

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



Pope Leo XIV
266th Successor of Saint Peter

MAY 18, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"My children, I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
— John 13:33a, 34-35

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
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,

[...]

Even today, there are many settings in which the Christian faith is considered absurd, meant for the weak and unintelligent. Settings where other securities are preferred, like technology, money, success, power, or pleasure.

These are contexts where it is not easy to preach the Gospel and bear witness to its truth, where believers are mocked, opposed, despised or at best tolerated and pitied. Yet, precisely for this reason, they are the places where our missionary outreach is desperately needed. A lack of faith is often tragically accompanied by the loss of meaning in life, the neglect of mercy, appalling violations of human dignity, the crisis of the family and so many other wounds that afflict our society.

Today, too, there are many settings in which Jesus, although appreciated as a man, is reduced to a kind of charismatic leader or superman. This is true not only among non-believers but also among many baptized Christians, who thus end up living, at this level, in a state of practical atheism.

It is essential that in this world we too repeat, with Peter: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Mt 16:16). It is essential to do this, first of all, in our personal relationship with the Lord, in our commitment to a daily journey of conversion. Then, to do so as a Church, experiencing together our fidelity to the Lord and bringing the Good News to all (cf. Lumen Gentium, 1). [...]

Pope Leo XIV, Homily - Holy Mass with the College of Cardinals, May 9, 2025

SENDING HEALING PRAYERS TO:

Robert F. Mercandino, Daisy Fuentes, Ruth Del Valle, James Carbone, Maxine Fleming, Christine Knitel, John Keegan, Thomas Pedoto, Jessica Chase, Felix Rivera, Angie McCarthy, Martin Huvane, Angela Favorito, Michael Delehanty, Julianne Lipnick, Maricarmen Senande

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED

Angelina Zarro, Herbert Trauth, Patricia Harkin, Eileen Mann, John Falcone

Cover Photo: Pope Leo XIV prays at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Genazzano, just outside of Rome, May 10, 2025 (@ Vatican Media)

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MAY 17

5:00 PM Peter Wynne

SUNDAY, MAY 18

8:00 AM Rudolph DeRiso

10:00 AM Francis Bradley

12:00 PM Kathleen Bonner

MONDAY, MAY 19

8:00 AM Brigitte & Ryan Pospisil

TUESDAY, MAY 20

8:00 AM Paulina Roche

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

8:00 AM Bob Higgins

THURSDAY, MAY 22

8:00 AM Carol Wazeny

FRIDAY, MAY 23

8:00 AM Otto Kalok

SATURDAY, MAY 24

8:00 AM Bob Higgins

5:00 PM Msgr. Peter Smutelovic
30th Anniversary of
Ordination (Living)

SUNDAY, MAY 25

8:00 AM Baby M. & Mary M. Joseph
(Living)

10:00 AM Valentin Tarasenko

12:00 PM Salvatore Conti III
(22nd Anniversary)

THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS
IN MEMORY OF

BOB HIGGINS

AT THE REQUEST OF
MARIE & JAMIE ROCCO

THE BREAD & WINE ARE GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF

JOHN & MARY MARIN

AT THE REQUEST OF
THE O'SHEA FAMILY

WE ARE HIS WITNESSES

Our Parish and Archdiocesan Future

www.rcan.org/we-are-his-witnesses/

Together with all parishes of the Archdiocese of Newark, Saint John the Baptist Parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ. As a community, we must embrace Christ's vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith.



The very first step in this process, recently initiated by the Archdiocese and called **"We Are His Disciples"** involves assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities **through Disciple Maker Index (DMI)**. The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at Saint John the Baptist. The Disciple Maker Index is designed to:

- Invite parishioners to reflect on their journey of discipleship.
- Enable parish leadership to make data-driven decisions.
- Help parishioners grow in their faith

The 10-15 minute survey can be accessed through an online link from April 26 through May 25, 2025, and will ask every parishioner to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide your perspective on our parish's efforts to help you grow in relationship with Christ. Paper surveys will also be available for those who do not have the ability to complete the survey online.

As Saint John the Baptist Parish is on a journey to know, love and serve Christ better, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM OUR PARISHIONERS! Please complete the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey today. The survey assesses our unique strengths and opportunities. Share your perspective now to help strengthen Saint John the Baptist Church and better prepare us for the future!

For the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) survey link, please visit
<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/c4k83c>



All our registered parishioners will also receive this message via email to the email address provided to us in your registration.



