

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

August 8, 2021
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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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:
8:30 a.m.

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, August 7, 2021

Vigil: Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Rosemary D'Addato

Sunday, August 8, 2021

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Shabman
and Duran Families

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Grady
Family

12:30 p.m. Julia Campione

Monday, August 9, 2021

*Feast of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and
Martyr*

8:30 a.m. Anna Procaccino

8:30 a.m. Anthony Guido, Jr.

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Feast of St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

8:30 a.m. Lucia, Nuccia and Pasquale Albanese

8:30 a.m. Assunta Petrozza -- Birthday

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Feast of St. Clare, Virgin

8:30 a.m. Peter Bernardini

8:30 a.m. Marie Crawford and Pat Mondela

Thursday, August 12, 2021

Feast of St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

8:30 a.m. Michele Lovecchio

Friday, August 13, 2021

*Feast of Sts. Pontian, Pope and Hippolytus,
Priest and Martyrs*

8:30 a.m. Fortunato Mascetti

Saturday, August 14, 2021

Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

8:30 a.m. Joseph Florin, Sr. – 1st Anniversary

Saturday, August 14, 2021

Vigil: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 p.m. Catherine and Henry Tavernia

Sunday, August 15, 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. Freddy Triarsi -- Birthday

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the Naryniecki
and Koslowski Families

12:30 p.m. John Concannon

WEDDING BANNES

III. Anthony Carpentieri and Lauren Spence

II. Johnny Lopez and Victoria Carrasquilla

Renew and Rebuild: As part of our commitment to repair and restore all areas of our parish “plant” – a commitment that was central to our successful Capital Campaign two years ago – work continues in the “parking lot” area of our church/school grounds. The fence surrounding the parking lot needed extensive repairs; they were completed and a fresh coat of paint was applied – the results are obvious. Next the wall outside the parking lot along St. John’s Avenue needs significant repairs. When the parking lot itself has to be resurfaced, the parking lot will have to be closed for several days: we will announce that beforehand. We thank everyone who continues to fulfill the pledge made to our R. & R. campaign: thanks to you, all these necessary improvements are possible!

Helping Our A/C: During the summer months we try to keep the church as comfortable as we can. When we have very hot and humid days, that effort is only partially successful. Our church is large, and inevitably, the church doors are opened frequently as people enter and leave the church. We do try to keep our “outside” doors closed – except at the end of Mass, when many parishioners leave together. The doors leading to Yonkers Avenue are usually closed by the ushers, once most parishioners have left the church. The door leading out to St. John’s Avenue from the chapel is usually not staffed by an usher – and some individuals insist on “hooking that door open” – an act of kindness that results in hot air coming into the chapel and the church – and effectively reducing the comfort level in the church. Con Edison gets quite enough from us, without our having to pay to “cool” St. John’s Avenue. Please help!

Summer Mass Schedule: As we do every summer at St. John’s, our daily Mass schedule (Monday – Friday) will be changed slightly. Instead of having Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, our one daily Mass will be at 8:30 a.m. This extends until Tuesday after Labor Day (September 7th).

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 8, 2021

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Many themes appear in today's readings from Sacred Scripture: our own discouragement and God's compassion; perseverance in the journey; true Christian life; Jesus as the bread of heaven. The readings show us that, just as God is our companion on life's long and sometimes disheartening journey, so we must be companions for one another, offering support and encouragement whenever we can.

In today's first reading (1Kgs. 19:4-8) Elijah has triumphed over the prophets of the Baal but had to flee for his life in the face of Queen Jezebel's wrath. He is so depressed that he prays for death. Instead, God sends an angel to provide him with a hearth cake and a jug of water. These strengthen him to make the long journey to the mountain of God.

This food for the journey, or viaticum, becomes for Christians Jesus himself, the bread of life. This is why the Eucharist which sustains us throughout our life, is also the premier sacrament of the dying. Jesus walks with us on our final journey just as He did along the way.

For our part we must live as if we truly believe this. In today's second reading (Eph. 4:30-5.2) Paul exhorts us to do nothing to sadden the Holy Spirit. He spells out exactly what this means: no bitterness or anger, no slander or harsh words. It should make a difference that we are Christians. Our lives are changed because we have met Jesus.

Just as the Angel comforted Elijah, and Jesus walks with each of us, so should we reach out to those who are overcome by the rigors of life's journey. Whenever we can, we are called to offer a comforting word, a bit of advice, a sympathetic ear, a stern but loving reproof. We must also be open to those who see our needs and try to minister to us. Jesus is the source of life for us; we in turn become a source of life for one another.

SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, August 9th – St. Teresa Benedicta

This extraordinary woman – canonized by the late Pope John Paul II – is primarily known to the world by her birth name, Edith Stein, who early in her life made a great contribution to literature and philosophy. Born into a Jewish family in Germany in the early 20th century, she became a convert to Catholicism, joined a religious order and – because of her Jewish origins was executed in a Nazi gas chamber.

