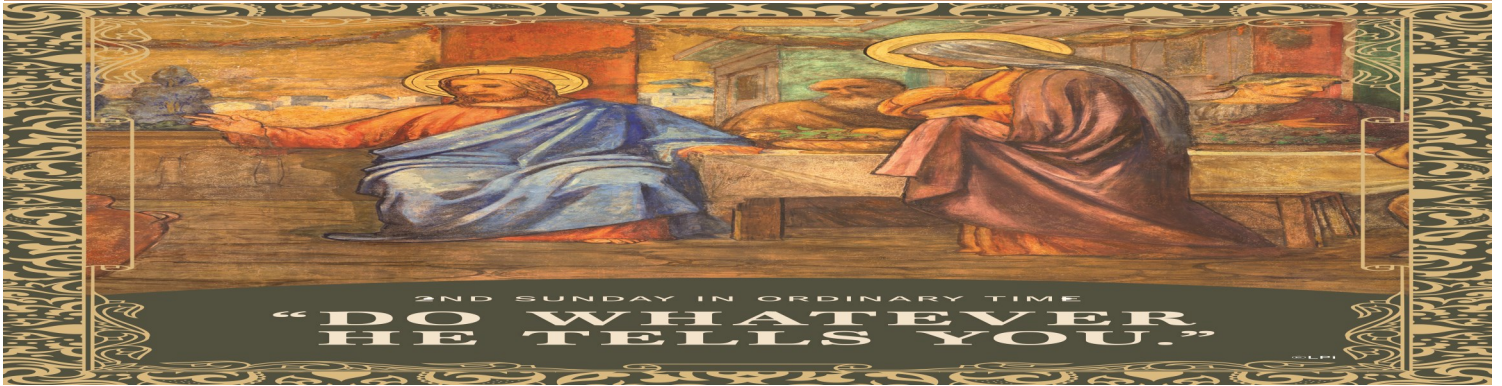


St. John the Baptist and Holy Trinity Parish

406 Court Street Syracuse, NY 13208

Office (315) 478-0916 Fax (315) 423-8096

January 19, 2025



From Fr. Brendan Foley

Today we are invited to reflect on the beautiful moment of the Wedding Feast at Cana! From a quick glance it reveals a very interesting first miracle for Jesus in John's Gospel—making sure the wine doesn't run out at the party!—yet, below the surface of this event, there is great richness to discover about the heart of God for his people. Last Sunday in the Baptism of the Lord, we saw revealed the presence of the Holy Spirit, the intimacy between Jesus the Son and the Heavenly Father and the communion that unites them. Because of this oneness, in all of Jesus's words and actions he reveals to us the heart or the essence of the Father. Having just concluded our Christmas season, we can say with boldness that the heart of the Father was to enter into space and time and into intimate relationship with his people; to keep us in communion with Him.

The intentionality is fitting, then, that the Gospel of John reports Jesus' first miracle at a wedding, pointing us again to the deeper marriage in the Incarnation: that of the human and divine. But in this first moment of being able to see Jesus' divinity at work, it's not an incredible healing, not a calming of a storm, but rather entering a beautiful celebration, a joyous occasion that he desires to bless. Hold in sight at the same time, the first reading from the prophet Isaiah: *For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.* The Lord approaches us with the desire to be so intimately united to us, in a fruitful and life-giving relationship, like that of a marriage, with permanence and fidelity.

This miracle is more than a moment saving this newly joined family from awkwardness or embarrassment, but also the end of the wine signified the end or dying of the celebration. In biblical times, weddings were not just a one night celebration but they continued for days, and going through the Old Testament, poetic images of wine (especially in abundance) were images of divine life. The flowing of wine described how lavishly the Lord desired to pour out his grace and mercy on his people. It intoxicates, lifts the spirit. To run out of wine, metaphorically invites us to consider the sadness of being separated from God's endless life flowing in us. This was an experience all too familiar to the people of Israel, when they chose to turn away or to fill themselves with what could not ultimately satisfy.

