

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

670 Yonkers Ave.
Yonkers, NY 10704
www.sjbyonkers.org

Pentecost
May 23, 2021

Tel: (914) 963-1486
Fax: (914) 375-1115
stjohnsp@optonline.net



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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:
8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
12:30 p.m.

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

Saturday:
8:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of
Penance**
By appointment only

**Sacrament of
Marriage**
Make arrangements six months
prior to wedding

**Sacrament of
Baptism**
Every Sunday
after the 12:30 Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 22, 2021

Vigil: Feast of the Pentecost

5:00 p.m. Virginia De Lucci

Sunday, May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

8:30 a.m. Settimia Soprano and Nancy Rubbo

10:30 a.m. Lucia and Martino Olivieri

12:30 p.m. Vincent Gabbamonte

Monday, May 24, 2021

Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary,

Mother of the Church

8:00 a.m. Anthony DiPaola

12:00 noon Carol Ciardullo – 1st Anniversary

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Feast of St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope;

St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin

8:00 a.m. Edna McEvoy

12:00 noon Carol Neshewat -- Birthday

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

Feast of St. Philip Neri, Priest

8:00 a.m. Maddalena Iemma

12:00 Noon Joseph Zanolunghi

Thursday, May 27, 2021

Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Marge Murphy

12:00 noon Joseph Cornyn

Friday, May 28, 2021

8:00 a.m. Assunta Petrozza

12:00 noon Daniel O'Connor

Saturday, May 29, 2021

Feast of St. Paul, VI, Pope

8:30 a.m. Antonio Ricciardi

Saturday, May 29, 2021

Vigil: The Most Holy Trinity

5:00 p.m. Sr. Mary Edward Zipf

Sunday, May 30, 2021

The Most Holy Trinity

8:30 a.m. Lorraine and Edward Swatowy

10:30 a.m. Joseph Barberi

12:30 p.m. Marguerite and Anthony

Longinetti

WEDDING BANNES

II. Kevin Mahoney and Carly Callaghan

Calling All Eucharistic Ministers: We have decided to begin asking our Eucharistic Ministers to return to their special ministry of assisting us with the distribution of Holy Communion at our Sunday and weekday Masses. We will be doing this on a limited basis at first – and then if the grip of Covid-19 cases and the current restrictions loosen, we may not be so limited. For now if you are already a trained Eucharistic Minister – **and if you have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19** – and you wish to return to your former ministry, please contact the rectory to indicate your willingness to participate. At that time, please let us know the Masses you would be available for: weekend: 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil; Sunday: 8:30; 10:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. and/or weekday (Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon). It will make it easier if you can give us more than one choice. Naturally, all our ministers of the Eucharist must follow the usual protocols of wearing a mask and sanitizing before and after distribution. We are most grateful for your help!

Religious Education Program: I.) 2021 - 2022 registration for families whose children are currently in the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program has begun. Registration forms were given out to the children on Wednesday, March 25th. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials. II.) 2021-2022 registration for **new families** for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program will begin on Tuesday, June 1st. To obtain a New Family Registration Form (for your child): please email Stjohnthebaptistred@gmail.com. When completing the registration, a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate will be necessary; families must, of course, be members of our parish. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials.

Advanced Planning: May 31st, a week from this Monday, is Memorial Day, a national holiday. On that day we will **NOT** have a 12:00 noon Mass. We will have one Mass at 8:30 a.m. In addition to our announced intentions, we will be praying not only for our war dead, but for the men and women who are in the military services and who put their lives on the line for our freedoms. May God bless America! In addition, our school and parish offices will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday.

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 23, 2021

PENTECOST SUNDAY: Today's feast marks the end of the great fifty days of Easter and commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's abiding presence in the Church. The first disciples of Jesus didn't have to cope with the negativity and pessimism of most of our 24/7 news media. They didn't have to cope with a global pandemic and a once roaring economy struggling to get back to "normal." They had to deal with a social environment that was toxic to everything they believed. They were afraid – and so they locked their doors to shut out the world. The first Christians were like us to this degree: they were anxious, they were fearful, they were isolated and completely confused about the future.

We know what happened on Pentecost. The Holy Spirit broke in on those frightened and confused disciples who were huddled and hiding behind locked doors. The Holy Spirit arrived – with a deafening noise and a roaring fire. The Holy Spirit threw open the doors and smashed the windows and sent those anxious disciples out into the streets of Jerusalem.

Today's first reading (Acts 2:1-11) is St. Luke's narrative of the events of the first Pentecost and it is filled with vivid symbolism and mystical signs. The tongues of fire embolden the disciples, preparing them to deliver passionate sermons about Jesus and His message. The miraculous overcoming of language barriers reverses Babel, and foreshadows the spread of this new belief throughout all the nations of the earth. Truly we can exclaim with the psalmist, "Lord send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth."

In today's second reading (1Cor. 12:3-13), Paul warns the Corinthians not to take any personal credit for the Spirit's gifts. Whatever talents we have been given by God are for the benefit of the whole community. The Spirit wipes out superficial human differences and makes us all one in Christ. The real credit for our gifts, ministries and work goes to "the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone."

St. John's description of the spirit in today's Gospel (Jn. 20:19-23) is simpler than the one we find in the Acts of the Apostles. St. John tells us that Jesus "breathed on" His disciples, an echo of Genesis 1, where God's spirit is described as the animating principle of all creation.

