

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

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

December 24, 2023

Mass Schedule:

Mon., Tues., Fri. - 12:00 Noon
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 pm
Sunday - 9:00 am
Reconciliation OLP/SP Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm
SJB/HT Thursday 4:00-5:00pm

Office Hours for SJB/HT

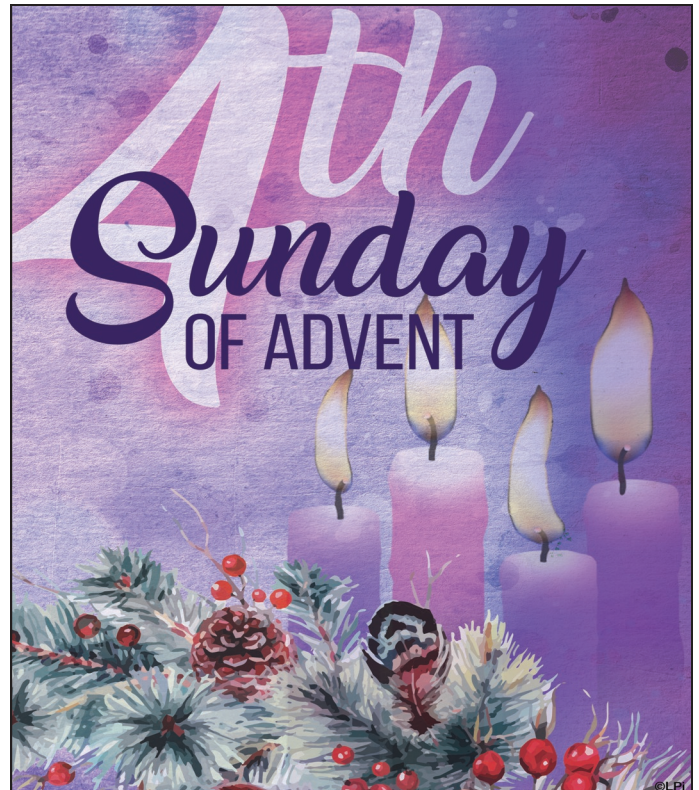
Monday~Thursday 9:00am-4:30pm
Friday 9:00am-2:30pm
E-mail - nbergeson@syrdio.org
Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

St. John The Baptist/Holy Trinity

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday, 9:00am
Monday, Tuesday & Friday Noon in Chapel

Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter Church

Saturday, 4:00pm ~~~~~ Saturday, 6:00pm Vietnamese
Sunday, 7:30am, 11:30am & 5:00pm
Sunday, 9:30am Vietnamese
Tuesday – Friday 9:00am in Chapel



December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, **"But she was greatly troubled at what was said."** An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her *precisely when she is troubled*. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, **"Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."**

— Father John Muir ©LPI

SJB/HT Office & Church Staff

Pastor Father Daniel Caruso
Secretary/Bulletin Nancy Bergeson

Senior Priest in Residence Fr. Lester Smith

In Residence Fr. Paschal Anionye

Music Director/Organist James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds Robert Warren

Religious Education Betty Warren



Dear Parishioners,

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born to you who is Christ and Lord.” These words which the angel used to herald the coming of the Lord Jesus on that first Christmas echo across the centuries and announce to us once again, on this Christmas, that God has not, and does not, forget His people. He has sent His only Son, born in the flesh, the Holy Child of Bethlehem.

“Do not be afraid” – how central these words are to the proclamation of the Lord’s birth. In a world filled with darkness and sin, the coming of Redemption and Light is startling. This is as true for us today as it was for the shepherds 2000 years ago. In our world today, where there is still sin, hatred and violence, we are called to leave behind the fear and live in the peace and hope that came to the world that first Christmas.

As your pastor, it is my hope and prayer that this Christmas we may move past the secular celebrations and find our joy, hope, and strength in the true message of Christmas – “a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.”

On behalf of the staff (including Petey and Mary the Wonderpuppies), the other priests and myself, may God grant each of you a Blessed Christmas. I pray that the love of God will fill all of our hearts and that the true peace of the season will be with each of us.

In the Peace of the Babe of Bethlehem,
Fr. Caruso



Reflect: Readings and Gospel For Christmas Day

First Reading:

While in exile in Babylon, Isaiah foresaw and celebrated the time when Israel would declare, “All the ends of the earth can see the salvation of our God.” How will you celebrate the birth of Jesus?

Second Reading:

The opening verses of Hebrews describe Jesus as the “very imprint” of God’s glory. What do you think the author meant by describing Jesus in this way?

Gospel:

John opens his Gospel with the same first words of the Old Testament, “In the beginning...” He sees the birth of Jesus, “the Word became flesh,” as creation itself beginning anew. Do you find this an interesting way to think about the birth of Jesus? ©LPi



*He was in the beginning with God.
All things came to be through him,
and without him nothing came to be.
What came to be through him was life,
and this life was the light of the human race.*

— Jn 1:2-4
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

SJB/HT Religious Education



There are no Religious Education classes December 24th and 31st in observance of Christmas & New Year. Classes will resume on January 7, 2024.

Merry Christmas. We offer classes from Pre-K (4 yrs. Old) to Confirmation II. If you wish to have your child participate, please call Betty Warren at 315-420-6357. If you are interested in teaching, please call Betty. Please pray for our Students and our Teachers, that they will have a successful and enjoyable year.



The Giving Wagon

The Giving Wagon for The All Faith Food Pantry has been set up once again in the body of the Church, in front of the Blessed Mothers Altar. The All Faith Food Pantry has requested gifts of personal hygiene for men, women and children as well as paper products and cleaning products for the home. These gifts will help the pantry clients greatly by letting the clients use their SNAP benefits for more food items. We thank you for your generous and thoughtful gifts. The wagon will remain through the Epiphany Jan. 7, 2024.

