



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.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

TWENTY-THIRD 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.



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"—that is, "Be opened!" - Mk 7:32-34

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



Worship Aid

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



WEEK 1: SEASON OF CREATION 2021

Today is the First Sunday of the 2021 Season of Creation. This season is a time of prayer and action stretching from September 1st, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, to October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The Season celebrates God as Creator of the vast cosmic universe, God's revelation in creation, and our calling to care for creation, to protect its rich diversity and to address the urgent, destructive crises threatening its health and future – including our own.

This year's theme is *A Home for All? Renewing the Oikos of God. Oikos is a Greek word for home. It is the root word for terms like ecology, economy, and ecumenical. It is used here, in the words of the ecumenical steering committee for the Season of Creation, to "point to the integral web of relationships that sustain the wellbeing of the Earth."*

This theme invites the global Christian community to recall that every creature of God upon Earth is loved by God for itself. It reminds us that the current exploitation of Earth is making it "a means to economic or political ends" and is destroying its ability to be the nurturing home for millions of species that God has created it to be. It invites us to ask what we must do to restore the planet to being the life-giving home God intends it to be for all that dwell here.

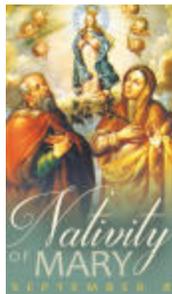
On this 1st Sunday of the Season of Creation, the scriptures urge us not to lose hope in the face of the urgent and complex climate crisis facing us. They remind us to trust in God Who is faithful and is even now working to save us. They challenge us to confront the false values of wealth and consumption that are so common and so destructive and to pray for Christ to open our eyes, our ears, our hearts. (Source: seasonofcreation.org, author James E. Hug, SJ)

A Word from Today's Scriptures

The Tradition of the Elders: Well did Isaiah prophesy... This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; In vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts. Mk 7:6b-7

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

Prayer starter: Lord Jesus, do not let me strive to appear holy, let me be holy. Purify my heart; purify my actions



READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/ Mk 8:27-3

The Breaking of Bread (Fraction Rite)

By: Dan Stachelski III

After the Sign of Peace, we sing the *Lamb of God*, but while we are singing two things occur -- the Rite of Breaking of the Bread and The Rite of Commingling. The ancient Jews used to "break bread" at the start of a meal. The head of the household would take the bread, recite a blessing, and then share it with those present. During the Last Supper (Institution Narrative), Jesus took, blessed, and broke the bread to give to his disciples. In the early Church, Christians called the Mass "the breaking of bread" (*Acts 2:46; 20:7, 11*).

The early Church saw this action with deep symbolism, as St. Paul writes: "The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because the loaf of bread is one, we, though many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Cor 10:16-17). This reveals that the Eucharistic bread symbolizes Christians' unity with Christ and with one another. So, when the priest breaks the Eucharistic host in the Mass, it brings to mind a tradition from the Old Testament Jews, to Jesus' practice, the Apostles in the early Church, down to the present day at this very moment in the Mass.

With all this in mind, think back to the story of the five loaves and two fish, which is recorded in Matthew (14:19, 15:36), Mark (6:41, 8:6), and in Luke (9:16). When Jesus fed the crowds, he took the bread, said a blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples to distribute to the crowd. These verbs are the same that are used at the Last Supper. These stories underscore the even greater miracle of the Eucharist. In the story of feeding the multitudes, Jesus was able to feed a large crowd. At the Last Supper however, Jesus institutes a spiritual bread - the Bread of Life in the Eucharist - to nourish an even greater multitude of people throughout the world and throughout the ages.

After Jesus rose from the dead on Easter, he broke bread once again when he appeared to two of his disciples on the road to Emmaus. At first they did not know it was Jesus walking with them, but they recognized him "while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them" (Lk 24:30).

Reflection. Watch for the breaking of bread at today's Mass. Does it have a new meaning for you?

