

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

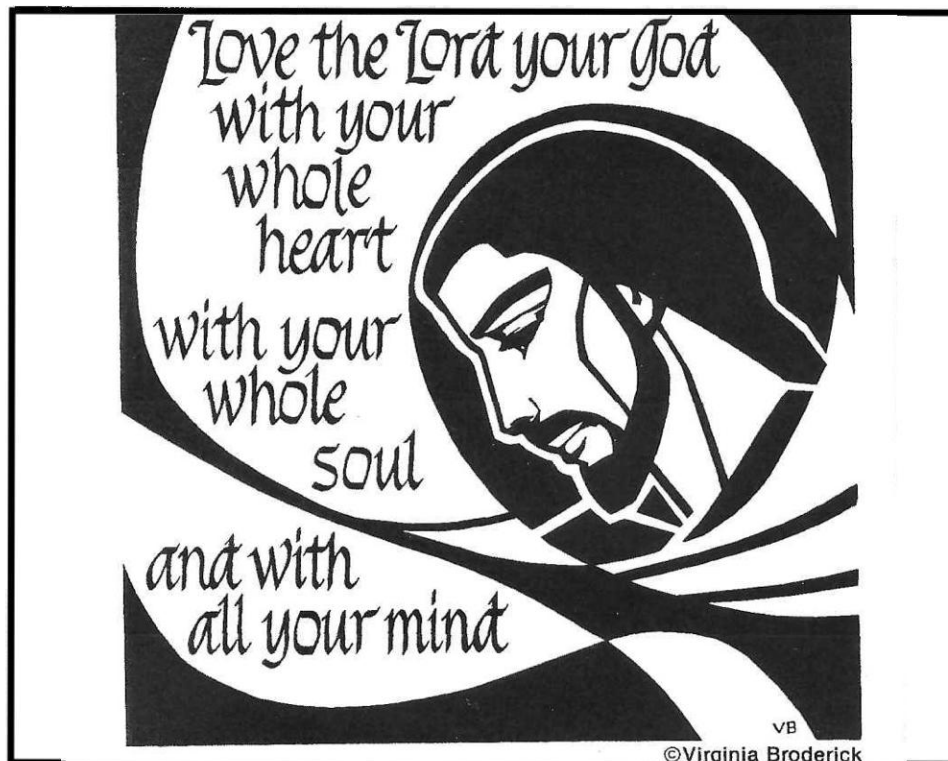
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

October 25, 2020
30th 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**
By appointment only

**Sacrament of
Marriage**
Make arrangements six months
prior to wedding

**Sacrament of
Baptism**
Every Sunday
after the 12:30 Mass

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 25, 2020

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Today's readings provide us with a very contemporary challenge. Love, not law, is the most essential characteristic of a truly moral society. In the end, we will not be judged by our Gross National Product, but by our willingness to put human values first. Today's first reading from the Book of Exodus (Ex. 22:20-26) is part of the "covenant code," stipulations for daily life. Although the directives refer to the nomadic life of desert wanderers living some 3000 years ago, they strike at the heart of many issues facing Christians today. These words can remind us that we were "aliens" ourselves – and some of the most prominent people in our national life are descended from ethnic groups who were once scorned for their poverty, their lack of education, their "un-American" customs, even their Catholic faith. This Sunday we are reminded once again that our God is a God of compassion. Can the same be said of us, made in God's image?

In today's gospel (Mt. 22:34-40) Jesus gives the answer in one word: love. True love of ourselves, our neighbors, our God, will motivate us to make choices based on human, not economic, factors. To love God is to acknowledge God, to accept the demands of the covenant, to commit ourselves to work tirelessly for the good of humanity and all of creation. Saint Paul assures us that, as hard as all this is, if we receive the word "despite great trials," we will surely know "the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit."

SPECIAL SAINT'S DAY THIS WEEK

Wednesday, October 28th – Sts. Simon and Jude

These two saints are numbered among the chosen twelve – but they are apostles about whom we know very little. Simon is the "zealot" (not Simon Peter) who is said to have preached in Egypt; Jude (or Thaddeus) is known today as the saint of impossible cases.

The Days of the Dead: Next Saturday evening we begin our annual Christian harvest festival – God's harvest festival celebrated on Halloween (October 31st), All Saints Day (November 1st) and All Souls (November 2nd). Although some of the activities of these days may have had their beginnings in re-Christian Celtic practices, still they continue to have meaning for all of us – even those who have never met a Druid. On Halloween, we begin the festivities with storytelling by candle light (or a fire inside a pumpkin) as at any vigil. The customs of these days can certainly bear a positive Christian interpretation: trick or treat (door to door hospitality); jack-o-lanterns (a "welcome home" lamp); apple bobbing and candy treats (a foretaste of the abundance of God's Kingdom). Even the costumes are a sign of the kingdom where all the faithful will be raised in glory.

All Souls Day: November is the month that we pray for all our dearly departed. On All Souls Day, November 2nd, we remember our friends and loved ones who have gone before us into eternal life. Those whose names are returned to us on All Souls envelopes will be remembered at all Masses at St. John's during the month of November. Envelopes are available at the exits of the church for those who have not received them in the mail.

