

THE EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

Bread Broken for a New World

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 21-22, 2017

ISAIAH 45:1, 4-6; 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-5B; MATTHEW 22:15-21

GATHER HYMNAL # 1064

The Pastor's Reflections

Jesus had just embarrassed the Pharisees by directing a parable to them about a king who sent out invitations to his son's wedding feast. In the story the people refused the king's invitation, and even beat and killed the messengers he sent to them. The king reacted in anger. He destroyed those who refused his invitation, and burned their city. Through the parable, Jesus was rebuking the religious leaders because they had refused God's invitation by rejecting him. Therefore God had extended the invitation beyond Israel. In the presence of the crowd he dismissed them. "Many are invited, but few are chosen. (Matthew 22:14)" Enraged, "the Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap him in speech. (Matthew 22:15)"

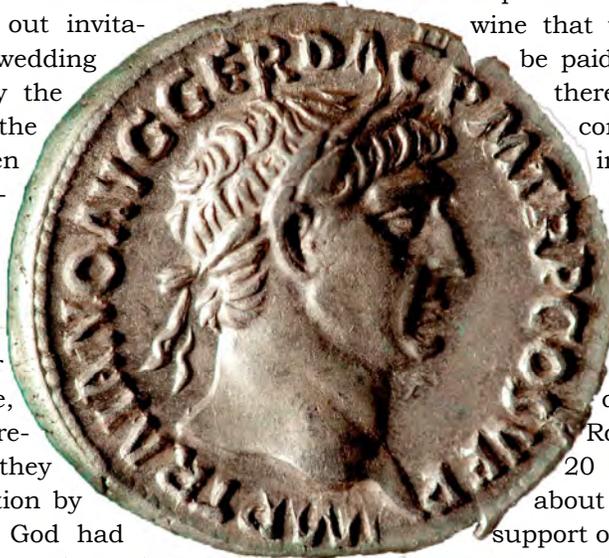
The Pharisees returned along with the Herodians. This was an odd combination of resistance. The Pharisees were ultra orthodox. They resented the occupation of their country by a foreign government. The Herodians, on the other hand, were loyal supporters of King Herod of Galilee who owed his power and position to the Romans. They posed a very touchy question to Jesus. It had to do with taxes.

Here's some background on the tax situation of the time. Rome imposed three taxes. There

was the *ground tax* that took 10% of all grain that was produced, and 20% of the oil and wine that was produced. This could be paid in kind or in cash. Then there was the *income tax* that consisted of 1% of a person's income. Finally, there was the *census tax* that had to be paid by every male from age 14 to 65, and every female from age 12 to 65. It was a little more than the daily wage, one denarius. Along with these, Rome taxed every male Jew, 20 and older, a half shekel, about three days wages, for the support of the temple.

Like today, in Jesus' time no one liked taxes. But the Jews especially resented taxes that went to the support of the occupier, the Roman emperor. After the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in 70 AD, to add insult to injury, Rome demanded that the temple tax be paid for the support of the Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus in Rome. The whole issue of taxes was a touchy and potentially explosive issue.

So the Pharisees and Herodians posed this question to Jesus: "Tell us, then, in your opinions: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not? (Matthew 22:17)" This immediately caught everyone's attention. In the Jewish mind, God was the only king. Israel was a theocracy. To pay tax to an earthly king was to validate his authority while dismissing God's authority.



There were even some political parties in Israel that insisted that paying taxes to the emperor was morally wrong.

If Jesus said that the Roman tax should be paid, the ultra orthodox, and even the ordinary people, would resent him because they hated the Roman occupation. If Jesus sided with the popular feeling that paying the tax was wrong, the Pharisees and Herodians would immediately report him as a revolutionary who was inciting sedition.

Jesus cleverly asked to see the coin used to pay the census tax, a denarius. It was customary that each emperor would strike a coin with his portrait on it. Jesus held the coin up showing the image of the Roman emperor, and asked a question in return. *“Whose image is this, and whose inscription?”* The answer was simple: *“Caesar’s.”* Jesus response was simple and direct. *“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”* The conversation stopped there. *“When they heard this they were amazed, and leaving him they went away. (Matthew 22:22)”*

The religious leaders publically questioned Jesus’ authority to preach and heal. They tried over and over again to trip him up through their carefully crafted questions and malicious accusations. However, he fought them, and humiliated them in the eyes of the people with his clever retorts. He fought them through parables portraying all the while condemning them as stiff-necked and hard of heart.

Matthew’s Gospel devoted chapters 19 through 23 to give an account of the all-out verbal battle between the religious leaders and Jesus. He related that *“Jesus spoke to the crowds and to his disciples saying, ‘The scribes and the Pharisees have taken their seat on the chair of Moses. Therefore, do and observe all things whatsoever they tell you, but do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on people’s shoulders, but will not lift a finger to move them. All their works are performed to be seen.’ (Matthew 23:1-5)”* He followed this with seven condemnations, each beginning with the phrase *“Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites!”*

The religious leaders would stop at nothing to silence Jesus; he knew that. He knew his triumphal entrance into Jerusalem was the final straw for them. He knew his death was near. At the end of the chapter, Jesus, with his heart broken,

lamented Jerusalem’s lack of faith.

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but you were unwilling. Behold your house will be abandoned, desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ (Matthew 23:39)”

It’s interesting to observe how Jesus’ parables, in spite their being aimed at the religious leaders, delivered universal teachings. He never laid down laws, like the religious leaders did. He presented principles. The episode we’ve been contemplating isn’t bound to one moment in time. His message concerning the legitimacy of paying taxes to Caesar went beyond the mundane. Jesus was reminding us that we enjoy dual citizenship, the world and the kingdom of God. His famous teaching, *“Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God,”* was meant to remind us of the important obligation we have to both the world and the kingdom. We’re indeed citizens of the world, no matter how messy that may be at times. Our citizenship isn’t only a matter of taxation and patriotism, but one of thirsting for righteousness, justice and a deep commitment to the common good.

The *“good and bad alike”* are invited to enter the kingdom of God, but they’re still obliged to labor in the world. Call to mind the parables of the woman who mixed leaven into flour, and the tiny mustard seed that grows into a huge bush. We may consider ourselves as insignificant in the world, but by nurturing a kingdom life within ourselves, and within our faith community, we’re actually sowing the seeds for a new world, a world in which God’s *“will is done on earth as it is in heaven.”*

MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION

Next weekend we will be celebrating World Mission Sunday. Each year, the entire Church is invited to support the young mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the poorest of the poor.

This year, we are invited to “Chat With The Pope” to learn more about his missions. Scan this year’s World Mission Sunday poster using Facebook Manager for your mobile device, or learn more at ChatWithThePope.org.

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 –

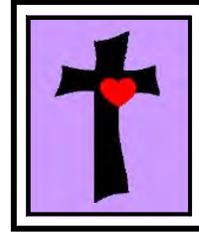
Thursday after the 12:15 Mass

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. 1064

HYMN OF GATHERING:

No. 421 "All Glory Laud And Honor"

KYRIE

GLORIA

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *"Give The Lord Glory And Honor."*

SECOND READING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

CREED, NO. 143

INTERCESSIONS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:

No. 627 "You Are Mine"

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. 504 "I Have Loved You"

BLESSING and DISMISSAL

RECESSIONAL:

No. 496 "How Great Thou Art"



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*

THE 7:30 SUNDAY MASS

Processional: No. 496 “How Great Thou Art”

Offertory: No. 627 “You Are Mine”

Communion: No. 504 “I Have Loved You”

Recessional: “How Great Is Our God”

The splendor of a King,
clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice,
all the earth rejoice
He wraps himself in light,
and darkness tries to hide
and trembles at his voice,
trembles at his voice

And age to age He stands
and time is in His Hands
Beginning and the End,
Beginning and the End
The Godhead, three in one
Father, Spirit, Son
the Lion and the Lamb,
the Lion and the Lamb

**How great is our God,
sing with me
How great is our God,
and all will see
How great
How great is our God**

**Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
how great is our God**

[REPEAT]



FAMILY MASS 2017-2018 CALENDAR



November 5, 2017

The Family Mass will be held at 11:00 AM followed by a reception in the **VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH** immediately following the Mass.

All are welcome!

--VERY IMPORTANT--

Please remember to bring a non-perishable food item to benefit the New York Common Pantry. The children will have the opportunity to bring these to the Altar.

TODDLER PLAY GROUP



The new year for the Toddler Play Group began on Monday, September 18, 2017. The children will enjoy their first "school" experience in our well-equipped and friendly play room in the Community Center.

There are still a few available places in the program which runs until June.

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.

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.

You can assist the work of the Pantry by leaving donations of **Granola bars, power bars, cereal bars, packaged nuts, trail mix, Fruit snacks or dried fruits** at St. Joseph's altar. The pantry picks up regularly from the Parish Office.

The annual **Thanksgiving Turkey Collection** will begin in November. It's a good way to share God's blessings in the holiday season.

DIVORCED CATHOLICS

Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis has been such a breath of fresh air for the Church. I believe he may be the most popular pope since John XXIII. He's so warm and welcoming, so compassionate. Pope Francis has opened his arms in welcome to everyone. He called for a special Year of Mercy to remind us that God loves each of us personally and without prejudice. But he also has acknowledged that, as a Church, we have difficulty accepting everyone as God accepts them.

In the spirit of Pope Francis, I want to reach out to a very large group of Catholics, and/or ex-Catholics, who have been excluded, or feel excluded, from the life of the Church. These are our divorced Catholics. I've seen statistics that report that as many as one out of two Catholics has experienced the painful break-up of their marriage. At the time of a divorce the Church should be with the individuals to give consolation, and help in his or her healing.

I want to join Pope Francis in reaching out in welcome to our divorced brothers and sisters. However, I need the help of everyone in the parish to do this. Many divorced Catholics have either stopped coming to their parish, or have joined other Christian denominations that have welcomed them.

We all know Catholics who are divorced and feel alienated from the Church community. So I ask every one of you to reach out to those divorced Catholics you know and invite them to an afternoon of open discussion. I will be hosting **CONVERSATIONS WITH DIVORCED CATHOLICS** on Sunday, November 5th in the school auditorium. I ask you to invite your divorced friends and relatives to join us for the 11 O'clock Mass, and then accompany them into the auditorium for an open discussion.

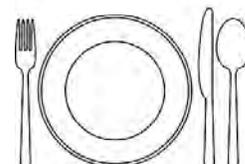
As the day draws near I'll give more details about the meeting. But right now, I ask you to be the Church's welcoming arms. Extend the invitation. You are most important in the process because you're in contact with your divorced friends. This is the first step - to acknowledge that divorced Catholics are our brothers and sisters, and we truly want them to be part of our Catholic family.

May the Holy Spirit be with you as you reach out to your friends and relatives. This is God's work, and God will bless you for it.

Fr. John Kamas, SSS
Pastor

CALLING ALL SENIORS!

All are welcome at the Senior Luncheons which take place every Wednesday at 1:00 PM in the Great Hall of the Community Center. Donation: \$3.00.





ADULTS

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.

Volunteers Needed!



We're reaching out to **all retired teachers** to volunteer your talents to teach in our Religious Education Program. We especially need teachers for the First Communion class. Teens are also needed to assist in Wednesday Afternoon Program. If you are interested, please call Ms. Joan T. Prenty DRE at 212-288-5082, ext 30. or email stjeanbaptistere-religiousused@gmail.com.

USHERS/GREETER NEEDED!

Ushers/greeters are needed for the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses. Please contact Joan Prenty director of St. Jean Baptiste Religious Education at 212-288-5082 ext. 30



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Sunday collection. Checks: **\$4,645.00**
Cash: **\$3,008.00**

WeShare donations amounted to: **\$1,256.00**

Total: \$8,909.00

Many thanks to all who donated to the collection for Puerto Rico, which amounted to \$3,744.

Please take note: For those who donate through ParishPay you will no longer have access to the website.

ParishPay has now transitioned to a new company, WeShare. All user data, scheduled recurring donations, and scheduled one-time donations will now be handled by WeShare another online giving service.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

A Bereavement Support Group is being organized for those grieving the death of a loved one. The weekly sessions will help guide people through their grieving process in a safe and supportive environment. This group will provide the opportunity to share with others, learn about the process of grief, and find comfort during this difficult time.

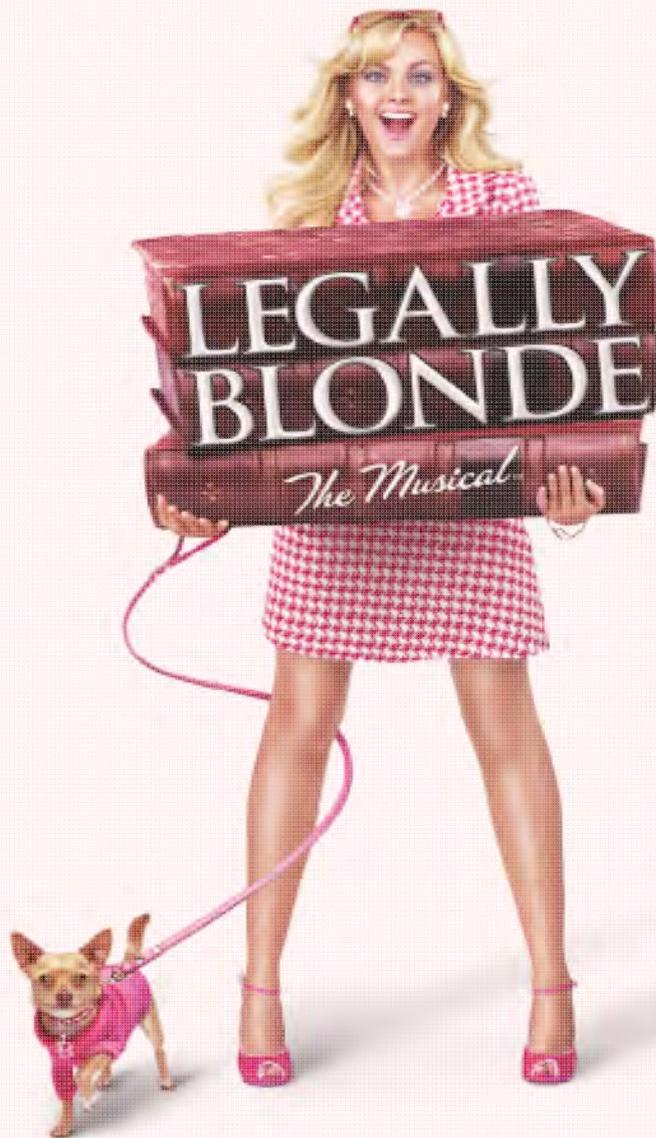
The program will run from Tuesday, October 31st through Tuesday, December 19th, and will meet at 6:30 PM in the Rectory. It will be facilitated by Elizabeth Fougner, a Parishioner of Our Saviour's/Sacred Hearts in midtown, who has completed the Archdiocesan training program in Pastoral Bereavement Ministry. The group's size will be limited, and registration will close when the group has been filled. For more information or to register, please call the Office at 212-288-5082, ext 30.

ABOUT OUR WEBSITE

The website for the Church of St. Jean Baptiste, www.stjeanbaptisteny.org, now has an active "DONATE" feature. You may now use your credit cards to donate or pay fees for programs at the church. These include:

1. Building Maintenance and Restoration
2. General Support
3. Concert Tickets
4. Religious Education Fees
5. Toddler Program Tuition
6. Support for Scholarships for SJB High School

You may also designate whether you would like to give a one-time gift, a bi-weekly gift, a monthly gift or yearly gift. A "comments" section also allows you to relay further information concerning your gift. An e-mail confirmation is sent to you upon completion of your transaction.



The St. Jean's Players host their Fall production, *Legally Blonde The Musical*, an international award-winning musical is based on the popular movie, *Legally Blonde* and follows the transformation of Elle Woods from Valley Girl to Harvard Law Student as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery, and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. There's lots of fun along the way.

Three weekends only:

Fri. Nov. 3 and Sat. Nov. 4 at 8:00 PM;

Sun. Nov. 5 at 3:00 PM (matinee)

Fri. Nov. 10 and Sat. Nov. 11 at 8:00 PM

Sun. Nov. 12 at 3:00 PM (matinee)

Fri. Nov. 17 and Sat. Nov. 18 at 8:00 PM

Sun. Nov. 19 at 3:00 PM (matinee)

Regular admission: \$25

Seniors 65+ and Children under age 18: \$20

St. Jean's High School Auditorium

167 East 75th Street (between Lex. & 3rd Avenues)

Reservations: www.SmartTix.com or telephone

SmartTix: 212 288-4444, or pay at the box office

30 minutes prior to show time.

Special Reception and Performance of Legally Blonde The Musical: Friday, November 10, 2017

The proceeds of the evening will benefit the St. Jean Baptiste Maintenance and Restoration Fund.

6:30 PM Reception (includes Cocktail Buffet) at the Parish House, 184 East 76th Street

8:00 PM Legally Blonde the Musical in the St. Jean Baptiste School Auditorium (includes reserved seating)

\$50 per person. RSVP by November 6, 2017

Checks should be made payable to St. Jean Baptiste Church and mailed to:

184 East 76th Street, New York, NY 10021

To pay by credit card, please call 212 288-3850 or email sjbrcc@aol.com

COMMUNITY CENTER SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 16– OCTOBER 22

MONDAY:

9:00-1:00 **Toddler Program** (Toddler Center)
4:00-6:30 **Broadway Babies** (Toddler Center)
4:00-9:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)
6:00-8:00 **LA Meeting** (Toddler Center)

TUESDAY:

9:00-1:00 **Toddler Program** (Toddler Center)
4:00-5:00 **Broadway Babies** (Toddler Center)
3:00-9:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)

WEDNESDAY:

9:00-1:00 **Toddler Program** (Toddler Center)
4:00-5:00 **Broadway Babies** (Toddler Center)
3:00-9:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)
1:00-2:30 **Senior Luncheon** (Great Hall)

THURSDAY:

9:00-1:00 **Toddler Program** (Toddler Center)
3:15-6:00 **Broadway Babies** (Toddler Center)
4:00-5:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)
6:00-10:00 **Elegant Dance** (Great Hall)

FRIDAY:

6:00-8:00 **OA Meeting** (Room #2)
6:00-10:00 **Manhattan Dance** (Great Hall)

SATURDAY:

9:00-6:00 **Broadway Babies** (Toddler Center)
9:00-6:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)

SUNDAY:

10:00-6:00 **Broadway Babies** (Great Hall)
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.



MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, October 22

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 Jane Wrightsman
11:00 The Zocche Family
5:30 Jane Wrightsman
7:30 Vincent McDonnell

MONDAY, October 23

7:30 Vincent McDonnell
12:15 In Honor of St. Joseph

TUESDAY, October 24

7:30 For the Parishioners
12:15 In Honor of St. Anne

WEDNESDAY, October 25

7:30 Luca Zocche
12:15 Vincent McDonnell

THURSDAY, October 26

7:30 Ana Rodriguez
12:15 In Honor of St. Joseph

FRIDAY, October 27

7:30 Vincent McDonnell
12:15 In Honor of St. Joseph

SATURDAY, October 28

SAINTS SIMON & JUDE
12:15 Vincent McDonnell
5:30 Mary Woods

CELEBRANTS FOR OCTOBER 28-29

Saturday:

5:30 – Rev. Bernard Camire, SSS

Sunday:

9:00 – Rev. John Kamas, SSS
11:00 – Rev. John Kamas, SSS
5:30 – Rev. John Kamas, SSS
7:30 – Rev. John Kamas, SSS

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Following the 11:00AM Mass each Sunday we invite everyone in the church to gather for coffee, juices, bagels and fellowship in the High School Auditorium. Enter the Auditorium through the large doors behind the organ area. We look forward to having you join us.

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