

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 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](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  
LAST Friday Lenten Fish Dinner  
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.

**OUR LAST FISH DINNER IS FRIDAY MARCH 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.



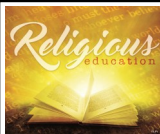
### From Fr. Brendan Foley

*"Thus says the Lord GOD: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them, and bring you back...you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and have you rise from them...I will put my spirit in you that you may live..."* (cf. Ezekiel 37:12ff). Today we see boldly the power the Lord has over death, and we must never take this power for granted. We are often slow to trust in this power because time and again we confront the grief and loss of life of loved ones, the tragedy of war and violence all around us, and so it seems that this power, while encouraging, is not something we experience wholeheartedly. There is much to reflect with in our readings today. What do we make of Jesus' emotional responses throughout this narrative of raising Lazarus from the dead? We see him in grief, we again see him twice 'perturbed' or (in the Greek) 'angered within himself', and yet we also see his confidence in his Heavenly Father who is always listening and active.

Martha, Mary, and Lazarus are *friends* of Jesus. They are dear to him, he spent much time with them. Suffering, loss, and grief are not absent from their lives just because they are his friends. Jesus *does* respond and he *does* draw close to them in the darkness of this moment, and Jesus truly cares—even the bystanders remark, 'look how he loved him'. We likely can feel the rawness of the words that both sisters say directly to the Lord: "if you had been here [he] would not have died." How real this emotion is, and how many times we likely have also felt this cry within ourselves. Even if not in the face of grief of loss, we probably have felt that drop and pain within us—*Lord why? Lord, where were you?* It's offered to us for our comfort that Jesus authentically weeps, and his response to us has to do with what power is in store for us as he again reveals the communion he shares with his heavenly Father. Especially now as members of the Body of Christ, we too are to call upon our Heavenly Father with this same confidence in all our moments of pain and grief.

In the face of the deep sorrow though, we see moments of brilliance, most especially in the faith of Martha who recognizes who Jesus is and she even has trust in the power of Resurrection. And this confession of faith is something we too should beg from the Lord when we are crushed in whatever sorrow we may be carrying for ourselves or for another. Trust in this divine power to have victory over death is what we are called to cling to (remember how the Lord has been increasing faith in his encounters over our recent Sundays). Consider that passage from Ezekiel in our first reading—the purpose of it for us today is that the Lord is **always** and will forever be faithful to the promises he makes to his people, and we are invited to freely respond with the witness of our lives in faith and in trust. Certainly many of those people in Ezekiel's time would not have known the fullness of the fulfillment of this prophecy and promise—which is to say something even greater than what is on the surface. It is as if the Lord is saying, *Yes, O Israel—even if necessary I will drag you out of your graves in order to fulfill my promises to you. Your faith is not in vain, I can and will do the unthinkable in order to be faithful to you.*

For us—let us see that Jesus wants to do more than just give us back the breath in our lungs, or have our hearts beat again. He desires that the chains of the burial cloths and the decay and stench of the tomb be something that is banished forever so as to share eternal friendship with Him. We can imagine what *truly* brought life to Lazarus coming forth from the tomb was the sight of Jesus' face, calling him by name, and being set free. Yes we can recall that Lazarus would die again, but what about the confidence that would have lived in him after this moment? How much *more* willing would Lazarus have been to go to death again knowing that Jesus, his beloved friend and brother, has such power and promises not to abandon but to share victory over the powers of sin and death? If you and I ask this grace of boldness in trust in the face of our own death, we will have a much different perspective that could only come from knowing the Lord with deep intimacy. Let us live with this deep and beautiful faith and as Thomas says today, especially as Palm Sunday and Holy Week await us—*"Let us also go to die with him"*—so that we may be one with the Lord in his death as to share in his Resurrection!



### Religious Education Announcements

There are no Religious Ed classes for the next 2 weeks, March 29th & April 4th, for Spring Break and Easter. Classes will resume on April 12th.

There are only 6 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.

