



# *St. John the Baptist*

*Roman Catholic Church*

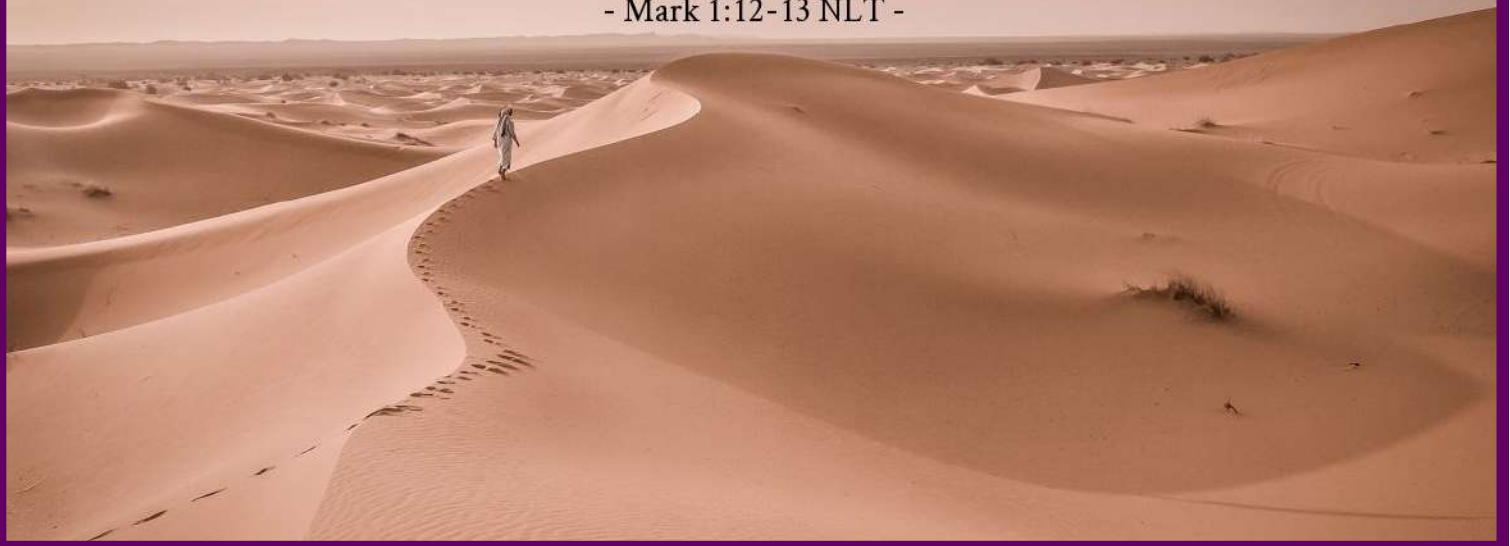
*1488 North Country Road, Wading River, NY*

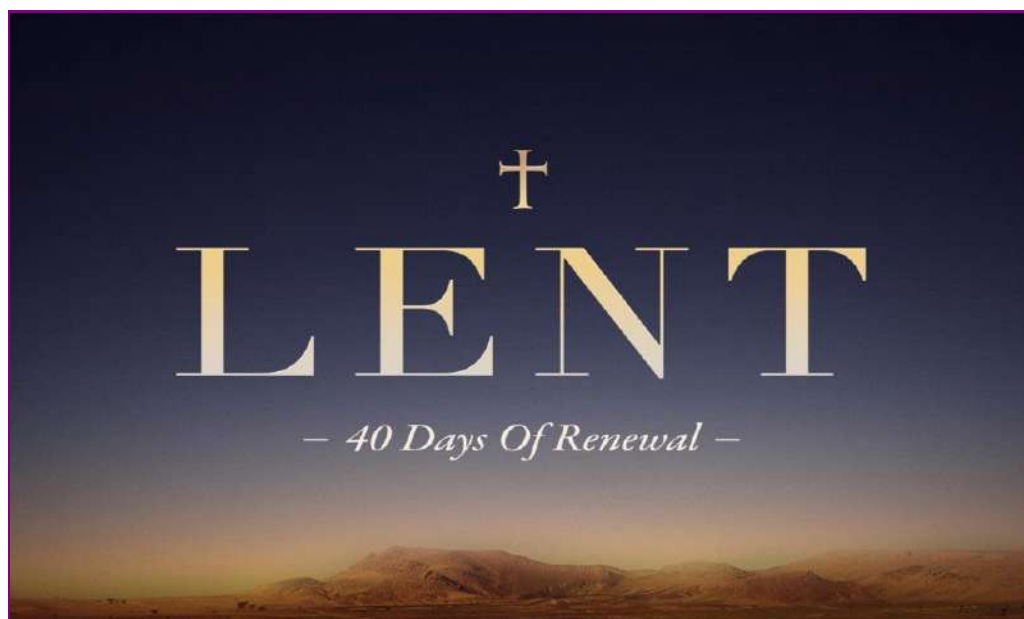


*February 21, 2021*  
*First Sunday of Lent*

The Spirit then compelled Jesus to go into the wilderness, where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. He was out among the wild animals, and angels took care of him.

