St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity 406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208 Office (315) 478-0916 Fax 423-8096

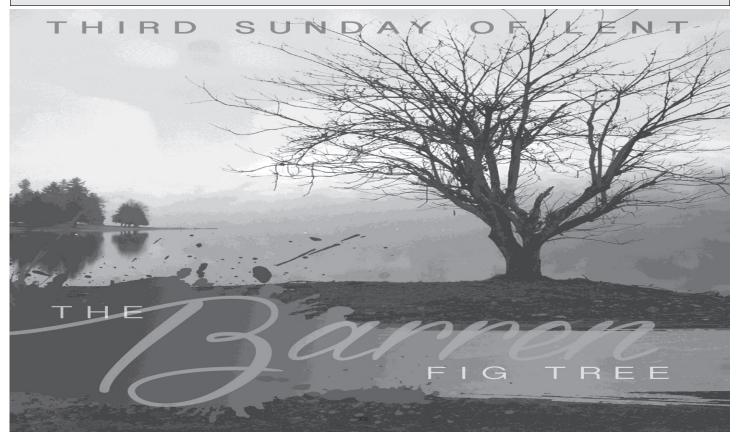
March 24, 2019

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 - <u>nbergeson@syrdio.org</u> Web Site - <u>www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com</u>



Third Sunday of Lent

"There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it [he] found none." We live in a results-driven society. It can be easy to put pressure on ourselves to succeed. If we're not keeping up with the perceived "good life" of those around us, we feel anxious and disappointed. Some of the Gospel stories about fruitfulness can seem to play out in this fashion. "For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down." The message seems to be clear. Abide in God and bear fruit! Stand apart from God and be barren. But what happens when we're trying, but the growth we wanted doesn't seem to be coming our way? What if it feels like life just isn't bearing fruit?

This Sunday, Jesus gives us a sign of hope. "[The gardener] said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also? it may bear fruit in the future." How quick we can be to judge! Perhaps you started out Lent with high hopes and big ideas for getting closer to God. Maybe things haven't gone exactly like you thought. It can be easy to lose patience with our failures or slow growth. We shouldn't be too quick to assume that God has given up on us. He hasn't.

The same ideas apply to those around us. Perhaps we're the planter of the fig tree. We expect a certain amount of growth from someone in our life, and they just aren't measuring up. Let today's Gospel be a gentle nudge for mercy. As Lent continues to unfold, be patient with yourself and those around you. Wait for God to provide the growth.

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.

Message From Fr. Caruso

I pray that this Holy Season of Lent is going well for all of us at St. John the Baptist Holy Trinity and Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter. I



realize that there are a lot of demands on our time and that our lives are filled with many distractions. It is often difficult to take the extra time to allow our souls to be nourished and our faith to be strengthened. Very often we need to build the structures in our daily lives to help us to stay focused on what is most important. I would like to offer a few suggestions for helping to work on the discipline of prayer in our lives this Lenten season.

At the beginning of Lent we made available copies of the *Magnificat Lenten Companion*. This is a powerful resource that offers a brief reflection for each day of Lent. I encourage you to make the commitment to read this booklet each day

Daily Mass is another excellent way to help us to focus on our spiritual life. I know it is not always easy to make it to daily Mass, but the sacrifice we make can be part of the Lenten journey. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the "source and summit" of our Faith. What a wonderful gift to give God (and ourselves) if we could attend daily Mass at least once a week during Lent. Daily Mass is celebrated at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at Noon. Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter has daily Mass Tuesday – Thursday at 9:00AM and Friday at 12:15 during Lent.

The Stations of the Cross are an important part of our traditional Lenten experience. Many of us have gotten away from reflecting on the difficult road that Jesus walked for us. It is important for us to remember because we are asked to follow in His footsteps. At Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter, The Stations of the Cross will follow the 12:15 Mass on Fridays; at St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity they will be prayed Fridays at 7:00PM in the Church.

Please know that you are all in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

In Christ's Peace, Fr. Caruso

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Religious Education News

Our Religious Education school year is quickly coming to an end. Our confirmation students only have 4 more classes and our Pre-K to 8th grade

have 5 more classes over the next couple of months. Please continue to pray for our children, especially our 3 students receiving Sacraments this year. There are no classes on April 14 & 21 in observance of Spring break and Easter.

