

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax (315) 423-8096

April 28, 2024

## Mass Schedule: SJB/HT

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-4:00pm

Friday 9:00am-2:30pm

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

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

Syr. Dio. Web-site - [www.syracusedioecese.org](http://www.syracusedioecese.org)

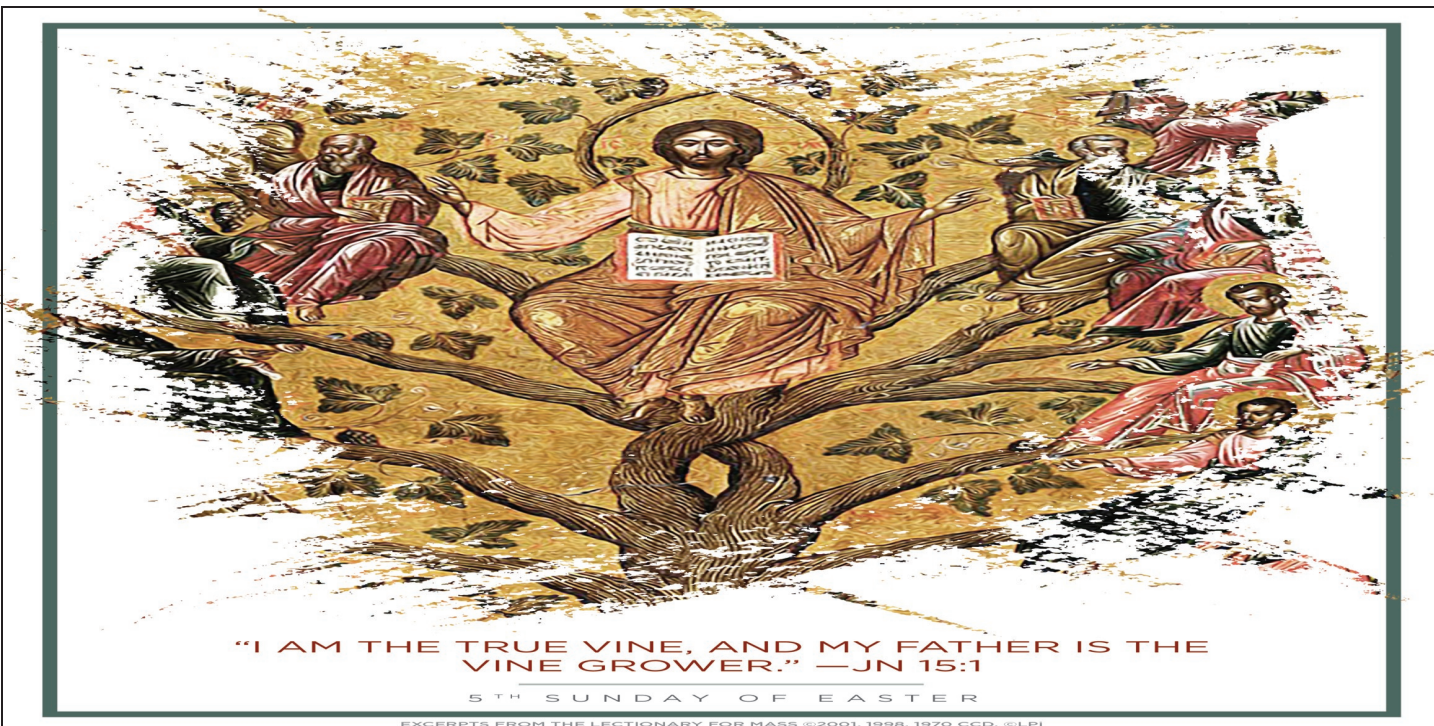
## Our Lady of Pompei/St.Peter Church

Saturday, 4:00pm ~~~~~ Saturday, 6:00pm Vietnamese

Sunday, 7:30am, 11:30am & 5:00pm

Sunday, 9:30am Vietnamese

Tuesday – Friday 9:00am in Chapel



April 28, 2024

### Fifth Sunday Of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, “Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you.”

