

THE EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

Bread Broken for a New World

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 22-23, 2017

WISDOM 12:13,16-19; ROMANS 8:26-27; MATTHEW 13:24-43

GATHER HYMNAL # 1025

The Pastor's Reflections

We consider three more parables this week. We'll follow the same principles of interpretation we did when we reflected on last week's parable of the sower. In these three parables Jesus announces the theme. *"The kingdom of God may be likened to..."*

So we're thinking about the kingdom, Jesus' primary teaching. In the one and only prayer that he taught his disciples Jesus prayed, *"Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* The kingdom he speaks of isn't a place; it's a state of being that's in perfect harmony with the will of God. The kingdom that Jesus speaks of is already present in the world, but it's still incomplete. It's a work in progress. Keep this in mind as we focus the three images of the kingdom Jesus used in the Gospel passage today.

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat." Here we have the image of the incomplete kingdom. The parable introduces a hostile element into this kingdom scenario. The householder's enemy has made an attempt to destroy the wheat crop; he secretly sowed weeds among the wheat.

This image of treachery suggests that the kingdom will not bring the world into harmony

with God's will all that easily. Because the household was asleep, the enemy was able to do his destructive work. Peter, in his second letter, cautioned his flock about this. *"Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."* (2 Peter 5:8)

The wheat field has been compromised by the presence of the weeds. The servants suggest going out and pulling up all the weeds so that the wheat can grow uninhibited. But the householder is wise. Pulling up the weeds will also uproot the wheat. *"Let them grow together until harvest; then I will tell the harvesters, 'First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles for burning; but gather the wheat into my barns.'"*

Once again, this week, the Gospel passage ends with a commentary on the parable. It's an interpretation that found its way into the Gospel. It's not the only interpretation possible. Take the time to sit with the images for a while. Come up with your own interpretation. Who is the householder? Who are the slaves? Who is the enemy? What does the wheat mean for you? What do the weeds mean for you? Why are the weeds allowed to grow along with the wheat? In light of this parable, what is your personal understanding of the *"kingdom of heaven?"*

Whoever has ears to
hear ought to hear.

—Matthew 13:43

The second parable we all know by heart. *“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and planted in a field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when it is full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.”*

Don't let the simplicity of this parable tempt you to brush over its interpretation. Spend time with this image of the *“smallest of all the seeds.”* Hiding in this little seed is *“the largest of all the plants.”* The plant becomes so large that the birds will build their nests among its branches. I again invite you to personalize the parable. What does it mean for you, very personally? Try to open your heart to the parable. Don't think about it too much. Try to feel its message. What is the message it's speaking to your heart?

The third parable is also a familiar one. *“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed with three measures of wheat until the whole batch was leavened.”* Could a teaching be any more simple? How could this short sentence contain Jesus' central teaching, the kingdom of God? I'll leave that for you to discover. I just want to note two things that might be useful to know.

Wheat is common for us. However, in Jesus' day it was quite special. It was difficult to grow in the arid climate, and so was expensive. Barley, on the other hand, was hardy and easy to grow. It could withstand very dry weather. The poor would bake with barley flour because it was inexpensive.

Yeast is a product we buy at the supermarket. It comes dried in packets or in organic cubes. In Jesus' day yeast was made by mixing water and flour. The mixture was kept in a dark place for several days until it began to spoil. Then some of the mixture was removed and more water added to the original liquid. After a period of time it would begin to bubble. This would be used to leaven flour. Leaven was considered a product of death because the mixture had to spoil. For this reason unleavened bread was used for the Passover. There was to be no element of death present is that celebration of renewed life.

Think about wheat. Think about leaven. Go back and ponder the parable. Remember to move the process from your head to your heart.

