

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax 423-8096

December 16, 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.

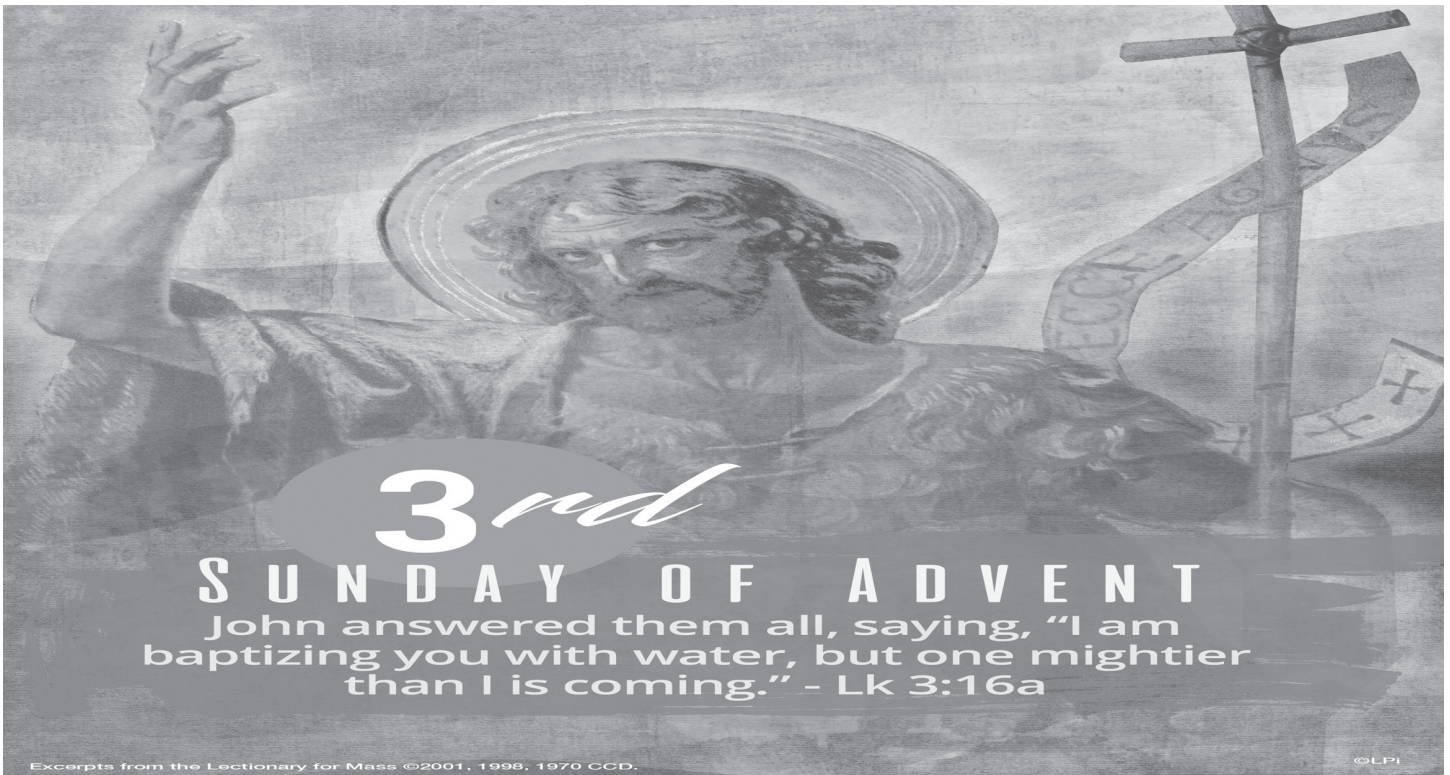
## Office Hours for SJB/HT

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:30pm

Fri. 9:00am-2:00pm

E-mail - [nbergeson@syrdio.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrdio.org)

Web Site - [www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com)



## Third Sunday In Advent

In Christianity, we hear often about the "Good News." We might often associate it with Jesus' compassion to the poor, his healings and miracles, and the salvation he won for us. In today's Gospel, we read of John the Baptist. "Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people." Yet as we examine the rest of the reading, we see examples of John's preaching. If you have two cloaks, give one away. Don't cheat others out of their money, extort, or lie. And, of course, the warning that the Messiah is on the move and "his winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Merry Christmas?

