

FEBRUARY 7, 2021



# 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.



## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." - Mk 1:38

## PARISH CENTER MAIN OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday  
8:30 AM–Noon & 1:00–4:30 PM  
email: [benncath@comcast.net](mailto:benncath@comcast.net)



# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

And Liturgical Celebrations for  
February 6—14, 2021

(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)

**Sat./Sun., Feb. 6/7      The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 4:00 p.m. † Phyllis L. Morrissey (8<sup>th</sup>) - Mary Morrissey  
 † Rev. Vincent Coppola, C.S.C. - Mary Morrissey  
 † Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Chapman - Daughter, Nan
- 7:30 a.m. † Helen & Jerry Keough - The Kuhn Family
- 9:30 a.m. Rose Nichols (Living) - Jake & Monique  
 Our Parish Family

**Monday, Feb. 8      Saint Jerome Emiliani &  
 Saint Josephine Bakhita**

- 8:00 a.m. † John J. Daly (14<sup>th</sup>) - Michael & Peg Daly

**Tuesday, Feb. 9      Weekday**

- 8:00 a.m. † Bob Hannan - Carolyn & Gerry McMurray

**Wednesday, Feb. 10      Saint Scholastica**

- 8:00 a.m. † Bob Racicot - Mary Brochu

**Thursday, Feb. 11      Our Lady of Lourdes**

- 8:00 a.m. † Bob Mulvey - The Family

**Friday, Feb. 12      Weekday**

- 8:00 a.m. † Len Nichols - Rose & Family

**Sat./Sun., Feb. 13/14      The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

- 4:00 p.m. † Ray Vivaldi - Mary Morrissey  
 † Edgar Lemieux - Jack & Gloria  
 Our Parish Family
- 7:30 a.m. † Ralph Gustavson - The Family  
 † Elizabeth Napolitano (22<sup>nd</sup>) - Joanna Napolitano
- 9:30 a.m. † Dale Palmer (7<sup>th</sup>) - Wife, Betty & Family  
 Thomas & Kelly Murphy (Living) in honor of  
 their anniversary - Mom

## Gospel Reflection Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

@LPi

## Sunday Summary

- Job 7:1-4, 6-7** Job laments the futility of human existence.
- Psalms 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6** God heals the brokenhearted and sustains the poor.
- 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23** Paul describes the passionate role of the preacher.
- Mark 1:29-39** Jesus is ever on the move, proclaiming the Good News from town to town.

## Readings for the week of February 7, 2021

- Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/  
 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
- Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24  
 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/  
 Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30  
 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/  
 Mk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/  
 Mk 8:1-10
- Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/  
 1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-4



**Faith Formation Program**

*"Growing In Faith Together"*

For more information contact the parish office at 442-3141 or [shsffaithformation@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:shsffaithformation@vermontcatholic.org)

**You are invited to join us on Facebook – SHSF Faith Formation**



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

**Mr. David Estes, Principal  
442-2446, Ext. 3**

**Sharing the Gospel**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time • Mark 1:29-39**

Simon Peter's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. Jesus went to her. He took hold of her hand and helped her up. The fever left her. She felt so good, she cooked them a nice meal to celebrate. Neighbors brought all of their sick loved ones to be cured. When we pray today, Jesus still comes to those who are sick and heals them. He cures through doctors, nurses, medicines, and machines.

**Prayer**

Lord, heal my family and friends who are sick today.

**Something to Draw**

Draw a sick lady lying in bed. Then draw her cooking supper when cured.

**Mission for the Week**

I will make get well cards for three sick people in our church.



Parents make a difference every day! Parents strengthen our school community by being responsible citizens, good parents, and generous volunteers. In the process, we teach our children a most valuable life lesson. Even during these difficult times this is important.

Each of us is blessed with different gifts and talents, beliefs and backgrounds, and that is something to celebrate. For it is through the combination of these countless very different gifts that we are able to create a rich and vibrant community.

The most important thing to remember is to remain true to yourself and, wherever you are, do what you can to be of service each and every day. Whatever your gifts, each small action or kindness has a ripple effect. If you make a difference in the life of just one person, you have made our community a better place in which to live.

There could be no more powerful gift for our children than learning from the shining example of their parents. We each have the power to make a difference for our children and in our community every single day. Let's be sure that no matter who we are and what gifts we bring, the difference we make is a positive one.

Together, we can make our school the amazing community we want it to be. Let's begin today!



**Lent Begins Soon**

Each year the church sets aside 40 days as a special time we call LENT.

This year's Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17.

Stations of the Cross will take place virtually this year, prayed in each classroom.

Lenten boxes to help support Operation Rice Bowl are being sent home for all our students. Please emphasize with your children the importance of sacrificing for others. These boxes will be collected during Holy Week.

It is important for us to journey together with Jesus remembering the sacrifices He made for all of us



**Please remember the sick, including ~**

Nan Mears, Diane Roy, Dorothy Roy, Robin Tremblay, Rene Cassano, Caleb St. John, 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,, Wilfred LaBonte, Gloria VanDerzee, Adrianna Dewey, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the residents of Fillmore Pond.

**Ash Wednesday  
February 17  
Looking for Ushers**

Ash Wednesday is February 17 and we are looking for 2 ushers for each Mass— 8:00 a.m.; 12:00 Noon and 5:30 p.m.

While we will NOT be taking reservations, we will still need ushers to count heads in order to ensure that the number of parishioners in the church does not exceed 120.

