ALL SAINTS DAY
YOUR REWARD WILL BE GREAT IN HEAVEN.
MATTHEW 5:12
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
1488 NORTH COUNTRY RD, WADING RIVER, NY 11792
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026
©LPI

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Phone: 631-929-4339

| | |
|---|---|
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| Preschool Secretary: Christine Ellis, ext. 119 | preschool@sjbwr.org |
| Preschool Phone: 631-929-3220 | |

Maintenance: Servio Ortiz

Weekend Priests Assistant: Msgr. John Bennett, Father Tom Haggerty

Parish Outreach Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10am-2pm

Parish Office Hours: Monday- Thursday, 9:00a.m.- 4:00p.m.

Website: www.sjbwr.org

General Mailbox/Front Desk: ext. 110. Contact us by email: office@sjbwr.org

# Eternal Sainty Life!

E-mail Father Ralph: shepherd@sjbwr.org

## Did you vote?

One of the privileges of being a citizen in America is the ability to freely vote for our leaders. Some have already voted but if you haven't voted yet, please do so on Tuesday. Some folks only vote in "presidential years" but the local elections often affect our day to life more. So help choose leaders who will serve our nation, our state and our neighborhood.

## Saints Marching In!

Happy feast day everyone! Although we might not exactly be saints yet, we are saints in training. We need not dress in a saint costume to be saintly -- in fact consider this: Whatever you wear tomorrow IS your saint's costume! Let your apparel be a reminder of the saint within: a person who is forgiving, generous, healing, and a witness to God's love.

It was a dark and stormy night. And over in Ireland darkness comes earlier, especially in the northern latitudes. That's because the earth changes its tilt each year as it travels around the sun. But the ancient Druids did not know this. They got worried that the shortening of the days would eventually progress until there was nothing but darkness and death. So, rituals developed involving death -- and our celebration of Halloween, with its ghosts and goblins, is a descendant of the early Druid doings.

When Christianity spread through Ireland, it was hard to do away with the pagan culture, celebrations and rituals that were part of people's lives. (Do you think it would work today if Halloween was banned? I don't think so!) So the Christians put a feast of the living right at the time when the Druids were doing their feast of the dead. ALL SAINTS DAY!! Yes, we as Christians know that death is not the end. We are offered everlasting life in heaven.

So if you're wondering why we have a holy day honoring saints at this time of the year, it's thanks to the Druids of old. After the Halloween fun, we put aside the gross and the ghostly, and get on with the business of eternal life. Today, let's celebrate together the living ones -- the saints, who give us examples of how ordinary people finished their lives as faithful disciples of the Lord.

All Saint's Day is followed tomorrow with ALL SOUL'S DAY. We still can't get away from the reality of death that the Druid culture dabbled in.So at this time of the year we remember those who have died on this special day. We pray for all those who have died — we've added an evening Mass tomorrow night at 7:30 for those who cannot come out to our 8:30am All Soul's Mass. We will have a reception after Mass for the families of those who we buried this past year.

There is still time to remember all our beloved dead at a novena of nine masses which begins on Monday. You can enroll your loved ones on line at our website www.sjbwr.org or by returning the envelope that is available at the doors of the church or by using the form on page 7. This is a gentle time to experience God's comfort and one another's support.

Father Ralph

# TALES FROM THE CRYPT: RELICS

**M**y grandmother died in 1989. I still have her Rosary beads which she used every day to pray for my family and myself. When I take them out, I remember her and can see the light blue crystal beads moving through her fingers. It is a physical object that connects me not only to Grandma but also to the legacy of faith that she passed on to our family.

**T**he church also has mementos of its loved ones. These precious heirlooms are relics of the saints. When a holy person dies, their followers often keep items associated with them, or even parts of their bodies, to remember their sanctity. Relics are not simply historical reminders; God often allows these to be vehicles of divine grace for those who honor the saint.

**T**he Church organizes relics into three categories which have to do with the proximity to the saint's life. A first (or highest) degree relic refers to the mortal remains. It could be bones, hair, muscle tissue, etc. This category also includes relics of the Passion, such as a sliver of the True Cross or a thorn from the crown placed on Jesus' head. If you watched the recent beautification liturgy of Archbishop Fulton Sheen, you may have noticed that the bones of his lower jaw and right index finger were part of the procession at the beginning of the Mass. Both were indicative of his television ministry. The tongue of St. Anthony, a powerful preacher in the Middle Ages, is venerated in the basilica in Padua, Italy. Presently, the relics (rib and knee cap) of St. Bernadette, the visionary of Lourdes, are touring the United States.

**S**econd class relics are items that belonged to, or were used by a saint, such as clothing, books, religious items, or the instruments used in the death of a martyr. The robe of St. Francis can be viewed in the basilica in Cortona, Tuscany; the iron chains that bound St. Peter are located in the Basilica di San Pietro in Vincoli (St. Peter in Chains) in Rome. Many churches have a glove or sock used by Padre Pio to cover his stigmata. Third class relics are items such as a prayer card, rosary, or piece of cloth that have been touched to a first class relic.

**H**ow do we know an object is a true relic? First class relics will have a certificate of authenticity signed by a bishop. It will be in a locked reliquary or *theca* (small locket), tied with red thread and sealed with red wax bearing the church crest. Continuous historical tradition is also verified (especially for relics prior to the sixth century). Lately, scientific analysis and modern forensic tools are used. Only those relics with church approval can be displayed publicly. Under church law, a first class relics cannot be sold; according to criminal law, it is illegal to sell or buy body parts, no matter how small. (Don't purchase a relic off Facebook Marketplace!)

**R**elics are sacramentals (meant to help our faith) and are often venerated by churches and individuals. They have been associated with divine assistance when a saint's prayers are invoked. There are instances when a first class relic has been touched to a sick or dying patient and the person has recovered.

**C**atholics don't worship relics and we are not obligated to believe in their validity. We worship the Creator, not the ones who are created. However, relics can connect us to those who have faithfully lived out their Christian life and who are now in the presence of the Lord where we all hope to be.

**All you holy men and women, pray for us. Happy All Saints Day!**
— Cheryl

Emma Ellis

Head Drum Major of the 181st Band of the Fighting Irish at the University of Notre Dame

Emma is a parishioner of St. John the Baptist and a 2023 graduate of Riverhead H.S. She is a senior Electrical Engineering major with a minor in Music at the University of Notre Dame. Emma has been a proud member of the Band of the Fighing Irish piccolo section since she was a Freshman. Emma and her younger brother John, a Sophomore in the clarinet section, enjoy playing in the band together. Emma has the honor of serving as Head Drum Major for the 2026 Notre Dame Football Season. Emma's mom, Christine is our office preschool secretary! Go Irish!

