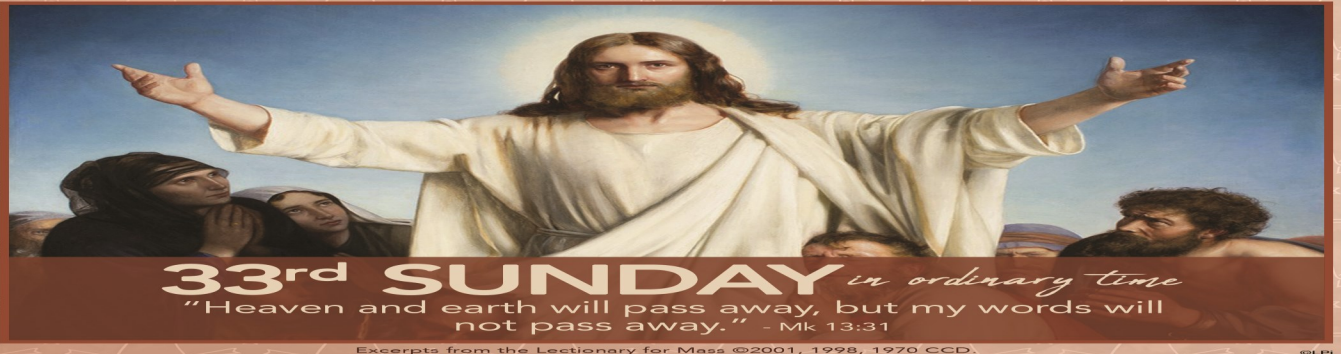


St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

November 17, 2024



From Fr. Brendan Foley

“...the wise shall shine brightly like the splendor of the firmament, and those who lead the many to justice shall be like the stars forever” (Daniel 12:3). But what does it mean to be wise? Considering Jesus’ words today in the Gospel, it might be rather daunting to imagine all the phenomena he describes...sun and moon darkening, stars falling, heaven and earth passing away. Add to it from our first reading, too: “it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress.” Recall the end of our liturgical calendar helping us enter into reflection on the “last things” of heaven, hell, death, and judgment, all of which we uphold as real and deserving of our attention. To be wise then, we could equate, means to be prepared or to have awareness of the coming of these things and live accordingly. And to be sure, what we really await *are new heavens and a new earth*.

A couple of takeaways. One of the things that Jesus assures is that unlike the sun, the moon, or the earth, his word *will* not pass away—which is another invitation for us to take seriously our relationship with Sacred Scripture and its effects on our lives. Truth in the wisdom of God is worth our absolute everything, we can always be more submerged in God’s word. Ignorance or failure to live out God’s word has implications for us. As a result, if we want to be among the wise in God’s eyes, we should strive to be nourished daily by God’s word.

It’s not comfortable for us to reflect on the potential purification or even punishment that could come to us as a result of our attentiveness (or lack thereof) to Jesus and his word. Many in our culture would probably take offense at the idea that there could be hell while simultaneously having the existence of a merciful God who is Love. So we need to remember that hell is a self-chosen state. Heaven is a kingdom of love, of truth, and of humility. But this kind of love is self-*giving*, not selfish. The way we love God, others, and self reflects our attention to eternal life. Some helpful guidance from the Catechism on the subject...

“We cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love him. But we cannot love God if we sin gravely against him, against our neighbor or against ourselves: ‘He who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him’ (1 Jn. 3:14-15). Our Lord warns us that we shall be separated from him if we fail to meet the serious needs of the poor and the little ones who are his brethren (Mt 25:31-46). To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love means remaining separated from him for ever by our own free choice. This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with **God and the blessed is called “hell”** (CCC1033). God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a willful turning away from God is necessary, and persistence in it until the end (CCC1037).” Meaning if we strive to stay faithful to the means that the Lord himself has left us (i.e. Prayer and Sacred Scripture, the Church, the Sacraments, etc.), he will never abandon us and he will bring us deeper into his merciful heart. The Lord does not force us to respond to his invitation, we are called to follow in freedom of heart. Thus, those who are wise in seeking that which is our eternal inheritance internalize and live as our Psalm today instructs...may the Lord provide each of us such a grace:

“I set the LORD ever before me; with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices, my body, too, abides in confidence; because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption. You will show me the path to life, fullness of joys in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever.” (Psalm 16).

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

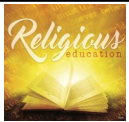
Music Director/Organist: Mr. James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds: Robert Warren

Religious Education: Betty Warren

Sacristan/Grounds: Allan Chouinard

Altar Server: Benjamin Chouinard



Religious Education Announcements

Religious Ed classes resume this week. 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.

A Family Perspective Family Life Education

Today's Gospel teaches us uncertainty is normal.

There are some things in life, which "no one knows...only the Father." Marriage and parenting are full of uncertainty for like the fig tree in the Gospel; the people we love grow and change.



Pray For Vocations

"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Cherish the precious words of the Lord. He may be calling you to a life of contemplation as a cloistered monk or nun, whose lives are devoted to prayer and reflection. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.

Searching For And Maintaining Peace

By Fr. Jacques Philippe



Fr. Foley will lead a simple series all are invited to participate. Book Study & Eucharistic Adoration. 5 straight Tuesdays at 6:00pm: Nov. 19th, 26th, Dec. 3rd, 10th and 17th. Sign up now if you would like to receive a copy of this powerful book! You won't regret it. Books are \$10.00 sign up with the SJB/HT parish office 315-478-0916. Please sign up by Nov. 17th. Location will be at OLP/SP (depending on how many registrations we will announce whether we will be in the convent or the main church).



