



Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church

12319 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20904

Sunday, August 9, 2026

Ordinary Time: Nineteenth Sunday

Today's Readings: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a Psalm 85 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33



On Saturday, we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary whereby Mary was taken body and soul into heavenly glory. This doctrine, formally defined by Pope Pius XII in 1950, highlights important theological truths.

First, the Assumption affirms the resurrection of the body. Mary shares in a special way in the victory of her Son, Jesus Christ, over sin and death. Her Assumption points to the future destiny of all believers, who hope to be raised to eternal life with Christ. Second, it emphasizes Mary's unique role in salvation history. As the mother of God and the first disciple, Mary cooperated fully with God's grace. Third, the Assumption reveals the dignity of the human person. By being assumed body and soul into heaven, Mary demonstrates that the human body is destined for glory in God's kingdom. Blessed Virgin Mary, pray for us.

Schedule of Masses next weekend - August 15/16, 2026 the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Msgr. Mike Mellone

Sunday 7:30 a.m. - Fr. Conor Hardy

9:00 a.m. - Fr. Andrew Wakefield

11:30 a.m. - Fr. Andrew Wakefield

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:

Tuesdays & Thursdays

7:45 - 8:15 a.m.

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

Rooted in Tradition ~ Led by the Spirit

2026 Prayer Intentions for the Holy Father

August - For evangelization in the city

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Parish Directory

Please call the Parish Office to contact our Staff.

Parish Office - 301-622-1122

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Wakefield

pastor@sjbssparish.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Conor Hardy

assocpastor@sjbssparish.org

Bulletin Editor: Martha Kerley

sjbbulletin@sjbssparish.org

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mkerley@sjbssparish.org

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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

youth@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

Community Sunday/Community Breakfast, which is prepared by the Knights of Columbus, has ended for this school year and will resume when the next school year begins. Please watch the bulletin for more details.



Mass Intentions (August 10 - August 16)

Monday 7:00 - Christopher Akeveeboonne -L- (Peach)
8:30 - Special Intention -L- (Hanlon Family)
Tuesday 7:00 - Maria Santiago (Msgr. Mike)
8:30 - Eileen Cole (N. & C. Cole)
Wednesday 7:00 - Marjorie McIntire Ross (M. Kerley)
8:30 - Eric Cygnarowicz (T. & E. Cygnarowicz)
Thursday 7:00 - Maria Eugenia Rodas (Sr. Claudia)
8:30 - In Appreciation to Our Lady of Fatima -L- (Marie)
Friday 7:00 - Diosdado Ulep (N. Ulep)
8:30 - James Aquino (D. & J. Aquino)
Saturday 9:00 - Special Intention -L- (S. & V. Nguyen)
5:00 - In Thanksgiving -L- (M. & J. Dialino)
Sunday 7:30 - Jim Fitzmaurice (P. Fitzmaurice)
9:00 - Hui Chang (B. Chang)
11:30 - Parishioners

Parish Clergy

Rev. Andrew Wakefield

Pastor

Rev. Conor Hardy

Parochial Vicar

Msgr. 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 - New Time

Adoration will take place every Tuesday & Thursday, 7:30 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 during Adoration.



August Collections

August 22/23 - SJB Building Maintenance

****Bulletin Deadline****

August 23 Bulletin & Website deadline

Thursday, August 13, at 9:00 a.m.

Send Bulletin announcements to

sjbbulletin@sjbssparish.org

Send Website announcements to

mkerley@sjbssparish.org



Dear Friends,

This Sunday, Matthew paints a portrait of Jesus walking majestically across the stormy lake, demonstrating His clear superiority over the forces of nature that terrify the disciples and toss their boat about. Jesus commands Peter to come to Him, who steps out of the boat and begins to walk towards Him, only to become frightened and begin to sink, crying out, "Lord, save me!" And Jesus does just that, He saves Peter, gets into the boat and calms the wind: "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" We cannot help but doubt at times, when the wave and winds of life crash about us, and we feel as though we are sinking. But Christ calls out to us, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid," and that is our constant invitation in life - to walk unafraid, for Christ is there!

As we begin to wind down these weeks of summer, we are preparing for the new academic year that is ahead, getting our campus ready for our teachers and students who return soon and planning for a new year in faith formation. *Religious education for all of our young people in grades 1st-8th who do not otherwise attend a Catholic school begins in a month, and it is time to enroll your children for the 2026-2027 year.* Formation in the Catholic faith is essential for all of our young people (and all of us adults, too!), and religious education strives to deepen our young people's faith and their relationship with Jesus Christ. Scheduled between our 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Masses so that all of our

families may attend either Mass, religious education classes seek to support you, parents, in your duty to raise your children in the knowledge and practice of the faith.

