

## St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

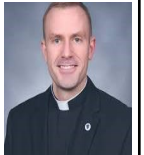
406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208  
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September 15, 2024

# 24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### From Fr. Brendan Foley

Before diving into the readings for this Sunday, I first want to thank you again for your attention to this year's Hope Appeal. I sincerely acknowledge that it takes great sacrifices for us to meet our goal, but please know how your generosity makes such a difference and truly enables us to take to heart and even respond to the Letter of St. James that we hear at Mass today: *"If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,' but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it?"* Our contributions to the Hope Appeal are a very concrete way of making the corporal and spiritual works of mercy happen on a daily basis in our local community and around the 7 counties of our diocese, so please know the gratitude for your support not just from me, but from thousands of others, too!



The conclusion of the Gospel passage today is not one that we readily desire to embrace: *"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."* We often wear the crucifix around our necks, or love to have the cross adorn the walls of our bedrooms or offices or car rearview mirrors, and appropriately so, as it stands a constant reminder of the depth of love the Lord has shown us. Of course, however, as Jesus first spoke these words, what would have instantly come to mind would have been an instrument of torture and death—most people did not want to look at a cross or even think about a cross, because it was such a terrible way to die. The condemned criminal had to drag his own cross to the place where he would eventually be executed by crucifixion. So the reality that it is somehow an essential part of this relationship is hard to swallow.

So how should we respond to Jesus? Well, certainly following Jesus and doing so in all seasons of our life takes a resolute decision and an act of our will, such as the perseverance reflected in the first reading today. The 'servant of the Lord' (in Isaiah) has suffered violence, persecution and rejection, yet his commitment to endure is firm. The servant has great confidence that the Lord is a defender and that he will not only be sustained, but exalted. It's good for us to remember that "to follow after Jesus" does not mean to simply go along as a passive spectator to all Jesus' healings, miracles, and wise teachings, but literally means to *go where He goes!* While on one hand that necessarily passes through persecution and the cross, on the other, our conformity to him will see us pass, not only through the cross, but also to the glory of the resurrection—where suffering and death have no place or power over us. While suffering and death are now both inevitable in this life, the wise choice is rather to find ourselves so closely conformed and united to Jesus, that we too can be confident to journey with Jesus through his triumph over the cross, to the ultimate freedom of eternal life for which we were originally made.

We were not made for the cross; we were made for life, the fullness of life in God. May the Holy Spirit enlighten us that we might not be daunted by the weight or magnitude of the cross before us, but rather live confidently with the same praise on our lips uttered by the Psalmist today because we know Him who willingly embraced the depths of suffering to forever save us from despair: *"Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful...I was brought low, and he saved me. For he has freed my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I shall walk before the Lord in the land of the living."* Amen!

### 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](mailto:nbergeson@svrdio.org)

Web Site - [www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com](http://www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com)

Syr. Dio. Web-site - [www.syracusedioocese.org](http://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

## 2025 Mass Book and Special Requests

The 2025 Mass Book is open for your intentions for the 9:00am Sunday Mass. Please call 315-478-0916 or stop by the rectory during office hours for your intentions. Masses are **\$15.00**. As well, you may request to have the **Sanctuary Lamp \$10.00 or Bread and Wine \$25.00** in memory of your loved one(s) for the week.



## A Family Perspective Family Life Education



If we want to be happy at home, we must commit (“lose ourselves”) to our family. If we try to be independent from others (“save ourselves”) we end up lonely and alone. Happiness is found in commitments. The Gospel is true: We save our life by losing it!

## Pray For Vocations

“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.” Are you seeking a simplistic way of life? You may be called to take the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Discover that life as a priest or religious brother or sister. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.



## Weekly Readings And Observances

### Readings for the week of Sept. 15, 2024

Sunday: Is 50:4c-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (9)/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35  
Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10,

17/Lk 7:1-10  
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 7:11-17  
Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22/Lk 7:31-35  
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/Lk 7:36-50  
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13  
Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 (6b)/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

### Observances for the week of Sept. 15, 2024

Sunday: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday  
Monday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs  
Tuesday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
Wednesday:  
Thursday: St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr  
Friday: Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chông Hasang and Companions, Martyrs  
Saturday: St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist  
Next Sunday: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time ©LPi

## Reflect: Readings and Gospel 24th Sunday In Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Isaiah stands firm in his faith as he suffered in following God’s call. Can you think of a time when you supported someone in their faith?

**Second Reading:** James believed that good works are the fruit of faith. Where is there a need for good works from you this week among family or friends?

**Gospel:** Jesus reveals to his disciples that as the Messiah, he is destined to suffer greatly and die, but on the third day, rise from the dead. This was difficult for Peter to accept. How do you stay open to ideas you resist? ©LPi



## Priest Convocation

All Diocesan Priests and Deacons are required to be away with Bishop Lucia from Monday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon (September 16th-18th). There is still Daily Mass at Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peter on Monday 9:00am as usual, but not on Tuesday or Wednesday, nor will there be Wednesday afternoon Confessions at OLP/SP on Sept. 18th. The Friars at Assumption will still have their daily Masses Tuesday and Wednesday 8:30am in the Grotto and 12:15pm in the Mall, Confessions 2-4pm in the Mall, too, so please join them there!

