

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax 423-8096 Convent 422-2998

December 4, 2016

## Mass Schedule:

Mon., Tues. & Fri.—12:00 Noon

Saturday Vigil—4:00 pm

Sunday—9:00 am

Reconciliation: Fri. 11:30am. Or by appointment.

## Office Hours for SJB/HT

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:30pm

Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm

E-mail - [nbergeson@syrdio.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrdio.org)

Web Site - [www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com)



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT

It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:  
*A voice of one crying out in the desert,  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.*  
—Mt 3:3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

### Second Sunday Of Advent

"Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." John the Baptist does not mince words. He tells it like it is. When the hypocritical Pharisees and Sadducees show up piously for baptism, John calls them out, saying, "You brood of vipers!" Not welcoming words, to say the least. Then he tells them that being part of the religious club (i.e., children of Abraham) isn't enough. No, "every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

It can be easy to join John in pointing fingers at those self-righteous religious leaders. But we're usually not so quick to point fingers at ourselves. On this Second Sunday of Advent, as we seek to prepare for the coming of Christ, we also need to hear John's solemn warning. How are we like these Pharisees? How have we excused ourselves because we are part of the "club," because we are baptized Christians, regular churchgoers, better than others, or whatever justification we use to declare ourselves in good shape? How have we failed to produce good fruit by being satisfied with a comfortable life and a routine practice of the faith? What do we need to change? Where do we need to grow? How do we need to reach out and serve others, to sacrifice sinful behaviors, to delve deeper into our love for the Lord?

John preaches today that God will "gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Advent is a gift from the Church--a time to renew our spiritual life by getting rid of the chaff in our souls and producing instead a fruitful harvest. Now is the time to do this work. As John tells us, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

### SJB/HT Office & Church Staff

**Administrator** Father Daniel Caruso

**Secretary/Bulletin** Nancy Bergeson

**Religious Education** Betty Warren

**Office Assistant** Mary Olmsted

**Organist** Melissa Berthelot

**Cantor** Jonathan Howell

**Call the Rectory to arrange** for Marriages, arrangements made six months prior to date. Contact our organist and cantor directly. Baptisms and hospital/home visits.



**FROM THE PASTOR**

Dear Parishioners,  
This coming Thursday, December 8th, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the patronal feast of both the Church in the United States and of the Diocese of Syracuse. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter are on Wednesday, December 7th at 5:30 PM and Tuesday, December 8th at 9:00 AM. Masses at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity are at Noon & 5:30 PM on December 8th. Please plan on joining the community in prayer as we seek the intercession of our Heavenly Patroness.

This Sunday, December 6th, Bishop Cunningham will once again be awarding the Immaculata Award. His Excellency instituted this award several years ago in honor of the 125th Anniversary of the Diocese of Syracuse. The award is given to a lay-person from each parish who generously and unselfishly volunteers time and service to their parish. I am pleased to announce that this year's recipient of the Immaculata Award from St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity is Fran Brimfield. Over the years Fran has been involved in so many aspects of parish life and continues to serve as a Lector and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Jesus calls us to be true servants. Fran takes this call seriously and we are truly blest to have her in our parish. I am extremely pleased that the Bishop is recognizing the great contribution she makes to this parish. Please offer a prayer of thanks for the gift that Fran is to the parish.

It is my hope that all of us will take the opportunity this Advent to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Monday, December 19th, the Diocese will be celebrating The Light Is On For You Campaign. On that evening every Catholic Church in the Diocese will be open and a priest available to hear confessions from 4-7PM. I will be hearing confessions at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter. Also, the Northside Penance Service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00 PM at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity. Please plan on celebrating this wonderful gift from the Lord during this season of preparation.

To help our parish communities focus on the true nature of the Advent season and the longing we have for the coming of the Messiah, we have scheduled an Advent Lessons and Carols Service at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter on Sunday, December 11th at 3:00PM. This prayer service consists of Advent scripture readings and hymns. It is very reflective and peaceful. I encourage you to take the time and find the strength, beauty and peace of this joyful season of anticipation – I guarantee you won't find that at the mall!

