

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

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

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

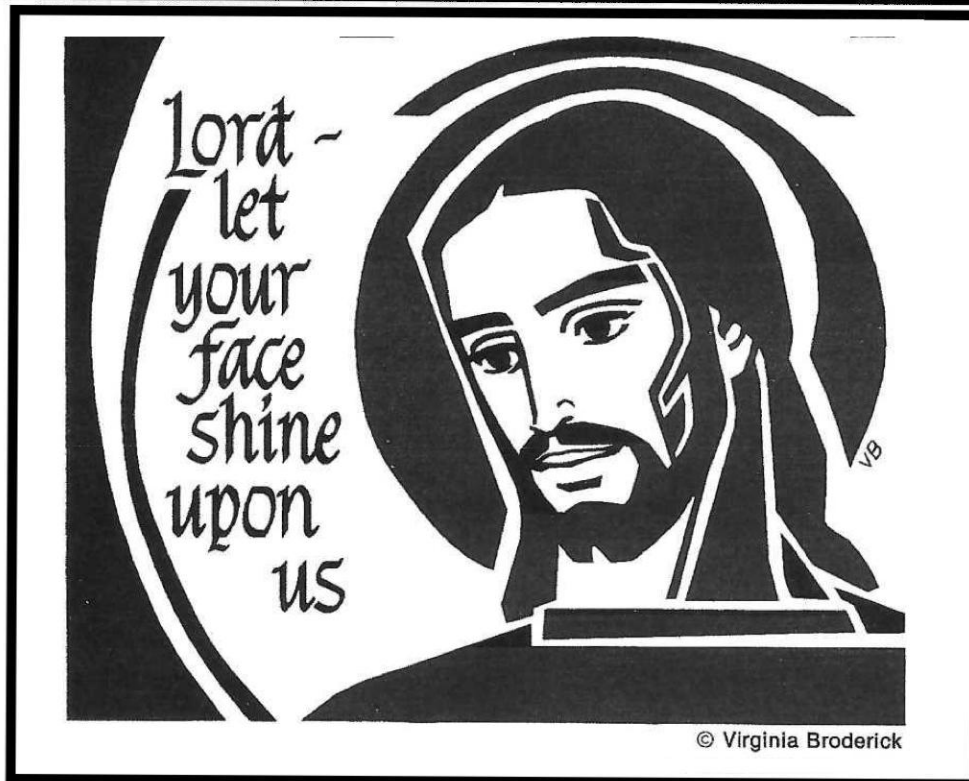
**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

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

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

April 18, 2021  
3rd Sunday of Easter

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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, 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 – 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

10:30 a.m. Vittoria and Giuseppe Fiorella

12:30 p.m. Detective William Sullivan

*Monday, April 19, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Marino Bonanno

12:00 noon Don Antonio Tenore –  
1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

*Tuesday, April 20, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Catherine and John Kuhnbaum

12:00 noon Mark Krzaczynski

*Wednesday, April 21, 2021*

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

8:00 a.m. Lina Casarella

12:00 Noon Michael Cefola

*Thursday, April 22, 2021*

8:00 a.m. Julia and John Soracco

12:00 noon Katherine Kapaj

*Friday, April 23, 2021*

*Feast of St. George, Martyr; St. Adalbert, Bishop and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Thomas Valentino

12:00 noon Domenica Pullo

*Saturday, April 24, 2021*

*Feast of Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr*

8:30 a.m. Assunta Petrozza

*Saturday, April 24, 2021*

*Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter*

5:00 p.m. Lawrence Bologna

*Sunday, April 25, 2021*

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the  
Mullin Family

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Geraghty,  
Flynn, Quinn and Burke Families

12:30 p.m. Barbara Keller -- Birthday

## WEDDING BANNES

*III. John Riviezzo and Deanna Nola*

*III. Christopher Vece and Jackie Vu*

*II. William Dooley and Jeanne Sherry*

*I. Michael Dubner and Patti Mueller*

*I. Marco Sanzi and Marie Acocella*

## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

*Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</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

**Confirmed:** This past Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop Edmund Whalen came to St. John's and confirmed 44 of our eighth graders from St. John's school and our Religious Education program. We congratulate these youngsters, their parents, and families; we thank their sponsors and dedicated teachers who prepared them to receive this sacrament of Christian maturity. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will always be with our youngsters to guide them along the right path.

**Liturgical "Separations":** In order to maintain "social distancing" for our Masses and services, the Archdiocese of NY requires churches to "block off" certain pews. Some parishes use "caution tape"; others "masking tape." Here at St. John's a generous and creative member of the Rosary Altar Society, Mrs. Gina Ramoni (ably assisted by her daughters, Teresa and Angela and occasionally her husband, Deacon Nicholas), has used ribbons and other decorative items – all in the color appropriate to the season (currently "white" for the Easter Season). We are very grateful to Mrs. Ramoni (and assistants) for making necessary "barriers" attractive and even welcoming.

**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.

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

**April 18, 2021**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:** Today's gospel (Luke 24:35-48) begins with the conclusion of the familiar story of the two men on the road to Emmaus. Like an ongoing saga, the story continues with the appearances of Jesus to the disciples while they are at a meal. Again they are frightened until Jesus eats with them and reminds them that the words of the prophets have indeed been fulfilled.

The first reading (Acts 3:13-19) also raises some doubt about the events of the death and resurrection of the Messiah. Surely the disciples themselves wondered at all that went on as they witnessed their leader being put to death by the local authorities.

Our second reading (1 John 2:1-5) reminds us that all will be well if we are constant in our belief and trust in the teachings of Jesus Christ. His commandment to love one another cannot be diminished. Life's challenges sometimes overshadow our knowledge and observance of the Christian way. We are called again and again to renew our faith and our trust in God's word present in our liturgy and in our life.

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### **SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS – THIRD WEEK OF EASTER**

#### **Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – St. Anselm of Canterbury**

Like St. Augustine in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, St. Anselm was a philosopher and theologian, a teacher and bishop in the 12<sup>th</sup> century Church. Though born in northern Italy (Piedmont), Anselm entered a Benedictine abbey in Normandy, France and was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury, England in 1093. He insisted that theology was "faith seeking understanding." He was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1720.

#### **Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – St. George**

Sometimes, with saints who lived long ago, it is hard to separate fact from pious legend. That is certainly the case with St. George who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century and was martyred in Palestine. In the popular mind, he will always be identified with the myth that grew up about him in the 12<sup>th</sup> century – the myth that transformed him into a medieval crusader and a slayer of dragons. St. George is the patron saint of England and Constantinople.

#### **Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> – St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen**

Born in Germany in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, Fidelis was a brilliant student – earning a degree in law and a doctorate in philosophy in 1603 – when he was 25 years old! He felt called to the priesthood and became a Capuchin priest. He dedicated his life to caring for the poor and preaching missions – especially in the areas where Protestants dominated. He was attacked and killed by armed thugs in 1622.

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**Easter Traditions: The Alleluia:** The very familiar Easter exclamation "Alleluia" has a long history in the praise and celebration given to God by His faithful people. The word itself is a combination of two Hebrew words: the imperative form of the verb "Hillel" (meaning "to praise") and "Jah" (an abbreviated form of "Jahweh," the Hebrew name of God). So "Alleluia" is an ancient form of "praise God" that became quite a common part of the Jewish prayer life – figuring prominently in many of the Old Testament Psalms. In the New Testament, it appears only in the Book of Revelation to describe the heavenly praise given to the triumphant Lamb of God. In the history of the Church the term "Alleluia" became more and more a part of the Church's official prayer (The Divine Office) and her liturgical formulas – especially in the responses, acclamations and antiphons that were used in the most joyful seasons of the Church year. (The use of "Alleluia" is not permitted during Lent). Easter as the most joyous season in the liturgical calendar is most truly an "Alleluia" season.

**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.

**Rest in Peace:** Let us pray for Caterina Gallinelli and Angela Esposito 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](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.

**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.

**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 was on April 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**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.”*

**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.

**Honor Thy Mother:** This year Mother’s day falls on Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a day to honor all Mothers – living and dead. This is a day to express our thanks for all they have done for us. It is a day to tell them how much we love them and to ask for their prayers even as we assure them of ours. For those mothers who have gone before us into the fullness of life with God, we give thanks to God for them as we recall their memories this day. On Mother’s Day we begin a Triduum of Masses for those mothers whose names are enrolled with us. Special Mother’s Day cards and envelopes will be available starting next week at the exits of the Church or in the rectory office. Let us pray that Mary, the Mother of us all, will bless all mothers, especially expectant mothers.

**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 25<sup>th</sup>. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials. Registration for **New Families** will be at a later date.

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

**Summer Theology Courses:** Our neighbors “up the hill” at St. Joseph’s Seminary will be offering classes on various aspects of the Catholic faith to interested Catholics – either in person or (via zoom) to any location – even your home! Classes run from June 1<sup>st</sup> – July 14<sup>th</sup> with 50% off tuition for new students. For more information: [www.dunwoodie.edu](http://www.dunwoodie.edu).