

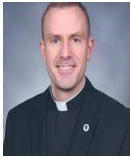
St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of ADVENT



From Fr. Brendan Foley

Happy New Year! :) Our Advent season and new liturgical year has officially begun and together we welcome the invitation to intentionally change our pace of life and reorient ourselves *back to what matters most*: the coming of Jesus. In our readings today it almost seems like we have conflicting themes. We hear a word of consolation in our first reading, “The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah...In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure (Jer 33:14-16).” Yet when we arrive at our Gospel, the frightful images of collapse of the cosmos are placed before us: “People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken...Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap...Be vigilant at all times (Lk 21: 25ff).”

Encouragement from Mother Seton: “Confiding hope and consoling peace have attended my way through storms and dangers that would have terrified a soul whose rock is not Christ.” In other words we have access to the greatest refuge imaginable and untouchable peace through faith in Jesus Christ. Our attentiveness to Jesus draws us into a power that alone has the power to strengthen against any and all disasters that we may be called to confront. So while we might be tempted toward despair by the state of things around us in our world or even in our homes, we are implored to live differently, constantly aware of authentic hope that is ours. St. Paul also prays for and reminds the early Christians, “May the Lord make you increase and abound with love for one another...you should conduct yourselves to please God...For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.” Part of entering into the refuge that is Jesus Christ means simply abiding in this world according to his level of love, and being sure to address our families, friends, and neighbors accordingly with the same love we have first been shown by God.

If we follow after the heart of the season of Advent, then we will certainly be renewed in our ability to discover the comfort of the refuge that the Lord offers, and we will grow in gratitude and confidence, rather than in fear at the coming of the Lord. Advent really calls to mind three ‘arrivals’ or comings of Jesus. Our preparation to recall his first coming at his nativity, the readings today direct us to his future coming at the end of all things, and thirdly, we are to be attentive to his coming in the present moment, the here and now, most especially in the Sacraments—what Jesus himself instituted to fulfill his promise to be with us always. Let’s allow Jesus greater access to our life this season of Advent, so that when we celebrate his birth at Christmas, our preparation will have paved the way for renewed hope, peace, and strength to be given to us from on high, new and deepened communion with the Lord who has pursued us and offered us the gift of salvation.

Mass Schedule SJB/HT

Sunday - 9:00 am

Reconciliation Thursday 4:00-5:00 pm

Office Hours SJB/HT

Monday - Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm Friday 9:00am - 2:30pm

E-mail - nbergeson@syrdio.org

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

Syr. Dio. Web-site - www.syracusediocese.org

Pastor: Father Brendan Foley

Secretary/Bulletin: Nancy Bergeson

Senior Priest in Residence: Fr. Lester Smith

In Residence: Fr. Paschal Anionye

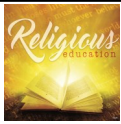
Music Director/Organist: Mr. James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds: Robert Warren

Religious Education: Betty Warren

Sacristan/Grounds: Allan Chouinard

Altar Server: Benjamin Chouinard



Religious Education Announcements

There are no Religious Ed classes this week, Happy Thanksgiving. Classes will resume on Dec. 8th. We offer classes from Pre-K (4 years old) to Confirmation II. Please pray for our Students and our Teachers, that they will have a successful and enjoyable year.

If you wish to have your child participate, please call Betty Warren at 315-420-6357.

Breakfast With Santa and Basket Raffle

Sunday December 8th

SJB/HT Breakfast with Santa and Basket Raffle is just around the corner! Breakfast will be served 8:00-11:00am in the Parish Center. We will have pancakes, scrambled eggs, toast, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee. Adults are \$10.00, children (5-12) \$5.00 and under 5 free with adult purchase. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00 or 12 for \$10.00. If you would like to donate a basket for the raffle table, of your choice, we would very much appreciate your generosity. You can bring the baskets to the parish office any time during office hours or up to the date of the breakfast, but by 8:00am.

