

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax 423-8096

February 18, 2018

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

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com



First Sunday In Lent

Why do we always go to the desert? We see this example in Scripture time and time again. The Israelites wandered in the desert. King David and prophets were driven into the wilderness. And now Jesus is in the same place. Lent after Lent, we too are invited into a barren, desolate place. Why do we always go to the desert?

Throughout Scripture, the desert is a place of testing. It's also a place of hiding and withdrawal. In the Old Testament, David fled into the wilderness to hide from Saul, Elijah from Jezebel, and Jonah from God! In other words, the desert is a place of "retreat." In Christian circles, we use the word to describe a spiritual weekend away. But its meaning comes from warfare, as we well know. To retreat means to draw back, to separate oneself from the fighting. Of course, a military retreat brings its own kind of "battle" -- the internal assessment of why the fighting went so poorly.

As we enter into this Lenten season, we are invited to retreat into the desert with Jesus. Attending a day or weekend of reflection is a wonderful spiritual practice. This "desert spirituality," however, can fill all forty days. We can fulfill our Lenten resolutions with a purpose -- writing daily notes to family and friends can inspire new gratitude, every time we pass up that specific food item can be cause for intercession for deeper sufferings and privations of others.

The Gospel tells us that "the Spirit drove him out into the desert." In other words, God wants us to be here. What feels uncomfortable is actually part of our spiritual journey. To be stretched, to be challenged, to confront our own areas of weakness -- these things are essential in our walk with God. This Lent, will you go to the desert?

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.

Dear Parishioners,

This week we observe the First Sunday of Lent. We have entered a great season of prayer and self-denial. Sometimes we forget what is asked of us. Because of this, I would like to remind everybody of the norms governing Lenten days of fast and abstinence. Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence. On these days, Catholics 14 years of age or older are obliged to abstain from eating meat. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of fast. On these days, Catholics from the ages of 18-59 are obliged to fast. The law of fasting allows only one full meal and two small meals. The combined amount of the small meals should not equal the quantity consumed at the full meal.

We will be praying the Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent. At Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter, The Stations of the Cross will follow the 12:15 Mass; at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity they will be prayed at 7:00PM in the Church followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The Stations of the Cross are a traditional way of focusing on the road to Calvary that Christ walked for us. We, as His disciples in the world today, are invited to journey on that same road. Please consider joining the community as we offer these prayers asking the Lord to strengthen us as we carry our own crosses.

We are adding a new devotion to our Lenten observance this year. A "mini-retreat" will take place on Sunday, February 25th at 3:00 PM in the Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church. Our time together that afternoon (it will be approximately 1 hour) will consist of Exposition and Benediction, communal prayer, and a talk on Discipleship & the Cross. We are inviting all members of the community, as well as their family and friends, to set aside that time to come together in prayer to help focus themselves for their journey through the Lenten season. I hope you will be able to join us!

You all remain in my prayers during these holy days of Lent. Please continue to pray for me and for all who minister at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity and at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter.

In Christ's peace,
Fr. Caruso



From James Stanley - Choir Request

Calling all former choir members of St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity: Those who would like to join the choir of Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter for our combined Holy Week Services are welcome to attend rehearsals each Thursday during Lent from 6:30-7:30PM at Our Lady of Pompei Church. Holy Thursday Mass (March 29) will be held here at SJB/HT; Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil (March 31) at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter.

1st SUNDAY OF LENT



DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

pietrafitness.com



Live The Liturgy - Inspiration For The Week

Repent and believe in the gospel! This is the message that is found on Jesus' lips after forty days in the desert. As the forty days of Lent come before us, we are asked to create a desert experience in our lives so that we can learn anew the ways of God. Our daily cares and concerns can distract us from truth and cause us to become absorbed with the world and secular priorities. Lent is an opportunity to free ourselves from illusion and focus us on what really matters. In doing so, we open up new possibilities for our relationship with God, others, our world, and ourselves.



Everyday Stewardship - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

When I was a teenager, the experience of Catholic retreat basically changed my life. I wasn't lost or hurting, but the 3 days placed me on a path that led to where I am today. Certainly, my experiences of faith before and after that weekend also played a role in the person I have become. However, the power of God I felt in that short period of time had such a profound effect on me it became a type of lens through which I then came to see the rest of my life.

Sometimes we need to get away from it all to realize what really matters in life. We step back and see things more clearly. When we are fully in the world it is hard to get past the busyness and constant noise of modern existence. Distractions are all around us and our attention span can be so limited when it comes to truth.

