

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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November 15, 2020
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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School
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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:
8:00 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

November 15, 2020

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Building on last week's images of the end of time and the need to be prepared, today's readings highlight fidelity to a commitment once embraced. Whether we speak of Baptism, marriage, or a religious call, once we have made a commitment, it is up to us to be faithful, both when convenient and when inconvenient.

The description of the "worthy wife" in today's first reading from the Old Testament's Book of Proverbs (Prv. 31:10-13) may strike some people as antiquated and hopelessly patriarchal. But consider the overall impact of this woman's qualities. She serves her husband, yes, but she does so because he "has entrusted his heart to her." She is skilled in many arts. She is mindful of and generous to the poor and the needy. And to her is attributed one of the most important biblical virtues: she "fears the Lord," rightly acknowledging her debt to the Creator. This is all high praise indeed, whether in post-exile Israel or in the 21st century United States. All of us, male or female, single or married, would do well to imitate this wonderful woman.

St. Paul in today's second reading (1 Thes. 5: 1-6) stresses the need to be always prepared. Our Lord in today's gospel (Mt. 25: 14-30) uses the parable of the talents to focus not on how many gifts or talents we have been given, but on how well we use them – how much good we do with them. Our Lord places the responsibility for our use of these gifts squarely on our shoulders. It is not up to the master to do our work for us. We are competent, capable creatures who have been made by a loving God. The responsibility is ours.

SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, November 16th – St. Margaret of Scotland

Born in Hungary in 1046, she married the King of Scotland and was mother of eight children. She was a queen whom her people loved and she devoted herself to the care of the poor and the sick. She is the patroness of Scotland.

Tuesday, November 17th – St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Born in 1207, this daughter of a king became the wife of another – but despite her royal connections, she devoted her life to prayer and work with the poor. She is the patroness of Catholic Charities.

Wednesday, November 18th – Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul in Rome

The original churches dedicated to these two pillars of the early church were built in the 4th century; the great edifices which every pilgrim to Rome visits today were built in the 17th and 19th century respectively. This feast reminds us of the ongoing debt that Christians owe to St. Peter and St. Paul.

Saturday, November 21st – Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast commemorates the dedication of the church of St. Mary in Jerusalem near the site of the sacred Temple. This feast also recalls the day on which – according to ancient tradition – Mary was presented to the Lord by her parents in the Temple.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 14, 2020

Vigil: Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Matilda Del Giudice –
12th Anniversary

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Sante Zangrilli
10:30 a.m. Christina Nadia and Sochan and
Myskiw families
12:30 p.m. Concetta Taibi

Monday, November 16, 2020

Feast of St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gertrude, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Mary “Maureen” McCabe
12:00 noon Frank Zito

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

Feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

8:00 a.m. Emma Federico
12:00 noon Seamus Farrelly

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

*Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of Sts. Peter and
Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin*

8:00 a.m. Yolanda and Joseph Razza and
Louis Iacoletti
12:00 noon Rev. Kenneth Ross

Thursday, November 19, 2020

8:00 a.m. Regina Capobianco
12:00 noon Rory O’Flaherty

Friday, November 20, 2020

8:00 a.m. Fortunato Galletti
12:00 noon Rosanna Ciardullo

Saturday, November 21, 2020

Feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. Sherry Enea

Saturday, November 21, 2020

Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

5:00 p.m. Catherine, Henry, Rae and Anthony
Tavernia

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8:30 a.m. Barbara Keller
10:30 a.m. Arturo Ramoni
12:30 p.m. Patricia Sullivan

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 18th

R.E. Grades 1st through 5th -- 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. – School
R.E. Grades 6th through 8th -- 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – School

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.

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.

Remembrance: November is the month that we pray for all our dearly departed. During this month, 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.

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.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Raymond J. Moniz, Gordon Adsluf and Carol A. Nardo who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

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.

National Holiday: Thanksgiving Day this year falls on Thursday, November 26th. As is our custom, we will have a special Vigil Mass on Wednesday evening, November 25th at 5:00 p.m. and one Mass on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day at 8:30 a.m. However, because of the many restrictions and concerns caused by Covid-19, our Thanksgiving Masses will be different this year. Children from our Religious Education Program and our school will not be assisting at our Vigil Mass on Wednesday evening; nor will our youth choir be singing (although we will have our organist Mr. John Stufano and one or two cantors at the Vigil Mass). We have also decided that it would not be wise for us to prepare breads that would ordinarily be blessed and distributed at our Thanksgiving Masses. This is one more sacrifice demanded by this pandemic. However what is most important is that we gather together as a community of faith to pray for each other, to pray for the sick among us (as well as those who care for them), to pray for our country and to give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings we have received – especially the opportunity to share the Eucharist! On the Friday after Thanksgiving we will have one Mass at 8:30 a.m. There will be no noon Mass on Friday, November 27th. Both the rectory and school office will be closed on Friday.

H.N.S. Thanksgiving Project: For several years the St. John's Holy Name Society would collect and package canned goods and other non-perishable food items – including turkeys – and would distribute them to needy families in the Yonkers community. Because of the pandemic, they will not be doing this until next year. We thank all of those who have supported this charitable effort in the past.

Turkey Bowl 50/50 Fundraiser: St. John's Home School Association is sponsoring a Turkey Bowl 50/50 Fundraiser to support St. John's school. The football game is the Dallas Cowboys vs. the Washington Football Team at 4:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Boxes are 50 points each. If you are interested in purchasing a box or for more information please text Julie at 646-709-2342. Thank you for supporting our school and its programs!

Christmas Planning: Based on past experience, two of our Christmas Masses – our Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m. on December 24th and our Mass at Midnight – have had unusually large numbers of parishioners in attendance – far more than are currently permitted by NY State and Archdiocesan guidelines. Currently Mass attendance at churches in Westchester is limited to between 33% and 50% of capacity – which for St. John's would be a little more than 200 parishioners. (Our Masses on Christmas Day should not cause any attendance problems.)

In order to guarantee that attendance at our Vigil Mass and Midnight Mass remains within the prescribed limits, we will require that parishioners have a ticket. Starting on Monday, November 30th, these tickets will be available at the rectory. There will be no charge for tickets – but we will restrict each family to no more than four (4) tickets. However, we will have a “waiting list” if any parishioner would like more than four; if we have tickets available on December 20th, we will contact those on the mailing list.

We regret the necessity for this limitation, but we feel it must be done so that those who do attend these Masses do not feel anxious about the possibility of violating the social distance guidelines required by the Archdiocese. Whatever the limitations, we are grateful that we will be able to celebrate Christmas Mass together as a parish.