

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax 423-8096

December 9, 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.

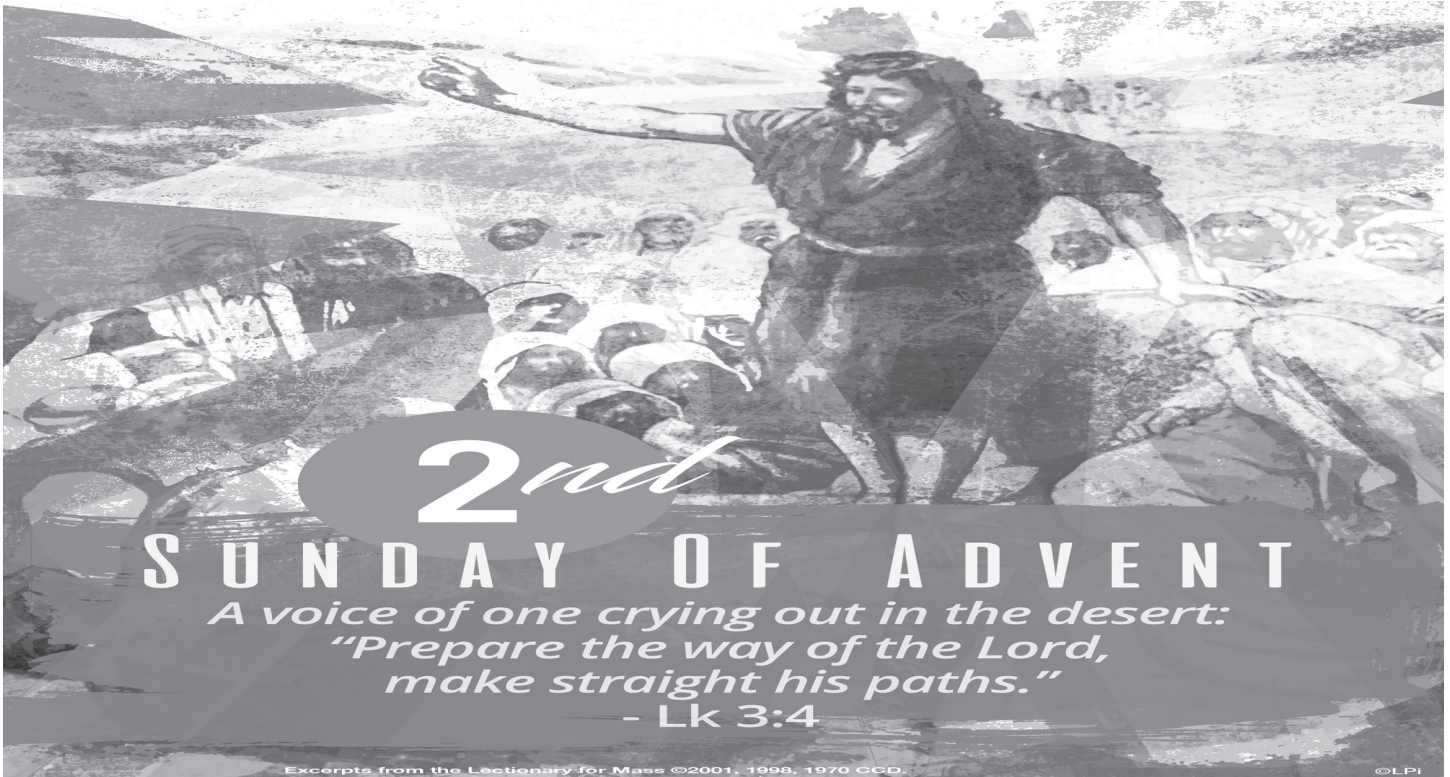
## Office Hours for SJB/HT

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)



## Second Sunday In Advent

"In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar...and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee...and Lysanias was tetrarch of..." Did you need to pinch yourself awake during the first few lines of this Sunday's Gospel? John the Baptist received quite a prelude today as Luke described the religious and political leadership of the time period. Scripture is divinely inspired, and we believe that everything that made it into the Bible is there for a reason. These lines remind us of an important truth. The Christmas story isn't a fairy tale or nursery rhyme. It's not a parable we say to give meaning to the holiday. At Christmas, God's presence is made tangible in a precise moment in time. The birth of Christ is a historical event. As precursor to Jesus' preaching, the ministry of John the Baptist is also a historical event.

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John's call to repentance and the forgiveness of sins happened in a particular time and place. But that does not mean it is limited to first century Palestine! God continues to move in our daily lives. What we hear in today's Gospel - and what we anticipate at Christmas - occurs in our daily lives. God works in concrete ways in time and space. He did that 2,000 years ago, and He continues to do so today!

This Sunday, examine your own Christmas preparations. Is there anything you need to repent of before the Christmas season? Are there low points in your life, valleys to "be filled" by the love of God? Are their mountainous obstacles in your spiritual life? How can they be "made low"? Are you making decisions that have moved you away from God? This Advent season is the time for them to "be made straight and ? made smooth." Prepare the way in your heart for Christ today!