Not only do John's listeners enjoy his message, but they seem to think he might be the awaited Messiah! To understand today's Gospel, it's important to understand the Jewish people. For most of their history, God's chosen people had been under someone else's heel. They were slaves in Egypt. Their kingdoms were ravaged first by the Assyrians, then the Babylonians. Now they were under the yoke of the Roman Empire. Familiar with being strangers in a strange land, welcoming the stranger, caring for the vulnerable, and enacting justice was incredibly important to them as a people. While John's words may seem odd or strong to our modern ears, this call to justice was welcome, even if it was directed at the hearer.

The truth is, no one is exempt from John's call to repentance. We all have further to go in the Christian life. We can all grow in virtue and love our neighbors more generously. The Church gives us the Advent season to examine our own hearts. Did any of John's warnings resonate with you? That could be a great thing to bring to Jesus this week!

## SJB/HT Office & Church Staff

**Pastor** Father Daniel Caruso

**Secretary/Bulletin** Nancy Bergeson

**Office Assistant** Mary Olmsted

**Senior Priest in Residence** Fr. Lester Smith

**Music Director/Organist** James Stanley

**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.



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 Gaudete Sunday (“Gaudete” 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 17th) 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, Thursday and Friday, December 18, 20 and 21 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



### Religious Education News

Today is our last class for this year. We will be ending our year discussing the true meaning of Christmas. There will be no class for the next 2 weeks, 12/23 & 12/30. Merry Christmas and Happy New Years! There is still room for more students if you have a child age 3 and up for Pre K to Confirmation II. We are also still looking for teachers, even if you can only teach part of the time. Please call Betty Warren for more information at 315-420-6357.

### Christmas/New Year Mass Schedule



**Christmas Eve - Monday, Dec. 24**

**4:00PM & 9:00PM SJB/HT**

**12:00 Midnight OLP/SP**

**Christmas Day - Tuesday, Dec. 25**

**9:00AM (lector needed)**

**11:00AM OLP/SP**

**New Years Eve Day - Monday, Dec. 31**

**5:30PM OLP/SP**



**New Year Day - Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019**

**9:00AM SJB/HT**

**11:00AM OLP/SP**

### Christmas Flowers For The Altar



If you would like to make a donation for the flowers please fill out the form below and send it in to the rectory separate from your weekly collection donations please. You can put them in the collection basket marked “Flowers” or mail them back to the rectory. Donations have been extended until Thursday, Dec. 20, 2018.

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Donation \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_



### Children’s Offering Envelopes

Little brown envelopes have been placed in the Park Street Vestibule for our children who would like to make their own offering to SJB/HT. While these donations will not be recorded, it is a great opportunity for our parish children to learn stewardship and become involved parishioners.

### Joseph’s House

Become a part of our Mission at Joseph’s House! Joseph House, a safe home for pregnant homeless women and their children, is hiring. We are hiring part-time resident advisors for weekend and weeknight shifts. Resident advisors supervise our residents with day to day life skills and must be responsible, dependable and willing to work with women and children from all backgrounds as well as uphold the mission and values of Joseph’s House. Contact Karen at [kfruscello@jhfw.org](mailto:kfruscello@jhfw.org) or visit [www.jhfw.org](http://www.jhfw.org) for more information.





**Saturday, Dec. 22nd & Sunday, Dec. 23rd  
LECTORS:**

**5:30PM** ~ Annette Marchbanks  
**9:00AM** ~ Patrick Minnoe

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

**5:30PM** ~ Mary Elizabeth Cusano  
**9:00AM** ~ Ben Chouinard, Luis Guerrero

**EUCCHARIST:**

**5:30PM** ~ M.E. Cusano, G. Larkin, P. Serio  
**9:00AM** ~ C. Horton, R. Warren, R. Elderbroom



**Mass Schedule for  
St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity**

**Sat. - Dec. 15, 2018 - Vigil - Third Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 4:00 pm**

**SJB/HT 5:30 pm** - Gaetana & Donato Spina -  
Mr. & Mrs. L. Luisi  
Vincenzia Sicola - Mr. & Mrs. L. Sanzone

**Sun. - Dec. 16, 2018 - Third Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 7:30 am**

**SJB/HT 9:00 am** - Albert Bleskoski - The McGuire Family  
Patsy Campagna - The Dunlap Family  
Donald McGuire, Sr. The McGuire Family

