

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

Sunday Mass: 9:00am Confession : Thursday 4:00-5:00pm

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208 Office (315) 478-0916 Fax (315) 423-8096
October 19, 2025



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” - Lk 18:7-8

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

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From Our Pastor: Fr. Brendan Foley

Hope's Gentle Embrace: Lifting Our Hearts to God. Most of us have probably felt at one time or another a time when we were so fatigued that our bodies had nearly zero energy to move a muscle, a different kind of exhaustion that we are powerless against, that it would literally take the generosity of a self-less friend to keep you upright. It's not a comfortable experience, I suppose it could be discouraging or maybe even humiliating to be that dependent on another. But in these spaces of trust and surrender, what an uplifting movement of the heart to experience when we receive that loving rescue from outside of ourselves. Amazing to envision the story of our first reading from the book of Exodus. It's a powerful story of hope and deliverance. We see Moses atop a hill, his arms raised intently in prayer as the people of Israel battles Amalek below. When weariness weighs on him, Aaron and Hur gently support his hands, ensuring victory through their quiet solidarity. This image communicates to us: hope is not a solitary endeavor but a shared journey, sustained by God's unfailing presence and the love of those around us, especially through the Church.

Psalm 121 lifts our gaze even further, singing, “I lift up my eyes to the mountains; from where shall come my help? My help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth” (Ps 121:1-2). Our God, who “neither slumbers nor sleeps” (Ps 121:4), watches over us with a love that never falters. In moments of struggle—whether personal doubts, family challenges, or the world's unrest—this psalm offers a gentle promise: the Lord guards our every step, now and always. It is his deep desire not to shy away from us in the struggle of life, but rather to carry us through, and to sustain us beyond our ability to see. How does our confidence to face the difficulties of life grow when we remember we are backed by the confidence and this assurance of the Lord's fidelity?

Pope Benedict XVI, in *Spe Salvi*, speaks to this hope with luminous clarity: “The one who has hope lives differently” (*Spe Salvi*, 2). He reminds us that Christian hope is “a trusting expectation of God's help” (*Spe Salvi*, 34), rooted in Christ's victory over death. This hope transforms our hearts, inviting us to live with joy and courage, even in trial. “In hope we were saved... it is the expectation of things to come from the perspective of a present that is **already given**” (*Spe Salvi*, 7, emphasis added). Through prayer, like Moses, we can touch eternity now, trusting God's nearness. It's not a question of whether salvation has been won or whether the life of heaven exists, but rather it is something so firm that should indeed build our life now, as our souls and our very beings are transformed by the life of heaven hidden in the sacraments.

This is the special fruit of living deeply rooted in the Sacramental life of the Church. The Lord offers us something so extraordinary through the humble means of the life of grace. When have you felt God's quiet strength in weariness? Have you considered that your participation at Mass each Sunday is the vehicle by which the Lord is making you like himself? Or that the Lord is making the generosity and strength of your heart as coming each day to match his own? Who has been your Aaron or Hur, lifting you through prayer or kindness? How can you, in turn, hold up another's heart? Begin simply: Consider reclaiming psalm 121 as you begin each day. Traditionally this was the very first psalm prayed with a newborn baby, recognizing that as new life begins in the Lord, one receives the unfathomable gift of knowing the assurance of God's assistance all life long. As Benedict writes, “Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts” (*Spe Salvi*, 1). In the Eucharist today, let the power of God's divine love renew and strengthen you for continuing to engage the struggle that you may especially come to know Christ's own victory. With Mary, our Mother of Hope, we ask for the grace to lift our eyes to the mountains with confidence and gratitude.. The Lord, who in his goodness chooses to walk with you, turn your every step into a song of trust and joy.