### 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,

I am sure this past week was difficult for many of us as the Bishop released the names of the priests who had credible accusations of abuse made against them. Several of those priests served in our parish and perhaps some of us still remembered them fondly and now we are confused, angry, hurt, shocked, saddened. The list can go on and on. This is a great challenge to the Church, not just as an institution, but also as the community of believers, made up of individuals struggling to live The Faith in an incredibly difficult world. For many of us, the challenges to living that Faith just became even more daunting. I wish I knew the words to say that could help all of us through the challenges of these days, but sadly I don't. I do know, however, that the answer to all of our problems is to be found in that very Faith that has been challenged; the answer is Jesus Himself. During this Holy Season of Advent the focus of our prayer is asking Jesus to come to us. More than ever we need to cry out to Him to come to His people: to come and heal those who have been abused; to come to restore the Faith to those who have been scandalized; to come and bring a spirit of true repentance to those who abused and misused their authority in the Church; to come and fill His Church with His love, His joy, and His peace.

It is my hope that all of us will take the opportunity this Advent to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **On Monday, December 17th, the Diocese will be celebrating The Light Is On For You Campaign. On that evening every Catholic Church in the Diocese will be open and a priest available to hear confessions from 4-7PM. This year, I will be hearing confessions at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter. Also, we have scheduled confessions for Thursday and Friday, December 13 & 14 from 4:30 – 6:00 PM at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity as well as Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, December 18, 20, & 21 from 4:00 – 6:30 at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter.** Please plan on celebrating this wonderful gift from the Lord during this season of joyful anticipation and preparation.

I hope all is going well in your spiritual preparations this Advent. Please continue on your journey focused on the Lord Jesus. You all remain in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

In Christ,  
Fr. Caruso



### Giving Tree

Donations to the Giving Tree are being taken until December 16. Please do not wrap your gifts. This year gifts will be donated to Catholic Charities.

### 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.



### Christmas/New Year Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve - Monday, Dec. 24**  
**4:00PM (lector needed) & 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**



### Thanksgiving Thank You

18 Thanksgiving Dinners were delivered to our homebound parishioners. We would like to Thank all the volunteers who helped to cook, box and bag the dinners. And a very big THANK YOU to those who delivered. Without your thoughtful generosity this could not have happened.



### 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 should be in by Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018.

Donor \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

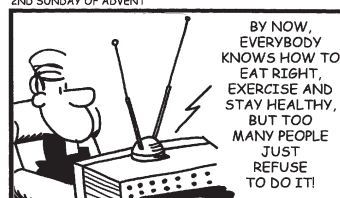
In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

### Religious Education News

This week the Confirmation II Candidates will be presented to the Parish at the 9:00AM Mass. Also, our First Communion Candidate will be making her First Penance after 9:00AM Mass. Please keep these students and all of our Religious Education students in your prayers. 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.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT





**Saturday, Dec. 15th & Sunday, Dec. 16th**

**LECTORS:**

**5:30PM** ~ Jack Normoyle

**9:00AM** ~ John Robinson

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

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

**9:00AM** ~ Ben Chouinard, Noah & Lucas Smith

**EUCCHARIST:**

**5:30PM** ~ L. Sanzone, G. Larkin, J. LaVergne

**9:00AM** ~ M. E. Cusano, R. Elderbroom, K. Fekete



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

**Sat. Dec. 8, 2018 - The Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation**

**OLP/SP - 8:00 am**

**SJB/HT - 10:00 am - For The People**

**Sat. - Dec. 8, 2018 - Vigil - Second Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 4:00 pm**

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

**Sun. - Dec. 9, 2018 - Second Sunday Of Advent**

**OLP/SP 7:30 am**

**SJB/HT 9:00 am** - Salvatore Fornito - The Family

Anna Warn - The Family

Georgio DelVecchio - Anna DelVecchio & Children

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**

**Mon. - Dec. 10, 2018**

**12:00 Noon** - Children abused and neglected

**Tues. - Dec. 11, 2018 - St. Damasus I, pope**

**12:00 Noon** - The dedicated first responders

**Wed. - Dec. 12, 2018 - Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**Thurs. - Dec. 13, 2018 - St. Lucy, virgin & martyr**

**Fri. - Dec. 14, 2018 - St. John of the Cross,  
priest & doctor of the Church**

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

**SJB/HT 12:00 Noon** - Our military men & women  
away from their family this holiday season

**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

Donald McGuire, Sr. - The McGuire Family

**OLP/SP 11:00 am**



**DECEMBER EVENTS**

**Sun. Dec. 9**      Group 2 Money Counters  
**Sun. Dec. 16**      Group 3 Money Counters  
**Sun. Dec. 23**      Group 4 Money Counters  
**Sun. Dec. 30**      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.**

**Breakfast With Santa**

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.



**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of  
Enrica Cellini - Requested by Mary Cellini  
Peggy Mitchell - Requested by Mary Cellini**

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



**Sunday Collection Dec. 1st & Dec. 2nd**

Regular collection .....\$3,441.00

Loose collection ..... \$349.60

Fuel collection ..... \$428.00



**Remember:** Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield,  
Lorna Dodge Burton, Nancy & Pat Campagna,  
Rosaria Campolo, Robert Capria, Catherine Cush-  
man, 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 Gal-  
vagno, Trudy (Sobon) German, Gladys Graham, Jeanne  
Hammond, Mary Isgar, Dory Jones, Shirley Kerr, Jane  
Kwasigroch, Rosemary Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Lim-  
eri, 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. Sup-  
pes, Reita Suppes, Barbara Traino, Shelly Visco, and Mat-  
thew Watkins.



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

315-478-0916

Account # 06-0120