Additionally, we are planning for the upcoming year in the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), a journey in which adults (or teens, in the Order of Christian Initiation for Teens) learn more about our faith and prayerfully discern God's call to receive the sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation). If you, or those you know, may be interested in learning more about these ministries, please reach out to Eddie Argauer, our Director of Faith Formation, in our Parish Office for more information.

Finally, plan to join us for our 4th annual St. John the Baptist Parish Picnic on Sunday, September 13, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass (rain date September 20). Please RSVP so we can prepare enough food by using the postcard mailed to all Active Households of the Parish, signup on our website (www.sjbssparish.org) or call the Parish Office. There is no cost to attend, but free will donations are gratefully accepted to help defer the costs. Join us for what will be a great afternoon of community fellowship, faith, and fun! Please see the bulletin for more information.

Wishing you continued blessings!

In Christ,
Fr. Andrew

Remember in Prayer those who have died

Melissa Hope Davis, daughter of Edward & Diana C. Davis

A message from Fr. Manny:

I want to thank your pastor and my friend Fr. Andrew for inviting me to assist with liturgies here at St. John the Baptist for the past two years. It has been wonderful celebrating with you all and getting to know you. Unfortunately, my time with you is cut short because my Conventual Franciscan community is calling me to take on a new role in Syracuse, New York. I'll be chaplain at the Syracuse University Catholic Center beginning later this month. I'm looking forward to this ministry; I'm also bracing myself for the colder weather. I will certainly invest in a pair of good boots and plenty of layers! Hopefully I can come down and visit you occasionally with an update; I'll at least have a chance to say my goodbye to you in person at the Mass today, August 9, at 11:30 a.m. You're also welcome to come up north and pay me a visit. Peace and all good things!

Fr. Emanuel Vasconcelos, OFM Conv.



Pax Christi Meeting - August 23

On Sunday August 23, Pax Christi - St John the Baptist will hold their inaugural meeting for the upcoming year. All parishioners are invited and welcome to attend, as well as, to participate fully in our group which is part of Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement. The meeting will be held in the Large Conference Room of the Kazista Center from 10 to 11:15 a.m. More information will be available at our meeting, as well as, by contacting our Outreach Coordinator Bill Backof, billbackof@gmail.com or 202-604-7442.



SJB Parish & School Picnic

Please mark your calendar for our SJB Parish and School picnic on September 13, with a rain date of September 20. An opportunity for fingerprinting will be provided. Please see page five of this bulletin for picnic and fingerprint signup information. We signup for the picnic so we can make sure we have enough food.



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

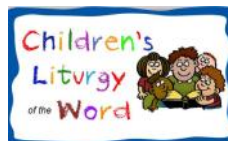
Baptismal Preparation Class

The next Baptismal Preparation Class will be Tuesday, September 1, 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.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Children's Liturgy of the Word will return this Fall. Please watch the bulletin later this Summer for more details.



OCIA Program this Fall

Are you curious about the Catholic Church? Missing sacraments or seeking a deeper faith? We welcome you to OCIA, a journey of prayer, Scripture, questions, answers, and fellowship. Come explore Catholic beliefs, experience community, and discern God's call at your own pace with guidance and support. All are welcome, no previous experience required, just an open and searching heart. The OCIA program begins on Tuesday, September 29, and continues through the Easter season. Please contact Eddie Argauer at dre@sjbssparish.org for more information and registration.



Registration for 2026 - 2027 Faith Formation has begun:

Please fill out a registration form (see pages five & six.)

Bring/mail the form and a check for the appropriate amount to the Parish Office (see below)

Questions? Email Eddie Argauer, dre@sjbssparish.org

All families will be automatically enrolled in Flocknote for all Faith Formation communication.

Faith Formation Classes (Sunday School classes) begin September 13



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, 703-203-4319.



St. John the Baptist Church Faith Formation / Religious Education 2026-2027

**Faith Formation for Grades 1-8 is in
School on Sundays 10:15-11:25 a.m.**

The last day registrations will be accepted is Thursday, Sept. 9th

All Classes (Gr. 1-8) Begin: Sunday, September 13, 2026.

Confirmation Grade 8 *

***Separate Registration Form**

# of Children	Early Discount Registration - through Aug. 17, 2026 -		Regular Registration - after Aug. 17, 2026 -	
	Registered/Active Parishioners	Non-Registered Families**	Registered/Active Parishioners	Non-Registered Families**
1 child	\$225	\$275	\$250	\$325
2 children	\$300	\$325	\$325	\$425
3 or more children	\$325	\$375	\$350	\$475

Make checks payable to *St. John the Baptist*. Complete both sides of Registration/Emerg Contact Form. Return all to Parish Office. Tuition supports only part of the costs. The remainder is subsidized by weekly envelope collections.