Jesus ended this series of parables with an invitation. *“Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear.”*



**We are now on
Facebook
and
Instagram
@stjeanbaptistenyc**

**Follow us for
additional
information and
updates on
services and
activities.**

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DAILY

MASSES

WEEKDAYS

7:30 – 12:15

SATURDAY

12:15 – 5:30 Vigil Mass

SUNDAY

9:00 – 11:00 – 5:30 – 7:30

HOLY DAYS

7:30-12:15-7:00pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

RECITED ON WEEKDAYS

8:00 AM and 5:00 PM

SUNDAY

5:00 PM

RECONCILIATION

WEEKDAYS

11:45 until 12:10

SATURDAY

11:45 until 12:10

5:00 until 5:30

ROSARY

WEEKDAYS AT 11:55

NOVENA PRAYERS

St. Anne – Tuesday after the 12:15 Mass

St. Peter Julian Eymard –

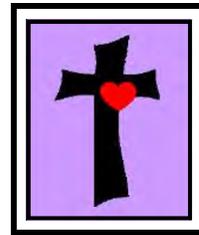
Thursday after the 12:15 Mass

JOIN OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Please register at the parish house, 184 East 76th Street any day during office hours from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily or fill out a registration card found at the rear of the church.

BAPTISM & MARRIAGES

To schedule a baptism or a marriage please contact the parish office to speak with Fr. John Kamas.



COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to schedule a home visit with one of the priests. 212-288-5082 Ext. 10

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC OR AN ADULT NEEDING COMMUNION AND/OR CONFIRMATION?

Make an appointment with Joan Prenty, Director of Religious Education, through the Parish Office by calling 212-288-5082 ext 30. Leave your contact information and she will get back to you to set up an appointment.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

TIME AND VENUE:

The Charismatic Prayer Meeting will be held every Sunday from 2:30 PM-4:30 PM in Wave Café of the High School, 173 East 75th Street. You may enter through the ramp on 76th Street at the east end of the rectory building .



MUSIC OF THE LITURGY

The scripture readings may be found in GATHER at No. 1025

HYMN OF GATHERING:
No. 743 "Gather Us In"

KYRIE

GLORIA

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *"Lord You Are Good
And Forgiving."*

SECOND READING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

CREED, NO. 143

INTERCESSIONS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:
No. 476 "Send Us Your Spirit"

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

ACCLAMATION

*When We Eat This Bread and Drink This Cup,
We Proclaim the Death of the Lord
Until He Comes Again*

THE GREAT AMEN

MUSIC AT COMMUNION:
No. 830 "Seed Scattered And Sown"

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

RECESSIONAL:
No. 545 "Now Thank We All Our God"

**MUSICIANS
WANTED!**



If you sing or play an instrument, come join the music ministry. We always welcome new volunteers to join us at the Sunday Masses: 11:00 AM, 5:30 PM or 7:30 PM. This is a perfect time to dust off your instrument or clear your throat to praise the Lord in song. Contact Richard Owen for more information.

ADULT CHOIR OF ST. JEAN BAPTISTE:

11:00 AM Sunday Mass; Rehearsal Sunday 10:00 AM ,
Choir Room.

5:30 PM Sunday Mass; Rehearsal 5:00 PM. Choir Room.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR:

11:00 AM Sunday Mass (first Sunday of the month);
Rehearsal Wednesday 5-5:30 PM, Choir Room

MODERN ENSEMBLE :

7:30 PM Sunday Mass; Rehearsal 7:00 PM, in the Church

*Richard Owen, Jr., Director of Music Ministries & Organist
email: owenrick@aol.com; mobile: 845-729-4986
website: RichardOwenJr.com*

MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

I hope our congregation, friends and family are enjoying the beautiful summer which God has given us. It has been a pleasure for me and our music ministers to praise our Lord at the Novena to Saint Anne at St. Jean's again this year.

If you have not yet attended, please feel warmly invited to participate in this unique and spiritually uplifting experience venerating the Grandmother of our Lord.

There are a few more masses including the feast on Wednesday, July 26 which I encourage you to attend and share with us.

I wish you all a blessed end of summer!

Richard Owen

135th Annual
NOVENA TO ST ANNE
JULY 17 - 26



Saint Jean Baptiste Church
 EAST 76TH STREET (AT LEXINGTON AVENUE)
 PARISH OFFICE: 184 EAST 76TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021
 TELEPHONE: 212-288-5082 EXT. 10

WEEKDAYS

11:45 a.m. Rosary
 11:45 a.m. Confessions
 12:15 p.m. Novena Mass
 7:00 p.m. Confessions
 7:30 p.m. Novena Mass & Procession
 of The Blessed Sacrament

