

# Saint John the Baptist Parish

**Pastor:** Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

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

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

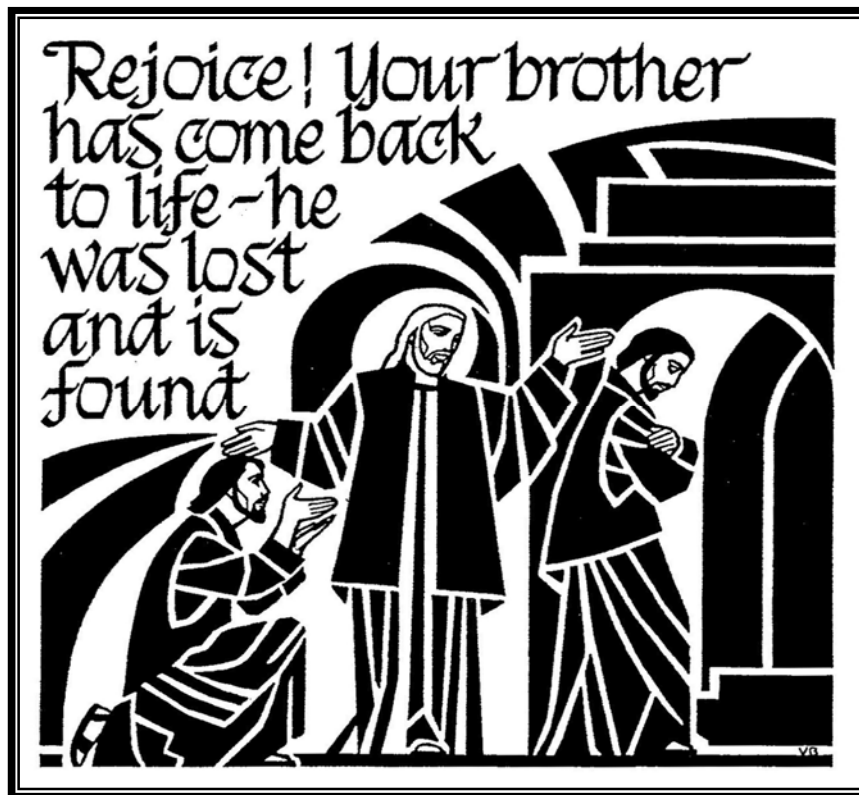
**Retired Priest:** Rev. Kenneth Ross; Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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

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

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
*March 06, 2016*

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stjohnsp@optonline.net



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**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 5, 2016**

**Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**5:00 p.m. Cornelius Gleeson – 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

**Sunday, March 6, 2016**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**8:00 a.m. Settimia Soprano and Nancy Rubbo**

**9:30 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of  
St. John the Baptist**

**11:00 a.m. R.A.S./H.N.S. – Marjorie K. Massey**

**12:30 p.m. Edward Makowski and Daniel Fama**

**Monday, March 7, 2016**

**Feast of Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs**

**8:00 a.m. Margaret Biglin**

**12:00 noon Louann and Maria Cardone**

**Tuesday, March 8, 2016**

**Feast of St. John of God, Religious**

**8:00 a.m. Frank Leone**

**12:00 noon Joseph and Josephine Guido**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

**Feast of St. Frances of Rome, Religious**

**8:00 a.m. Lisa Giannantonio**

**12:00 noon Anna and Epifanio DiLeo**

**Thursday, March 10, 2016**

**8:00 a.m. Giuseppina Abruzzese – 1<sup>st</sup>  
Anniversary**

**12:00 noon Josephine and Salvatore Miceli**

**Friday, March 11, 2016**

**8:00 a.m. Peter and Helen Duggan**

**12:00 noon Joe Licata**

**Saturday, March 12, 2016**

**8:00 a.m. Domenico Guglielmi**

**Saturday, March 12, 2016**

**Vigil: Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**5:00 p.m. For the Deceased Members of the  
O'Leary Family**

**Sunday, March 13, 2016**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**8:00 a.m. For the Deceased Members of the  
Cocco Family**

**9:30 a.m. Kathleen McCarthy**

**11:00 a.m. Mass for the Parishioners of  
St. John the Baptist**

**12:30 p.m. Kathleen, Peter, Bernadette and  
Eileen Fitzsimons**

## WEDDING BANNs

*III. Steven Savino and Kimberly Caraballo*

## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

R.A.S./H.N.S. Mass – 11:00 a.m. -- Church

**Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

R.A.S. Monthly Meeting – 8:00 p.m. – lower Church

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Senior Club – following 12:00 noon Mass – 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, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Cub Scouts – 2:30 p.m. – lower Church

**Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Girl Scouts – 2:30 p.m. – lower Church

Holy Hour/ Benediction/Stations of the Cross – 7:30 p.m. –  
Church

## ALTAR SERVERS

**Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 p.m. – S. Farrelly and M. Graham

**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 a.m. – N. Conlon and M. McCarthy

9:30 a.m. – M. Barrett, E. Loughran and M. Loughran

11:00 a.m. – D. Liberatore and S. Osso

12:30 p.m. – F. Albano and K. Gilligan

**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

5:00 p.m. – M. Colaiacovo and D. Odume

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 a.m. – N. Comacho and J. Postighone

9:30 a.m. – J. Corcoran and R. Corcoran

11:00 a.m. – B. Collins and R. Murphy

12:30 p.m. – C. Maher and J. Velasquez

**Rosary Altar Society:** We welcome the members of the Rosary Altar Society at their monthly Mass this Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Their monthly meeting will be held on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. in the lower Church.

**Time Change Alert:** Daylight Savings Time will begin next week on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. 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 next Saturday. Remember, "Spring ahead! Fall back!" which means – even though it isn't Spring yet, we will lose an hour of sleep.



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

**March 6, 2016**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent:** Laetare! Rejoice, Jerusalem! Our Lenten pilgrimage already half over, we are reminded that the sorrow of the journey is not its ultimate goal. Lent is only meaningful in light of the Easter to which it leads.

There is a special significance to the celebration of Passover described in today's first reading from Joshua (Jos. 5:9-12). The exodus is now complete; the unfaithful generation has died out; the new generation is in the Promised Land. For the first time the Israelites used the produce of the land for their Seder supper. As miraculously as it had begun, the manna – bread of the wilderness – ceased. The Israelites had come home.

In today's gospel (Lk. 15:1-3; 11-32) St. Luke describes a homecoming and a father's joy at the return of a son given up for lost. But the story of the prodigal son – or merciful father, if you prefer – is, on a deeper level, a story of true repentance and, once again, a warning against complacency. Self-satisfaction may well be, as one scholar put it, the "occupational hazard of the elect." The elder son is hurt because the father seems to reward his brother's lack of responsibility. How often are we the elder brother? And, when we do stray, do we truly believe that like his lavish father, God not only welcomes us back and accepts our sorrow, but sees us while we are "still a long way off," and runs out to meet us? Even more direct, in today's second reading (2Cor. 5:17-21) St. Paul insists that God forgives everyone, not counting our sins against us. All of us, elder son or wasteful brother, need reconciliation, freely given by our generous God.

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### **SAINTS' DAYS – LENT – WEEK FOUR**

#### **Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> – Saints Perpetua and Felicity**

These two women who lived in the third century in North Africa were martyred for the faith during a Roman persecution. Their powerful witness is remembered whenever the First Eucharistic Prayer is used at Mass.

#### **Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> – St. John of God**

Born in Portugal in 1495, John pursued a military career as a young man, until he was moved by God's grace to devote himself to the care of the sick and infirm. He spent his last years in southern Spain where he found a hospital and a small nursing order (Order of Hospitallers) devoted to the sick poor. He died in Granada in 1550.

#### **Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – St. Frances of Rome**

Frances was born in Rome in 1384; she married and had three sons. She lived during a time of plague and devoted her later life to care of the sick and the dying. In 1425 she founded the Congregation of Oblates under the rule of St. Benedict. She died in 1440.