FUNDRAISING NEWS

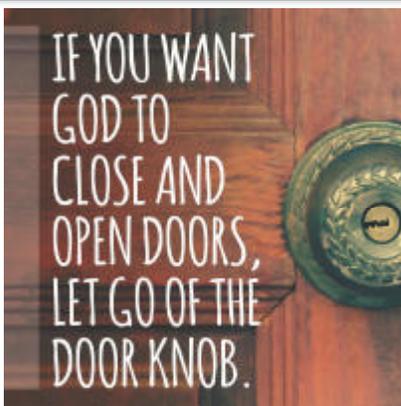
The fundraising committee has ordered the Fall Sweepstakes tickets for 2021. If you would like one mailed to you when they arrive, please contact the rectory with your name and address or send an email to st.johnsaldenparish@gmail.com. We will distribute them as soon as possible.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Catholic Health is in immediate need of certified Eucharistic Ministers to serve at Kenmore Mercy Hospital, Kenmore and Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, Lewiston. All interested volunteers should contact Heide Cornell, Director of Volunteers, at 716-319-8405.

PARISH NEWS

- ◆ **Labor Day:** The rectory will be closed in observance of Labor day. May everyone have a safe and enjoyable weekend.
 - ◆ **Work to the Gas line:** We received an update from the company that owns the pipelines that National Fuel will be working on. Although there is not a start date, they are looking to begin in late September. The line does go through the front of the rectory and they have asked that it is kept clear when work begins. Their work will also bring them along the front of the church parking lot near the road. As we know more on how this will effect Mass and parking, we will update our parishioners via the bulletin, announcements, the website and Facebook.
 - ◆ **Bulletin Content Reminders:** With our Church's busy season fast-approaching, here are some reminders for bulletin deadlines:
 - **All articles and flyers are due the Friday prior to publication.** We ask this in an effort to provide the most thorough and well-done bulletin possible. Flyers take a considerable amount of time to print, so the earlier we get them, the better.
 - **If you provide a flyer, we ask that ministries try to find volunteers to stuff bulletins.** If you need help, please contact the rectory no later than 12:00 pm on the Tuesday prior to publication so that we may help you the best we can.
 - **Please email your articles to st.johnsaldenparish@gmail.com or to stephanie.mccormick@stjohnsalden.org.** Those who do not have computers or those who may have technical difficulties, please submit your handwritten article to the church office.
 - **Around holidays, due dates are subject to change** because of our publisher's hours of operation . We will do our best to post these changes so that contributors may plan accordingly.
- If you have any questions, please contact the rectory. We will always help where we can and will try to accommodate everyone to the best of our ability. The key is to let us know your needs as soon as possible.



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 Keglar, Ken Warren, Catherine & Maurice Boling, Mitchell, Gail Hans, Marie Boller, Diane Zymowski, Sharon Pfeiffer, Sr. Ellen, Dawn LaPage, Amy Bonamici, Robert Kalczynski, Roger Morphew, Fred & Helen Polyowicz, Sharon Fisher, Donna Hamm, Ron Soper, Madeleine Newman, Gilbert Fries, Michael McNally, Dolores Kuciel, Theodore Langner, Tom Czechowski, Michael Volk, Beverly & David Pellitteri, Dolores Kuciel, Bruce Hoffman, Joe Adams, Gretchen Smith, Sharon Kruzawski, Dan Labuzzetta and All Special Intentions.

MINISTRY NEWS

- ◆ **St. John's Works of Mercy Ministry Upcoming Events:** Come join us for a patriotic/prayer rally on Sept 11 in remembrance of the events that occurred 20 years ago. After the 4 pm Mass, we will have a social between the rectory and the church from 5-6 pm in which hotdogs, chips, and apple pie will be served for dinner. The hour-long rally will start promptly at 6 following the social. Feel free to bring lawn chairs, flags, and anything else that you would like to help celebrate our great country! If you plan on attending, please contact the rectory with how many people will be attending this event.
- ◆ **All Souls Mass:** The Worship Committee is looking for people for who are interested in planning a bereavement Mass November 2, 2021. If you would like to help, please contact the rectory.
- ◆ **Outdoor Mass:** On Saturday, September 11, the 4 PM Mass will be outdoors, weather permitting. It will take place between the church and the rectory. Please bring a lawn chair or a blanket to sit on. Come and celebrate the wonder of God's Creation in our beautiful church "backyard"!
- ◆ **Road to Renewal:** This past weekend (August 29), two members of our parish community, Chuck and Kathy Sutter, attended a special celebratory Mass for the Road to Renewal. The "patron" of the Road to Renewal is Mary, Undoer of Knots. During the ceremony, each person prepared ropes with 5 knots, representing the Knot of Abuse, the Knot of Indifference, the Knot of Mistrust, the Knot of Lack of Faith and the Knot of Isolation and Individualism. Chuck and Kathy brought back the rope of knots which has been placed before the statue of the Blessed Mother. A copy of the Knot Reflection has also been placed on Mary's altar: if you are in the church for private prayer, you are welcome to use this reflection. Another rope of knots has been given to the school. There is also an information pamphlet in the vestibule and side entrance of the church for you to take home, and a holy card, which has a picture of Mary, Undoer of Knots on the front, and a prayer for the renewal effort on the back. For more information, please visit buffalodiocese.org, scroll down to Road to Renewal, and click. The Knot Reflection is included in the online information.
- ◆ **200 Club Winners for July:**

Week	Winner	Ticket	Seller
July 4th	Mike & Cheryle Ertel	172	Ertel
July 11th	Auguste & Justin Pautler	111	Turton
July 18th	Katie Miechowicz	169	M. Ley
July 25th	Chad Bea	62	M. Ley

FAITH FORMATION:

Don't forget to pick up your books if you have registered for Faith Formation. If you would like to sign your child up, please contact the rectory!

SEASONAL MAILINGS SURVEY

Each year, a letter for Fall, Christmas, and Easter/Spring is sent out to the parishioners of our beautiful church as a way of communicating what events may be occurring and Mass schedules. We would like to see which way would be the best way for you to receive the information, so please return this slip to the rectory, or email us at st.johnsaldenparish@gmail.com with what mode of communication works best for you.

Check One:

Please mail seasonal letters to me: _____

Please email season letters to me: _____

Name: _____



Email (if you would like us to email you letters):

SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. John Parish,

We are continuing to prepare ourselves for the start of school, and the fact that our building will soon be full of students. **“Full of Students.”** That is a great phrase for our school to be able to say. Despite the continued challenges that are brought about by the pandemic we are looking forward to opening our doors on Wednesday, September 8th and welcoming students and staff for the start of another great school year!

We want to thank the parish for your continued support, and we ask that you continue to keep the school, our students, and our staff in your prayers.

Many Blessings,
Jonna M. Johnson, Principal

School News: We are accepting registrations for grades PreK 4- 8th Grade for In-Person Instruction. Some of our classes do have a waiting list, so we encourage you to contact us soon. Please contact the school office to register your child!

Office Hours: We will resume our normal office hours of Monday - Thursday, 8am to 3pm and Friday, 8am to 2pm. **Please note that we will not be admitting visitors** to the school during regular school hours.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 4

4:00 pm Ken Reuter - Nick & Gretchen Smith

Sunday, September 5 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:00 am Betty & Bruce Janowski - Jamie & Sharon Hoelscher

9:30 am Michael J. Hopcia - Hurley Family

11:00 am In Honor of the Legion of Mary's 100th Anniversary
and the Birthday of the Blessed Mother on
September 8th

Monday, September 6

8:30 am Albert & Estelle Palistrant - Estate

Tuesday, September 7

8:30 am All Souls

Wednesday, September 8

8:30 am All Souls

Thursday, September 9

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

Friday, September 10

8:30 am Genevieve J. Kaczmarek - Estate

Saturday, September 11

4:00pm Kenneth Reuter - Jim & Carol

Sunday, September 12 (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

8:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the Holy Name
Society

9:30 am Michael J. Hopcia - Family

11:00 am Debbie Brown - Elaine LaFountain

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

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

*Fanny Holtz for her
100th Birthday*



FINANCE

WEEKEND OF 8/29/2021

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Total.....\$6,036.90

WESHARE

8/21 - 8/27.....\$1,352.00

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

(9/1/2020-8/31/2021).....
.....\$458,392.39

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