

St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

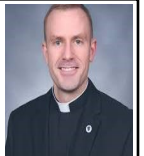
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September 1, 2024



From Fr. Brendan Foley

Maybe you are relieved to have come back to Mark's Gospel this week...but maybe keep in mind the many lessons and encouragement that we received from the Bread of Life Discourse over the last several Sundays when we hear Jesus speaking today. In the Eucharist Jesus feeds us with his life, and he is also transforming us into his image, capable of his kind of love, capable of living his law. In our Gospel today, Jesus holds up a mirror for us to help us consider ourselves. Still very true for us today, the things that 'defile' us show up and come out of us in our day to day lives by our choices that lead us away from charity and toward the neglect of God, others, and ourselves. When we regularly are stirred toward our vices, not surprisingly, we quickly see communication in our relationships break down, and likely we come face-to-face with how our words and actions have an impact on those around us.



Jesus might come across as a bit harsh in his interaction with the Pharisees and Scribes today, but there's a major danger in mere observance of the prescriptions of the law without the purity of heart or conversion of heart behind it. Jesus is trying to guard our hearts and our capacity for virtue from corrosion, and it's important that we receive his words with that tone. He deeply desires us to know that the path toward holiness is worth every struggle, and persevering will produce a fruit for us even now that is more valuable than any fleeting pleasure that may try to capture our heart or enslave us. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. We get him when we open ourselves to follow after him. He gives us the gift of himself.

Many of the things we are asked to do as disciples may sound like difficult expectations, but when we have the eyes of faith to see them rather for what they truly are, they become a 'good' that we actually start to desire. Take for example our 'obligation' to go to Mass on Sundays. If we really consider that our worship and participation in Mass is not so much something we are doing for God—it's definitely not something God 'needs'—but rather something He is desperate to do in us and for us, to nourish us with what we need, I can better receive this in love and then the question becomes, "Why would I ever deprive myself of being there?"

When all is said and done, Jesus desires our hearts. He desires to dwell there, to animate us, to give us life, and to transform us into his life. Jesus quotes the prophet Isaiah as he wakes up the Pharisees, "This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me..." Jesus wants better for us and mere observance of the law without having the disposition of heart to match is simply useless or without effect. Time and again the people of God in the Old Testament were critiqued because there was a shallowness in their offerings. They offered the sacrifices prescribed but they did so in vain, because their actions, their words, and their lives were not in continuity with what the sacrifice and praise truly require. For our reflection today let's consider: "What are the things in my life that are defiling my heart?" and, "Is my prayer life more 'lip service', or am I responding to the Lord with authenticity?"

Mass Schedule SJB/HT

Sunday - 9:00 am

Reconciliation Thursday 4:00-5:00 pm

Office Hours SJB/HT

Monday - Thursday 9:00am-4:00pm Friday 9:00am - 2:30pm

E-mail - nbergeson@svrdio.org

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

Syr. Dio. Web-site - www.syracusedioocese.org

Pastor: Father Brendan Foley

Secretary/Bulletin: Nancy Bergeson

Senior Priest in Residence: Fr. Lester Smith

In Residence: Fr. Paschal Anionye

Music Director/Organist: Mr. James Stanley

Buildings/Grounds: Robert Warren

Religious Education: Betty Warren

Sacristan/Grounds: Allan Chouinard

Altar Server: Benjamin Chouinard



A Family Perspective Family Life Education

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns, "what comes from within can defile" a person. Families need to worry about "outside influences" but also about "inside Influences." The values our children carry for a lifetime are learned at home. Habits of the Hearth are the most powerful influences on a child. That is the good news! That can also be the bad news!

Pray For Vocations

"Keep the commandments of the Lord." Seek a life deeply aligned with His divine will and purpose. If you feel He is calling you to become a priest or religious brother or sister, then reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.



Weekly Readings And Observances Readings for the week of Sept. 1, 2024

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 1a/Jas 2:1-5/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101,

102/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B)/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

Observances for the week of Sept. 1, 2024

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Labor Day

Tuesday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day

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Reflect: Readings and Gospel 22nd Sunday In Ordinary Time



First Reading: Moses urged Israel to follow God's commandments, in order to become a "great nation," filled with "wise and intelligent people." Where do you see our nation following God's commandments?

Second Reading: James sees religion at its best when it cares for those on the margins of society and resists the false trappings of the world. How might you help someone less fortunate than you this week?

Gospel: Jesus challenged the Pharisees and scribes of Jerusalem on how they interpreted traditional Jewish purity laws. What do you think helps someone have a "clean heart?" ©LPi

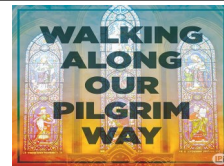


Prayer – For Everyday And Everybody Prayer for Labor Day

Dear Lord,

Bless and protect the men and women whose hard work provides food and shelter to them and their families, services to our communities, and care to our world. Be with them as they work, but also as they rest and recreate in Your care. Amen.

(Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman The Word



On November 28, 1981, Alphonsine Mumureke was in the dining room at her high school in Kibeho, a small village in southwestern Rwanda. She heard a voice. It was a woman, veiled and beautiful. Alphonsine asked her who she was. "I am the Mother of the Word," answered the woman.

It was the first appearance of Our Lady of Kibeho, who would return to visit Alphonsine and two of her schoolmates over the course of the next eight years. She left with them an urgent call for repentance, along with a prophecy of the Rwandan genocide that would come to fruition in the next decade.

I have always found it compelling that Our Lady chose to identify herself in this way at Kibeho. The Mother of the Word. A title so simple and so concise, but so heavy with meaning.

"In the beginning was the Word..." says the Gospel of John in its opening lines.

