

# SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



JUNE 28 & JULY 4, 2026

## 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME & INDEPENDENCE DAY

*The promises of the Lord I will sing forever, through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, "My kindness is established forever;" in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness. — Psalm 89:2-3*

**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
- **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 & SATURDAY**  
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 the Saint John the Baptist Parish Family,  
Dear Friends of our Parish,

Welcome to our celebrations of the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, as we begin the week during which we will also celebrate our dear country's Independence, and the life-giving reality that this precious independence is deeply rooted in our faith in the Almighty God and our constant dependence on Him.

As we together celebrate this special holiday, I would like to "give voice" in this column to one of our modern day saints, Pope John Paul II, who during his apostolic journey to the United States in October 1979, while celebrating Mass at the Capital Mall in Washington D.C., shared with all people of our country this fatherly advice on how to deepen our lives in freedom and independence, as well as in our common dependence on our loving and eternal God:

*"All human beings ought to value every person for his or her uniqueness as a creature of God, called to be a brother or sister of Christ by reason of the Incarnation and the universal Redemption. For us, the sacredness of human life is based on these premises. And it is on these same premises that there is based our celebration of life - all human life. This explains our efforts to defend human life against every influence or action that threatens or weakens it, as well as our endeavors to make every life more human in all its aspects. And so, we will stand up every time that human life is threatened. When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, we will stand up and proclaim that no one ever has the authority to destroy unborn life. When a child is described as a burden or is looked upon only as a means to satisfy an emotional need, we will stand up and insist that every child is a unique and unrepeatable gift of God, with the right to a loving and united family. [...] When freedom is used to dominate the weak, to squander natural resources and energy, and to deny basic necessities to people, we will stand up and reaffirm the demands of justice and social love. When the sick, the aged or the dying are abandoned in loneliness, we will stand up and proclaim that they are worthy of love, care and respect.*

*Much remains to be done to support those whose lives are wounded and to restore hope to those who are afraid of life. Courage is needed to resist pressures and false slogans, to proclaim the supreme dignity of all life, and to demand that society itself give it its protection. A distinguished American, Thomas Jefferson, once stated: "The care of human life and happiness and not their destruction is the just and only legitimate object of good government" (March 31, 1809).*

Happy, healthy, and blessed July 4th as well as this entire week to all of you. Please be assured of my prayers for you and all your loved ones.

— Fr. Peter

## Mass Intentions

*We remember our loved ones  
and community*

### SATURDAY, JUNE 27

5:00 PM Matthew Cohen

### SUNDAY, JUNE 28

8:00 AM Walter Kelly

10:00 AM Diane Marie Merkle

12:00 PM Edith E. Hubar

### MONDAY, JUNE 29

8:00 AM Ellen & Daniel  
Caulfield

### TUESDAY, JUNE 30

8:00 AM Kristen Hyland

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

8:00 AM Mary Quigley

### THURSDAY, JULY 2

8:00 AM John Angermeyer

### FRIDAY, JULY 3

8:00 AM Eleanor Caltabianco

### SATURDAY, JULY 4

8:00 AM People of the Parish

5:00 PM Erminia Caldera

### SUNDAY, JULY 5

8:00 AM Florence Sacco

10:00 AM Kelly Hannigan

12:00 PM Peter McCann

The **Votive Candle** burns

in memory of

**CHRISTOPHER  
HUVANE**

at the request of

The Huvane Family

### *Prayers for Healing and Peace:*

Kim Costa, Thomas Tobin, Anthony K., Peter Spaccarotella, Jim Derbyshire, James Carbone, Terry Medino, Anita Lawrence, Ann Walsh, Elaine McBreen, Baby Rocco, Caroline Bisi, Baby Nellie, Liam Fanning, Ken McGlone, Eileen Stasiunis, Maria Spaccarotella, Bruce Hawkinson, Walter Minx, Maricarmen Senande

### *Remembering Those Who Have Passed:*

Michael McGrath, Richard Naman, Michael Moorman, Marilyn Gallucci, Kevin Portuondo, George Bellin

## A PRAYER ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

Gracious and loving God,  
let your spirit be with us today.  
Hear our prayers, and increase in us  
the will to follow your Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

Help us to draw on the resources  
of our faith as we use the opportunities  
of our democracy to shape a society  
more respectful of the life, dignity,  
and rights of the human person,  
especially the poor and all vulnerable.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,  
your Son, who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God forever and ever.

