

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

**Pastor:** Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

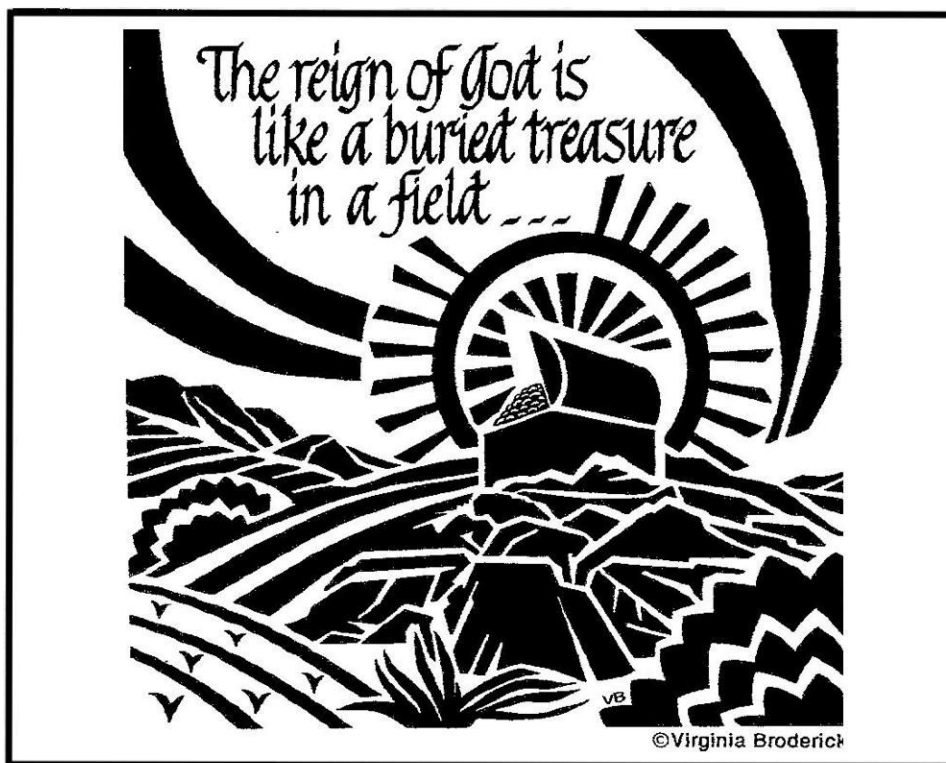
**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

**Retired Priest:** Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

July 26, 2020  
17th 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 26, 2020**

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:** Every time we have an election year, we can be sure that some politicians will start waxing eloquent about “family values”. Well, each of our readings this Sunday focuses on the question of values.

In today’s first reading from the Old Testament’s First Book of Kings (1Kgs. 3:5-12) Solomon has been asked by God: “If you could have anything you asked for, what would it be?” His answer reflected what he valued first and foremost, not wealth or fame or long life, but wisdom; the wisdom to govern God’s people with justice and care.

St. Paul in our second reading (Rom. 8:28-30) assures us that those who value the kingdom and love God above all else will be blessed with goodness in this life and glory in the next.

Finally in the gospel (Mt. 3:44-52) Jesus presents us with the familiar parables about the treasure and the pearl. He uses them as metaphors of the kingdom He came to establish. Through these parables we are invited to consider the value we place on God’s kingdom – to consider how clearly our lives reflect our choices and how effectively we give witness of our choices to others.

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### **SPECIAL SAINTS’ DAYS THIS WEEK**

#### **Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> – St. Martha**

Today we honor the sister of Mary and Lazarus. Martha was a model of hospitality, but her activism sometimes made her “anxious and worried” as Jesus reminded her (Luke 11:41). She is best remembered for her beautiful expression of faith in Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God, after the death of Lazarus (John 11:25-27).

#### **Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> – St. Peter Chrysologus**

This bishop and doctor of the Church was born in 380 A.D. in Italy. He was a man of great personal piety and was a gifted eloquent preacher (he was nicknamed “golden-mouth”). He was also a fierce defender of the faith and opponent of heresy.

#### **Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> – St. Ignatius Loyola**

St. Ignatius lived in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and is perhaps best known as the founder of the Jesuits. He has been named the patron saint of retreats and spiritual exercises and the community he founded has had a tremendous influence on schools and colleges all over the world. His motto is “ad majorem Dei gloriam” – for the greater glory of God.

#### **Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – Alphonsus Liguori**

Today is the memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori, the founder of the order of the Redemptorists. He lived in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and made a tremendous contribution to moral theology. He was a fierce opponent of the narrow, rigorist religious attitude known as Jansenism.