Do we not also do the same? Do we not also fear that God's grace won't satisfy? We turn to the other sources to try to quell or satisfy our desires, but still come up restless, unsatisfied, laden with anxiety...when we are honest with ourselves these other things that we cling to don't have the same capacity to connect us to the heart and life of God. We know this, and yet we still choose in our weakness to try to provide for ourselves instead. The more we confront this reality though, the more we become aware that we need Grace to support and sustain us. How beautiful then, that Mary, full of grace, intercedes with her son in this moment, teaching us by example how we are to live. Mary, who is inundated with the life of grace, shows us what our posture should be when we are faced with a crushing loss—*no more wine, lacking in the divine life?*—what is her instruction? **“Do whatever he tells you.”** This is the key to ‘the wine’, to engaging divine life: being attentive to whatever it is that Jesus asks of us. In seeking to follow after his ways, Jesus not only shows us the path to life, but he also offers us to be touched and transformed by his divinity in the process so that he can truly follow and accomplish in us the fullness of life both now and in eternal life. May we follow Mary's example and may we drink from the riches of God's divine life anew this day!

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@syrдио.org

Web Site - www.stjohnthebaptist-holytrinity.com

Syr. Dio. Web-site - 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

Lector - Sunday January 26th

9:00am SJB/HT: Chet wisniewski

Eucharistic Ministry

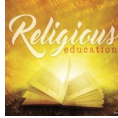
If you would like to help as a Eucharistic Minister, contact Betty Warren at 315-420-6357 or email at warrenbeliz@yahoo.com.

Center

Jan. 19 Mary Beth Cusano
Jan. 26 Dave William

Mary's Side

Betty Warren
Mary Anne Bergamo



Religious Education Announcements

There are no Religious Ed. Classes this week, Jan. 19th, Happy Martin Luther King Day. Classes will resume on Jan. 26th. Please pray for our students as they continue their education. Please especially pray for our 2 Confirmation II students who will be confirmed on April 5th.

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

“Do Not Park”

Thank you for your cooperation with our **DO NOT PARK** request in the back lot along the side hill. Coned off area. Parking is permitted in the back lot where the staff only signs are. As soon as weather will permit, the drainage grate will be top priority.



SJB/HT Christmas Ornament

The Christmas Ornaments are available for purchase at \$20.00 each. They will be available after the 9:00am Mass, or you can call the rectory to stop by for them. If you would like us to mail the ornament, anywhere, there is a \$5.00 mailing fee added. It is a picture of the stained glass window in the church of the Holy Family. And St John the Baptist Holy Trinity is stamped on the bottom. A wonderful memento of our parish.

A Family Perspective Family Life Education

At Cana we get a good insight into Mary's parenting style. She did not plead, argue, demand or manipulate. She merely pointed out the situation and trusted her son would make the best decision.



Pray For Vocations

“Do whatever He tells you.” Mary said this to the servers at the wedding where Jesus turned water into wine for them to enjoy the celebration. Mary cares the same for us and for our joy, so she tells us the same. What is Jesus telling you to do? Is it to become a priest, deacon or religious? Reach out to the Vocation Office via email: vocations@syrdio.org and follow us on Instagram @vocationssyracuse.

Reflect: Readings and Gospel

Gospel Question: After all the wine was consumed, Jesus turned water into wine for the bride and groom at the wedding. When have you received an unexpected gift from someone?



1st Reading Question: Isaiah spoke of God's delight in Jerusalem and desire to see Israel as His spouse. What married couples do you know who genuinely take delight in each other?

2nd Reading Question: Paul taught the Corinthians that the gifts of the Holy Spirit to individuals are meant to benefit and unify the community. What gifts do you have that you think benefit others?



9:00am Mass Intentions for SJB/HT Sunday January 19, 2025

9:00am SJB/HT - Vincenzo Abbatiello - The Family
Concetta & Pasquina Bruno—The Family

Sunday January 26, 2025

9:00am SJB/HT - Debbie Greenfield - The Family

Offering Envelopes



Sacrificial Giving

Week January 12th
SJB/HT Collection: \$1,975.00

Rectory Closed

SJB/HT and OLP/SP rectories will be closed on Monday January 20th in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. There is no Noon Mass at OLP/SP on this day as well.



Blessing of the Throats

A general Blessing of the Throats will be on Sunday February 2nd as well as after Mass, Fr. Foley will bless throats individually if preferred.

