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Pastoral Associate: Sr. Mary Beth Read, O.S.U.

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Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 26, 2017 Tel: (914) 963-1486 Fax: (914) 375-1115 stjohnsp@optonline.net



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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



Saturday, February 25, 2017

Vigil: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the Deceased Members of the 5:00 p.m.

Locksa and Grotto Families

Sunday, February 26, 2017 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of

St. John the Baptist

9:30 a.m. Rose and George Milder

11:00 a.m. John Nuccio, Sr. Frank Nestor 12:30 p.m.

Monday, February 27, 2017

John Concannon 8:00 a.m. 12:00 noon Falco and Ada DiBiase

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

8:00 a.m. Rosemary D'Addato

12:00 noon Josephine and Salvatore Miceli

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Ash Wednesday

8:00 a.m. John Concannon

9:00 a.m. Prayer Service - No Mass 12:00 noon Daniel J. Harrington - Birthday

4:30 p.m. Prayer Service - No Mass

7:30 p.m. John Nuccio, Sr.

Thursday, March 2, 2017 8:00 a.m.

P. I. Thomas

12:00 noon **David and Mary Flynn**

Friday, March 3, 2017

Feast of St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin 8:00 a.m. **Maigread Costello**

12:00 noon For the Deceased Members of the

DiFabio and Camillo Families

Saturday, March 4, 2017 Feast of St. Casimir

8:00 a.m. **Kathleen Egan Bacchione**

Saturday, March 4, 2017 Vigil: First Sunday of Lent 5:00 p.m. Joseph Vento

Sunday, March 5, 2017 First Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of

St. John the Baptist

9:30 a.m. **Geraldine Purdy -- Anniversary**

11:00 a.m. R.A.S./H.N.S. Mass - Cornelius Gleeson -

4th Anniversary

Edward Makowski – 20th Anniversary 12:30 p.m.

and Ann and Daniel Fama

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 1st

Leisure Club – 10:15 a.m. – lower Church R.E. Grades 1st through 5th -- 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. - School R.E. Grades 6th through 8th -- 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – School

Friday, March 3rd

Leisure Club 1st Friday – 10:15 a.m. – lower Church Lenten Devotion – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 4th

Home School Assoc. Raffles – 5:00 p.m. – exits of the Church

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, February 25th 5:00 p.m. – M. Bello and W. Ferguson

Sunday, February 26th

8:00 a.m. – A. Kocovic and R. Rica 9:30 a.m. – B. Collins and R. Murphy 11:00 a.m. – M. Luby and R. Tuffy 12:30 p.m. – S. Joyce and N. Leo

Saturday, March 4th

5:00 p.m. – M. McCarthy and T. McCarthy

Sunday, March 5th

8:00 a.m. - D. Browne and T. Browne 9:30 a.m. – A. Burke and K. Burke 11:00 a.m. – D. Liberatore and S. Osso 12:30 p.m. – F. Albano and J. Velasquez



In-Pew Sunday: Obviously, the normal Sunday liturgy should not be interrupted except in unusual circumstances. The Cardinal's

annual Stewardship Appeal is such a circumstance - and the officials of the Archdiocese agree, because they have encouraged pastors in the Archdiocese to conduct an "In-Pew" appeal on a weekend in the early stages of the Appeal.

Every parishioner will be invited this weekend to complete one of the pledge envelopes that have been placed in the pews. Even if you have already made a pledge, we ask you to complete this "In-Pew" pledge form and check the appropriate box. Those who have been prayerfully considering a pledge are asked to make a decision today – in the presence of our parish family. No one is asked to write a check or to make a payment today, we will send reminders to everyone after the pledge envelopes are processed. We do urge everyone to make a pledge – not a one-time gift. A pledge is a promise to journey in faith into the future. Your pledge will help us to ensure that the critical pastoral, educational and charitable work of the Archdiocese will continue.

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS February 26, 2017

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Today's liturgy speaks to us about the providential care of God, who loves us as a mother loves her child and who provides for us as a father looks after his family. Today's reading from the prophet Isaiah (Is. 49:14-15) is brief – only two verses! – but it delivers a powerful message: although we (like the Israelites of old) often question whether God has forsaken us, He reassures us with a beautiful comparison: just as no loving mother could forget her child, so God could never forget us – his chosen ones.