**If you are not registered at St. John's we will need a letter of permission from your pastor to attend these classes.

To register your child for First Reconciliation and First Communion Prep, please call or visit the Parish Office: 301-622-1122. First Reconciliation must be received before Holy Communion. No additional fees.

Active parishioners are registered parishioners who regularly attend Mass and consistently support the parish.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Faith Formation / Religious Education Registration
2026-2027

All classes start on Sunday, September 13, 2026, and will take place in the School.

Please see separate sheet for times, tuition and discount.

Attach a copy of baptismal certificate if child was not baptized at SJB or if you have not sent one during the past 4 years.

Return completed registration form **with payment to:** St. John the Baptist, Parish Office -12319 New Hampshire Ave., S.S., MD 20904

Absolute Deadline for Registering is Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026.

	Last Name	First Name	Gender	Birth Date	School	Grade Sept.'26	Baptism Date/ Place	1st Reconciliation Date/Place	1st Eucharist Date/Place
1									
2									
3									

Father's Name	Father's Religion	Email Address	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone
Mother's Name	Mother's Religion	Email Address	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone

Mailing Address (please circle):

Mother Father Both Other _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Is the family formally registered in the parish? | YES | NO |
| <i>-if you don't know, please call the Parish Office-</i> | | |
| 2. Do you need to apply for tuition assistance? | YES | NO |

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Date Received: _____

Check #: _____ Amt: _____

Cash: _____

Parish Registration _____

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Faith Formation / Religious Education Emergency Information Form
2026-2027

	Student's Name	Medication	Allergies	Describe any health issues.	Describe any learning or attention issues.	Does your child have an IEP or 504 Plan? * If "yes" you must provide a copy.	
						*Yes	No
1							
2							
3							

Insurance Information:

Insurance Name: _____ Policy Number: _____

Physician's Name: _____ Physician's Phone: _____

 Person to Contact in case of emergency (if parent is unavailable): _____ Relationship to child(ren): _____
 _____ Emergency Contact Phone # _____
Consent to Treat:

I authorize the staff of St. John the Baptist (salaried and/or volunteer) to administer First Aid and/or take my child to a physician or hospital for emergency treatment in the event it appears necessary and neither parent nor guardian can be contacted. (St. John's staff may contact the Rescue Squad in emergency situations.)

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Parish Picnic - September 13

Please join us for our Parish/School Picnic on Sunday, September 13, following the 11:30 a.m. Mass, behind the Church near the Lyon

Center. There will be live music, pizza truck, moon bounce, kids' activities, games, Virtus fingerprinting, and the Lions Club will be on site providing glaucoma, vision and hearing screening. If there is inclement weather, the rain date is September 20.

RSVP - So we can order enough food, please sign-up now on our website at www.sjbssparish.org, call the Parish Office at 301-622-1122, or return the response card that was mailed to parishioners on July 27. The card may also be put in the Weekly Offertory Basket. Please RSVP no later than Wednesday, September 9, if you plan to attend. Free Will donations are appreciated and can be put into the Weekly Offertory Basket with "Parish Picnic" written on the memo line of your check or on your cash envelope. Donations may also be dropped off at the Parish Office.

Fingerprinting for Virtus Certification for those who wish to volunteer at St. John's will be available at the picnic. Please see the fingerprint sign-up on this page.

We look forward to seeing you on September 13!



Fingerprinting for Virtus Certification at the SJB Community Picnic

This year at our SJB Parish/School Picnic, Sunday, September 13, we will have a fingerprinting station beginning at 1:00 p.m. for all those wanting to volunteer at St. John's. Adults in the archdiocese must have child-protection (Virtus) certification to volunteer with children, and fingerprinting is needed to become Virtus Certified. American Identity Solutions will have a fingerprinting station at the picnic in the School Library off the back parking lot. If you are already Virtus Certified, you do not need to complete these steps again.



To Do

1. If you are interested in being fingerprinted during the picnic, please complete an interest form on our website <https://www.sjbssparish.org>.
2. Before the picnic, create a Virtus account at <https://www.virtus.org>. At the bottom of the Virtus account setup page, please sign up for the "Protecting God's Children Online Awareness Session 4" training class, which is online and completed at your own pace.
3. Complete the [ADW Volunteer Application Form.pdf](#) and bring it to the fingerprinting station.

To Bring

1. Bring a completed printed copy of the [Livescan Pre-Registration Form.pdf](#) to the fingerprinting station to ensure that SJB is notified of your clearance.
2. Bring a government issued ID which can be your Real-ID driver's license, U.S. passport, birth certificate or U.S. Social Security card..
3. Bring a credit card for payment. The cost of fingerprinting is \$64. If you Volunteer to be a coach at St. John's, your fingerprinting fee can be reimbursed by the SJB Athletic Ministry, so keep your payment receipt.

