

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

November 24, 2024



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." - Jn 18:37

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

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From Fr. Brendan Foley

The Liturgical calendar year effectively concludes with the feast we celebrate today, "Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe," and I think it always offers us an invitation to renewal in our walks with the Lord. With Advent just days away, we begin again to journey together as a Church, seeking again to enter deeper into the life of Christ, and to allow Him to have pride of place in our hearts over and above all else. Contrary to what the world might expect, this humility before Jesus doesn't leave us denying everything in life, but rather it leads us to receive true freedom. This freedom that only Jesus offers is meant to enliven and animate us, because with his Spirit giving us life, it is Jesus who can then live and move in us.

Reflecting with Jesus as our King, we should consider putting in some effort toward self-evaluation—how am I living in relationship with God, with my neighbor, and with myself? Is it reflective of Jesus being King of everything in my life? The implications of this feast remind us that if Jesus is King and Lord of the universe, then I am not. It means that my life really isn't about me—but again rather than this being a message of slavery or denial, it's so much more an exciting adventure. Do I really allow Jesus to have governing authority over my heart and my life? Whom (or maybe what) do you serve? Do you prioritize serving yourself and your own designs, or do you strive to live humbly under the care of Jesus our King? In our sinfulness and weaknesses we continually struggle to do this, which is why I think the placement of this feast on the cusp of a new calendar is the invitation we all need to continue to go deeper.

Our readings today present us with the perspective that Jesus is no typical king, and he certainly doesn't govern like we might expect the kings of the world. He himself takes initiative and seeks out 'his subjects' (those entrusted to him) and desires their wellbeing and fulfillment. He embodies the reality of his words that echo his desire to come to us, not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for us. His crown is a crown of thorns, and his throne is the altar of the Cross.

If we allow him to really be Lord of our lives, we can trust that we shall not be left orphaned or left wanting. For he exalts and lifts up those who are bowed down. What are you waiting for?! Let Jesus be King of your heart and of your life; you will come to know the un-touchable freedom of the sons and daughters of God. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, his kingship shall not be destroyed.

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



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.

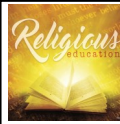
See you all there for some HO-HO-HO good eats and fun!

Soon to be canonized Saint in 2025, Carlo Acutis (1991-2006), is someone who certainly lived allowing Jesus to be King of his heart. From a merely worldly perspective his life might seem tragic or devastating having died so young, but to know him is to know that is so far from the truth. Carlo died with no worldly success to his name, yet here we are, aware of what a tremendous impact his life has had and continues to have on the Church and the world. He is an inspiration for all of us in our apparent ordinary lives striving for everyday holiness. Consider some of the key pieces of his life:



- Carlo was diagnosed with leukemia as a teenager. Before his death in 2006, he offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and for the Church
- From a young age, Carlo had a special love for God, even though his parents weren't especially devout. Antonia Salzano, his mom, said that before Carlo, she went to Mass only for her first Communion, her confirmation, and her wedding. But as a young child, Carlo loved to pray the rosary. After he made his first Communion, he went to Mass as often as possible at the parish. Carlo's love for the Eucharist also inspired a deep conversion for his mother.
- Carlo was a faithful friend. He was known for standing up for kids at school who got bullied, especially kids with disabilities. When a friend's parents were getting a divorce, Carlo made a special effort to include his friend in the Acutis' family life. With his friends, he spoke about the importance of going to Mass and confession, human dignity, and chastity.
- His spiritual director has attested that Carlo was personally convinced that the scientific evidence from Eucharistic miracles would help people to realize that Jesus is really present in the Eucharist and come back to Mass.
- Carlo loved playing video games. His mother recalls that he liked Nintendo Game Boy and GameCube as well as PlayStation and Xbox. He had conversations with his gaming buddies about the importance of going to Mass and confession and limited his video game playing to no more than two hours per week. Carlo also liked Spider-Man and Pokémon.
- Carlo constructed a website (you can still visit it today) to chronicle and share the miracles that have happened as a result of the Eucharist throughout the world so that we may grow in appreciation for the unfathomable goodness that is Jesus's body, blood, soul, and divinity present and alive in the Eucharist.

We are blessed to be able to host a small portion of his exhibit in the Church. Nov. 24th & Dec. 1st, possibly Dec. 8th as well. You will definitely want to budget some additional time to explore these weekends. More information to come! There is a lot to read and absorb...so take your time and visit today, and next Sunday, too.



Religious Education Announcements

There are no Religious Ed classes next week, Dec. 1st in observance of 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

(Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
Citizens of Another Country



I read an article, years ago, about an American filmmaker who decided to step away from a wildly successful film franchise that had been requiring him and his family to live abroad.

It stuck in my mind because of the tongue-in-cheek reasoning he gave for the surprising decision, "My kids were starting to speak in British accents."

Sometimes, we just want to go home, don't we?

Returning from a recent family vacation, I burst into tears at the airport, overcome with relief when I saw my sister's van pulling into the pickup lane. It didn't matter that I had had fun on this trip and that I was even looking forward to taking another one. In that moment, I was so tired, and all I wanted was my own bed. The smell of my own house. The feeling of not being "away."

If Jesus is our king, and his kingdom is not of this world, then we live our lives as perpetual aliens. This should reassure us in some ways. The world so often feels cold and cruel and strange to us because it is. We were not made for this world. We were made for heaven. We were made to yearn for the face, the presence, the protection of our King.

But this understanding of ourselves as strangers in a foreign land should also be a caution to us.

We can't get too comfortable here. We cannot become too wrapped up in the world and its temptations, its rewards, its comforts. We cannot start speaking in the language, the accent of our adopted homeland. Not if we ever want to return home and belong there.

Our King looks for our return. ©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 _____

9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday November 24, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Marlene LaFace - Sally Tibbetts
Rosemary "Pat" Markert - The Family

Sunday December 1, 2024

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

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.



Lector - Sunday Dec. 1st

9:00am SJB/HT: Chet Wisniewski

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. 24 Betty Warren
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

Mary Beth Cusano
Dave William
Larry Argiro
Joan LaVergne
Betty Warren
Bob Warren
Maryanne Bergamo

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" under "Resources."

St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Christmas Parish Fundraiser: \$20

Christmas ornaments that preserve the tremendous beauty of our Nativity Window. You essentially are bringing the window home, something to adorn your home in the special season of Christmas, but it also might be something worth keeping in sight all year round. Spread the word! Limited quantity available! Ornaments will be available soon.



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. The food wagon is 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.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Let us pray...

God our Father,

Graciously accept from your humble people a thankful heart and spirit.

Everything we have and are able to share with others ultimately comes from your love of your creations. Often we think that everything we have is our own creation; we ask you this day to create in us a spirit of gratitude, that we may always know that all good gifts come from you.

We ask this through Christ our brother, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of
Rosemary "Pat" Markert
Requested by The Family



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 \$13,508.33 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 completer 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.syradio.org.



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 Morgia, 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.**

Sacrificial Giving

Week November 17th SJB/HT Collection: \$TBA