

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

December 17, 2017

## Mass Schedule:

Mon., Tues. & Fri.—12:00 Noon

Saturday Vigil—5:30 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)



## Third Sunday Of Advent

"There is one ... coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." Untying sandal straps was no prestigious job. In the days of John the Baptist, those straps would have been especially unpleasant to deal with. Besides the usual odors that accompany sockless leather footwear, there would have been the grime and dirt from the sandy roads and paths that swirled around the people who went everywhere on foot. Taking off someone's shoes upon their arrival was the task of the lowly servants. So when John says he's unworthy of doing this task for the "one who is coming after me," he is putting himself in a very humble position. And rightly so.

John realizes that the Christ-the Anointed One, the Messiah-is so far above him, so far above any of us, that we are truly unworthy of him. Indeed, the Son of God is not just the greatest of men; he is God-made-man and in his presence we most appropriately should bow in humble homage. Yet this God chose to stoop down to our human level and walk among us. He chose to get his sandals dirty. And still today he chooses to allow us to encounter him as a friend and companion.

But as John reminds us by his example, this encounter with the Lord is not the result of our own merits or accomplishments. We are sinners who stand in need of Christ's help. But thanks be to God, he is always willing to extend this help to us. As St. Paul says in today's epistle, "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy." Indeed it is God who does the perfecting, not us by our own power. So let us approach the Lord this Advent season with a spirit of hopeful humility, trusting that God alone can make us worthy of welcoming his Son.

## SJB/HT Office & Church Staff

**Pastor** Father Daniel Caruso

**Secretary/Bulletin** Nancy Bergeson

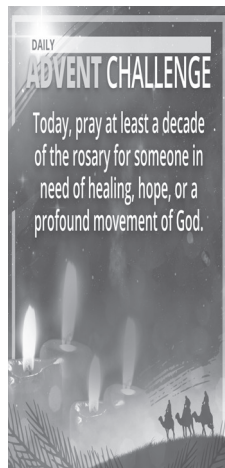
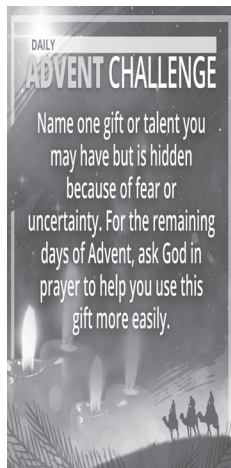
**Office Assistant** Mary Olmsted

**Music Director/Organist** James Stanley

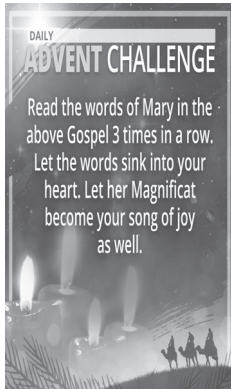
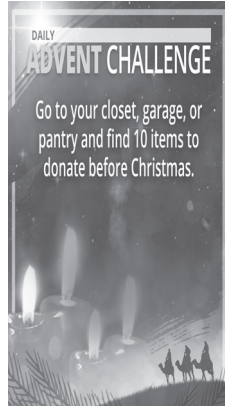
**Cantor** Jonathan Howell

**Cantor** Ryan Boyle

**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.



**The following are suggested Advent Challenges provided through our bulletin publishing company. Designed for each day of the week starting Sunday, Dec. 3rd. How many can you try and accomplish? One, two, all? This is not a test, even one is an accomplishment. This is a great family journey through Advent. Each week a new set will be challenged to you.**



### Flowers For The Altar

If you missed the insert or the form in the bulletin to contribute In Memory of a loved one you may call the rectory up until Wednesday, Dec. 20th and we will add your request. No names will be taken though after Dec. 20th.

### Thank You Messages

On Tuesday, November 21st 18 Thanksgiving Dinners were cooked, boxed and delivered to our Homebound parishioners. Thank you to all who helped to make this possible.



Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters parishioners collected over 100 bags of food that was donated to the All Faiths Food Pantry. The food was an enormous help to pantry during the very busy November/December months. Thank you OLP/SP for your generous donations.



### Message From Fr. Caruso

Dear Parishioners,

**“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.”** These words, from Philippians 4: 4-5, form the entrance antiphon at Mass this weekend, the Third Sunday of Advent. Traditionally, this Sunday is called Gaudate Sunday (“Gaudate” is the Latin word for “rejoice” that is used in the antiphon). When we light the third candle on the Advent wreath, it is rose colored, as are the vestments worn by the priest at Mass. What does all this mean? Is the change in color just a signal that Christmas is fast approaching and we are running out of time to shop? Hopefully, it means much more than that.

