

THE EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

Bread Broken for a New World

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 26-27, 2017

ISAIAH 22:19-23; ROMANS 11:33-36; MATTHEW 16:13-20

GATHER HYMNAL # 1040

The Pastor's Reflections

“ **will give you
the keys to
the kingdom
of heaven.**

*Whatever you
loose on earth
shall be*

*loosed in heaven; and
whatever you bind on
earth shall be bound
in heaven.” (Matthew
16:19)*

These words of Jesus are the traditional starting point for the Church's teaching regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A second New Testament passage focuses and interprets this power of binding and loosing. “He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose

sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained” (John 20:22-23). In the passage from John's Gospel Jesus clearly gives his power to forgive sin to the apostles. We continue to celebrate this gift in our Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Extraordinary as this gift is, Jesus was entrusting more than the power and authority to forgive sins when he gave Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Let's examine this passage closely. We begin by noting the setting for this event.

Jesus brought the apostles to Caesarea Philippi,



a place sacred to the religions of the pagan world because it was believed to be the birthplace of the Greek god Pan. It also was the site of a magnificent temple to the divine Roman emperor. Inside a cave in the hillside there flowed a spring. This was one of the sources of the Jordan River. Jewish memory associated the river with Joshua and the entrance of the Israelites into the Promised Land. In this place sacred to Romans, Jews and Gentiles, the entire world one might say, Jesus asked his core group of disciples a transcendental question, “Who do you say that the Son of Man is?”

The answer came quickly. *“You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God”* Jesus’ eyes lit up when he heard this answer. His heavenly Father had given this insight to Simon, not *“flesh and blood,”* not mere observation. This answer, this insight, was so profound that it initiated a dramatic response from Jesus. Immediately he changed Simon’s name to Peter – rock. *“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.”* By changing his name Jesus was declaring that Peter was a new person.

Peter saw the inner reality of the Jesus event. Jesus was the Messiah, but not the conquering hero people expected. The Messiah was *“the Son of God.”* Something radically new had begun to evolve on earth – the kingdom of heaven.

It’s important to note that Simon didn’t receive the keys of the kingdom, Peter did. *“Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so, I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”*

The phrase *“blessed are you”* should ring a bell. Matthew begins chapter five of his Gospel with nine acclamations that we’ve come to call the Beatitudes. *Blessed are you who are poor in spirit! Blessed are you who mourn! Blessed are you who are meek! Blessed are you who hunger and thirst for righteousness! Blessed are you who are merciful! Blessed are you who are clean of heart! Blessed are you who are peacemakers! Blessed are you who are persecuted! Blessed are you who are insulted and persecuted because of me!* These are the marks of the citizens of the kingdom of heaven. Peter’s recognition of Jesus as Messiah and Son of God earned him the acclamation of the kingdom. *“Blessed are you Simon, son of Jonah.”* When Jesus changed Simon’s name to Peter he sealed a transformation in him – he was to be the first stone of the new edifice Jesus was building. He then gave the new man, Peter, a mission. He entrusted the keys to the kingdom to him.

The symbolism of the keys comes from a Jewish tradition. The Scribes were considered stewards of the treasury of divine wisdom. When they were granted the title, “Scribe” they were given a symbolic key meant to open and close the door to that treasury. They were commissioned to interpret the Law, the body of divine

wisdom.

Jesus awarded the keys to the kingdom of heaven not only to Peter, but, through him, to everyone who is born again – who takes on the life of the Beatitudes. Through us, the kingdom of heaven is being built one stone at a time. By our being living examples of the kingdom – by being humble and poor of spirit, by mourning with those suffering loss, by living simply and unselfishly, by interacting with pure and honest hearts, by laboring for peace, by willingly suffering persecution and insult for the kingdom of heaven we extend Jesus’ invitation to enter the kingdom community. What an exalted and demanding mission we have accepted!

I began writing this reflection in the days following the events at Charlottesville and Barcelona. I rested my head in my hands as my mind grappled with the tremendous upheaval going on. I wanted to weep as I thought of the suffering the human family is inflicting on itself. It’s a dark time not only for our country, but for our world.

With these events resounding in my mind and heart, I felt challenged by the account of Peter’s confession of faith in a way I have never been before. I felt that this passage had a powerful message for today. I knew it wasn’t merely a passage about the Church’s power to forgive personal sins. I struggled to understand the meaning of the keys. After days of reflection I realized that the keys were the Beatitudes – the new commandments Jesus gave us. They don’t tell us what to do or not do. They tell us what to be. They challenge us to be reborn just as Simon was reborn as Peter – the rock.

ROCK! What a powerful image of the kingdom! Think about how many times Jesus told his disciples not to be afraid. They were to be as solid as a rock. Their mission was to transform the world through the way they lived – through the Beatitudes.

It’s a tremendous challenge for us to live a kingdom life – a life energized by the power of the Beatitudes. We must be careful not to sink back into the chaos of the world. We have to have tremendous courage. We can’t be afraid. Remember always what Jesus promised. *“You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of the netherworld will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.”*

O.K. Let’s get to work.



