

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

March 23, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" - Lk 13:2-3

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

OLPI



From Fr. Brendan Foley

Exodus Chapter 3 (our first reading today) offers us a remarkable gift. While we are usually familiar with this story, we can easily take for granted its implications. Moses encounters the Lord who speaks to him through the burning bush—a bush out in the wilderness that is engulfed in flames, yet the bush remains unharmed, unburned, not scorched. It is from this encounter that the Lord sends Moses to be his instrument of liberation for His enslaved and oppressed people in Egypt. Moses also asks the Lord for his name—and the Lord responds! God allows himself to be known by name!

"By revealing his Name," Pope Benedict XVI says, "God establishes a relationship between himself and us. He enables us to invoke him, he enters into relations with us and gives us the possibility of being in a relationship with him. This means that God gives himself, in a certain way, to our human world, becoming accessible, as if he were one of us. He faces the risk of the relationship, of being with us. What began in the burning bush in the desert is accomplished in the burning bush of the Cross where God, having become accessible in his Son made man, really became one of us, is put into our hands and, in this way, realizes the liberation of humanity. On Golgotha, God, who during the night of the flight from Egypt revealed himself as the One who frees us from slavery, revealed himself as the One who embraces every human being with the saving power of the Cross and the Resurrection and liberates him from sin and death, accepts him in the embrace of his love."

Ultimately what we gain from the Pope's thoughtful reflection is that God—who is all powerful—chose to humbly enter into our existence in a way that doesn't crush or destroy us, but rather comes within us and among us. He illumines us and as a result his light can shine through us. Like the burning bush, God sets us aflame in a manner that doesn't leave us burned but rather makes us fully alive! He willingly takes on the risk of being connected to us knowing full well of our ability to let him down. Yet, the question before us remains, do we still see the Lord somehow as being in competition with us? That in order for us to give of ourselves to Him, that we somehow have to lose? Or *rather*, are you able to be a burning bush at his service that results in you becoming more alive than ever because of his life radiating in you?

In this holy season of Lent one of the best ways to allow the presence of God to be rekindled within us is to be healed, cleansed, and made whole again through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is there, hearing Jesus utter the words of absolution after having confessed our sins, that he sets us aflame with the radiance of his mercy for us to then boldly bear his light into the dark wilderness of our world.

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@syrдио.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



Lector - Sunday March 30

9:00am SJB/HT: Cathy Schotthoefer

Eucharistic Ministry

Center

March 23 Mary Anne Bergamo

March 30 Larry Argiro

Mary's Side

Dave William

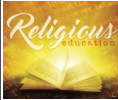
Cathy Horton

Sacrificial Giving

Week March 16th

SJB/HT Collection: \$2,886.00

Offering Envelopes



Religious Education Announcements

Our Religious Education program is nearing the end of the 2024-2025 year. There are only 6 classes left for our students. Our last class will be on Mother's Day,

May 11th. This last class will be our May Crowning Mass.

Please pray for our students as they continue their education.

Please join us at the confirmation of our 2 Confirmation II students who will be confirmed at St. Daniel's Church on April 5th at 4:00pm. Please keep them in your prayers.

A Family Perspective

Family Life Education

The owner of the fig tree was impatient because the tree did not live up to his expectations. In families there are those who don't live up to our expectations. Imitate the gardener and give them more time and help. Don't cut them out of your life. Love asks us to be connected, not productive.



Pray For Vocations

"My food is to do the will of the one who sent me and to finish his work." God provides everything needed to those who do His will. Do not be afraid

to consider religious life, the priesthood, or the diaconate. If the Lord is calling you to any of them, He will provide everything you need. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram [@vocationssyracuse](https://www.instagram.com/vocationssyracuse).

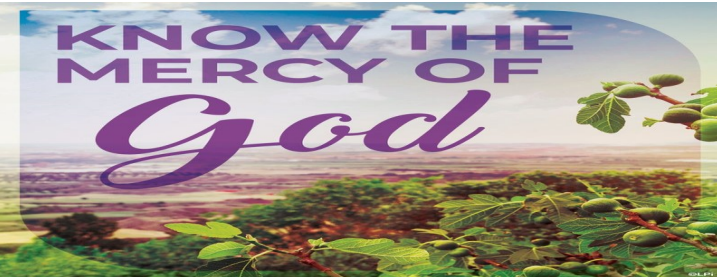
Reflect: Readings and Gospel

Gospel Question: Jesus taught one must repent to bear good fruit in life. Can you think of some good fruit you have borne from repenting?



1st Reading Question: God reveals to Moses that He has heard the cry of His people, and He is coming to rescue them from slavery in Egypt. What prayer do you need answered from God?

2nd Reading Question: Paul believed the mistakes of the Israelites in the desert serve as an example and a warning of what to avoid in our journey with God. How might you show gratitude to God this upcoming week of Lent? ©LPi



The SJB/HT EASTER Ornaments, same beautiful Christmas ornament just renamed for the holiday as an Easter Ornament! \$20.00. You can purchase them during rectory hours or after our 9:00am Mass.

The Mass Book is now open through July 31st.