(Practicing) Catholic - Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: Sometimes we forget, or even refuse, to bring small concerns and inconveniences to God because we think we should be able to handle them on our own. What a ridiculous attitude that is — as if we could handle anything on our own.



Do Whatever He Tells You

I once ran out of pizza at my kid's birthday party.

Everyone told me it wasn't a big deal but come on. It was a disaster. I had invited all these people over. They showed up with presents and sang “Happy Birthday” and stood around patiently while my kid ripped through his cache of gifts. The very least they were expecting was to be fed sufficiently.

I'll tell you what, I sure could have used the Blessed Mother that night.

I love the story of the wedding at Cana because it's such a silly little miracle. I don't mean to be disrespectful — of course it's an incredibly important moment in Christ's public life. But it's not healing a leper. It's not raising the dead. It's not even walking on water. It's saving a young couple from embarrassment.

I think sometimes we forget, or even refuse, to bring small concerns and inconveniences to God because we think we should be able to handle them on our own. What a ridiculous attitude that is — as if we could handle anything on our own. It's so fitting that Mary, ever the observant Mother, is the one to bring the matter to Jesus' attention. He asks her what this problem has to do with him. She doesn't answer him, because, between you and me, I don't think he's asking her. I think he's asking us. All she does is tell the waiters what I consider to be the best piece of advice in all of Scripture: “Do whatever he tells you.”

I'm so quick to throw up my hands and feel sorry for myself when I encounter a barrier in my life. What I should be doing is taking the matter to God, and then doing whatever He tells me.
©LPi

Coat Donation

Gently used winter coats are being collected by the NEHDA, North East Hawley Development Association, and you can help with any coats unused in your closets. They also participate with the needs of the northside. We will have a donation box in the Park Street vestibule for collection. Donation deadline is January 26th. Check out the flyers on the Church bulletin boards for information as well. These coats will be distributed to those in need of winter warmth.



HOPE Appeal 2024

Thank you for your support of the 2024 HOPE Appeal. We have raised \$18,153.33 passing 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 completer 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.

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 at this time.** 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.



WORLD MARRIAGE DAY Mass and Reception

Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 2:00 pm
The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Celebrant: Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia

All married couples and their families are welcome.

Special recognition honoring those celebrating 25, 50, and 50+ years of marriage in 2025.

Couples celebrating 25, 50, or 50+ anniversaries. please contact your parish office to receive your invitation

A special blessing will be offered for all couples in attendance.



Sponsored by the Office of Family/Respect Life Ministry



Contribution Statements

If you require a SJB/HT Contribution Statement of your church donations for 2024 taxes, please contact the rectory during office hours, 315-478-0916, email at nbergeson@syrдио.org or fill in the slip below and send to SJB/HT 406 Court St. Syr. NY 13208, or, save a stamp and put your request in a plain envelope and put it into the collection basket attention "Nancy".

PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR REQUEST INTO YOUR CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES.

Name: _____

Address: _____

C/S/Z: _____ Envelope Number: _____

Devotions, Explained! The Angelus Mini Explanation

The Angelus is an ancient devotion whose practice developed over the course of several centuries. It is composed of three antiphons that tell the story of the annunciation, each followed by a Hail Mary. It is usually said daily at noon.



The Angelus, Explained

The incarnation of Christ changed the life of every Christian person who ever lived. Reflecting on that moment in salvation history is an opportunity for grace, growth and peace. Who wouldn't want that every day, or even three times every day?

The Angelus is composed of three antiphons which narrate the annunciation, each followed by the recitation of a Hail Mary (a prayer that itself contains the "angelic greeting" of the angel Gabriel). Its name is derived from the first words of the prayer in Latin.

This devotion was developed over the course of several centuries and is rooted in the ancient practice of saying three Hail Marys in the evening. Historically, people were called to prayer by the ringing of church bells — "the Angelus bells." Most people who recite the Angelus do so daily at noon, though it is often said in the morning, at noon and in the evening. ©LPi

Prayer For Everyday And Everybody Prayer for the Miraculous

Oh God beyond my understanding,
Bring Your soul-stirring power into my life today.
In the places where people are saying, "It can't be done" or "There's no solution," act in such a way that responds: "There is a way, and there is a God, and He loves me." Amen.



FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE UNBORN



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, Patrick St. Thomas IV, 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.**

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.