

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020



SACRED HEART SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH • BENNINGTON, VERMONT

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Catholic parish family is united by God's love and our belief in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We live and share our faith in our daily actions as a parish, as a school and as individuals.

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
4:00 PM

Sunday
7:30 AM & 9:30 AM

Monday through Friday
8:00 AM

First Fridays (only)
Holy Hour & Benediction: 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration
Every Friday after Mass until 8:00 PM

Last Sunday (only)
Mass: 6:00 PM

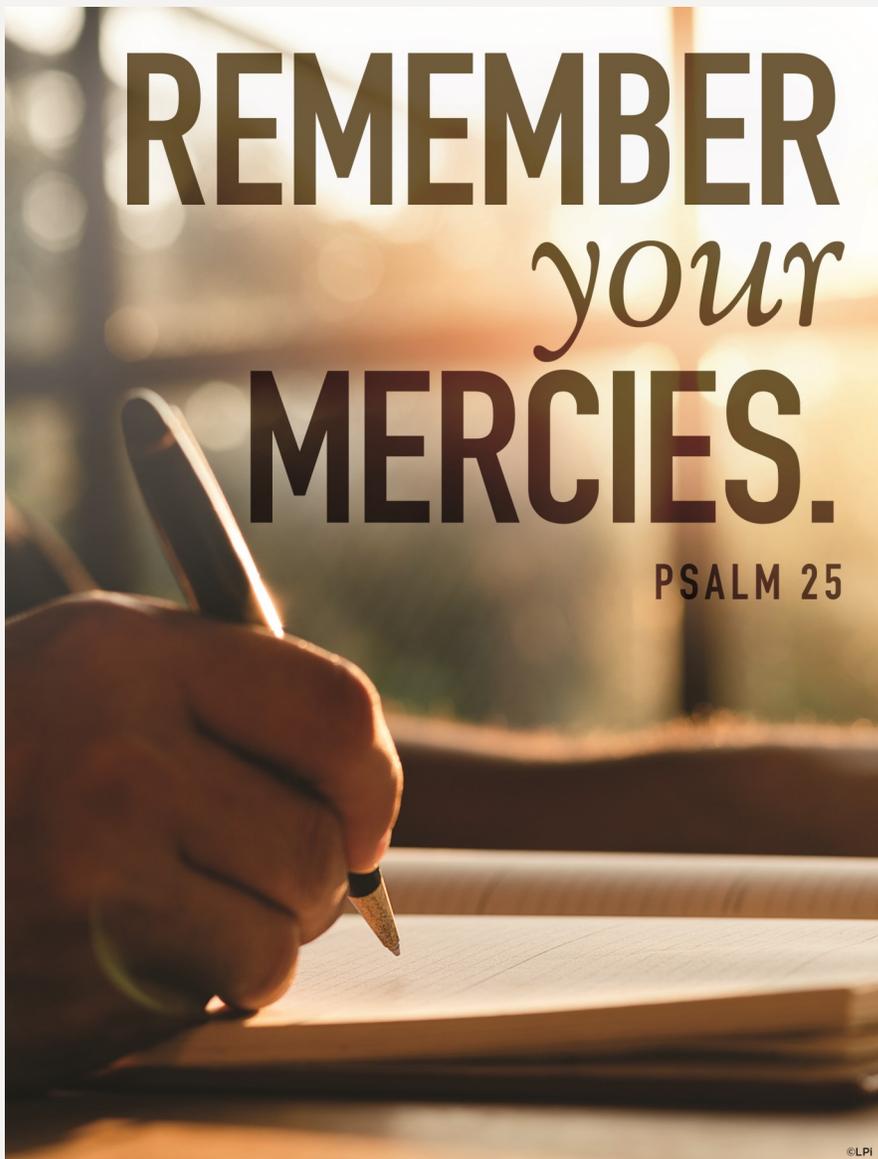
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:00-3:30 PM or by appointment



CONGREGATION OF
HOLY CROSS
EDUCATION • PARISH • MISSION

Rev. Robert Wiseman, c.s.c.—Pastor
Rev. Hugh Cleary, c.s.c.—Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Gary Zack—Deacon

The Congregation of Holy Cross Priests and Brothers have offered continuous service for over 60 years to the Diocese of Burlington and the Bennington area.