I hope all is going well in your spiritual preparations this Advent. Please continue on your journey focused on the Lord Jesus. You all remain in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

In Christ,  
Fr. Caruso

**Sunday Collection Nov. 19th and Nov. 20th**

Regular collection .....	\$2,297.25
Loose collection .....	\$406.40
Fuel collection .....	\$107.00
Human Development collection .....	\$245.00

**Sunday Collection Nov. 26th and Nov. 27th**

Regular collection .....	\$3,695.25
Loose collection .....	\$522.00

**Welcome! Visiting Priest Dec. 10th & 11th**

Next weekend, please welcome Rev. John D. Kirwin who will be with us to celebrate Masses and tell us about the work of Unbound, a lay Catholic sponsorship ministry that helps children and elderly in 20 developing countries. To learn more, call (800) 875-6564 or visit Unbound online at [www.unbound.org](http://www.unbound.org).

**Faith Formation News**

Welcome back to all our students. I will be sending home permission slips for our Christmas Eve Mass Play. Please discuss with your child(ren) whether or not they want to participate. PERMISSION SLIPS MUST BE RETURNED ON DEC 11TH. Rehearsals for the play will begin on Dec 18th. Students can still be registered for classes by calling Betty Warren at 420-6357 or 478-0916.



**2nd Sunday of Advent**

He is coming. In today's reading from Matthew, John the Baptist announces for all to hear the long-awaited coming of the Messiah. John the Baptist proclaimed a serious message of change and conversion. Indeed, he must have been a sight to behold draped in his penitential garb, nibbling on his locusts and honey. Anyone who heard him preaching must have taken notice, even if they didn't take heed. If nothing else, John the Baptist surely got people's attention.

But will he get ours? True conversion reveals itself outwardly. When our hearts change, our actions do too. Charity replaces criticism. Forgiveness replaces anger. Service replaces selfishness. The catechism teaches us that the kingdom of heaven belongs to the poor and lowly; in other words, to those who have accepted it with humble hearts (CCC 544). This Advent, may we feel the urgency of John's words and get about the serious business of repentance.

**Giving Tree**

Our Christmas Giving Tree will be up with suggestion tags as of Saturday, Nov. 26th through Dec. 4th. Gifts can be donated at any time through Dec. 18th. We will be donating to Catholic Charities once again this year.



**Sharing The Gospel**

John the Baptist taught people to get ready for Jesus. He told them to change their lives. John helped many people wash away all their mistakes and bad choices. He washed away all their cheating, lying, fighting, and stealing. Once they were clean, John wanted them to see that living God's way is so much better. John told the people not only to clean their bodies, but to show that they love God by the way that they live.

**Prayer**

Dear God, help my words and my choices to show that I love you.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of John washing you in the Jordan River.

**Mission for the Week**

Write a prayer to God, asking him to help you stop doing those things, and start being honest, giving and kind.

## SJB/HT & OLP/SP Penance Service

Penance Service here at SJB/HT Church on Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00PM.



### Mass Schedule for

#### St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity

Sat. - Dec. 3, 2016 - Second Sunday Of Advent

SJB/HT 4:00 pm - For The People

OLP/SP 4:00 pm

Sun. - Dec. 4, 2016 - Second Sunday Of Advent

OLP/SP 8:00 am

SJB/HT 9:00 am - For The People

OLP/SP 10:30 am

Mon. - Dec. 5, 2016

12:00 Noon - Homeless to find a safe shelter

Tues. - Dec. 6, 2016 - St. Nicholas, bishop

12:00 Noon - Mentally challenged who struggle alone

Wed. - Dec. 7, 2016 - St. Ambrose,

bishop & doctor of the Church

OLP/SP 5:30 pm Vigil Mass The Immaculate Conception  
Of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Thurs. - Dec. 8, 2016 - The Immaculate Conception  
Of The Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day Of Obligation

