



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2021 SANDRIDGE ROAD • ALDEN, NEW YORK 14004

Rectory Phone: 716-937-6959 • Fax: 716-937-0075

Email: st.johnsaldenparish@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchAldenNY

<https://www.stjohnalden.com>

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Baptist is a faith-filled Catholic Christian community, centered on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Gospel, and His Church. We watch and pray as we respond in loving service to the needs of our greater community. We aspire to grow in holiness, dedicated to life, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in order to inspire faith and hope in all people.

AUGUST 1, 2021

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH LIFE

Temporary Administrator: Rev. Daniel J. Serbicki
Priest Moderator:Rev. Msgr. Vincent Becker
Sacramental Minister:Rev. James A. Walter
Sacramental Minister:Rev. Richard DiGiulio
Permanent Deacon:Marc Leaderstorf
Permanent Deacon:Peter Donnelly
School Principal:Jonna Johnson
Business Manager:Kate Wypij
Director of Music & Liturgy:Dan Stachelski
Administrative Assistant:Stephanie McCormick

SACRAMENTAL LIFE:

WEEKEND MASSES AND SCHOOL MASSES ARE LIVE
STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Saturday Mass - 4:00 pm

Sunday Masses - 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Weekdays (Monday-Friday) - 8:30 am

Vigil Mass - As Announced in the bulletin

Holy Day - As Announced in the bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration: First Fridays (9 am - 7 pm)

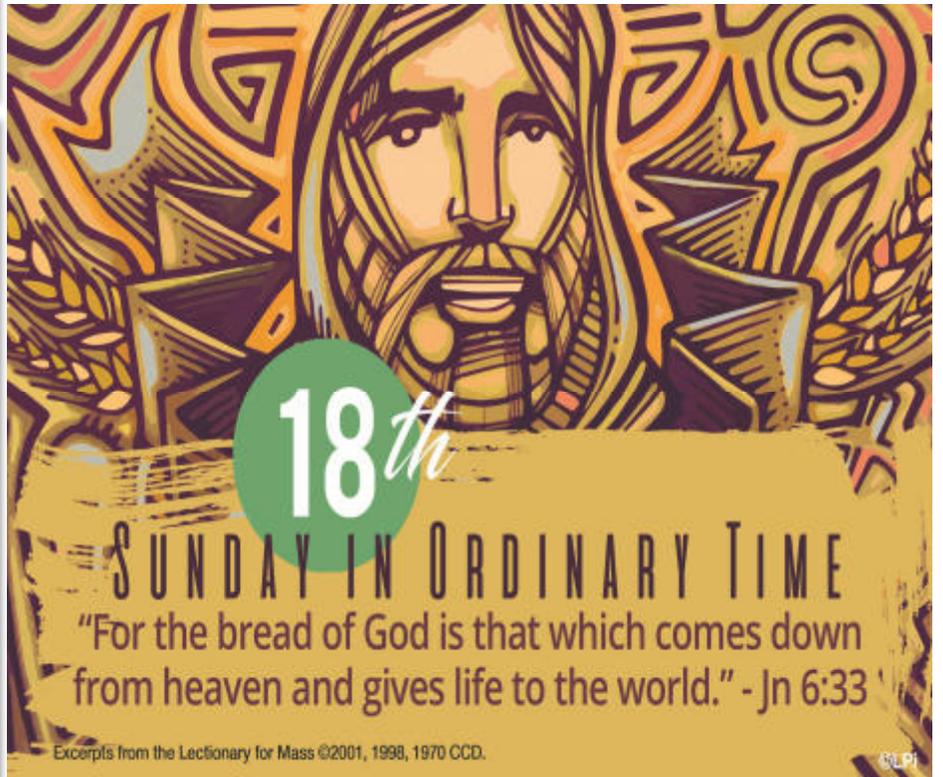
Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 3 pm

Baptism: Baptisms are being scheduled with the safety of all in mind. If you have any questions, please call the rectory or email Baptism@stjohnsalden.org

Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least 9 months ahead. A Marriage Preparation Program is required.

Letters of Recommendation: Given to those who attend Mass regularly, are registered at least a month in the parish, and are baptized and confirmed. Also, married parishioners must be married in the Catholic Church.

Bulletin Deadline: Articles and inserts are due 4:00 pm Friday, one week prior to publication.



St. John the Baptist School: 2028 Sandridge Road • Alden, New York 14004
School Phone: 716-937-9483 • School Fax: 716-937-9794

Faith Formation: 716-937-6959
Faith Formation Email: faith.formation@stjohnsalden.org

New Parishioners: Please contact the rectory to register.
Office Hours are Mon-Fri 9:00 am until 2:00 pm



A Word From Father Dan

There are good things in your life right now that are there because God loves you. And he has even better things in store. Do not lose hope. Do not become discouraged.

