



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church

12319 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904

Sunday, November 2, 2025

Ordinary Time: All Souls Day

Rooted in Tradition ~ Led by the Spirit

Today's Readings: Wisdom 3:1-9 Psalm 23 Romans 5:5-11 or Romans 6:3-9
John 6:37-40



For All Souls Day we reflect on the peace promised to the just as commented on by St. Cyprian of Carthage:

"Death is not an ending but a transition, not a loss but a liberation, for the soul that is in the hand of God fears no evil. The world judges according to what is visible, but the faithful know that eternal joy begins where earthly life seems to end."

St. Augustine continues this sentiment in his *City of God*, which contrasts the apparent misery of the righteous with their hidden joy:

"The world sees only the body's death and calls it an end, but the faith of the Church sees the eternal light into which the saints pass. What the world calls destruction, we call rest; what they call loss, we call gain."

The Second Collection next weekend, November 8/9, the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica, will be for Priest Retirement.

Schedule of Masses next weekend - November 8/9 the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Fr. Andrew Wakefield
Dcn. Jim Gorman

Sunday 7:30 a.m. - Fr. Johnson John
9:00 a.m. - Fr. Andrew Wakefield
11:30 a.m. - Msgr. Mike Mellone

Daily Mass:

Monday-Friday - 7:00 & 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 9:00 a.m.

Baptism: Parishioners are asked to call the Parish Office and speak with our Director of Faith Formation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 4:00-4:45 p.m.

Marriage: Parishioners requesting a marriage date must have been registered in the parish for six months.

Phone Numbers:

Parish Office & Rectory:
301-622-1122
Fax: 301-625-9266

School: 301-622-3076

Website: www.sjbssparish.org

Facebook: facebook.com/sjbcc

2025 Prayer Intentions for the Holy Father

November - For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

Parish Directory

Please call the Parish Office to contact our Staff.

Parish Office - 301-622-1122

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Wakefield

pastor@sjbssparish.org

Bulletin Editor: Martha Kerley

sjbbulletin@sjbssparish.org

Child Protection Coordinator: Martha Kerley

mkerley@sjbssparish.org

Facilities Manager: Peter Vassiliou

peter.vassiliou@sjbsilverspring.org

Music Director: Tracy McDonnell

music@sjbssparish.org

Parish Secretary: Mary Frances Vassiliou

secretary@sjbssparish.org

Religious Education/Faith Formation: Eddie Argauer

dre@sjbssparish.org

Sacristan: Glenda Chauncey

301-622-1122

Youth Ministry: Robert Gilmore

youthministry@sjbssparish.org

Parochial School

Principal: Brian Blomquist

brian.blomquist@sjbsilverspring.org

School Phone: 301-622-3076

School Website: www.sjbsilverspring.org

Websites

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church:

www.sjbssparish.org

SJB Athletic Ministry:

www.sjbathletics.org

Community Sunday/Community Breakfast

Join us in the Gym after the 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. Masses for a Community Breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus. All are welcome.



Mass Intentions (November 3 - November 9)

Monday 7:00 - Faithful Departed
8:30 - Martin Young (F. & J. Hrastar)

Tuesday 7:00 - Faithful Departed
8:30 - In Appreciation -L- (O. Morrison)

Wednesday 7:00 - In Thanksgiving -L- (A. & R. Gomes)
8:30 - Faithful Departed

Thursday 7:00 - Faithful Departed
8:30 - Rev. Glen Willis (B. Chang)

Friday 7:00 - Rev. Charles Muzzey (Parishioners)
8:30 - Faithful Departed

Saturday 9:00 - Albert & Elizabeth Steck (D. Steck)
5:00 - Reine Bio (N. Bio)

Sunday 7:30 - Lorena Alfaro -L- (P. Alfaro)
9:00 - Dimitri Vassiliou (B. Chang)
11:30 - Parishioners

Parish Clergy

Rev. Andrew Wakefield	Pastor
Rev. Johnson John, CMI	In Residence
Msgr. Michael Mellone	In Residence
Deacon James Gorman	Permanent Deacon

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Chapel Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. when the Parish Office is Open

Adoration in the Chapel - Extended Hours

Adoration will take place every Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. when the Parish Office is open. Additional Adorers are welcome during this time. Signup sheets will be available outside the Chapel on Thursdays during Adoration.

November Collections

November 8/9 - Priest Retirement
November 15/16 - Snow Removal
November 22/23 - Building/Maintenance



Bulletin Deadline

November 16 Bulletin & Website deadline
Thursday, November 6, at 9:00 a.m

Send Bulletin announcements to
sjbbulletin@sjbssparish.org
Send Website announcements to
kbrown@sjbssparish.org



Dear Friends,
“For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day.” As we celebrate All

Souls Day this Sunday, our Gospel passage is taken from John’s Bread of Life Discourse, which follows Jesus’s miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes and feeding a crowd of 5000, in which he insists that the disciples “gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted.” After this miracle Jesus walks across the sea, telling his disciples, “It is I. Do not be afraid.”