**Lent:** 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.

**Prayer:** 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.)

**Almsgiving:** 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.

**Fasting:** 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:** On each of 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: "How to Live the Year of Mercy in an Unforgiving World." The evening Holy Hour will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Sunday Report:** Last weekend 1,345 parishioners attended Mass; our collection totaled \$8738.00; average contribution: \$6.50. 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 James Moore, Rose Rascona, Anne Dama, Bettina M. Bagnara and John Nuccio, Sr. who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.



**In-Pew Weekend:** Parishes in the Archdiocese – as part of the annual Cardinal's Appeal campaign – are asked to take time during Mass this weekend to have what is called an "In Pew Appeal." Every member of the parish – whether formally registered or not – is given the opportunity to make a pledge to the important effort.

Obviously, the normal Sunday liturgy should not be interrupted except in unusual circumstances. The annual Cardinal's Appeal is such a circumstance – and the officials of the Archdiocese agree, because they have asked all parishes to conduct an "In-Pew" appeal at all Masses this weekend.

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.

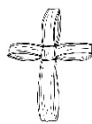
Those who have been prayerfully considering a pledge are asked to make a decision today – in the presence of our parish family. No one is asked to write a check or to make a payment today; we will send reminders to everyone after the pledge envelopes are processed. We do urge everyone to make a pledge – 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.

**Tax Advantage:** 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 new 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. **N.B.:** 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 a nearby office – 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 any H&R Block (you just need to bring the coupon).

**Local Concert:** Annunciation-Our Lady of Fatima Parish is presenting a concert, "The Last Words of Christ" by Théodore Dubois, on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at Annunciation Church. Admission is free. All are welcome.



**Monthly Maintenance:** Since this 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 this week. This collection helps with the upkeep, maintenance, and cleaning of our beautiful church. Please be generous.



**Palm Crosses:** The Holy Name Society will be selling Palm Crosses next weekend (March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>) and also Palm Sunday weekend (March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>). The suggested donation for each cross is \$10.00. They will be available in the vestibule of the church.

**Great Success:** Thanks to the Rosary Altar Society and the special committee that ran such a successful Card Party on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Whether you were at the event or donated, we very much appreciated it. Most of those who attended went home with one of the many wonderful prizes that were awarded. Anyone who has ever been involved in running such an affair knows how difficult it can be: it takes months of planning and lots of hard work. It also brought an evening of joy to all of us who have been coping with this winter. Congratulations to the women of the R.A.S.!



**Silver and Gold:** Any couples who are celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage this year (2016) are asked to contact the rectory. Those celebrating a Golden (50<sup>th</sup>) anniversary will be invited to St. Patrick's Cathedral for a ceremony on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. and Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration is **absolutely necessary** for Mass at the Cathedral so any couple that is celebrating 50 years of marriage should call the rectory by Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, at the latest. The date of our parish celebration for St. John's jubilarians (both 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup>) will be Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join us for our parish celebration, please contact the rectory by Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Picketing Report:** We regret if any of our parishioners at last Sunday's 9:30, 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses were inconvenienced by the pickets from the Rockland County group which has been affiliated with the Syro-Malabar Eastern Rite Catholic community there. The bishop of that community has made it clear that all communities under his jurisdiction in the United States should conduct Mass and sacraments in a consecrated church or chapel. For the past couple of months that religious community has been worshipping at the beautiful Marian Shrine of Don Bosco in Stony Point. The separatist group (which picketed here last Sunday) refuses to obey the bishop and insists that Mass and sacraments be celebrated in a community center which they own. They were protesting at St. John's because Fr. Joseph, who serves that community, has been assigned residence in our rectory with the approval of the Archdiocese. We thank everyone for their patience. We also thank Mr. Liam McLoughlin who worked with the Yonkers police to ensure that the "protest" remained peaceful. We deeply appreciate the sensitivity, understanding and support shown by the members of the Yonkers Police department who were here last Sunday.

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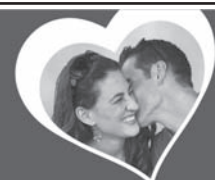
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