PARISH CENTER MAIN OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
8:30 AM–Noon & 1:00–4:30 PM
email: benncath@comcast.net

238 MAIN STREET, BENNINGTON, VT 05201 • 802.442.3141 • WWW.SACREDHEARTSAINTFRANCIS.ORG



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

And Liturgical Celebrations for
September 26—October 4, 2020

(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)

- Sat./Sun., Sept. 26/27 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 4:00 p.m. † Paul Lauzon - Bob & Denise Short
 † Leoni Jones - Her Children
 7:30 a.m. Our Parish Family
 9:30 a.m. † Annette Yott Burgess (13th) - Her Family
 Caleb St. John (Living) - His Family and Friends
- Monday, Sept. 28 Saint Wenceslaus**
 8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family
- Tuesday, Sept. 29 Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**
 8:00 a.m. Kelly & Thomas Murphy (Living) - Mom
- Wednesday, Sept. 30 Saint Jerome**
 8:00 a.m. † Edward & Nancy Frasier - The Family
- Thursday, Oct. 1 Saint Therese**
 8:00 a.m. † Raymond Vivaldi - Dan Taylor
- Friday, Oct. 2 The Holy Guardian Angels**
 8:00 a.m. † Judith Andres - Sandy James
- Sat./Sun., Oct. 3/4 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 4:00 p.m. † Joan Alderman - Ron & Doris Alderman
 † Len Nichols - Paula Keatley
 7:30 a.m. † Gary & Donna Antognioni - The Family
 † Neva D. LaCroix - The Family
 9:30 a.m. † Jack Kehoe - Carol Salazar
 Our Parish Family



"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." - Mt 21:32

Sunday Summary

Isaiah 55:6-9 Don't try measuring God's ways against ours. There's no comparison—thank God!

Psalms 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 God is near, with mercy, kindness, and justice in hand for those who call upon him.

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a It's a great problem to have: choosing between life and death in Christ.

Matthew 20:1-16a God is more generous with mercy than we are. Is that a problem?

Note From The Pastor



Dear Parishioners of Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales Parish, We want to express our heart-felt gratitude to all of you for your love and commitment to the parish. These pandemic months have been nerve-wracking and difficult for everyone. It has been a chaotic and stressful time. In order to keep the COVID-19 virus from spreading, all the routine demands and pleasures of daily life have been curtailed and disrupted. We have not even been able to gather as a community for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Through it all you have not forgotten the financial needs of the parish. Many of you have mailed in your envelopes or dropped off your generous contributions or contributed electronically through our parish website. You have been extraordinary in maintaining your stewardship of the Parish.

We are aware of the financial strain everyone is experiencing in these complex times which makes your generosity even more outstanding. Thank you for your goodness and for the inspiration you have given us. We are blessed to be serving here at the parish.

Please know of our prayers for you and deep appreciation.

Sincerely in the Lord,
Fr. Bob and Fr. Hugh

Note from Msgr. McDermott

In consideration of Governor Scott's August 1st order requiring facial coverings/masks for indoor public gatherings and outside gatherings, Bishop Coyne is directing all parishioners to wear facial coverings/masks when entering and leaving church buildings, including for the celebration of Holy Mass.

This directive will remain in effect until the Governor's order is modified or rescinded, or the Bishop updates our liturgical norms and protocols.

Readings for the week of September 27, 2020

- Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a]/
Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
- Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7 [6]/Lk 9:46-50
- Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/
Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
- Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15 [3]/
Lk 9:57-62
- Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 [13]/
Lk 10:1-12
- Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4ab, 4c-6,
10-11 [11]/Mt 18:1-5, 10
- Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91,
125, 130 [135]/Lk 10:17-24
- Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20
[Is 5:7a]/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43



Faith Formation Program

"Growing In Faith Together"

For more information contact the parish office at 442-3141 or 1kathy.murphy@gmail.com

You are invited to join us on Facebook –

**Faith Formation to Begin Soon!
Register Now to Join in the Fun!!**

Our plans are to hold in-person classes with safety protocols and social distancing measures in place. In addition, we understand and will work with families who have concerns about in-person classes. We are developing a plan that will be fluid, based on guidelines from the state and Diocese.