The season of Advent is a time of expectation, anticipation, and preparation. We are called to turn away from sin and to prepare our hearts for the long awaited Messiah. This Sunday helps us to remember that our preparation is not for an event to be feared, but for one that is the source of our joy. All too often, we can lose sight of this and our “holiday season” is anything but joyous. Let us all remember that the time of the Lord’s arrival is near; and, as people who are prepared to receive Him, let us rejoice and show the world what the real joy of the season is. **“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.”**

If we have let the first 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 (December 18<sup>th</sup>) 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. Confessions are also scheduled Tuesday-Friday, December 19-22 from 4:30-6:00 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 in my prayers during these holy days of Advent; please keep me in yours.

In Christ’s Peace,  
Fr. Caruso



### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Sunday, December 24 - Vigil - Christmas Eve**  
**SJB/HT - 4:00pm & 9:00pm**

**OLP/SP - 4:00pm, 11:30 Carols & 12:00 Midnight Mass**

**Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day Mass**  
**SJB/HT - 9:00am**

**OLP/SP - 11:00am**

**Saturday, Dec. 23rd & Sunday, Dec. 24th**

**LECTORS:**

**5:30PM** ~ Jack Normoyle

**9:00AM** ~ TBA,

**Dec. 24 4:00PM** Fran Brimfield, **9:00PM** Cathy Schotthoefer

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

**5:30PM** ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano

**9:00AM** ~ Ben Chouinard,

**EUCCHARIST:**

**5:30PM** ~ G. Larkin, J. LaVergne, M.E. Cusano, P. Serio,  
R. Bartorillo, L. Sanzone, F. Sanzone

**9:00AM** ~ Available Ministers

**Mass Schedule for**

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

**Sat. - Dec. 16, 2017 - Third Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 4:00 pm**

**SJB/HT 5:30 pm** - For The People

**Sun. - Dec. 17, 2017 - Third Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 7:30 am**

**SJB/HT 9:00 am** - Katie Shatraw - The Family

John Billion - Peter & Grayce Costantini

Jennie Locapto - Niece, Jennie Petreloa

Clemente Vigliotti - Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Rosano

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**

**Mon. - Dec. 18, 2017**

**12:00 Noon** - Thomas Hennesy - Catherine Wagner

Frank Lodico - The Family

**Tues. - Dec. 19, 2017**

**12:00 Noon** - Mary Hooser - Rosemary Lane

Nancy Morrow - Mike & Barbara Varre

**Wed. - Dec. 20, 2017**

**Thurs. - Dec. 21, 2017 - St. Peter Canisius,**

**priest & doctor of the Church**

**Fri. - Dec. 22, 2017**

**11:30 am - Confessions**

**12:00 Noon** - Pat O'Brian, Janet William, Mary Kane

& Joan Felber - The BUNKO Group

**Sat. - Dec. 23, 2017 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 4:00 pm**

**SJB/HT 5:30 pm** - Al Bleskoski - Ed & carol McGuire

Donald McGuire, Sr. - Ed & Carol McGuire

Gaetana & Donato Spina - The Luisi Family

Bill Slack - Sanders Creek Senior Bridge Group

**Sun. - Dec. 24, 2017 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 7:30 am**

**SJB/HT 9:00 am** - For The People

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**

**Sun. - Dec. 24, 2017 - Vigil - Christmas Eve**

**SJB/HT - 4:00pm** - For The People

**SJB/HT - 9:00pm** - For The People

**OLP/SP - 4:00pm** With Children's Liturgy

**OLP/SP - 11:30pm** Carols

**OLP/SP - 12:00 Midnight Mass**

*Holiday TO-DO List*

1. ~~Buy~~ presents. *Be*
2. Wrap ~~gifts~~. *someone in a hug.*
3. Send ~~gifts~~. *Peace.*
4. ~~Shop~~ for food. *Donate*
5. Make ~~cookies~~. *Love.*
6. ~~See~~ the lights. *Be*

**DECEMBER**

**Sun. Dec. 17** Group 4 Money Counter

**Sun. Dec. 17** Breakfast With Santa 8:00-11:00am  
SJB/HT Parish Center

**Mon. Dec. 18** OLP/SP Church The Light Is On For You  
4:00-7:00pm

**Thurs. Dec. 21** Washington Square Association 7:00pm  
Neighborhood Watch SJB/HT Parish Center

**Sunday Collection Dec. 9th & Dec. 10th**

Regular collection .....	\$5,382.01
Loose collection .....	\$589.11
Poor collection.....	\$258.00
Fuel collection.....	\$196.00
Cathedraticum collection.....	\$149.00



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of  
John Billion  
requested by Ken & Marlene Bistrovich**

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



**Remember:** Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield, Lorna Dodge Burton, Rosaria Campolo, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Drenzo, Aaron Doty, Marilyn Ferretti, Shirley Fornito, Beverly Frey, David Galvagno, Gladys Graham, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Igar, 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, Cathy Galutz Sacco, Patty Schramm, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Timothy K. Suppes, Reita Suppes, Barbara Traino, Richard Ventrone, Shelly Visco, Matthew Watkins and Peg Wulfert.

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Account # 06-0120