

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Daniel Ulloa, O.P., Rev. Mathew Biby

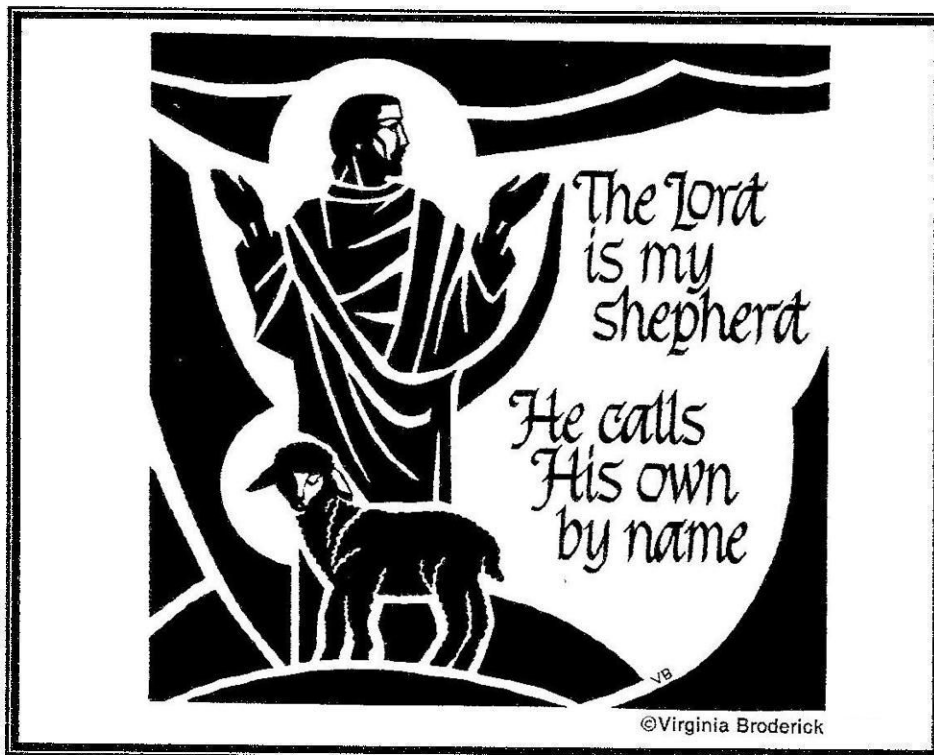
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

670 Yonkers Ave.
Yonkers, NY 10704
www.sjbyonkers.org

4th Sunday of Easter
May 3, 2020

Tel: (914) 963-1486
Fax: (914) 375-1115
stjohnsp@optonline.net



School
(914) 965-2356

Principal
Sister Maryalice Reamer, R.D.C.

Religious Education
(914) 965-2338

Director
Mrs. Angela Minchilli

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

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter: Every year on this Sunday we read one of the gospel accounts where Jesus speaks of Himself as the “Good Shepherd.” It is one of the most familiar and beloved images of Our Lord. The gospel this year (John 10: 1-10) contrasts Jesus – the Good Shepherd – with a thief who seeks only to “steal and slaughter and destroy.” Jesus is the one who cares for and protects the sheep. The gospel concludes with the powerful reassurance: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

Many people – even faithful Christians – hearing those words during this COVID-19 pandemic which has brought so much sickness, so much death, so much economic devastation – may be forgiven for thinking that those words ring hollow as we begin another month of social isolation in an atmosphere of so much anxiety and fear. If ever we needed a protector – a care giver – it is now!

Such a response – especially given the barrage of depressing news that greets us every day – is perfectly understandable. Our faith and our hope is being tested – as never before in our lifetime. Which is why we need to hear the Word of God – and reflect on the serious, sober message of Easter which can (all too often) be overwhelmed by some of the more superficial aspects of a typical Easter Season: bonnets and bunnies, Easter egg hunts and festive meals.

Let us remember that the first Easter was a day shrouded in death and the brutal reality of Our Lord’s suffering and death on the Cross. Those first reports of the Lord’s empty tomb and appearances were greeted – not with joy and celebration – but skepticism, confusion and even ridicule of the earliest witnesses of the resurrection. Even in the days that followed, the disciples of Jesus were anxious, fearful, full of doubt about an uncertain future. Sound familiar?

The season of Easter cannot be separated from reality of Good Friday. By taking up the cross, Jesus showed us how to shoulder suffering. By taking on our sins He carried all of humanity’s brutality and guilt up the hill to Golgatha. By rising on Easter Sunday He redeemed our misery and our grief – He did not eliminate them.

During an Easter Season mired in so much suffering, let us remember more than ever our Christian calling to suffer with Him, so we may rise with Him to eternal life!