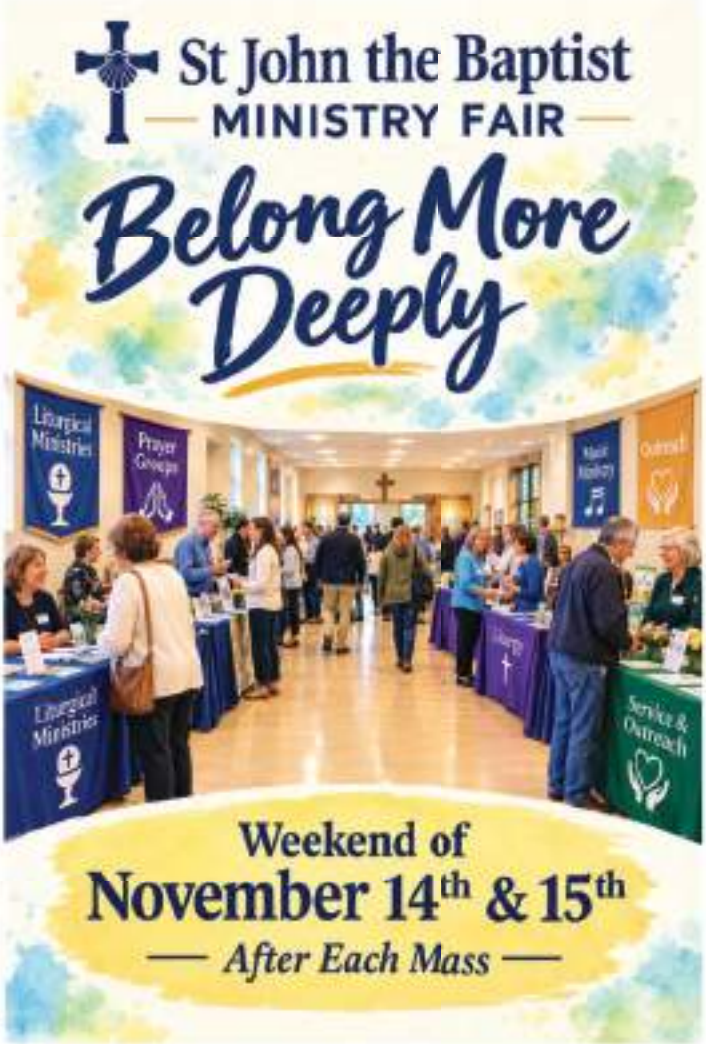
# Religious Education News

**For Catechists:**
Don't forget that we're presenting another in our "Ten Things to Know" series -- this time it is about Advent.
Monday Nov 2nd 9am
Wednesday, Nov 11
7pm

**Congratulations!**
To all the 4th graders who received their bibles last weekend.
We hope you are enjoying reading the Word of God!

**Make-up meeting for Communion Parents**
Level TWO
(2nd grade)
If you missed this important communion meeting, we are offering it a second time on Election Day evening (Nov 3rd).

7pm in the church



## Ten Things to Know about Advent

Would you like the time before Christmas to be a lot less CRAZY this year? Come and discover the amazing and calm spirituality of the Season of Advent, which begins later this month.

Come to either presentation:
Monday, November 2 at 9am
and
Wednesdays November 11 at 7pm
You can RSVP here: **sjbwr.org/tenthings**

OCIA

**Adults looking to be baptized, confirmed and receive communion...**
Looking to become Catholic?
Are you or someone you know in need of Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation? Whether you're new to the faith, returning after time away, or simply missed a sacrament along the way, we welcome you!
We meet between Sunday Masses to learn about and explore our Catholic Faith through open discussion. There is opportunity to learn more about the sacraments, the Bible and the Catholic Church. **The atmosphere is welcoming, lively and fun! Now** is a wonderful time to take the next step on your faith journey. For more information or to begin the process, please give us a call at **(631) 929-4339**.

We traditionally pray for our loved ones who have died through a nine-day novena of Masses. You can enroll your loved ones online -- go to our website: **www.sjbwr.org** and click on the All Souls link. Or return this form in an envelope.

**Please enroll my loved one(s) in the All Souls Novena**

(Print names here)

Your Name: _____

*Please include a donation in your envelope and bring to church.*

# St. John the Baptist Preschool

## We welcome new students

## Want to know more?

631.929.3220

| | |
|---|---|
| **Talented Twos** | **2-yr-olds** |
| Monday/Wednesday AM | 9:30 AM - 11:45 AM |
| Tuesday/Thursday AM | 9:30 AM - 11:45 AM |
| **Nursery** | **3-yr-olds** |
| Tuesday/Thursday AM | 9:00AM - 11:30 AM |
| Monday/Wednesday/Friday AM | 9:00AM - 11:30 AM |
| Monday-Friday AM | 9:00AM - 11:30 AM |
| Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday PM | 12:15 PM - 2:45PM |
| **Pre-Kindergarten** | **4-yr-olds** |
| Monday - Friday AM | 9:15 AM - 12:00 PM |
| Monday/Wednesday/Friday AM | 9:15 AM - 12:00 PM |
| Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday PM | 12:15 PM - 2:45 PM |

The Pre-School community joins in remembering the legacy of Jane Brady who founded the school in 1979 and who died a week ago. She will always be remembered as a woman of faith who gave her life in service of children.