OLP/SP 9:00 am

12:00 Noon - SJB/HT - For The People

5:30 pm SJB/HT - For The People

Fri. - Dec. 9, 2016 - St. Juan Diego Cuahtiatotzin

11:30 am - Confessions

12:00 Noon - Ronnie Olmsted - Mary Olmsted

Sat. - Dec. 10, 2016 - Third Sunday Of Advent

SJB/HT 4:00 pm - Dominick Pirozzi - Wife Paulin & Children  
Lena DeSimone - John & Diane DeSimone  
Steve P. Taddeo - Peg & Mary  
Carol McGuire - Frank & Helen Impelizzieri

OLP/SP 4:00 pm

Sun. - Dec. 11, 2016 - Third Sunday Of Advent

OLP/SP 8:00 am

SJB/HT 9:00 am - Daniel Piacquadio - The Family  
Rosalind Pascarella - Daughter  
Gaetana & Donato Spina - The Luisi Family  
Maria Grazia Vigliotti - Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Rosano

OLP/SP 10:30 am

### Liturgical Ministers

There is a list posted in the Sacristy for Liturgical Ministers needed for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year Eve and New Year Day Masses. If you know the Mass you will be attending please help and sign up so we are prepared for Mass. Your help during the Christmas and New Year is greatly appreciated.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of  
Michael Aiello and James Caprilozzi  
Requested by The Family

Saturday, Dec. 10 & Sunday, Dec. 11

### LECTORS:

4:00PM ~ John Normoyle

9:00AM ~ Ashley Murphy

### ALTAR SERVERS:

4:00PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano

9:00AM ~ Ben Chouinard, Noah & Lucas Smith, Grace Piazza

### EUCCHARIST:

4:00PM ~ M.A. Bergamo, M.E. Cusano, T. Bartorillo,  
R. Bartorillo, L. Sanzone, F. Sanzone,

9:00AM ~ Michele Dykeman, M. Piazza, M.E. Cusano,  
L. Argiro, J. Mott, R. Warren, K. Fekete



Sun. Dec. 4 Group 3 Money Counters

Sun. Dec. 11 Group 4 Money Counters

Sun. Dec. 18 Group 1 Money Counters

Sun. Dec. 25 TBA

Fri. Dec. 9 Group 1 Altar Cleaning

Fri. Dec. 16 Group 2 Altar Cleaning

Fri. Dec. 23 Group 3 Altar Cleaning

Tues. Dec. 6 SJB/HT & OLP/SP Penance Service 7:00PM  
SJB/HT Church

Sat. Dec. 10 BUNKO 5:00PM SJB/HT Parish Center

Sun. Dec. 18 Breakfast with Santa 8:00am-12:00 Noon  
SJB/HT Parish Center



### Bunko Date - Sat. Dec. 10th

Anyone interested in playing Bunko with our group that meets approximately every 2 months in the SJB/HT Parish Center on Saturdays 5:00PM, please contact Betty Warren by Wed. Dec. 7 for details. Phone is 420-6357 or email at [warrenbeliz@yahoo.com](mailto:warrenbeliz@yahoo.com).

**PLEASE, contact Betty if playing as it is important to the set up of the game.**  
Next Bunko night is Sat. Dec. 10th



**Remember:** Christopher Aldrich, Albert Bleskoski, Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield, Lorna Dodge Burton, Rosaria Campolo, Mike Cannavino, Robert Capria, Paul Collins, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Drenzo, Norma Foody, Beverly Frey, David Galvagno, Gladys Graham, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, Carolyn Longo, Joanne Loughney, Maria Luisi, Diane Mackey, Norm MacKenzie, Bernice McClelland, David Miccinelli, Peggy Miccinelli, Helen Mnich, Darlene Noyes, Jean Padden, Nancy Pompo, Patty Schramm, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Timothy K. Suppes, Reita Suppes, Sister Theresa Thayer IHM, Barbara Traino, Richard Ventrone, Shelly Visco and Pat Wall.



**Serving Our Country** Always keep in prayer all servicemen and women. From our parish: **Rob Smith and Bryan M. Oakes.**

Holy Trinity Church/St. John the Baptist  
406 Court Street  
Syracuse, NY 13208

315-478-0916

Account # 06-0120