

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

December 20, 2015

## Mass Schedule:

Mon., Tues. & Fri.—12:00 Noon

Saturday Vigil—4:00 pm

Sunday—9:00 am & 11:00 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@syrдио.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrдио.org)



## Fourth Sunday Of Advent

"Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste." What was the rush? Why did Mary go so quickly to visit her cousins Elizabeth and Zechariah? It's hard to know exactly what her purpose was, but one thing is clear: Mary and Elizabeth shared a special connection. Perhaps Mary was anxious to be in the company of someone who could understand her unusual situation.

At this point, Mary was newly pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. The verses preceding today's reading tell us about the appearance of the Angel Gabriel and Mary's willingness to become the mother of the Messiah. Now, this child was already growing within her womb, but the whole thing was an incredible secret. Who would believe her? In whom could Mary confide the unbelievable events that had taken place? We know that at some point later, Joseph had a vision in a dream that allowed him to understand. But before that dream came, he was planning to part ways with Mary. It must have been during that difficult time that Mary went to see Elizabeth. And what joy that upon her arrival, Elizabeth immediately understood. "Blessed is the fruit of your womb," Elizabeth cried out. The same Holy Spirit who conceived Jesus in Mary's womb enlightened Elizabeth at this moment. What a consolation this must have been to Mary.

This story reminds us of the importance of our own fellowship in the faith. Sharing our spiritual journey with other believers who are receptive to the Holy Spirit is meant to be a source of encouragement and strength. We are not supposed to be in this alone. As we worship and celebrate together with our faith community, may we share with each other the real joy of this sacred season.

## SJB/HT Office & Church Staff

**Temporary Administrator** Father Daniel Caruso **Office Assistant** Mary Olmsted

**Secretary/Bulletin** Nancy Bergeson

**Religious Education** Catherine Mackey

**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.

Saturday, Dec. 26th and Sunday, Dec. 27th

**LECTORS:**

4:00PM ~ Owen Donovan  
9:00AM ~ Mary Barraco  
11:00AM ~ Fran Brimfield



**ALTAR SERVERS:**

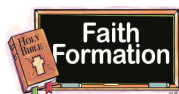
4:00PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano  
9:00AM ~ Nicholas & Matthew Lorenzo  
and Luis & Aleda Guerrero  
11:00AM ~ Ben Chouinard, Mary Elizabeth Cusano

**EUCCHARIST:**

4:00PM ~ M.E. Cusano, G. Larkin, R. Copani, P. Serio,  
T. Bartorillo  
9:00AM ~ E. Warren, J. Mott, P. Schramm, M. Piazza,  
K. Fekete  
11:00AM ~ R. Flores, M. Flores, L. Sanzone, F. Sanzone

**Faith Formation News**

There will be no formal classes this week or next week. Classes will resume on Jan. 3. The Confirmation class will be attending Assumption's Live Nativity this Sunday at 2:00, the dress rehearsal on Dec. 22 at 6:00 and the play on Christmas Eve. All students interested in participating in the play will be required to attend the dress rehearsal on Dec 22 and will need to be at the church no later than 3:30 on Christmas Eve.



Letters were sent home in regards to the Christmas Play. If you did not receive it, please see me. Don't forget to send in the permission slip for the play ASAP. Thank you!



**A Family Perspective  
Family Life Education**

Mary was excited about her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Sadly children are often seen as a liability, "another mouth to feed" or an "obstacle to my career." It is said "Christmas is for children." It is more accurate to say "Christmas is for adults to appreciate the gift of children!"

**World Marriage Day Celebration**

The 30th Annual World Marriage Day will be celebrated on February 7, 2016 at 2:30PM at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, downtown. The Most Rev. Robert J. Cunningham will celebrate the Mass and witness the renewal of marriage vows of all couples in attendance. He will specially honor those couples celebrating their 25th (silver anniversary), 50th (golden anniversary), and those celebrating an anniversary beyond their 50th year. Contact SJB/HT rectory to register and for more information by the end of December.



CHRISTMAS



**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Ministers**

**Christmas Eve 4:00PM**

Lector: Lori Weir  
Eucharistic Ministers: J. LaVergne, R. Bartorillo,  
T. Bartorillo, L. Weir  
Altar Servers: Michael Dykeman, Allan Chouinard

**Christmas Eve 9:00PM**

Lector: Cathy Schotthoefer  
Eucharistic Ministers: J. Mott, E. Warren, R. Warren  
Altar Servers: Allan Chouinard

**Christmas Day 10:00AM**

Lector:  
Eucharistic Ministers: J. Mott, M.E. Cusano, R. Flores,  
M. Flores  
Altar Servers: M.E. Cusano, Allan Chouinard  
**\*\*Please contact the rectory if you can help with any ministry open\*\***

**Snow Birds**

Parishioners who will be traveling to warmer destinations for the winter please contact the rectory regarding your contribution envelopes. We will stop the mailing until you return. But, you need to let us know please. Call the rectory during our business hours or slip us note in the collection basket with information. Have a safe and happy winter.



**Sharing The Gospel**

Long ago, God promised to send a Savior into the world. So when Jesus was finally born in Bethlehem, the angels praised God. The angels shared God's great news with the shepherds, so they could find Jesus and praise God, too.

**Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus into the world. I want to praise you like the angels did.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of the angels sharing the news with some very surprised shepherds.

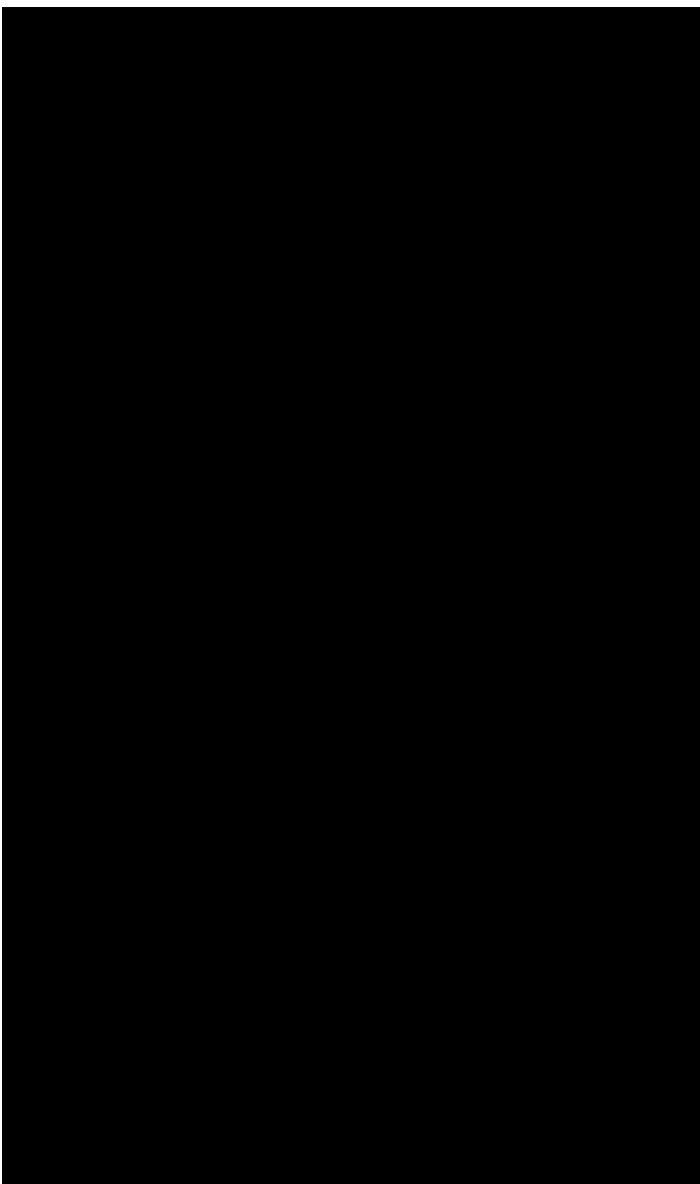
**Mission for the Week**

You can praise God like the angels did. Go Christmas caroling together as a family. Sing all of your favorite songs together.

**The Sanctuary Lamp**  
will burn in memory of  
**Anthony Matarazzo Jr. and Anthony Matarazzo III**  
Requested by  
**Wife & Mother, Yolanda Matarazzo**



Sun. Dec. 20 Group 1 Money Counters  
Sun. Dec. 27 Group 2 Money Counters



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



**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Christmas Eve Dec. 24;**  
**4:00PM at St. John/Holy Trinity and Pompei/St. Peter**  
**9:00PM at St. John/Holy Trinity**  
**12:00 Midnight Pompei/St. Peter**

**Christmas Day Dec. 25;**  
**9:00AM Pompei/St. Peter**  
**10:00AM St. John/Holy Trinity**  
**10:30AM Pompei/St. Peter**

The rectory will be closed on Thursday, December 24th and Friday, December 25th for the Christmas Holiday.

**New Year Eve and Day Mass**

**Thursday, Dec. 31 New Year's Eve;**  
**4:00PM Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters**  
**5:30PM St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity**

**Friday, Jan. 1, 2016 New Year's Day;**  
**9:00AM Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters**  
**12:00 Noon St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity**

The rectory will be closed at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, December 31st and closed on Friday, January 1st.



**Remember:** Christopher Aldrich, Judy Banky, Albert Bleskoski, Antonietta Briggs, Lorna Dodge Burton, Rosaria Campolo, Mike Cannavino, Robert Capria, Ken Castle, Paul Collins, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Direnzo, Joan Dominic, Norma Foody, Beverly Frey, David Galvagno, Gladys Graham, June Greene, Jeanne Hammond, Alan "Butch" Hierholzer, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, Carolyn Longo, Joanne Loughney, Diane Mackey, Bernice McClelland, Carol McGuire, David Miccinelli, Peggy Miccinelli, Helen Mnich, Darlene Noyes, Shelby Ohstrom, 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, Pat Wall and Eileen Weir.

**Sunday Collection Dec. 12th & 13th**

Regular Envelope collection .....	\$4,751.31
Loose collection .....	\$687.25
Fuel collection .....	\$135.00
Poor collection .....	\$299.00

**"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:11-12**

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

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