See you all there for some HO-HO-HO good eats and fun!



Reflect: Readings and Gospel 1st Sunday of Advent

First Reading: The prophet Jeremiah speaks of God's promise to save Jerusalem so all can "dwell safely" in the land. Where in your life do you feel the safest?

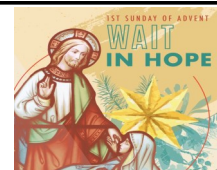
Second Reading: In preparation for the return of Jesus, Paul prayed that the believers in Thessalonica would love one another and conduct themselves in a way pleasing to God. As we enter the season of Advent, what could you do to actively prepare for the return of Jesus?

Gospel: Jesus forewarns his disciples not to let the daily anxieties of life distract them from the coming day of his return. Who helps you when you are overcome with anxiety? ©LPi



CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 1:	CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 2:	CELEBRATE ADVENT IDEA 3:
If you need to wait in a line, don't immediately pull out your phone. Experience the feeling of waiting and offer up a prayer for someone you know in need!	Set up a nativity scene in your home but don't set it up all at once. Put a different piece out every day or every week until the whole thing is finished by Christmas!	Bake cookies to secretly drop off to your neighbors. Include a Christmas card with an Advent prayer or an invitation to Christmas Mass at your parish!

(Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman Remembering Advent



It always makes me laugh a little, these apocalyptic Gospel readings that come at the beginning of Advent.

What a funny juxtaposition — all of us stringing twinkle lights and wrapping presents, with Jesus thundering on about the end of the world. It's Christmas! Don't be a downer. Pour me some more eggnog and turn up the Nat King Cole.

Well, except it's not Christmas. It's Advent.

There's nothing wrong with the cultural accessories that have developed alongside this religious holiday. There's nothing wrong with the twinkle lights and the eggnog. But here's the thing: when Satan knows we're watching the front gate, he slips in the back door. And something I've found is that one back door he likes to use in my life is Cultural Christmas.

I love Cultural Christmas. I tend to overdo Cultural Christmas. I overschedule, I overdecorate, I overgift. All this "over" leads to — you guessed it! — overwhelm. "The anxieties of daily life," as Jesus describes in today's Gospel, make my heart drowsy. My *spiritual* Christmas joy, time and time again, is diminished — all because I embrace Cultural Christmas and ignore Advent. Satan sneaks in with the twinkle lights and the Christmas carols and he snatches The Present like the nasty little Grinch he is. He photo-bombs my experience of the religious holidays with the anxieties I so willingly embrace because of the production that is Cultural Christmas.

So, remember to rest this Advent, folks. Rest your heart. Rest your hands. Watch the back door and the front. Remember that this is the perfect time to be thinking about the state of your soul and not just the state of your house.

(Even though, yes, I know, the guests are coming any minute.)
©LPi



Christmas Flowers For The Altar

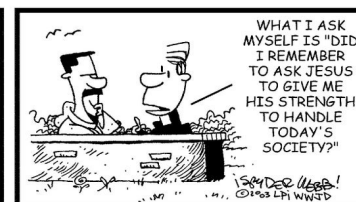
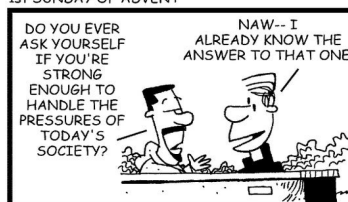
SJB/HT invites you to make a donation towards our Christmas Flowers. A list of donors and their request will be printed as an insert to the bulletin the week of Christmas, Dec. 22nd. Please put donations with the form below in an envelope marked "FLOWERS" in the collection basket, mail or drop it off to the rectory no later than Thursday, Dec. 19th. Checks should be made payable to SJB/HT. Please do not add this form to your weekly contribution envelopes.

