Gospels he is portrayed as a strong and courageous man who is awaiting the birth of the Lord and then always protects him. In his boundless love and tenderness Saint Joseph demonstrates his greatness.

As we begin our Advent 2022 journey, let us all pray that through the intercessions of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and John the Baptist, it will truly become a blessed period in our lives. May these three spiritual giants who are such wonderful examples of “waiting for the Messiah” and “preparing the way for the Lord,” intercede for us as we await, pray and search, asking together: What am I waiting for? What, at this moment of my life, does my heart long for? What are we waiting for together? What unites our aspirations, what brings them together? May these questions continue to lead us to the faith and joy filled rediscoveries of our Lord and our Catholic faith.

-Fr. Peter

SENDING HEALING PRAYERS TO:

Dimas Acevedo, Daisy Ramirez, Robert Culhane, Donal Gallagher, Teena & Ronald Grant, Brian Ruso, Pamela Growney, Tyson Thompson, Fr. John Murray, Jim Lyons, Marie Cartwright, Diana Seymour, Margie Sheridan, Peggy Ann Fusco, Marianne McMackin Sheran, Sirra Roche, Anne Buonagura, Colin Kelly, Frank Schroth, Tracey Mann, Bernadette Gray Smith, John Clark, Mary Musella

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED:

Patricia Bacigalupo,

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

5:00 PM Caulfield & Caldera Families

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

8:00 AM Mauro Scarangella
10:00 AM Manolita C. Navarro
12:00 PM Carol J. Petry

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

8:00 AM George Ettore

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

8:00 AM Maria Tarabocchia

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:00 AM John Andrew Henry

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:00 AM Virgilio Cuenca

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 AM Amelia Udasco

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00 AM Mila Plotsky
5:00 PM Peter Iorio

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00 AM Robert Anzalone
10:00 AM Patricia Keller
12:00 PM Transfiguracion Larena

THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS
IN MEMORY OF

ANASTAZY JANK

AT THE REQUEST OF
SUSAN & ERIC DI GREGORIO

THE BREAD & WINE IS GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF

ROBERT ANZALONE

AT THE REQUEST OF
BERNIE & GINNY WEBER



Our Advent 2022

**What am I waiting for? What, at this moment of my life,
does my heart long for? What are we waiting for together?
What unites our aspirations, what brings them together?**

Today, the first Sunday of Advent, the Church begins a new Liturgical Year, a new journey of faith that on the one hand commemorates the event of Jesus Christ and, on the other, opens to its ultimate fulfilment. It is precisely in this double perspective that she lives the Season of Advent, looking both to the first coming of the Son of God, when he was born of the Virgin Mary, and to his glorious return, when he will come “to judge the living and the dead”, as we say in the Creed. I would now like to focus briefly on this evocative theme of “waiting”, for it touches upon a profoundly human aspect in which the faith becomes, so to speak, completely one with our flesh and our heart.

Expectation or waiting is a dimension that flows through our whole personal, family and social existence. Expectation is present in thousands of situations, from the smallest and most banal to the most important that involve us completely and in our depths. Among these, let us think of waiting for a child, on the part of a husband and wife; of waiting for a relative or friend who is coming from far away to visit us; let us think, for a young person, of waiting to know his results in a crucially important examination or of the outcome of a job interview; in emotional relationships, of waiting to meet the beloved, of waiting for the answer to a letter, or for the acceptance of forgiveness.... One could say that man is alive as long as he waits, as long as hope is alive in his heart. And from his expectations we recognize ourselves: our moral and spiritual “stature” can be measured by what we wait for, by what we hope for.

Every one of us, therefore, especially in this Season which prepares us for Christmas, can ask himself: What am I waiting for? What, at this moment of my life, does my heart long for? And this same question can be posed at the level of the family, of the community, of the nation. What are we waiting for together? What unites our aspirations, what brings them together? In the time before Jesus’ birth the expectation of the Messiah was very strong in Israel - that is, the expectation of an Anointed one, a descendent of King David, who would at last set the people free from every form of moral and political slavery and find the Kingdom of God. But no one would ever have imagined that the Messiah could be born of a humble girl like Mary, the betrothed of a righteous man, Joseph. Nor would she have ever thought of it, and yet in her heart the expectation of the Savior was so great, her faith and hope were so ardent, that he was able to find in her a worthy mother. Moreover, God himself had prepared her before time. There is a mysterious correspondence between the waiting of God and that of Mary, the creature “full of grace”, totally transparent to the loving plan of the Most High. Let us learn from her, the Advent, how to live our daily actions with a new spirit, with the feeling of profound expectation that only the coming of God can fulfill.

Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus, St. Peter’s Square, November 28, 2010

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday it was necessary to submit our bulletin to the printing company by Friday, November 18. The November 20 collection information will be included in the 2nd Sunday of Advent's bulletin. Thank you for your support and generosity. Always!

As always your financial support enables our parish home to continue the mission of the Church in these difficult times. Thank you and God bless you!

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thursday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation.

OUR MASS SCHEDULE IS
8:00AM, 12:00PM AND 7:00PM.

Please also note that the Parish Offices will be closed on that day. Thank you.



DAILY MASS

8:00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00pm
Benediction & Community Prayer
just before 6:00pm.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER

Mondays 7:30 - 8:00pm

CHURCH OPEN DAILY

7:00am - 7:00pm



December 20, 2022 - 7:00pm

A Very Broadway Christmas Concert
at St. John the Baptist Church.

For Ticket Information, visit:
https://bit.ly/SJB_CHRISTMASCONCERT



HELP THOSE IN NEED AT CHRISTMAS

St. John's Human Concerns Committee is diligently 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 designated box at the Parish Center by December 18.

We thank you in advance for your
kindness and generosity.

ONLINE GIVING: SIGN UP TODAY!

Faith Direct provides the ability to give to St. John's through electronic donation (credit card or direct debit from your bank). Visit www.faithdirect.net and enroll online using our parish code NJ48

With online enrollment, you can access your account any time to view / make changes to account info and gifts.

"Advent is a journey towards
Bethlehem. May we let
ourselves be drawn by the
light of God made man."

— Pope Francis