

**Sunday Masses**  
7:30, 9:00 and 10:30am  
12 Noon and 5:30pm  
*Saturday Vigil at 5:30pm*

**Monday thru Friday Masses**  
7:00 and 8:15am  
12:10 and 5:30pm  
**Saturday Masses**  
8:15am and 12:10pm

**Sacrament of Penance**  
*Monday thru Friday:*  
11:30am to 12 Noon  
5:00 to 5:25pm  
*Saturday:*  
11:30am to 12 Noon  
4:30 to 5:25pm

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
*Every Friday*  
8:45am to Noon  
12:45 to 5:00pm  
*Benediction: 5:00pm*

**Baptisms and Marriages**  
By appointment

**Visitation of the Sick**  
Upon request

**Miraculous Medal Novena**  
*Monday:*  
Following the 12:10 and 5:30pm  
Masses

**Rosary**  
*Monday and Wednesday:*  
Following the 5:30pm Mass

**Parish House Office Hours**  
*Monday thru Friday:*  
9:00am to 12 Noon  
1:00pm to 5:00pm

**Music Director**  
*Kathleen Martin*  
Choir Rehearsal:  
Thursday at 7:00pm (*September thru June*)

**Wheelchair Accessible**  
Entrance on 1011 First Avenue 

August 26, 2018

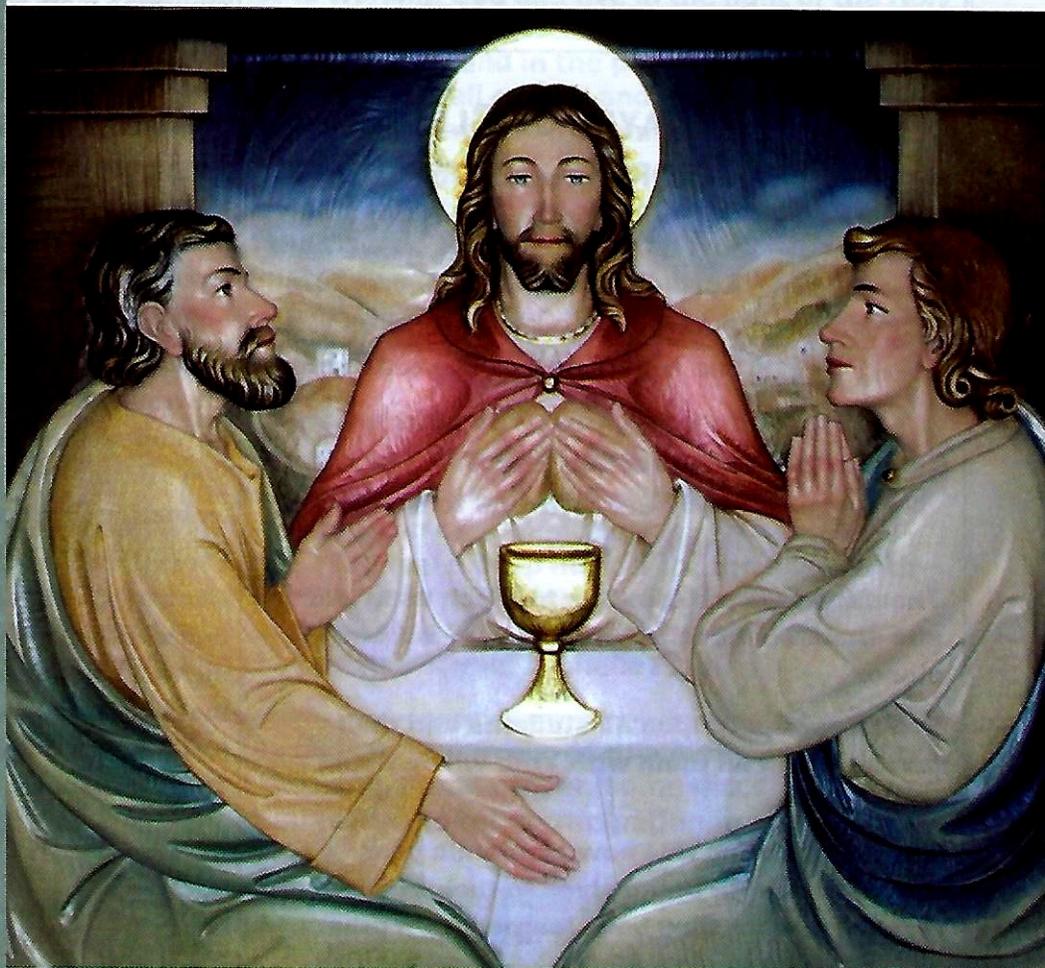
# *Saint John* *the Evangelist -* *Our Lady of Peace* *Catholic Church*

