

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

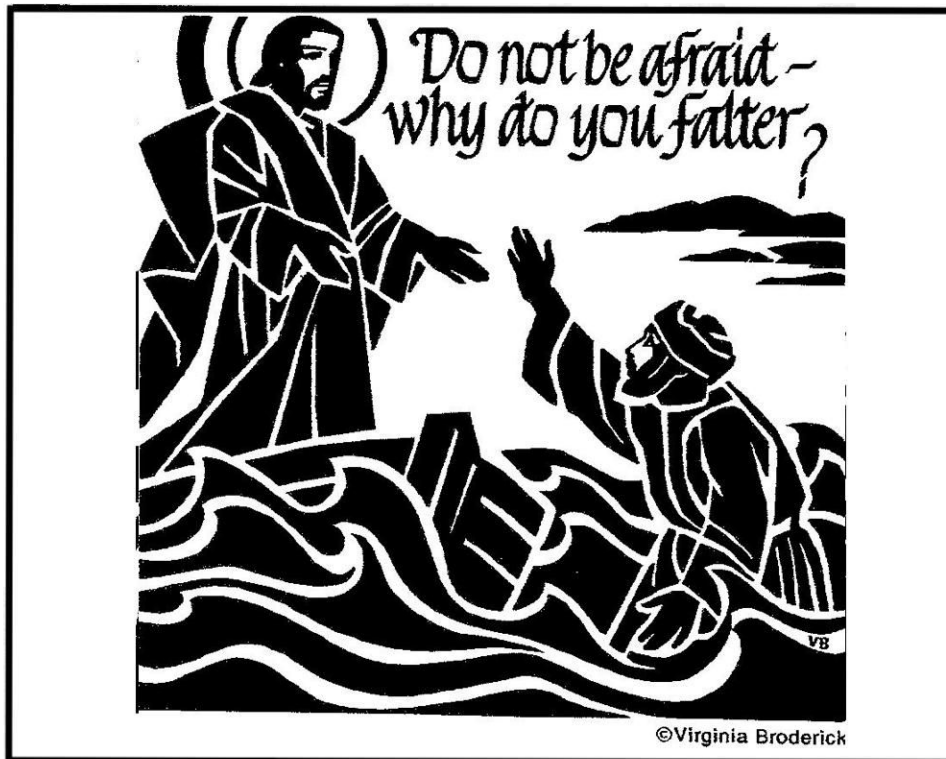
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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August 9, 2020
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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

August 9, 2020

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Many themes appear in today's readings from Sacred Scripture: our own discouragement and God's compassion; perseverance in the journey; true Christian life; Jesus as the bread of heaven. The readings show us that, just as God is our companion on life's long and sometimes disheartening journey, so we must be companions for one another, offering support and encouragement whenever we can.

In today's first reading (1 Kgs. 19:4-8) Elijah has triumphed over the prophets of Baal but had to flee for his life in the face of Queen Jezebel's wrath. He is so depressed that he prays for death. Instead, God sends an angel to provide him with a hearth cake and a jug of water. These strengthen him to make the long journey to the mountain of God.

This food for the journey, or viaticum, becomes for Christians Jesus himself, the bread of life. This is why the Eucharist, which sustains us throughout our life, is also the premier sacrament of the dying. Jesus walks with us on our final journey just as He did along the way.

For our part we must live as if we truly believe this. In today's second reading (Eph. 4:30-5:2) Paul exhorts us to do nothing to sadden the Holy Spirit. He spells out exactly what this means: no bitterness or anger, no slander or harsh words. It should make a difference that we are Christians. Our lives are changed because we have met Jesus.

Just as the Angel comforted Elijah, and Jesus walks with each of us, so should we reach out to those who are overcome by the rigors of life's journey. Whenever we can, we are called to offer a comforting word, a bit of advice, a sympathetic ear, a stern but loving reproof. We must also be open to those who see our needs and try to minister to us. Jesus is the source of life for us; we in turn become a source of life for one another.

SPECIAL SAINTS DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, August 10th – St. Lawrence

A deacon in the Church in Rome in the third century, Lawrence is said to have been responsible for caring for the poor. He was martyred for the faith during the persecution of the Emperor Valerian. It is said that Lawrence's courage so infuriated his persecutors that they ordered him to suffer the painful death of being burned over hot coals on a white hot gridiron.

Tuesday, August 11th – St. Clare

As a teenager, Clare was deeply moved by the preaching of another citizen of her native Assisi – St. Francis. The two became friends and Clare decided to live the gospel as literally and fully as Francis did. In time she founded an order of nuns (Poor Clares) and because of her reputation for holiness and wisdom she became the counselor of bishops, cardinals – and even the Pope himself! St. Clare died in 1253 at the age of fifty-nine.

Wednesday, August 12th – St. Frances de Chantal

Wife and mother of seven, Jane lived in France in the early seventeenth century. After her husband died, she asked the great St. Francis de Sales to be her spiritual director. She spent the last years of her life caring for the sick and eventually founded a religious order, the Visitation Sisters.

Thursday, August 13th – Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus

In the 3rd century, the Roman persecution of the early Church was fierce – many Christians were jailed, exiled, tortured, and put to death. Pontian was a pope who died in 235; Hippolytus was a priest and theologian who died the same year.

Friday, August 14th – St. Maximilian Kolbe

Fr. Kolbe was born in Poland in 1894; he entered the Franciscan Order and after his ordination he first taught in Poland, then did missionary work in Japan and India. He was recalled to Poland shortly before the Germans invaded in 1939. As a leader in the Catholic resistance, Kolbe was imprisoned in Auschwitz. When the Nazi guards of the camp decided to execute 10 prisoners as an example to the others, Kolbe asked to take the place of a married man with a family. He was killed on August 14, 1941.

Saturday, August 15th – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Today, together with the whole Church, we honor Mary – not just because she was the mother of God, but because by her faith, courage, and total dedication to God's will, she is the model for and mother of all believers. Today's feast is also an important reminder of the innate goodness of the human person. Due in part to the influence of Greek philosophy, some Christian thinkers in the early centuries of the Church became increasingly uncomfortable with the physical side of our human nature. The body came to be regarded as an impediment to a truly holy life; only our spiritual dimension was worthy of our call to perfection as children of God. Unfortunately, we still often deal with aspects of that kind of thinking.

Mary's Assumption goes a long way toward rebalancing these tilted scales. Mary could not have lived out her spiritual commitment without the involvement of her physical body. Therefore her entire being, body and soul, was taken to heaven. Her body was fittingly spared the corruption of the grave. The God of Genesis declares that all creation is decidedly good. The summit of that creation is the human person – made in God's image.

It is only right, therefore, that we celebrate a feast honoring Mary's complete personhood. By so doing we are celebrating the goodness of all humanity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 8, 2020

Vigil: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Rosemary D'Addato

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Antonio Catolano

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the
Grady Family

12:30 p.m. Rui George

Monday, August 10, 2020

Feast of St. Lawrence, Deacon

8:30 a.m. Jake Insogna

8:30 a.m. Martin Joe Coyne – 1st Anniversary

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Feast of St. Clare, Virgin

8:30 a.m. Ruth and Vincent Favata

8:30 a.m. Jonathan Maldonado

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Feast of St. Jane Frances De Chantel, Religious

8:30 a.m. Harry Gable

8:30 a.m. Marie Byrne

Thursday, August 13, 2020

*Feast of Sts. Pontian, Pope and Hippolytus, Priest,
Martyrs*

8:30 a.m. Jesus Maria Moya Molina

8:30 a.m. Jacomina Tonesi

Friday, August 14, 2020

Feast of St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

8:30 a.m. Kevin Kerins

8:30 a.m. Elisa Cianfagione

Saturday, August 15, 2020

Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. Sabino Morano

Saturday, August 15, 2020

Vigil: Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Julia Campione

Sunday, August 16, 2020

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the
Mc Avoy Family

10:30 a.m. Teresa and Aldo Cimaroli

12:30 p.m. Henry, Catherine, Rae and
Anthony Tavernia

WEDDING BANNES

III. Frank Morales and Jennifer Gomez

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, August 15th

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m.

Feast of the Assumption: Most years we celebrate this feast as a holy day of obligation; however, when August 15th 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 15th 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 15th – if not by attending Mass, then by praying the rosary that day.

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.

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.

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, knows 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.

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.

Summer Reminders: As summer enters the “dog days of August”, we may begin to see a certain “casualness” enter into our spiritual and religious life. Casualness doesn’t refer only to dress. St. John’s is air conditioned – but often the number of people in church as well as the continued opening of doors can defeat our efforts to make the church comfortable. Summer dress (like shorts and short sleeve shirts) is certainly appropriate for the hot summer months. The casualness that should be avoided has to do with such things as skipping Mass, neglecting prayer, forgetting about confession, etc. It also has to do with coming to church late or leaving early – or not entering into the prayers (or hymns) of the Mass. Summer should be a time of rest and relaxation so that the body and spirit can be refreshed and renewed. Let’s never let relaxation become sloth.