In today's gospel, Jesus reminds us that so much of the world that we love will ultimately perish. This should always move us to be grateful for the present, to notice, enjoy and give thanks for the blessings we have. Yet there is something even better: a food that "endures for eternal life." So we do good now, and love one another, but we look forward to something even more lasting.

My own time with Deb Brown was far too short, but I look forward to seeing her again in heaven. In the short time I have been here so far with St. Johns, I have come to love this church too. So the most helpful thing I can do for you is to outline what may happen next.

I agreed to help at St John's in a temporary capacity, with the understanding that Deb would either return by the end of the summer, or we would begin the process of finding a permanent leader here. With Deb's passing, that process can begin sooner. Fr Joe Rogliano has already spoken to the bishop about our situation, and I agreed that we could use a priest here.

The Road to Renewal program, discussed in a bulletin flyer recently and at roadtorenewal.org, will change the way pastoral leadership works in our area. The proposal is to have one "super" pastor overseeing about five parishes, including St. Johns. They would be helped by other priests.

With such a large change on the horizon, it sounds as though assigning priests is difficult right now. Whoever came here to replace Deb would lead here for just a few short years before the change. Yet that is the basic path in front of us: myself here for now, then a new leader for a while, and then a new "super" pastor and we become part of a family of families.

Pray for our family here, for strength, for unity. Remember that God does love us. And look for the good that he gives, even when it is difficult.

Liturgical Corner By Deacon Peter Donnelly

Today the apostles ask Jesus what they need to do to accomplish the works of God, and Jesus' response is that they simply need to believe in the one He sent. There's a lot to unpack in that simple response.

Each time we receive the Eucharist, we receive our Savior, who is fully present in the sacrament. More than just a sign, Jesus is present as completely as he was when he was with his disciples discussing what it means to accomplish the works of God. Our "Amen" when receiving the Eucharist is an affirmation of our belief in the mystery that Jesus explains today. We are saying that it is truly so, or that we believe it to be - that Jesus is the Son of God, sent to save us. Our "Amen" is accomplishing the work of God.

Jesus is our lifeline back to God, bridging the gap that we have created by our own sinfulness. We need to believe and choose to accept this salvation. It is our free will to be swept up once again into this eternal love affair, or not. To become believers who will become complete in a way that could never be achieved any other way - to never hunger or thirst for anything because we will have attained everything we need.

Understanding and believing in the truth that Jesus talks about in the gospel today is the foundation of our faith. Do we believe in the relationship between Father and Son, as well as the purpose of Jesus' incarnation? Amen. We have accomplished the work of God.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-5

The Anamnesis and the Offering

By: Dan Stachelski III

The next part of the Eucharistic Prayer has four parts before we reach the "amen" -- the anemnesis, offering, intercessions, and the final doxology.

The Anemnesis. Just as a child cannot wait to tell their parents of their accomplishments, we tell our heavenly Father of our participation in the sacred mysteries following our acclamation of the Paschal Mystery. The first part of the prayer that follows is called the *anemnesis* ("memorial" in Greek) and makes Christ's saving action on the cross present so that we can participate in its power more fully. Previously, in the Mass, we heard the Lord's command to "Do this in memory of me," now the priest begins to explicitly state before God the Father that we are doing just that. The first word of the anemnesis is "therefore," the same word that began the epiclesis, but our focus has shifted. In the epiclesis, we asked for the Holy Spirit to transform our gifts because it was God's own plan that an offering be made to the glory of His name. Now we pray as we do because Jesus said, "Do this in memory of me." The "do this" is what we are doing now with the bread and wine; the "in memory of me" refers to his death and Resurrection. "When we eat this bread and drink this cup ("do this"), we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus ("in memory of me")."

The Offering expresses the awesome privilege we have in the Mass to offer what Jesus offered on Good Friday. Jesus offered up his sacrifice alone on the cross, but in the Mass he offers it with his Church as he associates us with this sacrifice. One of the possible prayers is "We offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice" (Eucharistic Prayer III), and it expresses just that - we are invited to unite ourselves with this sacrifice of Christ. This is not only Christ's sacrifice, it is "the oblation of [his] Church." This moment and this place in which we stand is the fulfillment of God's plan "that a perfect offering be made to the glory of [his] name."

We asked for the Holy Spirit to enable us to make an offering because it was His plan, now we are able to do so in our communion with Christ's death and resurrection that is remembered now. We are participating in the perfect self-giving love of the Son on the cross.

