

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Daniel Ulloa, O.P., Rev. Mathew Biby

Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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Palm Sunday
April 5, 2020

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School
(914) 965-2356

Principal
Sister Maryalice Reamer, R.D.C.

Religious Education
(914) 965-2338

Director
Mrs. Angela Minchilli

Director of Music & Organist
John Stufano

Masses
Saturday Vigil:
5:00 p.m.

Sunday:
8:00, 9:30,
11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday:
8:00 a.m. & 12:00 noon

Saturday:
8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance
Saturday:
4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage
Make arrangements six months
prior to wedding

Sacrament of Baptism
Every Sunday
after the 12:30 Mass

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 5, 2020

A Holy Week like No Other

This year will be seared in the memories of all of us who are blessed to be able to live through it. Our long Good Friday – a period without Mass, without the sacraments – and even without the Holy Eucharist – began in mid-March when the Archdiocese of New York – acting in response to official government directives – announced that all public religious celebrations – including Mass, Benediction, Stations of the Cross – were cancelled until further notice. That cancellation will extend through Easter. How far beyond we do not know as we are preparing this Palm Sunday “bulletin.”

At St. John’s on Palm Sunday we will have no public liturgy, but we will make blessed palm available for any parishioners on tables at the Yonkers Avenue and Chapel (St. John’s) entrances on the following schedule:

Saturday, April 4th: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and **Sunday, April 5th: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

We will also have a small number of missalettes available to take home so you can follow the prayers and scripture readings of Holy Week. Since our supply is very limited, we ask that they be taken only if you do not have a missal at home; in addition, we ask you to limit them to one per family.

We also have Easter envelopes available and ask all our parishioners to make a special sacrifice for St. John’s at Easter. God bless you. Let us pray for an end to this health crisis; let us pray for those who are sick and those who care for the sick; and let us pray for each other!

PALM SUNDAY

Today we walk in spirit with Jesus as He enters Jerusalem whose streets are lined with cheering people welcoming Him as the Messiah. Later on, perhaps reading St. Mathew’s account of the Passion, we pray with Jesus during His Agony in the Garden. We then watch as Judas betrays Him with a kiss – and are reminded of our own betrayals. We listen as Peter denies the Lord three times – and realize we cannot count the number of times we have denied Him. Finally we hear the words of forgiveness He speaks from the cross only moments before His agony comes to an end and He gives Himself up to death so that we might be saved.

EASTER TRIDUUM

The Triduum of Christ’s passion and resurrection is a solemn celebration that continues for three days – Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday. The Triduum begins with the Mass of Our Lord’s Supper and closes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday. Each day tells a different part of the story of Jesus and our salvation. There are rituals that take place which happen at no other time. The Easter Triduum is the culmination of the entire liturgical year.

HOLY THURSDAY

Lent ends at dusk on Holy Thursday and the Triduum begins with the Mass of Our Lord’s Supper, which is always in the evening. It commemorates the day Jesus instituted the Most Holy Eucharist and the priesthood and washed the feet of His disciples.

GOOD FRIDAY

This solemn day honors the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. The story of Christ’s passion is told. There is the ancient tradition of the veneration of the cross and Holy Communion. Prayers are offered for the entire world. It is a day of fast and abstinence.

EASTER VIGIL/HOLY SATURDAY

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is proclaimed and celebrated. A fire is created from which the Easter Candle is lit signifying that Christ is the light of the world. The reading of Holy Scripture tells of the long history of salvation beginning with Creation. New members are received into the Church. The Church rejoices in her risen Lord.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

5:00 p.m. Deceased members of the Mullin Family

Sunday, April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of St. John the Baptist

9:30 a.m. Rev. Paddy, Sara and Tony Tuffy

11:00 a.m. R.A.S./H.N.S

12:30 p.m. Christopher Michael Stewart

Monday, April 6, 2020

8:00 a.m. Antonio Manzo – 6th Anniversary

12:00 noon Ita Kelly

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

8:00 a.m. Peter and Helen Duggan

12:00 noon Deceased members of the Suzzi Valli Family

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

8:00 a.m. Angelina Lagana

12:00 noon Patrick Halpin

Mass on T.V.: St. Patrick's Cathedral will be broadcasting Holy Week Services – if you have access to a computer, you can discover the times they will be broadcast. EWTN is a Catholic TV station that also broadcasts Masses and Services throughout the day. There are other cable networks that do the same. Cardinal Dolan will be celebrating Mass on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m. on channel 11 (WPIX). It would be a wonderful way to join yourself to the Church's liturgy at this difficult time.

Confession and Contrition: Many Catholics are very conscientious about completing what we used to call our "Easter duty" – the practice of going to confession at least once before Easter – even if we were not guilty of serious sin. During this time – when access to the sacraments, including the Sacrament of Penance is difficult, if not impossible – we should remember that we can avail ourselves of the Church's grace through an act of "perfect contrition." A Catholic who is sorry for his or her sins and who makes a commitment to receive the sacrament when possible should say an Act of Contrition, using words like these:

"My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin."

Prayer for Spiritual Communion: Although we may not be able to attend Mass or receive the Eucharist, we can all pray daily a simple prayer that will unite us with Jesus in the Holy Eucharist:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. I adore You! I love You! Please, come into my heart, I pray! Amen!

Prayers and Private Masses: At St. John's the priests and deacons are praying for all our parishioners during this difficult time. Msgr. Maloney, Fr. Ulloa and our resident priest, Fr. Mathew, have been celebrating Mass daily – so that we may fulfill the intentions that our parishioners have made. Although we cannot be united physically around the altar of St. John the Baptist, our family can be joined spiritually.

Practical Matters: The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Even though we will not gather physically for Mass, please continue to give via WeShare (go to sjbyonkers.org – look for "online Donations" on the title page) or by bringing or mailing your contribution to our rectory office.

These are truly unprecedented times for us all, but we, in faith, will make it through this period of trial by continuing to trust in the Lord and turn to Him in prayer. We will try to keep you updated via our parish connection points: the Parish Office at 914-963-1486 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday to Friday, and the parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org).

May Holy Mary, Health of the Sick and Mother of the Church, pray for all of us!