



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.

DECEMBER 26, 2021 THE HOLY FAMILY

PARISH LIFE

Pastor:Rev. Daniel J. Serbicki
Parochial Vicar:Rev. Patryk G. Sobczyk
Permanent Deacon:Marc Leaderstorf
Permanent Deacon:Peter Donnelly
School Principal:Jonna Johnson
Business Manager:Kate Wypij
Director of Music & Liturgy:Dan Stachelski
Faith Formation Leader:Angela Behrend
Administrative Assistant:Stephanie McCormick

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

Saturday Mass - 4:00 pm (8:00 am First Saturday Mass)

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 (9:00 am - 7:00 pm)

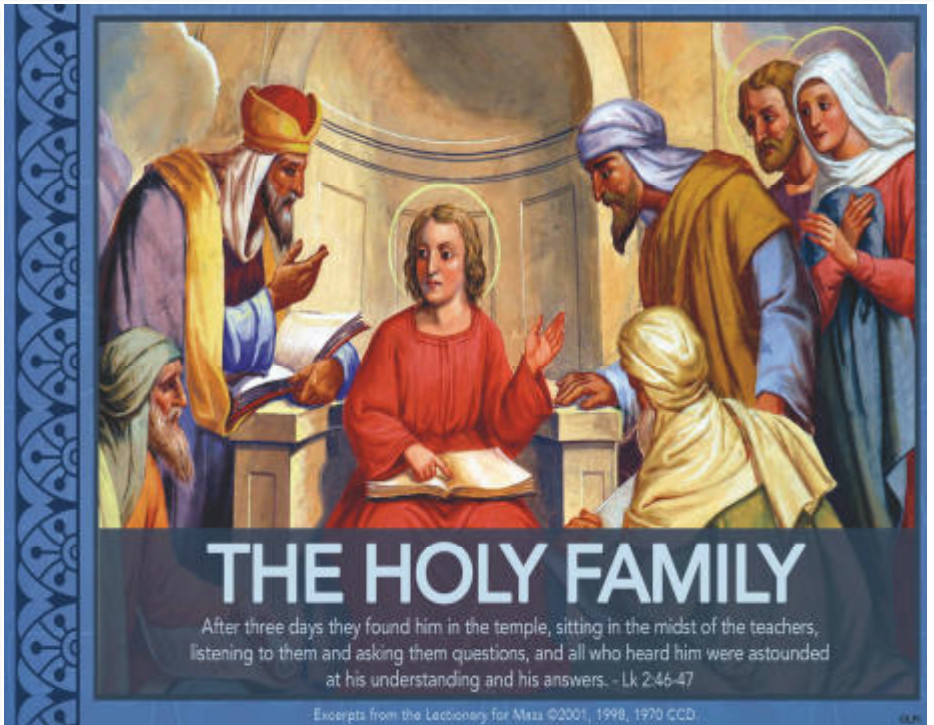
Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 3:00 pm

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.



THE HOLY FAMILY

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. - Lk 2:46-47

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



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



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS - STEWARDSHIP TIES

There is a lot of imagery around Christmas that has to do with adoption — or, more specifically, with a child being loved by another as if they belonged to that person and loved in such a profound way that in time, they do come to belong to that person.

We see this with Joseph and the infant Jesus. Joseph is not Jesus' biological father. But through a series of actions, and through his faithfulness in small, everyday matters, Joseph becomes the foster father of Jesus.

Perhaps we are parents who have adopted children, or we ourselves were adopted. We have also seen how, through a series of actions of love and sacrifice, someone can become the parent of a person who is not their "blood." A lot of times these families celebrate the day of the adoption. I've heard it called a "gotcha day," and it's marked joyously, like a birthday.

Most of us are not descended from the Israelites, God's Chosen People. But through a series of extraordinary actions of love and sacrifice, God has made Himself our parent, too. And through our own actions, and through faithfulness in small and everyday matters, we are His children.

But in this family, instead of blood ties, we have stewardship ties. It's not about who we look like, it's about how we treat one another. How we take care of one another.

So this Christmas, let's think about how we will celebrate our adoption. As much as it is Jesus' birthday, it's also our "gotcha day" — the day we received the gift of eternal family.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LP

A Word from Today's Scriptures

The Holy Family of Jesus: He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them, and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

Luke 2:51

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

Prayer starter: O God, thank you for giving us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life.