The Corinthians – to whom St. Paul writes in today's second reading (1Cor 4:1-5) seem to share some of the doubts of the ancient Israelites, but in time St. Paul insists, all doubts will be resolved – for Christ will reveal all in His own good time.

Finally, in the gospel (Mt. 6:24-34) we continue with another section of Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount. In this passage, Jesus seems to want to put to rest his disciples' worries and anxieties: consider, Jesus tells us, the birds of the air and the flowers of the field – God provides for them; how much more will He care for us? Our Heavenly Father, Jesus assures us, knows what we need. Instead of worrying about trifles, we must "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness."

SPECIAL SAINTS' DAYS THIS WEEK

Friday, March 3rd - St. Katherine Drexel

Born into a very wealthy Philadelphia family in 1858, Katherine grew up in a strongly religious household that believed that with great wealth comes greater responsibility. When she inherited a fortune after her parents' death, Katherine was determined to use her money to help America's poor – especially African American and Indians. She eventually devoted her life to that cause and established a religious order – The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament which built missions, rural schools – and even a university: Xavier University in New Orleans, the first American university for African Americans.

Saturday, March 4th - St. Casimir

Born in Poland in 1458, Casimir was the son of the King of Poland, but Casimir eschewed the trappings of royalty and preferred to live simply, studying, praying and serving the poor. He died of consumption in 1484 before he reached his 24th birthday.



ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday: This Wednesday, March 1st, is the beginning of a solemn day that begins a 40 day period of penance during which we reflect in a special way on the mercy of Almighty God. It is a day of fast and abstinence. Ashes will be distributed after the Gospel at each of our Masses that day. On Ash Wednesday, we will have three Masses: 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m. In addition, there will be two prayer services at 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at which ashes will be both blessed and distributed.



LENT



<u>Lent</u>: is a holy season in our Church's year, it is holy because it calls us in a special way to holiness and encourages us to adopt holy habits of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

<u>Prayer</u>: We should try to attend Mass as often as we can during Lent and pray the Rosary and make the Stations of the Cross (which is publicly celebrated every Friday in Lent during the Eucharistic Holy Hour that begins at 7:30 p.m.)

<u>Almsgiving</u>: We should try to make special sacrifices during Lent – and it is fortunate that the annual Cardinal's Appeal continues throughout Lent so that we have a very practical opportunity to assist the Church's works of charity in New York.

<u>Fasting</u>: We should try to practice some form of self-discipline during Lent – so that we might in some small way identify ourselves with Christ who was crucified for us.

Friday Lenten Devotion: Starting this Friday, March 3rd and on all the remaining Fridays of Lent at 7:30 p.m. there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by Stations of the Cross and a reflection by Fr. Daniel Ulloa, O.P. The evening Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

<u>Lenten Fast and Abstinence</u>: <u>ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAY OF ABSTINENCE</u> -All Catholics above the age of 14 are obliged to abstain from meat on the days of abstinence (unless poor health excuses). Additionally, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are both fast and abstinence. Not only is meat prohibited, but on these two fast days, only one full meal is permitted. Two smaller meals may be taken to maintain strength, but these taken together should not equal another full meal. Fasting obliges from 18 to 59 (unless poor health excuses).

<u>Lenten Reflections</u>: Once again we are providing a booklet of reflections to assist with a prayerful preparation for Easter. It is "The Little Black Book" published by the Diocese of Saginaw, Michigan and it offers a brief meditation for each day of Lent based on the Passion according to St. John.

Sunday Report: Last weekend 1235 parishioners attended Mass; our collection totaled \$10,025.00; average contribution: \$8.12. Thank you for your continued financial support of St. John's and its many needs. Your generosity is essential and greatly appreciated.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Edward Yonfa, Salvatore Mandragona, Tommasina Fratto and Josephine Letterio who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Registration | Information S.J.B. School Registration: Registration application, for September 2017 (Pre-K through 8th) may be picked up in the

school office from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Pre-K registrants must be 4 years old by December 1, 2017. The school office number is 914-965-2356.



Mass Requests for 2018: The Mass "book" for 2018 will be open for reservations as of Tuesday, February 28th. Because of the number of Parishioners who wish to arrange Masses at St.

