

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 8, 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 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

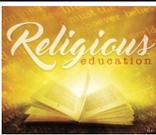
It's a long encounter in today's Gospel—but an important one: the story of “The Woman at the Well.” I encourage you to sit and read this passage from John Chapter 4. The slow unfolding dialogue is one we can take time to imagine and enter in.

In the encounter with the Samaritan woman, the symbol of **water** stands out in the foreground. It's more than just water to quench a physical need, and we will hear how water becomes an image of the way the Holy Spirit is to flow within us. Water is also connected clearly with our first reading from the book of Exodus. At this point in the narrative, the people of the Lord wandering in the desert following their liberation from Egypt has made them frustrated and exhausted to the point of preferring their former place of slavery and pain. How desperate they must have been! As a result, we could easily say the theme for this Sunday is “**Thirst**”—but of course this thirst is not just a reflection of a physical need, but rather, a spiritual one. We should also note, this **thirst** is not primarily a yearning from our perspective and for our own needs to be met, but rather, the **thirst** on display for us to ponder is from the Lord's perspective. **God's thirst for us.**

Jesus says, “Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (Jn 4:14). This water, Pope Benedict XVI reminds us, represents the Holy Spirit, “the “gift” par excellence that Jesus came to bring on the part of God the Father. Even St. Paul reminds us today that this ‘water’ given to us in Baptism is the way that the Lord poured forth hope into us. Hope that does not disappoint, hope that leads us to life (cf. Romans 5). Whoever is reborn by water and by the Holy Spirit in Baptism, enters into a deep relationship with God, a filial relationship, and as a result can worship the Lord “in spirit and in truth” (Jn 4:23, 24), as Jesus reveals to the Samaritan woman. Thanks to the encounter with Jesus Christ and to the gift of the Holy Spirit, our faith can attain fulfilment. Each one of us can identify ourselves with the Samaritan woman: Jesus is waiting for us, he is thirsting for us, especially in this Season of Lent, to speak to our hearts, to my heart, and to pour out his grace anew to give us life.

Considering that truth, now can sit with these words of Jesus: “If you knew the gift of God...” If you knew—simply reflects Jesus' deep desire for the woman, but also for you in me to open up to this relationship with him. We should trust that Jesus knew this woman better than she knew herself, and that Jesus himself desired new life for her. Her choice to hide or avoid the community by going to the well when she did (at the least opportune time of day), reveals that it is not above Jesus to go to those places we would rather not go, or to see that which we would not want him to see. Yet to these spaces of regret, or possibly shame, is what invites the thirst of Jesus. The thirst for her heart, drawing her deeper into knowledge of him opened her up to receive a transformative encounter, a life-giving encounter that he knew she desperately needed. Much like water that quenches our thirst when we are most desperate for it, so too should we expect that if we are open to it, a deep encounter with Jesus can restore us to life and renew our hope.

Jesus to Mother Teresa, in her Thirst Meditation (I leave you a simple part of it, you should go and receive the whole thing!): *“I THIRST FOR YOU. All I ask of you is that you entrust yourself to Me completely. I will do all the rest. From this moment, now, I behold the place My Father has prepared for you in My Kingdom. Remember that you are a pilgrim in this life traveling back home. Sin can never satisfy you, or bring the peace you seek. All that you have sought outside of Me has only left you more empty, so do not tie yourself to the things of this world; above all, do not run from Me when you fall. Come to Me without delay because, when you give Me your sins, you give Me the joy of being your Savior. There is nothing I cannot forgive and heal; so come now, and unburden your soul. No matter how far you have strayed without a destination, no matter how often you have forgotten Me, no matter how many crosses you bear in this life; I want you to always remember, one thing that will never change. I THIRST FOR YOU.”*



Religious Education Announcements

Our Religious Education program is nearing the end of the 2025-2026 year. There are only 8 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 8, 2026

Ashley Crisafulli

Lector - March 15, 2026

Chet Wisniewski

Eucharistic Ministry

Center

Mary's Side

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



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 8, 2026 - Antonio McLaughlin - Mother
 Michael Butwin - Mary Regina
 Vincenzo & Angela Abbatiello - The Family
March 15, 2026 - Steve Taddeo - The Family
 The Emm Family - The Estate
 Leonardo Sanzoni - The Family

Offering Envelopes **Sacrificial Giving**
 Collection March 1st: \$4,579.00

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of
Hanna P. Markert
 Requested by The Family




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. Anyone who would like to lead please call the rectory.

Virtues Explained
Mercy
 “And what does the Lord require of you? Only this: to do what is right, to show mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)



But what does it mean to show true mercy?
 God’s mercy to us knows no bounds, but that mercy does not compel Him to grant us everything our appetitive passions desire. God’s perfect mercy could never allow for something that would harm His children. A father whose child has a toothache cannot, out of mercy, give the child the candy he wants, no matter how the tears of the child grieve the father’s heart. The father can, and should, surround the child with love and sympathy, and help him to remedy the problem that lies at the heart of his grief. This is true virtuous mercy — a choice governed by reason, not merely an emotion. ©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!



Reflect: Readings and Gospel
1st Reading Question: God answers Moses’ prayer of petition to give the Israelites water to drink before they die of thirst in the desert. What would you like to ask from the Lord in the upcoming week?
2nd Reading Question: Paul tells the Romans to have hope because the Holy Spirit pours the love of God into our hearts. What are you hoping for this Lent?
Gospel Question: The Samaritan woman eventually comes to believe in Jesus as the Messiah and savior of the world. What convinces you that Jesus is your Lord and Savior? ©LPi

A Family Perspective
Family Life Education



Our children are like the Samaritan woman in today’s Gospel. They need more than material things. They need the “living water” only the adults can give. It will teach them how to make decisions, take responsibility, respect themselves and others and live their commitments. With this “living water” they will “never thirst.”



Pray For Vocations
 The woman at the well was seeking more than the well could offer. Is there a desire on your heart which the world cannot satisfy? How is the Lord inviting you to draw closer to Him? Perhaps as a religious sister or brother, priest, or deacon? Email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram [@vocationssyracuse](https://www.instagram.com/vocationssyracuse).

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