#### Lector - March 22, 2026

Cathy Schotthoefer

#### Lector - March 29, 2026

John Robinson

#### Eucharistic Ministry

##### Center

March 22

Larry Argiro

March 29

Mary Beth Cusano

##### Mary's Side

Cathy Horton

Dave William



### Easter Flowers For The Altar

SJB/HT invites you to make a donation towards our EasterFlowers. A list of donors and their request will be printed as an insert to the bulletin the week of Easter, April 5th. Please put donations with the form below in an envelope marked "FLOWERS" in the collection basket, mail or drop it off to the rectory no later than Monday March 30th. Checks should be made payable to SJB/HT. Please do not add this form to your weekly contribution envelopes.



Donor \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_


In memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_





Wednesday March 25th  
(not a holyday of obligation)

# SJB/HT-Pastime Athletic Club Last Fish Dinner is Friday March 27th!



**9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT**  
**March 22, 2026** - Bill Judge - The Family  
 Marie Salinske - Friends  
 Georgiann Larkin - Maria Princi  
 Vincent Salerno - Monica & Nicholas Colantone  
**March 29, 2026** - Timothy Reid - The Family  
 David McLaughlin - Mother  
 The Cariseo Family - The Family  
 June Casey - Jerry Mott & Mary Lou Schugg


**Sacrificial Giving**  
 Collection March 15th: \$2,728.00

**A quick note on the veiling of our beautiful statues!** The Church in her wisdom and tradition invites us to veil or cover our sacred images from this 5th Sunday of Lent up to the point of the start of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. This would even include crucifixes, too, not just the saints! Sometimes this can be a little difficult practically, but the symbolism is helpful for a number of reasons. First and foremost, it heightens our attention to this being a solemn time—quite literally it is just different from all other times of the church year, we are preparing to journey with Jesus through the suffering of the cross, to his death, to the darkness of the tomb, to the ultimate glory of his Resurrection. What we see, how we interact with others or go about our daily tasks should have a greater awareness or sensitivity to these particularly solemn days. The rhythm of our lives needs to change to better participate in the mysteries of our redemption. By covering them we are actually intentionally depriving ourselves of their beauty! What for? It creates a hunger within us, a longing for their beauty again. And we know well that the reason for their beauty comes from the source of life that is Jesus’ victory over the grave. Think about how, too, *the unveiling* of the cross in the liturgy for Good Friday. As we’ve covered these other images, the unveiling of the source of our salvation takes on greater beauty as we truly focus our eyes and hearts on the altar of the Cross, where Christ offered his life out of love for you and me. Let’s recommit ourselves to the sacredness of this time, increase our time for silence, maybe even deprive ourselves of other ‘sources of beauty’ in our lives so that we can enter into the passion of our Lord differently this year, so that we can also receive anew from the treasury of the Lord’s Resurrection.



**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




**Reflect: Readings and Gospel**  
**1st Reading Question:** We hear from the prophet Ezekiel the Lord’s promise to raise His people from the dead. What gives you hope in this promise?  
**2nd Reading Question:** Paul teaches that the Holy Spirit dwells in those who believe in Jesus and that same Spirit will raise our mortal bodies from the dead. How should this impact the way we live our lives today?  
**Gospel Question:** Despite her grief over the death of Lazarus, Martha believes that Jesus is the resurrection and the life, the Son of God. How has this season of Lent strengthened your faith in Jesus? ©LPi

**A Family Perspective**  
**Family Life Education**  
 Our families can become wrapped up chasing things we perceive will make us happy. Jesus’ words to Lazarus, He says to us: “Come out!” from what entombs you. In this fifth week of Lent “untie” yourself and be free from unnecessary possessions.





**The Chrism Mass**  
 All are invited to attend The Chrism Mass on Tuesday March 31st which starts at 11:00am 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. 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!

**Penance Service Reminder**



An opportunity to attend a penance service is today, 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.



**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, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny & Erin Donovan, 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, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Antoinette Perotta, Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Esther Sindoni, Patricia Soule, Timothy K. Suppes, Patrick St. Thomas IV, 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.**