Sacred Heart St. Francis is committed to enhancing the family domestic church through our programs:

- ◆ Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) (3 – 6 year olds)
Sunday Classes begin **September 27**
Tuesday Classes begin **September 29**
- ◆ Faith Formation (Grades 1 thru 6)
Classes begin Sunday, **September 27**
- ◆ Sacramental preparation for First Eucharist (grade 2)
- ◆ Confirmation (grades 7 & 8)
Classes begin Sunday, **September 20**
- ◆ Post-Confirmation programs will begin in October following Confirmation

The Diocese of Burlington has directed us to lower the age of Confirmation and this year will be confirming students in 7th and 8th grades. The Confirmation program is a collaborative effort between Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales School, SHSF Church and St. John the Baptist Church. This is a one-year program with the goal of Confirmation in April or May of 2021.

Registration for all programs is now available on-line. Please register your family on-line by going to:

<https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms>

Please contact us for more information and look for more details in the coming weeks. We keep your family in our prayers and look forward to helping your family grow deeper in your faith.

Kathy Murphy
1kathy.murphy@gmail.com

and Mary Drew
maryedrew1@gmail.com

802-442-3141



**The School of Sacred Heart
St. Francis de Sales
307 School Street
Bennington, VT 05201**

Mr. David Estes, Principal

Providing excellence in academics and a deepening faith in God and Gospel Values in an environment that is caring, challenging, and respectful, striving to develop in every student the habits of thinking critically and acting responsibly in daily life.

Pray for us as we begin our new school year.

Lord, please protect us, physically, emotionally and mentally. Keep us safe and healthy; increase our strength and stamina now and in the future, we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.



Pictured above (L to R): Fr. Bob, Grand Knight—Michael Daly and Fr. Hugh.

**The School of Sacred Heart
St. Francis de Sales Receives Generous Donation**

Recently, the Local Council 307 of the Knights of Columbus donated \$50,000 to the School of Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales to assist with the replacement of a 70 year old furnace. The Knights, a fraternal organization of the Catholic Church, was chartered in 1882 and still is true to its founding principles of charity, unity and fraternity. Currently, the founder of the organization, Michael McGivney is being investigated by the Vatican for sainthood. There are 15,900 councils worldwide. On an International level, the Knights of Columbus partners with such renown charitable groups as Special Olympics, the Global Wheelchair Mission and Habitat for Humanity.

Locally, the Knights donate their time, talents and treasures to numerous local charities including Food for Families, and Coats for Kids.

For information about the local council 307 contact Grand Knight Michael Daly at michaelkofcvt@comcast.net or see <https://www.koc.org/en/indexhtml>.

If interested in helping to fund the school furnace contact Father Bob Wiseman, CSC at 802-442-3141 or bobcsc2000@gmail.com



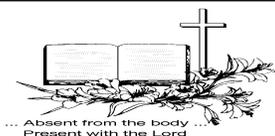
Please remember the sick, including ~

Caleb St. John, Bob Hannon, Marie Parker Mayer, Don Place, Cathy Place, Elaine Letourneau, Janet Sausville, Tina Harrington, A.J. Morton, Eden Jeannine Beckwith, Cindy Levitte, Christopher Rubino, Lena Reap, Dolores Pruden, Ruth Emaish, Matthew Rubino, Abigail Grace Lamar, Wilfred LaBonte, Therese Long, Gloria VanDerzee, Adrianna Dewey, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the residents of The Centers for Living and Rehabilitation.

On Tuesday morning (9/22) we received the following note from Rev. Neil Wack, C.S.C, Assistant Provincial and Secretary for the Congregation of Holy Cross:

Please Continue to Pray for Fr. Vincent

“Many of you have asked for an update on Vince Coppola. We have word from his mother that he still very much needs our prayers, as currently Vince is not doing well. Apparently they are working on infections and other issues that are quite serious, and worrisome. Please continue your prayers for him, and also for his mother (Madelyn), who has been on a roller coaster these last several weeks that Vince has been ill.”