When we lose those whom we love, we feel grief and sadness, and the poignancy of All Souls Day invites us to call to mind all of our beloved deceased whom we mourn. Yet, our sadness is rooted, always, in the reality that Jesus never abandons or refuses anyone, and we pray for all of our beloved deceased that they may know the joy of eternal life. Our Eucharistic Feast, which Jesus’s multiplication of the loaves and fishes foreshadows, actualizes our faith and hope in Christ; we “see” Him in the bread and the wine that become His Body and Blood; we “believe” in Him as we place our faith and trust in Him. To “see” and “believe” - these moments in our relationship with Jesus point to our loving gaze upon Him and to our entrustment of ourselves and those we love into the bond of love He shares with the Father. May our

prayers for our beloved deceased this All Souls Day draw us all into a deeper faith in the joys that await us all in the fullness of Heaven!

This weekend, I also write to share the news of some personnel changes at St. John’s. Our Parish Business Manager Kathleen Brown has taken a new position at another parish, and as she transitions away from St. John’s, we thank her for her dedicated work with our financial, accounting, bookkeeping, and human resource needs. For this work, we will be bringing in Calibre, a well-respected accounting and advisory firm that services a number of local Catholic parishes and schools.

Also, I write to share the news that Deacon Ed McCormack has requested a change of diaconate assignment away from St. John’s and will soon be assigned by Cardinal McElroy to a different parish to continue his service to the Archdiocese of Washington, and he and the archdiocese are in the process of finalizing that new assignment. We are grateful for his work here at St. John’s over the years and wish him well in his new parish assignment. Change is never easy, and so as both Kathleen and Deacon Ed transition away from St. John’s and take on new positions in service to the Church, please keep them in your prayers.

In Christ,
Fr. Andrew

Book of Remembrance

This year parishioners will be able to enter the names of those who have died in the Book of Remembrance online November 1 through November 27. The names from the website will be placed on the altar each week. Please visit our SJB website, www.sjbssparish.org, and click on Book of Remembrance. Please enter individually the names of the deceased to be remembered. If you do not have computer access, please call the Parish Office, 301-622-1122, with your names. Please contact Anna Moretti at morettia310@gmail.com for more information about the SJB Bereavement Ministry or grief support resources.



Youth Group!

After the 11:30 a.m. Mass today, Sunday, November 2, middle and high school aged youth are invited to head to the Kazista Center for Youth Group! We will have a time of faith sharing and remembrance on this All Souls day, with some traditional food associated with Dia de los Muertos!



This academic year, Youth Group will be offered on the first Sunday of the month following the 11:30 a.m. Mass. To join the youth group email list please follow the link or the QR Code. <https://forms.gle/jMikeph2Km3xevBq8>. We look forward to seeing you! Blessings!

Monthly Stewardship Report

Listed below is a summary of all monies given during the past month.

Recap of September Collections:	Monthly Actual	Monthly Need
Offertory includes Faith Direct	\$ 59,436.00	\$68,750.00
Capital Improvement	\$ 3,852.00	\$ 4,750.00
Other Collections		
Donations & Bequests	\$ 2,970.00	
Community Fund	\$ 2,503.00	
Haiti	\$ 6,842.00	

Sodality Bake Sale November 16, 2025

SJB Sodality of the Visitation will have a Bake Sale after the 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday, November 16. They will have their famous sausage bread, other fresh breads, and all kinds of treats, including sugar free and gluten free items. All proceeds will go to support their charitable works.



If you have any questions, please contact Prefect - Faten Theresa Haddad at 240-581-3460 (text). Come get the goodies. Thank you. God Bless You All.

A peak into school!

Our second full month of school has come to a close, and October was filled with excitement and community spirit! Some of the wonderful events and activities included:



- **School Picture Day and Blessing of the Pets**
- **Halloween celebrations** – Trunk or Treat, our annual Halloween Parade, spooky activities, and classroom parties
- **A new class pet!** The 4th grade welcomed *Jalapeño the Terrapin*
- Our **first schoolwide service project** – supplies were collected by the Angel Friends Ministry
- **Field trips** for Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, and 4th grades
- **Hispanic Heritage Month** celebration with a pop-up museum honoring many cultures
- A **special library visit** for 1st graders with author Michelyve Petit, who shared *Obi the Overthinking Owl* and gifted each student their own copy

Looking ahead, November promises even more to look forward to:

- **On a Roll Celebration** – November 4
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences** – November 5 & 6
- **Mother-Son Sneaker Ball** – Saturday, November 15
- **Thanksgiving Service Project** – Schoolwide food drive
- **Clubs and Activities Continue** - Chess, STEM, and Guitar Clubs, Band Practice, and Youth Carol
- **Thanksgiving Break** – November 26-28
- **Advent Begins** – November 30
- **Celebrating First American Nations Heritage Month**

We are excited to see what the new month brings for our wonderful school community!

