



# 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](mailto:st.johnsaldenparish@gmail.com)

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<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 8, 2021

NINETEENTH 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)

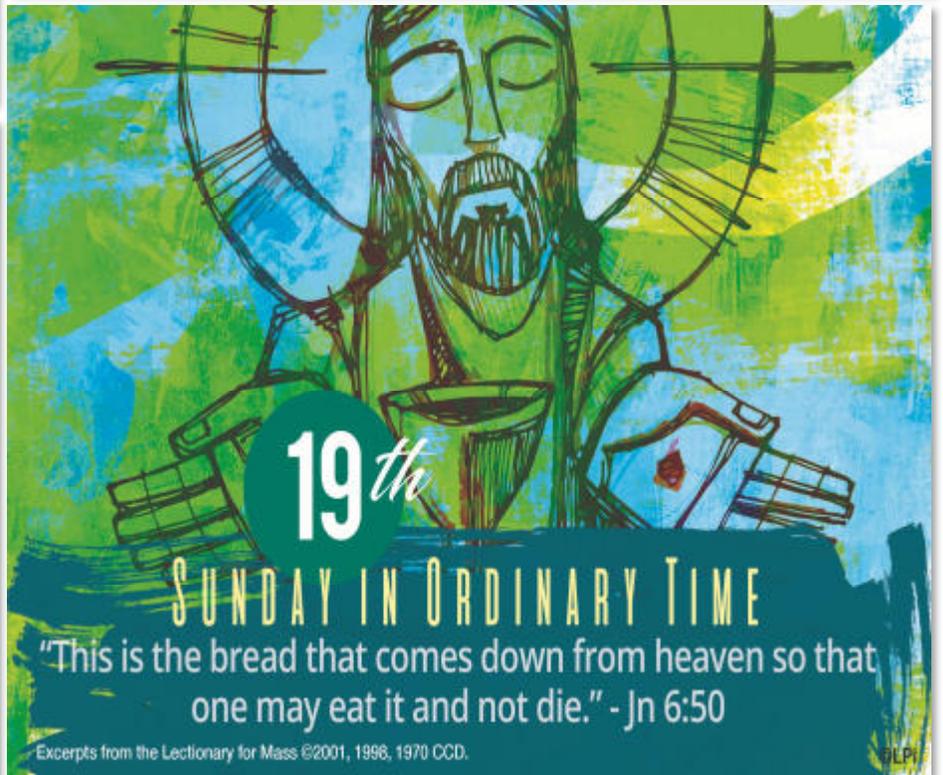
**Reconciliation:** Every Saturday at 3 pm

**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](mailto: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](mailto:faith.formation@stjohnsalden.org)

**New Parishioners:** Please contact the rectory to register.

**Office Hours** are Mon-Fri 9:00 am until 2:00 pm



## Liturgical Corner By Deacon Marc Leaderstorf

In our Gospel today, Jesus begins the second part of his discourse from the Sermon on the Mount. In the first part of his discourse Jesus presents himself as the Bread of Life in which having faith in him is food for eternal life. In this second part of the discourse, Christ reveals the mystery of the Eucharist (Greek-*eucharistein* - thanksgiving), he is the Bread of Life who gives himself sacramentally; we are given, in the Blessed Eucharist Jesus Christ himself as nourishment for our souls - spiritual food which sustains and develops supernatural life. "I am the bread of life." "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." The Jews were "offended," "clueless," "revolting," "a horrified dispute," "scandalous," and there was a "shudder of disgust" are words that were used to describe the reaction of the Jews. Considering that 70% of Catholics today don't believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, there are likely similar words that are being used today by modern day Catholics to describe their unbelief in the Real Presence. But Christ's words have such a tremendous realism that they cannot be interpreted figuratively or symbolically - if Christ was not really present in the species of bread and wine, this discourse would make no sense. If his Real Presence is accepted on faith, then the meaning is very clear and we are able to see his mercy and infinite love for us; it truly is the "mystery of our faith."

St. Irenaeus (2<sup>nd</sup> C.) said it well, "Our way of thinking is attuned to the Eucharist, and the Eucharist in turn confirms our way of thinking." I invite you to meditate on this statement and consider how different our world could be if this was our way of thinking each day. We give thanks that we have been judged worthy to receive our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist

## The Eucharistic Prayer: Intercessions

By: Dan Stachelski III

Within the Eucharistic Prayer various petitions are made. The first one is known as the second epiclesis. "Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one Spirit in Christ." This is a second request for the Holy Spirit. The first request was to transform the gifts of bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood. This second request (now that the gifts have been transformed) is for us who receive them to be transformed into them. This is our communion with Christ's sacrifice.