SUNDAY, JULY 23RD

11:00 a.m. Novena Mass with Blessing of
 the Children & Grandparents
 7:00 p.m. Confessions
 7:30 p.m. Novena Mass & Procession
 of The Blessed Sacrament

SATURDAY, JULY 22ND

11:30 a.m. Confessions
 11:45 a.m. Rosary
 12:15 p.m. Novena Mass with Anointing
 of the Sick
 7:00 p.m. Confessions
 7:30 p.m. Novena Mass & Procession
 of the Blessed Sacrament

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26TH
THE FEAST OF ST. ANNE

11:30 a.m. Confessions
 11:45 a.m. Rosary
 12:15 p.m. Novena Mass
 7:00 p.m. Confessions
 7:30 p.m. Candlelight Procession from the
 rectory courtyard to the Church
 and the closing Novena Mass.

Rev. John A. Kamas, SSS, Pastor, will conduct the Novena Masses

Visit our new website www.stjeanbaptisteny.org or our St. Anne's Facebook events page for updates and details.
 Please feel free to sign the St. Anne's guestbook to receive the St. Anne's newsletter and future updates.

**RELIGIOUS
LIFE
IN THE
CATHOLIC
CHURCH
2017**



Sr. Ona B. Bessette, CND

“It is true that all I have ever desired most deeply and what I still most ardently wish is that the great precept of the love of God above all things and of the neighbor as oneself be written in every heart.”

(Writing of Marguerite Bourgeoys, p. 187)

IN THE MOTHER HOUSE OF THE CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME, these words of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys are presented in French, English, Japanese, and Spanish in a small oratory containing the ashes of her heart. Sitting in prayer there, I contemplate the call that God has placed in my heart to continue the work begun by St. Marguerite in Montreal. As a member of the General Council of the Congregation, I am reminded that leadership is an act of service – an invitation to show love and compassion. As Jesus washed the feet of the disciples and invited them to do the same, leaders in all walks of life are called to be beacons of care and fight for the advancement of others. Throughout her life,

St. Marguerite expressed this love and service to all she met. She was eager to help the young women of the colony and to ensure education for the children of the colonists and the native peoples. Today, sisters, associates and colleagues of the Congregation of Notre Dame continue to respond to the needs of their neighbors across the globe. The ministry of leadership in the Congregation is an invitation to live the spirit of St. Marguerite in the current context of a world that longs for compassion. We live in a time when it is nearly

impossible to be ignorant of the many places in the world where love and freedom are difficult to see. Yet when we look into the eyes of refugee child seeking a place of security, hope can be seen. Our God is the source of hope in the darkness of despair; our God is the light that illuminates the way to freedom. Our task, as the people of God and those inspired by St. Marguerite, is to be a tangible source of love and compassion to others. While we may not be physically able to offer shelter to that child, we have the power to advocate for change and the gift of praying hearts. Prayer that rises from the heart of compassion is a powerful force for liberation in our world. *St. Marguerite, intercede for those in our world who seek hope and freedom.*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Sunday collection amounted to \$6,470.00

ParishPay amounted to \$1,123.54

Total: \$7,593.54

The second collection for the Mission for the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament amounted to: \$2,870.00

ALERT: Please keep St. Jean's in mind when you travel or vacation. We rent every possible space in the complex in order to make up for our yearly shortfall. The weekly collection barely covers half the Parish expenses. When our collection dips below \$10,000 we feel a terrible strain on our cash flow. Please commit to the support of the parish. Thank you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you interested in exploring Catholicism for yourself, or perhaps you know someone who might be interested in finding out more about our faith?

Were you baptized in another Christian Church, and are thinking about becoming a Catholic? Are you Catholic, but never received Confirmation or First Communion? Please consider joining the RCIA program.

Contact Ms. Joan T. Prenty, DRE at 212-288-5082 ext. 30 or stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Join the Religious Ed family at St. Jean Baptiste. St. Jean Baptiste welcomes all children and adults for religious education. Classes for children are held on Wednesdays, but we will try to accommodate all!

Contact Ms. Joan T. Prenty, DRE at 212-288-5082 ext. 30 or stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com

OLD TESTAMENT STUDY DAY

Join Mrs. Elizabeth Brim, MA, DRE and Professor at St. John's University for a day of reflection of the Old Testament on Wednesday, August 16 from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM in the Eymard Room.