SJB School Collects Used Printer Cartridges

If you have used printer cartridges of any kind, please consider donating them to the School. The School will earn a couple dollars for each cartridge recycled. Used cartridges may be dropped off at the School or Parish Office. Thank you for your support.

Would you like to learn English for free?

Learn English in a friendly, supportive environment and build your confidence! Classes are open to all levels of learners, which will include speaking, reading, and writing lessons. Now through December 20, 2025, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., at St. John the Baptist School Library, 12319 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20904 English Classes available for Spanish, French, Vietnamese, and Amharic. Please contact Liz Castillo 402-681-0286 to register.



Pax Christi Meeting

Save the date: Our next meeting will be in the Large Conference Room of the Kazista Parish Center on Sunday, November 16, from 10 to 11:15 a.m. (We will end early as the room will be used at 11:30 a.m.) You are invited to join us; we welcome new members and onetime visitors. The meetings follow a prayer-study-action format. Pax Christi – St. John the Baptist is part of Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement. Check out the website:

www.paxchristiusa.org

Main item on the agenda: Renewing and expanding support for the Maryland Legislature's Back from the Brink (BftB) resolution, urging the federal government to take steps toward the abolition of nuclear weapons. We are encouraged by Pope Francis' message that nuclear weapons are immoral and must be abolished.

For more information, please contact Ronnie Fellerath-Lowell, vmfny@aol.com.

Coats for Kids: October 1 to December 31

Each year the SJB Knights of Columbus Council provides new winter coats to kids in need through donations to C-4, the Colesville Council of Community Congregations. Last year, for the first time, parishioners were invited to participate in this by making a tax-deductible contribution, and the outstanding generosity of parishioners enabled over 100 needy kids to have a new coat for Christmas! Please consider participating again this year. Checks payable to St. John the Baptist Church with "Coats for Kids" in the memo line may be mailed to the church, 12319 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring MD 20904; dropped off at the Parish Office; placed in the offertory basket at Mass; or dropped off at a Saturday Food Drive or Community Breakfast/Sunday. Please help the Knights of Columbus help kids in need!



SJB Walking with the Word

SJB Walking with the Word will meet Saturdays in the Lyon Center 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. Please join our Zoom Meeting with this meeting location, meeting ID and password.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83988932139?pwd=bxgbuapgPOIntX5Nfu4Y8xTqZkEVnT.1>

Meeting ID: 839 8893 2139

Passcode: WWTW

For more information, please contact Jeff Hafner at jeff.hafner@aol.com, 703-203-4319.

Faith Direct eGiving is now ParishSoft

ParishSoft is now handling the Faith Direct eGiving. Please watch your emails for explanations from ParishSoft. ParishSoft is the software where your weekly contributions are entered and accumulated. Please call 1-866-507-8757 if you have any questions.

Faith Formation

Eddie Argauer, 301-622-1122, dre@sjbssparish.org

Baptismal Preparation Class

The next Baptismal Preparation Class will be Tuesday, November 4, at 7 p.m. Classes will meet in the Large Conference Room of the Kazista Center. This class will highlight the significance of Baptism and prepare parents for this grace-filled sacrament. Please RSVP to the Director of Faith Formation, Eddie Argauer, at dre@sjbssparish.org or call the Parish Office at 301-622-1122.



2025 - 2026 Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes (Sunday School classes) have begun. Please contact Eddie Argauer with any questions, dre@sjbssparish.org or 301-622-1122.



Altar Servers Needed

For students in grades 4 and up, please consider becoming an Altar Server to serve at Sunday Mass. Please contact Eddie Argauer, dre@sjbssparish.org or 301-622-1122.



Eucharistic Ministers Needed

Bring Jesus to others as a Eucharistic Minister at SJB. We are in need of more people to distribute Holy Communion, so do not be afraid! For more information, contact Eddie Argauer at dre@sjbssparish.org or call 301-622-1122.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Children's Liturgy of the Word will meet in the Kazista Center Large Conference Room and Chapel on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for children ages Kindergarten to Grade 4. Please contact Eddie Argauer, eargauer@sjbssparish.org, with any questions or if you would like to help.



Walking with Purpose (WWP)

The wildly popular Walking With Purpose program is a women's only Bible study that meets women right where they are, hands them a cup of coffee and transforms their hearts. Trust us. This may be your best YES ever. Discover how the Gospels are deeply relevant to your relationship with God and your everyday life while building great relationships at SJB! WWP will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all. This 6-week program began Saturday, October 18, at 10:15 a.m. in the Kazista Center's Conference Room. For more info, please contact Rai Howell at Marian.Howell@sjbsilverspring.org.



