

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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March 28, 2021
Passion Sunday

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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 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. Christina and Nadia Myskiw and
the Sochan Family
12:30 p.m. Zita Millett

Monday, March 29, 2021

8:00 a.m. Maria and Giovanni Reda
12:00 noon Julieta M. Ondoy

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

8:00 a.m. Lora Guerrino
12:00 noon Roisin Aquilligan

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

8:00 a.m. Michael Moore
12:00 Noon Michele Lovecchio

Thursday, April 1, 2021

Holy Thursday

7:30p.m. Mass of Our Lord's Last Supper

Friday, April 2, 2021

Good Friday

3:00 p.m. Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion and
Death

Saturday, April 3, 2021

Vigil: Solemn Easter Vigil Mass

7:30 p.m. Mass for the parishioners of
St. John the Baptist

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:30 a.m. Alfred Dalpino
10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the
Naryniecki and Kozlowski
Families
12:30 p.m. Deceased members of the Urrico
and Gaudio Families

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 31st

No Religious Education Classes

The Pascal Fast: This is the period of fasting which the Church recommends during Good Friday and on Holy Saturday until the conclusion of the Easter Vigil. The two day fast goes back to ancient Church tradition in which the Church fasted because her spouse had been taken away. Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence, of course. Those who are able are encouraged to extend that fast through Saturday (and to try as much as possible to keep solid food to an absolute minimum) until the conclusion of the Easter Vigil Service on Holy Saturday.

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 3rd. 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!

Covid-19 Vaccination Update: Our parishioners should know that our pastoral staff – our weekend priests' associates; our two Deacons (Deacon Olivieri and Ramoni) as well as Msgr. Maloney, Fr. Ulloa, and our Director of Music, Mr. John Stufano, have all completed their vaccinations. We want to do our part to ensure the safety of all our parishioners!

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 28, 2021

PALM SUNDAY: Today's liturgy recalls our Blessed Lord's entry into Jerusalem – an entry that is initially friendly and welcoming – as many inhabitants of Jerusalem greet him with “Hosannas” and spread palm branches in His path as He goes. All too soon, as our liturgy progresses the mood changes dramatically.

As the Passion is read we pray with Jesus during His Agony in the Garden. We then watch as Judas betrays Him with a kiss – and are reminded of our own betrayals. We listen as Peter denies the Lord three times – and realize we cannot count the number of times we have denied Him. Finally we hear the words of forgiveness He speaks from the cross only moments before His agony comes to an end and He gives Himself up to death so that we might be saved.

EASTER TRIDUUM

The Triduum of Christ's passion and resurrection is a solemn celebration that continues for three days – Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday. The Triduum begins with the Mass of Our Lord's Supper and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Each day tells a different part of the story of Jesus and our salvation. Sadly, this year – because of the restrictions necessitated to prevent the spread of Covid-19, we will miss some of the treasured rituals of Holy Week: the washing of feet; the veneration of the Cross; the lighting of the new fire; the blessing with Easter water. Nevertheless, unlike last year, this year, we can come together as a parish to celebrate this sacred time.

HOLY THURSDAY

Lent ends at dusk on Holy Thursday and the Triduum begins with the Mass of Our Lord's Supper, which is always in the evening. It commemorates the day Jesus instituted the Most Holy Eucharist and the priesthood. Our service at St. John's begins at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be placed on our main altar for a period of adoration.

GOOD FRIDAY

This solemn day honors the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. The story of Christ's passion is told. Prayers are offered for the entire world and Holy Communion will be distributed. It is a day of fast and abstinence. Our service at St. John's begins at 3:00 p.m. on Friday.

EASTER VIGIL/HOLY SATURDAY

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and celebrated. Our Easter Candle will be lit signifying that Christ is the light of the world. The reading of Holy Scripture tells of the long history of salvation beginning with Creation. New members are received into the Church. The Church rejoices in her risen Lord. Our service of the Easter Vigil at St. John's begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.

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 Mario Pensiero who was buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to his family and friends.

Easter Collection: We ask for your special generosity to St. John's on Easter. We depend on your special sacrifice at times like Christmas and Easter to help us defray the cost of flowers that decorate our church at this time -- as well as some of the other expenses we incur during this special season. Special Easter envelopes are available at the exits of the Church for those who have not received them in the mail.

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 11th 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.

Religious Education Program: 2021 - 2022 registration for families for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program has begun. Registration forms were given out to the children on Wednesday, March 25th. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials. Registration for **New Families** will begin at a later date.