

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

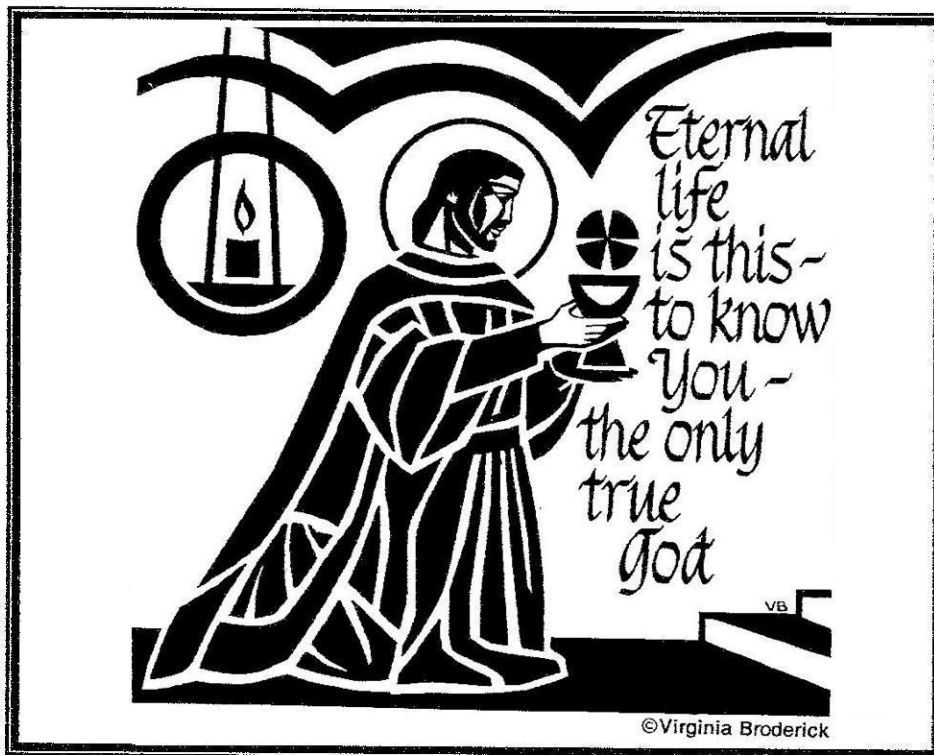
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

7th Sunday of Easter
May 24, 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 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter: For over two months now, our parish – along with most of our country and indeed most of the world – has been “locked down” and isolated. We have passed through the end of Lent and Holy Week and entered the season of Easter – and yet there has been a drab, dull sameness to it all. Even Mother Nature – at least until recently, has reflected almost an unwillingness to allow spring to take hold. The trees now have their leaves and the flowers have begun to appear – but that was in spite of the rain and the damp and the cold winds. Finally -- as we see the end of the month of May looming – finally spring has begun to look and feel like spring. Perhaps as the beginning of summer approaches, perhaps we will begin to see the beginning of more normal social interaction, more shops and stores opening their doors, restaurants welcoming diners and – may God grant it! – our churches celebrating Mass and the sacraments again! That is our sincere hope and fervent prayer!

Today in the gospel for this Sunday – Jesus is speaking to His closest disciples in the hours before He is to leave them and return to the Father. He tells them: “Now I will no longer be in the world – but you are in the world.”

We – His 21st century disciples – are reminded that we are in the world – with a mission and a purpose. We are here to change the world – and so we must be different from the world, if we wish to change it for the better. We must think differently; we must act differently; we must maintain different values.

We remain – even in these very difficult times as we face this devastating pandemic – we remain a community of believers. We are young and old, rich and poor; we are people who trace our ethnic roots to every nation on earth – people who are united by our faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ; people who are committed to building a world of justice and peace.

We are also united – as St. Luke indicates in today’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:12-14) – when (like the very first Christians) we are people of prayer – people who pray by themselves or pray in families or pray with other Christians.

Right now we are experiencing a season of separation – a time of longing and lament. We lament those who are suffering from this illness and those who have died from this virus. We long for the time when we will gather with our brothers and sisters around the Lord’s altar to celebrate the Eucharist. Let us use this time to reflect on our life, our family, our church and our nation. Let us pray for those who are ill and for all who care for them. And let us pray for an end to this scourge! May the coming of the Holy Spirit renew the face of the earth!

SPECIAL SAINTS’ DAYS – SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER

Monday, May 25th – St. Bede

Born in England in 673, Bede entered a monastery shortly after completing his education. He spent most of his life teaching and writing; his master work, “Ecclesiastical History of the English People” is a classic and earned him the title “Father of English History.” More important was his well deserved reputation for holiness; even during his lifetime he was referred to as “Venerable Bede”.

Tuesday, May 26th – St. Philip Neri

Philip was born in Florence, Italy in 1515, but he is forever associated with Rome because he spent most of his adult life ministering there. He worked conscientiously among the poor and young people; he formed an “Oratory” where spiritual reading, prayer, singing, and works of practical charity were encouraged. Philip was noted for his joyful ministry and personal holiness.

Wednesday, May 27th – St. Augustine of Canterbury

Although he is overshadowed in Church history by the great philosopher and theologian in the 4th century, St. Augustine of Hippo, this 6th century Augustine led a small group of monks to evangelize the people (Anglo-Saxons) in England. St. Augustine worked hard to integrate and purify pagan customs so they might be adapted to Christian tradition. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury and is known as the “Apostle of England.”

AN ACTION PLAN: On Wednesday, May 20th, Governor Cuomo made a surprise announcement that religious services could now be held in places of worship in New York State—so long as the number in attendance was no greater than 10. In addition the attendees must all wear masks and maintain ‘social distance.’ The Archdiocese of New York is currently preparing guidelines to help parishes prepare for a “return to public ministry.” These guidelines envision several stages before regular daily and Sunday Masses can begin. No precise timeline has been established –so *for the present* public celebrations of Mass and the sacraments remain suspended in the churches of the Archdiocese.

As we await further direction from the Archdiocese, we can begin to formulate a plan for how we will celebrate Sunday Mass at St. John—once that becomes possible. Certainly, some limitation of attendance will have to take place, because parishioners will want—at least for the near term—to maintain ‘social distance’ from non-family members. According to proposed Archdiocesan guidelines, we will need to limit attendance at any Sunday Mass at St. John’s to between 125 and 150. We will also have to ensure that the church is thoroughly cleaned before each of our Masses—which will require more time between Masses than we currently have. Our Masses will not include the traditional ritual of the ‘exchange of peace’; Holy Communion will be restricted to ‘communion in the hand’ and there will be no holy water in our holy water fonts. The Archdiocese also recommends removing all Missalettes and hymnals from the pews.

With this in mind, presuming that Sunday Masses become possible at St. John’s sometime in the next three months (June, July and August), we plan to reduce our Mass schedule on Sundays from four Masses to three (our Saturday vigil Mass at 5:00pm will remain the same). The new *Summer Sunday* Mass schedule will be: 8:30am; 10:30am; and 12:30pm. This should allow us enough time to properly clean each pew after every Mass.

The Archdiocese strongly encourages any elderly parishioner who has a serious medical condition to remain at home until this pandemic is over; anyone—of any age—who feels ill or who has any of the symptoms associated with the virus should remain home as well. Cardinal Dolan reminds these Catholics that their circumstances relieve them of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Let us all pray that we will soon see an end of this.

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.

Memorial Day: This Monday, May 25th, is Memorial Day, a national holiday. It was first observed in 1868 when it was officially designated as the day on which the graves of American soldiers would be decorated (which is why the day is also known as “Decoration Day”). The holiday was originally devoted to honoring the memory of those who fell in the Civil War, but is now also dedicated to the memory of all war dead. Let us pray for them and pray for peace on this special day.

Honor Thy Father: This year father’s Day falls on Sunday, June 21st. This is a day to honor all fathers – 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 fathers 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 Father’s Day we begin a Triduum of Masses for those fathers whose names are enrolled with us. Starting next week, special Father’s Day cards and envelopes will be available at the exits of the Church or in our rectory office. Envelopes can be brought to the rectory or placed in the collection basket that will be available in the church on Sunday.. Let us pray that Joseph, the father of Jesus, will bless all fathers.

Religious Education Program: 2020 - 2021 registration for **new** families for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program will begin on Monday, June 1st. **To obtain a New Family Religious Education Registration Form (for your child):** Please email StjohntheBaptistred@gmail.com. When completing the registration, a copy of your child’s Baptismal Certificate will be necessary; families must, of course, be members of our parish. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 23, 2020

Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter

**5:00 p.m. Vincent Gabbamonte – 4th
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

Monday, May 25, 2020

***Feast of St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor
of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary
Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin***

Memorial Day

8:00 a.m. Anthony Feeney

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Feast of St. Philip Neri, Priest

8:00 a.m. Maddalena Iemma

12:00 noon Martha Colombini

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Antonio Ricciardi

12:00 noon Anthony Pujia

Thursday, May 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. Daniel O'Connor

12:00 noon Damiano, Serafina and Frank Zito

Friday, May 29, 2020

8:00 a.m. Elsie Rivera

12:00 noon Steven Garke

Saturday, May 30, 2020

8:00 a.m. John Peteani, Jr.

Saturday, May 30, 2020

Vigil: Pentecost Sunday

**5:00 p.m. Micheline and Dewey Bernardini;
Ascension and Manuel Almieda**

Sunday, May 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday

8:00 a.m. Lorraine and Edward Swatowy

9:30 a.m. Aldo Leone

**11:00 a.m. Santina and Raniero
Malandruccolo**

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