



# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2021 SANDRIDGE ROAD • ALDEN, NEW YORK 14004

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

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[www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchAldenNY](https://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 23, 2022

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### 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  
**Saturday**-4:00 pm (8:00 am First Saturday Masses)  
**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](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.



EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



**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**



### 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Human history reveals many periods where people lost a sense of God's transcendence. It may even be argued that human beings have been wandering and lost more than they have been at home and focused. Human nature being what it is, we struggle with who God really is — the God of our salvation history or the "gods" of human constructs. Relying on our own designs and pursuits, we forget that we really are meant to listen to One upon whom the Spirit of the Lord rests, Jesus Christ, and not to ourselves. That same history that reveals our fickleness and infidelity also reveals God's constancy and faithfulness. God always finds us.

As people wander and fumble to find their way, God is there bringing them back to holiness and giving them the assurance of His presence. We have to allow God's Word, God's life, to touch us and change us. It can make us more flexible and attentive to the sacred in all facets of life so that every day is one that is holy. Every day is a time when fulfillment is possible for one's soul. Jesus stood before those gathered in the synagogue as the fulfillment of words of promise that were echoed long ago. God doesn't forget. He always comes for us.

Now it is time to remember to go to God. Sometimes our lives are so confused and tangled that it is difficult to see the Word and hand of God. But when we realize, deep within, the depth of friendship God offers to us it really has the power to turn sadness to joy. The promise is fulfilled. Going frequently to God's Word, allowing ourselves to be enriched and rejuvenated, and pondering the certainty of God's fidelity and promise permanently transforms us. We will be more aware of the sacred and the holy and less invested in things that pull us away.

©LP

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30

### MINISTRY NEWS

- ◆ **GIVING TREE:** We can't thank you enough for all the many gifts that you donated to the families of Ss. Columba-Brigid Church. It was very much appreciated by everyone there. I received a lovely note from Fr. William "Jud" Weiksnar who is Pastor of the parish. He wrote "You have made a very difficult year a lot brighter for many people" And we second that! God bless you all and St. John's. Pat and Ed
- ◆ **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](mailto:worksofmercy@stjohnsalden.org)

### FUNDRAISING

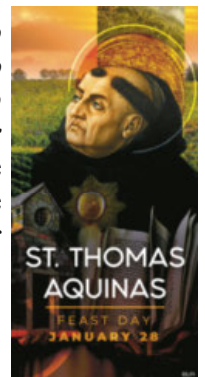
The Lawn Fete Committee will be having its first planning meeting on Wednesday, January 26th at 6:30 in the school. If you wish to join in on planning a fun-filled event or have any questions, please contact Jennifer at 716-698-1697.

### A Word from Today's Scriptures

Jesus unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.* Then he said to them, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."

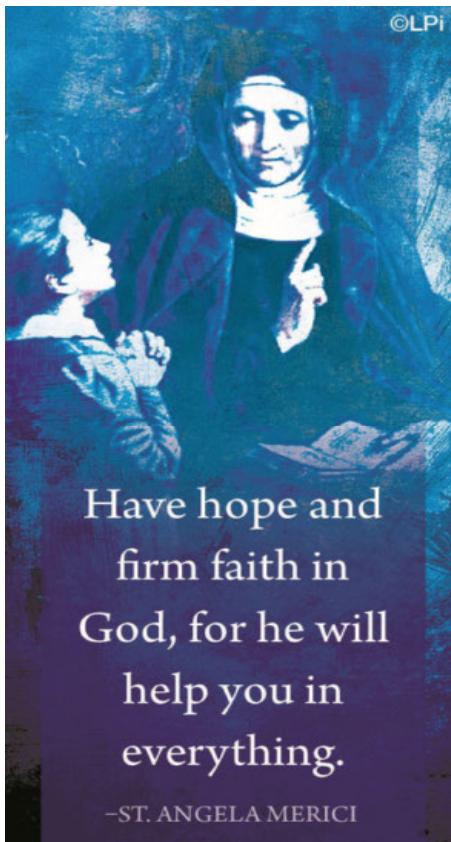
Lk. 4:17b-19, 21

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



## PARISH NEWS

- ◆ **Winter Weather Reminder:** In case of inclement weather, please call the rectory ahead of visiting. If the roads are bad, staff may not be present in office.
- ◆ **Activity Closings:** Reminder, if Alden and St. John's school are closed, all parish activities are cancelled.
- ◆ **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](http://www.stjohnalden.com/worship-aids).
- ◆ **Prayer List:** We will be going through the prayer list and removing people. If you or a loved one are still in need of some extra prayers, please contact the rectory by February 7, 2022 to keep the name on this list. Thank you!



**Please pray for all who are in need:** Ann G, Mackenzie Refermat, Theresa Kwiatkowski, Joe & Susan Hoiden, Nicholas Oddo, Tom Pasek, Dorothy Czechowski, Dawn Duncan, 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 Pellittieri, Dolores Kuciel, Bruce Hoffman, Joe Adams, Gretchen Smith, Sharon Kruzawski, Dan Labuzzetta, Darlene Dahl, Jen Monroe, Walter Gablaski, Shirley Wheeler, Nicole M. Fudoli, Eileen & Martin Wirth, Dave Smith, Fr. Gabriel Scarfia, Christine Hausrath, Jeanie Graf, Jerry Starzynski, Ron Johnson, Maryann Krohl, Patti Ragan and All Special Intentions.

