

# St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208  
Office (315) 478-0916 Fax (315) 423-8096

October 6, 2024



## 27<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

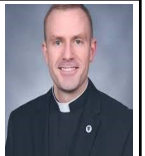
He said to them in reply,  
"What did Moses command you?"  
They replied, "Moses permitted a  
husband to write a bill of divorce  
and dismiss her." But Jesus told  
them, "Because of the hardness  
of your hearts he wrote you this  
commandment. But from the  
beginning of creation, God  
made them male and female."  
- Mk 10:3-6

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

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### From Fr. Brendan Foley

Before we arrive too quickly at a conclusion that our readings today cause us too much discomfort, we should first remember the Church's role in holding us to the 'highest standards' when it comes to the moral life. Just as any parent is responsible for the forming and nurturing of a child, so too the parent loves the child and desires his or her best fulfillment! There are many categories of vulnerable lives that we must defend, and always from a place of steadfast love: women and children, born and unborn, the sick and the elderly, the migrant and the refugee, to name only a few. So, yes, while we as Catholics meet a lot of resistance on many issues pertaining to life and family, and while many might say our demands of the moral life are high—maybe even extreme—but likewise so it is with the mercy of God. For extreme demands, just as radically extreme is the mercy that God is ready to offer to the one who truly desires it. Jesus chose to go to the bitter pain and shame of the cross, and in doing so he opened his heart that the wellspring of life would pour out on us and on the earth, to free us from the tyranny of sin and death. The fountain of mercy gushed forth from Jesus' heart and we are ever invited to encounter that heart there in the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be cleansed and renewed whenever necessary.



Bishop Robert Barron likes to point out the comparison regarding the Church's 'high standards' when it comes to things like violence or war. While in some areas of life people want to see the Church scale back lofty expectations, likely no one of sound mind and heart would suggest that the Church should scale back her expectations when it comes to peace, protection of the innocent, or the use of chemical warfare, etc in areas of global conflict. As a result, we see how important it is that we, as members of the Body of Christ, stand up for the rights and protections of those most vulnerable **and** that we do so consistently across all stages of life. The Church, guided by the inerrant word of Sacred Scripture and the living Spirit of the Lord, calls us to embody charity in its purest form which comes from no where else but God alone. Jesus has high expectations because he calls us to live *his* level of love—a much deeper, disinterested love, where I care more about 'the other' than I do myself.

How does Jesus love? He holds nothing back of himself, his life is given entirely in love for us. **'This is my body given for you.'** When we give Jesus permission to accomplish such a high level of love in us, he makes it possible, and through our vocations and our participation with him, he produces great fruit. So remember that it is worth our sacrifices to love even when it is difficult or unpopular. As Pope Benedict XVI beautifully reminds us, "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness." Whenever we settle for anything less than Jesus, we risk damaging ourselves or others and we risk warping our ability to give or receive love. That is a truth that is timeless. Yes, the Gospel has extreme demands, but yes, there's extreme mercy to transform us for what we were truly made for. Jesus needs you and me to enlighten the world and to show to others the 'path of life'. May we always be courageous to place ourselves in service and defense of all life.

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

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

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

## Religious Education Announcements

We will be starting Religious Education classes on October 20th. Classes will be from 9:45-11:00am. We will be having classes from Pre-K (4 yrs. Old) to Confirmation II.

If you wish to have your child participate, please call Betty Warren at 315-420-6357.

REGISTER FOR  
RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION



## 2025 Mass Book and Special Requests

The 2025 Mass Book is open for your intentions for the 9:00am Sunday Mass. **\*\*Note: we will only be booking Masses and requests from January-April.** 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.

## Prayer For Everyday And Everybody

Prayer to Respect Life

Dear Lord,

What a gift You have given in every human life.

Inspire us to respect Your handiwork in every human we encounter.

Embolden us to protect the dignity of the most vulnerable members of society.  
Amen.



## A Family Perspective Family Life Education

In today's Gospel, Jesus encourages married couples to throw away the marriage rulebook. Rules are for those with "hardened hearts." Married couples are called to be a sacramental reflection of God's faithful and selfless love, a place where people live and love beyond rules and formulas.

## Pray For Vocations

"We see Jesus crowned with glory and honor." Will you let the Holy Spirit lead you to be a reflection of His divine glory as a priest? Seek the opportunity to serve and lead others. Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: [vocations@syrdio.org](mailto:vocations@syrdio.org) and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.



## Reflect: Readings and Gospel 27th Sunday In Ordinary Time

**First Reading:** Today's reading from Genesis provides the foundation for our Christian understanding of marriage. Who in your life has a happy and successful marriage?

**Second Reading:** The author of Hebrews teaches us we are united with Jesus as one family in our suffering and death. Are there any family members who need your support and comfort this week?

**Gospel:** The Pharisees learned that Jesus holds a higher standard on marriage than even Moses. Does Jesus's position on marriage surprise you? ©LPi



## (Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman The Hardness of Your Hearts



As far as I know, no one has ever woken up in the morning, looked out the window, and thought, "This is a beautiful sunrise. I'll have to be very careful not to let it make me happy."