Tuesday, August 10th – St. Lawrence

A deacon in the Church in Rome in the third century, Lawrence is said to have been responsible for caring for the poor. He was martyred for the faith during the persecution of the Emperor Valerian. It is said that Lawrence's courage so infuriated his persecutors that they ordered him to suffer the painful death of being burned over hot coals on a white hot gridiron.

Wednesday, August 11th – St. Clare

As a teenager, Clare was deeply moved by the preaching of another citizen of her native Assisi – St. Francis. The two became friends and Clare decided to live the gospel as literally and fully as Francis did. In time she founded an order of nuns (Poor Clares) and because of her reputation for holiness and wisdom she became the counselor of bishops, cardinals – and even the Pope himself! St. Clare died in 1253 at the age of fifty-nine.

Thursday, August 12th – St. Frances de Chantal

Wife and mother of seven, Jane lived in France in the early seventeenth century. After her husband died, she asked the great St. Francis de Sales to be her spiritual director. She spent the last years of her life caring for the sick and eventually founded a religious order, the Visitation Sisters.

Friday, August 13th – Sts. Pontian and Hippolytus

In the 3rd century, the Roman persecution of the early Church was fierce – many Christians were jailed, exiled, tortured, and put to death. Pontian was a pope who died in 235; Hippolytus was a priest and theologian who died the same year.

Saturday, August 14th – St. Maximilian Kolbe

Fr. Kolbe was born in Poland in 1894; he entered the Franciscan Order and after his ordination he first taught in Poland, then did missionary work in Japan and India. He was recalled to Poland shortly before the Germans invaded in 1939. As a leader in the Catholic resistance, Kolbe was imprisoned in Auschwitz. When the Nazi guards of the camp decided to execute 10 prisoners as an example to the others, Kolbe asked to take the place of a married man with a family. He was killed on August 14, 1941.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for John Mc Kinnon and Angelo Recine 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. Throughout the summer we will continue to have only one collection; if you have two (2) envelopes on any given Sunday, please put both in the one collection.
3. Our parish office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
4. Please consult our parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org) for updates on parish events and activities.
5. Upon recommendation of the Archdiocese we will continue not filling holy water fonts; we will maintain the weekly sanitizing of the church (and sanitizing between Masses); there will be no “exchange of peace” and communion will be in the hand.
6. We continue to expect those who are not yet **vaccinated** to wear masks at all Masses and services.

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 on Saturday, August 21st.**

Religious Education Program: 2021-2022 registration for **new families** for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program has begun. 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.

A Call to Service: Our Religious Education Program at St. John’s is growing! Our Director of Religious Ed., Mrs. Angela Minchilli is looking for volunteers who would be willing to assist us in preparing our children as they grow in faith. You may be able to assist in several ways: **first** as catechists – the men and women who teach in one of our eight grades (Mrs. Minchilli will assist anyone who may need help in preparing for this); **second** as catechetical assistants who are there to help as teacher “aides”; **third** as volunteers who welcome students and parents, direct visitors to classrooms, and generally act as “trouble-shooters.” In most of these tasks, no experience is necessary – just a willingness to help. The men of the parish are especially invited to assist the program – and Seniors are most welcome! Just call Mrs. Minchilli at 914-965-2338.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (popularly known as “RCIA”) is the process designed by the Church for adults to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. The goals are to give a complete overview of Catholic teaching and practice and to begin to deepen a Christian spiritual life centered in the Sunday Scripture readings. The sacraments are received at the Easter Vigil Mass. **It is open to adults who:**

- 1) Have never been baptized; they would be preparing for all three sacraments.
- 2) Were baptized in a non-Catholic Christian denomination who are interested in becoming Catholic; they would be preparing for Confirmation and First Communion.
- 3) Were baptized Catholic but never received Confirmation and/or Communion; they would be preparing for the sacraments they have not yet received.

The 2021-2022 program at St. John’s which prepares adults (and older adolescents) to receive sacraments will begin in October. However, if you (or anyone you know) is interested in learning more about our program, please leave your name at the rectory 963-1486.

Bequests: In preparing your will or considering a bequest, please keep in mind the Church of St. John the Baptist. The fact that this magnificent church exists and has been able to serve so many during its more than 100 years of Catholic ministry here in Yonkers has been made possible by the tremendous sacrifices – financial and personal – of those who have gone before us. Please help to ensure that the work of preaching the gospel, handing on the faith and administering the sacraments will be continued for years to come! A simple statement like “I give the Church of St. John the Baptist the sum of \$_____ to be used for its general purposes” is sufficient. Remember to pray for all our benefactors. (Bequests to your parish are fully deductible for Federal estate tax purposes.)