

# THE EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JEAN BAPTISTE

*Bread Broken for a New World*

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 9-10, 2017

ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 PETER 3:8-14; MARK 1:1-8  
GATHER HYMNAL # 883

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## *The Pastor's Reflections*

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**U**sually, I focus my weekly reflection on the Sunday Gospel passage, but this week I'm going to comment on each of the scripture passages. The three readings and the Psalm for this Second Sunday of Advent, bring into focus Advent's theme of longing and hope.

We begin with one of the most well known passages from the writings of the prophet Isaiah. This work spans several centuries, and at least two authors contributed its composition. This section of the prophecy was given the title, the Book of Consolation.

Israel had experienced almost 200 years of war and devastation. Isaiah had been warning the rulers and all the people that God would punish them if they continued to be unfaithful to his covenant. It happened as he had prophesied. The northern kingdom, Israel, fell to the Assyrians in 721 BC. In 586 BC the Babylonian armies swept through the Middle East and conquered the southern kingdom of Judah. They totally destroyed Jerusalem and deported the nobles, and a great portion of the general population to Babylon.

This last part of the prophecy, written by a second Isaiah, envisioned a new Exodus. The exiles would be liberated and would return to Jerusalem. His prophecy was fulfilled in 540 BC when Cyrus, King of Persia, conquered the Babylonian empire. He permitted the exiles to return to Jerusalem. He even rebuilt the temple for them. Second Isaiah's prophecy of hope begins, "*Comfort, give comfort to my people...Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated.*"

He continues with beautiful, poetic imagery,



portraying God as a conquering hero returning to his capital, Jerusalem. He describes a messenger running ahead of him crying out all along the way, "*Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!*" In turn, Jerusalem's temple mount cries out for the entire world to hear, "*Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord God.*" This conqueror, however, doesn't come with an army prepared for war. God comes as a faithful shepherd, his arms reaching out lovingly to his sheep. "*Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading*

*the ewes with care.”*

We use Psalm 85 as a reflection following Isaiah’s prophecy. *“I hear what God proclaims; the Lord – for he proclaims peace to his people. Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.”* This vision of a new world leads us to the second scripture reading.

In the second scripture reading Peter speaks to us through his second letter. *“According to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”* Peter’s message lifts us up from this worldly plain. His hope expands to a vision of a world transformed. Many years later, Peter’s theme will be echoed by the author of the Book of Revelation. *“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”*

These scriptures capture so beautifully the hopeful longing of Advent. They invite us to envision life without our global trials and tribulations, and our personal struggles and sufferings. But as we do so, we must always keep our feet firmly planted on terra firma because creation is still in process. By remaining rooted, we channel God’s transforming energy into our world.

This thought brings us to the Gospel reading. It begins with the first sentence of Mark’s Gospel, *“The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.”* This is no mere title. It’s a powerful Creed that weaves its way throughout the entire work. It is first of all a Gospel. It’s the Good News that Jesus is the Christ, the one anointed by God as the Messiah and redeemer. Jesus is the Son of God. He is man. He is God. In him heaven and earth are united setting the stage for a new heaven and a new earth. But we’re reminded that this is only *“the beginning of the Gospel.”* The entire Gospel will be written through the lives of his followers who will be carrying him, *“Jesus Christ, the Son of God,”* through the centuries. Our longing for the completion of his work, and our unshakeable hope will unite us with God in creating that new heaven and new earth that of which the prophets spoke.

During this season of hopeful longing we are encouraged to be the messengers sent ahead of him. We’re asked to be the voice crying out in the desert, *“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”* We asked to cry out to all those suffering violence, war, displacement, poverty, famine, persecution, *“A new heaven and a new earth is coming. The Lord has said so!”*

## LAND OF PEACE HOLIDAY SALE THIS WEEK END

LAND OF PEACE is a Christian Palestinian organization that was founded to help support the struggling Christians in Bethlehem. For the past four years, representatives of the organization have visited us bringing with them hand-carved religious items from Bethlehem. You will find interesting and finely carved crèches, crosses, rosaries and Last Supper scenes. Please be generous and support their endeavor. It is very difficult for the Christians in Bethlehem to survive due to Israeli roadblocks making it difficult for pilgrims to visit Bethlehem. Your will help them greatly.

## NEW INTERCESSORY PRAYER GROUP

Every Sunday afternoon from 12:30 to 1:30 PM, a group will gather in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the church for Intercessory Prayer. We will be praying for special intentions and healing. All are welcome to participate and, if you can’t come to the church, you can leave your intentions at the desk in the Parish Office.