*On the Corner of East 55th Street and First Avenue*

**Reverend Monsignor Douglas J. Mathers, JD, JCD, Pastor**  
**Reverend Antony R. Alfred, Parochial Vicar**

Parish House: 348 East 55th Street - New York, New York 10022  
1 212 753-8418 1 212 753-8419 Fax 1 212 826-1848

*E Mail: churchofstjohn@cs.com*



*The Supper at Emmaus Sculpture*

NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WELCOME

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**LABOR DAY**



**Holiday Mass Schedule**

**8:15am & 12:10pm**

**No 7:00am & No 5:30pm Mass**



**The Parish House Office will be closed.**  
**In an emergency, please call us**  
**1.212.753.8418**



**PRAYER OF BLESSING  
FOR STUDENTS AND  
TEACHERS**

**Lord our God, in Your wisdom  
and love, You surround us with  
the mysteries of the universe.**

**In times past You sent us Your  
prophets to teach Your laws  
and bear witness to Your  
undying love.**

**Then You sent us Your Son to teach us by word  
and example that true wisdom comes from You  
alone.**

**Send Your Spirit upon all students and their  
teachers and fill them with Your wisdom and  
blessings.**

**Grant that during this new academic year  
they may devote themselves to their studies  
and share what they have learned from others.**

**Grant this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.**

**—Book of Blessings.**



*The Sanctuary Lamp*

The Sanctuary Lamp near our  
Tabernacle burns this week

**IN THANKSGIVING**



**ACCEPTING  
PAIN**

**M**ichaelangelo's famous statue, *The Pietà*, finished before he turned twenty-four, expresses a theme most people don't enjoy seeing in art: death. Worse still, it recalls the torturous death of a crucified Son held by His mourning mother. Knowing this, the image is horrific. Yet Michaelangelo's artistic approach to this subject is revolutionary. Rather than directly representing death, his statue is a meditation on it. Instead of showing the Virgin in the moment of extreme anguish, the normal strategy to achieve pity in the onlooker, the master shows Mary's inner and humble acceptance of this heart-wrenching moment.

She doesn't fight or run from the pain in rebellious screams. Her teeth aren't clenched, her brow is unwrinkled, her eyes aren't filled with tears imploring upward seeking to understand the reason or logic for her Son's death. She merely sits in the painful moment embracing the Son and abandoning her sorrow to the Father Who permitted it.

Her hands reveal her attitude. One holds her Son firmly under His arm. She pulls Him close to her, sustaining the weight of the mystery. She absorbs and doesn't flee the moment. Remaining in the pain, she endures the cost of our Redemption, expressing her Fiat again, in silence: "Let it be done to me according to Your word."

Her other hand tilts toward us, open. She is letting go, giving over! She knows this Child in her arms was never only hers, but everyone's. So Mary invites you to grasp her open hand, join her pain, and do your part to take up our own cross and follow Jesus.

—Father Mark Haydu

## **Part II—For Catholics**

### **Who Have Been “Away” from the Church**

*(This continues the list of the Top Ten Reasons people return to the practice of their Catholic Faith)*

**NUMBER 5: BECAUSE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAS THE FULLNESS OF TRUTH & GRACE.**

When you leave the Church, you may start to worship with other Christian denominations. But you may return when you realize that only the Catholic Church has the fullness of truth and grace. The Church was not founded by a single reformer or historical movement. It is not fragmented by individual interpretation of Scripture. There are thousands of Christian denominations, but only one Catholic Church, guided and protected by the Holy Spirit from teaching error on issues of faith and morals for over 2,000 years.

**NUMBER 4: BECAUSE YOU WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO HAVE A FOUNDATION IN FAITH.**

You may return to the Church because you recognize that raising children in a culture that promotes “doing your own thing” can lead to disaster. Children need to experience a spiritual dimensions in life. They need a structured system of belief and a firm moral foundation that goes beyond popular opinion, scientific truth and human logic. You return because you want a solid foundation upon which your children can build their lives, now and forever.

**NUMBER 3: BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BE PART OF A FAITH COMMUNITY.**

Like many people, you seek a sense of belonging. But real faith community is more than just friendly people, good sermons and interesting activities. The Catholic Community is a group of people who gather around the person of Jesus Christ to worship God and live in the light of the Holy Spirit. They come together at Mass, in the Sacraments, and in parish activities. They pray together, celebrate joys and mourn together losses, serve others together, and in the process receive strength and support for their daily life. A Catholic Parish offers all of this, and much more, to people who recognize the importance of walking in faith with others and in union with God.

**NUMBER 2: BECAUSE YOU WANT TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE.**

There are lots of opportunities within the secular world to volunteer. This kind of service doesn't give you the *spiritual dimension* that service within the Church provides. Church work is more than just a “feel good” activity. It's part of the *Great Commandment* “to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself.” In reaching out to others as a Catholic volunteer, you become an “instrument of God's peace.” The Church offers you opportunities to touch the lives of people at home or around the world.

