



# Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church

12319 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904

Sunday, January 11, 2026

The Baptism of the Lord

Rooted in Tradition ~ Led by the Spirit

Today's Readings: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 Psalm 29 Acts 10:34-38 Matthew 3:13-17



There's so much going on in today's Gospel story of Jesus being baptized by John! Jesus came up from the water. The heavens opened. The Spirit of God descended. And a voice was heard: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

These final words in Matthew's baptismal account today must have struck such a chord of joy in Jesus' heart. But they're meant for us too. Do we believe that God is pleased with us? It doesn't matter how many mistakes we've made, how distant we've been from Him, and how much we have taken Him for granted. He is well pleased and doesn't count the cost. Let this same joy that Jesus enjoyed well up from our own baptism and overflow onto others.

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The Second Collection next weekend, January 17/18,  
The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time  
will be for SJB Snow Removal

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### Schedule of Masses next weekend - January 17/18 The 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Msgr. Mike Mellone  
Sunday 7:30 a.m. - Fr. Andrew Wakefield  
9:00 a.m. - Fr. Johnson John  
11:30 a.m. - Fr. Steve Petroff, CSP

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#### 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](http://www.sjbssparish.org)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/sjbcc](https://facebook.com/sjbcc)

## 2026 Prayer Intentions for the Holy Father

### January - For Prayer With The Word Of God

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

## Parish Directory

Please call the Parish Office to contact our Staff.

Parish Office - 301-622-1122

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Wakefield

[pastor@sjbssparish.org](mailto:pastor@sjbssparish.org)

Bulletin Editor: Martha Kerley

[sjbulletin@sjbssparish.org](mailto:sjbulletin@sjbssparish.org)

Child Protection Coordinator: Martha Kerley

[mkerley@sjbssparish.org](mailto:mkerley@sjbssparish.org)

Facilities Manager: Peter Vassiliou

[peter.vassiliou@sjbsilverspring.org](mailto:peter.vassiliou@sjbsilverspring.org)

Music Director: Tracy McDonnell

[music@sjbssparish.org](mailto:music@sjbssparish.org)

Parish Secretary: Mary Frances Vassiliou

[secretary@sjbssparish.org](mailto:secretary@sjbssparish.org)

Religious Education/Faith Formation: Eddie Argauer

[dre@sjbssparish.org](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org)

Sacristan: Glenda Chauncey

301-622-1122

Youth Ministry: Robert Gilmore

[youthministry@sjbssparish.org](mailto:youthministry@sjbssparish.org)

## Parochial School

Principal: Brian Blomquist

[brian.blomquist@sjbsilverspring.org](mailto:brian.blomquist@sjbsilverspring.org)

School Phone: 301-622-3076

School Website: [www.sjbsilverspring.org](http://www.sjbsilverspring.org)

## Websites

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church:

[www.sjbssparish.org](http://www.sjbssparish.org)

SJB Athletic Ministry:

[www.sjbathletics.org](http://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 Sunday/Community Breakfast prepared by the Knights of Columbus. All are welcome.



## Mass Intentions (January 12 - January 18)

- Monday 7:00 - Patrick Duggan (K. Asdorian)  
8:30 - Robert Argauer (R. Gramlich & J. Gramlich)
- Tuesday 7:00 - Gregory Martini -L- (K. & S. Lynch)  
8:30 - In Appreciation to Our Lady of Fatima -L- (M. Rousseau)
- Wednesday 7:00 - Minerva R. Elizalde (D. & M. Elizalde)  
8:30 - Larry Davis (Your Friends at SJB)
- Thursday 7:00 - Veronica Cole (Fr. Andrew)  
8:30 - Souls in Purgatory (A. Hernandez)
- Friday 7:00 - Teresa Flynn -L- (C. Schwab)  
8:30 - Janet Davis (M. Kerley)
- Saturday 9:00 - Sunrise Assisted Living Residents -L- (Parishioners)  
5:00 - Martin Young (C. Schwab)
- Sunday 7:30 - Parishioners  
9:00 - Rose Bernard Rodrigues & Bernable Rodrigues (S. Rodrigues)  
11:30 - Rev. John Barry -L- (J. Creel)

## Parish Clergy

Rev. Andrew Wakefield	Pastor
Rev. Johnson John, CMI	In Residence
Mgr. Michael Mellone	In Residence

## 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.



## January Second Collections

1/11 – Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

1/18 – Snow Removal

1/25 - SJB Building/Maintenance

## \*\*Bulletin Deadline\*\*

January 25 Bulletin & Website deadline

Thursday, January 15, at 9:00 a.m

Send Bulletin announcements to  
[sjbulletin@sjbssparish.org](mailto:sjbulletin@sjbssparish.org)

Send Website announcements to  
[kbrown@sjbssparish.org](mailto:kbrown@sjbssparish.org)



Dear Friends,

We conclude the Christmas season this weekend with our celebration of The Baptism of the Lord. We hear in Matthew's Gospel how John the Baptist, reluctant at first to baptize Jesus, does so after Jesus says, "Allow it now, for this is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Huh?!

Why did Jesus ask to be baptized by John? When we hear of His baptism, we, of course, draw connections to our own as we, too, are baptized with water (yet not, necessarily in the waters of the Jordan River!). John's baptism was one of repentance in light of the nearness of God's kingdom, yet unlike those who flocked to John and like us, Christ Jesus had no need of baptism for He was free of all sin and completely aligned with the will of God. We, however, are all stained with original sin and so need to be cleansed in order to share in the divine nature and the life God desires us to live as His daughters and sons. As is evident from the brokenness of our world and our own weakened ability to resist temptation, we are born into a world with an inherited inclination to evil, the effects of original sin. But as the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons [and daughters] of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission" (CCC 1213).