Reflection. "In this very memorial, the Church -- and in particular the Church here and now gathered -- offers in the Holy Spirit the spotless Victim to the Father. The Church's intention, however, is that the faithful not only offer the spotless Victim but also learn to offer themselves, and so day by day to be consummated, through Christ the Mediator, into unity with God and with each other so that at last God may be all in all." (General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 79)

A Word from Today's Scriptures

The Bread of Life Discourse: Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

Jn. 6:35 Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Prayer starter: Jesus, you are the true bread that was sent from heaven to give life to the world; a life that will last forever. You alone are the answer to our hunger.

FUNDRAISING

Thank you to all who participated in the Cow Plop! Congratulations to all the Winner's of the Cow Plop Squares:

Board One:

Tom Kirstenstrin \$300
Ann Matthias \$25
Rocky Kotas \$25
Carl Matthias \$25
Nancy Long \$25

Board Two:

Deacon Marc and Del Leaderstorf \$300
Lou Ann Roberson \$25
Kevin Leigh \$25
Father Jim Walter \$25
Rosemary Hopcia \$25
Nancy Long \$25

PARISH NEWS

- ◆ **Outdoor Mass** - Next Week, August 7, the 4 PM Vigil Mass will be outside (weather permitting) on the lawn between the church and the rectory. Please bring a lawn chair.

MINISTRY NEWS

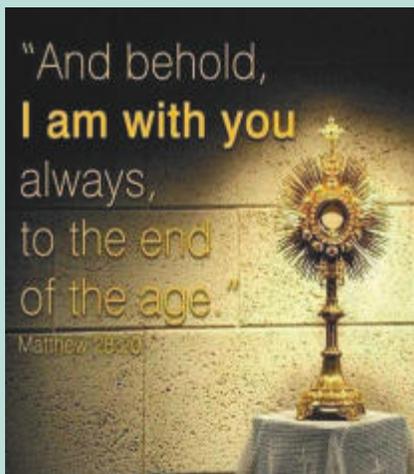
FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - AUGUST 6TH 9AM -7PM—SUBMITTED BY DELPHINE LEADERSTORF

Saint Alphonsus Liguori proclaimed, "Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." Sitting before the Eucharist in awe and wonder is something faithful Catholics have been doing for centuries. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Catholic faith (CCC 1324). Jesus is truly the Bread of Life. Like the Apostles, Mary Magdalene, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Joseph, and other New Testament figures, we too see Jesus on a consistent basis. No he will not be donning sandals or his mighty epic beard during Eucharistic Adoration, but we will still experience the same love. Try to find at least 15 minutes this week and visit our Lord. Better yet invite a friend or family member to go with you!!

<https://thesimplecatholicblog>

reasons-to-go-to-eucharistic-adoration .

Coming next: 7 reasons to go to Eucharistic Adoration



SAVE THE DATE

ST. JOHN'S LOVES ITS TEENS! PARISH YOUTH MASS - SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 11 AM. SPECIAL INVITE TO ALL CONFIRMED IN 2020!

That's this year's 2021 graduating Seniors and some Juniors. Our 2020 Confirmation class was challenged by COVID, but it's never too late to recognize our young Catholics! The 2021 Confirmandi received practical and spiritual gifts and a 3-minute rosary key chain! The 2020 Confirmandi will be called forth to receive a St. John's ProLife T-shirt and all youth will receive scapulars with a pamphlet. Our great hope is for our youth to realize St. John's Parish cares about them and wishes them a deeper understanding of their Catholic faith and teachings as they continue their spiritual life's journey in today's world! Youth volunteers are needed: lectors, gift bearers, and ushers. Please call 785-7195. There will be a social right after Mass - Please join us!

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Hope After Heartache – Tools for Living with Loss. Buffalo Catholic Cemeteries offers a comprehensive grief support program for those who have lost a loved one which includes three locations and four meeting choices per month, including a widow and widowers group. This program is presented as part of the Grief Support Program of the Buffalo Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Buffalo. Open to the community; no charge. Call Marianne Hubert, Director of Grief Support, 716-873-6500, for a brochure of grief support times and locations, as well as other activities, or request information by email to mhubert@buffalocatholiccemeteries.org.

