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Parochial Vicars: Rev. Daniel Ulloa, O.P., Rev. Joseph Matthew

Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

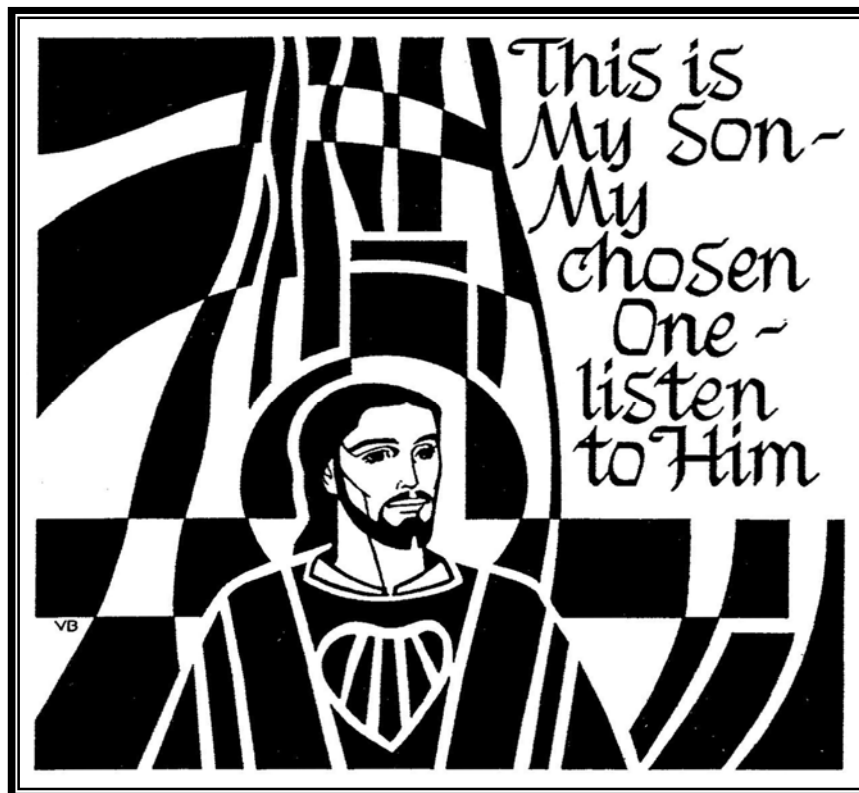
Retired Priest: Rev. Kenneth Ross; Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

Pastoral Associate: Sr. Mary Beth Read, O.S.U.

670 Yonkers Ave.
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Second Sunday in Lent
February 21, 2016

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Religious Education
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Director
Sr. Mary Beth Read, O.S.U.

Director of Music & Organist
John Stufano

Masses
Saturday Vigil:
5:00 p.m.

Sunday:
8:00, 9:30,
11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday:
8:00 a.m. & 12:00 Noon

Saturday:
8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance
Saturday:
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage
Make arrangements six months
prior to wedding

Sacrament of Baptism
Every Sunday
after the 12:30 Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 20, 2016

Vigil: Second Sunday of Lent

5:00 p.m. Joseph and Maria Carmela Federico

Sunday, February 21, 2016

Second Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Roy McLaughlin

9:30 a.m. Pasquale and Carmela Colaiacovo

11:00 a.m. Anthony Racioppo – 1st Anniversary

**12:30 p.m. Mass for the Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist**

Monday, February 22, 2016

The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

8:00 a.m. Michael and Mary Maher

12:00 noon Lawrence Reilly

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

Feast of St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Jeanmarie Petrino

**12:00 noon Denis Ryan, James Donaghy, Jr.
and Jame Donahy, Sr.**

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

8:00 a.m. Denis J. O'Connor

12:00 noon Jean Romeo

Thursday, February 25, 2016

8:00 a.m. Vera Donaghy

12:00 noon Gertrude Dato

Friday, February 26, 2016

8:00 a.m. Charles and Antoinette May

12:00 noon James Mullin

Saturday, February 27, 2016

8:00 a.m. Falco and Ada DiBiase

Saturday, February 27, 2016

Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent

5:00 p.m. Joseph Vento

Sunday, February 28, 2016

Third Sunday of Lent

**8:00 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist**

9:30 a.m. Cpl. Patrick F. O'Keefe

11:00 a.m. Frank Nestor

12:30 p.m. Luigi and Franco Milizia

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, February 20th

School Raffles – following Mass – exits of Church

Sunday, February 21st

Children's Mass -- 9:30 a.m. -- Church

Coffee and Craft Hour – following Mass -- Cafeteria

School Raffles – following Mass – exits of Church

Wednesday, February 24th

Senior Club – following 12:00 noon Mass – lower Church

R.E. Grades 1st through 5th -- 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. – School

R.E. Grades 6th through 8th -- 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – School

