

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

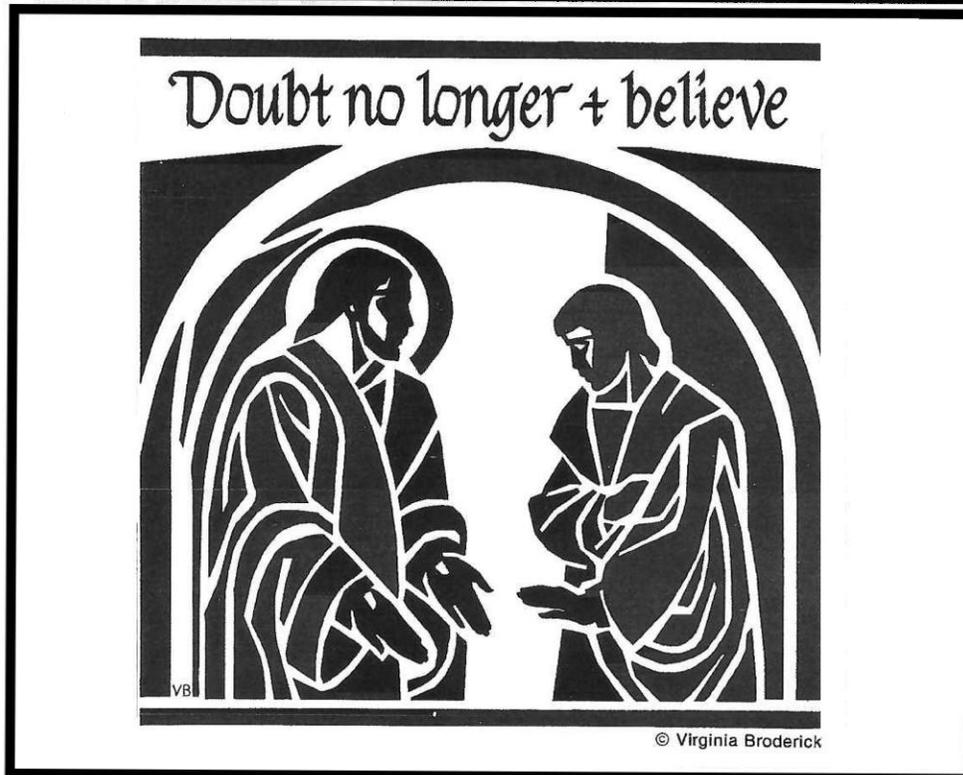
Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

April 11, 2021
2nd Sunday of Easter

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, April 10, 2021

Vigil: Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

5:00 p.m. Emma and Thomas McCarthy

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy)

8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Kelly
and Esposito Families

10:30 a.m. Roger Mancini

12:30 p.m. Anthony Molinari

Monday, April 12, 2021

8:00 a.m. Joseph Straguzzi

12:00 noon Phyllis Sbordone

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Feast of St. Martin I, Pope and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Frank O'Rourke

12:00 noon Deceased members of the De Pace,
Sorge and Savino Families

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

8:00 a.m. Nixmary Brown

12:00 Noon Deceased members of the
Morandin and Berta Families

Thursday, April 15, 2021

8:00 a.m. John Romano

12:00 noon Ann Fama -- Birthday

Friday, April 16, 2021

8:00 a.m. Rory O'Flaherty

12:00 noon Katherina and Anthony Kapaj

Saturday, April 17, 2021

8:30 a.m. Costantino Valvano -- Birthday

Saturday, April 17, 2021

Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

5:00 p.m. Rosemary D'Addato

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Joseph Barberi – 9th Anniversary

10:30 a.m. Vittoria and Giuseppe Fiorella

12:30 p.m. Detective William Sullivan –
1st Anniversary

WEDDING BANNES

II. John Riviezzo and Deanna Nola

II. Christopher Vece and Jackie Vu

I. William Dooley and Jeanne Sherry

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 11th

Blood Drive – 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – lower church

Wednesday, April 14th

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

Saturday, April 17th

Penance Service -- 4:00 p.m. -- Church

Easter Season: The fifty days from Easter to Pentecost are celebrated with joy as one extended feast day by the Church. One of the early Fathers of the Church, St. Athanasius, referred to the 50 day period as one "Great Sunday". These above all others are the days for singing "Alleluia". The first eight days of the Easter season make up the "octave" of Easter and are celebrated as solemnities of the Lord. At Mass during these days, we read the different New Testament accounts of the Lord's resurrection and the early preaching of the disciples who were witnesses to His resurrection.

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 this Sunday, April 11th from 8:30 a.m. -- 2:30 p.m. in the lower church. All are welcome!

