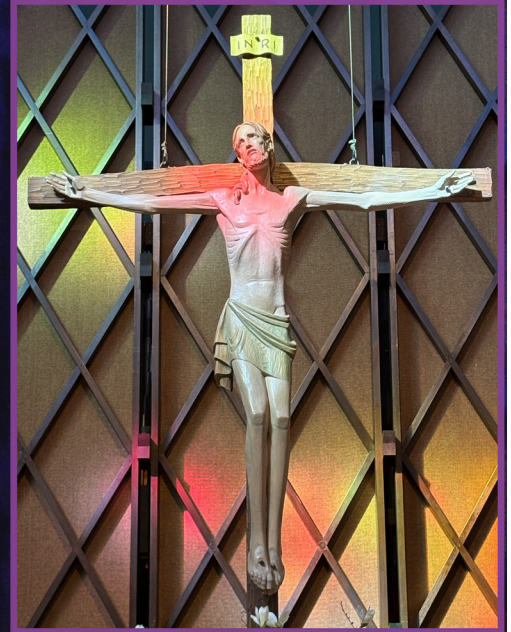


# SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

69 VALLEY STREET, HILLSDALE NJ 07642 • STJOHNHILLSDALE.ORG

*Jesus came into this World,  
Lived among us,  
Died and Rose Again*  
**WITH YOU ON HIS MIND.**



APRIL 6, 2025

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

*Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart;  
for I am gracious and merciful. — Joel 2:12-13*

### PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. Peter Smutelovic

### WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Bogumil Misiuk

### 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

Cathy Wollyung, Faith Formation  
Kathy Breitenbach, Registrar / CCD  
Roberto Sabastiani, Director of Music  
Paulette Gilchrist, Safe Environment Coordinator  
Dee Ford, Youth Ministry

#### • 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

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,

Every day closer to Holy Week and our Easter celebrations we are being drawn to the mystery of God's plan of our salvation, through life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our Redeemer. We use that wondrous term, "mystery" with joy, but also with great humility, recognizing that the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ has a very personal dimension. In the mysterious plan of the Almighty, Jesus lived among us, suffered, died and rose from death for you and me.

In the early days of this Lenten Season we embarked together on our Saint John the Baptist Parish Family's journey of "walking together with Jesus through Lent." The expression "walking together" describes a human and spiritual "motion" of a community of brothers and sisters who enjoy "being together" and believe that this "togetherness" is important and life-giving for them and their families. And it requires an ability "to get up and walk." Perhaps, that's what we think today. In a few days we will - I believe - reconsider what that "walking" on the journey with brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as with our family members and friends, actually means.

I can't wait to welcome in our midst on Thursday evening at 7PM a good friend, Scott Chesney, who, following his mysterious and absolutely unexpected paralysis, while asleep at the age of 15 due to a very rare medical condition called "a spinal stroke," has during these past almost 40 years traveled to 44 different countries and has spoken to over 1.7 million people about overcoming even the greatest challenges in life. Scott's talks have inspired countless people throughout the world to a deeper desire to grow and "walk" toward better, more prosperous and more harmonious tomorrows. And while Scott's message of human and personal resilience and growth has been embraced and lauded by all different audiences of our modern world, the spiritual dimension of that life journey and the fact that our loving and eternal God always lifts us up through the challenges of life, will be the Lenten message of faith, hope and joy which Scott will share with us. I hope that you can all join us. Scott's presence among us, as well as his heartfelt personal witness is certainly also for each and every one of us a wonderful opportunity to invite our family members, friends, neighbors, classmates, colleagues, teammates or business associates to our Saint John the Baptist Church and allow them to experience the great spirit of the love of God, community, human concern, and spiritual growth which we all share in this "Spiritual Home" of ours. God bless you all!