Office Hours SJB/HT Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:00pm Friday 9:00am-2:30pm

Secretary/Bulletin: Nancy Bergeson

In Residence: Fr. Paschal Anionye

E-mail - nbergeson@syrдио.org

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

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

Parish Council President: David William

Music Director/Organist: Mr. James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds: Robert Warren

Religious Education: Betty Warren

Sacristan/Grounds: Allan Chouinard

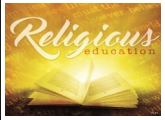
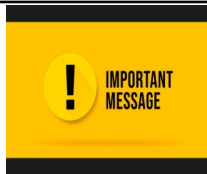
Altar Servers: Benjamin Chouinard

Alyssa Warren & Cecilia Judge

Trustees: Gerald Mott & John Cannizzaro

Minor Policy Changes to Our Entrances to Church

As requested by our Parish Council for the continued safety and concern for our parish family, the parking lot side door (the handicap accessible entrance of the Church) will be locked once Mass begins. While we are aware that this does not remove incidents of all potential risk, it would simply ensure that our ushers would be able to attend to anyone entering the Church at our main doors once Mass has begun. All arrivals to the Church once Mass has begun are kindly asked to enter through our main doors. If an individual has need for use of the ramp after Mass has begun, one of the ushers or a nearby parishioner can certainly open the door and assist. Thank you for your understanding and for your cooperation, and we anticipate that this simple change in procedure won't cause anyone grave inconveniences nor create cause for alarm. This policy will go into effect beginning Sunday October 19.



Religious Education Announcements

Today is our first day of Religious Education Classes. We offer classes from 9:45am-11:00am. We will be having classes from Pre-K (4 yrs. Old) to Confirmation 1. If you wish to have your child participate, please call Betty Warren at 315-420-6357. Please pray for our Students and our Teachers, that they will have a successful and enjoyable year.

Lector - Oct. 19th

9:00am SJB/HT: Ashley Crisafulli

Lector - Oct 26th

9:00am SJB/HT: Chet Wisniewski



Eucharistic Ministry

Center

Mary's Side

October 19 Mary Anne Bergamo

Pat Minnoe

October 26 Betty Warren

Mary Beth Cusano



A Family Perspective Family Life Education

The widow in today's Gospel is praised for her perseverance. In our homes perseverance is a critical ingredient to resolving differences and teaching lessons and skills to children. Perseverance is always an act of faith in the goodness of the other person.

Pray For Vocations

"When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith in earth?" As members of the human family, we are called to share the faith with others. Are you called to share it as a religious brother or sister, a deacon, or a priest? 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: Moses needed to rely on his brother (Aaron) and his friend (Hur) to assist him in defeating the Amalekites. Can you think of a time when you really needed the support of your family or friends?

2nd Reading Question: Paul instructs Timothy to be persistent in relying on what Sacred Scripture teaches us. How do you use Scripture as a guide for your life?

Gospel Question: With the parable of the persistent widow, Jesus teaches the disciples about the importance of praying often to God. When do you find yourself praying? ©LPi

International Food Festival Saturday, October 25th Noon - 4:30pm SJB/HT Parish Center Hope To See You There!



9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

Sunday October 19, 2025 - Rosalie Emm - The Estate

David McLaughlin - Mother

Owen Donovan - Bob & Betty Warren

Dan & DeDe Calkins - Dave & Victoria Calkins

Sunday October 26, 2025 - Maria Luisi - Frances Palma Boody

Owen Donovan - Carl & Debbie Guy

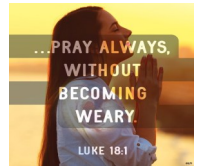


Sacrificial Giving

Collection Week Oct. 12th: \$TBA

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
The Prayers We Don't Say



It has always confused me: why a judge?

Jesus could have compared prayer to the subject who requests a gift of his king. He could have compared it to the child who asks a favor of a parent. But in the parable of the widow and the judge, Jesus compares prayer — specifically constant, unwearied prayer — with the marginalized person who doggedly pursues her claim through an unforgiving legal system.

It's not a rosy or reassuring picture. So what is he trying to tell us?

Unlike a king or a parent, a judge has strictly drawn lines which he cannot, under any circumstances, cross. He can only help people who bring their case to court. Even good, earnest judges cannot render justice if charges are not brought.

God is all-powerful. But that doesn't make Him a meddler. He will not force His way into our problems. What would be the point? What is our life on earth for, if it is not to teach us how to turn willingly to God, in every instance — adoration, gratitude, need?

Today, I sat down and made a list of problems I don't pray about. When I was done, I looked at the list and asked myself: why not? Why don't I pray about these things? Some are huge issues over which I have absolutely no control, and prayer feels futile. Some are small grievances I never even considered mentioning to God.