# Now Thank We All our God!

Our annual **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Prayer Service** and community gathering is being hosted by Saint John the Baptist parish this year. We invite our parishioners to join with our Christian brothers and sisters from neighboring churches to give thanks to God for all our blessings. Nothing pleases a grandma more than seeing her whole family gathered at the Thanksgiving Table. So too, God is so pleased when all of the children of God are gathered together in unity. Come, be part of this wonderful gathering.

**Sunday, November 22nd • 4pm • Saint John's Church**

Parish Outreach

"Love One Another"

**Baked beans**
**Mayonnaise**
**Stuffing**
**Coffee**
**Tea**
**Cookies**
**Snacks**

**Peanut butter**
**Laundry soap**
**Dish soap**
**Razors**
**Tissues**
**DOG FOOD**

**Anything you can give is always greatly appreciated!**

**It's Turkey Tag Time**

Pick up a turkey tag after Mass next weekend to provide a Thanksgiving meal for a family in need.

## The challenge ahead...

Due to our economy,
the price of food
the price of gas
the price of electricity
**the price of heating oil**
are all increasing!

We are anticipating an increase in requests for heating oil assistance.

I know this is currently affecting everyone.

Now just imagine the challenge the people coming to Outreach face.

They are on a limited income, which was already challenged.

They are trying to feed their family, pay their bills, and heat their homes.

During the months of November, December, January and February

We are having a fuel assistance collection the second week of the month.

(If the need is not there, we will cancel the collections.)

--Debbie O'Hare
Outreach Director

# MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, October 31**,
5:15 p.m. Andrea Nocito

**Sunday, November 1, All Saints**
8:00 a.m. Thomas Guida
10:30 a.m. Mary Weilandt, Ruth Nickdow, Racael and Nicholas Dilieto

**Monday, November 2, All Souls**
8:30 a.m. For the people of St. John the Baptist

**Tuesday, November 3**,
8:30 a.m. Birthday intentions for Gina Davis and Frank DiFilippo

**Wednesday, November 4,**
8:30 a.m. For the people of St. John the Baptist

**Thursday, November 5,**
8:30 a.m. Robert Doepper

**Saturday, November 7**,
5:15 p.m. Thomas Condzella, Jane Brady

**Sunday, November 8,**
8:00 a.m. Robert, Caroline and James Munroe
10:30 a.m. John F. Reilly, Jill Passantino, Frankl Mattfield

