



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.

JANUARY 2, 2022

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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

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)

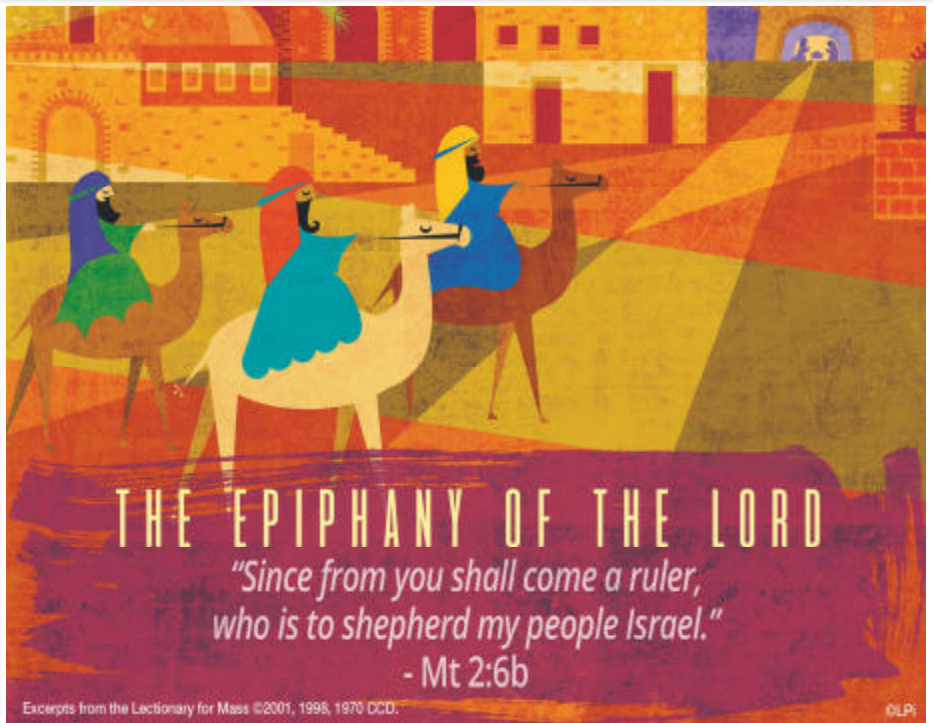
Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 3:00 pm

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.



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

DLPI



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 - The Light of the Moon

If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film "It's a Wonderful Life."

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing "Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?"

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. "Upon you the LORD shines," writes Isaiah, "and over you appears his glory." Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others.

Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. They merely followed the star.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LP

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



DROPPED HOST

Question: What happens to a consecrated host if it accidentally falls to the ground?

Answer: This a very practical question because, as we all know, accidents happen, even during the most careful celebration of the liturgy. The short answer to this question is that nothing happens to the consecrated host. The Real Presence of Jesus remains in the consecrated host or any consecrated wine that might accidentally be spilled.

Another question we might ask is: How should the ministers respond if the Eucharist is dropped or spilled? If this happens, the priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion should immediately pick up the dropped host and consume it. If it is a case of the Precious Blood being spilled, the minister would use the purificator (and additional purificators if needed) to clean the spill and then the area should be reverently washed as soon as the Mass is over and the water poured into the sacrarium (a special sink that is located in church sacristies for reverently disposing of holy water, the water used to clean sacred vessels, etc.).©LPi

They were
overjoyed at
seeing the star.

Matthew 2:10

©LPi

RECTORY NEWS

- ◆ **Bulletin Deadlines:** The regular bulletin deadlines are reinstated. All articles and inserts for the bulletin are due Friday at 4:00 pm, 1 week prior to publication. Flyers do need approval from Fr. Dan to be printed/published. Please note that the bulletin is a primary source of information along side our social media and website. Please keep this in mind while planning events or activities for the parish.
- ◆ **Weekend Masses:** If you notice that bulletins are missing, please let an usher know or the priest so that the situation can be fixed immediately.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON | JANUARY 4

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint." ©LPi

PARISH NEWS

- ◆ **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.)
- ◆ **We have Mass intentions and Sanctuary Light** availability in 2022. Both the Sanctuary Light and Mass Intentions can be for the living, for healing prayers, and for the deceased. If you would like to request either, please contact the rectory at 716-937-6959 ex 0 for assistance.
- ◆ **Hymnals** have been removed from the pews to allow for cleaning between Masses, but they are available at the entrances of the church. Please pick one up as you enter the church and return it when you leave. You are also welcome to use your phone or tablet to follow along by using the worship aids that are available by scanning the QR code on the front of the bulletin or by visiting www.stjohnalden.com/worship-aids.
- ◆ **Visiting Choir:** We will have special guests next weekend. The Schola Cantorum choir from St. Francis High School will be singing on Sunday, January 9th at the 9:30 am Mass.

