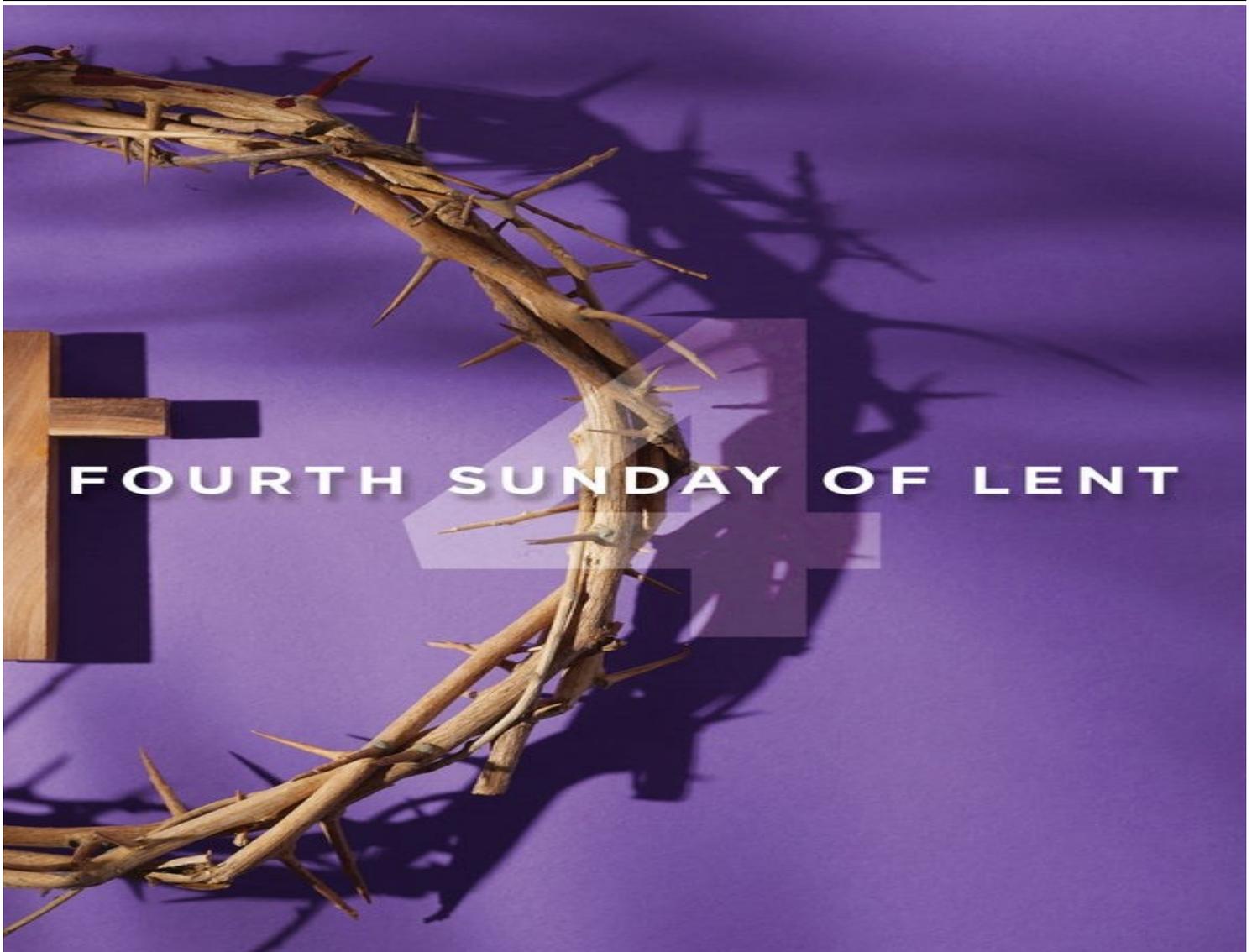


St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

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

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

March 15, 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@syrдио.org

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

Syr. Dio. Web-site - 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.

**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.

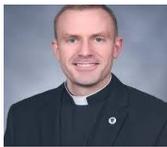
Pastime Athletic club 1314 N. Salina St. enter on the parking lot side of the club, **not** the back door like last year.