Jeffrey Allen Mattson

**From Loneliness to Solitude
in Time of Pandemic**

**Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Bennington
&
Saint John the Baptist, North Bennington**

invite you
to a **ZOOM** Book Discussion Group
on Henri Nouwen’s classic

Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life

Sessions will take place from **10:30—12:00 AM**
on the following dates:

Monday, **September 28**—From Hostility to Hospitality
Monday, **October 5**—From Illusion to Prayer

Registration information will be coming out in Flocknotes.

Starting on September 15, books will be available at the
Bennington Bookshop for \$12.

For further information contact Wilma Ann Johnson
at johnsonwa7@msn.com or 802-681-7290.

**Gospel Reflection
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

What prompts you to make the decisions you make? When confronted with a decision, whether one that is more trivial and mundane or one that is more significant and profound, we rely on guidance. That guidance can be the result of impulse and passion or the fruit of the interior voice of conscience. Decisions made on impulse and passion can be misguided and erroneous. Decisions based on conscience, or the moral voice within, will reflect the depth and maturity of our soul work. A more contemplative soul will make more contemplative decisions. A less developed conscience will make decisions based on the individual’s level of development.

Conversion and a change of heart are at the core of Jesus’ message precisely because of this reality. We are works in progress. For the person on fire with the Holy Spirit and centered on God, life reflects an ever-deepening awareness and heightened sense of God’s presence and a greater willingness to do God’s will. What is happening internally is validated by what is witnessed externally. The hypocrite is the one who says yes when they really mean no. From the start, they had no desire to do the virtuous act but wanted to outwardly appear as if they did.

Where are you on the road of integrity? Honesty is all that is required. God is good with that. It is okay to struggle with our decisions and wrestle with ourselves. Consciences on the path to maturity and greater depth are not always going to know what action is immediately best. We may, at first, say no to what we know is right and, after prayerful reflection and thought, come around to doing it. Conversion happens when our no changes to yes, regardless of how sinful or out of sync we may be at the time. God is anxious to welcome us to Himself. But we cannot embrace Him unless we want to. Learning to orient our gift of free will to what is of divine origin, right, and best is a discipline we must always tweak and perfect.

©LPI



**Votive Candles
October 2020 Intentions**

✠ Perpetual for Frances Bender

✠ Patricia Perrott
requested by her family

✠ Albert Racicot
requested by his wife, Mary Pat

NEWS FROM The Inland See

September 26– October 2, 2020

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON



October is

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Why is domestic violence shrouded in silence? Family members, friends and neighbors hesitate to interfere when they suspect abuse in the home either out of loyalty to the person being abused or to protect the image of the family. Some argue that by speaking up, they will only make matters worse or if they speak up and report the violence, nothing will happen.

Domestic violence is recognized nationally in October, yet we must all recognize that this abuse is year-round. The consequences of ignoring those we love who are being hurt or are hurting, or those we casually see on our daily walk, lead to damaging social, economic and mental behaviors for both men and women.

Did you know that younger, unmarried women between the ages of 16 to 24 are at the greatest risk for domestic violence? Women are not the only victims; men and children are abused or witness abuse in the home as well.

Children who witness or experience trauma in the home are forever scared by this abuse; some turn to hurting or victimizing others, develop unsafe attachments to become victims or escape the memories with substances such as alcohol or drugs. I am a witness to this trauma — in my own family growing up — with experiences that haunt my siblings after more than 45 years.

Domestic violence is all around us. We must be more watchful to help others and to offer friendship, kindness and prayer. We must support one another, get help for offenders and remember that we are all God's loved children. As we meet others on our walk, be kind, look people in the eye and show God's love in your smile to support and encourage.

Ignoring domestic violence is not of God; we are called to love one another: "As I have loved you, so you should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:34-35).