Mercy Hospital seeking Eucharistic Minister Volunteers. Consider a calling to serve in a special way. Mercy Hospital of Buffalo, located at 565 Abbott Rd., Buffalo, is seeking Eucharistic Minister volunteers to serve on its Spiritual Care team. These volunteers bring Eucharist and fellowship to the Catholic patients at the hospital. All volunteers receive special training, followed by ongoing guidance and support. Our Eucharistic Ministers are trained by chaplains working for Catholic Health in ministry to the sick. Individuals interested in volunteering as a Eucharistic Minister or for more information about volunteer opportunities throughout Catholic Health, please contact Heide Cornell, Director of Volunteer Services at Catholic Health at 716-319-8405 or email hcornell@chsbuffalo.org.

Please pray for all who are in need: Ann G, Mackenzie Refermat, Theresa Kwiatkowski, Joe & Susan Hoiden, Nicholas Oddo, Tom Pasek, Susan Abramo, David Nowak, Dorothy Czechowski, Dawn Duncan, Kathy & Leonard Wagner, Nicole Lindner, Terry Moore, Marlene Smith, Jackie Budnik, TSI Group, Marian Butler, James Creighton, Scott Meidenbauer, David Borden, Gary Powers, Christine Mayer, Bill Chapman, Jim Nowinski, Ed Monoco, Joanne Mueller, Marcia Kegl, Ken Warren, Kathrin Boling, Mitchell, Gail Hans, Marie Boller, Diane Zymowski, Sharon Pfeiffer, Sr. Ellen, Dawn LaPage, Amy Bonamici, Robert Kalczynski, Roger Morpheu, Fred & Helen Polyowicz, Sharon Fisher, Donna Hamm, Ron Soper, Madeleine Newman, Gilbert Fries, Michael McNally, Al Fromm, Dolores Kuciel, Theodore Langner, Tom Czechowski and All Special Intentions.

FAITH FORMATION:

Several families have not dropped off their books. Please return those as soon as possible as we will begin distributing books at the beginning of August for those who would like to get an early start to the online piece of the program. Your books are needed for this year's program.

Volunteers are needed for this coming school year. Not all our volunteers will need to teach classes. If you can help, even a few times a year please call the office at 937-6959 for more information.



SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. John's Parish,

The past two weeks have been full of fun Math learning. The theme of our math camp was "Expanding your Math Mind" and it was so exciting to see the children engaged and excited about Math. If you missed it this summer, we hope that you will come and join us next year as we make plans to expand the camp for ELA and Science.

This upcoming week the fun continues with VBS! If you did not pre register, don't let that hold you back from joining in on the fun. We will take walk-in registration on August 2nd at 9am.

We are still holding open registration for the 2021-2022 school year. We have a few classes that are full, but lots of openings in our 5th - 8th grade classes. Give the office a call to schedule a personal tour and find out how St. John the Baptist school can be the right fit for your child!

School Office Hours: Beginning on June 28th and continuing through mid August the office will be open Monday through Thursday from 9am until 2pm. It is recommended that you call 716-937-9483 prior to arriving to ensure that someone will be there to assist you.

You can like us on Facebook (St. John the Baptist School Home Page or Principal Jonna Johnson Home Page) to see more exciting events and school news.

www.stjohnsalden.com



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 31

4:00 pm Debbie Brown - Pat & Ed Heslin

Sunday, August 1(18th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:00 am Pearl Dahl - Joe & Darlene Dahl

9:30 am Gretl Karlnoski - The Family

11:00 am All Souls

Monday, August 2

8:30 am Msgr. David Slubecky—Family & Estate

Tuesday, August 3

8:30 am John Schmitt - Wife & Family

Wednesday, August 4

8:30 am Debbie Brown - Widows and Orphans Association

Thursday, August 5

8:30 am Arthur Nuwer—Estate

Friday, August 6

8:30 am All Souls

Saturday, August 7

4:00pm Raymond & Theresa Roll Sr. - Estate



Sunday, August 8(19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:00 am All Souls

9:30 am Larry Kocher - Jim & Helen Giczowski

11:00 am Cathy Jumper - The Karlnowski Family & St. John's Legion of Mary

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

The Sanctuary light is lit to the Glory of God & for

Our Parishioners



FINANCE

WEEKEND OF 7/25/2021

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Total.....\$7,534.02

WESHARE

6/26-7/16.....\$4,617.00

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

(9/1/2020-8/31/2021).....

.....\$415,576.14



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www.stjohnalden.weshareonline.org

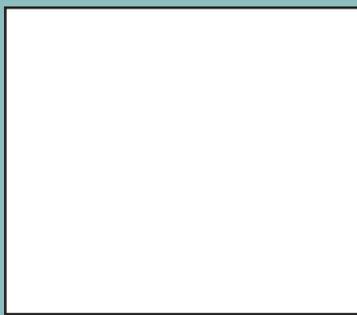


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