

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208
Office (315) 478-0916 Fax (315) 423-8096

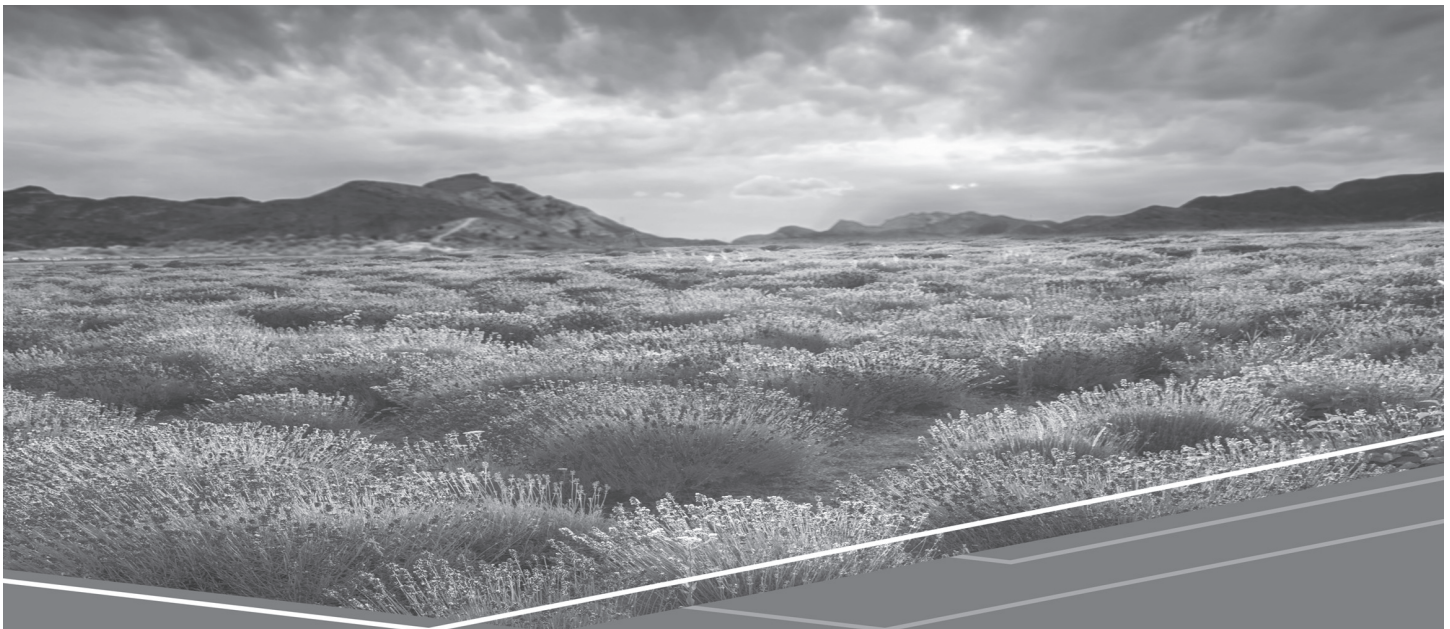
March 22, 2020

Mass Schedule:

Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 12:00 Noon held in our Chapel
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am
Reconciliation Fri. 11:30 am. Or by appointment.

Office Hours for SJB/HT

Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:30pm
Friday 9:00am-2:30pm
E-mail - nbergeson@syrdio.org
Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com



4th SUNDAY OF LENT

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"
- Jn 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Fourth Sunday Of Lent

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?

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,



This is a letter that I could never imagine having to write but these challenging times have led us to this place. By now many of you should have already heard that Bishop Lucia has suspended any public gatherings for Mass, prayer, and Faith formation. We do not know how long this will last. The Bishop hopes and prays that we will be able to publicly celebrate Holy Week and Easter in our churches. Please know that through this period of time I will continue to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass each day for the intentions that have been previously requested and for all of you and your spiritual and physical well being. I will still be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the normal time each week as well as for the times scheduled during the two weeks before Easter. The schedule for Confessions can be found at the end of this letter. Please be aware that confession will most likely not take place in the Reconciliation Room. Signs will be posted in the church informing you of the location of the priest(s).

We have canceled the remaining Fish Dinners as well as the Breakfast with the Easter Bunny. We have been informed that the All Faiths Food Pantry is closing temporarily. We will continue to post updates on our parish website, stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com and Facebook page.

The parish offices will be closed for awhile; I don't know for how long. Since the staffs will not be in, I will be working out of the offices at Our Lady of Pompei each day. You can call 315-422-7163; if I don't answer, please follow the directions on where to leave a message. In case of an emergency, please feel free to call me on my cell phone at 607-743-7235. If you or somebody in the family needs to receive the Sacrament of the Sick please don't delay in calling me.