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**Feast of the Assumption:** Most years we celebrate this feast as a holy day of obligation; however, when August 15<sup>th</sup> falls on a Saturday (as it does this year) or a Monday our Bishops have determined that attending Mass for this feast is not a matter of obligation for Catholics. As a result, we will have only **one** Mass for the

Feast of the Assumption this year: on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. There will be no vigil Mass on Friday evening; nor will there be a noon Mass on Saturday. We encourage everyone to honor our Blessed Mother in some way on August 15<sup>th</sup> – if not by attending Mass, then by praying the rosary that day.

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, July 25, 2020**

**Vigil: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the  
Gullotta Family

**Sunday, July 26, 2020**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m. Nora, John and Michael Mee

10:30 a.m. Michael and Guy Bastardi and  
Daniel Longo – 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

12:30 p.m. Edward Makowski and Ann and  
Daniel Fama

**Monday, July 27, 2020**

8:30 a.m. Francesca and Vincenzo Zambito

8:30 a.m. Peter Bernardini

**Tuesday, July 28, 2020**

8:30 a.m. Pietro Canale

8:30 a.m. Frank Zito

**Wednesday, July 29, 2020**

**Feast of St. Martha**

8:30 a.m. Martha Colombini

8:30 a.m. Katherine Massell

**Thursday, July 30, 2020**

**Feast of St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop and Doctor of  
the Church**

8:30 a.m. Special Intention

8:30 a.m. Jonathan Maldonado

**Friday, July 31, 2020**

**Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest**

8:30 a.m. In Thanksgiving

8:30 a.m. Rita Hoey

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**

**Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of  
the Church**

8:30 a.m. Andrew Marshall

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**

**Vigil: Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 p.m. Carmela and Antonio Falsetta

**Sunday, August 2, 2020**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m. Patricia Sullivan

10:30 a.m. Christopher Joyce

12:30 p.m. Margaret Linton

## **WEDDING BANNES**

**III. Thomas Arciuolo and Gina Traub**

**II. Ronald Coleman II and Alicia Waldie**

**II. Krystian Witkowski and Jessica Arabia**

**I. Frank Morales and Jennifer Gomez**

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## **WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR**

**Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m.

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**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:** This sacrament is celebrated every Saturday afternoon at St. John's at 4:00 p.m. 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.

**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 Minchilli at

914-965-2338 if you would like to explore this exciting and spiritually rewarding ministry.

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**Rest in Peace:** Let us pray for Richard Wadsworth and Jack L. Romano 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.

**Practical Matters:**

1. The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Parishioners may contribute 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.
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](http://www.sjbyonkers.org)) for updates on parish events and activities.

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (popularly known as “RCIA”)** is the process designed by the Church for adults to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. The goals are to give a complete overview of Catholic teaching and practice and to begin to deepen a Christian spiritual life centered in the Sunday Scripture readings. The sacraments are received at the Easter Vigil Mass. **It is open to adults who:**

- Have never been baptized; they would be preparing for all three sacraments.
- Were baptized in a non-Catholic Christian denomination who are interested in becoming Catholic; they would be preparing for Confirmation and First Communion.
- Were baptized Catholic but never received Confirmation and/or Communion; they would be preparing for the sacraments they have not yet received.

The 2020-2021 program at St. John's which prepares adults (and older adolescents) to receive sacraments will begin in October. However, if you (or anyone you know) is interested in learning more about our program, please leave your name at the rectory 963-1486.

**N.Y.S. Phase Four:** As our area begins to “re-open” according to New York State guidelines, religious services are no longer limited to 25% of capacity – but now are permitted to allow one third capacity. St. John's Mass attendance has been well below this.

**Helping Our A/C:** During the summer months we try to keep the church as comfortable as we can. When we have very hot and humid days, that effort is only partially successful. Our church is large, and inevitably, the church doors are opened frequently as people enter and leave the church. We do try to keep our “outside” doors closed – except at the end of Mass, when many parishioners leave together. The doors leading to Yonkers Avenue are usually closed by the ushers, once most parishioners have left the church. The door leading out to St. John's Avenue from the chapel is usually not staffed by an usher – and some individuals insist on “hooking that door open” – an act of kindness that results in hot air coming into the chapel and the church – and effectively reducing the comfort level in the church. Con Edison gets quite enough from us, without our having to pay to “cool” St. John's Avenue. Please help!

**School Closings:** Our hearts go out to the parents and children who received the terrible news just a couple of weeks ago that their parish school was closing – immediately! Even if we understand the reasons that necessitated that difficult decision, it doesn't make the pain that is felt any easier to bear. We have tried here at St. John's to accommodate as many children (who had been enrolled at either St. Paul's or St. Ann's) as we could – but our student registration was already high – and Sr. Maryalice has been working overtime (with a lot of help from her assistant Joanne Sanchez and others) to try to develop strategies that will conform with the need for social distancing and regular sanitizing. We hope and pray that all parents in our Yonkers community who wish to send their children to a Catholic school will be successful. We also hope and pray that our schools will be able to open with regular classroom instruction in September! St. Thomas Aquinas, patron saint of schools, teachers and students – pray for us!