## 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 –

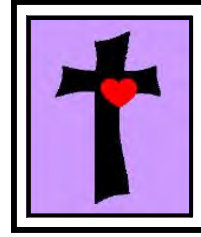
Thursday after the 12:15 Mass

## 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. 883

HYMN OF GATHERING:

No. 333 *“O, Come Divine Messiah”*

KYRIE

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *“Lord, Let Us See Your Kindness,  
And Grant Us Your Salvation.”*

SECOND READING

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

## CREED, NO. 143

INTERCESSIONS

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS:

No. 344 *“On Jordan’s Banks”*

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. 832 *“Let Us Break Bread Together”*

## BLESSING and DISMISSAL

RECESSIONAL:

No. 337 *“People, Look East”*

*“A person who sings prays twice.” ---St. Augustine*



## 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:

**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  
(1st Sunday Each 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](mailto:owenrick@aol.com);  
mobile: 845-729-4986  
website: [RichardOwenJr.com](http://RichardOwenJr.com)

**THE 7:30 SUNDAY MASS**

*Processional: No. 333 "O, Come Divine Messiah"*

*Offertory: No. 323 "O Come, Oh Come Emmanuel"*

*Communion: No. 832 "Let Us Break Bread Together"*

*Recessional: "See Your Redeemer Comes"*

Am G E7 Am E F Em 1. Am 2. Am

See, your Re-dee - mer comes, comes with your sal - va - tion in hand!  
 He comes to save us all! Peo - ple of the Lord, shout for joy!

C F C Dm C Dm E

1. He whom the pro-phets long fore - told, he comes to free you from your chains.

C F Em Dm F E7 Am E

He whom your heart has longed to know: see, the Sav - iour comes!

2. It is our God who comes on earth, assuming mortal flesh like us.  
 He comes to bring us life anew. See, the Saviour comes!

3. He promised us he would return when he will reign forevermore,  
 When we shall see his glory clear. See, the Saviour comes!



### *Annual Holiday Toy Drive 2017*

Help make the holidays brighter by donating new and unwrapped gifts or gift cards in \$25 denominations for children (infants to 15 years)!

If possible, please leave price sticker on the toy. Thank you for bringing holiday cheer to NYCP families!

You can drop off the toys at the rectory or at St. Joseph's Altar.

**Last pick up day is Friday, December 15th.**

#### **---Schedule for Christmas---**

##### **Saturday December 23rd**

5:30 Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

##### **Sunday December 24th**

9:00 Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

11:00 Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

5:30 Vigil Mass for Christmas

12:00 Midnight Mass

Monday December 25th

9:00 Mass for Christmas Day

11:00 Mass for Christmas Day

#### **---Schedule for New Years---**

##### **Saturday December 30th**

5:30 Feast of the Holy Family

##### **Sunday December 31st**

9:00 Feast of the Holy Family

11:00 Feast of the Holy Family

5:30 Mary the Mother of God

11:00 Mary the Mother of God

##### **Monday January 1st**

9:00 Mary the Mother of God

11:00 Mary the Mother of God

5:30 Mary the Mother of God





## 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.

### 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

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS MEMORIALS

Envelopes are available at the rear of the church for Christmas flower memorials. Place the name(s) of those you would like to remember and drop the envelope in any of the collection boxes in the church. We will publish a partial list of those remembered in our bulletin the weekend following Christmas and a complete list the following Sunday



### STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Sunday collection.....Checks: **\$5,028.00**  
Cash: **\$2,739.00**

WeShare donations amounted to: **\$1,308.00**

**Total: \$9,075.00**

We strongly suggest one hour's wage as a just and meaningful donation. Please help support our work here at Saint Jean's. Commit yourself to this community by committing one hour a week.

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.

### DIVORCED CATHOLICS

We had a very productive meeting with divorced Catholics in November. We will be repeating our invitation to divorced Catholics in the new year to join us for a conversation. Please continue to inform your divorced friends that we will soon be announcing a date for our

### 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.



### 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.

## FAMILY LIFE

### Saint Jean Baptiste Church Christmas Pageant



December 17, 2017  
11:00 am

All children invited grades K-8  
Acting parts K-4<sup>th</sup> grades  
Reading parts 5-8 grades

#### Rehearsals

Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM-5:30 PM  
Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM-10:30 AM

We are also looking for parent volunteers to assist us with the following: Chaperoning the children to the Mass after rehearsal and to the reception after Mass; helping the children with their pageant costumes; assisting the children with choir robes; bringing brunch items such as mini muffins, croissants, bagels, cookies, finger sandwiches, fruit platter, and crudité. (No nuts please)

If you are interested in having your child participate or if you would like to volunteer please contact Jill Bowers at 646-276-3614 or email [jill@doyle.com](mailto:jill@doyle.com).

#### TODDLER PLAY GROUP

Our Toddler Play Group is in session in the Community Center From September through June.

The children enjoy their first "school" experience in our well-equipped and friendly play room.

For information call the Play Group Director Pauline Reenock, at 212-472-2853 Ext. 2

### FAMILY MASS 2017-2018 CALENDAR



December 17, 2017

January 7, 2018

February 4, 2018

March 4, 2018

April 8, 2018

May 6, 2018

Every Family Mass will be held at 11:00 AM followed by a reception in the SJB High School Auditorium 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.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education classes are available for children preparing for First Holy Communion and Confirmation and their continuing religious education.

For more information call Ms. Joan T. Prenty, Director of Religious Education, at 212-288-5082, ext 30, or email her at:

[stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com](mailto:stjeanbaptistereligioused@gmail.com).



## COMMUNITY CENTER SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 18 – DECEMBER 24

### 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.

## ABOUT OUR WEBSITE

The website for the Church of St. Jean Baptiste, [www.stjeanbaptisteny.org](http://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.

## MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, December 10

### THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 In Thanksgiving to St. Theresa  
Of Avila  
11:00 The Zocche Family  
5:30 Genevieve Carson  
7:30 Vincent McDonnell

MONDAY, December 11

7:30 Vincent McDonnell  
12:15 Dr. Khairy Malek

TUESDAY, December 12

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

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

WEDNESDAY, December 13

### SAINT LUCY

7:30 Vincent McDonnell  
12:15 Russell Battaglia

THURSDAY, December 14

### SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

7:30 Vincent McDonnell  
12:15 Dr. Khairy Malek

FRIDAY, December 15

7:30 John Gallagher  
12:15 The Feeley Family

SATURDAY, December 16

12:15 Patrick & Kate Killeen  
& John Hynes  
5:30 Rosetta Sandolfini

## CELEBRANTS FOR DECEMBER 16-17

### 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

## ST. JEAN BAPTISTE MISSION SOCIETY

On the occasion of Mission Sunday I proposed the establishment of a **MISSION SOCIETY** here at St. Jean's. I extend an invitation to all our parishioners to partner with the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in India. We have vibrant communities there and many vocations. Our greatest challenge there is the support of our seminarians. Believe it or not, we sometimes have to turn young men away because we cannot cover the costs for their theological education.

The purpose of the **MISSION SOCIETY** would be, first of all, to learn about the work of the Order and its particular mission to India. Secondly, the Society would have the task to stimulate giving throughout the year for the specific purpose of supporting the seminarians' education. Society and the parish at large.

A number of parishioners have already joined this missionary effort. If you are moved to become one of the foundering members of the **MISSION SOCIETY** please leave your name and telephone number at the rectory.

Father Jegaraj, SSS, Provincial Superior of the Indian Province, has sent us pictures of the Novices and Seminarians, and an explanation of the expenses incurred for their formation.

This can be an important mission for our parish community. It will also be a blessing for the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in India. Thank you for your interest and support.

Fr. John.



The Eymardian scholasticate is at Pune, a city three hours' drive from Mumbai. There are 18 students here: 5 Philosophy students and 13 theology students and 2 priests. They are studying in the

seminary run by the Jesuits called Janna Deepa Vedyapeeth. It is a pontifical institute with close to 900 seminarians belonging to most of the dioceses in India, and many religious congregations.

Educational fees for philosophy and theology per year, per student, for two semesters is \$ 307 USD (RS 20000). \$154 USD per semester.

The monthly cost of providing a student with food, clothing, travel expenses, and personal needs is \$75 USD (Rs: 4875).



There are 6 novices at the LaMure Novitiate house in Goa at the moment. It is a two year program consisting of spiritual and religious formation. Here the novices are trained in the life and mission of the Congregation. They are here for the full two years. Since it is a formation program specifically for those interested in joining the Congregation, the Congregation assumes the expenses for education, and boarding. An expected 12 will be joining us in May of 2018, and 5 from this group will move on to the seminary for theological studies in September.

The Average cost of supporting a novice is \$214 USD (Rs 14000) per year.



## **PARISH STAFF**

John A. Kamas, SSS Pastor  
Bernard Camiré, SSS, Parish Associate  
Hashendra Perera, SSS, Chaplain at Lenox Hill Hospital  
Richard Owen, Jr., Director of Music Ministries  
Lennix Lewis, Business Manager  
Joan Prenty, Director of Religious Education  
Angelica Contreras, Parish Secretary  
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](http://www.stjeanbaptisteny.org)  
Email: [sjbrcc@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://www.stjean.org)

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