- Mark 1:12-13 NLT -





On-line Lenten resources for another "Pandemic Lent"!

Catholic Faith Network (Telecare) and Real Life Catholic:

"The Search": [realcatholic.com](http://realcatholic.com)

From Ashes to Glory: [ignatianspirituality.com](http://ignatianspirituality.com)

Forty Days for Life: [40daysforlife.com](http://40daysforlife.com)

Sacred Space Daily Lenten Meditations: [sacredspace.com](http://sacredspace.com)

"Best Lent Ever": [dynamiccatholic.com](http://dynamiccatholic.com)

Forty Days to Grace, Dr. Tim Gray: [formed.org](http://formed.org)

## WHO IS ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST?



**REFLECTIONS ON OUR PARISH PATRON SAINT**  
**by Father Frank Schneider**

*paschal mystery (#109)."*

## 13. "Repent and Believe" (2/21/21)

The season of Lent is our annual "journey into the desert" as we prepare for the Paschal Mystery at the end of the forty days. The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (Vatican II) describes the "twofold character" of the Lenten Season:

*"The season of Lent has a twofold character: primarily by recalling or preparing for baptism and by penance, it disposes the faithful, who more diligently hear the word of God and devote themselves to prayer, to celebrate the*

St. John the Baptist is the Desert Prophet who preaches these two Lenten themes: repentance for the forgiveness of sin, and baptism as a sign of conversion and new life. Just as we can call Advent "the season of John the Baptist," so we may indeed see Lent as embracing John's two great themes.

The gospel of the First Sunday of Lent our begins with the gospel story of Jesus in the desert and the temptations. John has been arrested and now Jesus enters the main stage of the gospel. This year we read the very brief passage from St. Mark's gospel – the terse statement Jesus was tempted (while Matthew and Luke elaborate on the three temptations), and then the preaching of Jesus:

*"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

We notice how similar the preaching of Jesus is to the words spoken by John the Baptist:

- ◆ Matthew 3:1 "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
- ◆ Luke 3: 3 ..proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
- ◆ Mark 1:1,4: ...the gospel of Jesus Christ...proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

During this season of Lent, we are invited to take a good look at ourselves and notice our sinfulness. Many will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent and receive forgiveness for their sins through sacramental absolution. The culmination of the season is the Easter Vigil when adults are baptized, and the whole Church renews the promises made at our baptism. We are sprinkled with the Easter water, the waters of Baptism.

Yes, John the Baptist is very much present with us as we begin the season of Lent.

Question for reflection for the week: *How will I use this Lent as a time for repentance and preparation to renew my baptismal promises?*

As this series continues this year, all segments are on the parish website.



## Preschool Registration for September 2021-June 2022

Now Open

For more information, please call 631-929-3220

<b>Pre-K</b> <b>M/T/W/TH/F-AM</b>	<b>4 yr olds</b> <b>9:15 AM-12:00 PM</b>	<b>Nursery</b> <b>T/TH - AM</b>	<b>3 yr olds</b> <b>9:00 AM-11:30 AM</b>
<b>Pre-K</b> <b>M/W/F - AM</b>	<b>4 yr olds</b> <b>9:00 AM-11:45 AM</b>	<b>Nursery</b> <b>T/TH/F - AM</b>	<b>3 yr olds</b> <b>9:15 AM-11:45 AM</b>
<b>Pre-K</b> <b>T/W/TH - PM</b>	<b>4 yr olds</b> <b>12:15 PM-2:45 PM</b>	<b>Nursery</b> <b>T/TH-PM</b> <b>T/W/TH-PM</b>	<b>3 yr olds</b> <b>12:15 PM-2:45 PM</b> <b>12:15 PM-2:45 PM</b>
<b>Talented Twos</b> <b>M/W - AM</b>	<b>2 yr olds</b> <b>9:30-11:45 AM</b>		



### Would you like to support Thomas Constantine's Eagle Scout Project?

My name is Thomas Constantine and I am a member of Boy Scout Troop 161 in Shoreham, NY. I also am a member of St. John the Baptist Church. I am a Life Scout preparing to begin my Eagle Scout Project at the church. For my Eagle Scout project, I am going to take

down the two old benches on St. John the Baptist's preschool grounds. I will replace the old benches with new, safe, synthetic wood benches. An old shed that was damaged by Hurricane Isaias will also be taken down.

