

# 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

6th Sunday of Easter  
May 17, 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 17, 2020**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter:** The readings for the Sundays after Easter are familiar – we hear them (according to the Church’s liturgical cycle) every three years. But this Easter Season – in 2020 – in the midst of a global pandemic, most Catholics – even Catholics who are accustomed to attending Mass every Sunday – are not hearing those Scriptures – because their churches have been closed – or if they are open, they are not able to celebrate public Masses.

For those who are able to hear these Scriptures this year – because they have Missals at home or because they are able to access Masses that are broadcast on television or “live-streamed” on computers – those Catholics are hearing these ancient Scriptures in a completely new way – because of the extraordinary circumstances in which we live.

In fact, it may be that we are the first generation of Catholics in centuries who are able to “empathize” with the experience of the very first generation of Our Lord’s disciples.

Take this Sunday’s gospel (John 14:15-21) for example. Jesus is speaking to his disciples shortly before His Ascension. In that gospel He assures those disciples: “I will not leave you orphans.” Jesus speaks those words – to reassure His first frightened disciples – and all the disciples who came after them. Jesus understood that His disciples did feel alone; they were confused about both their present and their future.

Think of Mary Magdalene on the first Easter Sunday. She went to Jesus’ tomb and found it empty; she sees a stranger nearby and assumes he is a gardener; once she realized it was the Lord, she reached out to Him, but He vanishes from her sight.

Or consider the disciples on the road to Emmaus – and how they recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread, only to have Him disappear.

How often in the centuries of persecutions that followed did Christians wonder if the Lord was still with them and why they had to suffer so much? After the Roman Empire became the Holy Roman Empire, how often did human weakness and sinfulness obscure the holiness that Jesus entrusted to His Church? How often down through the ages have individual Christians suffered injustice and prejudice and persecution? How often have families had to deal with the untimely deaths of husbands and wives, brothers and sisters – even children? This most recent pandemic – with all its sickness and death, social isolation and economic pain – is just another in a long list of challenges that people of faith face.

In today’s gospel Jesus assures us that we do not work alone or walk alone – even if, at times, it seems that way. At times the Lord walks ahead – challenging us, pointing the way; at other times He walks beside us, listening and encouraging; at still other times He may walk behind, prodding us, urging us on; and then there may be times when He will carry us for a while – because we are so weary and the night is so dark.

But let us never doubt that He is there. His presence will not always be obvious, but if we keep praying; keep reading the gospels; keep the commandments and not give up hope – the day will come when Jesus will again be present in the usual way – and we can receive Him in the Eucharist and the sacraments. On that day we will gather in churches once again and we can celebrate God’s unending love.

---

**CRS Rice Bowl:** The deadline for all donations is Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please bring donations (boxes or envelopes) to the rectory office. Checks should be made payable to: St. John the Baptist Church and on the memo line: 2020 CRS Rice Bowl. Thanks to all the parishioners who participated in this Lenten practice of charitable “almsgiving.”

## **SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS – SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER**

### **Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> – St. John I**

Born in Tuscany, John was elected Pope in 523. John preached the orthodox teaching about the true nature of Jesus Christ (both human and divine) in a Church still plagued by the Arian heresy. He was imprisoned and starved to death for his heroic witness.

### **Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – St. Bernardine of Siena**

Bernardine was born in Tuscany; he joined the Franciscan Order and spent his life preaching and giving missions throughout Italy in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. He fostered devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus.

### **Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – The Ascension of the Lord**

Today's feast celebrates the return of Jesus to the Father as well as His abiding presence in the Church. Jesus commissions His disciples – in the first century and the centuries that would follow – to be His witnesses in the world.

### **Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> – St. Rita of Cascia**

Born in 1381 in Umbria, Rita married a man who turned out to be a violent, abusive man. He was murdered in a fight and Rita urged forgiveness despite the prevailing code of “vendetta.” After her sons were grown, Rita became an Augustinian nun and spent the rest of her life in prayer and service to the poor. She is a patron saint of desperate situations. She died in 1457.

---

**Scheduling:** It has been a little over two months since the Archdiocese announced the cancellation of all public celebrations of Mass and the sacraments in the churches of the Archdiocese – and we **still** have no indication of when we will begin to celebrate the Eucharist in our parishes. This is frustrating (to say the least!) for all of us – priests, deacons, religious and lay people alike. Please know that all of us are eager to return to our normal sacramental lives. In addition to the suspension of public Masses, as this bulletin is being prepared, the superintendent of schools for the Archdiocese has announced that all parish schools will remain closed until the end of June. As far as planning for parish events is concerned, the Rosary Altar Card Party and the parish picnic have been cancelled for this year. We have also decided to cancel the Vacation Bible School program, scheduled for July. 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.

## **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](http://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](http://www.sjbyonkers.org)) for updates on parish events and activities.

## MASS INTENTIONS

*Saturday, May 16, 2020*

*Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter*

5:00 p.m. Giuseppe Gullotta – 16<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

*Sunday, May 17, 2020*

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

8:00 a.m. James and Nora O’Keefe  
9:30 a.m. Mass for the Parishioner  
of St. John the Baptist  
11:00 a.m. Walter Naryniecki  
12:30 p.m. Edward Makowski and  
Ann and Dan Fama

*Monday, May 18, 2020*

*Feast of St. John I, Pope and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Vidal Quinones  
12:00 noon Moira Cunningham

*Tuesday, May 19, 2020*

8:00 a.m. Rory O’Flaherty  
12:00 noon Michael Margiasso

*Wednesday, May 20, 2020*

*Feast of St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest*

8:00 a.m. Tina Ackerman  
12:00 noon Leokaeio Golonka

*Wednesday, May 20, 2020*

*Vigil: The Ascension of the Lord*

5:00 p.m. Raquel Ragusa, Mary Gaudio  
and Mary Urrico

*Thursday, May 21, 2020*

*The Ascension of the Lord*

8:00 a.m. Georgina Kerr  
12:00 noon Angelo Manzo  
7:30 p.m. Marie Banta

*Friday, May 22, 2020*

*Feast of St. Rita of Cascia*

8:00 a.m. Virginia DeLucci  
12:00 noon Bridie O’Connor

*Saturday, May 23, 2020*

8:00 a.m. Susan Vanadia

*Saturday, May 23, 2020*

*Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter*

5:00 p.m. Vincent Gabbamonte –  
4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Sunday, May 24, 2020*

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

8:00 a.m. Settemia Soprano and  
Nancy Rubbo  
9:30 a.m. Mass for the Parishioner  
of St. John the Baptist  
11:00 a.m. Lucia Olivieri  
12:30 p.m. Mary Slattery