

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

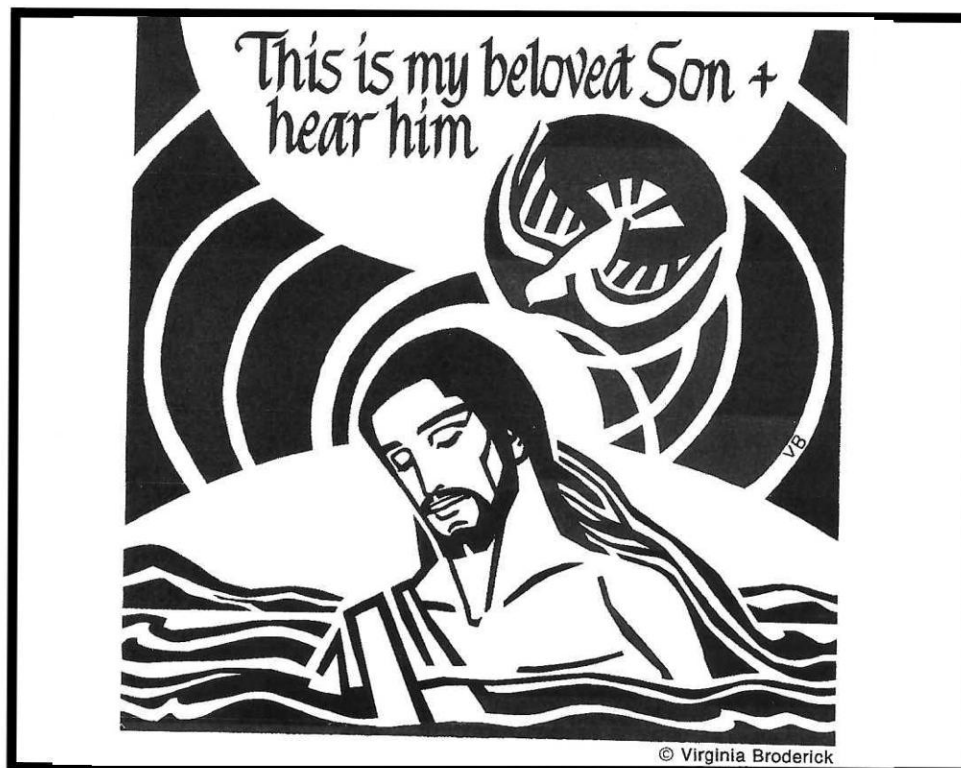
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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Yonkers, NY 10704
www.sjbyonkers.org

January 10, 2020
Baptism of the Lord

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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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 9, 2021

Vigil: Baptism of the Lord

5:00 p.m. Maria Carmela and Joseph
Federico, Sr.

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Baptism of the Lord

8:30 a.m. John Ricciardi
10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Schmidt
Family
12:30 p.m. Francesca Bonavita

Monday, January 11, 2021

8:00 a.m. Joseph Walsh
12:00 noon Pjeter Gjonaj

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

8:00 a.m. Elvira and Primo Vanadia
12:00 noon Megan Doran

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

*Feast of St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the
Church*

8:00 a.m. Anthony Marasciulo –
5th Anniversary
12:00 noon Betty Lane

Thursday, January 14, 2021

8:00 a.m. Catherine and Henry Rottman
12:00 noon Theresa, Gabrielle, Jr. and Sr.,
Irene Fahey and Kowgios Family

Friday, January 15, 2021

8:00 a.m. Alice Rice
12:00 noon Pdraig O'Reilly

Saturday, January 16, 2021

8:30 a.m. Anthony Gallicchio

Saturday, January 16, 2021

Vigil: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Rev. John Lennon

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Joseph Economico
10:30 a.m. Jen Wbanski
12:30 p.m. Barbara Keller – 5th Anniversary

WEDDING BANNES

III. Joseph Curbelo and Alfreiny Stengel-Curbelo

III. Evan Carrozza and Priscilla Saldivia

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 13th

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

Traditions of Christmas: All of the many customs and traditions of this wonderful season help to reinforce its message of love and joy and fellowship. We place wreaths on our front doors as a sign of victory – God's victory over sin and death. We hang mistletoe over our heads as a sign of love which triumphs over suspicion and hatred. We send cards and gifts to promote unity and charity. In some places it is customary to set the table at Christmas with an empty place setting and a chair to welcome strangers. Lights or candles are placed in windows to guide them to our home. We go from door to door singing carols to spread our joy and bring hospitality to all our neighbors.

At Christmas, the coming Christ turns winter into spring – so we banish darkness and cold with fragrant greens and brilliant flowers. Christ brings about a new creation – so we set a great tree of life in our midst and decorate it so that all creation can find rest in its branches.

Finally the coming of Christ is an invitation to a royal banquet so Christmas is our season to provide all our brothers and sisters with a harvest-rich bounty. Our eggnog toast reminds us of the Old Testament's Promised Land – a land flowing with milk and honey. The fact that Jesus has become our bread of life is celebrated at Christmas with special breads or cakes – stolen or panettone or fruitcake. Christmas is a celebration of all that is best in our humanity – a humanity which is clearly seen in Jesus as made in the likeness of God. So let us be joyful; let us celebrate; let us treasure the traditions of Christmas.

