

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

December 18, 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.

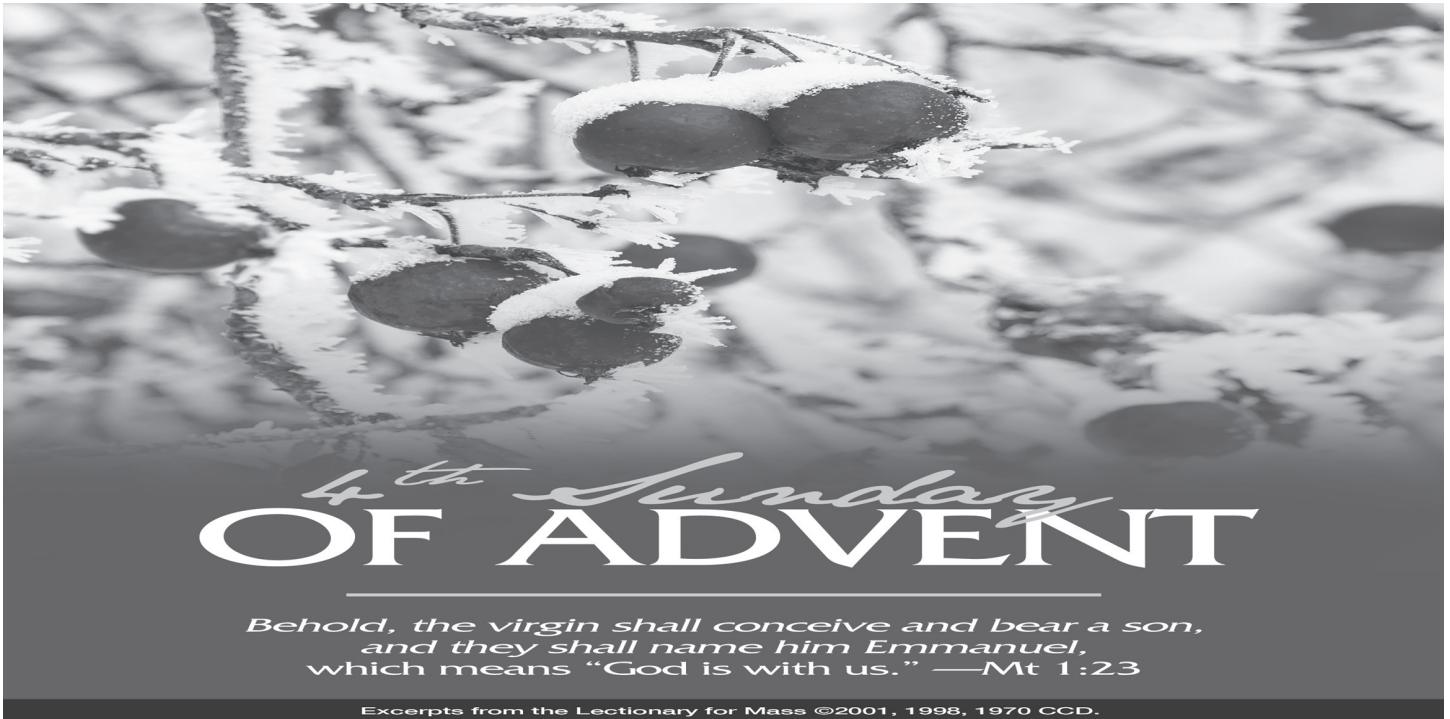
## Office Hours for SJB/HT

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)



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,  
which means "God is with us." —Mt 1:23*

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

### Fourth Sunday Of Advent

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus." Joseph heard these prophetic words in a dream. They were words of anticipation, of what was to come. And in a sense, they ushered in a kind of Advent for Joseph. With this divine message, Joseph began a period of holy waiting. He now knew that the Messiah was going to be coming into his own home, and he had just nine months to prepare! We can only imagine how Joseph might have spent these precious days. Most likely he did more than prepare a physical home for his soon-to-be-born Son; he must have also used these days to prepare his heart, mind, and soul for such a tremendous mission.

Today, we stand in a position not all that different from St. Joseph. We also know that the Messiah will be arriving--not just in remembrance at Christmastime, but in reality at the second coming. But unlike Joseph, we don't have an exact timeframe. We don't know when Jesus will return. We just know that we need to be ready!

