

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

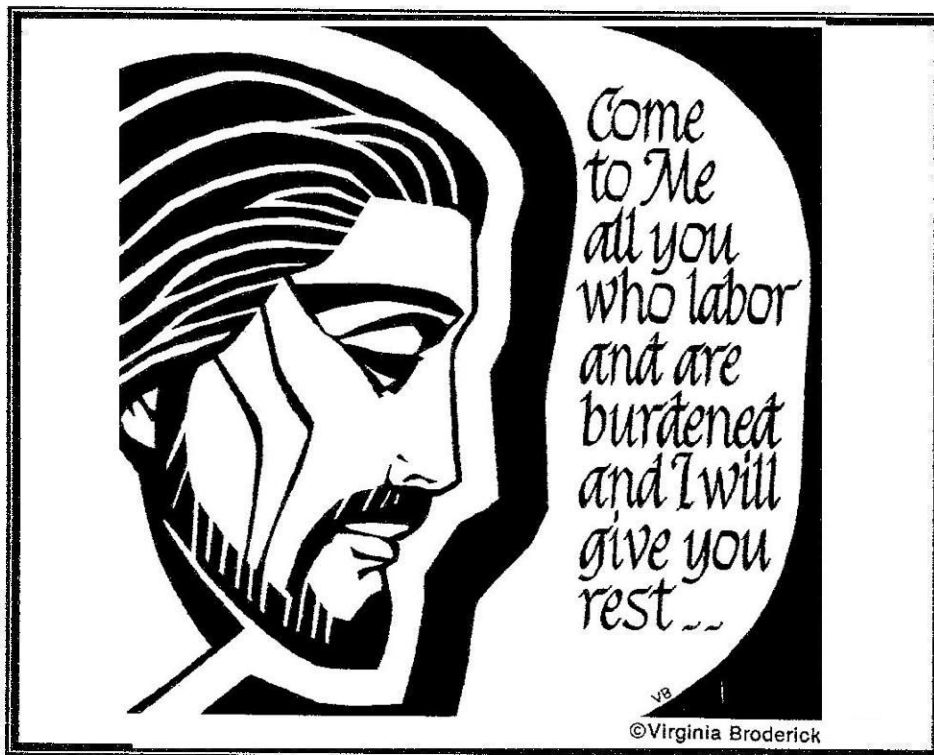
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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Yonkers, NY 10704
www.sjbyonkers.org

July 5, 2020
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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:
8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
12:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday:
8:30 a.m.

Saturday:
8:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of
Penance**
Saturday:
4:00 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

July 5, 2020

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: The time around the Fourth of July is usually a time for planning picnics, barbeques, trips to a lake, a pool, the beach – a time for fun and family. It is also a time to give thanks for all God’s blessings to this great country and to pray that liberty and justice will become realities for all nations. This can also be a time for patriotic speeches – but very few of those speeches will ever extol a very Christian virtue: meekness.

In English “meekness” has a weak, “wimpy” connotation; one dictionary defines it as meaning “easily imposed upon; submissive.” The roots of the word are not quite so negative. Aristotle considered meekness a virtue that reflected self-control – it was a sign of strength, not weakness.

In the Biblical tradition, meekness indicated a willingness to be directed by God; an openness to truth and goodness. It is that positive sense we find in our first reading from the prophet Zechariah (Zech. 9:9-10) who describes the long hoped – for Messiah as a “just savior; meek king; proclaimer of peace.”

St. Paul in the second reading (Rom. 8:9-13) suggests (without using the word) that true meekness is possible when we become dwelling places of the Holy Spirit.

In today’s gospel (Mt. 11:25-30) Jesus invites us to learn from Him for He is meek (“gentle”) and humble of heart – i.e. He has received His mission from the Father and has accepted it obediently.

SPECIAL SAINTS’ DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, July 6th - St. Maria Goretti

Today we honor a 20th century saint, Maria Goretti, the young Italian girl who died in 1902 at the age of 12 resisting a sexual assault. Maria was the daughter of a poor Italian tenant farmer; she had no chance to go to school, never learned to read and write. But in a century noted for sexual promiscuity, she became a model of purity and chastity. At her canonization in 1950, Maria’s attacker (who spent nearly 30 years in prison) knelt among the throngs gathered in St. Peter’s Square and wept. On this day let us pray for our young people and – in a special way, for victims of rape and sexual abuse.

Thursday, July 9th – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

Newly included in the calendar of saints, Augustine Zhao Rong was a Chinese priest – who (along with 119 other priests, seminarians and catechists) was cruelly tortured and martyred by Chinese authorities who tried to stamp out Christianity in China in the early 19th century.

Saturday, July 11th – St Benedict

This year the feast of St. Benedict has a special meaning because our retired Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has drawn attention to the tremendous significance of this man who lived in the 6th century and profoundly influenced Christian spirituality and vowed religious life ever afterwards. His monastic “Rule” became the basis for the constitutions of every religious order approved by the Church. His example of prayer, work and virtuous living remains a model for Christians whether religious, clerical or lay. He is considered a patron of Europe – and on this day, we pray especially for the man who, succeeding Peter as the Vicar of Christ, took Benedict’s name as his own.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 4, 2020

Vigil: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Louis Falsetta

Sunday, July 5, 2020

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Bessie Freterd

10:30 a.m. Patricia Sullivan

12:30 p.m. Edward T. Flynn

Monday, July 6, 2020

8:30 a.m. Martha Colombini

8:30 a.m. Angela Cavalli

Tuesday, July 7, 2020

8:30 a.m. Kelly Ann Mc Eniry

8:30 a.m. Bridget Walsh

Wednesday, July 8, 2020

8:30 a.m. Pasqua Canale

8:30 a.m. Bridget Walsh

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Feast of St. Augustine ZhaoRong, Priest and Companions, Martyrs