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 10, 2021

FEAST OF OUR LORD'S BAPTISM: The Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season concludes with one final manifestation of the relationship of Jesus to His Father. The story of the Baptism of the Lord carries with it the announcement by God acknowledging His Son, upon whom His favor rests. In the Opening Prayer, we ask that we may be kept faithful to our own baptism, making the connection between the presence of Christ in the world and our Baptismal response.

Today's preface captures the full meaning of Jesus' baptism: the voice and the dove both reveal Jesus as the Son of God and point to His ministry of service to the poor. Like Jesus, we are called to live our Baptismal commitment every day. The sacramental water seals us as sons and daughters of God and co-workers with Jesus, but we treat the sacrament as an empty ritual when we fail to do our part on behalf of the Kingdom.

Today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah (55:1-11) is also read at the Easter Vigil and it is a clear prophecy of the Sacrament of Baptism where people are drawn to the waters of everlasting life. The second reading from the first letter of St. John (5:1-9) continues the sacramental theme of this Mass – although the emphasis on “not by water alone, but by water and blood” unites the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist.

Finally in the Gospel (Mark 1:7-11) we read St. Mark's account of the Lord's baptism by John when the voice of the Father is heard to proclaim: “you are my beloved Son!” It is through baptism and the life of Christian witness that baptism begins in each and every one of us that we become beloved of God.

SPECIAL SAINT'S DAY THIS WEEK

Wednesday, January 13th – St. Hilary

St. Hilary was born in the city of Poitiers (France) in 300 a.d. Because of his outstanding holiness and leadership he was chosen to be a bishop at a time when the Church was engaged in a great struggle against a heresy known as Arianism – which in effect denied the divine nature of Jesus. Hilary was a staunch defender of orthodoxy and suffered much for his fidelity to the truth of the gospel.

Ordinary Time: This Sunday, the feast of the Lord's Baptism marks the official end of the Christmas Season; “Ordinary Time” (as it is called in the Church's liturgical calendar) begins on Monday, January 11th. After weeks of high festivity, it might seem as if Ordinary is just a slump into business as usual. In fact, there is a refreshing simplicity to Ordinary Time that feels good after all the exertions of the Christmas season. It's a little like coming home after an exciting trip. You appreciate the wallpaper. The fact that everything is in its accustomed spot seems not dull, but pleasant in an excellent way. Next Sunday will be the first time that the whole community will participate in the new season. Green is the color of Ordinary Time. Christmas decorations will soon be gone (though some Christmas flowers may remain). We pray that the special season of Christmas brought all of the members of St. John's family many graces and blessings.

New Year's Resolution: One resolution we can all make is to try to participate more fully and more prayerfully in the Mass. Coming to Mass on Sunday is truly THE most important thing we do in the whole week. We should try to arrive early, spend some time in prayer before Mass then actively respond to the prayers (and in sung Mass, the hymns) of the Mass. Whenever possible there should be some time after Mass for a brief Thanksgiving. At the very least let us resolve never to arrive late for Mass or leave Mass early during 2021.

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

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.

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.

Christmas Envelopes: For anyone who did not receive a Christmas envelope in the mail, they are available at the exits of the Church and in the sacristy. Christmas is traditionally a time for giving – because we are especially aware at this holy season of everything that God has given us through His Son. Your special sacrifice at this time of year does so much to insure that St. John’s will be able to meet the many needs of our people and continue to be such a special church in which to pray, to hear God’s word, and to receive the sacraments. God bless you for your goodness.

New Parishioners: If you are new to our parish community here at St. John’s we welcome you and invite you to become an active member of our parish – participating in any of the parish societies or organizations which may interest you. Please make sure to register with us. You can find new parishioner registration forms in the back of the church or in the rectory. Once completed, you can give them to one of the priests or ushers – or you may drop them off at the rectory during the week.

Dr. Martin Luther King: is honored by a national holiday a week from this Monday, on January 18th. May it be for all of us – whatever our race, color or ethnic background – an occasion to rededicate ourselves to the ideals for which he lived and died: justice for all: freedom for the oppressed; an end to violence, intolerance and prejudice. Dr. King seized every opportunity to remind us: “Do not model yourselves on the behavior of the world around but let your behavior change, modeled by your new mind” (Romans 12:2). Dr. King’s marches, his imprisonments, his writings, his speeches, his eloquent witness serve to stir our hearts and prod our consciences. May his dream live forever.

Remembering St. John the Baptist: The life of this beautiful Church of ours spans most of the twentieth century and thanks to the sacrifices of those who have gone before us it continues to serve people living in the twenty-first century! Please remember to assist St. John’s in its future work by including a gift in your will. Every Christian should have a will so that your loved ones will be provided for and the charitable work you support in life will also be supported after you pass from this life. Simply include a statement like the following in your will: “I leave to the Church of St. John the Baptist, 670 Yonkers Avenue, Yonkers, NY the sum of \$ _____ to be used for its general purposes.” God bless you for your thoughtfulness!