Breakfast with Santa

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 33rd Sunday In Ordinary Time

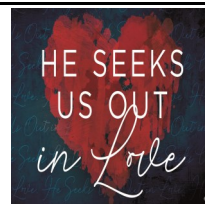


First Reading: The prophet Daniel foresaw a time of great distress and ultimate judgment for the living and the dead. Who supports you when you are feeling anxious or are deeply worried?

Second Reading: The author of Hebrews emphasizes Jesus's death as the final offering for the forgiveness of sins, making us "perfect forever" in eternal life. What do you find most curious about the idea of being perfect in eternal life?

Gospel: Jesus speaks to his disciples about the signs that will accompany his Second Coming, even though only God the Father knows the exact time. How should one best prepare for this unknown future? ©LPi

(Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman The End of the World



"It's not the end of the world."

If I had a brick for every time my mother said this to me growing up, I could have built a castle. One that comes complete with a moat whose bridge I could dramatically pull up so I could sulk, in the window of the highest turret, sighing loudly so every passerby would know how I suffered.

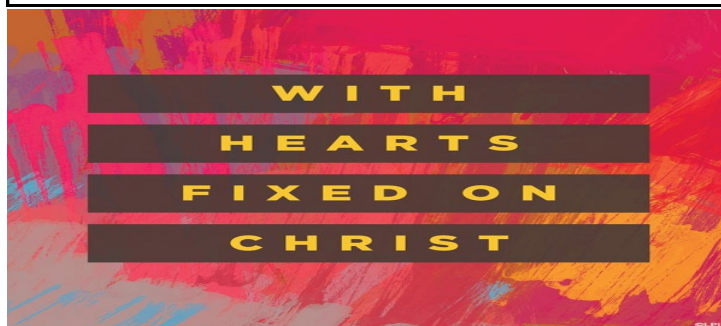
Because sometimes we act like it's the end of the world — whether we are a little kid angered by a playground snub, a teenage girl flipping out over an assignment for English class or a college student distraught that she got scheduled for four opening shifts in a row at the coffee house where she works (yes, these are all examples taken straight from my life, why do you ask?).

And sometimes, it really does seem like the end of the world. We lose someone we love to cancer. We miscarry a child before we even get to see his tiny face. The rent is due, and the bank account is overdrawn (also all examples taken straight from my life).

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that when the sun is darkened and the moon no longer gives light, we must look for him, because his time is near.

He's talking about The End of the World. The big one, the apocalypse. But why do I think he's also talking about the end of the world — those sufferings large and small, real and imagined, that make us feel like the sky is caving in?

In both instances, he draws near to us. So let us look for him. ©LPi



A Gratitude Examen

Gratitude is one of the greatest spiritual practices. It opens our minds, calms our hearts, and rids bitterness of it's power. The "examen" is a spiritual practice to reflect on how we have responded to

God's work in our lives. This Thanksgiving, consider your own reasons for thankfulness!

What **G**ifts have You given me?
How have I **R**eceived love from others?
How is grace at work in **A**spects of my life story?
Do I **T**rust You to continue to bless me?
Where have I missed Your movements?
Have I used my **T**alents at the service of other?
Do I see a purpose for my life **U**nderway?
How can I have the **D**iscipline to thank You daily?
Help me give **E**verything back to You! ©LPi

SUNDAYS

ARE BETTER IN COMMUNITY

9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday November 17, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Brian Mott - The Family
Rita Carroll - Twin Cousins
David McLaughlin - Mother
Tommasina Carfagno - Twin Brothers

Sunday November 24, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Marlene LaFace - Sally Tibbetts
Brian D. Mingoelli, Sr. - The Family
Rosemary "Pat" Markert - The Family



Join Us Next Week

Please join us as we celebrate **Gloria Mastriano** on her 101st Birthday Sunday November 24th in the church after our 9:00am Mass.

Cake and Coffee will be set up and served near the confessional area within the church. Gloria celebrates this blessed and special day Monday November 25th.

Lector - Sunday Nov. 24

9:00am SJB/HT: Ashley Crisafulli



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.

Below is the list of ministers for October.

Center

Nov. 17 Joan LaVergne

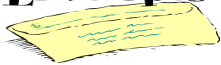
Nov. 24 Betty Warren

Mary's Side

Karen Fekete

Mary Beth Cusano

Offering Envelopes



Sacrificial Giving

Week November 10th

SJB/HT Collection: \$1,528.00

All Faith Food Pantry

Once again we will remember the many food pantry clients who visit All Faith Food Pantry from Thanksgiving through Christmas by collecting personal hygiene items, household cleaning items, first aid products and paper products. These items are not covered by food stamps and are costly to families in need. A food wagon will be set up at the floor of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Altar from November 24th through December 29th. Thank you for your thoughtful generosity to the pantry clients.



"And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky." — Mk 13:26-27

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

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.

Rectories Closed

SJB/HT & OLP/SP offices will be closed on Monday Nov. 11th, in observance of Veteran's Day. Please check with OLP/SP if there is a 9:00am Mass that day.



Thanksgiving Schedule

Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated at SJB/HT on Thursday November 28th 9:00am with a multilingual Mass at OLP/SP at 10:00am.

The offices will be closed on Thursday Nov. 28th and Friday Nov. 29th.

HOPE Appeal 2024

Thank you for your support of the 2024 HOPE Appeal. We have raised \$13,468.33 towards our goal of \$16,968.00. 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 complete 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.syrdio.org.



Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, over 11% of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd.



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, Thomas Quinn Love, 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.**

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