8:30 a.m. Luna and Phoenix Rodriguez

8:30 a.m. Christine O'Connell –
30th Anniversary

Friday, July 10, 2020

8:30 a.m. Sylvester M. Grillo

8:30 a.m. Barbara Keller

Saturday, July 11, 2020

Feast of St. Benedict, Abbot

8:30 a.m. Maureen Gormley

Saturday, July 11, 2020

Vigil: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the
D'Addato and Mazzanti Families

Sunday, July 12, 2020

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Giovanni Verbene

10:30 a.m. Bruce Pisano

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

WEDDING BANNs

I. Nicholas Vazquez and Leila Zambrano

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, July 11th

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m.

Mass Schedule – Summer 2020: Just another reminder that for reasons cited often before regarding the proper cleaning of the church, we have changed the times for our Masses on the weekend. The Vigil Mass time on Saturday remains the same: 5:00 p.m.; Sunday Mass times are: 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.; and 12:30 p.m. We will have one daily Mass (Monday – Saturday) in the morning at 8:30 a.m. After that, the church will be closed – although the chapel will remain open as usual.

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation: We have begun celebrating the Sacrament of Penance at St. John's on Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. in our main church. However, we will not be using our traditional "confessionals" (they would have to be sanitized after each penitent left the confessional.) In order to maintain social distancing we will be offering this sacrament as part of a penance service – so all who wish to participate should arrive (wearing the required mask) at 4:00 p.m. The service will include prayers, a reading from scripture, a short homily and the presentation by each penitent of a written statement of personal sins which will be handed individually to the priest (no words spoken). A communal act of contrition will follow – with penance and absolution during which the penitent papers will be burned. A final blessing will conclude the service.

Second Collection – Summer 2020: In order to limit the interaction between ushers and parishioners at Mass, we will eliminate second collections until after Labor Day. If a second collection is scheduled for a particular Sunday, we will announce that at the beginning of Mass as usual – however, we will have the ushers pass the baskets only once – at the usual time. We ask envelope users to place both envelopes for that Sunday in that collection basket – and we ask everyone to be as generous as their means permit.

Welcome Back: Last Monday, an old and dear friend returned from an extended hibernation in Florida. Although he has been cleared of any virus, out of an abundance of caution and to reassure those who are very anxious about this terrible virus, Msgr. is isolating for 14 days and will not be celebrating Mass for a bit. We remind those who continue to be concerned about contracting Covid-19, that they should avoid coming to Mass until they are ready. If anyone wishes to contact Msgr. Birkle, please call the rectory and we will get a message to him. It is a joy to have you back, Msgr. Walter!

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Gerald Marolda and Richard Sullivan who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Religious Education Program: 2020 - 2021 registration for **new** families for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program has begun. **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.

Help Needed: Share your faith! If you are reading this, chances are that you are someone who participates in Sunday worship, know the "basics" of our Catholic faith, and is/was an effective teacher of your own or others' children. Would you like to discuss volunteering in our Religious Education or R.C.I.A. programs? Please call Angela Minichilli at 914-965-2338 if you would like to explore this exciting and spiritually rewarding ministry.

Practical Matters:

1. The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Parishioners may contribute 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.
2. Our parish office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
3. Please consult our parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org) for updates on parish events and activities.

Renew and Rebuild: We would like to point out – once again -- the improvements we have made in our church during the suspensions of Masses and services due to Covid-19. To be noted are: The cleaning and varnishing of our pews; cleaning of the church carpet; painting, plastering and (in the case of the ceiling) varnishing in the Yonkers Avenue vestibule; refinishing of the chapel and St. John's Avenue church doors. No one could miss the scaffolding on either side of the front of the church to allow masonry work on part of the roof and the façade of the church. Next week we expect work to begin in the lower church and the stained glass windows on "Mary's side" of the church. All of this work is made possible thanks to the sacrifices you made a year ago – and continue to make as you fulfill the pledges you made to our Renew and Rebuild campaign. May God bless you and your generosity!

K.O.C. Raffles: The Knights of Columbus has begun their Annual Charitable and Benevolent (C&B) raffle drive and ask for your support while giving you chances to win: \$25,000 Grand Prize, \$10,000 Second Prize, \$5,000 Third Prize and \$1,000 Prizes (10 will be drawn). Although we usually sell the tickets outside the Church and hope to do that again soon...this year we are providing various low-touch/no-touch methods for you to get your raffles, including an online purchase option. To find out more and purchase your tickets, please visit our website at <https://jrko3995.wixsite.com/kofc3995/c-b-raffles>.

C.R.S. Rice Bowl: A check in the amount of \$522.00 was sent to Catholic Relief Services. Thank you to everyone that participated this year.

Reappointment: Msgr. Maloney has received a letter from Cardinal Dolan reappointing him as Pastor /Administrator of St. John the Baptist. The Cardinal sets forth the Archdiocesan guideline for such a renewal: "Your term expires on June 30, 2021, the year you will reach your eightieth birthday." The Cardinal expresses his good wishes to the faithful parishioners of St. John's.

PRAYER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

*Almighty God, Father of all nations,
for freedom you have set us free in Christ Jesus.*

*We praise you and bless you for the gift of religious liberty,
the foundation of human rights, justice, and the common good.*

*Grant to our leaders the wisdom to protect and promote our liberties;
by your grace may we have the courage to defend them,
for ourselves and for all those who live in this blessed land.*

*We ask this through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, our patroness,
and in the name of your son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen*