

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

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

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

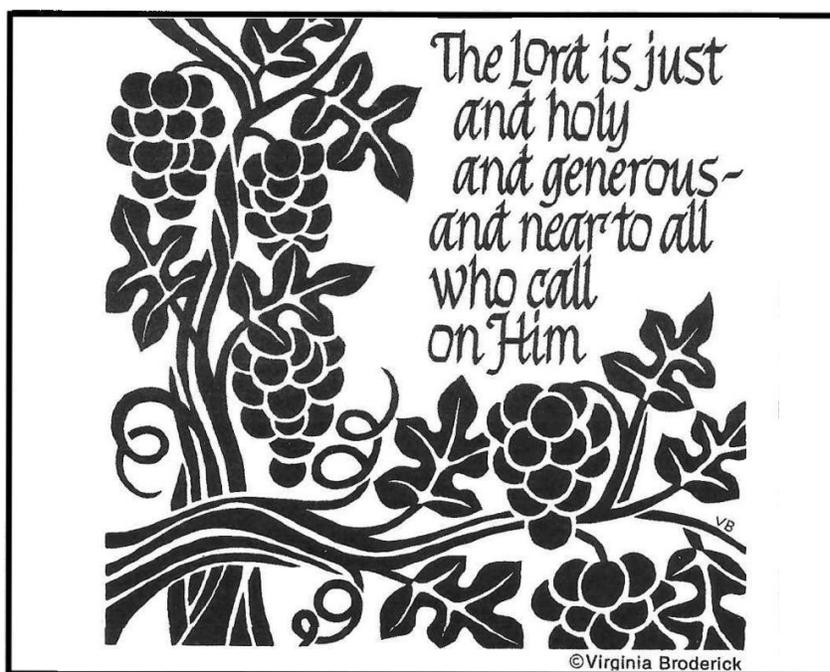
**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

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

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

September 20, 2020  
25th 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:**  
8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

**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**

**September 20, 2020**

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:** Today's readings, particularly Our Lord's parable in today's gospel (Mt. 20:1-6) are among the most challenging in biblical literature. Human expectations are turned upside down; natural concepts of fairness are shaken; society's standards of success are questioned. Our nation's much touted ideal of "the good life" is redefined. Anyone who has ever been tempted to dismiss the Bible as naïve and fanciful is faced with defeat today. These passages are so real, so down to earth, and so completely demanding, that they leave no room for naïveté or fancy. This is the life, the "ordinary time" of the committed Christian.

What do the prophet Isaiah, St. Paul and Our Lord say that is so difficult? Put simply, they tell us that we must let God be God. Much as we might wish it were so, God does not play by our rules. God's thoughts are as high above our thoughts "as the heavens are above the earth."

In today's first reading (Is. 55:6-9) Isaiah reminds Israel that redemption and forgiveness are at hand solely because of God's generosity. Nothing the Israelites might do, nothing we might do, "earns" God's forgiveness; it is a gift freely given. In our second reading (Phil. 1:20-27) St. Paul, writing from prison and facing the possibility of death, voices his conviction that both life and death are desirable since living means working for Christ and dying means union with Him.

Our Lord's parable of the workers in the vineyards can cause even the most devoted of us to cringe. We often sympathize with the grumbling all-day workers, not because the owner doesn't value their work, but because we think he "owes" them more than the others. For all of us, the parable presents the opportunity to search our hearts and discover whether we really love one another deeply enough to rejoice in God's universal generosity.

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### **SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS THIS WEEK**

#### **Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> – St. Matthew**

This Jewish man – a despised tax collector who worked for the occupying Romans, was called by Jesus to be one of the first apostles. He is the one credited with the gospel that appears first in the New Testament; His gospel indicates the way Jesus fulfilled the promises God made to the Jewish people as recorded in the Old Testament.

#### **Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> – St. Padre Pio**

This Capuchin priest born in Italy in 1887 spent fifty years of his life in a monastery far from the capitol of the world, where he worked, prayed, was a spiritual mentor to thousands and inspired millions by the courage with which he bore the "stigmata" – the sign of the Lord's wounds – in his own body.

#### **Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> – St. Cosmos and Damian**

These two brothers lived at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. They both became physicians who worked with the Church in Syria to take care of the sick poor – whom they served without charge. They are patrons of doctors, surgeons, and pharmacists.