Dinner Dates

March 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

The fourth Sunday in Lent—*Laetare Sunday*—gives us again a glimpse of the joy that awaits us who strive to confidently accompany Jesus through the Cross to share his Resurrection. As his disciples, it is possible for us even now to have imprinted on our hearts and souls a character of rejoicing, regardless of the suffering we may confront. We are offered the gift of life through the Lord who is persevering to offer us his healing touch.

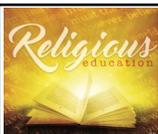
We see at work in our readings today how exactly the Lord desires to communicate with us. With His **anointing**, the gift of the Holy Spirit is poured out, there is a calling and a belonging, there is healing, and there is transformation and bold restoration of life. *Again, our bold invitation to rejoice.* Our continued response of faith to the Lord’s grace is constantly accomplishing in us a movement from blindness and darkness to sight and light.

I continue to be struck by Jesus’ tranquility and his offer of secure refuge in him both in last Sunday’s Gospel with the encounter of the Woman at the Well, and again today, for the man “born blind”. What is Jesus’ continued desire? To embody the fulfillment of the Lord’s promises to his people: *to bring liberty to captives, to bring sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.* Jesus declares that the man in today’s gospel is able to serve as an instrument for the glory of the Lord to be made visible through him, meaning that his healing and freedom from his infirmity is not just good for himself, but also all to see.

What went wrong in the original sin of Adam and Eve? Well as a result of their disobedience, there was a fracturing in the harmony of creation. The darkness of sin, suffering, and death enter, and now we are tasked to live in the aftermath, we carry the weight of concupiscence—or our inclination to fail on doing the good we ought, and choosing often the bad we know we are to avoid. It’s interesting that as a result of this we experience the absence of light. Darkness in the world around us. Blindness now can plague us.

The anointing Jesus offers to the man is evocative of the original moment of creation of man. The long Hebrew tradition of God’s creation of Adam is that, in order for God to have created him from ‘the dust of the earth’ God would have had to spit and make clay from the earth. What Jesus does in doing this same thing to then anoint the eyes of the blind man, is an act of *re-creation*. Evidence of the healing and restorative power that belongs to Jesus, that belongs to the Lord’s divinity. Not only is the physical sight of the man restored, but so are the eyes of his faith. Given to his sight is the very identity of Jesus who is Christ, Messiah, and Lord, and immediately the once blind man responds accordingly: **he worships.**

So for us, yes we must navigate and confront our own realities of blindness in our lives, yes we must navigate our own various infirmities. We rejoice this day because we know with confidence that Jesus himself **always** has the ability to create anew in us. He has the ability to create faith in us that is to become a spring of water welling up to eternal life. Jesus desires to heal and restore our broken sight to be able to recognize him and to receive ever more from him. Through the graces of the Sacraments—which were instituted by Christ himself as the *promised* accompaniment of his restorative divine life so that we might not live under the reign of darkness and sin!!)—the Lord is yearning to pour out on us a gift that we cannot create for ourselves. When he transforms us with the power of his life, he does so that the glory of God might then be made boldly visible through us.



Religious Education Announcements

Our Religious Education program is nearing the end of the 2025-2026 year. There are only 7 classes left for our students & teachers. Our last class will be on Mother’s Day, May 10th. This last class

will be our First Communion & May Crowning Mass. 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.

Live The Liturgy - Inspiration For The Week

The Pharisees refused to see what was in front of them. Their blindness was stronger than that of the man born without sight, because it was a blindness they chose for themselves. So what will it be for us? Do we choose blindness, or do we choose sight? ©LPi



Prayer For Everyday And Everybody Blessing to See

Bless us, Lord, to see as You see. Remind us that heartbeats and hopes can outshine outward show. That quiet witness can overcome violence and darkness. That Your Light can break like the dawn. Amen. ©LPi

Lector - March 15, 2026

Chet Wisniewski

Lector - March 22, 2026

Cathy Schotthoefer

Eucharistic Ministry

Center

March 15

Mary Beth Cusano Karen Fekete

March 22

Larry Argiro Cathy Horton

March 29

Mary Beth Cusano Dave William



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

March 15, 2026 - Steve Taddeo - The Family
The Emm Family - The Estate
Leonardo Sanzone - The Family

March 22, 2026 - Bill Judge - The Family
Marie Salinske - Friends
Georgiann Larkin - Maria Princi
Vincent Salerno - Monica & Nicholas Colantone



Sacrificial Giving

Collection March 8th: \$1,751.00

Virtues Explained

Hope

“Hoping against hope, he believed, and thus became the father of many nations.” (Romans 4:18)



This is how Paul describes the hope of Abraham, who allowed himself to believe in and wish for what seemed like an impossible thing — all because it had been promised to him by God. In this same way, Christian hope “is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness” (CCC 1817), even as we recognize that our own strength and merit can never achieve this.