## (Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman Take Up Your Cross



When I’m interviewing people for my job as a staff writer at an archdiocesan newspaper, I like to ask them this question: at the end of your life, when you meet God, what do you want to hear Him say?

I’ve gotten a lot of interesting answers.

*“I called and you listened.”*

*“What tee time would you like tomorrow?”*

*“What were you thinking?”*

*“Your service made things better.”*

It’s a question I’ve thought a lot about, personally. What I want to hear God say when I finally see His face is this: “You can put it down now.”

When Jesus asks his disciples “Who do you say that I am?” he is not just asking them to verbalize an answer. He is asking them to do something: pick up the cross. Find the problems in this world, in this life, and throw your arms around them. Drag them to God, even if it kills you. It’s not enough to stand by the sidelines, watching Christ ascend to Calvary, nodding your head in approval. *Yes, I agree. Yes, I believe. Yes, Jesus, good job!* You have to follow in every bloody footprint he leaves in the dust. Set your face like flint. And when you meet him at the top, you better not be empty-handed. He has a cross, he will expect you to have one, too.

I hope that I can do it. I hope that I am strong enough. I am not one of those great, hardy souls. I stumble terribly under the weight of my very small cross. I grumble as I shift it from shoulder to shoulder. But every time I have been almost at the point of giving up, almost ready to lay it down, there is something — Someone — who supports my drooping arm. The Lord God is my help.

If, at the end of everything, I hear the words, “You can put it down now,” then I will know I have made it. I will know I have not failed: I took up the cross.

*“Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Matthew 16:24 ©LPi*

**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. 15, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Robert Greenfield - The Family  
Giuseppe Migliore - The Family  
Raffaele & Speranza Migliore - The Family  
Vincenzo & Angela Abbatiello - The Family]

Sunday Sept. 22, 2024

9:00am SJB/HT - Bill Judge - Melanie Lyons  
David McLaughlin - Mother  
Deceased of the Pennacchia Family - The Family

## Lector Schedule - Sunday September 22

9:00 am SJB/HT: Lisa Johnson



## 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

Our International Food Festival will be held on Saturday October 12 from 12:00-6:00pm. And this is what you can expect to see there.

Our volunteer food servers will be offering; Samples for foods at \$1.00 and \$4.00 for available meals. **German** Sauerbraten, **Italy** Meatball Subs, **Russia** Beef Stroganoff, **Sweden** Swedish Meatballs, **Mexico** Tacos, **Italy** Eggplant Parmesan, **America** Chicken & Biscuits and Pulled Pork and Chili. We will serve \$3.00 Hot dog \$4.00 Hamburger w/chips. Fried dough 1/\$2.00 6/\$9.00. We will have a Baked Goods table. **(If you would like to donate a baked good, information above).**

We are collecting gift certificates/cards from various supporters for raffling at 1/ \$1.00, 6/\$5.00 and 15/\$10.00 and a 1/\$5.00 or 3/\$10.00, 50/50 raffle at the end of the event.

**See you all at the Festival!!**



**Scratch Off Lottery tickets accepted anytime between now and our International Festival October 12th.**

**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, 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.**



## HOPE Appeal 2024

We are very happy to report that pledges have started to come in toward our HOPE Appeal goal. Remember that all gifts we receive above our goal will be returned directly to our parish. We will use these funds as directed by Fr. Foley. Thank you to everyone returning their HOPE Appeal pledge card this weekend! If you are still prayerfully considering your pledge, you may bring your completed pledge card to Mass next week, 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](http://www.syrdio.org). \*\*\*\*SJB/HT goal/\$16,968.00.



## Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference (DCYC)

Saturday, November 23 from 10:00am-4:00pm at Sacred Heart Cicero. Join Bishop Douglas Lucia for this Diocesan Conference with youth from across the diocese! Featuring keynote speaker Ennie Hickman and worship leader John Paul von Arx! Participate in Mass, games, talks, lunch, and Adoration. Open to youth in grades 7-12. \$20 per participant. Questions; Office of Adolescent Catechesis and Discipleship [acd@syrdio.org](mailto:acd@syrdio.org) or call 315-470-1427 on line [www.syrdio.org](http://www.syrdio.org).

## Holy Water

### Question:

What is holy water and how do I explain the reason that it is placed at the entrances of churches to my non-Catholic friends?



### Answer:

Holy water is a sacramental, a reminder of the life of the Church expressed and celebrated through the sacraments. God's grace is mediated through word and gesture (the outward signs). This comes to us through Jesus (instituted by Christ) as he entrusts to the Church his saving mission (to give grace). In turn the Church, through the sacraments, shares that grace and mission with us.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our foreheads to remind us of our origins, humbly created from the dust. But by blessing ourselves with holy water, we are reminded of our destiny! We are baptized sons and daughters of God. This is also a call to conversion, to live more fully our baptismal call to live as disciples of Jesus. We see holy water whenever we renew our baptismal promises. This will occur during the Easter liturgy as well, reminding us that we are indeed on a journey of faith and renewed in Christ. Blessing ourselves with holy water reminds us that we are baptized into a community faith, and always in need of turning from sin and toward God. Holy water is a visible sign of our baptism! ©LPi



**H**e summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." — Mk 8:34-35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



## 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