-Fr. Peter

**SENDING HEALING PRAYERS TO:**

Robert F. Mercandino, Daisy Fuentes, Ruth Del Valle, James Carbone, Maxine Fleming, Christine Knitel, John Keegan, Patricia Harkin, Thomas Pedoto, Jessica Chase, Felix Rivera, Angie McCarthy, Martin Huvane

**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED**

Patricia Scherf, Christopher Carey

Mass *Intentions*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5**

5:00 PM Jim Lyons

**SUNDAY, APRIL 6**

8:00 AM Gerald S. Crowley

10:00 AM Michael Klingele

12:00 PM Michael Lyons

**MONDAY, APRIL 7**

8:00 AM Richard Myhren

**TUESDAY, APRIL 8**

8:00 AM Donna Meyer Tinsley

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9**

8:00 AM Gabino M. Roche, Sr.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10**

8:00 AM Diane Frolich

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11**

8:00 AM Autumn Mallet  
(3rd Anniversary)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12**

8:00 AM Donna Meyer Tinsley

5:00 PM Kay & Lino Caldera  
(Living)

**SUNDAY, APRIL 13**

8:00 AM Mary Ann O'Sullivan

10:00 AM Ronald Zelencich

12:00 PM Patrick, Donna &  
Family (Living)

**THE VOTIVE CANDLE BURNS  
IN MEMORY OF**

**BOB HIGGINS**

**AT THE REQUEST OF  
THE WILLIAMSON FAMILY**

**THE BREAD & WINE ARE GIVEN  
IN MEMORY OF**

**KEN HOUREGAN**

**AT THE REQUEST OF  
FRANK & YOLANDA D'AQUILA**

# OUR *Lent* 2025

## LET US PLAN OUR EASTER TOGETHER HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULES

### PALM SUNDAY APRIL 12/13

5:00pm (Sat.)

8:00am (Sun.)

10:00am (Sun.)

12:00pm (Sun.)

*For those who wish to join us outside, we will initiate the Mass with a reading of the Gospel, prayers and then procession from the St. John the Baptist statue area.*

### HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 17

MORNING PRAYER

8:00am

LITURGY OF THE  
LORD'S SUPPER

7:00pm

*Church open for private prayer until 11:00pm*

### GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18

MORNING PRAYER

8:00am

LITURGY OF THE  
LORD'S PASSION

3:00pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

7:00pm

### HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 19

MORNING PRAYER

8:00am

EASTER BASKETS BLESSING

12:00pm

EASTER VIGIL

8:00pm

### EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 20

EASTER MASS

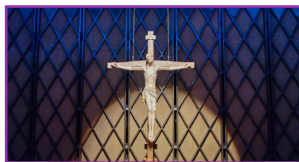
8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm



## WEEKLY DEVOTIONS



### DAILY MASS

8:00 am

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm

### EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING & EVENING PRAYER

Thursdays 6:00 pm this week,  
due to speaker event at 7pm

### CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY

7:00 am - 7:00 pm



### THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Let's gratefully and prayerfully  
accompany Jesus.

### THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS COME AND PRAY WITH US

Fridays 8:30 am  
(following 8:00 am Mass)

Fridays 7:00 pm





Sundays 9:15 am

OUR *Lent* 2025 

# LET'S PLACE IT BY THE CROSS OF THE SUFFERING CHRIST



***JESUS PERHAPS THINKS THAT OTHERS  
NEED IT MORE THAN YOU DO.***

-  Have you been looking for a while at some of your “stuff” and realizing that you are not using it anymore?
-  Have you renewed & replaced some older belongings and you still don't know what to do with them?
-  Do your cabinets, closets, basements and storage areas need some major “Lenten re-examination” and cleanup?
-  Would you like to do something extra for Jesus and something special for other brothers and sisters in need?



## ***DONATIONS NEEDED***

- All spring/summer clothing for kids, young people & adults in good condition
- All sizes of shoes & sneakers in good condition
- Plates, cups, utensils, knives, and other kitchen supplies
- Lamps, small rugs, pictures, wall decorations and home decor
- Comforters, bed sheets, towels & all other bathroom supplies
- Toiletries/personal hygiene supplies for all ages
- Canned or safely packaged food

Thank you to our parishioners Mr. Alex Velecela ([alex.velecela@marleyintermodal.com](mailto:alex.velecela@marleyintermodal.com)) and the Velecela Family for providing a safe and pro-bono transportation of all our donations to Mercy House.

