

The Church of Saint John The Baptist



Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of New York





Bro. Luke Benbrook	<i>Pastoral Assistant</i>	Rev. John Clermont	<i>Honduras, CA</i>
Rev. Edward Conway	<i>V.A. Hospital Chaplain</i>	Rev. Philip Fabiano	<i>Sabbatical</i>
Rev. Thomas Franks	<i>Pastor & Fraternity Vicar</i>	Rev. Ramón Frías	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Francis Gasparik	<i>Provincial Minister</i>	Rev. Leonard Glavin	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Gerard Mulvey	<i>Parochial Vicar</i>	Bro. George McCloskey	<i>Comm. And Public Relations</i>
Rev. John Baptist Riordan	<i>Guardian & Parochial Vicar</i>	Rev. Matthias Wesnofske	<i>SFO Provincial Spiritual Assistant</i>

ST. JOHN'S BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY: *Bags of food are distributed Each Wednesday from 12:30 to 2:45 in the church hall. People must be registered to receive food. Registration during above hours.*

St. John's Bread of Life Food Pantry serves hundreds of needy persons every Wednesday, among them many children. We provide approximately half of the weekly nutrition needs of the poor who come to us, and would give more if we could. ***We continue to need your assistance!*** Call Joe Spicketts at 212-564-9070 ext. 203 for additional information.

Pennies for our Pantry: Our Bread of Life Food Pantry asks you to donate your pennies to help us feed the needy. A jar has been set up in the parish office where you can deposit any loose change you may have. Every penny counts!

MASS OF THANKSGIVING: As we celebrate the elevation of our Archbishop Timothy Dolan to the college of cardinals this weekend, they have announced a special Mass of Thanksgiving will take place on Saturday, February 25th at 4:00pm at St. Patrick's. Each parish has been given four tickets for the Mass. If you would like to attend, please contact Fr. Tom at extension 239 and leave your name and contact number. Please only submit your name if you are sure you can attend. Four names will be chosen at random from all those submitted on Wednesday, February 22nd.



CONSISTORY: We rejoice this weekend as His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI makes our Archbishop Timothy Michael Dolan a Cardinal of the Church. He joins native New Yorker, Archbishop Emeritus Edwin F. O'Brien, Pro-Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, and 20 others in receiving this honor. Say a special prayer for all of the Cardinal-designates and their delegations in Rome!



HEALING MASS: Our monthly healing Mass sponsored by the St. John the Baptist Charismatic Prayer Group will take place this Tuesday, February 21st at 7:15pm. Please consider joining us with your prayerful intentions for healing in body, mind and spirit!



THE ORIGIN OF ASH WEDNESDAY: Ash Wednesday entered the calendar in the early sixth century when the desire arose to have forty actual days of fasting before Easter. Sundays were never fast days, so to get to forty, one had to add four days to the six weeks of Lent. In the Christian lands along the Rhine River the devotional practice of imposing ashes arose as people imitated what they heard in Bible passages such as 2 Samuel 13:19, Ezekiel 27:30, Job 2:12, and Jonah 3:6. What was once a private devotion came to be practiced publicly in the eighth century, and by the year 1000 it was commonplace in many celebrations at the beginning of Lent. The distribution of ashes was formally added to the Missal at Rome in the thirteenth century and this ancient symbol of repentance is now widely used among most Christian denominations at the beginning of Lent.

PASTORAL STAFF & SERVICES

PARISH PROGRAM COORDINATORS

Carmine Marotta	<i>St. Padre Pio Shrine</i>
Joan Prenty	<i>R.C.I.A.</i>
Laurence Rosania	<i>Director of Music and Liturgy</i>
Joseph Spicketts	<i>Bread of Life Food Pantry</i>

PARISH PROGRAMS

Bread of Life Food Pantry	<i>Wed 12:30 to 2:45</i>
R.C.I.A.	<i>Sun 9 to 10:45</i>

