

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

January 11, 2026



## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

"Behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him." Mt 3:16

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 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@syrдио.org](mailto:nbergeson@syrдио.org)

Web Site - [www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com)

Syr. Dio. Web-site - [www.syracusedioecese.org](http://www.syracusedioecese.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.

# LIVE OUT YOUR BAPTISM

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## From Fr. Brendan Foley

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, a feast that keeps us connected to the Epiphany celebrated last Sunday. Something incredible happens at the moment of Jesus' Baptism as he was praying: *heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."* Like the Epiphany, we are drawn into the mystery of who Jesus is, and the incredible goodness we have in God manifesting this truth and choosing to reveal himself and the mystery of the Trinity.

We might be tempted to wonder, why now? Why in this particular moment of Jesus' life does God the Father choose to make this declaration? The explanation lies in Jesus' purpose in coming to John and being baptized by him. John, we know, is preaching a baptism of repentance. At first John tries to prevent Jesus, but he insists. And Jesus' insistence expresses what he intends: he means to stand in solidarity with sinners. He means to be where they must be. The same thing is expressed by the Apostle Paul using a different kind of language: "He who knew no sin became sin for our sake" (2 Cor 5:21).

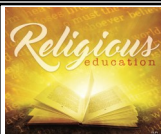
And it is precisely in this moment of intense solidarity with sinners that this immense trinitarian epiphany takes place. The Father's voice thunders from heaven, declaring, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." And we must understand that what pleases the Father is precisely the Son's willingness to stand in solidarity with sinners. In this way he shows himself to be the Son of this Father, this Father "who so loved the world that he gave to it his only Son" (Jn 3:16). In the same instant, the Spirit appears like a dove descending upon the Son, as if to redeclare in the presence of all around, his true identity marked by this seal of the Spirit.

The same Spirit accompanied Jesus in every moment of his earthly existence, *shaping each of his actions into a revelation of his Father.* Thus, we can hear this morning's text from the prophet Isaiah as an expansion within the heart of Jesus on the Father's words "You are my beloved Son." Their loving dialogue continues: "You are my chosen one with whom I am well pleased, upon whom I have put my Spirit ... I the Lord have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, **to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement**, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness." What changes in your daily response to God knowing that *this* is how the Lord looks at **you**, how he could invite you and your life to be an instrument of His life and for you to be a light for others that also extends this invitation to others to come to authentically know the deep and intimate love of God.

And so for each of us, the point is that Jesus' baptism is the pattern also of each of us. In baptism we go down with Christ into the waters of death, and our sins are drowned in those waters. And because we have gone down with Christ, we also come up from the waters together with him and hear – mighty and majestic – the Father's voice directed to us as well. It pronounces a new name for each of us, in the depths of each of our hearts: "Beloved! In whom I am well pleased." We hear this name as ours not because of any good deeds we have done but because Christ in his overflowing love willed to share his relationship to his Father with us. May we recall this day anew the tremendous gift we have received in our Baptism and be set free to live our baptismal identity as beloved sons and daughters of the heavenly father. Through baptism we are incorporated into the family of God, we have firm hope for eternal life, divine grace can now set us free from whatever binds us, and our eyes and hearts are opened to Truth, and we may forever follow the light of life.

## Rectory Offices Closed

SJB/HT and OLP/SP rectory offices will be closed on Monday, January 19th in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. There is no 9:00am Mass at OLP/SP this day.



## 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. There are no Religious Ed classes next week, Jan. 18th, for Martin Luther King Day.

## Lector - Jan. 11, 2026

Lisa Johnson

## Lector—Jan. 18, 2026

Ashley Crisafulli



## Eucharistic Ministry

	Center	Mary's Side
Jan. 11th	Pat Minnoe	Mary Anne Bergamo
Jan. 18th	Mary Beth Cusano	Karen Fekete
Jan. 25th	Larry Argiro	Cathy Horton

**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.

## Thank You!

Just a simple and inadequate note to say "Thank you" to you all for your generosity to me for the many, many ways you extended your kindness to me and my family at Christmas time, I'm so grateful, and please know that your accompaniment and support in prayer are absolutely essential! I know Jesus is always answering those prayers and sustaining me! I truly experience your encouragement and your joy, and I consider myself blessed and grateful to be among you and serve you. Blessed and holy 2026 to you and your loved ones!