During the season of Advent we are challenged to recall this fact and strive to get our hearts in order. The days are short now until Christmas, and for all we know they might be short until Christ's return as well. What remains to be done? Aside from wrapping presents and planning parties, where do we yet need to tidy up our habits to properly celebrate the real meaning of this festive season? How can we make sure that we don't get swept away in the external preparations, forgetting the work that needs to be done in the invisible silence of our souls?

God may not speak to all of us directly in our dreams, but he does speak to us clearly through his word. May we recognize today the mission he has laid before us.

### **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.



**Message From Fr. Dan**

Dear Parishioners,  
 As we gather this weekend, we observe the Fourth (and last) Sunday of Advent. Christmas is just a week away. If you listen carefully, you will notice that the emphasis of our prayer has shifted from looking forward to the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time to preparing to celebrate His Holy Birth in Bethlehem. While we are all busy with the last minute physical preparations for Christmas, we should all take a step back to see if we are spiritually prepared.

If we have let the first three weeks of Advent pass us by without taking the time to be renewed and strengthened in spirit, to truly prepare for the celebration of the Lord's birth, it is not too late. Perhaps this week we can all set aside a few extra minutes each day for prayer. If we haven't celebrated the Sacrament of Penance to prepare our hearts to receive Christ, maybe we can take the time this week. On Monday evening the Diocese of Syracuse will be participating in the Light is On for You Campaign. Priests will be hearing confessions in churches throughout the diocese from 4-7PM. I will be hearing confessions at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter. Let us all take time to be reconciled to the Lord and to each other as we prepare to celebrate the dawn of our Salvation.

Please know that you are all in my prayers during these final days of Advent; please keep me in yours.

In Christ's Peace,  
 Fr. Caruso



**Sharing The Gospel**

God brought Jesus into the world as a tiny baby. Jesus was God's Son. He was so powerful that he could have gotten anything he wanted. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a rich, selfish ruler. He did not need a palace or fancy clothes. Jesus came to show you that God is with you all the time. He was born to be the king over your life. He gave up his own life to rescue you from your sins, so that you could be close to God forever.

**Prayer**

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to rescue me.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a picture of baby Jesus.

**Mission for the Week**

Tonight after dinner, ask your family to light some candles, turn off the lights, and sing some of your favorite Christmas songs about Jesus.

**A Family Perspective**

**Family Life Education**

The child born to Joseph and Mary was named Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Every child is Emmanuel, reminding us "God is with us." Children are signs of God's continuing presence in our lives.



**Faith Formation News**

Our annual Christmas Play will be presented on Christmas Eve at the 4:00 Mass. Our first rehearsal will be on 12/18, during class time. A 2nd rehearsal will be on 12/24 at 11 am. Breakfast with Santa will be on 12/18 and the Religious Education students will be given a coupon for breakfast after class on that day. **THERE ARE NO CLASSES ON 12/25/16 OR 1/1/17. OUR NEXT CLASS WILL BE ON 1/8/17 FOR ALL STUDENTS.**

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at 420-6357 or 478-0916.



**4th Sunday of Advent**

The birth of the Messiah gives the church great hope. Although secular celebrations of Christmas ignore the significance of the holy day, the church gives us Advent to help us keep our focus. We reorient our hearts and minds to recall, once again, the mysterious glory of the Incarnation. In these weeks of yuletide preparation, we stop to remind ourselves what it means to be Christian, in case we have begun taking it for granted. To be Christian is to believe that God is truly with us, in the most personal, intimate way imaginable; he is one of us! "They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" Through the Incarnation, God became human and lived among us to love us, to guide us, to heal us, and to strengthen us. It is the promise of a savior given through the early prophets, a promise that the faithful held dear as they waited. As that most beautiful of all anniversaries approaches, celebrate this season remembering the greatest gift ever given to every person--the gift of a Savior.

