

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

February 1, 2026



## 4th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

"When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him." Mt 5:1

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

OLPI

Office Hours SJB/HT  
Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:00pm  
Friday 9:00am-2:30pm  
Pastor: Fr. Brendan Foley  
Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Nancy Bergeson  
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  
Parish Council President: David William  
Trustees: Gerald Mott & John Cannizzaro  
E-mail - [nbergeson@syrdio.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrdio.org)  
Web Site - [www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com)  
Syr. Dio. Web-site - [www.syracusediocese.org](http://www.syracusediocese.org)  
Please call the rectory to arrange marriages, six months prior to date, we will provide information to you for our organist, baptisms and hospital/home visits.

### St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity Friday Lenten Fish Dinners 4:30-7:00pm

In conjunction with the Pastimes Club our popular Friday Lenten Fish Dinners will be back.

Pastime Athletic Club 1314 N. Salina St. enter on the parking lot side of the club, **not** the back door like last year.

#### Dinner Dates

Wednesday Feb. 18th  
Friday Feb. 20th & 27th Friday March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th  
Menu

Dinners \$12 Baked, Broiled & Fried Fish, w/choice 2 sides French fries, mac & cheese, cole slaw, Mega meal \$18 choice fish and all sides, Fried fish sandwich w/fries \$12, available (price TBA) kids meal chicken tenders fries or mac & cheese and TBA soup.



## From Fr. Brendan Foley

Let's recall where we were last Sunday, namely, increasing our attentiveness and our response to the Word of God. When the Lord speaks, a response is called forth, at the power of the Lord's words, there is always an effect. No word returns to the Lord void, but rather it always achieves the effect that it set out to accomplish (cf. Isaiah 55:10-11), meaning that every time we have the Sacred Word before us, the Lord is accomplishing a transformation within us that is drawing us deeper into His life. I hope you have had an opportunity to follow up on your own desires to nourish the hunger of your own soul by receiving more from the Word of the Lord—if you need help, consider Fr. Mike Schmitz' *Bible in a Year Podcast* (on all platforms where podcasts can be found) or Ascension Presents *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* (which we offered our parishes last year!). I highly recommend them!

Today we see a beautiful continuity across our readings that culminates in the proclamation of the Beatitudes. As Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), we hear words that maybe now at this point in our lives strike us with a sentimentality, but maybe they fail to grab our hearts on a deeper level. What happens in you when you hear them proclaimed? (Blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the peacemakers, those who hunger for righteousness, etc) I, myself, used to hear them and think of these varying different groups of people, even wondering which beatitude I would see myself belonging to. It wasn't until relatively recently that I experienced this passage and these words of Jesus come to life and matter much more to me than ever before.

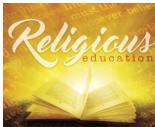
Rather than reflecting on these characteristics of heart or the potentially different groups of individuals, it's first worth stating that the beatitudes are not just nice sayings, or paths to a "happy life" as we might expect. If that's what they are, they're a little confusing, especially reading them at their surface level. Being poor, suffering in the working for peace and justice, mourning, striving for purity of heart—at their appearance, these don't lend themselves to showcasing an abundance of joy but rather struggle. So what should we actually make of them? Start with beautiful wisdom from Pope Benedict XVI who tells us who the "blessed one" really is:

*"In truth, the blessed par excellence is only Jesus. He is, in fact, the true poor in spirit, the one afflicted, the meek one, the one hungering and thirsting for justice, the merciful, the pure of heart, the peacemaker. He is the one persecuted for the sake of justice. The Beatitudes show us the spiritual features of Jesus and thus express his mystery, the mystery of his death and Resurrection, of his passion and of the joy of his Resurrection. This mystery, which is the mystery of true blessedness, invites us to follow Jesus and thus to walk toward it. To the extent that we accept his proposal and set out to follow him - each one in his own circumstances - we too can participate in his blessedness. With him, the impossible becomes possible and even a camel can pass through the eye of a needle (cf. Mk 10: 25); with his help, only with his help, can we become perfect as the Heavenly Father is perfect (cf. Mt 5: 48)."*

So rather than hearing the Beatitudes as simple nice sayings or paths to a happiness they are, rather, a blueprint of the heart of God. We are called to allow Jesus to live his life in us, and even to share his blessedness—that as this heart of God grows in us, we come to know the rewards of this friendship sharing His life, both now in the struggles of living for the Gospel, and for a heavenly reward of blessedness that we couldn't possibly comprehend now. Thus, see now that the Beatitudes are in fact promises of our Heavenly Father, that with an openness to receiving anew the gift of the Holy Spirit (especially through the Sacraments) our lives are transformed into the life of Christ. To share in such a transformation is what it truly means to be 'blessed' and to share the joy and life of the Lord.