Sacrament of Penance: Because of continuing Covid-19 restrictions we are still unable to use our confessionals for this sacrament. If you wish to receive the sacrament, please call the rectory to make an appointment. In addition on one Saturday of each month we will have a Penance Service at 4:00 p.m. in the church at which we will provide the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **This month our service will be on April 17th.**

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 11, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER: For most of us who grew up as Catholics, this Sunday always centered on “Doubting Thomas”—the Apostle who refused to believe the testimony of his fellow disciples that Jesus was risen! “Unless I see the mark of the nails in His hands...I will not believe!” Eventually, of course, Thomas was present when Jesus appeared again and Thomas’ doubt gave way to faith as he affirmed: “My Lord and my God!”

During the pontificate of our late beloved Holy Father, Pope (now Saint) John Paul II, the focus of the Second Sunday of Easter shifted from the doubt of Thomas to the promise of Jesus – the promise that He made when He appeared to His disciples after His resurrection and told them He was sending the Holy Spirit upon them and they would receive a great power: “Whose sins you forgive are forgiven!”

St. John Paul II named the Second Sunday of Easter “Divine Mercy Sunday” and asked Catholics to use this Sunday to celebrate the mercy of God. Once again this year the Church is celebrating the Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday – in the midst of a global pandemic which has claimed the lives of thousands, afflicted millions, and brought the world economy to a virtual halt. In addition the novel coronavirus has isolated people to such an extent that many are still afraid to even gather in churches to celebrate the Eucharist.

If ever our faith were tested, if ever we needed God’s mercy, it is **now!**

I am certain that all of us have heard people who argue that this global pandemic is some kind of divine punishment for the world’s many sins. It is certainly a punishment of some kind – although faithful Christians may be excused for thinking that the source of this affliction may be found in human behavior – not divine action.

Faithful Christians do not seek to blame God for this terrible scourge. God created us in His image and likeness; He created us so that one day we would be happy with him forever in Heaven. In order to fulfill that, God sent His Only Begotten Son to save us from sin and death. Why? Because He loves us. “God so loved the world that He sent His Only Son....”

Can we really believe that a God who wishes to punish sinners would take vengeance on doctors and nurses who have spent their lives caring for others – and in recent days exhausted themselves trying to heal coronavirus patients? Would a merciful God strike down dedicated priests who ministered to the sick and dying without regard for their own safety? Would God inflict punishment on so many innocent people – perhaps some in our own family – perhaps some in our own neighborhood – some like one of the distinguished members of our parish, Detective William Sullivan of the Yonkers Police Department, who spent his life trying to keep others safe?

This Sunday we pray that Thomas will strengthen our faith; we pray that Jesus will show mercy to all of us – even sinners. We pray that God our Father will bring an end to this scourge and restore all of us to health!

SPECIAL SAINT’S DAY – SECOND WEEK OF EASTER

Tuesday, April 13th – St. Martin I

Martin was a native of Italy who was elected Pope in 649 during a time of controversy over the nature of Christ.

The heresy he opposed was known as Monothelitism – but it was just another variation of the confusion many had about the human and divine natures of Christ; and the Church today benefits from those who struggled and suffered in order to preserve orthodoxy.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Mary C. O'Connor, Alexander Smushko, Marta Parillo and Charmaine Feliciano who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

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.

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.

Confession and Contrition: Many Catholics are very conscientious about completing what we used to call our “Easter Duty” – the practice of going to confession at least once before Easter – even if we were not guilty of serious sin. During this time – when access to the sacraments, including the Sacrament of Penance is difficult, -- we should remember that we can avail ourselves of the Church’s grace through an act of “perfect contrition.” A Catholic who is sorry for his or her sins and who makes a commitment to receive the sacrament when possible should say an Act of Contrition, using words like these:

“My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.”

Prayer for Spiritual Communion: Anyone who is unable to attend Mass or receive the Eucharist can pray a simple prayer that unites us with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist:

“My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. I adore You! I love You! Please come into my heart, I pray! Amen!”

New Life: We congratulate those who were initiated into full membership of our Church by receiving the sacraments of Baptism and/or Confirmation at our Easter Vigil Service. We are inspired by their profession of faith and assure them of our prayers. They are Anna Pertab, Matthew McPartland and Noe Perez Procopio.

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 in January. 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.

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 be at a later date.

Thanks: To all those in our parish community who assisted in making Holy Week Services so beautiful and so inspiring, we thank you. We note our servers, ushers, lectors – our staff in the rectory and the talented members of both our adult and children’s choirs (under the excellent leadership of Mr. John Stufano).

Gold: Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary are invited to attend a Golden Jubilee Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral on Sunday, June 6th at 2:30 p.m. Please contact the rectory by Friday, May 14th if you wish to attend.