If you would like to volunteer for one of the Masses, there is clipboard with a sign up sheet in the ushers closet by the main entrance or call the parish office and Judy will be happy to sign you up!

**Save the Date**

**Light Shines in the Darkness**

An evening of hope and light

March 11, 2021

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church

Join Deacon Phil Lawson and Bill Gavin from the Diocese of Burlington for an evening of prayer. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

*"In light of the troubling situation in our country with COVID and our political climate, we believe it is imperative to offer people hope and light in the midst of this current darkness."*

**The Audacity of Holiness**

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



**Ash Wednesday,  
February 17, 2021  
Mass Schedule**

*Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales:*  
8:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

*St. John the Baptist:*  
9:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

*Please note: The Collection on Ash Wednesday benefits Vermont Catholic Charities.*



**Votive Candles  
February 2021 Intentions**

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

† Theresa & Bob Long, Sr.  
*requested by the Dale Long family*

*The **Second Collection** this weekend is for our parish school.*

*The **Second Collection** next weekend is for the maintenance of our church.*

*We thank you for your generosity!*

# NEWS FROM The Inland See

February 6–12, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Shown is a stained-glass window of St. Joseph at St. Jude Church in Hinesburg. — Alanna Moxley photo



## Year of St. Joseph

On Dec. 8 of last year, Pope Francis declared a “Year of St. Joseph” to commemorate the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being named patron of the Universal Church. The year began that day and will end this year on Dec. 8.

In his Apostolic Letter entitled “Patris Corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes St. Joseph “as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.” Love and devotion

to St. Joseph are particularly close to us here in the Diocese of Burlington as our cathedral is named for him and places us under his protection.

There is much to consider and ponder concerning St. Joseph and his importance to the Church. Much will be offered for our devotion to him during this patronal year. In this moment, I would offer some thoughts that draw upon a homily of St. Paul VI “On the Holy Family” that he preached on Jan. 5, 1964. In his homily St. Paul VI spoke of Nazareth as “a kind of school where we may begin to discover what Christ’s life was like and even to understand His Gospel.” In describing what we can learn from the hidden years of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Nazareth he raises up three simple aspects of the Holy Family which can also be applied to St. Joseph himself.

First, we can learn from St. Joseph’s silence. “Beset as we are by the cacophony of strident protests and conflicting claims so characteristic of these turbulent times, the silence of St. Joseph should teach us how to meditate in peace and quiet, to reflect on the deeply spiritual, and to be open to the voice of God’s inner wisdom.” St. Joseph can teach us the value “of meditation, of a well-ordered personal spiritual life and of silent prayer that is known only to God.”

Second, from St. Joseph we can learn about family life. He can serve “as a model of what the family should be” — a community of love and sharing, beautiful for the problems it poses and the rewards it brings, in sum, the perfect setting for rearing children — and for this there is no substitute.

Finally, in St. Joseph we have a craftsman who teaches us about “work and the discipline it entails.” He reminds us that while “work has its own dignity ... it is not an end in itself. Its value and free character derive not only from its place in the economic system, as they say, but rather from the purpose it serves.”

In closing, this initial reflection on St. Joseph is, I hope, the first of many that I will share with you.

St. Joseph, patron of the Church, pray for us.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,



*Christopher J. Coyne*

The Most Reverend Christopher J. Coyne  
Bishop of Burlington



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## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



### HIS Pantry

*"Seeing Christ in the hungry"*

Phone Number: **442-1720**

[hispantryshsf@gmail.com](mailto: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 & guest assistance: Wednesday afternoons and/or Friday mornings
- \* Indoor stocking, food prep & packaging
- \* People that can pick up donations from local stores

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](mailto:hispantryshsf@gmail.com) or call 802-823-0195.

#### Donations:

- \* Shelf stable food and personal hygiene items are always welcome
- \* 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!

### COVID Vaccine Assistance

As you may have heard the state has begun scheduling COVID vaccine appointments for those **age 75 and older**.

It is advised to schedule on line due to high demand, but you will also be able to call. We are reaching out to see if there are people who may need assistance scheduling their appointment.

*If you know of someone who needs assistance in scheduling a COVID vaccination, please contact parishioner Janis Yannotti during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. by calling her cell phone 802-384-0316. If you don't get her directly, please leave a voicemail with your name, number and good time to reach you.*



[tacklehunger.org](http://tacklehunger.org)

### SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

**This Sunday, February 7!**

Souper Bowl of Caring began 30 years ago with a simple prayer from a single youth group. "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Since that day, more than \$100 million has been raised in communities across the country. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn to make a positive difference in the world. Please join us in being part of this mission that is sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday.

**The youth of our parish will be collecting money after the Masses this weekend, or there may just be a sign and a pot. Either way all the money collected will go directly to our HIS Pantry.**

### Parish Resources

**Baptism** - Contact Kathy Murphy at the Parish Office.

#### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church. It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or, for those who were baptized Catholic, but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and confirmation.

#### Faith Formation for Children

To register your child for our Faith Formation Program, please contact Kathy Murphy in the Parish Office.

#### Marriage

Couples who wish to prepare for marriage should contact the pastor a minimum of 6 months prior to the requested date of marriage.

#### Care of the Sick

To arrange for the Sacrament of the Sick, for Holy Communion to be brought to those unable to attend the Sunday celebration, or for Viaticum for the Dying (Holy Communion for those in danger of death), please contact the Parish Office. It is always possible to anoint the sick during regularly scheduled liturgies.

### Parish Office

The Parish office will be closed on Wednesday afternoons until further notice.