

Saint John the Baptist Parish

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

Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

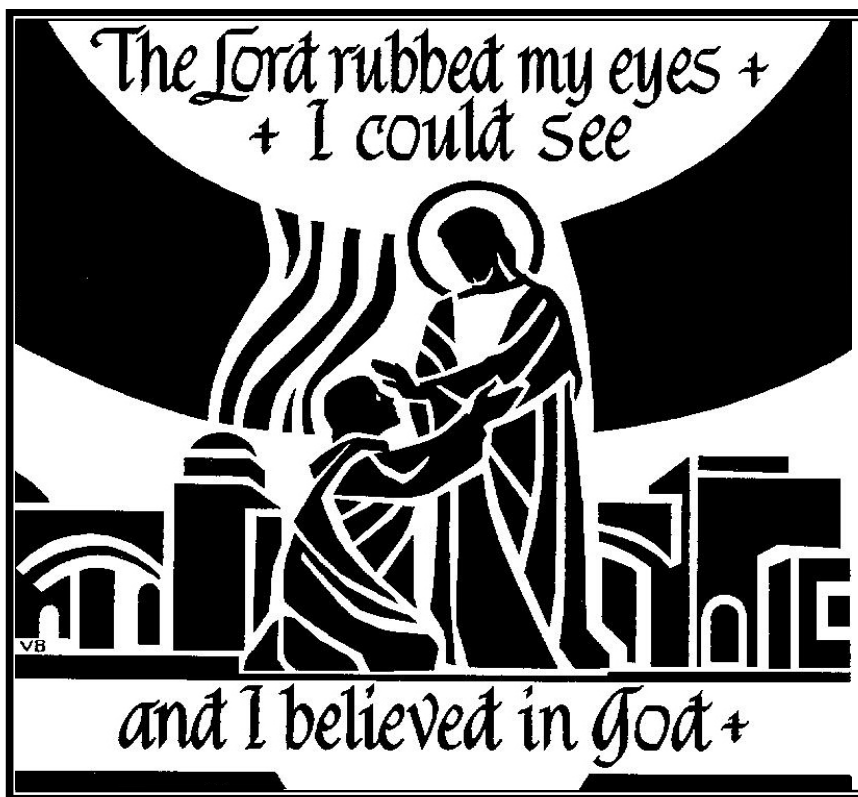
Retired Priest: Rev. Kenneth Ross; Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

670 Yonkers Ave.
Yonkers, NY 10704
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Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 11, 2018

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Religious Education
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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, March 10, 2018

Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent

5:00 p.m. Matteo Arlia

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

9:30 a.m. Geraldine Purdy – 8th Anniversary

**11:00 a.m. Deceased members of the Caruso,
Verbene and Provenzano Families**

12:30 p.m. Luigi and Franco Milizia

Monday, March 12, 2018

8:00 a.m. Peter and Helen Duggan

12:00 noon Domenico Guglielmi

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

8:00 a.m. Delia Duffy

12:00 noon Severio Dentini

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

8:00 a.m. Richard Daniel Strickrodt

12:00 noon Argentina D'Eufemio

Thursday, March 15, 2018

8:00 a.m. Catherine and John Kuhnbaum

12:00 noon Josephine and Salvatore Miceli

Friday, March 16, 2018

8:00 a.m. Robert Coleman

12:00 noon Frank Lagana

Saturday, March 17, 2018

Feast of St. Patrick, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Rory O'Flaherty

Saturday, March 17, 2018

Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:00 p.m. Luciana Rinaldi

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Lent

8:00 a.m. Cpl. Patrick O'Keefe

9:30 a.m. Noreen O'Neill

11:00 a.m. Enma Confreda

**12:30 p.m. Mass for the Parishioners of
St. John the Baptist**

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, March 11th

Family Mass (Grades 2, 4, 6) – 9:30 a.m. – Church
Reception – following Mass – lower Church

Wednesday, March 14th

Seniors' Leisure Club – 12:00 noon – 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 16th

Cub Scouts – 2:30 p.m. – lower Church
Lenten Devotion – 7:30 p.m. -- Church

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, March 17th

5:00 p.m. – M. Bello and W. Ferguson

Sunday, March 18th

8:00 a.m. – C. Murphy and P. Winter
9:30 a.m. – G. Boynes and C. Komosinski
11:00 a.m. – M. Albanese and N. Crisp
12:30 p.m. – N. Conlon and R. Duffy

Saturday, March 24th

5:00 p.m. – A. Kocovic and R. Rica

Sunday, March 25th

8:00 a.m. – E. Mc Garvey and S. Mc Govern
9:30 a.m. – P. Coyle and R. Mc Laughlin
11:00 a.m. – K. Postighone and E. Ruge-Howard
12:30 p.m. – S. Joyce and N. Leo

Time Change Alert: Daylight Savings Time will begin this Sunday, March 11th. Since clocks are to be turned AHEAD 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 lose an hour of sleep!

Palm Crosses: The Holy Name Society will be selling Palm Crosses next weekend (March 17th and 18th) and also Palm Sunday weekend (March 24th and 25th). The suggested donation for each cross is \$10.00. They will be available in the vestibule of the church.

S.J.B. Senior News: During the Season of Lent, at the Senior Leisure Club meeting at 12:45 in the lower Church, Deacon Olivieri will present selected tapes from Archbishop Fulton Sheen's "Christ: His Passion & Death." The schedule is as follows: Wednesday, March 14th – "The Last Supper" (17 minutes); Wednesday, March 21st – "The Crucifixion" (20 minutes). All parishioners are welcome.

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 11, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: How many times have we seen at televised sports events someone holding a huge sign reading “John 3:16”? Today’s gospel includes John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.”

God has always loved the world and has always brought life from death. Today’s first reading (2 Chr. 36:14-23) explains how God brought the Jewish people back from Babylonian exile to a new beginning in Jerusalem. Saint Paul tells us in the second reading (Eph. 2:4-10) that when we were “dead through our trespasses,” God “made us alive together with Christ.” In the gospel, Jesus says that in Him, “the light has come into the world,” and we can go from the darkness of sin and failure into His light.

When we are far away from where we should be, it is God who brings us back in Christ. When death seems to be in control, it is God who gives life in Christ. When we are overwhelmed by the darkness of failure, it is God who brings us the light of hope in Christ. “For God so loved the world...”

SPECIAL SAINT’S DAY - LENT WEEK FOUR

Saturday, March 17th – St. Patrick

This is a very special feast in the Archdiocese of New York – marked by a solemn Mass in the Cathedral of St. Patrick.

St. Patrick was born in the late 4th century and died in 461. As a teenager he was captured by Irish raiders and sold as a slave in Ireland where he worked in terrible conditions for over six years. He escaped to France, studied to be a priest and returned to Ireland twenty years later to begin his extraordinary work of evangelization.

He is honored as Patron Saint of Ireland, Nigeria and the Archdiocese of New York.

Advanced Planning: Please note that there is a special schedule for Easter because there is **NO** 5:00 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday. The only Mass allowed on Holy Saturday is the Easter Vigil Service at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31st. Our Masses on Easter Sunday will be at 8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m. (children’s Mass); 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Our traditional Easter egg hunt will take place after the 9:30 a.m. Mass in the lower Church (or, if the weather is nice, outside on the lawn). Please note: despite the time between Masses that our schedule affords, Easter has historically caused parking problems – especially since parents with children will be staying longer after the 9:30 a.m. Mass. If the weather is nice and you don’t live too far away, you might consider walking to Church on Easter Sunday!

Friday Lenten Devotion: On all the 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. on the topic: “Lent: Deepening our Communion with God and with One Another.” The evening Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence: **ALL THE FRIDAYS OF LENT ARE DAY OF ABSTINENCE** - 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).

Latin Chant: During Lent at our sung Sunday Masses, we will use traditional Gregorian Chant whenever the Kyrie, Sanctus and Agnus Dei are sung. The chant melodies are very easy to sing and the words of these responses are so familiar in English that the Latin shouldn’t pose a problem, even for someone who has never studied Latin. Moreover, it gives us an opportunity (however small) to recapture the long tradition of singing Gregorian Chant. The text of and music for these acclamations can be found in the Music Issue: Kyrie (#853); Sanctus (#846); Agnus Dei (#850).

Lenten Mission: St. Batholomew’s Parish, 15 Palmer Road, will have a Lenten Mission of Mercy on Monday, March 12th to Wednesday, March 14th conducted by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. The Mission will begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening. All are welcome to attend. For more information please call 914-965-0566.