ORGANIZATIONS

Charismatic Prayer Group	<i>Tue 6 to 8</i>
Edith Stein Guild	<i>1st Sat 10 to 12</i>
Father Solanus Guild	<i>2nd Sat 1 to 2</i>
Fatima Blue Army Cell	<i>Wed 5:45</i>
God the Father Cenacle	<i>3rd Sun 1 to 4</i>
Padre Pio Prayer Group	<i>4th Sat 12 to 3:30</i>
Singles for Christ	<i>3rd Sun 5:15 Mass</i>
Two Thousand Hail Marys	<i>3rd Sat 7 to 5</i>

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER – FRATERNITIES

Immaculate Heart of Mary	<i>1st Sun 12 noon</i>
Sts. Elizabeth and Louis	<i>2nd Sun 12 noon</i>
St. John's Fraternity	<i>4th Sun 12 noon</i>

OUTREACH

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	<i>Mon/Wed 6 to 7</i> <i>Tue/Thu 12 to 1; Sat 3 to 4</i>
Al/Anon	<i>Fri 12:30 to 1:30</i>
Catholic Council of Electrical Workers	<i>3rd Fri 4 to 8</i>
Debtors Anonymous (BDA)	<i>Tue 5:30 to 7; Wed 5</i>
Japanese Bible & Prayer Study	<i>4th Sun 4 to 7</i>
Police & Fire	<i>4th Sun 1 to 3</i>
Line of Duty Widows	
SMA	<i>Sat 4:30 to 5:30</i>
Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)	<i>Thu/Fri 6 to 7:30</i>

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED AT ST. JOHN'S

Ar-Rahman Foundation	<i>Fri 12:30 to 2:30</i>
Central City Chorus	<i>Thu 6 to 10</i>
Visiting Nursing Service of NY	<i>Mon 1; Tue 2; Fri 9:30</i>



ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 22, 2012:

Ashes will be distributed during the scheduled Masses (6:45a, 7:45a, 12:15p, 5:15p, 6:30p) after the homily. Ashes will also be distributed in services every hour from 9a to 4p except during Mass. ***Ashes will only be distributed in the Church and only at these times.*** Also, as we begin this penitential season, the Archdiocese reminds us of a few definitions:

- **“FASTING”** requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige until age 59. Those not specifically obliged to fast are encouraged to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.
- **“ABSTINENCE”** prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are encouraged to join in this discipline to the extent that they are able.

ASH WEDNESDAY and **GOOD FRIDAY** are days of fast and abstinence. **FRIDAYS** in Lent are days of abstinence.



JOURNEYING THROUGH LENT:

Opportunities are available throughout the Lenten Season to help us reflect and pray together as the community of St. John's. Sung Vespers, with reflections offered by Fr. Jim Gavin, OFM Cap., will be held in the Church each Sunday of Lent at 4:00pm. We will also pray the Stations of the Cross together each Friday at 6:00pm!



PRESIDENTS DAY:

Originally celebrating Washington's birthday in D.C. on February 22, 1880, this holiday eventually extended to all federal employees to honor the work and dedication of all the presidents on the third Monday in February. Monday, February 20th we join in commemorating this national holiday. There will be one Mass at 10:30am and the parish offices are closed.



HOLY LAND HERITAGE OF FAITH

PILGRIMAGE: Join the Shrine of St. Pio at the Church of St. John the Baptist, with Fr. Tom Franks, OFM Cap., in pilgrimage to the land of our faith. The pilgrimage will take place April 19 to 30, 2012 and visit Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, the Jordan Valley, Tiberius, Haifa & Capernaum. Concludes with a 3-night stop in Rome, Italy. For information and reservation call the Shrine Office at 212-56-9070 ext. 280 or Bove Travel at 718-680-3333.



It's surprising to some people that we Catholics will spend time talking to a priest about our deepest faults. Confession of sins and being assured of God's forgiveness is not something that everyone readily understands.

But when we take the time to really acknowledge our sinfulness, to admit to ourselves, to God, and to another person (the priest) what we have done wrong, we can experience the healing that comes from the confession of our sins.

