

# The Church of Saint John The Baptist

A MINISTRY OF THE CAPUCHIN FRANCISCANS  
WITH SHRINES OF SAINT PIO OF PIETRELCINA (PADRE PIO)  
AND MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP



**BLESSED**  
are the ones who trust  
in the **LORD**.  
They are like a tree  
planted beside the waters  
that stretches out its roots  
to the stream. It fears not  
the heat, its leaves stay green.  
It bears much fruit.

## SUNDAY MASSES

**Saturdays:** 4:00 P.M. (*Vigil Mass*)  
**Sundays:** 9:00, 10:30 A.M., 12:00 P.M., 5:15 P.M.

## WEEKDAY MASSES

6:45, 7:45 A.M., 12:15, 5:15 P.M. **Saturdays:** 12:15 P.M.

**NATIONAL HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** One Mass only, at 10:30 A.M.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday through Friday, after the 12:15 P.M. Mass. **ROSARY** at 5:00 P.M.

## CONFESSIONS—SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Monday through Friday:** from 7:15 A.M. to 7:45 A.M.  
and from 11:45 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. in church;  
from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. in the parish office  
(Reconciliation Room)

**Saturdays:** from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.  
and from 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. in church

## ALL NIGHT VIGIL

Each Friday before the First Saturday from 9:00 P.M. to 5:30 A.M.

## BLESSING WITH THE RELIC OF THE TRUE CROSS

Fridays, following the 12:15 P.M. and 5:15 P.M. Masses

**ROSARY:** Monday through Friday at 11:55 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Saturdays at 12:00 P.M.

**SAINT PIO OF PIETRELCINA PRAYER GARDEN** open daily

**PRIEST ON DUTY:** Monday to Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

**SOCIAL WORKER AVAILABLE:** Wednesdays and Thursdays, 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

## SAINT PIO OF PIETRELCINA (PADRE PIO)

**NOVENA WITH BLESSING OF THE RELIC**  
Thursdays, following the 5:15 P.M. Mass

## OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

**NOVENA AND MASS**  
Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Parish of St. John the Baptist, in the spirit of the Capuchin Franciscan Order and the tradition of the Catholic Church, is to be **Christ in the City**—to assist in the spiritual, social and personal development of the members of the parish, the community of midtown Manhattan, and the people of the New York metropolitan area. St. John is a **Spiritual Center**, where individuals can seek peace, holiness and sanctuary, alone or in the community. St. John is a responsive and evolving community which encourages growth in our relationship to God and to one another, so that through these relationships we can find strength, joy and happiness.*

The Church of Saint John The Baptist - New York

**CAPUCHIN FRANCISCANS**

(OFM CAP) AT SAINT JOHN'S

Bro. Luke Benbrook	<i>Pastoral Assistant</i>
Rev. John Clermont	<i>Honduras, CA</i>
Rev. Edward Conway	<i>Parochial Vicar</i>
Rev. Valerian D'Silva	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Philip Fabiano	<i>Pastor</i>
Rev. Thomas Franks	<i>Parochial Vicar</i>
Rev. Ramón Frias	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Francis Gasparik	<i>Provincial Counselor</i>
Rev. Leonard Glavin	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Thomas Houle	<i>Chaplain, N.Y. State Corrections</i>
Bro. George McCloskey	<i>Comm. and Public Relations</i>
Bro. Salvatore Patricola	<i>Guardian/Parochial Vicar/Deacon</i>
Rev. John Baptist Riordan	<i>Parochial Assistant</i>
Rev. Matthias Wesnofske	<i>SFO Prov. Spiritual Assistant</i>