John's, we must request that Mass reservations be made in person. On February 28th those seeking to make Mass reservations should do so in the lower church (not the rectory) starting at 9:00 a.m. Someone will be there all morning and in the afternoon until 3:00 p.m. After February 28th, Mass requests for 2018 should be made in the rectory, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Our office staff is simply unable to handle requests by phone if they are to complete the regular volume of work they have. In addition, individual Mass reservations are limited to three on February 28th, so we may accommodate as many parishioners as possible. (After the initial day, more Mass reservations may be made at the rectory later in the week.) We remind everyone that there are a number of retired priests who are able to take Mass requests – even for 2017. We are happy to provide Mass cards for these Masses; however, they will not be celebrated here at St. John's.

Rosary Altar Society: Next Sunday, March 5th we welcome the Rosary Altar Society to their monthly Mass at 11:00 am. Also, our March meeting will be held in the Church Hall on Monday the 6th at 8:00pm it will be a celebration for St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's. Come and enjoy some Irish and Italian specialties.



<u>Time Change Alert</u>: Daylight Savings Time will begin in two weeks on Sunday, March 12th. Since clocks are to be turned <u>AHEAD</u> one hour at 2:00 a.m. that morning, better to do it before you go to bed on Saturday. Remember, "Spring

ahead! Fall back!" which means – even though it isn't Spring yet, we will <u>lose</u> an hour of sleep!



<u>St. John's H.S.A. Raffles</u>: The Home School Association will be selling their annual raffles tickets

next weekend, (March 4^{th} and 5^{th}) after each Mass at the exits of the Church. The tickets are \$2.00 and the prize is \$2000.00. This raffle is a major fundraiser for the school. Please help our school if you are able.



<u>Tax Advantage</u>: Once again this year, St. John's has been contacted by a representative of H&R Block regarding a

program they have for tax-exempt institutions (like ours!). For every <u>new</u> client who goes to any H&R Block office and has them prepare your tax returns, H&R Block will contribute \$20.00 to St. John's. The only condition is that when you go to the H&R Block office, you take a coupon (which are available this week at the exits of the Church) indicating the special code which will be given to St. John's to distribute to our parishioners. <u>N.B.</u>: This costs you nothing! Obviously, H&R Block is doing this as a promotion to bring in new customers – but if you are considering having someone prepare your tax return (both Federal and N.Y. State) this year, please consider H&R Block. They have an office nearby – on 777 Central Avenue (in the strip mall near the Sunoco station on the corner of Mile Sq. Rd. and Central Ave.) But this offer is good at <u>any</u> H&R Block (you just need to bring the coupon available).

S.J.B. Class of '71: St. John the Baptist Class of 1971 will be celebrating their reunion at a Mass on Saturday, March 11th at 5:00 p.m. Dinner plans to be determined. For more information call Jeanette Kolkowski at 914-494-0554, Helen DiNoia - 914-423-9630 or Helen Rubbo - 914-424-9917.

Special Concert: The Maryknoll Sisters Annual Charity Concert to Aid the Sisters Global Mission Outreach, on Sunday, March 5th at 3:00 p.m. at the Maryknoll Sisters Center, 10 Pinesbridge Road, Ossining, NY. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door and may be purchased on our website www.maryknollsisters.org/concert17 or by calling 1-866-662-9900 or at the door the day of the event. Credit cards, cash or checks accepted. For more information, visit www.maryknollsisters.org.



<u>V.B.S. Update</u>: There's <u>good news</u> regarding St. John's Vacation Bible School! We have received assurances that there will be some new volunteers who will be taking responsibility for this wonderful program. The date this year will

be: July 24th to 28th. This year's theme: "A Mighty Fortress." We will have more information in subsequent bulletins.



Monthly Maintenance: Since next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month of March, we will take up our regular "First Sunday of the Month" second collection after Communion next week. This

collection helps with the upkeep, maintenance, and cleaning of our beautiful church. Please be generous.

<u>Faith and Science</u>: St. Joseph's Seminary is hosting a conference on "The Catholic Scientist" on Friday, March 3rd from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Among the presenters are: Br. Guy Consolagno, S.J. (Astronomer and Director of the Vatican Observatory); and Dr. Michelle Francl (Prof. of Chemistry, Bryn Mawr College); fees are \$20.00 (Presentation only) and \$30.00 (Presentations and Dinner). To register call 367-8281 or visit www.Dunwoodie.edu/events.



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For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world. In conclusion THREE TIMES you will

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

From the Diary of the Servant of God Sr. Faustina Note Book I, p 197

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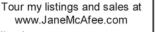
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