

A photograph of the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church building, a large, light-colored stone structure with a prominent steeple topped with a cross. The building is set against a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

St. John the Baptist CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Corner of E. Lincoln
and Hamlet Streets*

Church Mailing Address:
168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1534
(614) 294-5319
Fax: (614) 294-4303
E-mail: info@sjbitaliana.org

Deacon Frank Iannarino,
Parish Administrator
fiannarino@columbuscatholic.org

Msgr. Anthony Missimi,
Msgr. John Cody
Weekend Assistants

*(National Italian Parish ~
Est. 1896)*

MASSES/MESSE:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist

WEEKDAYS AND HOLY DAYS:

(See Mass Schedule inside Bulletin)

PARISH OFFICE/STAFF:

Aggie Howard, Executive Assistant, ahoward@sjbitaliana.org

Victoria Gammell, Secretary, St. John the Baptist

Office Hours, St. John the Baptist:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Administration of both parishes is done through the office at St. John the Baptist – 168 E. Lincoln Street.

Requests for copies of sacramental records, scheduling of Masses and other sacramental celebrations, hall rental and other non-emergency needs should be made during regular office hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org.

Please notify the Parish Office of any changes, such as address or telephone, etc., by calling during regular hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Announcements must be submitted in writing by Tuesday at noon.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Gina M. Bishop, Music Director; **John C. Huffman**, Organist

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome you into our Parish Families. Membership in the parish consists of two parts: **Registration:** Please fill out form and return to Office. **Participation:** As a member of the Church, you are accepting the responsibility of weekly worship as well as supporting God's work here through giving of yourself, your time and talents, and a worthy Sunday offering to show your love for God and your gratitude for His many favors.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONE:

One half-hour prior to weekend Mass or by request/appointment.

BAPTISM/BATTESIMO:

Preparation is required for the reception of the sacrament.

Parents are encouraged to call the Rectory and set up an appointment before the birth of their child.

MATRIMONY/MATRIMONIO:

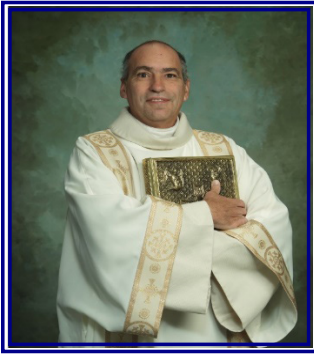
Arrangements should be made at least six or more months in advance. A marriage preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/INFERMI:

In cases of emergencies, please call anytime. Please notify the Parish Office for Communion calls to the sick, shut-ins.

Due to privacy laws, if parishioners wish to be visited in the hospital, they should contact the Parish Office directly and give the information regarding the hospitalization.

If you are scheduled for surgeries or other medical procedures, please contact the Parish Office in advance so that a priest can administer Anointing of the Sick prior to the procedure.



From the Deacon's Desk

Dear friends in Christ,

Almost everyone who has had cataract surgery on one or both eyes speak of the experience in nearly the way we will hear the prophet Isaiah speaks in our first reading today. The eyes of the blind are opened, and suddenly they see the glory of the **Lord**, or at least the glory and beauty of colors and sights around them that they did not know were there!

All of us depend upon our sense of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch for our knowledge of what is going on around us. For most of us, "**Seeing is believing.**" Sight is the primary way that we come to know the world. But our eyes change as we grow older. Cataracts are a clouding of the lens, making the whole world darker and less precisely focused. Both our physical vision and spiritual vision can dim.

Over the years, our vision may have dimmed a bit, and we have trouble seeing what perhaps we saw more clearly as children. With the birth of **Christ** into the world, with **Christmas**, things are meant to be different. **John the Baptist's** followers, as we will hear in the **Gospel**, could return to him with good news indeed. The reign of **God** was at hand! **John** must have rejoiced that he had prepared the way for **God's** coming into this world. Are we preparing the way for **God** to come into our world?

As we light the **third rose-colored candle** on our **Advent Wreath** this **Gaudete Sunday**, we are called to see, hear, and to leap with joy at the coming of the **Messiah**, even as we are also called to proclaim good news to the poor and raise to new life those dead to the reality of what love can do for all of us when it is shared with others as **God** shares life and love with us.

Saint John the Baptist pray for us.
Deacon Frank

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sun., 12/15	9:30 a.m.	Lucertina, Agriesti & West Families By the Family/Bonnie Agriesti
Sun., 12/15	9:30 a.m.	Gaetana Capoccia by Friends & Family
Tues., 12/17	1:00 p.m.	Mary McDonald by Joann Paesano
Sun., 12/22	9:30 a.m.	Angelina Dinovo by Tony Caradonna & Luisa Stefanelli
Sun., 12/22	9:30 a.m.	Cesidio Capoccia by Family and Friends

**Celebrant for Sunday Mass,
December 22, Msgr. Cody**

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Virginia & Dominick Finissi
by Norma Jean & Bill Finissi, Sr.
Blessed Sacrament: Yolanda Hebert
by Mary Spellacy

Requiescant in pace! In the charity of your prayers, please remember the family and friends of:

Maria "Mary" D. McDonald, a member of **St. John the Baptist Church**, who died and was buried this past **Saturday**. Also, **Rita T. Metzger**, mother of **Fr. William Metzger**, who also past this past week.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday, December 15, 2019, 9:30 a.m.	
Lectors:	Chrissy Ciacchi, Ed Pagnanelli
Eucharistic Ministers	Sharon D'Alberto, Andrea Myers, Margaret Panico-Harn, Pete Tamburro & Margi Baker
Sunday, December 22, 2019, 9:30 a.m.	
Lectors:	Landa Brunetto, John Snoad
Eucharistic Ministers:	Antonio D'Alberto, Pat Rossetti, Bob Contino, Judy Pishitelli, & Pete Tamburro

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Mon., 12/16	Italian Village Catholic Faith Sharing Group Men & Women. There will be no meetings from December 16th until January 13, 2020. If on any Mondays during the winter the weather is bad the meeting will be automatically cancelled.
Tues., 12/17	Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet at 1:00 p.m. in Chapel for Mass instead of December 31, 2019.