If I prayed about them all, my life would be totally consumed by prayer. Constant, unwearied prayer. The kind of prayer Jesus calls me to in the parable of the widow and the judge: continual surrender of myself to the mysterious, limitless power of God.

Praying that way could make me tired. The widow was tired, too — but she kept bringing her charges. She got justice. And her judge wasn't even a nice guy.

So say the prayer. Bring the charges. Our judge is one who wants to help, but He won't overstep His bounds. ©LPi





2026 Mass Book and Special Requests

The 2026 Mass Book is open for your intentions for the 9:00am Sunday Mass. ****Note: we will only be booking Masses and requests from January-April at this time.** Please call 315-478-0916 or stop by the rectory during office hours for your intentions. Masses are **\$15.00**. As well, you may request to have the **Sanctuary Lamp \$10.00 or Bread and Wine \$25.00** in memory of your loved one(s) for the week.

Bakers

Would you like to donate a baked good for the Baked Good Table at the International Festival? We Accept!! Baked goods can be dropped off on Friday October 24th during office hours 9:00am-2:30pm or the day of the event, Friday October 25th, doors will be open by 9:00am. As well we would love any volunteers to help and have fun for this event. See the post below for more information. **If you bake Gluten Free please mark your baked good as such. We do appreciate Gluten Free Baked Goods.**



Lottery Scratch Off Tickets

We would like to have a lottery raffle as one of the Food Festival raffles. And, as last year, we are asking for your help in collecting tickets. Would you so kindly help us by donating a scratch off or two for the raffle, please. You may put them into the collection baskets or drop them off here at the rectory office.

Today Is World Mission Sunday

Today, every parish across the globe joins together for the only worldwide collection mandated by Canon Law, World Mission Sunday. Your generosity today supports the Pope's missions in more than 1,124 territories where the Church is young or struggling.



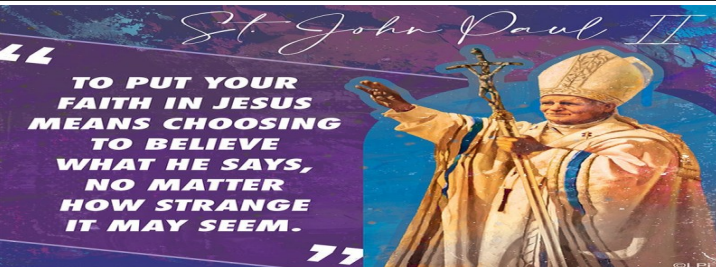
This year's theme, "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples", is a call to embody the love of God, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:5). Your offering today provides hope where despair too often dominates, through the building of churches, formation of seminarians and religious sisters, healthcare clinics, and Catholic schools.

Thank you for responding with faith, love and generosity. As Pope Francis told us, "Each of us is a mission on this earth" (Evangelii Gaudium, 273). Together, we share in that mission by ensuring that no one is excluded from the invitation to encounter Christ.



HOPE Appeal 2025

SJB/HT's goal this year has been set at \$16,969.00. To date SJB/HT parishioners have donated \$4,485.00 in pledges or donations. If you have not yet made your gift, we ask you to join us in strengthening our church and serving people throughout our diocese. Simply mail your donation with the provided envelope or bring your completed pledge card to Mass. You can also make a gift online at www.syrdio.org.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of **Kevin Cole**
Requested by The Family

Devotions Explained The Our Father, Explained!



The Our Father, also known as The Lord's Prayer, is found in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Universally beloved in most traditions of Christianity, its words are those of Jesus Christ himself as he answers his disciples' queries on how best to pray.

The version presented in the Gospel of Matthew is longer and more detailed than that which is contained in the Gospel of Luke. Both versions instruct the faithful to address God as "Father," to pray for the coming of His kingdom, to rely on His providence, and to embrace a spirit of forgiveness towards others, in the hope that we ourselves will be forgiven (Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4). This last element, forgiveness, is also emphasized by Jesus in the Gospel of Mark (Mark 11:25) as an essential part of all prayer.

The Catechism quotes Tertullian when it calls the Our Father "the summary of the whole Gospel." (CCC 2761). ©LPi



Prayer – For Everyday And Everybody Prayer for Life of Mission

Dear God, You are the one who finds a way in the darkness, and clears the path for those You love. Help us to trust in Your call, and to answer generously to the unknowns we face, knowing You will never leave us alone. 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, 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.