

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

May 9, 2021
6th 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, May 8, 2021

Vigil: Sixth Sunday of Easter

5:00 p.m. Ann and Daniel Fama and Edward Makowski

Sunday, May 9, 2021

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mother's Day

8:30 a.m. Virginia De Lucci and Emma Federico

10:30 a.m. Frances Di Paola

12:30 p.m. Deceased members of the Naryniecki and Kozlowski Families

Monday, May 10, 2021

Feast of St. Damien de Veuster, Priest

8:00 a.m. Mother's Day Mass

12:00 noon Martin Menchen – 11th Anniversary

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

8:00 a.m. Tina and John Manning

12:00 noon Mother's Day Mass

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Feast of Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs;

St. Pancras, Myrtyr

8:00 a.m. Assunta Petrozza

12:00 Noon Maria Rosario Olivera

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Vigil: Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

5:00 p.m. Raquel Ragusa, Mary Gaudio and Mary Urrico; Alessandro Sicilia

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Feast of the Ascension of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Maria Verbene and Esterina Caruso

12:00 noon Maria Carmela and Joseph Federico, Sr.

Friday, May 14, 2021

Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle

8:00 a.m. Rosemary Picani

12:00 noon William Hogan

Saturday, May 15, 2021

Feast of St. Isidore

8:30 a.m. Alessandro Sicilia

Saturday, May 15, 2021

Vigil: Seventh Sunday of Easter

5:00 p.m. Giuseppe Gullotta – 17th Anniversary

Sunday, May 16, 2021

Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:30 a.m. Nora and James O'Keefe

10:30 a.m. Susan Vanadia

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

WEDDING BANNES

II. Oscar Moscoso and Wendy Ochoa

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m. -- Church

Honor Thy Mother: This Sunday is Mother's Day! 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 are available 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.

Calling All Eucharistic Ministers: We have decided to begin asking our Eucharistic Ministers to return to their special ministry of assisting us with the distribution of Holy Communion at our Sunday and weekday Masses. We will be doing this on a limited basis at first – and then if the grip of Covid-19 cases and the current restrictions loosen, we may not be so limited. For now if you are already a trained Eucharistic Minister – **and if you have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19** – and you wish to return to your former ministry, please contact the rectory to indicate your willingness to participate. At that time, please let us know the Masses you would be available for: weekend: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil; Sunday: 8:30; 10:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. and/or weekday (Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon). It will make it easier if you can give us more than one choice. Naturally, all our ministers of the Eucharist must follow the usual protocols of wearing a mask and sanitizing before and after distribution. We are most grateful for your help!

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. **Our next service will be next Saturday, May 15th.**

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.

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 9, 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: In today's opening prayer, we ask God to help us "express in our lives the love we celebrate" throughout this Easter season. The readings are all about love, the ultimate motivation for our life of ethical commitment.

Today's first reading (Acts 10:25-48) is honest in its description of Peter's reaction to Cornelius and his household: Peter is "surprised" to learn that "the gift of the spirit" had been given also to Gentiles. There is a lesson for all of us here: the Spirit blows everywhere, transcending artificial human boundaries. We must truly believe this, and rejoice in the resulting diversity, if our faith is to have true meaning and depth. Our second reading (1Jn. 4:7-19) insists that God and love are synonymous. This loving God is most fully manifested in the giving of the only Son. When we consider all the different ways in which we use the word "love" today, we realize how few of them truly reflect such depth of meaning.

Today's gospel (Jn. 15:9-17) continues this theme of love. Jesus loves us in the same way God does. Just as Jesus' whole life was spent doing God's will, so we, too, must pour ourselves out in answer to our baptismal call. In that way, we will reflect the loving relationship that exists between us and the God who chose us to bear fruit.

SPECIAL LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, May 10th – St. Damien

Born in Belgium in 1840, Damien de Vuster joined a missionary order and volunteered to minister to lepers on the Hawaiian island of Molokai. He spent the rest of his life there, preaching, teaching, and showing God's love to those whom many fled. In 1885 he began a Sunday homily: "fellow lepers." Four years later he died of the disease; he was canonized in 2009.

Wednesday, May 12th – Sts. Neureus, Achilleus and Pancras

Neureus and Achilleus were brothers who served as members of the Praetorian Guards in the Roman Army in the 2nd century. They became converts to Christianity, resigned from the army, were arrested and executed for their faith. Pancras came to Rome as a young teenager. He became friends with Christians and embraced their faith; he was martyred during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian in the early third century. He was 14 years old.

Thursday, – The Ascension of the Lord

This Solemnity celebrates the return of Christ to His Father as well as His abiding presence in the Church.

It is a holyday of Obligation and our Masses for the feast are as follows:

Vigil Mass on Wednesday, May 12th at 5:00 p.m.;

Ascension Thursday – Masses at 8:00 a.m.; and 12:00 noon

Friday, May 14th – St. Matthias

In the Acts of the Apostles (1:15-26) we read how the early Christians chose Matthias, a witness of the resurrection, to take the place of Judas and to be numbered among the apostles.

Saturday, May 15th – St. Isidore, the Farmer

Isidore was not a monk, a priest, or a bishop; he neither founded a religious order nor produced a treatise on spirituality.

He was married and had one child; he lived all of his life as a farm laborer. But he had the essential qualities of a saint: deep faith; prayerfulness; holiness of life; generosity to those who were in need.

He was one of the Lord's "little ones" – and he was beloved of God. He lived all of his life (1080 – 1130) near Madrid, Spain. He is the Church's patron of farmers.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Carol Shapiro, Vincent Villardi and Karen Mc Dermott 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.

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.

Easter Tradition: The Easter Bunny: There is no mention in the Bible of the long-eared, short-tailed creature (a “rabbit” or a “hare”) which has become for many an important symbol of Easter. Rabbits, of course, are noted for their fertility and are therefore often used as symbols of new life – which is, in a religious context, a critically important aspect of the Christian understanding of the Lord’s Resurrection. Some believe the tradition of the Easter bunny can be traced to German immigrants to the United States in the 19th century who brought a custom in which rabbits protected Easter eggs from other animals, so the eggs could be shared at family meals on Easter Sunday. Children were encouraged to leave carrots for the rabbits in case they became hungry from all their hopping.

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.

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 1st – July 14th with 50% off tuition for new students. For more information: www.dunwoodie.edu.

Lincoln H.S. Class of 1981: This June will be 40 years since we graduated from LHS. We are putting a list of all classmates. Email Lori Albanese at lori310@aol.com so we can get you on our list. With Covid restrictions, we are going to try for this fall but most likely next spring.

Religious Education for New Families: 2020 -2021 registration for new families for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program will begin on Tuesday, June 1st. To obtain a New Family Registration Form (for your child): please email Stjohnthebaptistred@gmail.com. When completing the registration, a copy of your child’s Baptismal Certificate will be necessary; families must, of course, be members of our parish. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials.