

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

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**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. Daniel Ulloa, O.P., Rev. Joseph Matthew

**Associates:** Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

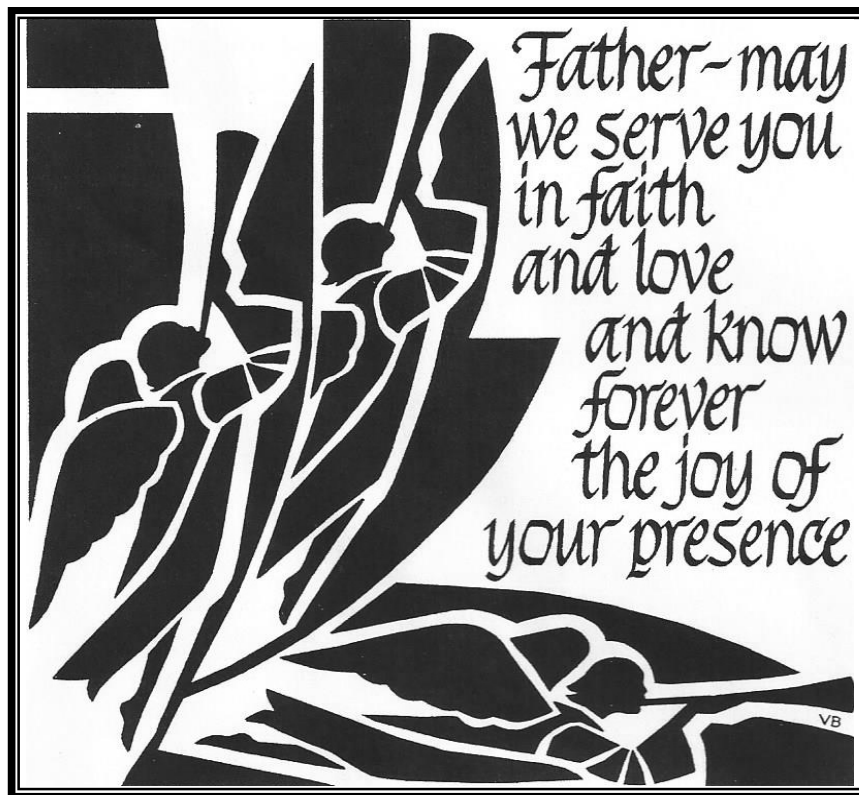
**Retired Priest:** Rev. Kenneth Ross; Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

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*Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*November 19, 2017*

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**Religious Education**  
(914) 965-2338

**Director**  
Sr. Mary Beth Read, O.S.U.

**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

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

*Saturday, November 18, 2017*

*Vigil: Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

5:00 p.m. Michael Coughlin - Birthday

*Sunday, November 19, 2017*

*Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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

9:30 a.m. Deceased members of the  
Sullivan, Whalen and Tobin Families

11:00 a.m. Regina Capobianco – 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

12:30 p.m. Rory O'Flaherty

*Monday, November 20, 2017*

8:00 a.m. Joan Weth – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

12:00 noon Rae Tavernia

*Tuesday, November 21, 2017*

*Feast of The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Jose Leoncio DeLaCruz

12:00 noon Ann Fama

*Wednesday, November 22, 2017*

*Feast of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Regina Capobianco

12:00 noon Rae Tavernia – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

*Wednesday, November 22, 2017*

*Vigil: Thanksgiving Day*

7:30 p.m. Allen, Jr., Geraldine and Allen Purdy

*Thursday, November 23, 2017*

*Thanksgiving Day*

9:00 a.m. Barbara Keller

*Friday, November 24, 2017*

*Feast of St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions,  
Martyrs*

8:00 a.m. Kathleen McKeon - Birthday

*Saturday, November 25, 2017*

*Feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr*

8:00 a.m. Fred Cipollone

*Saturday, November 25, 2017*

*Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe*

5:00 p.m. Mary Viggiani

*Sunday, November 26, 2017*

*Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe*

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

9:30 a.m. For the Deceased members of the  
Acquafredda Family

11:00 a.m. Saverino and Maria Teresa Ferrari

12:30 p.m. Peter and Bella Pittelli

## **WEDDING BANNs**

*I. Rocco Di Luna and Mary Frances Pellegrino*

## **WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR**

*Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>*

Senior Bake Sale -- after all Masses – lower Church

*Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>*

Seniors' Leisure Club – 12:00 noon – lower Church

R.E. Grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> -- 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. – School

R.E. Grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> -- 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. – School

*Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Rectory Closed

*Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>*

Rectory Closed

## **ALTAR SERVERS**

*Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>*

5:00 p.m. – C. Gilsenan and R. McLaughlin

*Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>*

8:00 a.m. – C. Komosinski and R. Rica

9:30 a.m. – M. Albanese and N. Crisp

11:00 a.m. – R. Peter and E. Ruge-Howard

12:30 p.m. – N. Conlon and D. Libeartore

*Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>*

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

*Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>*

8:00 a.m. – M. Colaiacovo and D. Odume

9:30 a.m. – A. Carroll and P. Coyle

11:00 a.m. – P. Tozzi and R. Tuffy

12:30 p.m. – N. Gilligan and K. Postighone

**Thanksgiving:** is one of our nation's most venerable and cherished traditions. It is a day to reflect on the goodness of God and the abundant blessings we have received-- especially in this great country of ours with its history of freedom and opportunity. As is our custom, we will have a special vigil Mass on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at which students from our Religious Education program will assist at Mass, our children's choir will sing, and Thanksgiving bread will be blessed and distributed. On Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>) we will have **only one** Mass at 9:00 a.m. On the Friday after Thanksgiving we will have one Mass at 8:00 a.m. There will be **no noon** Mass on Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Both the rectory and school office will be closed on Friday. Happy Thanksgiving!

## **S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**November 19, 2016**

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:** Building on last week's images of the end of time and the need to be prepared, today's readings highlight fidelity to a commitment once embraced. Whether we speak of Baptism, marriage, or a religious call, once we have made a commitment, it is up to us to be faithful, both when convenient and when inconvenient.

The description of the "worthy wife" in today's first reading from the Old Testament's Book of Proverbs (Prv. 31:10-13) may strike some people as antiquated and hopelessly patriarchal. But consider the overall impact of this woman's qualities. She serves her husband, yes, but she does so because he "has entrusted his heart to her." She is skilled in many arts. She is mindful of and generous to the poor and the needy. And to her is attributed one of the most important biblical virtues: she "fears the Lord," rightly acknowledging her debt to the Creator. This is all high praise indeed, whether in post-exile Israel or in the 21<sup>st</sup> century United States. All of us, male or female, single or married, would do well to imitate this wonderful woman.

St. Paul in today's second reading (1 Thes. 5: 1-6) stresses the need to be always prepared. Our Lord in today's gospel (Mt. 25: 14-30) uses the parable of the talents to focus not on how many gifts or talents we have been given, but on how well we use them – how much good we do with them. Our Lord places the responsibility for our use of these gifts squarely on our shoulders. It is not up to the master to do our work for us. We are competent, capable creatures who have been made by a loving God. The responsibility is ours.

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### **SPECIAL LITURGICAL DAYS THIS WEEK**

#### **Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

This feast commemorates the dedication of the church of St. Mary in Jerusalem near the site of the sacred Temple. This feast also recalls the day on which – according to ancient tradition – Mary was presented to the Lord by her parents in the Temple.

#### **Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> – St. Cecilia**

Ever since the third century, there has been a deep Christian devotion to this young woman – because of her courage in defending her virginity in the face of the paganism of her time and because of the martyrdom she suffered for love of Christ. She has always been associated with music and poetry and is the patroness of sacred music.

#### **Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> – St. Clement and St. Columban**

St. Clement was the third pope after Peter; he lived at the end of the first century and is remembered for his prayerfulness and devoted leadership. St. Columban was an Irish monk who lived in the 6th century and was instrumental in establishing monasteries both in Ireland and on the continent.

#### **Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – St. Andrew Dung-Lac**

This day honors over 100 martyrs who worked with Fr. Andrew Dung-Lac to spread Christianity in Viet Nam in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and suffered persecution and death for their efforts.

#### **Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> – St. Catherine of Alexandria**

This scholarly, learned woman lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century; after her conversion to Christianity, she became an evangelizer in the area near Alexandria, Egypt. Under the persecution of the Roman emperor Maximian she was tortured by being placed on a spiked wheel and was eventually beheaded. She is the patroness of philosophers.

### **Prayer for Thanksgiving**

***Gracious God and Eternal Father, we give thanks today for the many blessings you have bestowed on us.***

***We thank you for the goodness of the people of this country and for our heritage of freedom and justice that has provided a beacon of hope for people throughout the world.***

***We thank you for the beauty and bounty of our land and the challenge of our cities.  
We thank you for our work and our rest, and for all the gifts you have given us.***

***For all that we have spoken and all that we keep in our hearts, accept our prayers on this Thanksgiving Day.***

***We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen***

**Sunday Report:** Last weekend 1,235 parishioners attended Mass; our collection totaled \$7010.00; average contribution: \$5.68. 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 Lucille E. Bizzaro and who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.