So, the Easter season ends and we prepare once again to enter a period of "ordinary time." But this is only right and fitting. No human life is spent completely in the valley of Good Friday or on the mount of the Ascension. Most of the time we are somewhere between those two extremes, the plain of everyday life in Christ.

SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, May 24th – Mary, Mother of the Church

In 2018 Pope Francis instituted this annual feast to be celebrated on the Monday after Pentecost Sunday.

It honors Mary – not as the Mother of God (celebrated on January 1st), but as Mother of the Church – the Mystical Body of Christ. Now her motherly care extends beyond her own son – to all the sons and daughters who acknowledge her Son as Savior and Lord.

Tuesday, May 25th – St. Bede

Born in England in 673, Bede entered a monastery shortly after completing his education. He spent most of his life teaching and writing; his master work, "Ecclesiastical History of the English People" is a classic and earned him the title "Father of English History." More important was his well-deserved reputation for holiness; even during his lifetime he was referred to as "Venerable Bede".

Wednesday, May 26th – St. Philip Neri

Philip was born in Florence, Italy in 1515, but he is forever associated with Rome because he spent most of his adult life ministering there. He worked conscientiously among the poor and young people; he formed an "Oratory" where spiritual reading, prayer, singing, and works of practical charity were encouraged. Philip was noted for his joyful ministry and personal holiness.

Thursday, May 27th – St. Augustine of Canterbury

Although he is overshadowed in Church history by the great philosopher and theologian in the 4th century, St. Augustine of Hippo, this 6th century Augustine led a small group of monks to evangelize the people (Anglo-Saxons) in England. St. Augustine worked hard to integrate and purify pagan customs so they might be adapted to Christian tradition. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury and is known as the "Apostle of England."

Saturday, May 29th – St. Paul VI

Giovanni Montini was appointed Archbishop of Milan in 1954 after many years of service as a parish priest, a Vatican diplomat and an adviser to Pope Pius XII as Secretary of State. After Pope John XXIII died in 1963, there was little doubt that the Archbishop of Milan would become the next Pontiff. He took the name of Paul VI and like the first Paul, Paul VI became a modern missionary. He was the first Pope to travel to other continents – and the first Pope to visit the United States.

Practical Matters:

1. The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Parishioners may contribute 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 or dropping it into one of the baskets in church on Sunday.
2. Our parish office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
3. Please consult our parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org) for updates on parish events and activities.

Second Collection: In order to limit the interaction between ushers and parishioners at Mass, we will eliminate second collections until further notice. The ushers will pass the baskets only once – at the usual time. If a second collection has been scheduled, we ask envelope users to place both envelopes for that Sunday in the collection basket – and we ask everyone to be as generous as their means permit.

Sacrament of Penance: Because of continuing Covid-19 restrictions we are still unable to use our confessionals for this sacrament. If you wish to receive the sacrament, please call the rectory to make an appointment. In addition on one Saturday of each month we will have a Penance Service at 4:00 p.m. in the church at which we will provide the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Our next service will on Saturday, June 19th.**

Honor Thy Father: This year father’s Day falls on Sunday, June 20th. This is a day to honor all fathers – living and dead. This is a day to express our thanks for all they have done for us. It is a day to tell them how much we love them and to ask for their prayers even as we assure them of ours. For those fathers who have gone before us into the fullness of life with God, we give thanks to God for them as we recall their memories this day. On Father’s Day we begin a Triduum of Masses for those fathers whose names are enrolled with us. Special Father’s Day cards and envelopes are available at the exits of the Church or in our rectory office. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket. Let us pray that Joseph, the father of Jesus, will bless all fathers.

S.J.B. School Registration: School Registration for September 2021 began in January. Students for the Pre-K must be 4 years old by December 1, 2021. For more information, please call Mrs. Sanchez at 914-965-2356.

Summer Theology Courses: Our neighbors “up the hill” at St. Joseph’s Seminary will be offering classes on various aspects of the Catholic faith to interested Catholics – either in person or (via zoom) to any location – even your home! Classes run from June 1st – July 14th with 50% off tuition for new students. For more information: www.dunwoodie.edu.

Lincoln H.S. Class of 1981: This June will be 40 years since we graduated from LHS. We are trying to put together a list of all classmates. Email Lori Albanese at lori310@aol.com so we can get you on our list. With Covid restrictions, we are going to try for this fall but most likely next spring.

New Parishioners: If you are new to our parish community here at St. John’s we welcome you and invite you to become an active member of our parish – participating in any of the parish societies or organizations which may interest you. Please make sure to register with us. You can find new parishioner registration forms in the back of the church or in the rectory. Once completed, you can give them to one of the priests or ushers – or you may drop them off at the rectory during the week.

A Pentecost Poem
Veni Creator Spiritus

Creator Spirit, by whose aid
The world’s foundations first were laid,
Come visit ev’ry pious mind;
Come pour thy joys on human kind:
From sin, and sorrow set us free;
And make thy temples worthy thee.

O, source of uncreated light,
The Father’s promis’d *Paraclete!*
Thrice holy fount, thrice holy fire,
Our hearts with heav’nly love inspire;
Come, and thy sacred unction bring
To sanctify us, while we sing!

Translation by John Dryden, 1631 - 1701