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week’s Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, “**He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit**” (John 15:2) I don’t mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I’d wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God’s love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn’t it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it’s not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ’s body. Jesus’ rising is the brand-new growth. It is God’s promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— 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

## Scratch Off Lottery Tickets

We've requested Scratch Off Lottery Tickets to create a large raffle prize for the International Festival, Saturday October 12th. Would you please consider donating at any time a scratch off lottery ticket. You may put them in the collection basket, in an envelope marked "lottery ticket", and it is your choice of ticket to donate. We thank you for your consideration and support.



## SJB/HT Religious Education

Religious Education classes resume this week. Our Religious Education program is nearing the end of the 2023-2024 year. There are only 3 classes left for our students. Our last class will be on Mother's Day, May 12th. This last class will be our First Communion and May Crowning Mass. Please pray for all our students, their families and our teachers. Please especially pray for our 4 First Penance/First Communion students.

## A Family Perspective Family Life Education

Like the vine grower in today's Gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."



## Pray For Vocation

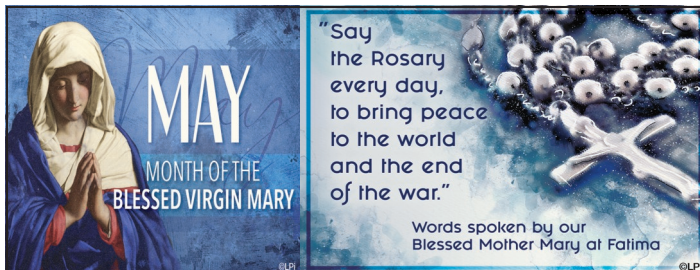
"He had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus." Pray for those who God is boldly calling forth to serve Him and His people as religious brothers. If you are considering this joy filled vocation, then reach out to the Vocation Office via email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram @vocationsyracuse.

## Reflect: Readings and Gospel for Fifth Sunday Of Easter

**First Reading:** The disciples were unwilling to trust that Saul (Paul) was a true believer until Barnabas offered support for Saul. How easily do you trust people you don't know well?

**Second Reading:** John speaks of the importance of knowing in your heart that you believe in Jesus and truly love others. How does anyone know what is in their heart?

**Gospel:** Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus speaks of the importance of staying connected to him and the Father. When do you feel close to Jesus? ©LPi



**FYI - We are still in need of men and women who might be interested in helping serve during funeral.**

## (Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman  
Love in Deed



*It's a Wonderful Life* is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story.

I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the themes that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there ... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, overworked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy.

But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

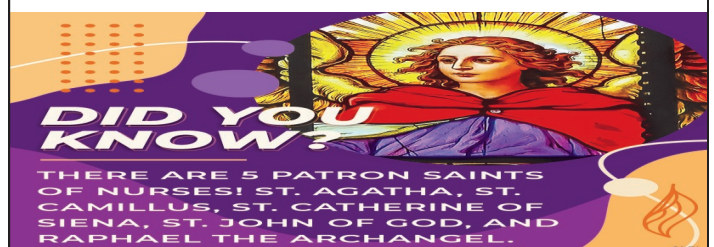
The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different.

Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

*"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth." — 1 John 3:18 ©LPi*

## God Bless all of our Health Care Professionals



**Mass intentions \$15.00, Bread and Wine in memory of your loved one(s) \$25.00 or Sanctuary Lamp \$10.00.**

### Mass Schedule for SJB/HT & OLP/SP

#### Saturday April 27, 2024

**4:00pm OLP/SP** - Peter Cappuccilli, Sr. - The Family  
Frank & Louise Buda - The Family  
Benny & Terry Cimino - Son, Joseph  
Henry & Esther Pagano - Regina & Bill Sarsfield  
Matteo & Antoinetta Paduano - Daughter, Chora  
Victoria Giannantonio & Marianna DeLorio - Frank & Sue  
**5:30pm SJB/HT** - All the people of SJB/HT

