

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

January 10, 2016

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@syrdio.org



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove.

- Lk 3:21-22a

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

The Baptism Of The Lord

Baptism of the Lord

"After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened." What a treat to be in that crowd! Just imagine the experience of witnessing this manifestation of divinity! To SEE the Holy Spirit "in bodily form like a dove" and to hear the voice that "came from heaven" announcing Jesus' true identity. Don't we all long for this kind of miraculous clarity? Wouldn't it do wonders for our faith if we had such unmistakable certainty about who Jesus really is?

It's easy to imagine that the first Christians had it easier than we do. They got to be with Jesus in person, and to witness the miracles that went along with his years on earth. Because of this, we can quickly forget the benefits we enjoy that they did not. We live on the other side of the Resurrection, for example. The first followers of Christ believed in him BEFORE he rose from the dead. We, on the other hand, have the confidence of knowing that this man literally conquered death. We also have two millennia of Christian witness through the saints to pull upon. The first Christians had no idea what this new religion would produce, how many people would embrace it, or how it would change the world for the better. We know that Christianity has been fruitful beyond measure.

Today's Gospel informs us that it was only after they were baptized that the people witnessed the opening of heaven. Even Jesus himself was baptized before he heard this earthly confirmation of his heavenly origin. We who have been baptized, following the example of Christ, also have "access" to the voice of God. In the silence of our hearts, and through God's word in the Bible (another advantage we enjoy), heaven is "opened" for us as well.

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, Jan. 16th and Sunday, Jan. 17th

LECTORS:

4:00PM ~ Pat Campagna

9:00AM ~ John Robinson

ALTAR SERVERS:

4:00PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano

9:00AM ~ Luis & Aleda Guerrero and Grace Piazza

EUCCHARIST:

4:00PM ~ J. LaVergne, M.E. Cusano, M.A. Bergamo, G. Larkin, T. Bartorillo

9:00AM ~ F. Brimfield, J. Mott, P. Schramm, R. Warren, L. Argiro, K. Argiro, Michael Dykeman

Any Liturgical Minister from the 11:00AM Mass please contact the rectory if you would like to be added to the 4:00PM or the 9:00AM Mass.



Faith Formation News

January 24 at 10:00 will be First Reconciliation. The children will meet as a class for a little lesson, and then meet with Father Dan

individually for their First Confession. All other classes will meet as normal on this day.

Sharing The Gospel

Your Dad says, "Wash your hands, please. It is almost time to eat." After you wash your hands really well, your Dad smiles. He says, "That's my boy. You did a good job!" In today's Gospel, it was time for Jesus to be baptized. After his baptism, Jesus talked to God his Father in prayer. Jesus did everything his Father asked. God was happy with his Son and said, "I'm pleased with you."



Prayer

God, I want to make you and my parents happy.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of God telling you, "Good job!"

Mission for the Week

Find out what makes God happy.

As a family, read John 15:9-12.



A Family Perspective

Family Life Education

In today's Gospel Jesus was publicly AFFIRMED by his Father: "You are my beloved son, with you I am very pleased." As parents we can become so focused on misbehaviors we overlook the good behaviors. Jesus needed AFFIRMATION and so do our children.

All Faiths Food Pantry Donations

Your non perishable food donations can still be brought and left in the Food Wagons in the vestibules of the Church.



If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to

*****"All Faiths Food Pantry"*****



Baptism of the Lord

The old African-American spiritual "Michael Row the Boat Ashore" has one verse that goes, "Jordan's river is chilly and cold / hallelujah / chills the body but not the soul / hallelujah." We don't know what the temperature of the Jordan River was when Jesus stepped into it in front of John the Baptist. But Luke's Gospel relates that after he had been baptized and while he was praying the heavens opened up and the Holy Spirit descended upon him. A voice from heaven was heard, saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

It is unlikely that any such explicitly miraculous events occurred at our own baptism, or any that we may have attended. But something just as momentous did take place when we were baptized. In our baptism we became intimately connected to God; we became God's own children, just as Jesus is the Father's beloved Son. And when we were baptized the Holy Spirit descended upon us-not as a dove, but as the Spirit of God that always dwells in our hearts. That connectedness to God never disappears. Even when we are guilty of the worst sins, God is with us. We believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in us, helping us to act more and more like Christ as we reaffirm our baptismal commitment.

While we celebrate the signs and wonders at the Jordan that herald Jesus' baptism and the beginning of his public ministry, we also recall that our own baptism begins the call to minister in this world. Our baptismal call is to act like Christ, to be his hands, and voice, and heart in this world. When we act like him, we can be assured we too will hear the Father's voice, "with you I am well pleased."

Attention Maine's Shoppers

Maine's cash and carry has a great give back program that St. John's/Holy Trinity is a part of. When you sign up you are given a card that you present at the check out that the cashier will scan. **5% of EACH PURCHASE** is then donated to St. John's/Holy Trinity quarterly. There is no cost to you and sign up is easy. You can ask for a form at the service desk at the store in North Syracuse, visit www.Mainesource.net and go to non-profits, then give back program, and you can fill out the form and submit it online or contact the rectory as we have forms available.