Hope, simply, is remembering that God keeps His promises.

A desire for happiness is a seed planted by God in each heart. The virtue of hope pours down like rain to nourish that seed, but a barrier has been created by original sin. The Holy Spirit removes the barrier, allowing the hope to pour forth upon the roots of our sprouting happiness in great abundance. ©LPi



Lenten Activities

Tuesdays evenings join at the Convent at OLP/SP for Holy Hour, Eucharistic Adoration, Fr. Foley will also lead some quiet praise and worship music as has been the case when we do this!

After the time of prayer, a program will be offered journeying through the book, now spiritual classic, “*He Leadeth Me*” by **Fr. Walter Ciszek**. Books will be available through Fr. Foley, or you can obtain yourself, but also you are welcome to **participate even if you don’t want to read the book!** Each week a few chapters will be covered, and together we will be transformed by Fr. Walter’s amazing and powerful testimony. Adoration will start at 5:30 in the chapel, the talks/class will follow at 6:30/6:45. Please feel welcome to join even if you can’t make it every week.

Eucharistic Adoration will be offered during the regularly scheduled hour of confession at both OLP/SP Wed. 4:00-5:00pm. and SJB/HT Thurs. 4:00-5:00pm. We hope to continue this even after Lent! Please come and rest with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament!

Further Lenten Activities

Another opportunity to attend a penance service is Sunday March 22nd from 4:00-5:00pm at Sacred Heart in Cicero. Fr. Foley will be there as well as many other priests if you would prefer a priest you may not know.

All are invited to attend **The Chrism Mass, Tuesday March 31st 11:00 am at the Cathedral**. It is a beautiful Mass for the whole diocese where Bishop Lucia blesses and consecrates the holy oils used throughout the diocese for all anointings for the next year (so all Baptisms, Confirmations, Ordinations, Anointing of the Sick). During this Mass the priests also renew their ordination promises so as to again be dedicated to their vocation in service of the Lord called to live always in persona Christi for all entrusted to their care. Typically there are about 70-80 priests in attendance, so it’s just not something you see every day!

Syracuse Half Marathon Run

This race will be held on Sunday March 22nd from 7:30-10:30am. Depending on your route to church, you may encounter a delay to allow runners to pass. No immediate streets around the church are being used. You can get a full course map and road closures online by googling **Syracuse Half Marathon**.



Reflect: Readings and Gospel

1st Reading Question: Samuel does not expect the Lord to anoint the young David as Israel’s next king. When have you been surprised by God doing something unexpected in your life?

2nd Reading Question: Paul expects the believers in Ephesus to live as children of light and learn what is pleasing to the Lord. What could you do this week that is pleasing to the Lord?

Gospel Question: Jesus’ healing of the blind man causes confusion and even anger to those who do not see him as the Christ. Have you seen or felt God’s presence in this season of Lent ©LPi

A Family Perspective

Family Life Education

Failure to forgive blinds us to another’s goodness.

Lent provides an opportunity to wash away our blind-spots in the pool of forgiveness. Listen to Jesus in today’s Gospel: “Go wash and see.”



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.**

Holy Week Schedule

- **The Light Is On - Monday March 30th**
SJB/HT 12:00-1:30pm OLP/SP 4:00-6:00pm
- **Holy Thursday April 2nd**
SJB/HT 5:00pm and
SJB/HT will remain open for visitation until 9:00pm.
- **The Passion of the Lord - Good Friday April 3rd**
OLP/SP 3:00pm
- **Holy Saturday April 4th**
SJB/HT Blessing of the Easter Food 11:00am
- **Easter Vigil April 4th**
OLP/SP 8:00am
- **Easter Sunday April 5th**
All Masses will be regular Sunday Mass times