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## MASS INTENTIONS

*Saturday, September 19, 2020*

*Vigil: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 p.m. Sophia Naryniecki

*Sunday, September 20, 2020*

*Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 a.m. Ana M. Arias

10:30 a.m. Evelyn and Alfred Moccio

12:30 p.m. Maria and Luigi Milizia

*Monday, September 21, 2020*

*Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*

8:00 a.m. Stephen Masiello

12:00 noon Eileen Dillon

*Tuesday, September 22, 2020*

8:00 a.m. Modestina Rinaldi

12:00 noon Consuela Rosario

*Wednesday, September 23, 2020*

*Feast of St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest*

8:00 a.m. Luigi Cassano

12:00 noon Yolanda Guglielmi

*Thursday, September 24, 2020*

8:00 a.m. John Kenney and Conrad  
Leongini

12:00 noon Richard Callanan, Jr.

*Friday, September 25, 2020*

8:00 a.m. Helen O’Gorman -- Living

12:00 noon Julia LaMar

*Saturday, September 26, 2020*

*Feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyr*

8:30 a.m. Karin and John Harrer

*Saturday, September 26, 2020*

*Vigil: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Sankar  
and Greene Families

*Sunday, September 27, 2020*

*Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

8:30 a.m. Bridget McGarvey

10:30 a.m. Maria and Francesco Viadante

12:30 p.m. Maria Milizia

## WEDDING BANNES

*I. Anthony Scuderi and Kristen Robertson*

## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

*Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>*

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m.

### St. John’s Mass Schedule:

- a) **Daily Mass:** As of Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we resumed our 12:00 noon Mass, and we also moved our 8:30 a.m. Mass back to 8:00 a.m. Our new daily Mass schedule for the rest of 2020 and continuing into 2021 will be: two daily Masses (Monday – Friday) at 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. On Saturday our one daily Mass in the morning will be at 8:30 a.m.
- b) **Sunday Mass:** Because of the ongoing need to allow time between Masses to properly sanitize our church, we have decided to **permanently change** our Mass schedule on Sunday to **three** Masses: at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; the Saturday vigil Mass remains the same at 5:00 p.m.

**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.

**Religious Education News:** Registration for all classes for the 2020-21 academic year officially closed as of Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. Parents may inquire about a possible “waiting list” for some grade levels (not 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>!); there might be a few students who move in the next week or so. The program will begin on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> – the first day of class.

**Rest in Peace:** Let us pray for Phyllis Romano who was buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to her family and friends.

**Second Collection – Summer and Fall 2020:** In order to limit the interaction between ushers and parishioners at Mass, we will eliminate second collections until further notice. 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](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. 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) are interested in learning more about our program, please leave your name at the rectory 963-1486.

**CCD Assistance:** We could still use some help with our 2020-21 Religious Education Program! 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 Minichilli at 914-965-2338 if you would like to explore this exciting and spiritually rewarding ministry.

**Job Opportunity:** Yonkers Public School is looking to hire per diem nurses. Please contact Irene Tartas, M.P. at 914-376-8226.

**Welcome to St. John’s:** Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. Being a registered parishioner makes things much easier when it is time for infant baptism, school registration, weddings, and when asked to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor. We are often asked to provide affidavits for baptismal and confirmation sponsors. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. Registration forms are available at the exits of the church and in the rectory.

**Making Plans:** Because of scheduling, the notes for this bulletin are prepared several days in advance – so we have not been able to judge how well the first couple of weeks of school have gone. However once we are able to do that – and once we are notified of any changes (from the Archdiocese or New York State/Westchester County) regarding “social events” (as opposed to “religious services”), then perhaps we can begin to discuss with our parish societies (Seniors, R.A.S., H.N.S., etc.) the possibility of planning meetings and other activities. Until then, however, such discussions have to be put “on hold.” This, unfortunately, is an inescapable part of the “new normal!” Stay tuned.

**K. of C. Membership:** In honor of the upcoming beatification of its founder, Fr. Michael McGivney, for a limited time the Knights of Columbus is offering Catholic men in New York State one year of **FREE** online membership. By selecting the “**Join**” menu at [www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org) and entering **NYKOFC** in the promo code, busy Catholic family men and professionals can instantly be part of the largest Catholic fraternal benefit society for **FREE**. No credit card will be required. Catholic men aged 18 and up are encouraged to take advantage of this no-risk opportunity. Online members have the option of transitioning to traditional, council-based membership with a local council. For more information contact Bob Maffucci at **917-319-5525** or email [robert.maffucci@kofc.org](mailto:robert.maffucci@kofc.org).