The Meaning of the Easter Season: The word Easter, derived from Old English, means “to shine,” especially to shine like the dawn, and suggests both an action and a beginning, a new day. Thus, the Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, speaking of Christ, uses Easter as a verb in his poem, “The Wreck of the Deutschland”: “Let him easter in us, be a dayspring to the dimness of us, be a crimson-cresseted east . . .” Hopkins provides a helpful attitude or disposition for us as we enter into Easter Time, the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. Although this liturgical time is considered one feast and is called the Great Sunday, we observe several significant moments. We begin with the robust return of the Alleluia, a song of joy and praise that Christ is risen; He has conquered death, and we delight in the full participation of those newly Baptized and Confirmed. Just as they need this liturgical time as a period of growth in their experience of the sacraments they have just received, we as a Church community need this liturgical time to deepen our understanding and participation in the Paschal Mystery.

The Sunday Liturgies can be a form of catechesis about the meaning of the Fifty Days for the entire community. The Easter symbols of the white vestments, the presence of the Paschal candle, and the use of holy water are tangible signs of Baptism and of the new life we celebrate.

The sheer scope of the liturgical time explains why we can’t sustain the intense joy of Easter Sunday but, like the disciples, we too may experience doubt or fear as we realize with what we, as followers of Jesus, are charged. Fortunately, the Scripture readings during this special season guide and inspire us as we listen to accounts of Jesus’ post-Resurrection appearances, his Ascension, the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the growth of the early Church.

Advanced Planning: As this bulletin is being prepared, we still have no indication from the Archdiocese about when we might be able to open our churches for the public celebration of Mass and the sacraments. The superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese has announced that all parish schools will be closed until Friday, May 22nd. However, this date has “shifted” a couple of times in the last several weeks, so it may not be final. As far as planning for parish events is concerned, the Rosary Altar Card Party – rescheduled from April 24th to May 15th will be rescheduled – probably to the fall or even winter. The parish picnic – scheduled for May 30th will also have to be postponed – or cancelled for this year. We have tentatively rescheduled Confirmation from April to late June and First Holy Communion for our 3rd graders from early May to late June – but those dates (like a possible date for 8th grade graduation) are tentative. We live in uncertain times and any event we try to schedule for the near term will have to remain tentative. Like it or not, this is the “new normal.” We pray that Mary (whose intercession we always seek in a special way in the month of May) will keep us all safe.

Honor Thy Mother: This year Mother’s day falls on Sunday, May 10th. This is a day to honor all Mothers – living and dead. This is a day to express our thanks for all they have done for us. It is a day to tell them how much we love them and to ask for their prayers even as we assure them of ours. For those mothers who have gone before us into the fullness of life with God, we give thanks to God for them as we recall their memories this day. On Mother’s Day we begin a Triduum of Masses for those mothers whose names are enrolled with us. Special Mother’s Day cards and envelopes are available at the exits of the Church or in the rectory office. Let us pray that Mary, the Mother of us all will bless all mothers, especially expectant mothers.

Practical Matters

1. Our main church will remain closed from Monday to Saturday; however our Eucharistic Chapel is open
 - a) Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 - b) Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
2. Our church and chapel will be **open** for private prayer on Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
3. Our priests and deacons are praying for all our parishioners during this difficult time. Msgr. Maloney, Fr. Ulloa and our resident priest, Fr. Mathew, have been celebrating Mass daily – so that we may fulfill the intentions that our parishioners have made.
4. The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Even though we will not gather physically for Mass, please continue to give via WeShare (go to sjbyonkers.org –look for “online Donations” on the title page) or by bringing or mailing your contribution to our rectory office or dropping it into one of the baskets in church on Sunday.
5. Our parish office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
6. Please consult our parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org) for updates on parish events and activities.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 2, 2020

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter

5:00 p.m. Julia and John Soracco

Sunday, May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:00 a.m. Ritchie and Thomas McAuliffe

**9:30 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist**

11:00 a.m. Louis Gaudio

12:30 p.m. Bridie and Michael Coughlan

Monday, May 4, 2020

8:00 a.m. Francesca and Vincenzo Zambito

12:00 noon Jean De Ru – 1st Anniversary

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

8:00 a.m. Tina and John Manning

12:00 noon Liam O'Driscoll

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

**8:00 a.m. Catherine Economico and the
Souls in Purgatory**

**12:00 noon Deceased Members of the
St. John's Senior Club**

Thursday, May 7, 2020

8:00 a.m. Joseph Femia

**12:00 noon Raffaella Angilletta and
Ermina Salvati**

Friday, May 8, 2020

8:00 a.m. Tina and John Manning

12:00 noon Daniel Fama – 20th Anniversary

Saturday, May 9, 2020

8:00 a.m. Gene Kneip

Saturday, May 9, 2020

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Easter

**5:00 p.m. Ann and Daniel Fama and
Edward Makowski**

Sunday, May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

**8:00 a.m. Virginia De Lucci and
Emma Federico**

9:30 a.m. Frances DiPaola

11:00 a.m. Mother's Day Mass

**12:30 p.m. Deceased members of the
Naryniecki and Kozlowski
Families**