

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

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

July 27, 2025



17th Sunday

I N O R D I N A R Y T I M E

"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." - Lk 11:9

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

OLPI



From Fr. Brendan Foley

"Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me." (cf. Psalm 138)

We pray this response together during our Mass today, after receiving the model of Abraham who persists in his interceding with God asking for an outpouring of mercy on the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. A simple line, but it expresses a deep reality that is always true: In the moments we call out for help, the Lord answers, but even more than that, the Lord sustains us in life whether we realize it or not. God is always patient with us, and his transformative grace is always sufficient.

In our lives, some of the most powerful encounters with God, or of experiencing the magnitude of His love for us, come from calling to mind our many challenges, fears, and wounds of the past or present and seeing them from the perspective of how God not only carries us through them, but how in His generosity also provided *unexpected* graces. Finding the Lord and recognizing that he has continually prevented us from being crushed or left lifeless after enduring intense pain and grief leads us to an indescribable strength. In these kinds of profound encounters, the love of God is revealed to have endless depth, and with these moments come peace—a peace that doesn't necessarily fix or immediately heal, but one that assures us we are loved, and that we are not forgotten. These encounters free us and free our hearts for receiving the graces of trust and perseverance.

In our Gospel today, Jesus teaches us to turn to God as a generous Father, because that's who he is. God—who is in need of nothing from us—gives himself entirely to us. We might even recall here the story of the father and his two sons where we hear the Father express and reassure his older son who comes to him saddened and frustrated: **"everything** I have is yours" (cf. Luke 15). If this is the case, consider the confidence you and I are invited to receive when we consider this is how the Lord approaches relationship with you and me. This point of reflection forever changed St. Francis' life: "Lord, who are you? Lord, who am I?"--we should sit with this, too.

Jesus leading us to the Father brings us back to the reality of our most important identity, what matters most about each of us, namely, that we are beloved *daughters and sons* of so generous a Father. Our lives then are to be lived out as a response to this love. Rather than see Jesus' familiar words today of *asking, seeking and knocking* as simply being about persevering in prayer, receive them as an invitation to imitate in your life the radical generosity of God the Father. When others **come to us** asking, seeking, and knocking, may we have the grace to extend just as radically the mercy and care of our heavenly Father to others that we have first received. You might just be the answer to someone else's prayer.

Pastor: Father Brendan Foley

Mass Schedule SJB/HT Sunday 9:00am

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

Secretary/Bulletin: Nancy Bergeson

In Residence: Fr. Paschal Anionye

Music Director/Organist: Mr. James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds: Robert Warren

Religious Education: Betty Warren

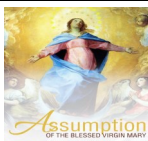
Sacristan/Grounds: Allan Chouinard

Altar Servers: Benjamin Chouinard

Alyssa Warren & Cecilia Judge

Rectories Closed/Holy Day

SJB/HT and OLP/SP rectories will be closed on Friday August 15th in observance of the Holy Day; The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary. This day is a Holy Day of obligation and our Mass times are: **OLP/SP 9:00am and SJB/HT 12:15pm.**



Lector—July 27th

9:00am SJB/HT: Cathy Schotthoefer

Lector - August 3rd

9:00am SJB/HT: Owen Donovan

Eucharistic Ministry

	Center	Mary's Side
July 27	Betty Warren	Mary Beth Cusano
August 3	Larry Argiro	Cathy Horton
August 10	Karen Fekete	Dave William
August 17	Mary Beth Cusano	Betty Warren
August 24	Cathy Horton	Larry Argiro
August 31	Dave William	Karen Fekete

A Family Perspective

Family Life Education

Today's Gospel guarantees if we "ask" we will "receive," perhaps not what we wanted but what our Heavenly Father knows is best for us, His children. All the love we have for our children, God has for us and more. As our children trust us, we must trust "Our Father."



Pray For Vocations

Jesus encourages us to ask God persistently for the things we need, but He also asks us persistently to follow Him. Is He persistently knocking on the door of your heart to be a religious, a priest, or a deacon? 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

1st Reading Question: Abraham questions God about how He passes judgment on people. What questions do you have for the Lord?



2nd Reading Question: Paul teaches the believers in Colossae that through his cross and resurrection from the dead, Jesus united Jews and Gentiles by their shared faith in him. How does your faith in Jesus bring you closer to others?

Gospel Question: Jesus encourages his disciples to be persistent and bold in praying to God. Can you think of a time when God answered a bold prayer from you? ©LPi

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." — Lk 11:9-10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970, C.C.O.

Bring your bottled water to church during these hot and humid Sunday Masses. It's very important to stay hydrated even during Mass.

The Mass Book for the remainder of the year is now open.

Please call or visit for requests for

August through December. Intentions are \$15.00.

Bread and Wine in memory of your loved one \$25.00.

Sanctuary Lamp in memory of your loved one \$10.00.