2019 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings

- December 15 – *Third Sunday of Advent*
Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
- December 16 – *Advent Weekday*
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
- December 17 – *Late Advent Weekday*
Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
- December 18 – *Late Advent Weekday*
Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
- December 19 – *Late Advent Weekday*
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
- December 20 – *Late Advent Weekday*
Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
- December 21 – *Late Advent Weekday*
Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
- December 22 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24


**Pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, & consecrated religious life.*

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

***If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village.*

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: We begin the **Rosary** around **9:00-9:05 a.m.**, and it takes about **15-20** minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact the **Men's Faith Sharing** group. Leaders for **December** are:
December 15 Vincent Davis ~ **The Joyful Mysteries**
December 22 Margaret Contino, OFS ~ **The Joyful Mysteries**
December 29 Gary Bosco ~ **The Joyful Mysteries**

A BIG THANK-YOU: I am grateful to **Deacon Frank Iannarino** and the **Parishioners of St. John's** for their contributions to **Misericordia**, a **Catholic Home for persons with disabilities**. **Christmas** is a season of giving; the giving of **Jesus** and our giving to **God** and to each other. Thank you for your loving and generous spirit!

Office Hours:

 The Parish office hours are **Monday-Friday** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The office will be closed for **Christmas Eve, Christmas Day** and the day after, **December 24, 25 & 26** and reopen **December 27**. The office will also be closed for **New Year's Eve, December 31** and **New Year's Day, January 1** and reopen **January 2, 2020**.

**SJB Collection Counters
 for Monday, December 16, 2019**

Louise Masdea & Darlene Rauch

**SJB Collection Counters
 for Monday, December 23, 2019**

Nick Persichetti & Rose Ann Graf

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN

December 08, 2019

Number of Envelopes Used Sunday – 54

In Envelopes:	\$ 2,052.00
Loose Money	\$ 123.00
Holy Day	\$ 145.00
Total	\$ 2,320.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	\$ (139.20)
	\$ 2,180.80

Votive	\$ 29.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 130.00
Diocesan Charities	\$ 10.00
St. Anthony Bread	\$ 25.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 11.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 310.00
50/50 Drawing	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 545.00

??\$?HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? \$???

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/19-6/30/20)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference(\$)	(%)
This Week:	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 2,320.00	(\$ 565.00)	-20%
FYTD:	\$66,355.00	\$62,427.95	(\$3,927.05)	-6%

The LaBefanna Celebration is **Sunday, January 5, 2020**, sponsored by the **Le Donne** members after **Mass** in **Marrapese Hall**. Please bring children, grandchildren and enjoy this beautiful tradition.

CONGRATULATIONS to the **Rotondo** family whose daughter **"Gianna Cecelia"** entered into **Holy Sacrament of Baptism** on **November 29, 2019**. **May the Holy Spirit be with them!**

St. Vincent Family Center Christmas family program: We are very grateful for your help and support. **Five** children in **two** families enrolled in the **St. Vincent Center's Programs** will have a wonderful **Christmas** thanks to the love and generosity of the members of **St. John the Baptist Church**. We were able to fulfill every item on the wish lists for games and learning items, including hats, mittens, socks and underwear, new clothing and some **Kroger** gift cards. Your kindness blesses these families at a very difficult time but as the administrator pointed out, the fruits of your generosity multiply exponentially as these children grow into successful adults and often become some of the greatest benefactors of the center. Thank you for your kindness. We are honored to be a part of such a generous and caring parish.

Merry Christmas!
Maria, Jackie and Rose Ann

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S EVE/DAY
 MASS SCHEDULE**

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Sacred Heart Church	Vigil	5:30 p.m.
St. John the Baptist		4:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Cathedral		4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & Midnight Mass
St. Patrick's Church		4:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. & Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Sacred Heart Church	Day	9:00 a.m.
St. John the Baptist		NO MASS
St. Joseph's Cathedral		10:00 a.m., 5:15 p.m.
St. Patrick's Church		7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31, 2019

Sacred Heart Church	Vigil	5:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Cathedral		4:00 p.m.
St. Patrick's Church		5:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m. Holy Hour & Midnight

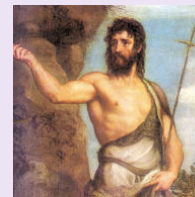
New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2020

St. Joseph's Cathedral	Day	10:00 a.m.
St. Patrick's Church		7:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.

AROUND US

Holy Father's Intention for December 2019: You are invited to answer the **Holy Father's** request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for the following intention: **That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.**

Third Sunday of Advent: Today is known as **Gaudete Sunday**. The term **Gaudete** refers to the first word of the **Entrance Antiphon**, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that **Christmas** is near, and we also light the rose candle on our **Advent** wreath. As **Christmas** draws near, the **Church** emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our **Savior** means for us. The great joy of **Christians** is to see the day drawing nigh when the **Lord** will come again in **His** glory to lead them into **His** kingdom.



"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine in the hills and go in search of the stray?"
Matthew 18:12

Prayer

*God of power and mercy,
 open our hearts in welcome.
 Remove the things that hinder us from receiving **Christ** with joy,
 so that we may share His wisdom and become one with Him when
 He comes in glory,
 for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
 one **God**,
 for ever and ever.
Amen*

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