## PARISH LIFE/EVANGELIZATION

THE SHOWING OF SEASON 1 OF THE CHOSEN CONTINUES this Thursday, January 27th @ 6:30 PM in the Church. Please social distance and bring your masks. Thank you

### JANUARY 27, 2022 EPISODE 2 &

3: *Shabbat AND Jesus Loves the Little Children*

### **NO MEETING ON FEBRUARY 3RD**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2022 EPISODE 4:** *The Rock on Which it is Built*

**FEBRUARY 17, 2022 EPISODE 5:** *The Wedding Gift*

**FEBRUARY 24, 2022 EPISODE 6:** *Indescribable Compassion*

**EPISODE 7 & 8 - DATE TBD**

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

- ◆ **Annulment Workshop** on Saturday, February 5 from 9-11 am at UB North Newman Center, 495 Skinnersville Rd., Amherst. The session will include information on the recent changes in the annulment process and step-by-step help in getting started. A nominal registration fee will cover the cost of materials. For additional information, contact Barbara at 716-633-7786 or [BJWTR@aol.com](mailto:BJWTR@aol.com). Walk-ins are welcome.
- ◆ **“God’s Son, My Son”:** **St. Joseph, a one-man play** on Monday, February 7 at 7 pm at Our Lady of Pompeii Church, 129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster; presented by Michael Sacilowski, Director of Religious Education of Queen of Martyrs Parish, Cheektowaga. Through this theatrical presentation, accompany St. Joseph as he fulfills his call to be a human father to Jesus and how he strived to protect Mary and Jesus. Listen to the Patron Saint of Workers who taught our Lord the carpenter’s trade and how work can be a path to holiness.

### FAITH FORMATION:

This weekend at the 11am Mass, we will be celebrating the Rite of Enrollment for our First Reconciliation and First Communion children. This ceremony has two purposes. First, it marks the beginning of their sacramental formation which will lead them closer to Jesus. Second, it is an inclusion of our parish community in supporting our children, their families, and their catechists through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I invite you to take a card with the name of one of our children entering the sacramental formation process from the basket in the back of the church. Diligently pray for these children that they may understand the importance of the sacrament they are about to receive, grow in a deep relationship with Jesus, and never stray from the sacraments. Furthermore, please pray for their family; that they may be renewed in the life of Christ. If you are unable to take a card, here are the names of our children:

***First Reconciliation-*** Claire Ashby, Audrey Aston, Lilyana Barron, Mia Behrend, Isla Bishop, Joseph Bognar, Lucas Cummings, Alexander Gross, Brynn Hollowell, Sophia Iannello, Curtis Lipiarz, Logan McNutt, Roanan McNutt, Livian Moore, Juliette Roberts, Cecelia Ryan, Annabelle Rwrotniak, Husdon Smithers, William Tobin, Bridget Vaughan, Emma Vaughan, Joseph Winling, Christopher Wojnar.

***First Communion-*** Lilyana Barron, Isla Bishop, Brooklyn Blahowicz, Brooklyn Hollowell, Frances Greis, Domenica Malecki, Victoria McAuley, Roanan McNutt, Julia Newman, Madison Overhoff, Rudolph Pautler, Timothy Pfitzinger, Nolan Ripstein, Derek Ryan, Landon Stegmeier, Emma Vaughan, Henry Wooton.

### SCHOOL NEWS

Open Enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year will begin in February. Please check our school website and Facebook page for updated information.

**Office Hours:** Normal office hours are 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. 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](http://www.stjohnsalden.com)



**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Saturday, January 22**

4:00 pm Robert Fix - The Fix Family

**Sunday, January 23(3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

8:00 am Grandma Janice & Grandpa Dave - Grandson, Logan

9:30 am Richard Urbanek - Theresa Kwiatkowski

11:00 am Antoinette Wrest - Ruth & Paul Dersam & family

**Monday, January 24**

8:30 am Norm & Betty Walter - Family

**Tuesday, January 25**

8:30 am Kathy Wagner - Al & Maureen Weber

**Wednesday, January 26**

8:30 am All Souls

**Thursday, January 27**

8:30 am All Souls

**Friday, January 28**

8:30am Sandra Bowen - The Volk Family

**Saturday, January 29**

4:00 pm Gretl Karlnowski - St. John's W.O.M Ministry

**Sunday, January 30(4th Sunday in Ordinary Time)**

8:00 am Gerald Matthies - Audrey Senrcal

9:30 am Kathy Wagner - Kathy & Jim Esack

11:00 am Our Parishioners

**FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, JANUARY 23**

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

*Rev. Gary Kibler*

*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/](http://www.buffalodiocese.org/coronavirus/)  
for the most recent diocesan guidelines.

**FINANCE**

**WEEKEND OF 1/16/2022**

**SUNDAY COLLECTION**

Total.....\$7,206.00

**FISCAL YEAR TO DATE**

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

.....\$153,901.41

\*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 and it doesn't get sent out automatically, please contact the rectory. Thank you all so much for contributing!

# Charles Meyer

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