Fr. Foley



## Immaculata Award Presentation

The Immaculata Award Ceremony was held on Sunday December 7, 2025 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity awarded posthumous to Owen Donovan. Owen's family will accept the award on Sunday January 25th during our 9:00am Mass. Please join us on this Sunday and after the Mass as we will have a gathering in the church with coffee and treats.

## Live The Liturgy - Inspiration For The Week

John could not believe that Jesus would seek baptism from him, a lowly mortal man. But our God is a humble God. He does not fear our weakness. He extends his hand, saying, "It is fitting." So take his hand. Begin the work he has set out for you. ©LPi







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

**January 11, 2026** - Ralph Smith - The Family  
Francis Galimi - Twin Brother  
Emil & Mary Schnipp & Thomas C. Schnipp - Tom Schnipp  
**January 18, 2026** - The Emm Family - The Estate  
John Butwin - Mary Callahan  
David McLaughlin - Mother  
Giuseppe Migliore - The Family  
Vincenzo Abbatiello - The Family

## Offering Envelopes

### Sacrificial Giving

Collection Dec. 21st: \$1,820.00  
Collection Christmas Eve & Day: \$3,648.00

Collection Dec. 28th: \$1,483.00

Collection Jan. 4th: \$2,613.00

## Virtues Explained

### Joy, Explained

Though it is often used as a synonym for happiness, joy has far more to do with the choices we make than the emotions we feel.



Joy is the experience of achieving what we most desire — and what we most desire is love. God made us in love and for love, and so, in the same way that a flower seeks the sun-light, our souls seek the warmth of true, selfless love. The virtue of joy, therefore, is a fruit of the virtue of love, or charity (CCC 1829).

“We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done,” said Saint Pope John Paul II. “We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy.” ©LPi



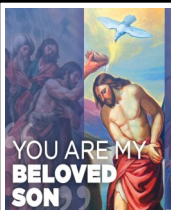
## A Family Perspective Family Life Education

The words in today's Gospel, “This is my beloved, with Him I am pleased,” are words every child needs to hear often. Affirmation is important to raise happy and confident children.

## Pray For Vocations

St. John the Baptist was called to baptize with water to make Christ known to Israel, how will you be called to make Christ known in today's world?

Email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.



## Prayer For Everyday And Everybody Blessing for Baptismal Graces

Dear God, Through Baptism, You called and claimed us as Your own, chosen and loved. Pour Your blessing upon us as we remember our Baptism. Plant Your identity in our hearts. Help us to live as Your beloved. Amen. ©LPi



There will be no confessions on Wed. Jan. 14th at OLP/SP or on Thurs. Jan. 15th at SJB/HT. There are confessions at the Franciscan Place in the Mall Mon.-Thurs. 2:00-4:00pm.

## HOPE Appeal 2025

SJB/HT parishioners have donated \$17,300.00 in pledges or donations. We have passed our goal of \$16,969.00. Donations still can be made, 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](http://www.syrdio.org). Thank you to all who have generously donated.



## Reflect: Readings and Gospel

**1st Reading Question:** Isaiah speaks of God using a servant to deliver justice to the nations of the world. When have you felt God calling you to do His work?

**2nd Reading Question:** Peter testifies how God and the Holy Spirit were active in the life and public ministry of Jesus. Do you sense the Holy Spirit present in your life?

**Gospel Question:** John the Baptist initially hesitates baptizing Jesus. Do you have a friend or co-worker who needs your encouragement? ©LPi

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



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, 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, 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.**

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_