**PARISH PROGRAM COORDINATORS**

Mary Bivona	<i>Social Services</i>
Joan Prenty	<i>RCLA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)</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 1 to 2:45</i>
Christ in the City Silent Retreat	<i>Sat 4 to 10 (twice a month)</i>
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	<i>Sun 9 to 10:45</i>
Tuesday Together at the Friary	<i>2nd Tue 7, 12 and 5:30</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 10:30 to 12</i>
Fatima Blue Army Cell Prayer Group	<i>Wed 5:45</i>
God the Father Cenacle Devotion	<i>3rd Sun 1 to 4</i>
Padre Pio Prayer Group	<i>4th Sat 12 to 3:30</i>
<i>(Blessing with the Relic of St. Pio after the</i>	<i>12:15 p.m. Mass)</i>
Singles for Christ	<i>3rd Sun: 5:15 Mass, 6:30 Rec.</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 and Wed 6 to 7</i>
<i>Tue and Thu 12 to 1</i>	<i>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 Line of Duty Widows	<i>4th Sun 1 to 3</i>
SMA	<i>Sat 4:30 to 5:30</i>
Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)	<i>Thu/Fri 6 to 7:30</i>

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED AT SAINT JOHN'S**

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

**OTHER MINISTRIES LOCATED AT SAINT JOHN'S**

Capuchin Franciscan Development Office  
 Capuchin Franciscan Foreign Mission Office  
 Courage—National Office; Lamp Ministries

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 14, 2010</b>
9:00 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Mary Margaret (Maggie) Meehan <i>req. by Eleanor MacLeod</i>
10:30 A.M.	All parishioners and benefactors of St. John's Church
12:00 P.M.	For the intention of Eulalia Francis [in thanksgiving — birthday]
5:15 P.M.	For the intention of Valentina Vega <i>req. by Concepción and Noemi</i>
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 15, 2010</b>
10:30 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Anna Tracey [birthday remembrance] <i>req. by Edawrd and Margaret Donovan</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 16, 2010</b>
6:45 A.M.	Living and deceased members of the Secular Franciscan Order <i>req. by the three Fraternities of St. John's church</i>
7:45 A.M.	For the intention of Jacqueline Sullivan <i>req. by Mr. and Mrs. Marty O'Grady</i>
12:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Michael and Mary Lynch <i>req. by Jack Lynch</i>
5:15 P.M.	For the intention of Jack Lynch
<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 17, 2010</b>
6:45 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Nolita Siongo Cotaco <i>req. by Hermie Enríquez</i>
7:45 A.M.	K.I.A. U.S. Military Forces <i>req. by Mr. and Mrs. Marty O'Grady</i>
12:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Francis O'Shea, <i>req. by Cathy O'Shea</i>
5:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Irminia Mendoza <i>req. by God the Father Cenacle Group</i>
6:30 P.M.	For those enrolled in the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 18, 2010</b>
6:45 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Anne Benbrook, <i>req. by Br. Luke</i>
7:45 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Louis and Edith Russo <i>req. by Clarinda Dombroski</i>
12:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Rosa Scavo, <i>req. by Nancy Scavo</i>
5:15 P.M.	William Lagan, <i>req. by Donna Grusaky</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 19, 2010</b>
6:45 A.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Eugene Golda, Sr. <i>req. by Phyllis McQuillan</i>
7:45 A.M.	Souls in Purgatory <i>req. by Hazel Cabalda</i>
12:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Carolina Mendoza Valerio <i>req. by Hermie Enríquez and family</i>
5:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Martin Gavin <i>req. by Jeanette Salerno</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 20, 2010</b>
12:15 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Michael Hegggers <i>req. by Steven Nerlfi</i>
4:00 P.M.	<i>(dec.)</i> Alejandro Cabalda <i>req. by Hazel Cabalda</i>



**EVENTS OF THE WEEK**  
**February 13 to 21, 2010**

**Sat 13** > *Father Solanus Guild*  
 10:30 A.M. to 11:45 A.M., meeting room  
 > **Christ in the City Retreat**  
 4:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., church/meeting room

**Sun 14** > *Sts. Elizabeth and Louis SFO Fraternity*  
 12:00 noon, church/hall

**Mon 15** **PRESIDENT'S DAY — One Mass only, at 10:30 A.M.**  
 OFFICES AND MEETING ROOMS CLOSED ALL DAY

**Tue 16** > *Finance Council meeting, 3:30 P.M., conference room*  
 > *Charismatic Prayer Group, 6:30 P.M., church*  
 > **Healing Mass, 7:15 P.M., church**