I realize how frightening all this can be; as your pastor I encourage all of us to turn to Our Blessed Lord at this time. We are truly being asked to share in His Cross during this Lent. We need to turn to Him with our prayers, seeking His mercy, His Grace, and His Healing Presence. Please join your Brothers and Sisters throughout the Diocese of Syracuse in praying daily the

"Novena Prayer for an end to the Coronavirus Pandemic"

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

I believe that with a little common sense, a lot of Charity, and even more prayer we will make it through this challenging time. I continue to pray for all of you; please remember to pray for me.

In Christ,
Fr. Caruso

March 30 - April 3 @ 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM (OLP/SP)
April 7 & 8 @ 4:00PM - 5:30 PM (SJB/HT)
Monday, April 6 @ 4:00PM - 7:00PM (SJB/HT) [Light is On]



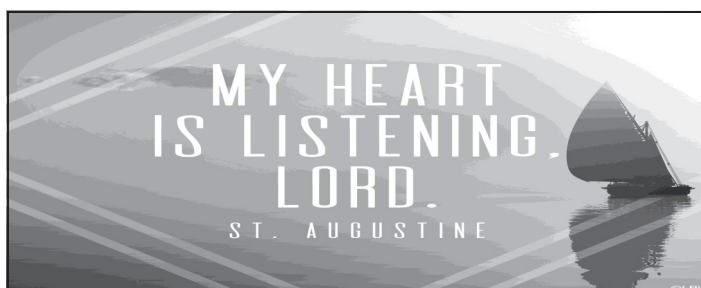
IMPORTANT Announcements

All Events Cancelled

The Baked Fish Dinners and the Stations of the Cross on Friday March 21st, 28th and April 3rd and Coffee & Doughnuts and Palm Crosses with Easter Bunny, Sunday, April 5th here at SJB/HT have been cancelled. The Catholic Golden Agers Meeting scheduled for Wed. April 22nd has been cancelled. OLP/SP Basket Bonanza, Holy Thursday Prayer Service and Breakfast with Easter Bunny have also been cancelled.

Faith Formation Classes SJB/HT

All classes have been cancelled until after Easter or until further notice. You can call Betty Warren with any concerns or questions at 315-420-6357. Please pray for our youth, especially those preparing for Sacraments this year and our Faith Formation Program.



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. — Jn 9:35-38

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sunday Collection Mar. 14th & Mar. 15th

Regular collection	\$2,608.25
Loose collection	\$363.00
Fuel collection	\$40.00

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Can we see the goodness around us?



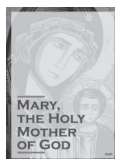
Today we have the story of a man born blind. In Jesus' time, blindness was viewed as a punishment for sin. Lent is all about looking inward and rooting out sinful desires and actions. So this story of a blind man and Jesus restoring his sight is a story about the forgiveness of sin.

How often do we hold on to sinful ways or thoughts? Do we need Jesus to give us something in our lives to see again? Or do we need to concentrate on something we do well so that our "sight" may be improved?

This week, let us look through eyes of faith and attempt to see goodness around us. Also, let us help each other to remove sin so that we might see God more clearly.

Pray this Novena for 9 straight days and after the 9 days, pray it continually.

Novena Prayer For An End To The Corona Virus Pandemic



O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and world-wide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen

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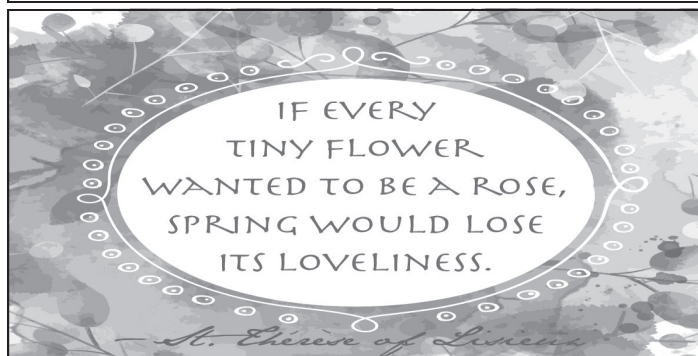


Serving Our Country Always keep in prayer all servicemen and women. From our parish: **Rob Smith, Bryan M. Oakes & Anthony Cangemi.**

Remember: Christopher Aldrich, Nancy Bailey, Antonietta Briggs, Bob Brimfield, Lena Campanino, Rosaria Campolo, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Grayce Costantini, Linda Deapo, Frank DeYulio, Peter DiBello, Gen DiMento, Cathy DiPrimio, Anthony Drenzo, Aaron Doty, Dan Fahey, Marilyn Ferretti, Beverly Frey, Chris Gabriell, Ellen Gangemi, David Galvagno, 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, Antonio McLaughlin, Peggy Miccinelli, Helen Mnich, Bill Moran, Michael Morga, Darlene Noyes, Jean Padden, Cathy Galutz Sacco, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Jason A. Smith, Timothy K. Suppes, Barbara Traino, Shelly Visco, and Matthew Watkins.



Happy and Blessed Spring



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Account # 06-0120