

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

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

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

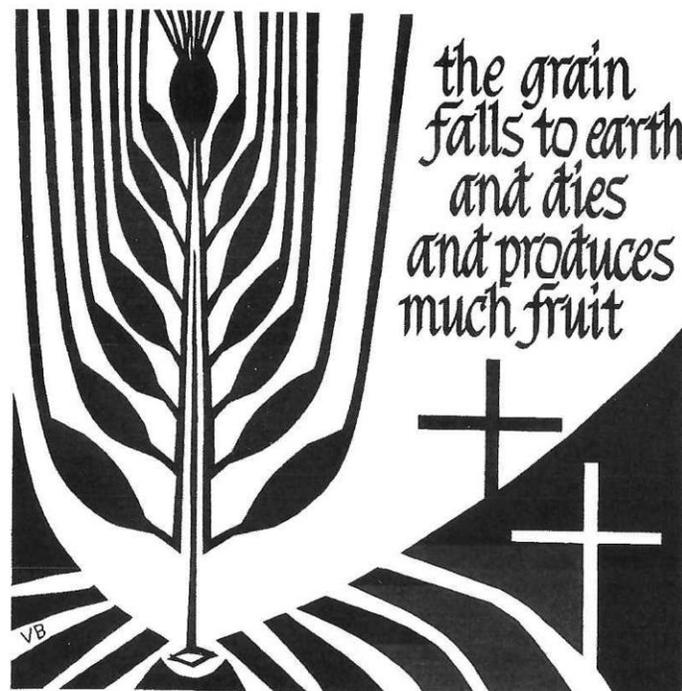
**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

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

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

March 21, 2021  
5th Sunday of Lent

Tel: (914) 963-1486  
Fax: (914) 375-1115  
stjohnsp@optonline.net



**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 20, 2021*

*Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent*

5:00 p.m. Matteo Arlia

*Sunday, March 21, 2021*

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

8:30 a.m. Cpl. Patrick F. O'Keefe

10:30 a.m. Vincent Fontana

12:30 p.m. Deceased members of the  
Cochrane, Gallagher and Herman  
Families

*Monday, March 22, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Tina and John Manning

12:00 noon Katherina and Anthony Kapaj

*Tuesday, March 23, 2021*

*Feast of St. Turibus of Mogrovejo, Bishop*

8:00 a.m. Elvira Manzo – 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

12:00 noon George Abraham and Zita Lee

*Wednesday, March 24, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Sean Herley

12:00 Noon Ellen and Daniel Harrington

*Thursday, March 25, 2021*

*Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord*

8:00 a.m. Assunta Petrozza

12:00 noon Peter Bernardini

*Friday, March 26, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Sophie Chesaniuk

12:00 noon Ann Monnelly

*Saturday, March 27, 2021*

8:30 a.m. Assunta Petrozza

*Saturday, March 27, 2021*

*Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

5:00 p.m. Michelina and Dewey Bernardini  
and Ascension and Manuel  
Almeida

*Sunday, March 28, 2021*

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

8:30 a.m. John McAvoy

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Sochan  
and Myskiw Families

12:30 p.m. Zita Millett

## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

*Wednesday, March 24<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

**Sacrament of Penance – Lent:** We will have two opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Penance at St. John's before Easter. On Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. we will have a short prayer service followed by an examination of conscience and the opportunity to confess your sins, receive individual absolution, and conclude with a communal Act of Contrition. Please arrive in church no later than 4:00 p.m. on these two Saturdays.

**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!

**Congratulations:** We welcome into our parish family the following children who were baptized at St. John's over the past few months: Matteo Luigi Agrusa, Sophia Rojas, Valerie Rojas, Arely DeJesus, Antonio Vittorio Blasetti, Mila Harper Hall, Declan Guillermo Sullivan, Anika Challa Perkolaj, Luke Gabriel Perkolaj, Luca Napolitano, Victoria Guadalupe Sandoval, Melvin Angel Estefes, Olivia Brooke Martin, Joheli Nellie Curbelo, Cristian Anthony Biancardi, Sofia Marie Vezzuto, Mary Brigid O'Leary, Gene Joseph Trojanowski, Stella Balce Quintero, Aubrey Quinn Rea, Cormac James Murphy, Talulla Grace Terhune, Bryce Justin Ferrer, Ruben Jay Gonzalez, Bryan Martinez, Anthony Ralph Bartolotta, Jr., Desmond Mathew Reyes and Victor Nieves. We extend our congratulations and prayers in a special way to their parents and godparents!

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

**March 21, 2021**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT:** Lent is drawing rapidly to a close. As if to remind us of our ultimate goal, the purpose behind our prayer, fasting and acts of charity, all three readings today speak of resurrection and a life beyond this life.

In today's first reading (Jer. 31:31-34) the prophet Jeremiah, who has seen the fall Jerusalem, now predicts the rise and reestablishment of God's people. Those in exile will return home. God will make a new covenant – not written on stone tablets but on human hearts. The new covenant will not be restricted to any one ethnic group. Our second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (5:7-9) teaches us that this new universal covenant is made possible through Christ's obedience to God's will – and we share in this new covenant by dying and rising as Jesus did, ever faithful to the Father's will. Finally in today's gospel, (John 12:20-33) Jesus explains that the hour is about to arrive when all people will receive salvation. But to share in God's covenant we must become like the grain of wheat which only by dying can produce any fruit.

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### **SPECIAL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS – LENT WEEK FIVE**

#### **Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – St. Toribio de Mogrovejo**

Born in Spain in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, Toribio was an excellent student who became a lawyer, a professor of law and a distinguished judge under King Philip II. Despite this secular success, Toribio was drawn to the priesthood and eventually was appointed Archbishop in Lima, Peru, where he dedicated his life to reforming the archdiocese, assisting the poor, and defending the rights of native Indians in Peru who were being persecuted under the Spanish occupation. He died in 1606 and has been named patron of Latin American bishops.

#### **Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup> – The Annunciation**

Nine months before the Feast of Christmas, the Church celebrates the day the incarnation began – when Mary, in response to God's invitation, said "Let it be done to me according to your word" – and the child Jesus was conceived. Today we celebrate Mary's "fiat" – and God's love for all mankind.

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### **Palm Sunday 2021**

Our Palm Sunday celebration this year will be a little different from years past. Usually we invited our parishioners to take some palm on the tables at the church entrances and hold them up – at the beginning of each Mass – as the celebrant of the Mass blessed them and sprinkled them with Holy Water. This year the Archdiocese of New York has advised against this. This is the procedure we will follow: we will bless all palm privately and then at the end of Mass the blessed palm will be available as parishioners exit the church. We thank you for your understanding.

### **The Sacred Triium**

Pandemic restrictions require us to make some changes in the way in the way we celebrate this holiest period in the Church's year. Specific procedures for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday are described in a separate memo which can be found at the exits of the church. Despite not being able to celebrate these liturgies exactly as we have in the past, we are very happy that we can come together as a community of prayer this year.

## ***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.

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**Rest in Peace:** Let us pray for Celia T. Percopo, Margaret Nader, Michael Senitta, Richard Mascia and Mario Pensiero 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.

### **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.

**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.

**S.J.B. Blood Drive:** The Knights of Columbus in conjunction with the New York Blood Center are sponsoring a Blood Drive at St. John the Baptist Church on Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. -- 2:30 p.m. in the lower church. All are welcome! Please let your friends and family know. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 1-800-933-2566 and give sponsor code 10243. Flyers with more information will be at the exits of the church.