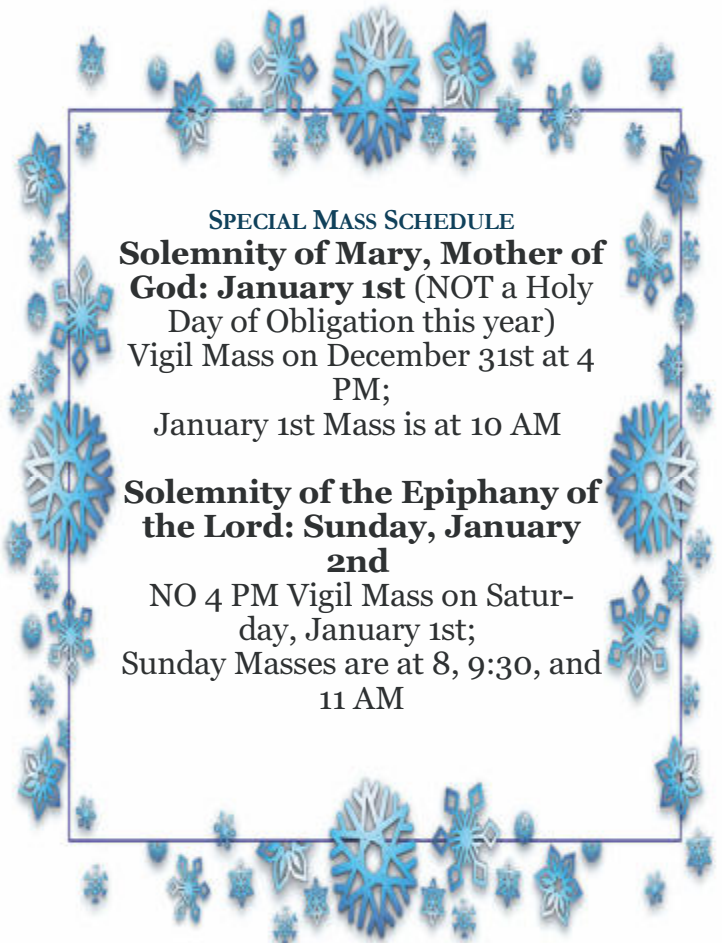
READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

COMING BACK TO CHURCH

Question: I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church? Answer:

Answer: If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church. Go to confession, begin good family religious practices, and be involved in the ministries your parish offers. Be more than a lukewarm parishioner. Be the kind of Catholic you want your children to be.

©LPi



SPECIAL MASS SCHEDULE

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: January 1st (NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year)
Vigil Mass on December 31st at 4 PM;
January 1st Mass is at 10 AM

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord: Sunday, January 2nd
NO 4 PM Vigil Mass on Saturday, January 1st;
Sunday Masses are at 8, 9:30, and 11 AM

RECTORY NEWS

- ♦ **HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:** The rectory office will be closed for Thursday, December 30th and Friday, December 31st to ring in the New Year.
- ♦ **POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR:** Thank you to everyone who donated a poinsettia this year. They are always a beautiful aspect of this blessed season. If you had donated and would like to take a plant home, you may after the Baptism of the Lord (weekend of January 8th & 9th.)



NEW YEAR WISHES

Greetings from St. John's! As we enter a brand new year, may the peace and joy of the season be with you all. Please have a safe, enjoyable, and blessed holiday.

Peace,

Fr. Dan, Fr. Patryk and all of St. John's staff

PASTORAL COUNCIL SEEKING NEW MEMBERS.

Do you want to be part of planning the future of St. John's? Join us as we continue to build & strengthen St. John's by sharing thoughts and ideas to move us forward. Prayerfully consider becoming a member. Meetings are held once/month. Members must be confirmed parishioners. If you are interested or have questions please call/text Scott Dobe (716-435-1597), Michelle Zaleski (716-870-1035), or Denise Wrest (716-913-9211).



MINISTRY NEWS

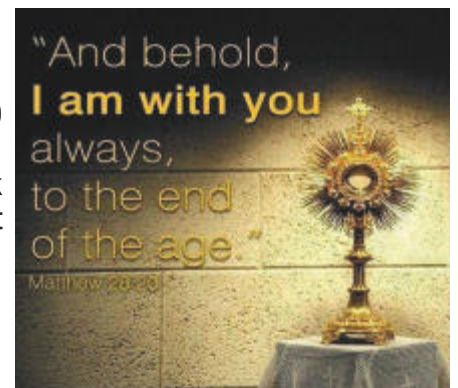
- ♦ **March for Life:** The Diocese of Buffalo has cancelled The March for Life this year due to the ongoing issues with COVID. Our Pro-life group will be planning something local. Please stay tuned in for updates.
- ♦ **The St. John's Works of Mercy Ministry** would like to offer assistance to families and individuals in need. Their work is supported by private donations of time, talent and treasure. If you know of someone who needs assistance, or you would like to support the Ministry, please call the rectory at 716-937-6959; or email: worksofmercy@stjohnsalden.org
- ♦ **200 Club Winners for November:**