To complete this project, I am asking the congregation for donations. My estimated cost for this project is \$1,000. All funds raised will exclusively benefit this Eagle Scout project. Any excess funds raised will be given directly to the church.

Please consider donating to this project so myself and fellow Boy Scout Troop members can beautify the preschool grounds allowing people to have a safe place to sit and enjoy the outdoors.

Thomas Constantine Eagle Scout Project Donations can be given to the church or dropped at the Parish Office. Please make your check payable to "St. John the Baptist R.C. Church" and mark your check "Eagle Scout Donation" in the "memo line." Thank you for your consideration!

## St. Patrick's Day Raffle Basket Fundraiser



This year, due to the pandemic, we are not able to have our Gala, but we will have our wonderful assortment of prize baskets to help support the work of Outreach.

We will be selling raffle tickets for prize baskets after mass in March.

The hall will be open for you to walk around and place tickets in the cups for any item you would like to bid on. Tickets will be drawn, the list of winning numbers will be published in the bulletin and on the parish face book page the following weekend. *More information to come!*



- ◇ coffee
- ◇ rice
- ◇ ketchup
- ◇ canned veggies
- ◇ cat food



## WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

February 21 - 27, 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Mass 8:00am Mass 10:30am Mass livestream 10:30am Baptisms 12:00pm	Mass 8:30am	Mass 8:30am Outreach is open 10:00am - 2:00pm	Mass 8:30am Eucharistic Adoration 2:00pm - 4:00pm	Mass 8:30am Outreach is open 10:00am - 2:00pm		Confessions 4:15pm Mass 5:15pm

Mass Presiders Schedule

**This Weekend: *First Sunday of Lent***

**Saturday, February 20, 5:15 p.m.**    Father Frank  
**Sunday, February 21, 8:00 a.m.**      Father James  
**Sunday, February 21, 10:30 a.m.**    Msgr. Bennett

**Next Weekend: *Second Sunday of Lent***

**Saturday, February 27, 5:15 p.m.**    Father James  
**Sunday, February 28, 8:00 a.m.**      Msgr. Bennett  
**Sunday, February 28, 10:30 a.m.**    Father James

*As we prepare for our 100th anniversary, all are invited to the parish website for the on-going series about our patron saint, St. John the Baptist, and updates on the centennial events.*

Sunday Mass  
is live-streamed  
10:30 a.m.

[www.sjbwr.org](http://www.sjbwr.org)

Follow the link to our YouTube channel!



# Kids Corner

READ THE  
GOSPEL &  
COLOR



Every day turn back to God. If your bedroom is messy, straighten it up. If you push your sister off her bike, help her get up and ride again. If you tear down your brother's blocks, help him build something new. If you disobey your parents, go and do the right thing right now. Ask God to help you stay close to him today. Then you will be close to him in heaven forever.

## PRAYER

Holy Spirit, help me remember to obey you every day.

## MISSION FOR THE WEEK

I will be a builder, not a wrecker.



**Monday, February 22, 8:30 a.m.,**  
Eileen McLoughlin

**Tuesday, February 23, 8:30 a.m.,**  
Sally Costa

**Wednesday, February 24, 8:30 a.m.,**  
Patricia Venero

**Thursday, February 25, 8:30 a.m.,**  
Spencer & Thora Tweed

**Saturday, February 27 5:15 p.m.,**  
Rosemarie Hennessy

**Sunday, February 28,**  
**8:00 a.m.**  
Carmela & Martin Valentino

**10:30 a.m.**  
Deceased members of the Waskewicz,  
Cascio, LaBarbera & Frobey families



Please remember the faithful departed.

Jacqueline Sessa

May she rest in peace.

*During the pandemic, Funeral Masses  
can be scheduled. Approximately 100 are  
permitted to attend.*



Upcoming Baptism Dates:

12:00 Noon

February 21

March 7

March 21

Baptism Class last Sunday of the month  
right after the 10:30 a.m. Mass



# WEEKLY COLLECTION

Sunday Collection: February 14, 2021      \$ 8,221.58 (up 1.5 %)

Sunday Collection: February 16, 2020      \$ 8,106.18

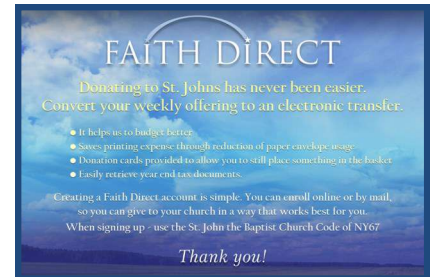
The Christmas collection is not ready to report as donations are still coming in! Thank you!

Many are facing financial hardship, and we are deeply grateful to those who have mailed in their envelope, dropped it in the mailbox in the upper parking lot, or used Faith Direct.

Thank you to those who “caught up” with a full month’s donations!