Amen.

### Join Us!

**Daily Mass**  
8:00 am

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Benediction & Community Prayer  
just before 6pm

**Church is Open Daily**  
7:00 am - 7:00 pm

### All Are Welcome!

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

The Parish Offices will be closed on  
Friday, July 3 in observance of  
Independence Day.  
Enjoy your celebrations!



**“FREEDOM CONSISTS NOT IN  
DOING WHAT WE LIKE, BUT IN  
HAVING THE RIGHT TO DO  
WHAT WE OUGHT.”**

[...] Faith is always demanding, because faith leads us beyond ourselves. It leads us directly to God. Faith also imparts a vision of life's purpose and stimulates us to action. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is not a private opinion, a remote spiritual ideal, or a mere program for personal growth. The Gospel is the power which can transform the world! [...]

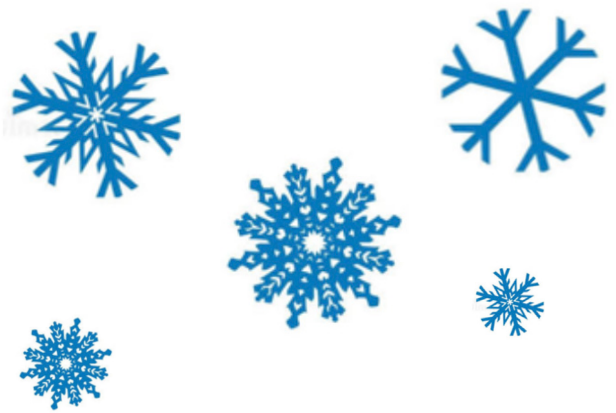
In America, Christian faith has found expression in an impressive array of witnesses and achievements. We must recall with gratitude the inspiring work of education carried out in countless families, schools and universities, and all the healing and consolation imparted in hospitals and hospices and shelters. We must give thanks for the practical living out of God's call in devoted service to others, in commitment to social justice, in responsible involvement in political life, in a wide variety of charitable and social organizations, and in the growth of ecumenical and interreligious understanding and cooperation. In a more global context, we should thank God for the great generosity of American Catholics whose support of the foreign missions has greatly contributed to the spiritual and material well-being of their brothers and sisters in other lands. America has always wanted to be a land of the free. Today, the challenge facing America is to find freedom's fulfillment in the truth: the truth that is intrinsic to human life created in God's image and likeness, the truth that is written on the human heart, the truth that can be known by reason and can therefore form the basis of a profound and universal dialogue among people about the direction they must give to their lives and their activities.

One hundred thirty years ago, President Abraham Lincoln asked whether a nation “conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal” could “long endure”. President Lincoln's question is no less a question for the present generation of Americans. Democracy cannot be sustained without a shared commitment to certain moral truths about the human person and human community. The basic question before a democratic society is: “how ought we to live together?” In seeking an answer to this question, can society exclude moral truth and moral reasoning? Can the Biblical wisdom which played such a formative part in the very founding of your country be excluded from that debate?

Would not doing so mean that America's founding documents no longer have any defining content, but are only the formal dressing of changing opinion? Would not doing so mean that tens of millions of Americans could no longer offer the contribution of their deepest convictions to the formation of public policy? Surely it is important for America that the moral truths which make freedom possible should be passed on to each new generation. Every generation of Americans needs to know that freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought.

