

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

April 12, 2026



*For the sake of
His sorrowful Passion, have mercy
on us and on the whole world.*

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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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.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.

**"DIVINE MERCY,
SWEET RELIEF FOR
ANGUISHED HEARTS,
I TRUST IN YOU."**

SAINT FAUSTINA



©LPI



From Fr. Brendan Foley

Blessed Easter once again to you all! Very grateful for your prayerful accompaniment through the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Many thanks to all who have helped prepare our worship spaces and our beautiful liturgies—may our hearts now and always be ‘overcome with Easter joy’ as the Mass prays for the next 50 or so days...

The Second Sunday of Easter is fondly known as Sunday of Divine Mercy. Certainly we can recall the devotion to and chaplet of Divine Mercy that Jesus gave us through St. Faustina, but we also see before our eyes today that Divine Mercy—or God being deeply merciful—is not just an *attribute* that belongs to God, but really is the very nature of God, the essence of God. Consider the moment that Jesus first appears to the apostles...the last interaction prior that Jesus would have had was a moment where the apostles scattered in fear. They abandoned Jesus in his greatest moment of need. While easily we could expect that when once he returns victorious, vengeance would be sought. Not so with Jesus. His very first words to them are **“Peace.”**

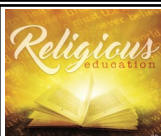
Peace, however, in this context is not simply an absence of conflict, but rather it stems from the breath of Jesus’ life. If we desire to be transformed by true peace that isn’t fleeting, it must come to us through Jesus, through the gift of the Holy Spirit.. Jesus is not competing with us, nor is he trying to hide or withhold the gift of his life, his peace, his mercy—he makes these readily available to whoever sincerely seeks them in the Sacraments. As we see with Thomas today, transformative encounters with mercy produce faith and trust. There actually is no scriptural detail that says Thomas *did* touch the wounds of Christ...it could very well be that just by Jesus’ patience with him could be enough evidence of mercy to heal, and Jesus’ willingness to invite Thomas to touch his wounds was **enough**. He might not have needed anything more than that.

Remember, too, from the vivid passion narrative...the side of Jesus being pierced, and pouring forth ‘blood and water’ from his heart. This image of blood and water flowing would have immediately evoked the image of what regularly would happen in the Jerusalem temple. With all the animal sacrifices, the side of the temple would pour forth blood and water as it was cleaned after the offerings. It was seen as a river of mercy flowing down through the street into the larger body of water. We know that Jesus himself was the embodiment of the Temple, that with the destruction of his body, in three days it would be raised up. If from Jesus’ side blood and water poured forth in mercy like the fulfillment of the temple, how amazing is it to think that where Jesus calls forward the touch of faith for Thomas to come to believe is in the *very place and source* where the river of mercy now sacramentally pours forth—Jesus’ pierced and now resurrected side!

Now we should consider our call to live as instruments of this divine mercy, and as members of His body, the Church, are reminded that the Church is born from Jesus’ side on the cross—not unlike how Eve was created from the rib or side of Adam. We are created for a deep intimacy and oneness with the Lord, and this comes to fulfillment and to be embodied in us the more and more that we choose to respond to the Lord’s mercy and live in the refuge of his most sacred heart. Consider his words to St. Faustina, and ask, what would happen in my life if I became an instrument of Jesus’ mercy? What would change? How might my presence among my friends and family take on a new level of love?

Just a sampling of Jesus’ words to Faustina (below)...how amazing his mercy! Let’s not take it for granted, but entrust ourselves humbly to it!

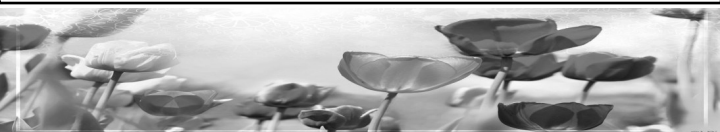
- “Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy.”
 - “My daughter [Faustina], write that the greater the misery of a soul, the greater its right to My mercy; [urge] all souls to trust in the unfathomable abyss of My mercy, because I want to save them all...The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy. My mercy is confirmed in every work of My hands. He who trusts in My mercy will not perish, for all his affairs are Mine, and his enemies will be shattered at the base of My footstool.”
 - “I desire trust from My creatures. Encourage souls to place great trust in My fathomless mercy. Let the weak, sinful soul have no fear to approach Me, for even if it had more sins than there are grains of sand in the world, all would be drowned in the unmeasurable depths of My mercy.”
 - “Tell [all people], My daughter, that I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls.”
- “I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: ‘Jesus, I trust in You.’”



