

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Today, 24 June, we are celebrating the Solemnity of St John the Baptist. He is the only saint, with the exception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose birth the liturgy celebrates and it does so because it is closely connected with the mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God. In fact, from the time when he was in his mother’s womb John was the precursor of Jesus: the Angel announced to Mary his miraculous conception as a sign that “nothing is impossible to God” (Lk 1:37), six months before the great miracle that brings us salvation, God’s union with man brought about by the Holy Spirit. The four Gospels place great emphasis on the figure of John the Baptist, the prophet who concludes the Old Testament and inaugurates the New, by identifying Jesus of Nazareth as the Messiah, the Anointed One of the Lord. In fact, Jesus himself was to speak of John in these terms: “This is he of whom it is written ‘Behold I send my messenger before your face, / who shall prepare your way before you. Truly I say to you, among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he!’” (Mt 11:10-11).

John’s father, Zechariah, Elizabeth’s husband and a relative of Mary, was a priest of Old Testament worship, he did not immediately believe in the announcement of such an unexpected fatherhood. This is why he was left mute until the day of the circumcision of the child to whom he and his wife gave the name God had indicated to them, that is, John, which means “graced by God”. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Zechariah spoke thus of his son’s mission: “And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins” (Lk 1:76-77).

All this came to pass 30 years later when John began baptizing people in the River Jordan, calling them to prepare themselves with this act of penance for the imminent coming of the Messiah, which God had revealed to them during their wanderings in the desert of Judaea. This is why he was called the “Baptist”, the “Baptizer” (cf. Mt 3:1-6). When one day Jesus himself came from Nazareth to be baptized, John at first refused but then consented; he saw the Holy Spirit settle on Jesus and heard the voice of the heavenly Father proclaiming him his Son (cf. Mt 3:13-17). However, the Baptist’s mission was not yet complete. Shortly afterwards he was also asked to precede Jesus in a violent death: John was beheaded in King Herod’s prison and thus bore a full witness to the Lamb of God who had recognized him and publicly pointed him out beforehand.

Dear friends, the Virgin Mary helped her elderly kinswoman Elizabeth when she was expecting John to bring her pregnancy to completion. May she help all people to follow Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God, whom the Baptist proclaimed with deep humility and prophetic fervor.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

The 2nd collection the weekend of June 30th/July 1st is for the Pastoral Solidarity for the Church in Africa.



Please return your **Bakeless Bake Sale** donations in the collection basket or to the parish office. Thank you!
All donations to benefit our Respect Life Committee. Support a beating heart!

We are in need of 3 people to step up to be on the parish advisory council for a 3 year term. We thank Loretta Avella, Antonio Collado, and Joyce Senkiew for their 3 years of service. Please call the parish office to submit your name.

Liturgical Ministers for June 30th/July 1st, 2018.

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	P. CAL	A. WITKOWSKI, W. PONDS, H. ECKES	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
8:30AM	M. LATINI	V. LIVINGSTON, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, K. CASE
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	T. MARION, J. SNELLINGER, B. DENNINGTON	J. ENNIS, K. EPPS, M. LAUTURE



Once again, FAITH will be running a School Supply Drive starting the weekend of July 7th until July 22nd. Simply select a red or green apple from the Narthex. Red apples will have a specific list of supplies the schools are in need of and green apples give you the option of a

monetary donation. Supplies are distributed to ASK, HBE, the Middle School, and our very own Little Lambs. All are greatly appreciated.

FAITH is always looking for more help planning and hosting different parish events. Please contact Danielle at daninyg89@frontiernet.net for more information.

Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom

This year's trip to Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom is on **Thursday, August 2nd** Children who have faithfully served our church through S.M.A.R.T., Altar serving, or in the choir are invited to attend. Please call the parish office for a permission form. All permission forms are due back **NO LATER** than **July 12**.



St. Mary's Little Lambs is accepting registrations for the 2018-2019 school year. There are limited spaces for the PREK-4 program, and various slots available for the PREK-3 program. Please contact: Eileen Carmody, Director (845) 858-4208 to schedule an appointment or to register.



Our current pledges for **Renew & Rebuild** is at \$460,000! Our Archdiocesan goal is \$605,000.



the **CARDINAL'S**
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
Sharing God's Gifts

The Cardinal's Appeal Campaign is still ongoing. \$17,751 has been pledged of our parish goal which is \$38,000.

The Mt. Carmel Society will be having a sausage and pepper, Meatball take out Saturday July 21st 2018 from 4PM to 7PM at the Hall located at 21 First street Port Jervis, NY

ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, June 25**
9:00am Fritz Klostermeier, by Erika Cox and family
- Tuesday, June 26**
9:00am Nicholas Moscatiello, by Fran and Berry Hafkin
- Wednesday, June 27 (Cyril of Alexandria, bishop and doctor of the Church)**
9:00am Juanita, Teofilo, and Dolores Cruz, by Nenita Costescu
- Thursday, June 28 (Irenaeus, bishop and martyr)**
9:00am Juana Gomez Feliciano, by Ruby Feliciano
- Saturday, June 30**
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, July 1**
8:30am Joseph Hartmann, by Hartmann family
11:30am Joseph Cox, by Kurtz and Paityne family



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in memory of Rosemarie Kucera, by Catherine Westfall.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joann Wilcox, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Sue Fitzsimmons, Barbara Straub, Robert Cinerar, Sandy Osbourne, Theresa Kavanagh, John McKean, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Elizabeth Brennan, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Thomas Davies, Pat Arnold, Sue Arnold, Steve Wilkinson, William Thomas, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Dotty Lynch, Jesse G Smith, Marge Evans, Kaitlyn Smith, Jerome Smith, Joseph Fritts, Patricia Meinhold, Susan Upton, Devin Upton, Kathy Drane, Wayne DeMarco, Danielle Devore, Jennifer Utz, Jacqueline Hamilton, Tonya Cannon, Ryan O'Connor, Peter Billman, Helen Andreano, Tito Rivera, Maryann Gasko, Chris Marion III, Carson Fuller, Neil Stasilli, Debi Cotugno, Louis Harford, Ramonita Irizarry, and Josefina Rodriguez.

The collection for was \$4,706.
Thank you for your continued generosity.