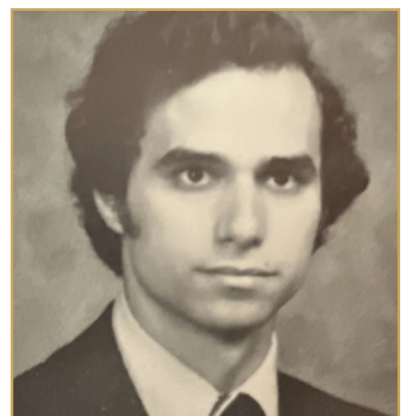
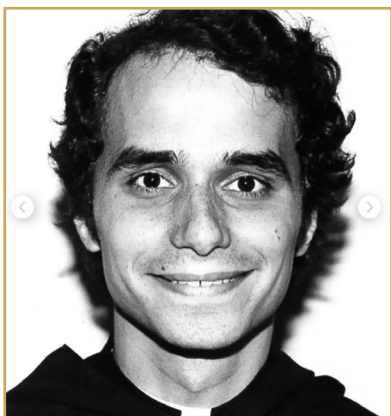
POPE LEO XIV

Born: September 14, 1955

Elected: May 8, 2025



O God, who in your providential design willed that your Church be built upon blessed Peter, whom you set over the other Apostles, look with favor, we pray, on our Pope Leo XIV and grant that he, whom you have made Peter's successor, may be for your people a visible source and foundation of unity in faith and of communion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Photos: Vatican Media & publicly released photos of the Prevost Family

OUR *Easter Season* 2025

A Prayer for This Week

Bless us with Love, O Merciful God;
that we may Love as you Love!

That we may show patience, tolerance,
kindness, caring and love to all!

Give us knowledge that we may be one with
our surroundings and be good stewards of all
You have entrusted to us.

Grant us compassion that we may
reach out and help all those in need!

Bless us with your Love, O God.
Amen.



EASTER SEASON WEEKLY

Devotions

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Daily Mass

8:00 am

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Church is Open Daily

7:00 am - 7:00 pm

MEMORIAL DAY

The Parish Offices will be closed
on Monday, May 26 in observance
of Memorial Day.



**To love others is about more
than simply offering something
of ours to others; it is about giving
them our very selves.**

The love that we receive from the Lord is the force that transforms our lives. It opens our hearts and enables us to love. For this reason, Jesus says - here is the second element - "as I have loved you, so must you love one another". That word "as" is not simply an invitation to imitate Jesus' love; it tells us that we are able to love only because he has loved us, because he pours into our hearts his own Spirit, the Spirit of holiness, love that heals and transforms. As a result, we can make decisions and perform works of love in every situation and for every brother and sister whom we meet, because we ourselves are loved and we have the power to love. As I myself am loved, so I can love others. The love I give is united to Jesus' love for me. "As" he loved me, so I can love others. The Christian life is just that simple. Let's not make it more complicated with so many things. It is just that simple.

In practice, what does it mean to live this love? Before giving us this commandment, Jesus had washed the disciples' feet; then, after giving it, he gave himself up to the wood of the cross. To love means this: to serve and to give one's life. To serve, that is, not to put our own interests first: to clear our systems of the poison of greed and competitiveness; to fight the cancer of indifference and the worm of self-referentiality; to share the charisms and gifts that God has given us. Indeed, it means to give one's life. This is about more than simply offering something of ours to others; it is about giving them our very selves.

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

		2024	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$8,491	\$8,849	\$7,900
Online Giving via Faith Direct:	4,998	5,273	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$13,489	\$14,122	\$12,900

Our Easter collection to date is \$47,079, compared to last year \$40,652. Our budget is \$ 48,000. 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!*

COME CELEBRATE HILLSDALE!

at the Hillsdale Boy Scout Troop 109

MEMORIAL DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

7:00am - 10:30am

Before the Parade — Rain or Shine!

Held at Holy Trinity Church
(326 Hillsdale Ave)

Scouts will be at the doors of our church selling tickets after all Masses on May 17/18.

Cost is \$10/person (kids under 5 free)
Proceeds to benefit Troop 109 and local charities.



ARCHDIOCESE of NEWARK ANNUAL APPEAL 2025

PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

So far we have received \$85,322 in pledges and donations for the 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. We are very grateful to the 200 families and individual parishioners who have helped us with this campaign. Every donation gets us closer to our goal of \$88,600. We're almost there!

Please complete a pledge envelope —they are at the doors of the church. The envelopes may be returned in the collection basket or to the Rectory Office or even mailed directly. You may also make your pledge online by using the QR code or by visiting rcan.org/sharing. **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 for helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

The Knights of Columbus and the Bergen Federation Invite You To....



Thursday, June 26 at 7:30pm

Columbian Club: 40 Crest St, Westwood

Sit-Down Dinner, 3 Course Meal +
Dessert, Soft Drinks & Coffee

RSVP by June 23:
201-723-8807 | jdaboudaoud@gmail.com

Proceeds benefit Bishop's charitable endeavors

VALLEY CHARITIES/ KNIGHTS TO HOST FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER

Valley Charities Inc. and the St. Thomas More Council 2188 will host a Friday Night Dinner on May 23, 2025 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 40 Crest Street, Westwood, NJ 07675. Doors will open at 6:00PM. The MENU includes: Roast pork loin, Roasted potato, Vegetable, Dessert and Coffee/tea/soda. Cash Bar. Cost: \$20.00pp. Couples over 65-\$35.00. Children 12 and under-\$15.00. Reservation deadline is Tuesday, May 20. For reservations contact Frank Mariconti, Sr. at 551-579-1123 or fms12250@aol.com DAILY BETWEEN 4PM and 8PM. Make checks payable to Valley Charities.

Monies raised will be used to provide scholarship support.

"When you know how much God is in Love with you, then you can only live your life radiating that love." — St. Teresa of Calcutta (1910 - 1997)