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**

**Mon. - Dec. 17, 2018**

**12:00 Noon** - Rosanna Pennacchia - Peg & Mary Taddeo

**Tues. - Dec. 18, 2018**

**12:00 Noon** - Family & Friends apart from each other

**Wed. - Dec. 19, 2018**

**Thurs. - Dec. 20, 2018**

**Fri. - Dec. 21, 2018 - St. Peter Canisius,**

**priest & doctor of the Church**

**SJB/HT 11:30 am** - Confessions

**SJB/HT 12:00 Noon** - John Burt, Sr. - Sue Slack

**Sat. - Dec. 22, 2018 - Vigil - Fourth Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP - 4:00 pm**

**SJB/HT - 5:30 pm** - Robert Nicholas - Wife, Celine

**Sun. - Dec. 23, 2018 - Fourth Sunday Of Advent**

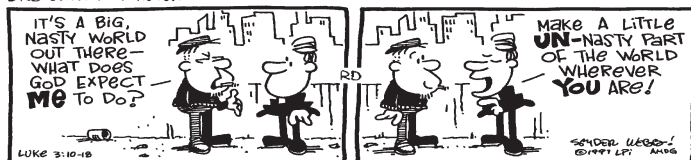
**OLP/SP 7:30 am**

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

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**DECEMBER EVENTS**

**Sun. Dec. 16**  
**Sun. Dec. 23**  
**Sun. Dec. 30**

Group 3 Money Counters  
Group 4 Money Counters  
Group 1 Money Counters

**Sun. Dec. 16** Breakfast with SANTA  
8:00AM - 12:00 Noon Mass  
SJB/HT Parish Center

**Tues. Dec. 18** Knights of Columbus 3rd Degree  
7:00PM SJB/HT Parish Center

**Thurs. Dec. 20** Washington Square Assoc.  
Neighborhood Watch Meeting  
7:00PM SJB/HT Parish Center

**Mon. - Fri. Dec. 24-28**  
**SJB/HT Rectory will be closed for the Christmas Holiday.**

**Mon. Dec. 31** the Rectory will be closed at  
**12:00 Noon.**



**Friday, December 28 -  
There is no 11:30 Confession  
or 12:00 Noon Mass.**

**Breakfast With Santa Sun. Dec. 16**

8:00AM-11:00AM in the SJB/HT Parish Center.  
Pancakes, scrambled eggs, homefries, toast,  
choice of sausage or bacon, juice and coffee. Adults \$8.00,  
children 5-12 (accompanied by adult) \$4.00, under 5  
(accompanied by adult) free. Bring your cameras! Santa will  
have gifts for all children.



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

**Sunday Collection Dec. 8th & Dec. 9th**

Regular collection .....	\$3,700.01
Loose collection .....	\$240.00
Fuel collection .....	\$260.00
Poor collection .....	\$187.00

**Remember:** Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield, Lorna Dodge Burton, Nancy Campagna, Rosaria Campolo, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Theresa Deprimio, Kathy Deprimio, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Anthony Drenzo, Aaron Doty, Louise Epolito, Dan Fahey, Marilyn Ferretti, Beverly Frey, Ellen Gangemi, David Galvagno, Trudy (Sobon) German, Gladys Graham, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Joanne Loughney, Maria Luisi, Diane Mackey, Norm MacKenzie, Bernice McClelland, Peggy Miccinelli, Helen Mnich, Michael Morga, Darlene Noyes, Jean Padden, Sharon Peparata, Cathy Galutz Sacco, Patty Schramm, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Jason A. Smith, Timothy K. Suppes, Reita Suppes, Barbara Traino, Shelly Visco, and Matthew Watkins.



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

315-478-0916

Account # 06-0120