#### Sunday April 28, 2024

**7:30am OLP/SP** - Angela Lattanzio - Clara Delledora  
**9:00am SJB/HT** - David McLaughlin - Mother  
Alexa Bolton - Sherrie Johnson  
**11:30am OLP/SP** - Stella Corona - Cathy & Family  
Frank & Nancy Fugale - The Family  
Anna Lattanzio - Jim & Angela Albanese  
Bartholomew DeMascoli - Son, Anthony  
Nunziata Fichera - Grandsons, Anthony & Dom  
**5:00pm OLP/SP** - Ann Carfagno - Jack & Melanie

#### Monday April 29, 2024

**12:00 Noon SJB/HT** - Requests from our prayer box

#### Tuesday April 30, 2024

**9:00am OLP/SP** - Pasquale Sisera - Joanne Licitra  
**12:00pm SJB/HT** - Lucy Cannavino - Georgiann

#### Wednesday May 1, 2024

**9:00am OLP/SP** - Jerry Birardi - Pagano Family  
**4:00pm-5:00pm OLP/SP Confession**

#### Thursday May 2, 2024

**9:00am OLP/SP** - Francine Battaglia - Merilee Palerino  
**4:00-5:00pm SJB/HT Confession**

#### Friday May 3, 2024

**9:00am OLP/SP** - For the people  
**12:00pm SJB/HT** - Rita Carroll - Michael Nesci

#### Saturday May 4, 2024

**4:00pm OLP/SP** - Anthony Merluzzi - Debra Wade  
Benny & Terry Cimino - Son, Joseph  
Henry & Esther Pagano - Frank & Sue  
Michael Canestrare - Marlene & Family  
Maria Calabrese - Connie, Carlo & Family  
Mary Rose Strano - Joanne Licitra & Paul  
**5:30pm SJB/HT** - All the people of SJB/HT

#### Sunday May 5, 2024

**7:30am OLP/SP** - N/A  
**9:00am SJB/HT** - Rita Carroll - Twin Cousins  
Mary Gangemi - Norm & Pat Jaquin  
Rita Carroll - Joey & Kthy Cargagno  
**11:30am OLP/SP** - Mary Surace - Children  
Vito Toia - Betty & Family  
Rose Caracci - The Family  
Helen Barbato - The Family  
Robert M. Blasi - Mom, Marietta  
**5:00pm OLP/SP** - Frank Scarfino III - The Family  
Mary Anne Scarfino - The Family

### New Rectory Hours

SJB/HT Rectory will now be open Monday—  
Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm and Friday 9:00am-2:30.



### Lector Schedule - May 4th & May 5th

5:30pm SJB/HT: Cathy Schotthoefer  
9:00am SJB/HT: Lisa Johnson

### Sacrificial Giving

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

Week April 13th & April 14th

SJB/HT Collection: \$2,771.00 OLP/SP Collection: \$4,970.00

Week April 20th & April 21st

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:** Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, B.J. Bubniak Family, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, De De Calkins, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny & Erin Donovan, Jenny Emmi, Tenley Farrow, Marilyn Ferretti, Ellen Gangemi, Gladys Graham, Robert Greenwood, Camille Grosso, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Josephine Indelicato, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, Tony Laurettili, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Maria Luisi, Judy & Skip Marioritti, Darlene Morga, Diane Moro, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Antoinette Perrotta, Joe Petasano, Philomena Piraino, Cathy Galutz Sacco, 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 & our Health Care Workers.**



### The Ascension of the Lord

#### Thursday May 9th Holy Day of Obligation

The Mass schedule for the Ascension is;  
Wednesday May 8th - 5:30pm Vigil at OLP/SP

Thursday May 9th 9:00am OLP/SP

Thursday May 9th Noon SJB/HT

Thursday May 9th 5:30pm SJB/HT

SJB/HT Lector's, please call the rectory if you are available to read at the Noon or 5:30pm Mass. Very much appreciate your help.

### Thursday, May 2nd



**Call the Rectory to arrange** for Marriages, arrangements made six months prior to date. Contact our organist directly. Information will be provided. Call the rectory for baptisms and hospital/home visits.