Religious Education Special Announcement

Aleda Guerrero in our 7th grade class won the Diocesan Safe Environment Poster Contest for her age group (7th-12th grades). The poster was phenomenal. She did a great job.

You will be able to see her poster on the Diocesan Facebook page and the website (<u>www.syrdio.org</u>) during the month of April. There will also be an article in The Catholic Sun's May 2nd edition. Congratulations **Aleda**! We are very proud of you!



Live The Liturgy -Inspiration For The Week

If salvation history teaches us anything, it's that God is very patient. Time and time again,



that God is very patient. Time and time again, people have wandered away from Him and He has sent prophet after prophet to lead them back. To show us just how much He does love us, He sent us His Son who revealed this unconditional love in all that he said and did. This Lenten season is an opportunity to repent and turn back. The mystery of God's presence is revealed in and through the ordinary events of life as the birth of Christ reminds us. God told Moses through the burning bush, "I am who am". And so he reminds us today. Let us turn away no more and turn back to truth.

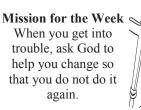


TV Mass For The Homebound

WNYS channel 43 (My43) at 8:30am. Is someone you love unable to join us at church during

this holy time of Lent and Easter? For the faithful at home or in the healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joy filled hope in our Risen Savior. Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in Catholic Mass on TV or watch online anytime on Sundays at <u>www.HeartoftheNation.org.</u> (For those who can get to church, the TV or online liturgy does not fulfill the Sunday Mass obligation.)

I sin. You sin. Everybody sins. God knows that we cannot be perfect like God. But God wants you to love him and talk to him. God wants you to be sorry for your sins, learn from your mistakes, and grow closer to him every day.



Prayer Dear God, help me to grow closer to you with every day you give me.

A Family Perspective Family Life Education



The owner of the fig tree was impatient because the tree did not live up to his expectations. In families there are those who don't live up to our expectations. Imitate the gardener and give them more time and help. Don't cut them out of your life. Love asks us to be connected, not productive.

Vocation Blurbs 3rd Sunday of Lent

You may notice a theme in this week's readings. God reaches out to us in our lives and accompanies us on our journey. He even calls some of us, like Moses, to lead his people in a special way. If you feel he is calling you, do not be afraid. Follow him. For help in discerning God's call, visit <u>www.vocations-syracuse.org</u> or call 315-470-1468.





Stations of the Cross: Friday's Mar. 29 & Apr. 5, 12 OLP/SP - 12:15 PM ~ SJB/HT 7:00PM

Saturday, Mar. 30th & Sunday, Mar. 31st LECTORS: 5:30PM ~ Owen Donovan

9:00AM ~ Patrick Minnoe

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

EUCHARIST: 5:30PM ~ F. Sanzone, J. LaVergne, G. Larkin 9:00AM ~ J. Mott, C. Horton

Mass Schedule for St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity

Sat. - Mar. 23, 2019 - Vigil - 3rd Sunday of Lent OLP/SP 4:00 pm SJB/HT 5:30 pm - For The People

Sun. - Mar. 24, 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Lent OLP/SP 7:30 am SJB/HT 9:00 am - Peter Cellini - The Family Paul Ferretti - Marilyn Sharon Peparata - The Brien Family

OLP/SP 11:00 am

Mon. - Mar. 25, 2019 - The Annunciation of the Lord 12:00 Noon - Terry Boysen - Mary Lou Schug

Tues. - Mar. 26, 2019 12:00 Noon - Connie Pallotta - Mary Lou Schug

Wed. - Mar. 27, 2019

Thurs. - Mar. 28, 2019

Fri. - Mar. 29, 2019 SJB/HT 11:30 am - Confessions SJB/HT 12:00 Noon - Marie Summerwood - The Family Ira Johnson - The Family OLP/SP 12:15 pm Stations of the Cross SJB/HT 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Sat. - Mar. 30, 2019 - Vigil - 4th Sunday of Lent OLP/SP - 4:00 pm SJB/HT - 5:30 pm - Paitro Paolo & Filomena Tomieno -Antonio & Antonia Mazza

Sun. - Mar. 31, 2019 - 4th Sunday of Lent OLP/SP 7:30 am SJB/HT 9:00 am - Shirley Fornito - Rick & Kathy Charland Paul Ferretti - Max & Karen Fekete Clemente & Maria Grazia Viggliotti -Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Rosano

OLP/SP 11:00 am





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

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Account # 06-0120