Week	Winner	Ticket Number	Seller
November 7th	Marlene Bartram	171	Bartram
November 14th	Lynn Miller	179	Zaleski
November 21st	Al & Pam Turton	3	Turton
November 28th	Gerry Warner	48	Ertel

PARISH LIFE/EVANGELIZATION

COMING IN JANUARY 2022 THE CHOSEN SEASON 1

- ♦ This is the first multi-season series about the life of Christ, portraying Jesus through the eyes of those who met him. There will be eight weekly episodes and it is starring Johnathan Roumie, More details and dates to come - stay tuned! Email parishlife@stjohnsalden.org with any questions.
- ♦ **ADORATION:** January 7th, 2022 will be the first opportunity of the year to join us for adoration. Closing benediction is at 7:00 pm. There are sign up sheets in the back of church for different time slots to ensure that our lord is never alone.



Please pray for all who are in need: Ann G, Mackenzie Refemat, Theresa Kwiatkowski, Joe & Susan Hoiden, Nicholas Oddo, Tom Pasek, David Nowak, Dorothy Czechowski, Dawn Duncan, Kathy & Leonard Wagner, Nicole Lindner, Terry Moore, Marlene Smith, Jackie Budnik, Marian Butler, James Creighton, David Borden, Gary Powers, Christine Mayer, Bill Chapman, Jim Nowinski, Ed Monaco, Joanne Mueller, Marcia Kegl, Ken Warren, Catherine Boling, Mitchell, Gail Hans, Marie Boller, Diane Zymowski, Sharon Pfeiffer, Amy Bonamici, Robert Kalczyński, Fred & Helen Poltowicz, Sharon Fisher, Donna Hamm, Ron Soper, Gilbert Fries, Michael McNally, Theodore Langner, Tom Czechowski, Michael Volk, Beverly & David Pellitteri, Dolores Kuciel, Bruce Hoffman, Joe Adams, Gretchen Smith, Sharon Kruzawski, Dan Labuzzetta, Darlene Dahl, Jen Monroe, Walter Gablaski, June Beyers, Shirley Wheeler, Nicole M. Fudoli, Eileen & Martin Wirth, Fr. Roy Herberger, Dave Smith, Fr. Gabriel Scarfia, Christine Hausrath, Jeanie Graf, Jerry Starzynski, Missy Colosanti and All Special Intentions.

SCHOOL NEWS

Dear St. John Parish,
Merry Christmas! We are grateful for the continued support of the Parish and we wish you and your family Christmas blessings and health in the New Year!

Many Blessings,
Jonna M. Johnson, Principal

School Office Hours: Our students and staff are on Christmas break beginning on December 23rd. We will resume classes and normal office hours on Monday, January 3, 2021. **Please note that we will not be admitting visitors** to the school during regular school hours. If you need assistance, please contact 716-937-9483.

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



"GOD IS
LOVE.
WHOEVER
LIVES IN
LOVE LIVES
IN GOD
AND GOD
IN HIM."

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day - No 4:00 pm Mass)

9:30 am Gretl Karlnoski - Daughter, Kim

11:00 am Dave Fox - His Sister

Sunday, December 26 (Holy Family)

8:00 am Patrick Nevin - Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Radder

9:30 am Bill Brown - Wife, Helen

11:00 am Gretl Karlnowski - Daughter, Kim

Monday, December 27

8:30 am Donald Metz - Wife & Family

Tuesday, December 28

8:30 am Robert Hamilton - His Family

Wednesday, December 29

8:30 am David Fix - Everett & Sandy Boone

Thursday, December 30

8:30 am Cindy Dorminy - Steve & Joan Wesolowski

Friday, December 31(Vigil)

8:30am All Souls

4:00 pm Our Parishioners

Saturday, January 1 (Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God/No 4:00 pm Mass)

10:00 am All Souls

Sunday, January 2 (Holy Family)

8:00 am Gerald Matthie - Gerry Karlnoski

9:30 am Dan Kwiatkowski - His Wife

11:00 am Lucy Winder - Joseph & Charleen Geraci

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

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

FINANCE

WEEKEND OF 12/12/2021

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Total.....\$11,357.00

WESHARE

11/13-12/3.....\$4,361.00

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

(9/1/2021-8/31/2022).....

.....\$118,853.41

*Due to early deadlines for the
bulletin, totals for 12/21 &
12/26 will be published in the
1/2/2022 bulletin

Love your neighbor ...

Effective immediately:

**Please wear a mask at all times while
inside the church.**



Effective November 23, 2021

Please visit www.buffalodiocese.org/coronavirus/
for the most recent diocesan guidelines.

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Welcome Back to Mass

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