**S.J.B. Senior Club Bake Sale:** The Senior Club will be having a Bake Sale this weekend after all Masses in the lower Church. This annual fundraiser will feature a bake sale, hand-made knitted items, flea market, gift basket raffles, door prizes and a 50/50 drawing (which will take place at 1:00 p.m. Sunday – winner need not be present.) Donations of baked goods and store bought are welcome. We also welcome contributions for our raffle baskets. For more information please call Deacon Martin Olivieri on 423-4859.

**Operation Christmas Stockings 2017:** The Rosary Altar Society is collecting items to be used in Christmas stockings for our troops. The drive is Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> in the lower Church from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. This is our parish's sixth drive and we need your help. Anyone interested in donating items can drop them off to the church in the boxes labeled "Support Our Troops" at any time until Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. For a list of items, please pick up sheets at the exits of the church. If you know someone's address who is serving our country or for more information please call Gina Ramoni at 914- 776-1187. If you would like to sponsor a stocking for \$15.00, please make checks payable to St. John the Baptist, R.A.S. and put it in an envelope labeled "Support Our Troops". Thanks for your support.



**Second Collection:** Next weekend we will take up our monthly special collection to support our school and maintain our school facilities. The school is not only used for our grammar school children, our CCD classes and our RCIA program, but for a variety of community and parish activities. It is vital that we keep our school facilities in excellent condition. We ask for a contribution of \$7.00 in this monthly collection and once again express our appreciation for your generosity.

**Study Sabbatical:** Every year the Archdiocese of New York sponsors two priests to take part in a three month "study sabbatical" that includes a review of the latest Catholic teaching on sacred doctrine, Moral Theology, sacred scripture, and pastoral practice. The "study sabbatical" program is based in Rome. Msgr. Maloney has been approved for this "study sabbatical" which begins mid-January 2018 and concludes in April 2018. During his absence, St. John's will be administered for one month by Msgr. Birkle (yes – he is coming back in the winter!) and Fr. James Healy who is recently retired after six years as Pastor of our neighbor St. Paul the Apostle. St. John's will be in good hands!

**A Practical Blessing:** With cold and flu season upon us, we may be hearing "God bless you" more often. We often say it almost automatically when someone sneezed, but why do we do so? Scholars have several different theories on how the practice started. One theory is that during the Bubonic Plague in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, Pope Gregory I asked people to pray to God to help fend off the illness from Rome. As sneezing was seen as a sign of the disease, people said "God bless you" to the sneezer. Another theory is that people thought the heart stopped when someone sneezed. Saying "God bless you" was believed to help them come back to life.

We don't need to wait for someone to sneeze to ask God to bless them. Asking for God's blessing on the lives of those around us should be second nature. God has called us to take care of each other and to support each other in good times and in bad.



**Lessons and Carols Concert:** On Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup>, our talented and dedicated choirs (along with some of our eloquent lectors) will present "Lessons and Carols: An Evening of Sacred Christmas Music" under the direction of Mr. John Stufano. The program will include both well-known classical works and traditional carols along with scripture readings in an effort to help us make a prayerful preparation for the Christmas season. Come support the Parish choir, Children's choir, and all who have worked faithfully to prepare for this event. The program begins at 5:00 p.m. and light refreshments will follow. All are welcome.



**Christmas Wreaths:** Members of the Home school Association will be selling fresh balsam wreaths after all Masses on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The proceeds will be going to support our school. If you are in the market for a wreath, please consider getting one here at St. John's. The cost is \$20.00.



**R.A.S. Christmas Party:** "Please join us for an evening of dinner, dancing and good times!" at the Rosary Altar Society's Annual Christmas Party on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the lower Church. Tickets are \$25.00 for members and \$30.00 for non-members. The cost includes a complete buffet dinner, desserts, beverages, door prizes and DJ entertainment. Dark Secret and a 50/50 raffle will be sold throughout the evening. For tickets and information, please contact Tina Osso at 914-879-2975.

**Second Collection:** This weekend (November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>) Catholics across the country are asked to assist Catholic efforts to help the poor and needy in our own country. This is the Catholic Charities Campaign for Justice and Charity – and this special second collection will support their efforts. Please be generous.



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