*Pope John Paul II, Homily, Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Baltimore, October 8, 1995*

**AS ONE FAMILY OF FAITH, LET'S "DIG" OUR SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST OUT OF THE WINTER SNOWSTORMS**





❄️ **Saturday & Sunday, December 13 – 14, 2025**  
**Hillsdale: 5.0"**

❄️ Tuesday, December 23, 2025  
Hillsdale: 2.1"

❄️ **Friday & Saturday, December 26 – 27, 2025**  
**Hillsdale: 3.8"**

❄️ Friday, January 2, 2026  
Hillsdale: 0.1"

❄️ **Saturday, January 17, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 2.8"**

❄️ **Sunday, January 18, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 2.8"**

❄️ **Sunday & Monday, January 25 – 26, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 15.0" with coating of freezing rain**

❄️ **Friday & Saturday, February 6 – 7, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 0.3"**

❄️ Tue & Wed, Feb 10 – 11, 2026  
Hillsdale: Ice coating of freezing rain

❄️ **Sunday & Monday, February 15 – 16, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 0.5"**

❄️ **Sunday & Monday, February 22 – 23, 2026**  
**Hillsdale: 21.3"**

❄️ Wednesday, Feb 25, 2026  
Hillsdale: 1.2"

**CUMULATIVE SNOWFALL TOTALS:**

**Hillsdale: 54.9 inches**

**December: 10.9 inches**

**January: 20.7 inches**

**February: 23.3" inches**



**A Special Collection to Assist our Parish**

with missed weekend collections during Saturdays & Sundays of numerous winter storms and with extraordinary expenses during the very cold and challenging **Winter of 2025-2026**



<https://bit.ly/Winter-Recovery>

## OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

**SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026**

		<b>2025</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$6,764	\$ 6,961	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via ParishSOFT:	5,284	\$ 4,911	\$ 5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,048</b>	<b>\$ 11,872</b>	<b>\$12,900</b>

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



ARCHDIOCESE  
of NEWARK

# ANNUAL <sup>2026</sup> APPEAL

## THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO OUR CARING AA DONORS!

**Thank you so very much (!)** to all our kind and generous donors who through your kindness, concern and generosity have sent a powerful message about the caring and compassionate spirit of our community to the entire Archdiocese of Newark. We are very grateful to the 228 families and individual parishioners who have helped us to raise \$99,798 and surpass our \$98,750 parish goal.

This great news, and our joy, will now be even further multiplied through an important 2% reduction of our Annual Archdiocesan Parish Assessment. In addition, about 50% of the funds collected and exceeding our parish goal will be given back to our parish for our pastoral needs. Please note that only the part of your pledges which is paid by June 30 will be counted toward our parish rebate and the reduction of our Archdiocesan Assessment.

Please indicate on all pledges and donations that you are a member of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hillsdale. May God bless you always and reward you many times for your kind assistance and support. ([www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing))

## FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Our parish Religious Education Office is excited to share that the 2026-2027 Faith Formation Registration (aka CCD) for St. John's is open & available on our parish website [www.stjohnhillsdale.org](http://www.stjohnhillsdale.org) "Faith Formation".

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

Faith Formation is a lifelong journey of growing in our relationship with Jesus and understanding our Catholic faith more deeply. Participating each year helps children remain connected to the parish community, develop friendships rooted in faith, and better understand the importance of living as disciples of Christ in everyday life.

We encourage families enrolling their child in the summer program to register immediately to assist the staff in planning for a successful program.

Families with a child entering second grade in September (who has been baptized and completed 1st grade religious education), please register him/her for First Reconciliation and First Communion along with Faith Formation.

For further information please contact Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar at [kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com](mailto:kbreitenbach@stjohnhillsdale.com)



**WE ARE HIS  
WITNESSES**

[WeAreHisWitnesses.org](http://WeAreHisWitnesses.org)

for updates, timelines and resources.

***"It is not so essential to think much as to love much."***

*Saint Teresa of Avila (1515 - 1582)*