9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday July 27, 2025 - Maureen White - Ed Airel

David McLaughlin - Mother

Joe Valentine - Angela Murphy

Rocco Cannata - Joe & Laura Prattico

Sunday August 3, 2025 - John "Butch" O'Brien -

The Tarson Family

Giulia & Cesario Palucci - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Palucci & Family

Offering Envelopes



Sacrificial Giving

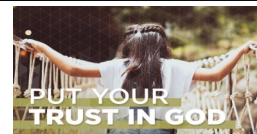
Week July 20th

SJB/HT Collection: \$1,720.00

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Ask and You Shall Receive



It's easy to look at today's Gospel reading and come away with a view of God as disinterested and irritated, reluctant to give us what we need unless we bang down his door, hound him to the furthest reaches of heaven, wrench him from his reverie and force him to answer just so we'll finally go away.

Well, that's not what Jesus means by the parable of the friend at midnight — but it's also not surprising that we would think that it is. The whole point of this Gospel is that communication between God and man has been broken. It's not as easy as it once was, as it should be, as it could be.

In this parable, there exists many barriers between the supplicant and his friend. The time of day is not ideal. The door is locked. Their dispositions are opposite — one is in the middle of a REM cycle and the other is deeply agitated. They appear to be two people who are not primed to communicate well. Everything is working against them.

The same could well be said of God and the human race. Here we are in a fallen world, surrounded by sin and pain and sickness and death to the extent that it infiltrates not just our bodies but our souls, our minds, our attitudes.

We are the friend caught unprepared in the dead of night. We don't always know how to talk to God (*That door is thick! Will he hear us if we knock?*). We don't always know if we should (*It's all my fault that I ran out of loaves, after all*). We don't even know if we want to (*It's nighttime! He might be angry!*).

Everything is working against us.

It doesn't matter, Jesus tells us. Whatever is interrupting communication between your heart and the One who crafted it, the One who desires its full and irrevocable attention, it can be overcome. There is no door thick enough, no night dark enough, no sleep strong enough.

So knock. ©LPi

Devotions Explained

Daily Examen, Explained!

The daily examen is a spiritual practice derived from the writings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus. A Basque nobleman, Ignatius underwent a series of religious conversions as a young man following a wound sustained in the Battle of Pamploña in 1521. His *Spiritual Exercises* were first published in 1548 and form the basis of what is known today as "Ignatian spirituality."

Many different versions of the examen have been developed over the centuries, but all are centered on the same five elements which themselves reflect Ignatius' process of self-review and spiritual discernment.

In completing the daily examen, an individual places himself in the presence of God, prayerfully reflecting on the blessings of the day, the actions he took, and the invitation God has for his future decisions.

For more information on the examen and to find different variations of it, visit ignatianspirituality.com. ©LPi



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Will be celebrated for the fifth time on Sunday July 27, 2025 the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints

Joachim and Anne, Grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year's celebration is: "Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (cf. Sir 14:2).

The Catholic Grandparents Association has been at the forefront in campaigning for a greater recognition of Grandparents for their role and vocation in passing on their faith to the next generation. The announcement of a new Church-wide celebration for Grandparents and the elderly came in answer to our prayerful request to the Holy Father Pope Francis.

This new worldwide celebration in the Universal Church calendar is a momentous achievement for Grandparents and the Elderly and will hopefully reassure them that they are loved and that they are needed.

Weddings

Question: This time of year, there are a lot of weddings. Why do Catholic weddings need to take place in a church?



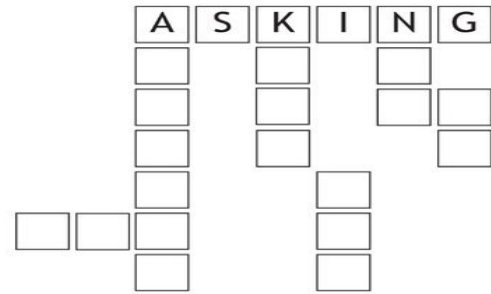
Answer: Technically, there is a clause in Church law that could allow for weddings to take place outside of a church, in a suitable space under special circumstances, but it requires the rare permission of the bishop. But the meaning of marriage goes very, very deep, and the Church has a vested interest in protecting that meaning. As Catholics, we don't see a wedding as an event that needs a pleasing backdrop.

Marriage is a sacrament, both an occasion of joyful promise and symbolic solemnity. It is a spiritual event. The loving bond of marriage symbolizes the mystical union between Christ and his Church. The man and woman profess lifelong vows of fidelity, and they receive supernatural grace from God to keep their promises. Receiving the sacrament of Marriage in a church has broader symbolic meaning for the couple as well. Marriage isn't simply two people in isolation from the world around them. Marriage is the joining of families and the beginning of a new, holy mission in the life of the couple. Weddings are sacred occasions, and it's fitting that they occur in sacred spaces. ©LPi

PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:

You are not ashamed to keep on asking.



MISSION

Make time to pray every day this week.



Prayer – For Everyday And Everybody Prayer for Hope

Lord, Restore my hope! Where I fear the future, write a new script in my heart. Where I doubt Your goodness, fill me anew. Give me steadfast hope for a beautiful tomorrow. Amen. ©LPi



Parishioners, please look through this list for any names that should be removed. Also, if you have a loved one to request for prayers call the office to have their name added.

Remember: Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, Jack Brien, B.J. Bubniak Family, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, 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, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, Tony Lauretti, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Luciano 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, 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.