9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday March 23, 2025 - Bill Judge - The Family

Francis Galimi - Twin Brother

Clemente & Maria Grazia Vigliotti - John & Dale Vigliotti

Sunday March 30, 2025 - David McLaughlin - Mother

John L. Stinziano - Peter & Maureen White

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SJB/HT - Friday's 4:00pm &

Sunday's 8:30am (before 9:00am Mass)

OLP/SP - Saturday's 3:15pm (before 4:00pm Mass)

Assumption Church - Saturday's 3:15pm (before 4:00pm Mass)

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Patient Gardener

I have garden beds on the side of my house that I don't deserve.



When we bought the property, this was one of the features that was highlighted in the listing. "Professional landscaping! Tri-level garden beds that bask in the southern exposure!"

But I'm so terrible at weeding these garden beds — they become overgrown quickly, and I shudder to imagine what the previous owners would think of me if they drove by. I'm afraid they would write me off as lazy or disinterested, when really I'm just exhausted and busy. Every time I try to garden, one of my little assistant gardeners runs near the road and I must abandon the project to save them.

So, my husband, bless his heart, is the savior of these garden beds. He goes out there in the cool of the evening to pluck up the weeds that threaten to overtake this beautiful little garden. Patiently and tenderly, he restores it to a presentable state. Without him, they would be lost.

Perhaps I love these garden beds so much because I identify with them. If I were a garden, I would also be a mess, and people who have no time for messes would write me off as hopeless. We all need a savior to stick up for us, to come and quietly prune the unsightly growths that have taken root in our souls and turn the soil that has sat undisturbed for too long.

What I love most about our Savior is that he didn't — doesn't — give up on us. "Give me more time," he says to the Master. "I can still fix this one." ©LPi



"Do Not Park"

Thank you for your continued cooperation with our **DO NOT PARK** request in the back lot along the side hill, the coned off area. Parking is permitted in the back lot where the staff only signs are. As soon as weather will permit, the drainage grate will be top priority.

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?'" — Lk 13: 6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCO.

Fish Dinners Are Back

We are pleased to announce our famous Lenten Fish Dinners are returning this year. Dinners will be held in conjunction with the Pastime Club, 1314 North Salina Street on the Fridays of Lent March 28th, April 4th & 11th. Dinners will be \$15.00 each with offerings of our famous baked fish, NEW fried fish and other dinner choices. The Bar will be available for guests 21+, outside alcohol is not allowed. We are very excited about our dinners returning and in working with the Pastime Club in this venture. Dinners will be from 4:30pm-7:30pm. We hope to see you there!!

Entrance: Enter on the Pastime Drive entrance, in the rear of the building.

paFISHioner Sponsor 2025

With the exciting return of our fish dinners we are bringing back our "paFISHioner" sponsor as well. Sponsorship is \$25.00, or other amount, and a paFISHioner sponsor sheet will be on the tables at the Pastime Club. Please either mail a check and the filled our form below to SJB/HT 406 Court Street Syr. NY 13208, or drop an envelope in the collection basket marked to Nancy's attention. Please do not put it in your regular collection envelope. Sponsorship will be accepted from now until the end of the dinners.

Form

Donor: _____

Sponsorship amount: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

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 Peroto, 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, and Fred Wheeler. **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

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.



Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament

Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters Church will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday during Lent. March 26th, April 2nd, 9th and 16th from 4:00-6:00pm.



Prayer For Everyday And Everybody Prayer of Lent

Dear God, As I fast, may Your presence be my sustenance. As I pray, continue to reveal Yourself to me. As I give to others, may I know You even more deeply. Amen. ©LPi

You Are Invited

"Theology on Tap is a gathering for young adults (ages 18-39) looking to connect and learn more about the Catholic faith." Fr. Brendan is the speaker on Thursday, March 27 at Abbiocco by A Mano 344 S. Warren Street from 7-9pm. Preregistering secures you a free drink! Hope to see you there! There's more info <https://syracusediocese.org/theology-on-tap> if you'd like, and you can also register there, too.



Question: What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?

Answer: Sin is a deliberate thought, word, action, or omission contrary to God's law. Since the beginnings of the Church, sin has been distinguished by its gravity. "Grave matter" is traditionally defined by the Ten Commandments. If a person commits a grave sin with full knowledge of the action's evil and with the complete consent of their will, this is a mortal sin. The effects of mortal sin are grave – the loss of sanctifying grace, which can be restored by a fresh outpouring of God's mercy in the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Venial sin does not fit one or more of these conditions (for example, a less serious matter still freely chosen or grave matter committed while under force or ignorance of God's law). The effects of venial sin – while still damaging to the human heart and human society – are less severe. Even so, smaller sins build habits, which can obstruct our growth in virtue. When we are serious about following Jesus, we should do our best to avoid all sin, whether large or small! ©LPi

The Annunciation Of The Lord

The Annunciation of the Lord refers to the angel Gabriel's visit to young Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of Jesus. Mary's acceptance of her pregnancy made her the first to believe in Jesus and, thus, the first Christian. The Annunciation is not a Holy Day but observed on Tuesday March 25th.



All Faiths Food Pantry Donations

Your non perishable food donations can still be brought and left in the Food Wagon's in the parking lot side and Park Street vestibule of the Church.

If you would like to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to
"All Faiths Food Pantry"