**Wed 17** **ASH WEDNESDAY—DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE (\*)**  
 > *Food Pantry, 1:00 P.M. to 2:45 P.M., church hall*  
 > *Fátima Blue Army, 5:30 P.M., church*

**Sat 20** > **Two Thousand Hail Marys**  
 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., church hall/church



**Sun 21** **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
 > *God the Father Cenacle Devotion,*  
 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., church hall

**(\*) DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES:** Ashes will be distributed within the scheduled Masses after the homily, and immediately after Mass; and every half hour at a *Service of the Word* throughout the day.

**CHRIST IN THE CITY RETREAT** takes place on **Saturday, February 13**, beginning with the 4:00 P.M. Vigil Mass in church and continuing in a meeting room until 10:00 P.M. *The theme for this retreat will be "Jesus, the Word Become Flesh." Because the number of participants is limited to sixteen, it is important to register early—call Br. Salvatore at 1-212 564-9070, extension 247.*

**SHARE THE LOVE AT ST. JOHN !** The Fellowship Committee invites you to join with us to fill the church at the 12:00 noon Mass this Valentine's Day, Sunday, February 14 (*Yes, this year Valentine's Day falls on a Sunday!*). Bring a special friend to Mass, and following Mass celebrate friendship with sparkling wine or cider and croissants. Reach out to a family member, a fractured Catholic, a non-Catholic, a significant other, someone who is lonely and in need of some tender loving care, or someone who is searching for a faith community. **All are welcome in our sacred space !** Share the love at St. John on Valentine's Day !

**THE NEW PADRE PIO ORGAN:** Our new organ was heard for the first time on the Feast of Christ the King and Saint Cecilia (*Patron Saint of Sacred Music*) Day (November 22, 2009.) Since 2010 will be a remarkable year because it marks the double centennial of Padre Pio and the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish (see below), our new organ will be formally blessed and dedicated on the Feast of St. Pio (September 23, 2010.) *Please consider supporting this once-in-a-lifetime event—donation envelopes are available in the church lobby.*

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is a Catholic formation / education program for people interested in full initiation into the Catholic Church through the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist (*Sundays 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.*). It is also for Catholics who have been baptized and have not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist (*Sundays 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.*) *Those who are interested please call Joan Prenty at 1-212 564-9070, extension 217 and leave your name and phone number.*

**NO GREATER LOVE—A PASSION PLAY FOR THE SEASON OF LENT**— will be presented by the Xavier Company from February 28 until April 10. This is a musical drama performed in the sanctuary of churches. *Admission is free but a free will offering is asked.* For more information, please contact Carol Ferrone at 1-212 627-2100, extension 217.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND RESOLVING CRISES.** Each year, more than 3,000 families are helped to stay together through services that prevent children from being placed in foster care; 4,000 families are given financial assistance in a crisis; and 26,000 helped with social services and counseling—all by Catholic Charities of the Archdioceses of New York. *To learn more, log on to [www.catholiccharitiesny.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org).*

**OUR CHURCH IS HERE FOR YOU !** As cold winter weather is here, we ask for your assistance in surrounding the needy with the warmth of God' love. If you can, please contribute fast food certificates, supermarket and drugstore gift cards, and/or MTA metro cards. These will meet the immediate needs of those facing difficult times. Even if you cannot give these material gifts, we ask you to please pray for those who truly need to feel hope instead of despair. If you have any questions, call our social worker, Mary Bivona, at 1-212 564-9070, extension 204. *She is present on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 noon to 5:00 P.M.* She can also be contacted on other weekdays at the above number. Do not hesitate to contact us if you feel the need to talk to someone. This includes anyone who feels he or she might have a problem with possible addictions to drugs, gambling etc. *Help is available, and we assure you of full confidentiality as well as our prayers and interest in every individual situation.*

BULLETINS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT OUR WEB SITE: [www.padrepio Shrine.com](http://www.padrepio Shrine.com).

