

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 22, 2026



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

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

Syr. Dio. Web-site - www.syracusedioocese.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 Athletic 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

Friday Feb. 27th Friday March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Menu

Dinners \$15 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 soup TBA.



From Fr. Brendan Foley

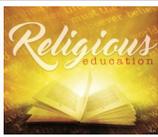
We hear it each year...what should we make of this account of Jesus' temptation in the desert? When we hear today's Gospel it can be an interesting one to imagine, especially just the captivating opening line: *At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil* (Mt. 4:1). Why might he intentionally set out to be tempted by the devil? Should we be doing the same? Well, no! But given the context of our readings today, Jesus—who is **always** about the mission of bringing about our salvation and bringing us back to our communion with God—goes out and endures the same threefold temptation that our first parents Adam and Eve faced—yet he does not give in.

Let's go back to the first reading from Genesis 3, the account of "the Fall" or the *original* sin that leads to our concupiscence or our inclination toward sin. What goes terribly wrong is that Adam and Eve fall victim to the temptation of thinking that somehow they were lacking, or that somehow God was "holding out" on them. They failed to know the goodness of God, they failed to recognize his ability to constantly provide for all of their needs. The only "knowledge" they seem to gain after eating the fruit is of their vulnerability, their nakedness, their need. Interesting that God originally created us to be unaware of such things. The first letter of St. John teaches specifically what goes wrong and points out how temptation lives in our own experience of life today:

Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. (1 Jn 2:15-16)

This is the pattern of how temptation works. Eve saw that the tree was 1) good for food, 2) pleasing to the eyes, and 3) desirable for gaining wisdom (Gn 3:6). Lust, Greed, and Pride—all for the purpose of becoming "like God" as the serpent says. When the things of the world become 'idols' or replace God in our lives, we begin to neglect our identity of *belonging* to the Lord as his beloved children, and we put ourselves in place of God. We, too, fall victim to believing that God is "not enough," or that he can't provide for all our needs, or that somehow we aren't known or loved intimately by him.

And so, Jesus goes into the desert for us to see that with us, he faces the same threefold temptation, **and with him**, we too can overcome temptations that lead us away from choosing the loving embrace of our heavenly Father. As Christians we are all called to overcome the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and pride. The practices that we do all year but intensify now (fasting, almsgiving, and prayer) are ways that the Lord strengthens us with his grace to know his love and to help us walk the path of life. Fasting pushes against the lust of the flesh, Almsgiving pushes against the lust of the eyes (greed/avarice) and prayer pushes against pride by helping us to acknowledge our dependence on God. May we have the grace to experience the strength that only comes to us from Jesus, and may we feel the closeness of His embrace this Lent.



Religious Education Announcements

There are no Religious Ed classes this week, Feb. 22nd, for Winter Recess. Classes will resume on March 1st. 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.

Lector - Feb. 22, 2026

Pat Minnoe

Lector - March 1, 2026

Lisa Johnson

Eucharistic Ministry

	<u>Center</u>	<u>Mary's Side</u>
Feb. 22nd	Cathy Horton	Larry Argiro
March 1	Dave William	Mary Beth Cusano
March 8	Pat Minnoe	Mary Anne Bergamo
March 15	Mary Beth Cusano	Karen Fekete
March 22	Larry Argiro	Cathy Horton
March 29	Mary Beth Cusano	Dave William



Live The Liturgy - Inspiration For The Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan." ©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: _____

Prayer For Everyday And Everybody Lenten Blessing

Bless us in Your mercy, Lord, as we enter these 40 Days of Lent. Use this time to call, anoint, bind, strengthen, and inspire us anew. Like a good shepherd, teach us Your voice, and give us the strength to follow. Amen. ©LPi



1st SUNDAY OF LENT





9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT

February 22, 2026 - David McLaughlin - Mother
Bob Greenwood - The Family
Albert Bleskoski, Jr. The Family

March 1, 2026 - Rosalie Emm - The Estate
Francis Galimi - Twin Brother
Teresa Greenfield - The Family
June Casey - Betty & Bod Warren



Stations of the Cross

At SJB/HT we will offer stations **Fridays of Lent at 4:00pm then join us at the Pastime Club for dinner, and also before our Sunday Mass 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 **March 1st, March 8th, March 15th and March 22nd.** Please contact Nancy at the rectory 315-478-0916. Thank you.

Virtues Explained

Understanding

"I believe, in order to understand," said St. Augustine. "And I understand, the better to believe."



The virtue of understanding, which is a gift conferred by the Holy Spirit, shows us that there is no such thing as "blind faith." Faith, by its very nature, seeks to better understand the object of that faith.

It is important to know that understanding is a process — the Holy Spirit is always willing to give a gift over and over again! "The same Holy Spirit constantly perfects faith by his gifts, so that Revelation may be more and more profoundly understood," we read in *Dei verbum*, the dogmatic constitution on divine revelation.

Understanding is the "food" of faith. We must constantly ask the Holy Spirit for greater and more profound understanding, for though understanding proceeds from faith, it in turn nourishes that faith. "A more penetrating knowledge will in turn call forth a greater faith, increasingly set afire by love," says the Catechism (CCC 158). ©LPI

The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God."

— Mt 4:3-4

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2003, 1998, 1970 CCC



A Family Perspective Family Life Education

In today's Gospel Jesus cautions it is not enough to provide food for our children; "one does not live on bread alone." Let Lent be a time when you are "led by the Spirit" to explore new ways to be a moral guide to your children.

Pray For Vocations

"The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve." Is the Lord calling you to worship and serve him specifically as a priest, deacon or religious sister or brother? Email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram [@vocationssyracuse](https://www.instagram.com/vocationssyracuse).



Sacrificial Giving

Collection Feb. 15th: \$2,132.00



Reflect: Readings and Gospel

1st Reading Question: Genesis reveals that from the beginning the serpent (the devil) desires to lure and trap us into disobeying God. Can you think of some lies the serpent is telling people today?

2nd Reading Question: Paul argues that Jesus' obedience to God brought us the gift of freedom and life. How do you see yourself obeying God?

Gospel Question: The season of Lent begins each year with the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert. As we begin the 40 days of Lent, what temptations are you willing to confront? ©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, 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 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: _____