**Please consider “automated giving” as you reflect on support of our parish family!**

The fruitful ministries at our parish are examples of how many of you have answered, and continue to answer, that call. To ensure such work can continue requires not only gifts of time, but also of financial help. I ask you to prayerfully consider supporting our parish with electronic donations through Faith Direct. You can find paper enrollment forms in the parish office, or you can sign up online at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) by using our church code, NY67.



## Special Collections:

- 02/21 Church in Need**
- 02/28 Outreach**
- 03/07 Grammar Schools**
- 03/14 Catholic Relief Services**
- 03/21 Outreach**

## 2020 Catholic Ministries Appeal

Goal \$52,300.00  
 Pledges \$21,260.00  
 Over (Under) (\$31,040.00)  
 Donors 79  
 Payments \$16,585.00  
 Average Gift \$269.11  
 Percentage of Goal 40.65%

**Finance Committee, 2020-2021**

Dr. Barbara Fontana, Trustee, *ex officio*  
Steven Gallagher, Trustee, *ex officio*  
Robert Lutz, *Chair*  
Richard Amper  
Thomas McEnany  
Lisa Kelly

**Worship Committee, 2020-2021**

Cheryl MacDougall, *chair*  
James MacDougall  
William Hennessy  
Barbara Johnston  
Liz McNeill  
John O'Hare  
Elizabeth Waskowiak  
Edward Waskowiak

**Pastoral Council Members,  
2020-2021**

Vincent Manzello, *Chair*  
Daniel Bealey  
Linda Bealey  
Rosemary Desimone  
Dr. Barbara Fontana (trustee)  
Michelle Gaffney  
Michelle Gallucci  
Kevin Heavey  
Maria Maxwell  
Richard Rossin

**PASTORAL STAFF**

**Phone: 631-929-4339**

**Pastor:** Father Frank Schneider, ext. 16

**Associate Pastor:** Father James Calledo

**Deacon:** Fred Finter, ext. 44

**Deacon:** Vincent Pozzolano, ext. 45

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Mrs. Jane Oliva, ext. 12

**Outreach Director:** Deborah O'Hare, ext. 22

**Music Coordinator:** Liz McNeill (631) 495-8913

**Pastoral Assistant:** Barbara Johnston

**Bookkeeper:** Lindsay Finter, ext. 17

**Receptionist:** Sue Kozakiewicz, ext. 10

**Preschool Director:** Mrs. Gayle Mercurio, ext. 14

**Secretary:** Susan Plattner, ext. 19

**Preschool Phone: 631-929-3220**

**Maintenance:** Servio Ortiz

**Weekend Priest Assistants:** Msgr. John Bennett

**Parish Outreach Hours:** Tues & Thurs 10am-2pm

pastor@sjbwr.org  
paxjim94@yahoo.com  
deaconfred@sjbwr.org  
v7vac@hotmail.com  
reled@sjbwr.org  
stjohnsparishoutreach@gmail.com  
emcneill@sjbwr.org

lfinter@sjbwr.org  
office@sjbwr.org  
preschool@sjbwr.org  
preschool@sjbwr.org

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Website: [www.sjbwr.org](http://www.sjbwr.org)

General Mailbox/Front Desk: ext. 10. Contact us by email: [office@sjbwr.org](mailto:office@sjbwr.org)

### **Bread, wine, altar candles**

Should you like to donate the candles, bread, wine for the celebration of the weekend Eucharist, especially in memory of a loved one, please contact the Parish Office, 631-929-4339, ext. 10.



### **Tabernacle Lamp**

The Tabernacle Lamp indicates that the Blessed Sacrament is present in church. The red candle can be memorialized for the week of your choice.

*All memorials are published in the bulletin.*



### *In Memoriam*

The bread, wine, and candles for this weekend's celebration of the Eucharist has been donated by Christine Rice in memory of Margaret Rice.

### *Tabernacle Lamp*

The Tabernacle Lamp has been lit for the week of February 21-27, 2021 in commemoration of John & Joan Waskewicz by Kathy & Larry Waskewicz

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for Adoration on the main altar in the church every Wednesday afternoon.

All novenas and devotions are suspended at this time.  
Silent prayer during Adoration Hours.



### ***For those serving in the Military***

Michael Brennan, Patrick Hanley, Jeffrey L. Beilman Jr., Ryan Santiro, Thomas G. Verbeeck, Michelle Verbeeck, Joseph DeMonte IV, Nicholas Altman, Michael Anderson, Devin Henry, Marielle Verbeeck, Cassidy Vail, Evan Purdy, Sean Tully, Sean Brady

### ***For the Homebound, the Sick and in Hospice Care***

For all those who are suffering from the coronavirus, and also John Ryan, Thomas Mongiello, Ann Bertolini, Edward Hegel, Christine Pernice