Donor _____
Phone _____ Amount _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT



SUNDAYS

ARE BETTER IN COMMUNITY

9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday December 1, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Rosemary Lane & Family - The Estate
Cesario Palucci - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Paulucci

Sunday December 8, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Bill Judge - Joan LaVergne
Mary Anne Wilson - Friends
Steve P. Taddeo - The Family
Antonio McLaughlin - Mother

Lector - Sunday Dec. 8th

9:00am SJB/HT: Owen Donovan

Eucharistic Ministry

We have returned to using Eucharistic Ministers to help distribute the Eucharist at Mass on Sundays. If you would like to help with this, please contact Betty Warren at 315-420-6357 or email at warrenbeliz@yahoo.com.

Center

Dec. 1 Maryanne Bergamo
Dec. 8 Cathy Horton
Dec. 15 Karen Fekete
Dec. 22 Mary Beth Cusano
Dec. 25 Betty Warren
Dec. 29 Dave William

Mary's Side

Dave William
Larry Argiro
Joan LaVergne
Betty Warren
Bob Warren
Maryanne Bergamo

Offering Envelopes

Sacrificial Giving

Week Nov. 17th SJB/HT Collection: \$2,894.00

Week Nov. 24th SJB/HT Collection: TBA

Due to request of early submitting of the bulletins for the holiday's, collections will be added when available.

The Light Is On Monday Dec. 16th

• St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity 12:00-2:00pm
Fr. Foley would like to offer Eucharistic Adoration during this time. Volunteers are asked to call the rectory and sign up for 30 minute windows.

- Friar Nader and Friar Jude will be at the Franciscan Place in Destiny Mall 2:00-6:00pm.
- Assumption Church 4:00-6:00pm
- Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters 3:30-5:00pm
- Fr. Foley will be offering Confessions in Spanish/English at Holy Cross Church from 5:00-7:00pm.



RECONCILIATION

"People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." — Lk 21:26-28

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCB



Mass Schedule OLP/SP 315-422-7163

Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm Vietnamese Mass 6:00pm

Sunday - 7:30am, 11:30am

9:30am Vietnamese

Monday - Thursday 9:00am in the Chapel

Reconciliation Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mon. Dec. 9th Mass schedule

OLP/SP Church 7:15am

Assumption Church 9:00am

SJB/HT Church 12:15pm

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

OH MARY, CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE.



HOPE Appeal 2024

Thank you for your support of the 2024 HOPE Appeal. We have raised \$16,533.33 towards our goal of \$16,000.00. If you have not yet made your gift, we ask you to join us in strengthening our church and serving people throughout our diocese. You may bring your completed pledge card to Mass next week, drop it by the parish office or use the return envelope with your letter. You can also make a gift online at www.syrddio.org.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Mass Schedule

St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Parish

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th 4:00pm

Christmas Day Dec. 25th 9:00am

Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter's Parish

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th 4:00pm

Carol of the Bells Dec. 24th 11:30pm

followed by Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Dec. 25th 7:30am & 11:30am

Assumption Parish

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th 4:00 & 10:00pm

Christmas Day Dec. 25th 10:00am

Prayer For the first week of Advent

Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,

As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will.

Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.. Amen. ©LPi



Remember: Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, B.J. Bubniak Family, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny & Erin Donovan, Jenny Emmi, Jon English, Tenley Farrow, Marilyn Ferretti, Ellen Gangemi, Gladys Graham, Robert Greenwood, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, Tony Lauretti, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Luciano & Maria Luisi, Judy & Skip Marioritti, Michael & Darlene Morga, Diane Moro, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Antoinette Perotta, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Esther Sindoni, John Sobon, Patricia Soule, Timothy K. Suppes, Patrick St. Thomas IV, Barbara Traino, Gerry Vaccaro, Shelly Visco, Matthew Watkins, Fred Wheeler and Maureen White.

We also remember in our prayers our Service Men and Women & our Health Care Workers. Due to HIPAA laws, hospitals are not allowed to give names of patients. Please notify the parish office if you have a loved one in the hospital, a nursing home or is homebound and would like a visit.

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.