The next petitions are for the universal Church, which names the pope and local bishop, and then intercedes for all bishops, clergy, and the entire people of God, both living and dead. The specific names mentioned are not intended to represent the individuals themselves, they represent the communion of the local Church (bishop) and the worldwide Church (pope). The dead may also be named, reminding us that they are present here as well. Sometimes names of saints are mentioned in the intercessions. We obviously could not name all of them, but they are mentioned to remind us that all of them are present at this eucharistic celebration and that this is truly a feast of heaven and earth.

The final part of the intercessions prays for everyone in the world that "this sacrifice may advance the peace and salvation of all the world" and for "all that seek [the Lord] with a sincere heart."

**Reflection.** The intercessions, by which expression is given to the fact that the Eucharist is celebrated in communion with the whole Church, of both heaven and of earth, and that the oblation is made for her and for all her members, living and dead, who are called to participate in the redemption and salvation purchased by the Body and Blood of Christ. (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 79, g*)

## MINISTRY NEWS

### REASONS TO GO TO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

SUBMITTED BY DELPHINE LEADERSTORF

#### 1 – Unites You to the Sacrament of the Eucharist

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, "When you look at the **CRUCIFIX**, you understand how much Jesus loved you **THEN**. When you look at the **SACRED HOST**, you understand how much Jesus loves you **NOW**." **NOW!!!** The Eucharist is the Sacrament of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ. **His body, blood, soul, and divinity under the appearance of a simple host.** Sitting in Eucharistic adoration lets you draw closer to the Mystery of the Eucharist. We can easily dismiss this reality – but by taking the time to drive to a Church you make a sacrifice of your time. The same sacrifice you make to go to Church on Saturday or Sunday. When we think of the immense sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, it is a very small sacrifice on our part to come and adore.

#### 2 - Increase in Holiness by Bathing in the Light of the Son

Everyone enjoys tanning, working in the garden, bicycling or a myriad of other outdoor activities in the sunlight of summer. Going to Eucharistic Adoration does for your soul what these outdoor activities do for your skin— it transforms it. Yet, too much physical light burns. Whereas, when staying before the light of the SON for a period – short or long - your sins will be revealed to you and destroyed. **Eucharistic adoration** is a precursor to confession for what has been revealed to us in adoration.

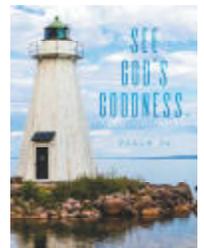
St. Clare of Assisi proclaimed, "Gaze upon Him, consider Him, contemplate Him, as you desire to imitate Him." Standing in the "Sonlight" will lead to you think like the Son. You will become more patient. Kinder, gentler. More obedient to God's will for your life as you encounter your parents, spouse, children, friends priests, bishop or other spiritual authorities in your life. Bath in the light of Son and be prepared for noticeable results.

### A Word from Today's Scriptures

It is written in the prophets: *They shall all be taught by God.* Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me. *John. 6:45*

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

*Prayer starter: Thank you, God, for your grace so freely given so undeserved. Lord Jesus Christ, I believe you are the Son of God, and the way to the Father lies through you*



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28  
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-5

**ST. JOHN'S YOUTH MASS & SOCIAL! SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 11:00 MASS**

Please join us for a much-anticipated "Faith Lift!" Celebrating Grads! This is a special invite to the 2020 confirmation class to recognize our parish's high school graduates moving forward in life, and our 2020 confirmed juniors as they become seniors! Students will receive a pro-life t-shirt. All youth are welcome to attend and will receive a scapular and all are invited to Pizza & Punch Picnic Social after Mass outside by the Church (if raining- SJS Gym). There will be Pick-up Kickball for those who wish to play! Sponsored by SWMM, Worship, Liturgy, Respect Life Committees, and 200 Club Youth Fund! Please help spread the good news. Youth are needed to help at this Mass. Please call Youth Ministry Volunteers: 785-7195.



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS  
WHAT'S YOUR HEARTH CAKE?**

"Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." I've been to a lot of meetings in my years of work in the Church, and you can take my word for it: the ones with snacks just seem to go better.