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 soon. However, if you (or anyone you know) are interested in learning more about our program, please leave your name at the rectory 963-1486.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 24, 2020

Vigil: Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Raffaele Rinaldi

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

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

Monday, October 26, 2020

8:00 a.m. Cecilia Stewart

12:00 noon Eddie Dillion -- Anniversary

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

8:00 a.m. Concepcion Alvar -- Living

12:00 noon Michele Lovecchio

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

Feast of Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles

8:00 a.m. Sergio Trindade

12:00 noon Frank Zito – 5th Anniversary

Thursday, October 29, 2020

8:00 a.m. Mrs. Di Salvo

12:00 noon Anne Talty

Friday, October 30, 2020

8:00 a.m. Assunta and Maurice Capobianco

12:00 noon Anna Canale

Saturday, October 31, 2020

8:30 a.m. Joseph Economico

Saturday, October 31, 2020

Vigil: Feast of All Saints

5:00 p.m. Mass for the Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist

Sunday, November 1, 2020

Feast of All Saints

8:30 a.m. Settimia, Angelo and Enzo
Soprano

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Slattery
and Kerby Families and Richard A.
Gueren

12:30 p.m. Patricia Rath

WEDDING BANNES

II. Salvatore Delvecchio and Briana Limitone

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 28th

R.E. – Grades 1-5, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. – School

R.E. – Grades 6-8, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. – School

Friday, October 30th

Cub Scout Meeting – 5:30 p.m. Parking Lot

Special Month: October is considered the Month of the Holy Rosary – a time for special devotion to Our Lady. During our sung Masses this month our Communion Hymn will be a Marian hymn. We encourage everyone to pray the rosary during October.

Time Change: For many years, Daylight Savings Time ended and we returned to Standard Time on the last Sunday in October; however, a few years ago, Congress in its wisdom decided to extend D.S.T. for one week. Which means that D.S.T. will end on Sunday, November 1st at 2:00 a.m. Clocks should be turned **BACK** by 2:00 a.m. on November 1st (so better do it before going to bed on Saturday, October 31st). Remember: “Spring Ahead! Fall back!” This means we gain an hour of sleep.

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation: The Archdiocese of New York has determined that this Sacrament should only be celebrated individually. Therefore we will no longer hold our Saturday afternoon Penance Service. For the foreseeable future, since we are unable to use confessionals, the Sacrament of Penance will be available by appointment only. Please call the rectory for further details.

A Little While: Hard as it is to believe, we have reached the end of Msgr. Birkle’s annual sojourn at St. John’s. On Tuesday, October 20th he returned to Florida where he will spend the winter assisting at St. Patrick’s parish in Palm Beach Gardens and missing all of us at St. John’s desperately! We thank him for his priestly service among us and wish him “Bon Voyage!” Please keep Msgr. Birkle in your prayers.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Kathleen Goldstein and Dorothy Gandolfi who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

St. John's Mass Schedule:

- a) **Daily Mass:** 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:** In order to properly sanitize our church, we have **changed** 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.

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Second Collection: In order to limit the interaction between ushers and parishioners at Mass, we will eliminate second collections until further notice. The ushers will pass the baskets only once – at the usual time. If a second collection has been scheduled, we ask envelope users to place both envelopes for that Sunday in the 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.

Important Reminder: We make every effort to sanitize our church before and after every Mass – and we offer sanitizers at our church entrances for those who don't have their own. We ask all of our parishioners to wear masks while they are in church. This is a requirement by both the archdiocese of New York and New York State. Just as importantly it is an example of practical charity; even if we find wearing a mask difficult, our concern for the health and wellbeing of others should overcome our personal preferences. In addition, we ask everyone to observe “social distancing” both in where we sit in church and especially in coming to communion. What we want to avoid is making people feel anxious about coming to St. John's for Mass.

H.S. Open Houses: Most high schools will probably be hosting some form of “Open House” this fall (1) Fordham Prep provides admission and virtual events information at fordhamprep.org/admissions (2) Ursuline virtual open house is on Sunday, November 1st and Wednesday, November 4th; register at www.ursulinenewrochelle.org/admissions or call 914-500-6227.

Election Preparation: All Catholics should be active informed citizens who participate in our democratic process by voting for all local, state, and national officials. It is important to know a candidate's position on critical issues of our time – issues regarding our defense against terrorism, our economy, education and health care. Catholics should demand that candidates maintain high standards of personal character and ethics. In addition, Catholics have a particular obligation to be informed about positions of candidates (especially for state and national offices) on such matters as abortion, partial-birth abortion, care of the elderly and infirm, and affordable medical care. In this Respect Life Month of October, Catholics should make sure that their voices are heard clearly in the political process. In their statement, “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,” the Bishops of the United States wrote: “As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group. When necessary, our participation should help transform the party to which we belong; we should not let the party transform us in such a way that we neglect or deny fundamental moral truths. We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a better world.”

Knights of Columbus: The Knights of Columbus will be selling raffles at the exits of the church on Saturday, October 31st after the 5:00 p.m. Mass and on Sunday, November 1st after all Masses.