**Liturgical Ministers**

Needed for the Christmas and New Year Masses:  
 CHRISTMAS EVE

**4:00PM Lector, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers.**

**9:00PM Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers.**  
 CHRISTMAS DAY

**10:00AM Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers.**  
 NEW YEAR EVE

**4:00PM Altar Server, Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers.**  
 NEW YEAR DAY

**9:00AM Lector, Altar Servers, Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers.**

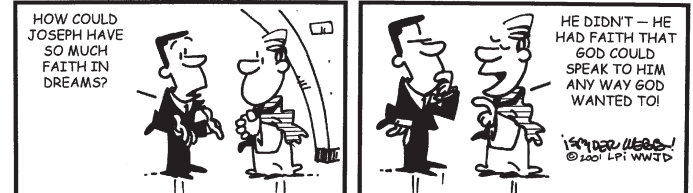
**Please contact the rectory if you are able to help serve at any of these Masses.**



**Sunday Collection Dec. 10th and Dec. 11th**

Regular collection .....	\$3,856.25
Loose collection .....	\$450.00
Fuel collection .....	\$85.00
Poor collection.....	\$236.00
Cathedraticum collection.....	\$141.00

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Mass Schedule for

### St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity

Sat. - Dec. 17, 2016 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent

SJB/HT 4:00 pm - For The People

OLP/SP 4:00 pm

Sun. - Dec. 18, 2016 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent

OLP/SP 8:00 am

SJB/HT 9:00 am - For The People

OLP/SP 10:30 am

Mon. - Dec. 19, 2016

12:00 Noon - Mary Hooser - Rosemary Lane

Frances Bleskoski - Ed & Carol McGuire

Tues. - Dec. 20, 2016

12:00 Noon - Unborn and at risk babies

Wed. - Dec. 21, 2016 - St. Peter Canisius,

priest & doctor of the Church

Thurs. - Dec. 22, 2016

Fri. - Dec. 23, 2016 - St. John of Kanty, priest

11:30 am - Confessions

12:00 Noon - Frances Bleskoski - Fran & Judy Cooney

Sat. - Dec. 24, 2016 - Vigil - The Nativity of the Lord  
Christmas

SJB/HT 4:00 pm - For The People

SJB/HT 9:00 pm - For The People

OLP/SP 4:00 pm

OLP/SP Midnight Mass

Sun. - Dec. 25, 2016 - The Nativity of the Lord Christmas

OLP/SP 9:00 am

SJB/HT 10:00 am - For The People

OLP/SP 10:30 am



## Schedule

### Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule SJB/HT

Saturday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Saturday, Dec. 24 - 9:00PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass - 10:00AM

Saturday, Dec. 31 New Year Eve - 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017 New Year Day Mass - 9:00AM



### Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule OLP/SP

Saturday, Dec. 24 Christmas Eve - 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Dec. 25 Midnight Mass - 12:00AM

Sunday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass - 9:00AM

Sunday, Dec. 25 Christmas Day Mass - 10:30AM

### Office Hours

The rectory is closed on Friday, Dec. 23. Confession will be available and Noon Mass will be said.

The Rectory is closed on Monday Dec. 26 and

Monday Jan. 2, 2017.



Saturday, Dec. 24 & Sunday, Dec. 25

### LECTORS:

4:00PM ~ TBA

9:00PM Cathy Schotthoefer

10:00AM ~ Fran Brimfield

### ALTAR SERVERS:

4:00PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano & Ben Chouinard

9:00PM ~ Michael Dykeman

10:00AM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano

### EUCCHARIST:

4:00PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano, Jerry Mott,

9:00PM ~ Jerry Mott

10:00AM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano, Jerry Mott

Please see request opposite page for needed ministers.



### Snow Birds

This time of year many will be traveling to warmer area's and we wish you happy safe travels. Enjoy your stay where it is warmer. Remember to let the rectory know that you will be away so we can have your envelope packets temporarily stopped. Let us know when you are leaving and when you will return. If we do not know the packets are returned to the rectory for postage due. You may call us, email at [nbergeson@syrdio.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrdio.org) or send the information in the mail.

### From Fr. Kirwin

Fr. John Kirwin, and UNBOUND, want to thank Fr. Caruso, and the staff, and wonderful parishioners of St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity, for their warm welcome to him and UNBOUND, the weekend of December 10/11, when 4 of our children and elderly found sponsors at the weekend Masses. This will be a grace-filled experience for those sponsored and their sponsors in the years ahead. For anyone else wishing to sponsor, a child or an elderly person through UNBOUND, you may do so by calling UNBOUND at 800-875-6564 or by giving online at [www.hopeforafamily.org](http://www.hopeforafamily.org). Christmas Blessings and many thanks.



**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