**NUMBER 1: BECAUSE YOU HUNGER FOR THE EUCHARIST.**

The Eucharist is the number one reason people come back to the Church. When you're away, you're drawn back to the Church because you feel an intense longing for Holy Communion. Sometimes it happens at a wedding, a funeral, a baptism, a First Communion or a Confirmation. Sometimes it happens when you're alone or facing difficulties in life. You feel a deep hunger for the union with Jesus and the spiritual nourishment you receive in the Eucharist. This hunger for the Eucharist helps you recognize the Presence of Jesus in other sacraments and in the teaching and work of the Church. All this draws you even more deeply into the practice of your Catholic Faith.

Most people discover that coming back to the Church is not an event as much as it is a process that involves a little pain, a little laughter, some thinking, some prayer, some discernment and a lot of letting go. One person admitted, “My actual return to full participation in a parish took about three years after I felt the first longing!”

And what do you get in return? The Catholic Church gives you a blessed union with Jesus: in Scripture, in prayer, in the community of believers, in the Gospel, in the Eucharist, in the other Sacraments, and in the common work for the good of all people.

**Come home! The Church needs the special gifts God has given uniquely to you. Imagine what coming home will do for you and those you love!**

# dear Padre

## What can I do about neglectful God-Parents?

*The people I choose to be my child's godparents are making no attempt to build a special relationship with her. I've talked to them about it, but it didn't help. Is it possible to replace them?*

When my niece Hayley was five, she asked me to be her "step"-godfather because she didn't know who her godfather was. The family friend my sister invited to be Hayley's godfather moved out of state and seems to have forgotten that Hayley is his godchild.

Godparents have responsibilities beyond Baptism Day. The *Code of Canon Law* says a godparent also "helps the Baptized person to lead a Catholic life in keeping with Baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it" (872). A godparent should be present for the child's First Communion and Confirmation and should encourage the child to live a good Catholic life as he or she grows older.

Unfortunately, parents can't "fire" neglectful godparents and replace them, but neither are parents limited to asking only two godparents to help their child grow in the Faith. Parents can—and should—ask others to help support their child's faith development as he or she grows up: a parishioner, a grandparent, or a friend in the town where your child has gone away to college. After all, children are baptized into a community of believers, and we all have responsibility to help children—and one another to lead good Catholic lives.

—Father Patrick Keyes, CSSR



## Mass Intentions

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 2018**

5:30pm +Alice Harvey (Vigil)

## **THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2018**

7:30am For Our Parishioners  
9:00am +Marie Louise Andrei  
10:30am Intentions of Maureen Remsen, Healing  
12:00pm +Benedicto & Irene Valdez  
5:30pm +Gail R. Schipski

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2018 ST. MONICA**

7:00am +Lucille Choquette  
8:15am +Dominador Kiamzon  
12:10pm +John W. Kelliher  
5:30pm Intentions of Elizabeth & George Ehrhardt

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2018 ST. AUGUSTINE**

7:00am Intentions of Marie Colwell, Healing  
8:15am In Thanksgiving  
12:10pm +Augustine Ilogon  
5:30pm +Margo & Douglas Coldwell

## **THE PASSION OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018**

7:00am +Ethel Talabovich  
8:15am +Juan Yto  
12:10pm +Joseph Loughlin  
5:30pm +Francis Steven Valdivia

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018**

7:00am +Marie Germaine Theriault  
8:15am +Lucille Choquette  
12:10pm +Marion Foetsch  
5:30pm Intentions of Robert Aldrich, Healing

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 31, 2018**

7:00am +Marie Louise Andrei  
8:15am +Gail R. Schipski  
12:10pm +Msgr. Charles Roselli  
5:30pm +Rose & Andrew Gull

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION**

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2018 FIRST SATURDAY**

8:15am +Mary D'Angelo  
12:10pm +Msgr. Charles Roselli  
5:30pm +Ernesto G. Legaspi (Vigil for Sunday Mass)

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

**2018 THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY \$6,631**  
**2017 THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY \$6,067**

*THANK YOU! WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO USE OUR ENVELOPE SYSTEM. LET US KNOW IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OFFERING ENVELOPES THROUGH THE MAIL.*

## Prayer Requests

**FOR OUR SICK: SABRINA BERTUCCI, MURIEL BRAIND, MARY GOLDSTEIN**

**FOR OUR DECEASED: SUSAN BIGOT-CAHILL, PATRICIA KELLER, BROOKS KERR**

Please call the Parish House to have a Parishioner's name placed on this list. Check to see if someone who is ill consents to having their name published. We only publish the names of recently deceased.