To RSVP call Joan T. Prenty at 212-288-5082 or email her at stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com.

TODDLER PLAY GROUP



We are enjoying a most successful year with the Toddler Play Group. Eighty children ranging from 18 months to 3 1/2 years old are having their first "school" experience in our well-equipped and friendly play room. The program runs until June and reservations for the upcoming year, which begins in mid-September, have started to come in. If you, or any friends, will be looking for a place for the Fall, we urge you to reserve now.

Call the St. Jean's Toddler Play Group Director, Pauline Reenock at 212-472-2853 Ext. 2 for more information or to plan a visit.

GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT SERVICES

Calvary Hospital's Grief and Bereavement services will soon be starting a "Precious Moments" group in Manhattan! The group is offered to children between the ages of 6 to 11, who have experienced the death of a loved one. This group is open to both Calvary Hospital families, as well as community members, and it is free of charge. The group itself will be located at St. Jean Baptiste High School, 173 East 75th Street, between 3rd and Lexington Avenue.

"Precious Moments" is an age-appropriate group designed for children to come and express themselves on a topic that is usually difficult for them to share. In this space, children are given the time and attention needed to find their voice and to disclose their feelings. Most often, this is done so through artistic expression such as arts and crafts, storytelling, and puppetry.

If you know of or are in contact with children who may benefit from this group, please feel free to contact Brittany Dalbow, Bereavement Counselor, at (646) 771-6604 to schedule an initial intake for the group, as well as to gain further information.



COMMUNITY CENTER SCHEDULE

JULY 24- JULY 30

MONDAY:

9:30-3:00 **Applause Summer Camp** (Community Center)
6:00-8:00 **LA Meeting** (Toddler Center)

TUESDAY:

9:30-3:00 **Applause Summer Camp** (Community Center)

WEDNESDAY:

9:30-3:00 **Applause Summer Camp** (Community Center)
1:00-2:00 **Senior Luncheon** (Eymard Room)

THURSDAY:

9:30-3:00 **Applause Summer Camp** (Community Center)
6:00-10:00 **Elegant Dance** (Great Hall)

FRIDAY:

9:30-3:00 **Applause Summer Camp** (Community Center)
10:00-2:00 **Senior Bingo** (Eymard Room)
6:00-10:00 **Manhattan Dance** (Great Hall)

SATURDAY:

NO EVENTS

SUNDAY:

1:00-3:00 **Elegant Dance** (Toddler Center)

The Center is available for seasonal and special events, parties, business meetings, wedding receptions, lectures and birthdays. For information as to availability and rates, contact the Director: Mr. Antonio Boccia at (212) 472-2853, ext. 1.

THE NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY



New York Common Pantry is dedicated to reducing hunger throughout New York City while promoting dignity and self-sufficiency. St. Jean's is one of the early benefactors of the program and continues to support the distribution of healthy, nourishing food to those in need.

PLEASE ASSIST THE WORK OF THE PANTRY

by leaving donations of non-perishable food at St. Joseph's altar. The pantry picks up regularly from the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, July 23

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 Peter Gaine
11:00 St. Anne's Novena & Blessing of the Children and Grandparents
5:30 Luca Zocche
7:30 St. Anne's Novena

MONDAY, July 24

SAINT JAMES

7:30 Special Intentions
12:15 St. Anne's Novena
7:30 St. Anne's Novena

TUESDAY, July 25

7:30 For the Parishioners
12:15 St. Anne's Novena
7:30 St. Anne's Novena

WEDNESDAY, July 26

SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE,
PARENTS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

7:30 Special Intentions
12:15 St. Anne's Novena
7:30 St. Anne's Novena

THURSDAY, July 27

7:30 Special Intentions
12:15 Maria Aponte

FRIDAY, July 28

7:30 For the Parishioners
12:15 Thomas Mitchell

SATURDAY, July 29

SAINT. MARTHA

12:15 The Zocche Family
5:30 David Aylesworth

CELEBRANTS FOR JULY 29-30

Saturday

5:30 – Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS

Sunday

9:00 – Rev. Bernard Camiré, SSS
11:00 – Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS
5:30 – Rev. George Dunn, SSS
7:30 – Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS

RENEW AND REBUILD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

We're underway! We've signed contracts with PASCOM SOUND to conclude the upgrading of the sound system in the church. This involves a great deal of digital programming, and the installation of two major speakers (one is 15 feet long and the other 7 feet), and replacing and repositioning the present speakers in the church. This has a price tag of \$59,985. We're budgeting an additional \$10,000 for electrical work. The school auditorium is getting a completely new system. We've budgeted \$75,000 for the sound system and electrical work.