But I'm certain that every day, lots of people — including, on not-infrequent occasions, myself — have woken up and remembered something that happened the day before. Something that made us feel upset or frustrated or insulted. And we thought to ourselves, "That makes me so, so angry." And we've pictured the face of the person who made us feel that way, and we have scoffed with disgust.

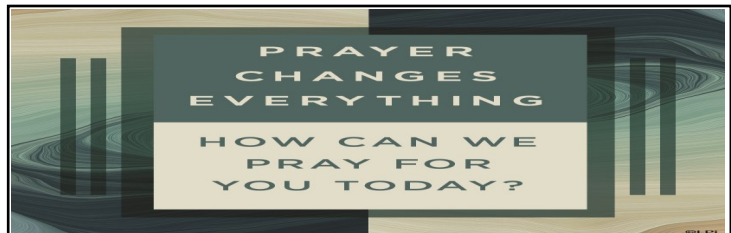
And we hold onto that anger because anger feels so much better than sadness. And deep within ourselves, in the place where we feel all the love and pain and confusion that is inherent in human existence, we harden.

Nobody ever intends to be hard-hearted. That's just the stuff of Bond villains and horror flicks. No, in real life a hardened heart isn't a conscious choice. It's a reflex. It's just us trying to protect ourselves, to be strong — or, at least, to embody the version of strength offered by a fallen world.

A heart of stone is not so easily scratched, you see. But it's also not so easily warmed or touched or moved.

A heart hardened by resentment and pain and anger is not just protected from injury. It is protected from the impact of the whole spectrum of tender feelings. It is not open to forgiveness, so it cannot feel the rush of life-giving mercy. It is closed off to new ideas, so it can never feel the awe of discovery.

There is a reason we are called to guard ourselves against hard-heartedness. God gave us hearts of flesh and blood. They are hearts that can be broken, yes — but also, they are hearts that can be made new. ©LPi



## Prayer Requests

Please do continue to put your prayer requests into the prayer boxes. The boxes are located in the Park St. vestibule and inside the Church at the parking lot entrance. Fr. Lester has graciously agreed to offer up your requests when he says Mass for himself, which he faithfully does everyday. The prayers will be collected each Monday and kept on the altar in the Chapel.



"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." — Mk 10:7-9

**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 October 6th, 2024**

**9:00am SJB/HT** - Janet William - The Family  
Antonio McLaughlin - Mother  
Tommasina Carfagno - Twin Brothers  
Rita Carroll - Annette & Mark Hartman  
Francis Galimi - Theresa & Daryl Hegarty

**Sunday October 13th, 2024**

**9:00am SJB/HT** - Michael Judge  
Giovanna Musuraca - The Family  
Maddalena Campanino - The Family  
Rosemary Lane & Family - The Estate

### Lector - Sunday Oct. 13

9:00am SJB/HT: Cathy Schotthoefler



### Eucharistic Ministry

We have returned to using Eucharistic Ministers to help distribute the Eucharist at Mass on Sundays. If you would like to help with this, please contact Betty Warren at 315-420-6357 or email at [warrenbeliz@yahoo.com](mailto:warrenbeliz@yahoo.com).

Below is the list of ministers for October.

#### Center

Oct. 13th Cathy Horton  
Oct. 20th Karen Fekete  
Oct. 27th Mary Beth Cusano

#### Mary's Side

Larry Argiro  
Joan LaVergne  
Betty Warren

**We have collected 67 Scratch Off Lottery Tickets to date!**  
**Thank you to all who donated and we are still accepting Scratch Off Lottery tickets anytime between now and our International Festival October 12th.**



### 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, Beans & Greens w/ Garlic Bread, **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!!**

### 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

### Rectories Closed

St. John the Baptist/Holy Trinity and Our Lady of Pompei/St. Peters rectories will be closed on Monday October 14th in observance of Columbus Day. Please check with OLP/SP for the Monday Mass that day. 315-422-7163.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

### Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary October 7, 2024

“As a prayer for peace, the Rosary is also, and always has been, a prayer of and for the family. At one time this prayer was particularly dear to Christian families, and it certainly brought them closer together. It is important not to lose this precious inheritance. We need to return to the practice of family prayer and prayer for families, continuing to use the Rosary.”

-P. John Paul II Rosarium Virginis Mariae, #41



The Bread and Wine is offered in memory of

**Janet William**

Requested by The Family



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for:

**Janet William**

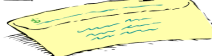
Requested by The Family

### HOPE Appeal 2024

Thank you for your support of the 2024 HOPE Appeal. We have raised \$6,375.00 towards our goal of \$16,968.00. If you have not yet made your gift, we ask you to join us in strengthening our church and serving people throughout our diocese. You may bring your complete 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.syrдио.org](http://www.syrдио.org).



### Offering Envelopes



### Sacrificial Giving

Week September 29th

SJB/HT Collection: \$2,399.00

**Remember:** Mike Affleck, Shawn Babcock, Nancy Bailey, 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, Luciano & 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.**