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 –

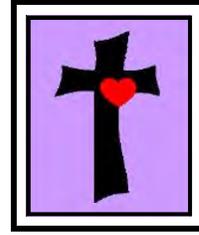
Thursday after the 12:15 Mass

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. 1040

HYMN OF GATHERING:

No. 741 "All Are Welcome"

KYRIE

GLORIA

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *"Lord, Your Love Is Eternal; Do Not Forsake The Work Of Your Hands."*

SECOND READING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

CREED, NO. 143

INTERCESSIONS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:

No. 502 "Come To The Water"

EUCHARISTIC 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. 822 "I Am The Bread Of Life"

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

RECESSIONAL:

No. 519 "Holy God, We Praise They Name"

**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*

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8, 2017:

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Time: Rosary at 6:30 PM; Holy Mass at 7:00 PM

Place: St. Jean Baptiste Church, 76th Street and Lexington Avenue



Sponsored by
Our Lady of Peace Prayer Group at St. Jean Baptiste Church
For information: call Lennix at 212.288.5082, ext.14 or Estela at 917.617.5688.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



ADULTS

COMING SOON...

Weekly study program on the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES with Jeff Cavins beginning in October. In house and online study available. Contact Ms. Prenty for more information.

SACRAMENTS FOR ADULTS-RCIA

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.

RELIGIOUS ED FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS



REGISTER NOW. CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 14

Registration on weekdays in the parish office Wednesday, Sept. 6 from 4-5:30 pm and Sunday, Sept. 17 after 11 am Mass in the School auditorium.

Volunteers Needed!



Adults and teens are needed for Wednesday Afternoon Religious Education Program. If you are interested, please call Ms. Joan T. Prenty DRE at 212-288-5082, ext 30, or email stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com.

BAPTIZING YOUR BABY AT ST. JEAN?

Baptism classes available for new parents and godparents. Classes are twice a month. Thursday, September 14 at 1 pm or Sunday, September 17 at 1 pm. Please see a priest and then contact Ms. Prenty.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Sunday collection amounted to \$ 5,815.00
ParishPay amounted to \$ 1,333.38

Total: \$7,148.38

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.

A heart-felt **THANK YOU** to all of you who are catching up with your weekly summer donations. It really helps the cause.

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.



We are now on Facebook and Instagram @stjeanbaptistenyc

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

Visit our website at: www.stjeanbaptistenyc.org

COMMUNITY CENTER SCHEDULE

AUGUST 21- AUGUST 27

- MONDAY:** No Events
- TUESDAY:** No Events
- WEDNESDAY:** No Events
- THURSDAY:** No Events
- FRIDAY:** No Events
- SATURDAY:** No Events
- SUNDAY:** No Events

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, August 27
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 Olivia Ojeda Reyes
11:00 Lena Rosato
5:30 Peter Gaine
7:30 Peter Gaine

MONDAY, August 28
SAINT AUGUSTINE
7:30 Dr. Germania Batista
12:15 The Zocche Family

TUESDAY, August 29
THE PASSION OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
7:30 For the Parishioners
12:15 In Honor of St. Anne

WEDNESDAY, August 30
7:30 Jonh M. Gallagher
12:15 Constatine Surazynski

THURSDAY, August 31
7:30 Gerald Barrett
12:15 Joan Mulroy

FRIDAY, September 1
7:30 Luca Zocche
12:15 Holy Souls

SATURDAY, September 2
12:15 Peter Gaine
5:30 June Halder

CELEBRANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2-3

Saturday
5:30 - Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS

Sunday
9:00 - Rev. John Kamas, SSS
11:00 - Rev. John Kamas, SSS
5:30 - Rev. John Kamas, SSS
7:30 - Rev. Norman Pelletier, SSS

NOCTURNAL ADORATION

The St. Jean's Chapter of the Nocturnal Adoration Society will hold its monthly Prayer Vigil on Friday, September 1, 2017, from 5:00 pm (Evening Prayer) to 9:00 pm.



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 copper 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.

WHAT IS PARISH PAY?

ParishPay is an alternative means of fulfilling your stewardship commitment to St. Jean Baptiste that benefits both you and the parish.

Instead of weekly and special collection envelopes, the program collects your contribution from your checking, savings or credit account on the date and frequency you specify. The funds you designate are deducted from your account, and directly credited to St. Jean's. No more checks to write, and no more fumbling for cash.

Enrollment is easy, friendly, secure and most of all there is **no cost** to you for using **ParishPay**. **We STRONGLY encourage all our parishioners to register with ParishPay for your weekly giving.**

BENEFITS TO YOU

You don't have to worry about bringing your envelope and checkbook to Mass every week.

You can provide regular ongoing support to St. Jean's even when you are away or unable to attend Mass.

You can easily adjust the amount of your contribution anytime via the secured website.

You receive email reminders in advance of your scheduled contributions.

You receive a year-end summary of your donations for tax purposes.

BENEFITS TO ST. JEAN BAPTISTE CHURCH

It provides a more predictable stream of income that will help the church do a better job of forecasting and budgeting.

It reduces the expense of mailing and processing of regular weekly donation envelopes.

It ensures consistency in giving during the lean summer months when parishioners travel and are away.

It insures an accurate and consistent record for generating tax letters.

IT'S EASY TO SIGN UP!

The easy-to-use website lets you enroll in just a few short minutes. Simply go to **www.parishpay.com** and click on the **Make a Donation** button. A window will open with the first step of registration. Type **St. Jean Baptiste Church** on the search bar and click **Search**. The **St. Jean Baptiste Church New York 10021 NY** option will show up. Click on **Select** and it will bring you to another window. Click on **Start Giving** and fill out your donation information. And you are all set!

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

St Jean Baptiste High School
173 EAST 75 STREET, NY, NY 10021
212-288-1645
www.stjean.org

Toddler Play Group
212-472-2853, ext. 2