# *The Church of Saint John the Baptist*

210 West 31st Street—New York, N.Y. 10001 (*between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues*)

*Your Church in the city when you are away from home*

Dear Friends of St. John the Baptist Parish,

**PEACE AND EVERY BLESSING! PAZ Y BIEN! PACE E BENE! SLAVA ISUSU CHRYSU!**

Today is the last Sunday in Ordinary Time; Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. This year of 2010 is also the 170th anniversary of the establishment of our Parish Community. It is not a major anniversary, nonetheless it is a brave stage in our efforts to live as Christ directs us. If you were to look at the various stages of the development of St. John's history, you would see a great variety of languages, peoples, changes, newness, revival, energy, disappointments, happiness—with one common denominator: JESUS CHRIST, Our Way, Our Truth, Our Life.

Beginning Lent, it is hoped that this Ash Wednesday is a revival of our trust in Jesus, our eagerness to serve one another, our willingness to see the marvels that surround us in the Church Temple, The Word of God and in the Assembly. This Lent may we take a "new look" at what surrounds us in our "Home away from home"—St. John. I do not mean to infer that your ways may be "old"; no, not at all. Your faithfulness is known, appreciated and loved. This is a special time and so let's do it with some "pizzazz", worthy of 170 years' experience. On coming into the Temple, look about and appreciate the stained glass windows, the statues, the Stations of the Cross, the majestic Crucifix adorning the Sanctuary, the Tabernacle—years of people sacrificing themselves to have such a magnificent edifice in which to gather and worship God, our Creator.

Most especially, be attentive to the Precious Word of God proclaimed for us each day at Liturgy. You all know WHY! God's Word is a gentle invitation to "Follow Me!". For so many years thousands of people entered the church edifice to be led by the Word and fed by the Eucharist. And you and I continue that wonderful tradition today.

The Good News today is Jesus steering us on the right path and, in a sense, helping us to drive on the right path. Jesus reminds us that we will be blessed if we trust in the Lord (like a tree planted beside the waters.) Jesus says we will be blessed if we are POOR, we are HUNGRY, we are WEEPING, when people INSULT us. The Good Lord says: REJOICE! LEAP FOR JOY!

His teaching is that we experience all these emotions and integrate them into our lives. Being Holy does not mean that we walk around in a trance, on cloud nine, oblivious of what is around us. NO! We integrate all our experiences into the conviction of faith. Holiness is WHOLENESS of character and personality. When we integrate, we realize the resurrection of Jesus in our lives slowly, gradually, but fully.

Let us celebrate 170 years beginning with Ash Wednesday without frenzy but in the serenity of Jesus, the Way, Truth, Life. Let us make the stain of ashes a pinhole that will allow the Light of the Risen Christ burst forth in us. In this way we continue the spectacular history of St.. John by bringing Christ to the City!

Remember St. John, your home away from home.

Fr. Philip F. Fabiano, O.F.M. Capuchin  
Pastor

## The First and Second Stations of the Cross at St. John's Church



# A Prayer for Priests

O Almighty, Eternal God, look upon the Face of Your Son and for love of Him, who is the Eternal High Priest, have pity on Your priests. Remember, O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is in them by the imposition of the bishop's hands. Keep them close to You, lest the enemy prevail against them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation.

O Jesus, I pray for Your faithful and fervent priests; for Your unfaithful and tepid priests; for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Your tempted priests; for the lonely and desolate priests; for Your young priests; for Your dying priests; for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.

But above all, I commend to You the priests dearest to me, the priest who baptized me, the priests who have absolved me from my sins, the priests at whose Masses I have assisted and who have offered me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion, the priests who have taught and instructed me or helped and encouraged me, and the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way.

O Jesus, keep them all close to Your Heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.

Amen.

— *Cardinal Cushing*