***Please pray for our recently departed.***

***May they all rest in peace.***

**Upcoming Baptism Dates on these Sunday at 12:00p.m.**

**2026**

**November 15**
**December 20**

**2027**

**January 17**
**February 21**
**March 14**

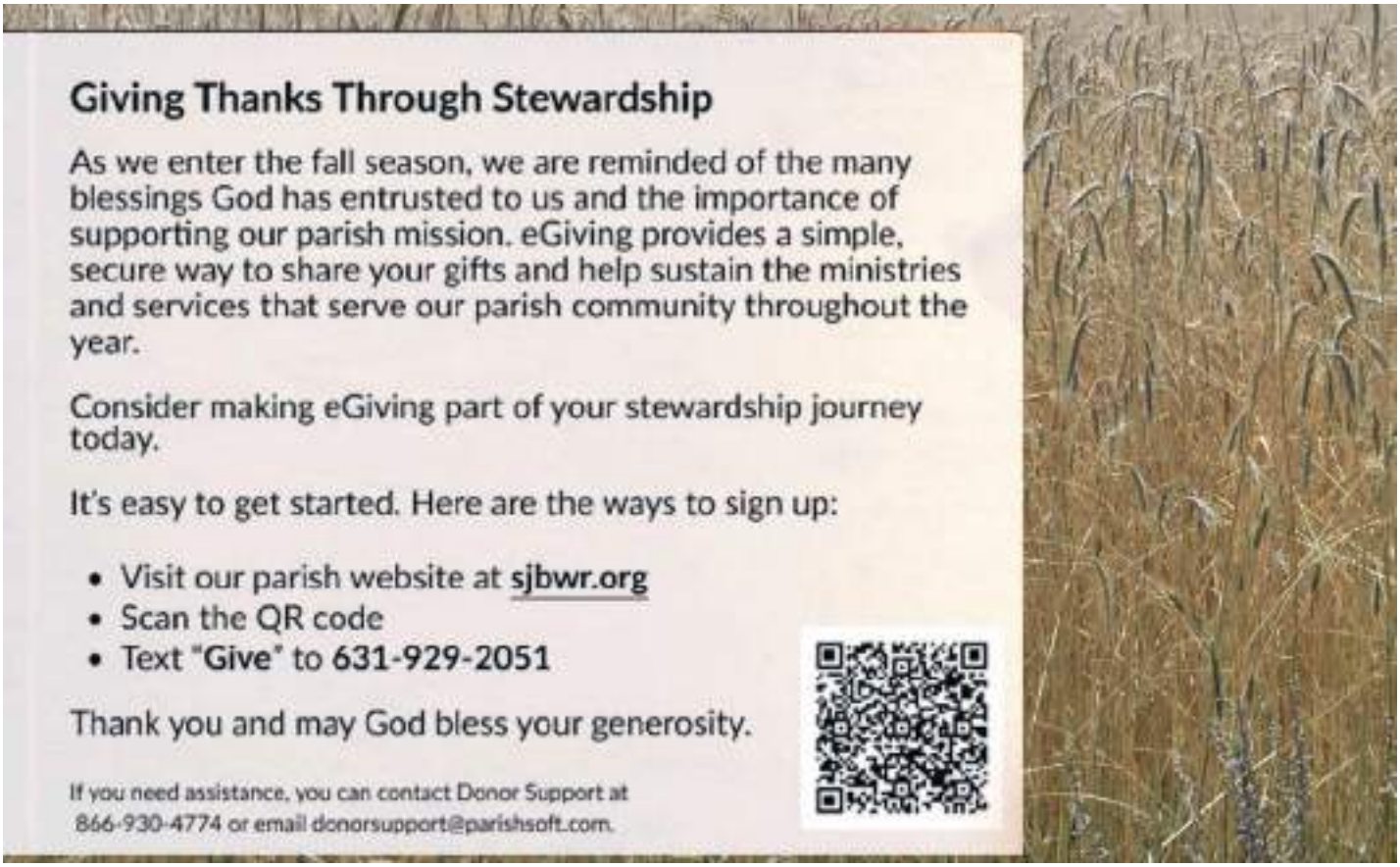
***Baptism Class is scheduled once a month after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the church.***

# WEEKLY COLLECTION

Sunday, October 25, 2026: $8,308.00

Thank you for suporting our parish and thank you for all those who use ParishSOFT on-line giving.

donorsupport@parishsoft.com




## Special Collections

11/1 All Saints
11/2 All Souls Novena
11/15 Human Development/Home Missions
11/22 Catholic Ministries Appeal
11/25 Thanksgiving
11/29 Grammar schools

**Are you a Senior?**

**If you're 70½ or older, there's an easy and tax-friendly way to support our church. You can donate directly from your IRA, which can count toward your Required Minimum Distribution and may reduce your taxable income.**

**Many of our seniors find this a simple and meaningful way to give.**

**If you'd like to learn more, just call the parish office—we're happy to help!**

# **Kids** Corner

## Sharing the Gospel

When you are merciful, you are kind and forgiving. Your actions teach others how to love God and each other. You visit the sick. You comfort those who are crying. You pray for those who are in jail. You share money, food, water, shelter, and clothing with those who need it. You forgive the people who hurt you. When you are kind and forgiving to other people, they will also be kind and forgiving to you.