MINISTRY NEWS

- ◆ **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
- ◆ **Holy Name Society:** The next meeting of the HNS will be January 16th after the 8:00 am Mass. Membership is open to men of the parish and you are welcome to attend the meeting in the cafeteria should you want to join.
- ◆ **Holy Name 50/50 Winner:** The winner of the December 2021 St. John Holy Name 50/50 Drawing was Bill Pettit with ticket # 190 and winning \$ 112. If you would like to participate in the raffle, tickets are available monthly at either entry of the church. Tickets can be dropped in the collection or sent to the rectory.
- ◆ **TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:** Request for volunteers to help take down and store our in-church Christmas decorations. Date and time set for Monday, Jan. 10 at 10 AM. Please contact Carl M. at 937-7433 if you have questions. Thank you

PARISH LIFE/EVANGELIZATION

- ◆ **THE CHOSEN SEASON 1 THURSDAY EVENINGS @ 6:30 PM**
Target is for ALL parishioners high school to adult.
email: parishlife@stjohnsalden.org with questions and to register.
so that we reserve the proper space size for these gatherings.
EPISODE 1 - JANUARY 6, 2022 - I Have Called you By Name
JANUARY 13, 2022
JANUARY 20, 2022
JANUARY 27, 2022
NO MEETING ON FEBRUARY 3RD
FEBRUARY 10, 2022
FEBRUARY 17, 2022
FEBRUARY 24, 2022

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 Keglar, 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, Ron Johnson and All Special Intentions.

SCHOOL NEWS

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



AROUND THE DIOCESE

- ◆ **Did you know? Catholic Charities Our Kids Parent Education and Awareness Program (OKPEAP)** is available to parents and caregivers and their significant others who have experienced conflict regarding custody and/or access issues related to their children. OKPEAP helps parents develop a “business” relationship and encourages co-parents to refrain from putting the children in the middle of conflict. Topics covered include: the impact of separation/divorce on children; child development and the implications for parenting after separation/divorce; cooperative and parallel approaches to parenting; an overview of family law as it affects custody and visitation; and conflict management and problem-solving. Groups are held throughout Western New York. Ready to connect? Call 716-896-6390. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
- ◆ **Don't delay your goals! If you're ready to earn your high school equivalency diploma or become career ready, contact Catholic Charities Department of Workforce and Education at 716-893-3500.** Services offered for youths and adults in Erie and Niagara counties include tutoring, high school equivalency preparation instruction, basic skills upgrades, employment readiness preparation, post-secondary school education planning and more. For more information on Catholic Charities and other services and programs we provide, visit www.ccwny.org. Join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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

10:00 am am All Souls

Sunday, January 2 (Epiphany)

8:00 am Gerald Matthies - Gerry Karlnoski

9:30 am Dan Kwiatkowski - His Wife

11:00 am Lucy Winder - Joseph & Charleen Geraci

Monday, January 3

8:30 am Al Hollmer - The Volk Family

Tuesday, January 4

8:30 am All Souls

Wednesday, January 5

8:30 am Our Parishioners

Thursday, January 6

8:30 am Ken Woods - Joe & Darlene Dahl

Friday, January 7

8:30am All Souls

Saturday, January 8

10:00 am Robert Fix - Wife & Children

Sunday, January 9 (The Baptism of the Lord)

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

9:30 am Viola Przyblski - Mary Kay Schaub & Family

11:00 am Loraine Munn - The Schwegert & Taylor Families

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

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

Bill Sturm

-The Fix Family

FINANCE

WEEKEND OF 12/19/2021

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Total.....\$7,374.00

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

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

.....\$126,227.41

*Tax letters will be automatically sent in the mail for all those who donated \$1,000 or more this past year. If you would like a letter, please contact the rectory. Thank you all so much for contributing!

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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