Christmas

Today marks the end of the Advent season and the beginning of the Christmas season. We have lighted four candles these past four weeks and asked God to help us be present to our neighbors and friends. Now in the Christmas season we are called to be Christ in the flesh to our world.



Let us pray...

God,
you became human through the obedience of a simple young woman named Mary. Mary is our model of faith. May we be faithful to your word as Mary was. Give us the courage to face each day with the yes that Mary gave to you. We ask this through the incarnate God, who comes to us again during this Christmas season. Amen.



Mass Schedule for SJB/HT & OLP/SP

Saturday December 23, 2023

4:00pm OLP/SP - Rita & Phil Capozzi Sr. - Son
Henry Pagano - Wife, Esther
Frank & Anna Pascarella - Esther
Alfonso Carfagno - Jack & Melanie
Benny & Terry Cimino - Son, Joseph
Larry DeSantis - Sandy, Dan & Danny
Angel Pagano - Henry & Veronica Pagano
Frankie Pascarella - Aunt Esther & Family
Anthony Nuzzo - Wife, Patricia, children and grandchildren
5:30pm SJB/HT - Agnes Ewald - The Estate

Sunday December 24, 2023

7:30am OLP/SP - N/A
9:00am SJB/HT - Agnes Ewald - The Estate
11:30am OLP/SP - N/A

4:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil OLP/SP & SJB/HT -
For the people
9:00pm Christmas Eve Vigil SJB/HT - For the people
11:30pm Carols OLP/SP
12:00 Midnight Mass OLP/SP - For the people

Monday December 25, 2023 Christmas Day

7:30am OLP/SP - For the people
9:00am SJB/HT - For the people
11:30am OLP/SP - For the people

Tuesday December 26, 2023

9:00am OLP/SP - Luke, Joseph & Rose Oscuro - The Estate
12:00pm SJB/HT - No intention

Wednesday December 27, 2023

9:00am OLP/SP - Santina Sindoni - The Family
Pasquale & Giovannina Geremia - Niece Gilda
4:00pm-5:00pm OLP/SP Confession

Thursday December 28, 2023

9:00am OLP/SP - N/A
4:00pm-5:00pm SJB/HT Confession

Friday December 29, 2023

9:00am OLP/SP - Dr. George C. Heitzman - Wife & Family
12:00pm SJB/HT - No intention

Saturday December 30, 2023

4:00pm OLP/SP - Henry Pagano - Wife, Esther
Ronald Reagan - Rosalie Trinica
Frank Discenza - Ginnie Lostumbo
Benny & Terry Cimino - Son, Joseph
5:30pm SJB/HT - For the people

Sunday December 31, 2023

7:30am OLP/SP - N/A
9:00am SJB/HT - Agnes Ewald - The Estate



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for
a special intention requested by **Dave William**

The bread and Wine is offered in memory of
Janet William requested by **The William Family**



Lector Schedule - Dec. 30th & Dec. 31st

5:30pm SJB/HT: Owen Donovan
9:00am SJB/HT: Ashley Stoddard

**Office Christmas Schedule
Christmas Week Masses**

Closed for the Holiday

SJB/HT and OLP/SP Rectories
will be closed the week of Christmas Monday Dec. 25 - Friday Dec. 29th and New Year Day Monday Jan. 1, 2024. SJB/HT will have Noon Mass Tuesday Dec. 26th and Friday Dec. 29th. OLP/SP will have 9:00am Mass Tuesday, Dec. 26th, Wednesday, Dec. 27th, Thursday, Dec. 28th and Friday, Dec. 29th.

Sacrificial Giving

Please contact Fr. Dan if you have any questions about our parish finances.

Week December 9th & December 10th
SJB/HT Collection: \$3,422.00 OLP/SP Collection: \$N/A
Week December 16th & December 17th
SJB/HT Collection: \$TBA OLP/SP Collection: \$TBA
Thank you to all those parishioners who have faithfully been mailing their envelopes because they still cannot attend Mass. If you have been away or have been unable to attend Mass, please remember to send your donation to the Parish Office. We appreciate whatever you can do to help with expenses.



Remember: Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, B.J. Bubniak Family, Arlene Bukowski, De De Calkins, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny & Erin Donovan, Jenny Emmi, Tenley Farrow, Marilyn Ferretti, Mary Frenza, Ellen Gangemi, Gladys Graham, Robert Greenwood, Camille Grosso, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Josephine Indelicato, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, tony Laurettil, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Maria Luisi, Judy & Skip Marioritti, Darlene Morga, Diane Moro, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Antoinette Perotta, Philomena Piraino, Cathy Galutz Sacco, Sal Scro, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Esther Sindoni, John Sobon, Patricia Soule, Timothy K. Suppes, Barbara Traino, Gerry Vaccaro, Shelly Visco, Matthew Watkins and Fred Wheeler. **We also remember in our prayers our Service Men and Women and our Health Care Workers.**



11:30am OLP/SP - Pasquale Sisera - Wife, Gilda
The Caracci Family - The Family
Salvatore Mule - Margherita & John
Giulia DeTommaso - Sister, Frances
Anthony James Cannizzaro -
The Cannizzaro & Stagnitta Families
Nino & Enza Mule - Margherita & John
Frank & Nancy Fugale - Steve & Nancy
Agatha & Andrea Bortoloni - The Children
Eustachio & Rosaria Cannizzaro - John & Margherita
Charles DeGilormo & Sara DeGilormo - Joanne Licitra
5:00pm OLP/SP - N/A