H.N.S. Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 26th

Stations of the Cross – 7:30 p.m. – Church

Saturday, February 27th

Card Party – 7:00 p.m. – lower Church

School Raffles – following Mass – exits of Church

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, February 20th

5:00 p.m. – M. Colaiacovo and D. Odume

Sunday, February 21st

8:00 a.m. – N. Camacho and J. Postighone

9:30 a.m. – E. Higgins and E. McLaughlin

11:00 a.m. – S. Healy and N. Tierney

12:30 p.m. – M. DiRosa and P. DiRosa

Saturday, February 27th

5:00 p.m. – C. Castaldi, N. DeMatteo and D. Vanadia

Sunday, February 28th

8:00 a.m. – S. Joyce and M. Luby

9:30 a.m. – B. Doran, R. Tuffy and K. McGarvey

11:00 a.m. – A. Burke and K. Burke

12:30 p.m. – R. Duffy and N. Leo



Special Children's Mass: This Sunday, at our 9:30 a.m. Mass, we once again welcome younger boys and girls to a special Mass where they will be excused after the Opening Prayer and go to the Church Hall for a special Liturgy of the Word. After this Mass please join us for a Family Coffee and Craft Hour in the school cafeteria at which we will have refreshments and make crafts for the family. We are very grateful to the parent-leaders (as well as some older children) who are assisting with this program.



S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 21, 2016

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT: Modern science, which has sent vehicles into space to photograph the hidden reaches of our galaxy, has added new depth to today's first reading (Gen. 15:5-18) about Abraham's contemplation of a sky filled with countless stars. Abraham's experience has led to a faith so deep that it was sealed by a covenant. Its importance was symbolized by having the parties walk between pieces of animals: failure to keep their word would bring the same fate.

Citizenship is an important concept for Paul in today's second reading (Phil. 3:17-4:1). He assures the Philippians that their real citizenship is in heaven. Therefore, they, and we, would do well to imitate Paul, just as he imitates Jesus, the man of prayer. In this way, we, like Jesus in today's gospel (Luke 9:28-36), will be transformed and united with Christ forever.

Luke's version of the Transfiguration comes shortly after the first announcement of the Passion and resurrection. In this way, the gospel passage underscores the connection between suffering and glory. The mountain is a connection to Sinai and the typical Lucan place of prayer. Moses and Elijah, (law and prophecy), witness to Jesus, their New Testament fulfillment. They speak of Jesus' own Exodus, His journey through the suffering of Good Friday to the glory of Easter.

SAINTS' DAYS – LENT – WEEK TWO

Monday, February 22nd – The Chair of St. Peter, Apostle

The chair (or "cathedra") of a bishop has a place of honor in every cathedral – and is a sign of the unity of faith that connects all Catholics in a diocese. This feast – which has been celebrated since the 4th century – marks the unity of Catholics all over the world who profess the one true Church built on St. Peter and his successors.

Tuesday, February 23rd – St. Polycarp

This second century martyr had been a disciple of St. John the Evangelist. He evangelized in the Middle East and eventually became bishop of Smyrna where he was burned at the stake for being a Christian.



Lent: is a holy season in our Church's year, it is holy because it calls us in a special way to holiness and encourages us to adopt holy habits of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Prayer: We should try to attend Mass as often as we can during Lent and pray the Rosary and make the Stations of the Cross (which is publicly celebrated every Friday in Lent during the Eucharistic Holy Hour that begins at 7:30 p.m.)

Almsgiving: We should try to make special sacrifices during Lent – and it is fortunate that the annual Cardinal's Appeal continues throughout Lent so that we have a very practical opportunity to assist the Church's works of charity in New York.

Fasting: We should try to practice some form of self-discipline during Lent – so that we might in some small way identify ourselves with Christ who was crucified for us.

Friday Lenten Devotion: On each of the Fridays of Lent at 7:30 p.m. there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Stations of the Cross and a reflection by Fr. Daniel Ulloa, O.P. on the topic: "How to Live the Year of Mercy in an Unforgiving World." The evening Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence: **ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAY OF ABSTINENCE** - All Catholics above the age of 14 are obliged to abstain from meat on the days of abstinence (unless poor health excuses). Additionally, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are both fast and abstinence. Not only is meat prohibited, but on these two fast days, only one full meal is permitted. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but these taken together should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from 18 to 59 (unless poor health excuses).

Latin Chant: During Lent at our sung Sunday Masses, we will use traditional Gregorian Chant whenever the Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are sung. The chant melodies are very easy to sing and the words of these responses are so familiar in English that the Latin shouldn't pose a problem, even for someone who has never studied Latin. Moreover, it gives us an opportunity (however small) to recapture the long tradition of singing Gregorian Chant. The text of and music for these acclamations can be found in the Music Issue: Kyrie (#853); Sanctus (#850); Agnus Dei (#854).

