

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

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

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

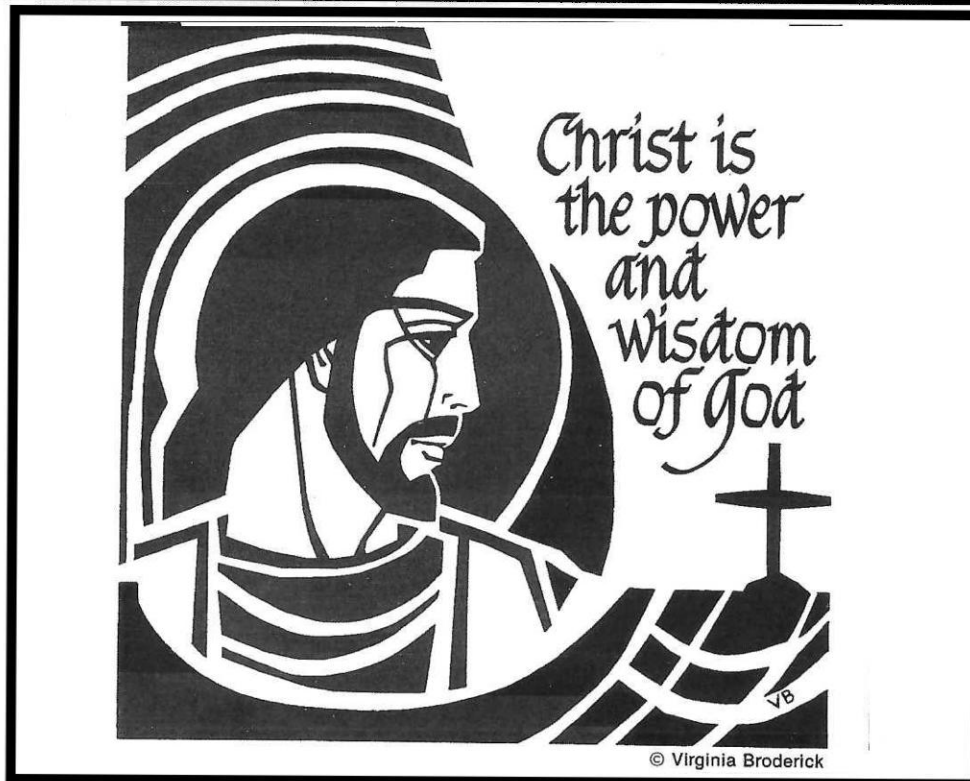
**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

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

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

March 7, 2021  
3rd Sunday of Lent

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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, March 6, 2021*

*Vigil: Third Sunday of Lent*

5:00 p.m. Anthony Marasciulo -- Birthday

*Sunday, March 7, 2021*

*Third Sunday of Lent*

8:30 a.m. Geraldine Purdy –  
11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

10:30 a.m. Anthony DiPaola

12:30 p.m. Edward Makowski and Ann  
and Daniel Fama

*Monday, March 8, 2021*

*Feast of St. John and God, Religious*

8:00 a.m. Dennis Deehan

12:00 noon Jimmy Valle

*Tuesday, March 9, 2021*

*Feast of St. Frances of Rome, Religious*

8:00 a.m. Frank Maloney

12:00 noon Carolyn Tierney

*Wednesday, March 10, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Thomas Valentino -- Birthday

12:00 Noon Assunta Petrozza

*Thursday, March 11, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Teresa Blake

12:00 noon Maryann Drobnak

*Friday, March 12, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Helen and Peter Duggan

12:00 noon Assunta Petrozza

*Saturday, March 13, 2021*

8:30 a.m. Salvatore Augeri

*Saturday, March 13, 2021*

*Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent*

5:00 p.m. Gail and William Merrill

*Sunday, March 14, 2021*

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*

8:30 a.m. Antonio Blasetti

10:30 a.m. Joseph Economico

12:30 p.m. Franco and Luigi Milizia

## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

*Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>*

R.E. Grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> -- 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. – School

R.E. Grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> -- 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – School

### 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.

### 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.

**Time Change Alert:** Daylight Savings Time will begin next week on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Since clocks are to be turned AHEAD one hour at 2:00 a.m. that morning, better to do it before you go to bed on Saturday. Remember, “Spring ahead! Fall back!” which means – even though it isn’t Spring yet, we will lose an hour of sleep!

**Advanced Planning:** Please note that there is a special schedule for Easter because there is NO 5:00 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday. The only Mass allowed on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil Service at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our Masses on Easter Sunday will be at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Because of pandemic restrictions, we will not have our traditional Easter Egg Hunt after morning Mass this year. However, we are very grateful that – unlike last year – we are able to celebrate the Mass of the Lord’s resurrection as a parish!

## **S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**March 7, 2021**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT:** Today marks the midpoint of our Lenten journey. Wisely in today's first reading (Ex. 20:1-17) the Church directs our attention to the law given to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai – the 10 Commandments – the conditions of God's covenant with ancient Israel. These timeless ordinances give us something to measure ourselves against, goals to aspire to, ideals to live up to. What other gods do we bow before and worship? Power? Money? Status? How do we treat others? How do we treat the earth? Are we grateful for what we have or are we always grasping for more?

Today's second reading (1Cor. 1:22-24) takes us to Corinth – a commercial city that was full of diversity – and vices – like all such cities. St Paul hears that the Christians of Corinth have begun to divide themselves. Some seem to think more of those who baptized them than the Christ into whose body they had become members. St. Paul insists that such attitudes are in conflict with the true message of the gospel: justification comes only through the cross of Jesus. St. John's gospel is filled with "signs." The gospel today (Jn. 2:13-25) describes one of these signs, the cleansing of the temple. Outraged at the commercial activity going on in the temple area, Jesus creates quite a scene. Because of signs like this, people began to believe in Jesus.

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### **SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS – LENT WEEK THREE**

#### **Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – St. John of God**

Born in Portugal in 1495, John pursued a military career as a young man, until he was moved by God's grace to devote himself to the care of the sick and infirm. He spent his last years in southern Spain where he found a hospital and a small nursing order (Order of Hospitallers) devoted to the sick poor. He died in Granada in 1550.

#### **Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – St. Frances of Rome**

Frances was born in Rome in 1384; she married and had three sons. She lived during a time of plague and devoted her later life to care of the sick and the dying. In 1425 she founded the Congregation of Oblates under the rule of St. Benedict. She died in 1440.

### **LENT**

**Lent:** is a holy season in our Church's year, it is holy because it calls us in a special way to holiness and encourages us to adopt holy habits of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

**Prayer:** We should try to attend Mass as often as we can during Lent and pray the Rosary and make the Stations of the Cross.

**Almsgiving:** We should try to make special sacrifices during Lent – and it is fortunate that the annual Cardinal's Appeal continues throughout Lent so that we have a very practical opportunity to assist the Church's works of charity in New York.

**Fasting:** We should try to practice some form of self-discipline during Lent – so that we might in some small way identify ourselves with Christ who was crucified for us.

**Lenten Fast and Abstinence:** ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAY OF ABSTINENCE -All Catholics above the age of 14 are obliged to abstain from meat on the days of abstinence (unless poor health excuses). Additionally, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are both fast and abstinence. Not only is meat prohibited, but on these two fast days, only one full meal is permitted. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but these taken together should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from 18 to 59 (unless poor health excuses).

**Latin Chant:** During Lent at our sung Sunday Masses, we will use traditional Gregorian Chant whenever the Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are sung. The chant melodies are very easy to sing and the words of these responses are so familiar in English that the Latin shouldn't pose a problem, even for someone who has never studied Latin. Moreover, it gives us an opportunity (however small) to recapture the long tradition of singing Gregorian Chant.

**Rest in Peace:** Let us pray for Leonard Bellini, Claudio Cotza, Mary Farrelly and Richard Potenza who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

**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.

**S.J.B. School Registration:** School Registration for September 2021 began last month. Students for the Pre-K must be 4 years old by December 1, 2021. For more information, please call Mrs. Sanchez at 914-965-2356.

**Mass Requests for 2022:** The Mass “book” for 2022 is now open for reservations. Because of the number of Parishioners who wish to arrange Masses at St. John’s, we must request that Mass reservations be made in person in the rectory, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Our office staff is simply unable to handle requests by phone if they are to complete the regular volume of work they have. We remind everyone that there are a number of retired priests who are able to take Mass requests – even for 2021. We are happy to provide Mass cards for these Masses; however, they will not be celebrated here at St. John’s.

**Operation Rice Bowl:** St. John’s is participating in the annual Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten Program, “Operation Rice Bowl” as part of our Lenten observance from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday. Packets will be distributed to all students in our parish school and Religious Education program. Additional packets will be available in the church. Please take a box home to help the poor and needy in the world.

**K of C. Virtual Novena:** Our Knights of Columbus council is holding a virtual Novena for Life from March 16<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 p.m. each night. Please make time to join this novena, which comes before the solemnity of the Annunciation on March 25<sup>th</sup>, which is also the International Day of the Unborn Child. For a link to the novena, contact Austin Duffy at (914) 413-7812 or [aduffy@protonmail.com](mailto:aduffy@protonmail.com).

**In-Pew Weekend:** Parishes in the Archdiocese – as part of the annual Cardinal’s Appeal campaign – are asked to take time during Mass this weekend to have what is called an “In Pew Appeal.” Every member of the parish – whether formally registered or not – is given the opportunity to make a pledge to this important effort.

Obviously, the normal Sunday liturgy should not be interrupted except in unusual circumstances. The annual Cardinal’s Appeal is such a circumstance – and the officials of the Archdiocese agree, because they have asked all parishes to conduct an “In-Pew” appeal at all Masses this weekend.

Every parishioner will be invited this weekend to complete one of the pledge envelopes that have been placed in the pews. Even if you have already made a pledge, we ask you to complete this “in-pew” pledge form and check the appropriate box.

Those who have been prayerfully considering a pledge are asked to make a decision today – in the presence of our parish family. No one is asked to write a check or to make a payment today; we will send reminders to everyone after the pledge envelopes are processed. We do urge everyone to make a pledge – not a one-time gift. A pledge is a promise to journey in faith into the future. Your pledge will help us to ensure that the critical pastoral, educational and charitable work of the Archdiocese will continue.