It is that final statement - "and made sharers in her mission" - that sheds light on why Christ Himself was

baptized, and why He told John the Baptist to allow it. "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," the voice from heaven says after He is baptized, and these words echo the Lord's words through the Prophet Isaiah in our 1st reading, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased." Matthew's Gospel is connecting the "Suffering Servant," to whom Isaiah is referring, to Christ Himself: He is the Suffering Servant, He is the one who is a "light to the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness," as Isaiah says. We already see in Christ's Baptism the trajectory of His ministry that will lead to Calvary.

As we become members of Christ, incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission through our Baptism, we share in that same Suffering Servant mission: we are called to be ministers of mercy through our lives, sharing in Christ's work to bring light to the darkness of the world! Baptism informs our Identity as Christians and fuels our mission, calling us, empowering us with the grace of the Holy Spirit and love, as Christ does. "To fulfill all righteousness" is to live with Christ, a life-long calling to go out into the world through the circumstances of our lives and share in His healing work of drawing all people into God's embrace!

God bless you!

In Christ,  
Fr. Andrew

### Remember in Prayer those who have died

Rita Acker, widow of Robert Acker and sister of the former Jo Carbone;

Robert "Bob" Argauer, father of Eddie Argauer our Director of Faith Formation; and

Geraldine Woytowitz, wife of Don Woytowitz, Sr.

### Youth Group Meeting

Youth Group will meet today, Sunday, January 11, after the 11:30 a.m. Mass in the Kazista Center. We will return to our usual first Sunday of the month schedule in February. If you have not already done so, please register your teen <https://forms.gle/UG6QTF3zfQ1M6zv29> in the Youth Group to keep informed of all the Youth Group events.



### SJB School Open House

The Parish School will hold an open house on Thursday, January 15, for families interested in Catholic school for their children. From 8:30 to 9:30 am, current school parents will lead visitors on tours of the school. Here is a digital sign-up form to reserve your tour: <https://forms.office.com/r/aYmUAhtweZ>



### Thank you from Fr. Jhonson Charlotin, Pastor of our Sister Parish, St. Pierre, Baradères, Haiti

Dear brothers and sisters, dear benefactors of St. Jean Baptiste,

Christmas is a special moment to express how deeply important you are to us. From St. Pierre des Baradères, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this blessed season.

Thanks to your generosity and faithful support, St. Jean Baptiste College continues to shine and to offer hope and a promising future to its students. May this season of sharing bring you the same joy and happiness that you so generously give to our children.

We wish you peace, good health, and prosperity for you and your families. May your Christmas be filled with joy, surrounded by your loved ones, and may the year 2026 be crowned with success, grace, and abundant blessings. Thank you sincerely for standing with us and for your continued support.

With gratitude and prayers,  
Fr. Jhonson Charlotin

## Faith Formation

Eddie Argauer, 301-622-1122, [dre@sjbssparish.org](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org)

### Baptismal Preparation Class

The next Baptismal Preparation Class will be Tuesday, February 3, 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](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org).



### 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](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org) or 301-622-1122.



### 2025 - 2026 Faith Formation

Please contact Eddie Argauer with any Faith Formation questions, [dre@sjbssparish.org](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org) or 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](mailto:eargauer@sjbssparish.org), with any questions or if you would like to help.



### 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](mailto:dre@sjbssparish.org) or call 301-622-1122.

### A peek into school: Middle School Play edition

This just in! Our spring play will be drumroll please... The Addams Family Musical!

Based on the characters created by cartoonist Charles Addams, the Addams family learns about love, change, and celebrating the wonderfully weird side of every family.



Our middle school students are buzzing with excitement and are getting ready for auditions on January 13 and 14. Once roles are assigned, students will jump into weekly rehearsals leading up to our performances on April 30 and May 1.

The school play is a favorite yearly tradition and a fun way for students to build confidence, teamwork, and creativity. We invite families, friends, and students of all ages to come cheer on our performers later this year. We are so proud of every student who bravely auditions and gives theater a try! It's sure to be a spooky, kooky, and altogether ooky time!

### 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 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](mailto:jeff.hafner@aol.com), 703-203-4319.

### Year-End Giving

As we begin a new year, we invite you to consider your parish community in your estate, retirement, and charitable giving. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions, 301-622-1122.

### 2025 Year-End Tax Statement

St. John the Baptist Year End Tax Statements will be mailed to all registered parishioners who made donations in 2025. Statements will be mailed by the end of January. Statements will include Faith Direct and ParishSoft Giving donations. Thank you for your generosity.

### SJB Food Drive - Knights of Columbus

The next St. John the Baptist Knights of Columbus Food Drive will be Saturday, January 17, 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 for your generosity. Volunteers can sign up using the following link or QR Code: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A49AAAE2CA4F8C25-60533497-sjbkofc>.



### ADW Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

Saturday, February 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m., Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Hosted by the Office of Family Life with Bishop Evelio Menjivar-Ayala as principal celebrant, this Mass celebrates the living vocation of all couples who provide a Catholic witness to the beauty of Sacramental Marriage. Please register with your Parish Office by February 6, 2026, to attend the Mass and/or request a certificate in honor of their anniversary year. All married couples and their families are welcome, regardless of how long they have been married. We will mail certificates to parish offices by the end of February.

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