

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG



AUGUST 15-16, 2026

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY & 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us.
So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation. — Psalm 67:2-3*

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 Saint John the Baptist Parish Family,
Dear Friends of our Parish,

Welcome to our celebration of the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This year, our Sunday liturgies follow Saturday's celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Scripture readings and the message of this beautiful solemnity, which celebrates Mary's glorious Assumption into heaven, also invite us to reflect on our loved ones, and in a particular way on our dear mothers, whether they are still with us or have already entered God's eternal kingdom. They have been entrusted to us by the Almighty to guide, nurture, and accompany us on our own journey of life and faith, as we follow Mary's example and strive toward the eternal joy of heaven.

Every time we gather in our church, or whenever we are spiritually united in prayer with our loved ones, we honor and celebrate the spiritual heritage of our families and of our parish. For nearly a century, our spiritual home has borne the name of Saint John the Baptist. As disciples of Jesus in our own time, we, the faithful of this parish, celebrate every Sunday and every liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary with a special sense of family. We are reminded of the close bond shared by Jesus, Mary, and Joseph with Elizabeth, Zechariah, and Saint John the Baptist. As we heard in the Gospel for the Solemnity of the Assumption, shortly after the conception of our Savior, Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth. At the sound of Mary's greeting, the infant John the Baptist "leaped in her womb." Filled with the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth humbly and joyfully proclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (cf. Luke 1:39–56).

Recognizing ourselves as part of the spiritual family of Saint John the Baptist—and, through him, as members of the family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—gives our worship and our prayers a profound and deeply personal meaning. During the summer months, many of us spend cherished time with family members, loved ones, and friends. We can also joyfully say that whenever we come to Saint John the Baptist Church, or remain united with this parish in prayer, we are, in a spiritual sense, spending time with our extended family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, together with Saint John the Baptist, Elizabeth, and Zechariah. What a beautiful blessing it is to belong to such a family of faith.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Sorrowful Mother, whom we also honor each year on September 15, intercede for our beautiful church and for every one of our homes and families. Let us once again come together to celebrate our faith, unite in prayer, and seek her loving maternal protection and intercession.

— Fr. Peter

Prayers for Healing and Peace:

Kim Costa, Thomas Tobin, Anthony K., Jim Derbyshire, James Carbone, Terry Medino, Anita Lawrence, Ann Walsh, Elaine McBreen, Baby Rocco, Caroline Bisi, Baby Nellie, Liam Fanning, Ken McGlone, Eileen Stasiunis, Bruce Hawkinson, Walter Minx, Mary Lou Wilson, John Manning, Alex Rodriguez, Martin Filon

Remembering Those Who Have Passed:

Donna Mazzearella

Mass Intentions

*We remember our loved ones
and community*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

5:00 PM Maureen Keough

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

8:00 AM John Andrew Henry

10:00 AM B. Michael Choo

12:00 PM Robert Tighe

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

8:00 AM Mary Coyne

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

8:00 AM Rich Varina

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

8:00 AM People of the Parish

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

8:00 AM Carlo Antonini

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21

8:00 AM Albert Green
(1st Anniversary)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22

8:00 AM People of the Parish

5:00 PM Edward Laux

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

8:00 AM Mary Ann Lyon

10:00 AM Dorothy Giacomina

12:00 PM Sophie & Matthew
Kudla

The **Bread & Wine** are given
in memory of

BOB HIGGINS

at the request of
Nancy Higgins

The Magnificat

*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.*

*From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.*

*He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.*

*He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.*

*He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.*

*He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.*

*He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever.*



Join Us For:

DAILY MASS

8:00 am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00pm

Benediction & Community Prayer just before 6pm

CHURCH OPEN DAILY

7:00 am - 7:00 pm



Pope Francis: The Madonna has Set Foot in Paradise, The Huge Leap Forward for Humanity