## Religious Education Announcements

Please pray for our students, and teachers as they continue their education programs. Please especially pray for our 5 Confirmation 1 students, who are preparing to be confirmed in 2027 and our 6 first Communion students who will receive the Sacrament of First Communion on May 10th.



SJB/HT & OLP/SP rectories will be closed on Monday Feb. 16th in observance of Presidents Day. There is no 9:00am Mass at OLP/SP.



**Lector - Feb. 1, 2026**

Cathy Schotthoefer

**Lector - Feb. 8, 2026**

John Robinson

## Eucharistic Ministry

	<u>Center</u>	<u>Mary's Side</u>
Feb. 1st	Mary Beth Cusano	Dave William
Feb. 8th	Mary Anne Bergamo	Pat Minnoe
Feb. 15th	Karen Fekete	Mary Beth Cusano

## Live The Liturgy - Inspiration For The Week

Blessed are the poor, the meek, the persecuted. These are radical words in a world that insists the opposite: blessed are the wealthy. Blessed are the forceful. Blessed are the comfortable. Do we have what it takes to be radical? ©LPI



## paFISHioner Sponsor 2026

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:** \_\_\_\_\_

_____
_____
_____



## 9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

**February 1, 2026** - Rosalie Emm - The Estate  
 Debbie Greenfield - The Family  
 Albert Bleskoski, Sr. - The Family  
**February 7, 2026** - The Emm Family - The Estate  
 Antonio McLaughlin - Mother  
 Giovanna Mattina - Maria Troppei

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of The

### Princi Family

Requested by Daughter Maria  
**Sr. Rose Hobbs, RSM**  
 Requested by A Friend

### Sacrificial Giving

Collection Jan. 18th: \$1,732.00  
 Collection Jan. 25th: \$1,706.00



### Ash Wednesday

#### Wednesday February 18th

Mass schedule and Ashes will be distributed as follows:

OLP/SP - 9:00am  
 SJB/HT - 12:15pm



### Stations of the Cross

At SJB/HT we will offer stations before our Sunday Mass. Stations will begin at 8:40am. Looking for leaders to read each station either at the podium or while walking around each station with the portable mic. Parishioners are welcome to walk each station as well. So we need leaders for **February 22nd, March 1st, March 8th, March 15th and March 22nd**. Please contact Nancy at the rectory 315-478-0916. Thank you.

### Virtues Explained

#### Kindness, Explained!

In the modern lexicon, the quality of "kindness" is often equated with politeness — but real, virtuous kindness is so much more. Virtuous kindness is a way of seeing others through the eyes of God.



God is not polite — God is kind, and His kindness is abundantly evident in all of creation. It was suspicion of this divine kindness that precipitated the fall of Adam and Eve (CCC 214), and it was this unfailing kindness that facilitated our own adoption as God's children, conformed to the image of His son (CCC 257).

Also known as benevolence or beneficence and derived from the theological virtue of charity, kindness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and is a central theme in the famous parable of the Good Samaritan. In practicing kindness and seeking the good of another without prejudice or condition, the Samaritan reflects God's own plan of loving kindness for us. ©LPi

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### A Family Perspective Family Life Education

It is in our family where we learn to be merciful and comforting to others. The Beatitudes of the Kingdom of God begin at home and depend on you. Parents lead the way.

### Pray For Vocations

Today's acclamation says: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Are you ready to follow the Light - Jesus Christ - in your life? Email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram [@vocationssyracuse](https://www.instagram.com/vocationssyracuse).



### Reflect: Readings and Gospel

**1st Reading Question:** Zephaniah speaks of a "remnant" of Israel who will live humbly and seek justice. Are there people in your life who live this way?

**2nd Reading Question:** Paul describes members of the Corinthian church as foolish, weak and despised. How would you characterize your faith community?

**Gospel Question:** Jesus begins his "Sermon on the Mount" with the many ways that people are blessed. What do you consider your biggest blessing? ©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, 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, Steven Malkoski, 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, Fred Wheeler and Carol Young. 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.

### Contribution Statements

If you require a SJB/HT Contribution Statement of your church donations for 2025 taxes, please contact the rectory during office hours, 315-478-0916, email at [nbergeson@syrdio.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrdio.org) or fill in the slip below and send to SJB/HT 406 Court St. Syr. NY 13208, or, save a stamp and put your request in a plain envelope and put it into the collection basket attention "Nancy".

**PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR REQUEST INTO YOUR CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

C/S/Z: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope Number: \_\_\_\_\_