This Lent, find the time to slow down, to get away from it all, and to rest in the peaceful arms of God. Go to the desert and work on surrendering all you are, and have, and will be to Jesus. Reflect on the many gifts you have been given and discern the best ways to cultivate those for God's glory. As this season begins, be mindful of the fact that this time will never come again. There might be a Lenten season next year, but God is calling you now.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Rectory Closed/No Noon Mass

In observance of Presidents Day the Rectory will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19. **There is No Noon Mass this day.**



Saturday, Feb. 24th & Sunday, Feb. 25th

LECTORS:

5:30PM ~ Owen Donovan
9:00AM ~ Lisa Primerano

ALTAR SERVERS:

5:30PM ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano
9:00AM ~ Ben Chouinard, Noah & Lucas Smith

EUCHARIST:

5:30PM ~ J. LaVergne, G. Larkin, R. Copani, F. Sanzone, L. Sanzone, M.E. Cusano, P. Serio
9:00AM ~ E. Warren, P. Schramm, R. Warren, K. Fekete, C. Horton, M. Piazza

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity

Sat. - Feb. 17, 2018 - First Sunday Of Lent
OLP/SP 4:00 pm
SJB/HT 5:30 pm - For The People

Sun. - Feb. 18, 2018 - First Sunday Of Lent
OLP/SP 7:30 am
SJB/HT 9:00 am - Louis Aiello - The family
OLP/SP 11:00 am

Mon. - Feb. 19, 2018
12:00 Noon - No Noon Mass Today

Tues. - Feb. 20, 2018
12:00 Noon - End of violence throughout the World

Wed. - Feb. 21, 2018 - St. Peter Damian,
bishop & doctor of the Church

Thurs. - Feb. 22, 2018 - The Chair of St. Peter The Apostle

Fri. - Feb. 23, 2018 - St. Polycarp, bishop & martyr
11:30 am - Confessions
12:00 Noon - All Souls
OLP/SP 12:15 - Stations of the Cross
SJB/HT 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross followed by **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

Sat. - Feb. 24, 2018 - Second Sunday Of Lent
OLP/SP 4:00 pm
SJB/HT 5:30 pm - Frances Militi - Joe & Chris Pirozzi
 Vicenzina Sicola - Valdina & Diglio Families

Sun. - Feb. 25, 2018 - Second Sunday Of Lent
OLP/SP 7:30 am
SJB/HT 9:00 am - Teresa Greenfield - The Family
 Albert J. Bleskoski - Fran & Judy Cooney
OLP/SP 11:00 am

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



FEBRUARY

- Sun. Feb. 18** Group 4 Money Counters
- Sun. Feb. 25** Group 1 Money Counters
- Mon. Feb. 19** Rectory Closed and No Noon Mass
- Sat. Feb. 24** BUNKO SJB/HT Parish Center 6:30PM
- Sun. Feb. 25** Mini Retreat OLP/SP Church 3:00PM
- Fri. Feb. 23** Baked Fish Dinner 4:00-7:00PM
- Mar. 2, 9, 16 & 23** SJB/HT Parish Center



Bunko Date - Sat. Feb. 24

Anyone interested in playing Bunko with our group that meets approximately every 2 months in the SJB/HT Parish Center on Saturdays 6:30PM, please contact Betty Warren by Wed. Feb. 21st. for details. Phone is 315-420-6357 or email at warrenbeliz@yahoo.com.

PLEASE, contact Betty if playing as it is important to the set up of the game.
Next Bunko night is Sat. Feb. 24



VOTE FOR US!!!

Its back for 2018, the Holy Mackerel Fish contest, sponsored by the Catholic Sun. Visit the Catholic Sun online and go to Holy Mackerel contest and vote for St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity. You can only vote once per device. Sacred Heart in Cicero won last year and we came in 5th coming into the contest late. **VOTE FOR US!!!**



Sunday Collection Feb. 10th & 11th

Regular collection	\$3,571.25
Loose collection.....	\$300.50
Poor collection.....	\$183.00



Remember: Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield, Lorna Dodge Burton, Rosaria Campolo, Robert Capria, Mary Elizabeth Cusano, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Theresa Deprimio, Kathy Deprimio, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Drenzo, Aaron Doty, Dan Fahey, Marilyn Ferretti, Shirley Fornito, Beverly Frey, Ellen Gangemi, David Galvagno, Gladys Graham, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, 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.

Holy Trinity Church/St. John the Baptist
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