Sunday Report: The brutally cold weather last weekend kept our Mass attendance down considerably; however, 940 heavily “layered” parishioners attended Mass. Our collection totaled \$7,157.00 for an average of \$7.61. Thank you for your continued financial support of St. John’s and its many needs. Your generosity is essential and greatly appreciated.



Second Collection: This weekend we will take up our monthly special collection to support our school and maintain our school facilities. The school is not only used for our grammar school children, our CCD classes and our RCIA program, but for a variety of community and parish activities. It is vital that we keep our school facilities in excellent condition. We ask for a contribution of \$7.00 in this monthly collection and once again express our appreciation for your generosity.

Card Party: The Rosary Altar Society welcomes you to their Annual Card Party, “A Night on Broadway” on Saturday, February 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the lower Church. There will be over 400 prizes and it is sure to be a fun night. Admission is \$20.00 per person and includes sandwiches, snacks, beverages, dessert, coffee/tea and door prizes. To purchase a ticket or tickets please send a check (made payable to S.J.B. Rosary Altar Society). Anyone wishing to make a monetary or new gift donation can kindly drop it off at the Rectory. Attn: R.A.S. Card Party. For more information, please call Robyne Liberatore at 914-325-6373.



Cardinal’s Appeal: Cardinal Dolan has begun this annual Archdiocesan Stewardship Appeal. Some of our parishioners have already received information about the appeal in the mail; many more will receive such information in the days and weeks to follow. In two weeks we will have our annual “In Pew Sunday” which will give everyone an opportunity to participate in this vital campaign which does so much to assist the Church’s pastoral, charitable, and educational efforts throughout our Archdiocese. In the meantime we ask everyone to pray for the success of this appeal.



Special Mass

Special Mass: A Mass for Healing will be celebrated at Rosary Church, Hawthorne, NY on Monday, February 22nd at 7:30 p.m. Fr. Martin Njenga will be celebrant. This is an opportunity to bring your spiritual and physical needs to the Lord.

St. John’s H.S.A. Raffles: The Home School Association will be selling their annual raffles this weekend and next weekend after each Mass at the exits of the Church. Please assist us if you can.



Holy Name Society: Please join the Holy Name Society for their monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 24th at 7:00 p.m. at the La Grotta Restaurant on McLean Avenue. The cost is \$20.00 and includes buffet dinner and beer, wine and soda.

For more information, please call Vinny Vanadia on 423-9149. All are welcome!



Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Elizabeth Spokony and Carolina Urrico who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Tax Advantage: Once again this year, St. John’s has been contacted by a representative of H&R Block regarding a program they have for tax-exempt institutions (like ours!). For every new client who goes to any H&R Block office and has them prepare your tax returns, H&R Block will contribute \$20.00 to St. John’s. The only condition is that when you go to the H&R Block office, you take a coupon (which are available this week at the exits of the Church) indicating the special code which will be given to St. John’s to distribute to our parishioners. **N.B.:** This costs you nothing! Obviously, H&R Block is doing this as a promotion to bring in new customers – but if you are considering having someone prepare your tax return (both Federal and N.Y. State) this year, please consider H&R Block. They have a nearby office – on 777 Central Avenue (in the strip mall near the Sunoco station on the corner of Mile Sq. Rd. and Central Ave.) But this offer is good at any H&R Block (you just need to bring the coupon).

Lenten Seminar: St. Paul the Apostle is sponsoring a “Life in the Spirit” Seminar for the Year of Mercy on Tuesday nights during Lent from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. All are invited.



Mass Requests for 2017: The Mass “book” for 2017 is now open for reservations. Because of the number of parishioners who wish to arrange Masses at St. John’s, we must request that Mass reservations be made in person in the rectory, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Our office staff is simply unable to handle requests by phone if they are to complete the regular volume of work they have. We remind everyone that there are a number of retired priests who are able to take Mass requests – even for 2016. We are happy to provide Mass cards for these Masses; however, they will not be celebrated here at St. John’s.

Fuel Collection: Next Sunday we take up our annual special collection to assist us with the cost of heating our church, convent and rectory during the winter months. Although this winter was milder than last year -- at least until recently – there’s a lot of winter left! Happily, we have had no problems with our boilers and all of them work efficiently. But in order to pay our bills in a timely manner, we must depend on your generosity. If at all possible, we request a donation of \$7.00 in this special collection next weekend. Let us pray that spring arrives early!

Special Concert: There will be a Benefit Concert for Maryknoll Sisters Global Mission Outreach, Sunday, March 6th at 3:00 p.m. at the Maryknoll Sisters Center, 10 Pinesbridge Rd. Ossining, NY. Tickets are \$25.00 each and may be purchased on their website www.MaryknollSisters.org/concert16, by calling 1-866-662-9900, or at the door the day of the event. Credit cards, cash or checks accepted. For more information, please visit our website.

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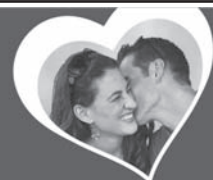
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