If you need printed copies of the aforementioned forms, please contact Martha Kerley, mkerley@sjbssparish.org.

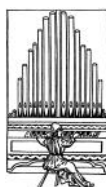
SJB Summer Playgroup

Families of children aged 0-3 are invited to a Wednesday Summer Playgroup from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on August 12 and 19. We'll meet on the Pre-K playground for play and fellowship. If you are interested in joining us, please email Jules Martin (jules.martin@sjbsilverspring.org).



New Organ Contributions

For all those interested in contributing to the purchase of a new organ please write Organ Donation on your check's memo line and place it in the Sunday Offertory basket or mail/drop your donation at the Parish Office, St. John the Baptist, 12319 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20904. You may also give through ParishSoft Giving by selecting the Music Support Fund.



New - SJB Food Drive - Knights of Columbus

The St. John the Baptist Knights of Columbus food collection for the St. Camillus Food Pantry will be on Saturday, August 15, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The regular schedule will begin in September. Please watch the bulletin **for the start date**.



Gabriel Network

Many mothers in our communities' face pregnancy without the support they truly need. Gabriel Network (gabrielnetwork.org) provides practical, emotional and spiritual care for these women. If you encounter a pregnant mother who may need support - or if you would like to support our work - please reach out. We are ready to walk alongside her with compassion and care. Please contact Angelica Jorgensen at angelica.jorgensen@gabrielnetwork.org for more information. Together we can ensure no mother faces pregnancy alone.



Pilgrimage to Greece & Turkey with Fr. Andrew, April 5-15, 2027

To learn more about the Greece and Tuesday trip with St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and to register, please visit canterburypilgrimages.com or call 1-800-653-0017.

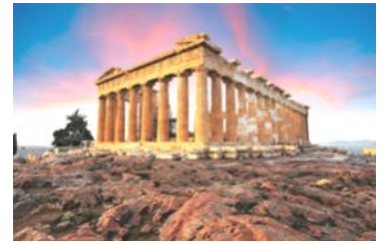
Pilgrimage includes:

Roundtrip flights from Washington, DC, with one check-in, one carry-on and one personal item;
 3-night Greek Isle cruise with daily breakfast, lunch, and dinner aboard the cruise;
 4-star hotel accommodations;
 breakfast and dinner served daily;
 wine served with some dinners;
 private motorcoach transportation;
 dedicated Canterbury tour director;
 licensed guiding & admission fees;
 audio headsets when touring;
 tips for restaurant & hotel staff;
 daily Mass & spiritual activities;
 custom name & luggage tag;
 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. (EST) reservation support;
 24/7 travel emergency support.

Cities visited will be:

Athens;
 Ancient Corinth – Cenchreae;
 Mykonos;
 Kusacasi – Ephesus – Patmos;
 Santorini;
 Delphi – Metéora;
 Betrea – Thessaloniki;
 Kavala – Philippi.

Pricing per person: \$5,250 Double Room extra \$999 for single room; \$1,000 less for Ground only (No airfare.)



SJB's Social Justice Committee Received an Urgent Request for Short-Term Help From the New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA)

NNIA is helping a young Afghan family living in the White Oak Towers high rise on Old Columbia Pike. They are a father, mother, 3 1/2 year old son, and 18-month-old son. The younger boy recently received a bone marrow transplant at Children's Hospital in NE DC to treat a rare auto immune disease. NNIA is currently building a roster of volunteers to drive the mother and children to twice-a-week check-ups at Children's Hospital. (The father is working and is unable to stay home with the older child.) Their appointments could be as early as 9:00 am and as late as 4:00 p.m. so some appointments might involve rush hour trips. Drivers will have to help carry the two car seats from the apartment and install them in the vehicle and must wear a mask. Driver will stay with the older boy during the appointment. He is not allowed in the restricted area of the hospital.

Can you please help? The more drivers the better! Some volunteers may drive just once a year. Other volunteers may drive once a week. Please share this request with your friends. And let us pray in gratitude to Divine Providence for the bone marrow transplant from a donor in Germany. God be praised! If you are able to help, please send an email to Fr. Andrew (pastor@sjbssparish.org).

The Story of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - August 15

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.



We find homilies on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names – Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption – from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary's assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God's people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman's victory. Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus' life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary's share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven. Source: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/assumption-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary/>.

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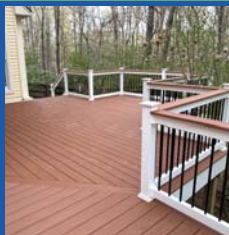
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