The Gospel today explicitly reminds us that the forgiveness of sins is connected to healing. When we confess our sins, make an act of contrition, and receive absolution we are healed in that sacrament. The paralyzed man who was dropped through the roof in front of Jesus by his friends had his sins forgiven. Much to the amazement of the crowd, the paralytic got up, rolled up his mat, and walked out the door. It was that easy.

There is a lot of misconception about the sacrament of penance. Once a person gets over the hurdle of fear or shame though, it really is as easy as the actions of the paralyzed man. There was a lot of work on the part of others to get him in front of Jesus. They had to carry him there, open the roof, and lower him down. And before we go to confession, there is some work we have to do. We have to examine our conscience, and be willing to be honest with ourselves and with God. But after that it's easy. We sit down, tell the priest our sins, receive a penance, pray a prayer of contrition, receive absolution, and then go on our way.

It is the work of reconciliation that takes much longer, sometimes even a lifetime. Because sin fractures relationships, confession really is the easy part. It is what we do afterwards to heal the wounds that is the most demanding. The journey of Lent, beginning this coming week, can be an excellent invitation into the first steps of reconciliation for all parts of our lives. May we pray for the grace in this coming week, especially with the arrival of Ash Wednesday, to invest the time and energy into such a life-changing process!

~ Fr. Thomas Franks, OFM Cap.



**Mass Intentions
for the Week**

SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 19, 2012

9:00 A.M. *(dec.)* Michael Hegggers, *req. by Steven Nerlfi*
10:30 A.M. All Parishioner and Benefactors of St. John's
12:00 P.M. *(dec.)* Ginette Laroche Charles,
req. by the Charles Family
5:15 P.M. *(dec.)* Cecilia Lam Po Chui, *req. by her family*

MONDAY

FEBRUARY 20, 2012
PRESIDENTS' DAY

10:30 A.M. For Those Enrolled in the
St. Pio of Pietrelcina Novena

TUESDAY

FEBRUARY 21, 2012

6:45 A.M. Living & Deceased Members of the S.F.O.,
req. by the 3 Fraternities of St. John's
7:45 A.M. K.I.A. U.S. Military Forces,
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Marty O'Grady
12:15 P.M. *(dec.)* Benjamin Gomez DeLeon,
req. by Concepcion DeLeon
5:15 P.M. Angela Filiberti, *req. by Patricia Botti*

WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 22, 2012
ASH WEDNESDAY

6:45 A.M. Guiseppe V. Filiberti, *req. by Patricia Botti*
7:45 A.M. Souls in Purgatory,
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Marty O'Grady
12:15 P.M. *(dec.)* James Donovan & George Tracey
(birthday rememb.), *req. by their family*
5:15 P.M. Eugenia Ponzini, *req. by Patricia Botti*
6:30 P.M. For Those Enrolled in the
Mother of Perpetual Help Novena

THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 23, 2012

6:45 A.M. Luigi Filiberti, Jr., *req. by Patricia Botti*
7:45 A.M. K.I.A. U.S. Military Forces,
req. by Mr. & Mrs. Marty O'Grady
12:15 P.M. *(dec.)* Gloria Bantz, *req. by Phyllis McQuillan*
5:15 P.M. *(dec.)* Zoralda Lazarte Gella,
req. by Cora Lazarte

FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 24, 2012

6:45 A.M. Fr. Angelo Caserta (Ordination Ann.),
req. by Julie Niehoff
7:45 A.M. *(dec.)* Mary Ellen Holly, *req. by Thomas Gorman*
12:15 P.M. Anna Marie Botti, *req. by Patricia Botti*
5:15 P.M. *(dec.)* Frank Patterson,
req. by Phyllis McQuillan

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 25, 2012

12:15 P.M. Living & Deceased Members of the
St. Padre Pio Prayer Group
4:00 P.M. *(dec.)* John Savarese, *req. by Elyssa DiGiovanni*