Religious Education Announcements

Religious Ed classes resume this week. Our Religious Education program is nearing the end of the 2025-2026 year. There are only 5 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 - April 12, 2026

Pat Minnoe

Lector - April 19, 2026

Lisa Johnson

Eucharistic Ministry

April 12

April 19

April 26

Center

Karen Fekete

Cathy Horton

Mary Beth Cusano

Mary’s Side

Mary Beth Cusano


Larry Argiro

Dave William




2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER







9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT
April 12, 2026 - Francis Galimi - Twin Brother
 Domenico Tropepi - Wife, Maria
 Frank Crisalli, III - The Family
 Antonio & Concetta Ruggeri - Daughter, Maria
April 19, 2026 - Rosalie Emm - The Estate
 Grazia Mucci - The Family
 Antonio McLaughlin - Mother
 Roseanne Dedell - Mary Regina
 Adelaide Bleskoski - The Family



3rd Banns of Marriage
John Barraco & Victoria Fontana


Sacrificial Giving
 Collection March 29th: \$2,417.00
 Collection April 5th: \$3,369.00
 Easter Collection: \$ 3,272.00

Virtues Explained
Fortitude
 “When you go out to war against your enemies and you see horses and chariots and an army greater than your own, you shall not be afraid of them,” we read in Deuteronomy 20:1. “For the Lord, your God... will be with you.”

The virtue of fortitude actually requires, first and foremost, the feeling of fear. In order to grow in fortitude, one must face a thing which frightens him; in that way, it is distinct from patience and perseverance. Christ shows perfect fortitude as he endures his Passion and death, of which he was indeed afraid; it is likewise shown by martyrs. But fortitude doesn’t require a cinematic battle. Fortitude can be shown by someone who is afraid of losing his job or of being in bodily danger simply for adhering to the laws of God. What is important is that the courage shown is *in pursuit of the good*, not just bearing with an attack. ©LPi

Divine Mercy Sunday
Question:
 Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?



Answer:
 If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God. St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young women, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come.”
 ©LPi




Pot Luck Dinner
 Our parish Pot Luck Dinner is Saturday, April 18th in the parish center from 4:00-6:00pm. Bring a dish to share and, if possible, donate a scratch off lottery to be used at our International Food Festival in October. Remember it’s a pot luck. We will not keep a list on what will be shared.

Listening Session
 After the dinner is done, we will have a “Listening Session” with Fr. Foley to start by 6:15pm. You may only come for this session if you choose. During this session Fr. will “listen” to what your questions, concerns and ideas are for SJB/HT. No immediate answers will be shared. Refreshments provided.


Reflect: Readings and Gospel

1st Reading: In the immediate aftermath of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, the community of believers in Jerusalem experienced much joy and harmony. In what ways do you help build up your faith community?




2nd Reading: With Jesus’ resurrection from the dead, Peter can now speak of an inheritance that awaits all believers and will one day be revealed to us. How should knowledge of this upcoming gift impact our living in the present moment?

Gospel Reading: Thomas needed concrete evidence before he would believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. What convinces you that Jesus is risen and alive? ©LPi




A Family Perspective
Family Life Education
 “Whose sins you forgive, are forgiven” means the grudges we carry only make us miserable. The Kingdom of God begins in your home where children learn the paths to peace promised in today’s Gospel through merciful and forgiving demonstrations by their parents.



Baskets & Bites
 OLP/SP Parish is hosting their annual Basket Bonanza and Taste of Pompei (all in one great event) Saturday April 25th at 5:00pm in the School Cafeteria. Tickets are on sale after all masses at OLP/SP or in the parish office 315-422-7163 or call Lucy 315-345-0562 or Colleen 315-427-6474. Tickets are \$10.00 each which includes 2 free raffle tickets.

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.**