SJB Food Drive

The next St. John the Baptist Knights of Columbus Food Drive will be Saturday, November 15, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Drop off will be at the Lyon Center parking lot behind the church (canned or boxed dry foods only, please). *Please be careful to exclude any expired items from your donation.* Donations will be transported to the St. Camillus Food Pantry. Cash or check donations (payable to St. John the Baptist with "Food Drive" in the memo line) are also welcome! Thank you.



Scam Emails/Messages

Scam emails have been sent to SJB parishioners in Fr. Andrew's name. Please note that Fr. Andrew will not send an email or a text message requesting money or assistance. To verify the legitimacy of an email, please look at the sent email address. If the sent email address is from anything other than awakefield@sjbssparish.org, simply delete and do not respond. If you have any questions regarding the legitimacy of an email or text, please call the Parish Office, 301-622-1122.



Angel Friends

Hearts Full & Hands Fuller: Moms Welcome Two Sets of Twins

- Our SJB team, which supports women facing crisis pregnancies, is thrilled to announce the births of two sets of twins. Janelle had boys (Jayce and Jett) on September 27, and Bezenjie had a boy (Darian) and a girl (Darien) on October 2. Jayce and Jett were premature and spent time in the neonatal intensive care unit. Please keep Janelle, Bezenjie and the babies in your prayers.
- Last month we asked you to keep Rebecca in your prayers because she experienced some medical issues after giving birth to Zariyah Reign in August. We're happy to report that Rebecca is doing much better.
- If you have items to donate, or you are interested in learning more about Angel Friends and the Gabriel Network -- perhaps consider joining the SJB team -- please contact Jeff and Crystal Vinson (cryspyfry@gmail.com and jeffvins@gmail.com).



The Story of the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed - November 2

The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. "If we had no care for the dead," Augustine noted, "we would not be in the habit of praying for them." Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of prayer for the departed members.

In the middle of the 11th century, Saint Odilo, abbot of Cluny, France, decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on November 2, the day after the feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Roman Church.

The theological underpinning of the feast is the acknowledgment of human frailty. Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the prayers of the living can speed the process of purification.

Superstition easily clung to the observance. Medieval popular belief held that the souls in purgatory could appear on this day in the form of witches, toads or will-o'-the-wisps. Graveside food offerings supposedly eased the rest of the dead.

Observances of a more religious nature have survived. These include public processions or private visits to cemeteries and decorating graves with flowers and lights. This feast is observed with great fervor in Mexico.

Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/commemoration-of-all-the-faithful-departed/>



Around Town

Catholic Charities Offers Tax Prep

Catholic Charities organizes a group of volunteers each year to prepare tax returns for low-income taxpayers in the Washington area. The program runs every Saturday from February 1 to April 15 at Catholic Charities main office at 924 G Street, NW (just one block from Metro Center and the Gallery Place metro). The program has been going strong for more than a decade and last year, prepared more than 600 tax returns. New volunteers are needed for the 2026 tax season to help prepare returns, and for non-tax positions: greeters, interpreters, and schedulers.

All preparer volunteers must attend training on Saturdays in January and pass a brief online certification test before our February 1 start. We really appreciate your support. Please contact Teresa Villanueva with questions 301-942-1790 x8115, www.catholiccharitiesdc.org.

Come and See – Taste Program

Looking for ways to grow closer to Jesus and learn more about our Faith? The TASTE Program (a Catholic Women's ministry) offers dynamic weekly speakers and small group discussion at St. Mary of the Mill in Laurel. Women from 60+ parishes have attended. For more information, please visit <https://www.tasteprogram.com/>.

33rd International Week of Prayer & Fasting

Nine days of prayer and fasting from November 15 – 23, 2025. The Opening Day of Prayer will be on Saturday, November 15, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Ave NE, Washington, DC, with Mass at noon, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary, Confessions, and speakers. Please register at www.iwopf.org or call 703-707-0799. This is a FREE event; however, online donations are welcomed to help support our ministry.

Catholic Singles

Catholic Singles of Greater Washington (CSGW) is hosting their Annual Dinner Dance for Single Catholics (21 - 65+) Saturday, November 15, at P.J. Skidoos Restaurant Banquet Room, 9908 Fairfax Boulevard, Fairfax, VA. Dress is semi-formal. Cash bar. Dancing to a DJ. Most attendees are 50+. Reserve by November 4 by paying online at www.dcsinglecatholicpro.org, or call Tricia at 301-460-9195 for other options.

Post Cana

The Washington Archdiocese Post Cana for Widows and Widowers group is hosting their Christmas Party, Thursday, December 4, at our Lady of Grace in Leisure World, Silver Spring, MD. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Mary Dugan, maryludugan12@yahoo.com.

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