May our generous God bless you and reward you!

**SATURDAY,  
APRIL 12, 2025  
9AM – 1PM**

***Donations can be dropped off the Saturday of Palm Sunday Weekend  
in the Main Parking Area of St. John the Baptist***

**A Family Lent Event**  
All Are Welcome!

# SCOTT CHESNEY

*Motivational Speaker*

## WHEN **GOD** LIFTS YOU UP THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE



**Thursday, April 10**  
7:00 pm

### Join Us and Be Inspired!



Scott Chesney is a world-renowned motivational speaker who has presented to over 1.7 million people in 44 countries. Known as “The Commander in Change” by his friends and audiences, Scott is a navigator of life with paralysis for nearly 40 years after awakening to paralysis at the age of 15 from a sudden spinal stroke. Scott has amassed a resume of transformational experiences, powerful insights, and inspiring stories that cut to the core of the human spirit.



He has become a nationally and internationally recognized workshop and keynote presenter, and his positive and inspiring messages have changed countless lives. His insights have been coveted and applauded by the Fortune 500 corporations, the Pentagon, the FBI, the United Nations, sports teams, hospitals/rehab centers, associations, and schools.



In addition, Scott is an Ambassador for the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, a member of the Seton Hall University Leadership Advisory Council, a member of the Board of Trustees for The Knowles Foundation, and a member of the National Speakers Association (NSA). He has also served on the Board of Trustees for Children’s Specialized Hospital. Scott graduated from Seton Hall University in 1992 with a B.A. degree in Communications. A documentary of Scott’s life entitled “Ride the Wave” was released worldwide in the Spring of 2020.

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH**

69 Valley St, Hillsdale NJ | [StJohnHillsdale.org](http://StJohnHillsdale.org)

# OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

## SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025

Envelope & In Pew Giving: \$9,114  
Online Giving via Faith Direct: 4,930

**TOTAL** \$14,044

## 2024

Easter  
Sunday

## BUDGET

\$ 7,900  
\$5,000

\$12,900

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

## PLEASE HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!



So far we have received \$77,267 in pledges and donations for the 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. We are very grateful to the 175 families and individual parishioners who have helped us with this campaign. Our goal is \$88,600. We're almost there!

Please complete a pledge envelope - they are at the doors of the church. The envelopes may be returned in the collection basket or to the Rectory Office or even mailed directly. You may also make your pledge online by using the QR code or by visiting [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing). **Please indicate on all pledges and donations that you are a member of St. John the Baptist Parish in Hillsdale.**

May God bless you always for helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

### BEREAVEMENT GROUP MINISTRY AT ST. PIUS X PARISH, OLD TAPPAN

**"Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted."**

Everyone will experience grief at some point in time and it can be overwhelming. If you are grieving the loss of a spouse, parent, child, sibling or other family or friend, you are not alone in your grief. St. Pius X Parish (268 Old Tappan Road, Old Tappan) is holding a series of bereavement meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00 - 8:00pm. The meetings are on April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28 and June 4, 11. This is a short time to hopefully help you to feel a lot better. Repeat grievers are welcome.

Please contact Lorraine Delling at:  
lldelling@gmail.com or 201-722-0982.

### 2025 ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples from our Archdiocese who will be celebrating 5, 25 and 50 years of Catholic marriage in The Jubilee year 2025. This year there will be one anniversary liturgy for all couples from all counties. **The liturgy will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin on Sunday, June 1 at 3:00pm** at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. All family members are welcome.

To register, please call the Rectory before May 3: 201-664-3131.

*Happy Anniversary  
and God Bless You!*

**"We must trust in the mighty power of God's mercy.  
We are all sinners, but His grace transforms us and makes us new."**

*— Pope Benedict XVI (1927 - 2022)*