**Now color the picture!**

## Prayer

Lord, I want to be kind and forgiving.

## Mission for the Week

I will send a card to cheer up someone who needs it.

©LPi

# **Worship &** Observances

## Prayer – For Everyday and Everybody

**Blessing for All Saints**
God,
Bless us as we journey in faith, a journey marked with twists and turns.
Bless us with the inspiration and friendship of those who have gone before us, the saints.
May their lives serve as guiding lights, beckoning us through the darkness to safety and rest.
Amen.

## Readings for the Week of November 1, 2026

### Sunday
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/ Mt 5:1-12a

### Monday
Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-21/ Mt 11:25-30

### Tuesday
Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30e, 31-32Lk 14:15-24

### Wednesday
Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14Lk 14:25-33

### Thursday
Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7Lk 15:1-10

### Friday
Phil 3:17-4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8

### Saturday
Phil 4:10-19/Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a and 9/Lk 16:9-15

### Next Sunday
Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

## Observances for the Week of November 1, 2026

### Sunday
All Saints; *Daylight Saving Time Ends;* National Vocation Awareness Week

### Monday
The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

### Tuesday
St. Martin de Porres, Religious; *Election Day*

### Wednesday
St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop

### Next Sunday
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time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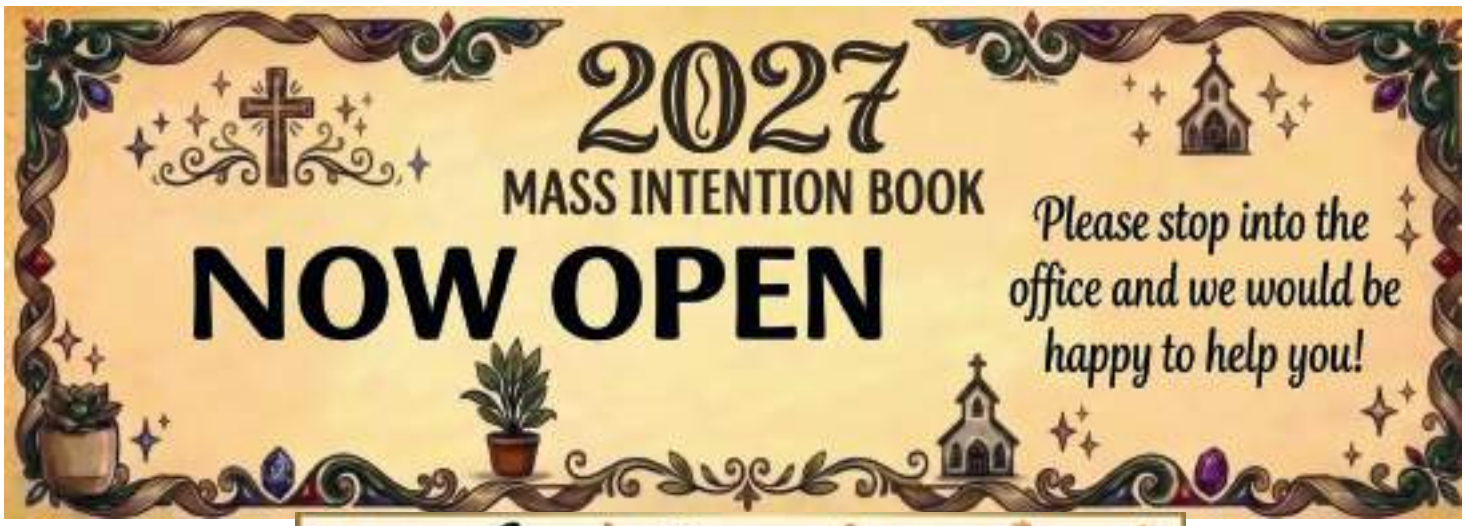
## This Weekend:

Saturday, Octover 31 , 2026, 5:15 p.m. Father Tom
Sunday, November 1, 8:00 a.m. Father Ralph
Sunday, November 1, 10:30 a.m. Father Ralph

## Next Weekend:

Saturday, November 7 , 2026, 5:15 p.m. Father Tom
Sunday, November 8, 8:00 a.m. Father Innocent
Sunday, November 8, 10:30 a.m. Father Ralph




# WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

## November 1 - 7, 2026

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 All Saints Day<br>Daylight Savings Time Ends<br>Mass 8:00am<br>**OCIA (adult faith formation) 9:15am - 10:15am @** Conference Room<br>Mass (Hospitality after Mass) 10:30am<br>Pageant Rehearsal (Cast Call) 3:00pm | 2<br>Mass 8:30am<br>***TEN THINGS TO KNOW** Talks (Adult Faith Formation)* 9:00am – 10:15am @ SJB Parish Hall<br>All Souls Day Mass (hospitality to follow in parish hall) 7:30pm | 3 Election Day<br>Mass 8:30am<br>**NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES (Election Day)**<br>**NO Preschool Classes (Election Day)**<br>Peggy's Pantry (CLOSED)<br>Polling place (General Election) 6am-9pm @ SJB Parish Hall | 4<br>Mass 8:30am<br>Senior Group Meeting (Canasta to follow) 10:00am - 2:00pm @ SJB Parish Hall<br>Eucharistic Adoration 2:00pm - 4:00pm @ SJB Church<br>LIFT Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm @ SJB Parish Hall | 5<br>Mass 8:30am<br>Peggy's Pantry (Open) [Parish Outreach] 10:00am - 2:00pm @ SJB Parish Hall<br>Youth Choir 6:00pm - 7:00pm @ SJB Church<br>K of C meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm @ SJB Parish Hall<br>Adult Choir 7:30pm - 9:00pm @ SJB Church | 6 | 7<br>Turkey tags available after all Masses<br>Healing Prayer Service 9:00am<br>Confessions 4:15pm - 5:00pm<br>Mass 5:15pm |

**For those serving in the Military:** Patrick Hanley, Jeffrey L. Beilman Jr., Ryan Santiro, Thomas G. Verbeeck, Michelle Verbeeck, JosephDeMonte IV, Michael Anderson, Devin Henry, Marielle Verbeeck, EvanPurdy, Sean Brady, Lauren Rodriguez, Michael Camarda, Matthew Sherman, Bryan Kelly, Chris Munz, Sebastian Ramos, Anthony Aulicino

**For the Homebound, the Sick or in Hospice Care:**
Joani Paritz, Jameson Martin, Arthur Acevedo, Kenneth Oliva

**Recitation of the Rosary**
After 8:30 a.m. daily Mass,
Monday –Thursday.

**Eucharistic Adoration**
The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration
Wednesday afternoon 2:00-4:00pm

**Bread, wine, altar candles:** Should you like to donate the candles, bread, wine for the celebration of the weekend Eucharist, in memory of a loved one.

**Tabernacle Lamp:** The Tabernacle Lamp indicates that the Blessed Sacrament is present in church. The red candle can be memorialized for the week of your choice.

**HEALING SERVICE**

1st Saturday of the Month
9:00 AM
in the Church

*Join Us!*

LIFT
*Women's*
PRAYER GROUP

All women are invited to join our
LIFT Women's
*Prayer Group Meeting*
on Wednesday,
**November 4th**
from 7-9pm
in the Parish Hall.

Vote
Vote
Vote
Vote
Vote
Vote

**Thank you to Steve's Wading River Deli for supplying the refreshments for October's Ten Things Presentation!**

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