Vermont Domestic Violence Resources:

Immediate Assistance: Call 911

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families: dcf.vermont.gov/resources/domestic-violence

Prevent Domestic and Sexual Violence: healthvermont.gov/children-youth-families/healthy-relationships/prevent-domestic-and-sexual-violence

Vermont Catholic Charities

South Burlington
802-658-6111 or
Toll Free: 1-877-250-4099

Middlebury
802-855-3016

Rutland Office
802-773-3379
Toll Free: 1-800-851-8379

St. Albans Office
802-658-6111

— *Terri McCormack, Marriage and Family Life
Coordinator for the Diocese of Burlington*

CHRIST OUR

Hope

BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH



Christ Our Hope: Building A Vibrant Church Campaign

Due to postal delays, the Christ Our Hope campaign mailing should arrive at homes the first week of October. Each household is invited to consider a sacrificial gift over a three year period based on their circumstances. The majority of the funds will support specific parish goals which will be outlined in the materials and the remainder will strengthen our faith formation programs and increase our emergency aid to families in financial crisis. Now more than ever our parishes and community need this support. Please also visit the website to watch the campaign video and learn more about how this historic statewide Catholic campaign is vital for the future of our Catholic Church in Vermont: christourhopevt.org



HIS Pantry

"Seeing Christ in the hungry"

Phone Number: **442-1720**

hispantryshsf@gmail.com

HIS Pantry at SHSF

(Facebook link)

Wednesdays 1:00 – 3:30 pm

Fridays 10:00 am – 11:30 am

HIS Pantry is a volunteer-run parish ministry which assists those in need of food in our local community. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the pantry food distribution is now being done outside, under tents in the parking lot. Now, more than ever, we need your support to help those struggling with food insecurities in our area. Here are some ways you can help:

Volunteering: We are in need of a few more volunteers during this difficult pandemic period! Here are some of the areas where we especially need help:

- * **Outdoor setup crew:** set up tents, tables & coolers outside on Wednesdays, 11 am - noon and/or Fridays, 9-10 am. Need to be able to lift at least 20 pounds.
- * **Outdoor guest assistance:** help out guests select food offerings (masked and socially distanced), Wednesdays 1-4pm and/or Fridays 10am - noon.
- * **Guest sign-in and/or indoor food prep & packaging:** Wednesdays Noon-4pm and/or Fridays 9am - noon
- * People that can **pick up fresh produce** at local farm markets during the summer & fall months (once/twice per month, time slots flexible)

If you would like to become a volunteer at HIS Pantry or give us an additional hand in one of the areas listed above, please email hispantryshsf@gmail.com or call **802-823-0195**.

Donations:

- * **Groceries:** rice, spaghetti, pasta sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned beans, shelf stable juices, tuna, canned chicken, mac & cheese, peanut butter
- * **Personal hygiene items:** bars of soap, deodorant, shampoo, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, feminine products
- * **PPE:** face masks, hand sanitizers, Lysol spray
- * **Financial support:** cash donations, VISA or store gift cards (can bring to the parish office or place in the collection basket in an envelope marked for HIS Pantry). Note that these gift cards are used solely by pantry volunteers to purchase needed foods as we run low. Thank you for your generosity!

Special Note:

His Pantry would like to gratefully thank all the individuals and organizations that are so kindly giving of their time, food, gift cards and monetary donations to help feed the needy in our community. Your continued generosity during this difficult time



What it Means to be a Knight

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and role models and to put charity and community first.

Our local council 307 helps support our churches, our school and our community through donations of time, talent and treasures of its membership.

During these difficult times with the pandemic, we are unable to hold our normal in person membership drives. We are always here to welcome new members to the Knights of Columbus and our council.

Please contact Michael Daly Grand Knight with any questions at Michaelkofcvt@comcast.net or call 802-447-1892.

RCIA *...a journey in faith*
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

RCIA
The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Do you know someone who is interested in joining the Catholic Church or has questions about our Catholic Faith? Someone who:

- Has never been baptized?
- Has been baptized, but is not a practicing Catholic?
- Has been baptized, but never been confirmed?

If you know of someone like this please ask them if they would be interest in becoming a full member of our Catholic Church. For more information contact either Scott Murphy at 802-245-4990. Or you may call the parish office at 442-3141. The starting date is to be determined.

*The **Second Collection** this weekend is for Thanksgiving Baskets.*

*The **Second Collection** next weekend is for The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales.*

We thank you for your generosity!