But what is the Word? Is it spoken, or is it felt? Is it seen, written, heard? Is it shouted or whispered? Is it scribbled across pages that will one day dry and disappear? Is it carved into stone tablets, or on the nameplate above a cross? Is it poured over our foreheads? Is it set ablaze in a bush? Is it etched into our hearts?

It is all of these things, yes, but it is more, still. The Word is not something that is merely spoken. It is not merely written. The Word is something that is done. It is something that we must choose to do.

Our Lady of Kibeho lamented that this world "has neither love nor peace." "If you do not convert and heal your hearts, you will all fall into an abyss," she warned.

But how do we convert our hearts? What snatches us back from the brink?

It is the Word, spoken. It is the Word, carried out. Not just one, and not just the other, but both.

"Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls." — James 1:21 ©LPi



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME




Call the Rectory to arrange for marriages, arrangements made six months prior to date. Contact our organist directly. Information will be provided. Call the rectory for baptisms and hospital/home visits.



9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT
Sunday Sept. 1, 2024
9:00am SJB/HT - Bill Slack - Sue
 Roberto Flores - Sue Slack
 Rosemary Lane & Family - The Estate
 Sandra Camardella - Pat & Norm Jaquin
 Francis Galimi - Theresa & Daryl Hegarty

Lector Schedule - Sunday September 8
 9:00 am SJB/HT: Mary Barraco

Sacrificial Giving
 Week August 25th
 SJB/HT Collection: \$TBA OLP/SP Collection: \$TBA

 **BAKERS**
 Would you like to donate a baked good for the Baked Good Table at the International Festival? We Accept!! Baked goods can be dropped off on Friday October 11th during office hours 9:00am-2:30pm or the day of the event, Friday October 12th, doors will be open by 9:00am. As well we would love any volunteers to help and have fun for this event. See the post below for more information.



International Food Festival Sign Up Form
Saturday, October 12 Noon-7:00pm
 Show off your cooking skills; Italian, German, Polish, Mexican, etc. As in years past, if you would like to volunteer as an International Chef, you will be responsible to bring your choice of food, pre cooked, any special supplies you need, such as crock pot or electric griddle, and any decorations, if you desire, for your table. We will supply the paper products you need & plastic wear. We will offer sample size servings or full plate. Price TBA. We are very grateful for your generosity in donating your food, time and talent. We also ask that you be present or assign someone responsible for your table throughout the event.

I would like to participate as a Chef. Name: _____

This is my donation of food: _____

_____ **I would like to donate to the Baked Goods Table.**

_____ **I would like to volunteer my time at the event setting up on Friday Oct. 11 TBA. Name** _____

_____ **In the kitchen event day.**


Name _____


You can put this form in the collection basket, if you wish drop in the mail or call the rectory. Thank you so very much.

Mass Schedule OLP/SP 315-422-7163
 Saturday Vigil - 4:00pm Vietnamese Mass 6:00pm
 Sunday - 7:30am, 11:30am
 9:30am Vietnamese
 Monday - Thursday 9:00am in the Chapel
 Reconciliation Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm


 **The SJB/HT rectory will be closed on Monday September 2nd in observance of the labor Day Holiday.**

HOPE Appeal 2024
 Next weekend is HOPE Appeal Weekend. It is a time when we join with members of our Catholic family to strengthen our Church and serve others in our community. You will receive a letter from Bishop Lucia asking for your support of the 2024 HOPE Appeal. Please review the information and prayerfully consider making a gift that is meaningful to you. You may bring your completed pledge card to Mass, drop it by the parish office or use the return envelope with your letter. You can also make a gift online at www.syrdio.org.



 **St. Elizabeth Mission Society**
Sunday September 1st.
 We will have a visiting missionary from St. Elizabeth Mission Society with us today, Sunday September 1st to introduce us to this mission. The Mission Society's founder, Rev. Mother Jean Marie Greeley, sought to bring their mission work of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany closer to the American people and provide permanent financial support to the ministries of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany. In partnership with its members and benefactors, the Mission Society is committed to supporting a life of service making Christ present in the World, and responding to human needs. Each year, the Mission Society provides over \$150,000 in grant funding and ongoing support to programs where the Franciscan Sisters are actively ministering to those who are poor in Jamaica, Brazil, Bolivia, Mozambique and the United States. Visit www.FranciscanHope.org for more information. **Make checks out to St. John the Baptist with memo for St. Elizabeth Mission Society please. We will forward all donations.**

He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." — **Mk 7:14-15**
 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

 **Remember:** Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, Jean Brooker, B.J. Bubniak Family, Arlene Bukowski, Ashley Caiello, Robert Capria, Catherine Cushman, Linda Deapo, Theresa Domathowski, Hank Donohue, Ginny & Erin Donovan, Jenny Emmi, Jon English, Tenley Farrow, Marilyn Ferretti, Ellen Gangemi, Gladys Graham, Robert Greenwood, Joseph Guinto, Jeanne Hammond, Mary Isgar, Carla Johnson, Tony Lauretti, Shirley Kerr, Emma Lane, Kay Ledermann, Jackie Limeri, Maria Luisi, Judy & Skip Marioritti, Michael & Darlene Morga, Diane Moro, Peggy Palerino, The Pavia Children, Antoinette Perotta, Cherie S., Faith Setzer, Marion Sherwood, Esther Sindoni, John Sobon, Patricia Soule, Timothy K. Suppes, Barbara Traino, Gerry Vaccaro, Shelly Visco, Matthew Watkins, Fred Wheeler and Maureen White. **We also remember in our prayers our Service Men and Women & our Health Care Workers.**
Due to HIPAA laws, hospitals are not allowed to give names of patients. Please notify the parish office if you have a loved one in the hospital, a nursing home or is homebound and would like a visit.