When man set foot on the moon, he said a phrase that became famous: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind". In essence, humanity had reached a historical goal. But today, in Mary's Assumption into Heaven, we celebrate an infinitely greater conquest. The Madonna has set foot in paradise: she went there not only in spirit, but with her body as well, with all of herself. This step of the lowly Virgin of Nazareth was the huge leap forward for humanity. Going to the moon serves us little if we do not live as brothers and sisters on Earth. But that one of us dwells in the flesh in Heaven gives us hope: we understand that we are precious, destined to rise again. God does not allow our bodies to vanish into nothing. With God, nothing is lost! In Mary, the goal has been reached and we have before our eyes the reasons why we journey: not to gain the things here below, which vanish, but to achieve the homeland above, which is forever. And Our Lady is the star that guides us. She went there first. She, as the Council teaches, shines "as a sign of sure hope and solace to the People of God during its sojourn on earth" (Lumen gentium, 68).

What does our Mother advise us? Today in the Gospel the first thing she says is: "My soul magnifies the Lord" (Lk 1:46). Accustomed to hearing these words, perhaps we no longer pay attention to their meaning. To "magnify" literally means "to make great", to enlarge. Mary "aggrandises the Lord": not problems, which she did not lack at the time, but the Lord. How often, instead, we let ourselves be overwhelmed by difficulties and absorbed by fears! Our Lady does not, because she puts God as the first greatness of life. From here the Magnificat springs forth, from here joy is born: not from the absence of problems, which come sooner or later, but joy is born from the presence of God who helps us, who is near us. Because God is great. And, above all, God looks on the lowly ones. We are His weakness of love: God looks on and loves the lowly.

Mary, in fact, acknowledges that she is small and exalts the "great things" the Lord has done for her. The Lord works wonders with those who are lowly, with those who do not believe that they are great but who give ample space to God in their life. [...] And we - we might ask ourselves - do we remember to praise God? Do we thank Him for the great things He does for us? For every day that He gives us, because He always loves us and forgives us, for His tenderness? In addition, for having given us His Mother, for the brothers and sisters He puts on our path, and because He opened Heaven to us? Do we thank God, praise God for these things? If we forget the good, our hearts shrink. But if, like Mary, we remember the great things that the Lord does, if at least once a day we were to "magnify" Him, then we would take a great step forward.

Pope Francis, Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Angelus, Saint Peter's Square, August 15, 2020

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026

		2025	BUDGET
Envelope & In Pew Giving:	\$6,386	\$ 7,774	\$ 7,900
Online Giving via ParishSOFT:	6,442	\$ 4,752	\$ 5,000
TOTAL	\$12,828	\$ 12,526	\$12,900

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

AN INVITATION TO PRAYER



Come in,
linger awhile,
say a prayer, and
light a candle
in hope and love.

OUR CHURCH
IS OPEN 365
DAYS A YEAR.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential, and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release, and reconcile post-abortion emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal & healing. The Archdiocesan Respect Life Office will be offering a retreat on the weekend of September 25 - 27, 2026. For further information and to register, please contact Cheryl Riley, Director, Archdiocese Respect Life at 201-912-3272 or email cheryl.riley@rcan.org.

JOB OPPORTUNITY AT SJA



St. John's Academy, a pre-k 3 through 8th grade Catholic school located in Hillsdale, is currently seeking **Part Time Teacher's Aides**.

The position is 5 days per week; approximately 25 - 28 hours per week. The salary is: \$16.00 per hour.

St. John's Academy is also looking for a **Lunch/Recess Aide**. The position is 5 days per week; approximately 2.5 hours per day. The salary is \$16 per hour.

Part time employees are eligible to participate in the 403b Savings Plan.

Qualified candidates should send their cover letter, resume, and credentials to: Mrs. Annie Mitchell at:

amitchell@sja-hillsdale.org

ParishSOFT
Giving

SIGN UP TODAY!



ParishSoft provides the ability to give to St. John's through electronic donations (credit card or direct debit from your bank.) Please use the QR code or visit:



<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnhillsdale>

Once you are in the ParishSoft giving page, to begin a giving account, please click on Sign In.

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

*"In trial or difficulty, I have recourse
to Mother Mary, whose glance alone
is enough to dissipate every fear."*

— St. Therese of Lisieux (1873 - 1897)