LETTER FROM ROME III: As I begin, I would like to make one thing perfectly clear: the reports that I was seen throwing snowballs in the piazza of St. Peter's Basilica after Rome's recent snowfall are greatly exaggerated! I must admit that it was a little strange to hear about 70 degree weather in Yonkers shortly before we here in 'sunny Italy' were coping with snow and ice. Serves me right for leaving SJB during the winter. Well--that time away is growing ever shorter; our study sabbatical program is more than half completed! Our classroom sessions continue--most recently devoted to a study of St. Paul's Letter to the Romans and a very interesting review of the work of three 20th century Catholic authors: Dorothy Day; Mother (now Saint) Teresa of Calcutta; and Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (known to the philosophical world by her name before she became a nun, Edith Stein).

Our experiences in Rome (especially its museums and churches) continue--but there is another aspect to our sabbatical which is also important--and which I haven't mentioned in my previous letters.

That aspect is the opportunity to visit some of the other important cities where significant contributions to the Church and Western Culture have been made. I have been able to visit two of those cities so far: Milan and Siena. In Milan I spent one morning in the beautiful church of Santa Maria della Grazia (which is cared for by members of the Dominican Order--the very same religious order to which Fr. Ulloa and Fr. Cameron belong). It is there--in the former refectory of the monastery (where the friars took their meals)--that Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, The Last Supper, is preserved. Being in the presence of such a work of genius is an experience to be treasured for a lifetime.

Later in the afternoon, I spent some time in Milan's "Duomo" (Cathedral)--a marvel of Gothic architecture--where the great 16th century theologian, St. Charles Borromeo was bishop. Since the latter part of the 20th century, they have been doing extensive archeological work in the area beneath and adjacent to the Cathedral--and some of that has been opened up to the public. What a privilege it is to explore the remains of a 4th century church where St. Ambrose celebrated Mass and preached. They have even identified the ancient baptistry where St. Ambrose baptized St. Augustine--who went on to become a bishop in his own right and who is one of the greatest teachers and theologians in the history of the Church.

Siena--like Florence--is one of the principal cities in a beautiful area of Italy (especially in summer): Tuscany! Some argue that this area (which includes a section called 'Chianti') produces the best wines in all of Italy. This is one argument that I prefer not to take part in. What no one argues about is the importance of Siena and Florence in the creation of some of the finest art and architecture in the Western world.

In a couple of weeks our program will take us to Assisi for a five day retreat--and on the way we will pass through Orvieto where we will celebrate Mass in another of Italy's magnificent cathedrals. During the retreat I will be praying that St. Francis will look kindly on everyone at St. John the Baptist.

Sunday Report: Last weekend 1,327 parishioners attended Mass; our collection totaled \$8843.00; average contribution: \$6.66. Thank you; and God bless you for your generosity to St. John's.

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Ioletta Bucci, Joseph J. Cordasco who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

V.B.S. Volunteers Needed: Adults, college and high school students are needed to volunteer for Vacation Bible School on Monday, July 16th to Friday, July 20th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Enjoy a fun-filled week of playing games, music, teaching and serving snacks and drinks. Forms will be distributed in school and R.E. for students who will be entering 8th grade in September and current 8th Graders seeking to volunteer for service hours. For more information call or text Jim Maistre 914-309-3135.

Second Collection: This weekend we take up a second collection to support the American Bishops Overseas Appeal (now known as the "Catholic Relief Services Collection"). Funds from this national collection help our bishops fund Catholic service agencies which aid the poorest of the poor throughout the world. Please be generous.

Mass Requests for 2019: The Mass "book" for 2019 is now open for reservations. 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 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. We remind everyone that there are a number of retired priests who are able to take Mass requests – even for 2018. We are happy to provide Mass cards for these Masses; however, they will not be celebrated here at St. John's.

Silver and Gold: St. John's congratulates all our married parishioners who are celebrating their 25th, 50th (or even 60th!) anniversary this year (2018). We invite all these jubilarians to join us for Mass (followed by a reception in their honor in the lower church) on Sunday, April 22nd. They are invited to attend the 12:30 Mass where they will renew their vows and then join us for the reception that follows. If you are celebrating such an anniversary, please contact the rectory **NO LATER THAN April 16th**. [N.B.: *Couples celebrating their 50th Anniversary are invited to attend a Golden Jubilee Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral on June 3rd at 2:15 p.m. Please contact the rectory a.s.a.p. if you wish to attend – but no later than Friday, May 11th.*]

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The world was a playground for Mickey, a naive Irish American kid bored with his life. His father served in World War II, his brother was a Marine in Vietnam; now it was his turn. His 365 days in Vietnam builds in torment until an attack on a bunker complex in Cambodia. Wounded, his friend captured, he becomes a tormented survivor knowing he is always just a heartbeat from death.

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