Contribution Statements

If you require a SJB/HT Contribution Statement of your church donations for 2015 taxes, please contact the rectory during office hours, email us at nbergeson@syrdio.org, fill in the slip below and send to SJB/HT 406 Court St. Syr. NY 13208, or, save a stamp and put your request in a plain envelope and put it into the collection basket attention "Nancy".

PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR REQUEST INTO YOUR CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES.

Name: _____

Address: _____

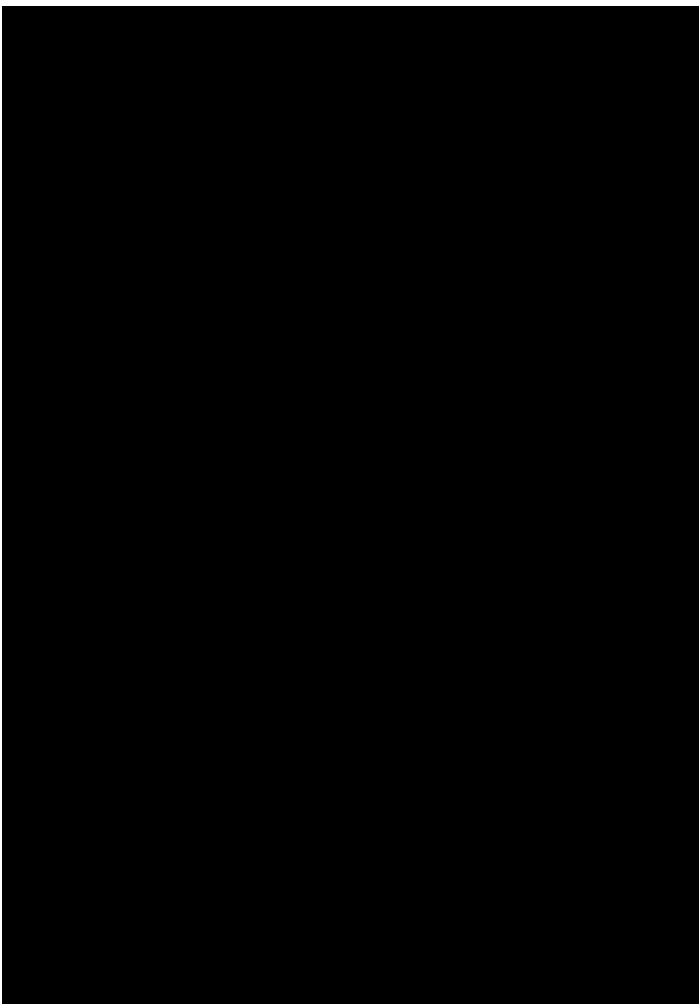
C/S/Z: _____ Envelope Number: _____

Reminder: As of January 17, 2016 we will no longer have the 11:00AM Mass at SJB/HT.



Rectory Closed

The Rectory will be closed on Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. There is **NO NOON MASS** as well.



Sun. Jan. 10 Group 4 Money Counters
Sun. Jan. 17 Group 1 Money Counters
Sun. Jan. 24 Group 2 Money Counters
Sun. Jan. 31 Group 3 Money Counters

Thurs. Jan. 14 Parish Life Committee Meeting 7:00PM
 SJB/HT Parish Center
Mon. Jan. 18 Office Closed - No Noon Mass
Thurs. Jan. 21 TNT Neighborhood Watch Meeting 7:00PM
 SJB/HT Parish Center
Wed. Jan. 27 Catholic Golden Agers Meeting 7:00PM
 SJB/HT Parish Center

Sunday Collection Jan. 2nd & 3rd

Regular Envelope collection \$3,799.25
 Loose collection \$404.72
 Poor collection \$141.00
 Collection for Christmas Flowers \$1,990.00



You can find the remainder of the calendars in the front vestibule of the Church (Park St. entrance).
 A Thank You to Farone and Son for providing us with these calendars.

Christ The King Retreat House

500 Brookford Rd. 446-2680

Email ctkretreat@syrdio.org

www.ctkretreat.com

Save-The-Date: Valentine's Day, February 14 6:00-9:00PM
 Dinner and Divine Comedy, \$70.00 per couple with Dan Reynolds. Treat your Valentine to a delicious dinner prepared by our Retreat House Chef and laugh along with Dan Reynolds at his Divine Comedy presentation. The Divine Comedy includes clean jokes, saintly humorous examples, and hysterical religious cartoons. See how our faith life is enriched by daily humor.



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

Remember: Christopher Aldrich, Judy Banky, Albert Bleskoski, Antonietta Briggs, Lorna Dodge Burton, Rosaria Campolo, Mike Cannavino, Robert Capria, Paul Collins, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Direnzo, Joan Dominic, Norma Foody, Beverly Frey, David Galvagno, Gladys Graham, Jeanne Hammond, Alan "Butch" Hierholzer, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, Carolyn Longo, Joanne Loughney, Diane Mackey, Norm MacKenzie, 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.



Baked Chicken Dinner

St. Daniel Gym 3004 Court Street

Saturday, January 16th from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. \$10 for Adults \$6 for Children 12 & under. Dinners will include half a chicken, roasted potatoes, tossed salad, beverage, and dessert. Children's dinners will include chicken tenders, macaroni & cheese, corn, juice box, and dessert. Wheelchair accessible. Takeout available. For more information call the Rectory at 315-454-4946.

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.



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

315-478-0916

Account # 06-0120