I don't know what it is exactly. Maybe it's just that people are in a more agreeable mood if you show up with donuts. Or maybe it's about the very real sense of community and camaraderie that is created at a table where people are engaging in that most human of tasks — eating — beside one another. I think a big part of it comes down to the simple fact that we're all just nicer people when we're fed.

This rings true spiritually, too. We simply must remain fed if we, in turn, are to feed others. Think of a time when you have neglected your relationship with God — when you haven't fed yourself with whatever it is that you need to remain committed to the journey of a Christian life. Is it Mass attendance? Is it prayer or Scripture reading? Is it time with your small group, or conversation with a trusted friend who knows your soul? What sustains your ability to be a good disciple, a good steward? What inspires you to give more freely, to love more abundantly?

Whatever it is, that's your hearth cake. That's your jug of water. Don't neglect it. The Angel of the Lord is nudging you in your sleep: "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you."

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**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.

**PARISH NEWS**

**New Envelopes:** Starting September 1st, we will be going through Our Sunday Visitor for our weekly envelopes. What this means for the parish is that we will have a more cost efficient company, who is very active with their customer service teams. The envelopes are of equal quality that we have and any changes such as address doesn't have to wait for the office to upload a new list. OSV is a promising company that we are looking forward to working with.

**FUNDRAISING NEWS**

We received late word about a few Sponsors who had so kindly helped with our recent Lawn Fete. I apologize for this oversight and want to express the parish's and my deepest gratitude for your gracious generosity. Our Lawn Fete Committee is extremely thankful for your continued support  
Sincerely, Jennifer Boucher

- ◆ Blackwater Tavern & Tap
- ◆ Alden Pools and Play
- ◆ Alden Family Dentistry
- ◆ The Elwood Jordons Insurance Agency
- ◆ Funk Electric

**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](mailto:mhubert@buffalocatholiccemeteries.org).
- ◆ **Struggling does not have to be a part of your new normal.** You can turn to Catholic Charities for support! Our agency offers several types of counseling including: marriage counseling, substance abuse treatment, diocesan counseling for church ministers, and comprehensive assessment and counseling for children, adults and families. To get connected, call our Helpline at 716-218-1419. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit [www.ccwny.org](http://www.ccwny.org). Join us on Facebook Instagram and Twitter.

### 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.

**Special Notice:** Our Faith Formation Program is still scheduled to begin in September. If families have any questions, please contact the rectory.



### SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. John's Parish,

Is Catholic Education right for my child? This is a good time to find the answer to this question. We once again find ourselves preparing to start a school year amidst a pandemic, and I challenge our parish families to ask themselves the following questions:

- Did my child have a great school year in 2020-2021?
- Did my child's teacher support their learning by creating individual assignments and at home support?
- Did my child attend school every day for In Person instruction?
- Is my child excited about school starting this year?

If you answered " No" to any of these questions, then it is possible that your child would benefit from the outstanding learning opportunities provided at St. John the Baptist school. I am always happy to meet with parents, and their children, to answer these questions and more.

Many Blessings,  
Jonna M, Johnson, Principal

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](http://www.stjohnsalden.com)



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Saturday, August 8**

4:00 pm Debbie Brown - Pat & Ed Heslin

**Sunday, August 9(19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

8:00 am All Souls

9:30 am Larry Kocher - Jim & Helen Giczkowski

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

**Monday, August 10**

8:30 am Irene Richter - The Richter Family

**Tuesday, August 11**

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

**Wednesday, August 4**

8:30 am Debbie Brown - Widows and Orphans Association

**Thursday, August 5**

8:30 am Alice Roll - Estate

**Friday, August 6**

8:30 am All Souls

**Saturday, August 7**

4:00pm Margaret Musciel - Family

**Sunday, August 8(20th Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

8:00 am Stephen Kotlowski - Nick & Gretchen Smith

9:30 am David Zimmerman - Gabriel & Joan Ciulla

11:00 am Timothy Ferron - Margaret Schwegmann

**FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 8**

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

*Our Parishioners*



**FINANCE**

**WEEKEND OF 8/1/2021**

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

Total.....Not Available

**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE**

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

.....\$415,576.14

"AND BEHOLD,  
I AM WITH  
YOU ALWAYS,  
UNTIL THE  
END OF  
THE AGE."

MATTHEW 28:20

# Charles Meyer

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