Both the church and the auditorium are daunting projects because of the amount of reverberation in both spaces. The church has the additional challenge of the many columns that interfere with the streaming of direct sound. To address that issue, we're going to add new speakers on the columns.



We don't have a date for the installation work yet. We've given a down payment of \$40,000 to purchase the speakers from the manufacturer.

A sidewalk bridge has been erected along 76th street. Over the next few weeks we'll be scaffolding the dome in preparation for some stone repair at the base of the cooper roof, and the recaulking, painting and sealing of the 12 stained glass windows. The construction of the scaffold will take about a month, the window and stonework about 6 weeks, and another month to take down the scaffold. (That's if everything goes as planned. Enough said!) The down payment for the scaffolding was \$100,000 with another \$26,000 to be paid at the conclusion of the job. The window repair and restoration was estimated at \$60,000. The stone work can't be estimated until the stone is inspected after the scaffold has been erected.

Finally, FELIX CHAVEZ, INC. is currently working in the vestibule of the church repainting parts of the walls that have been damaged over the years. The company is also restoring the exterior doors that aren't in good shape. They suffer from extensive exposure to rain and snow. This is a \$25,000 project.

We thank everyone who donated to the 2016-17 RENEW AND REBUILD CAMPAIGN that the diocese initiated. We're presently waiting for the first check from the diocese, about \$100,000. Concerned and generous parishioners give regularly for the maintenance of the church building. We managed to squirrel away \$179,000 outside the RENEW AND REBUILD CAMPAIGN for restoration maintenance. We're using this money to jumpstart the present projects. Thank you for your stewardship and dedication to the maintenance of this architectural gem and monument to the Catholic faith.

PARISH STAFF

John A. Kamas, SSS Pastor
Bernard Camiré, SSS, Parish Associate
Hashendra Perera, SSS, Chaplain at Lenox Hill Hospital
Richard Russo, Deacon Emeritus
Richard Owen, Jr., Director of Music Ministries
Lennix Lewis, Business Manager
Joan Prenty, Director of Religious Education
Angelica Contreras, Parish Secretary
Ellen Hagan, Shrine of St. Anne
Antonio Boccia, Director of the Community Center
Pauline Reenock, Director of the Toddler Program
Ayesha Bulchandani, Trustee
Michael Lorch, Trustee

CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Bernard Camiré, SSS, *Parish Associate*
George Dunne, SSS, *Provincial Ministries*
Ernest Falardeau, SSS, *Ecumenical Ministry*
James Hayes, SSS, *Chaplain, Mt. Sinai Hospital*
John A. Kamas, SSS *Pastor*
Thomas Mella, SSS, *Community Hospitality*
Michael O'Leary, SSS, *Community Treasurer*
Norman Pelletier, SSS, *Community Superior*
Hashendra Perera, SSS, *Chaplain at Lenox Hill Hospital*
Michael Perez, SSS, *Novice Master*

PARISH OFFICE

212-288-5082 Ext. 10
184 East 76 Street, NY, NY 10021
Website: www.stjeanbaptisteny.org
Email: sjbrcc@yahoo.com

CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME

ST. JEAN BAPTISTE HIGH SCHOOL
Maria Cassano, CND, *Principal*
Alla Anne Boyle, CND
Simone Camiré, CND
Mary Caplice, CND
Rosemary Cianciolo, CND
Joann Compagno, CND
Barbara Costello, CND, *Tutor*
Eileen Good, CND, *Bursar*

IN RESIDENCE

Anne Conlon, CND
Helen Klimeck, CND
Ann Marie Levangie, CND

SUPPORT STAFF

Robert Addison
Manuel Batista
Ana Maria Feliz Lara
Francisco Francisco
Wilfredo Ortiz
Isaac Quansah
José Reyes

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