

SEPTEMBER 19, 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

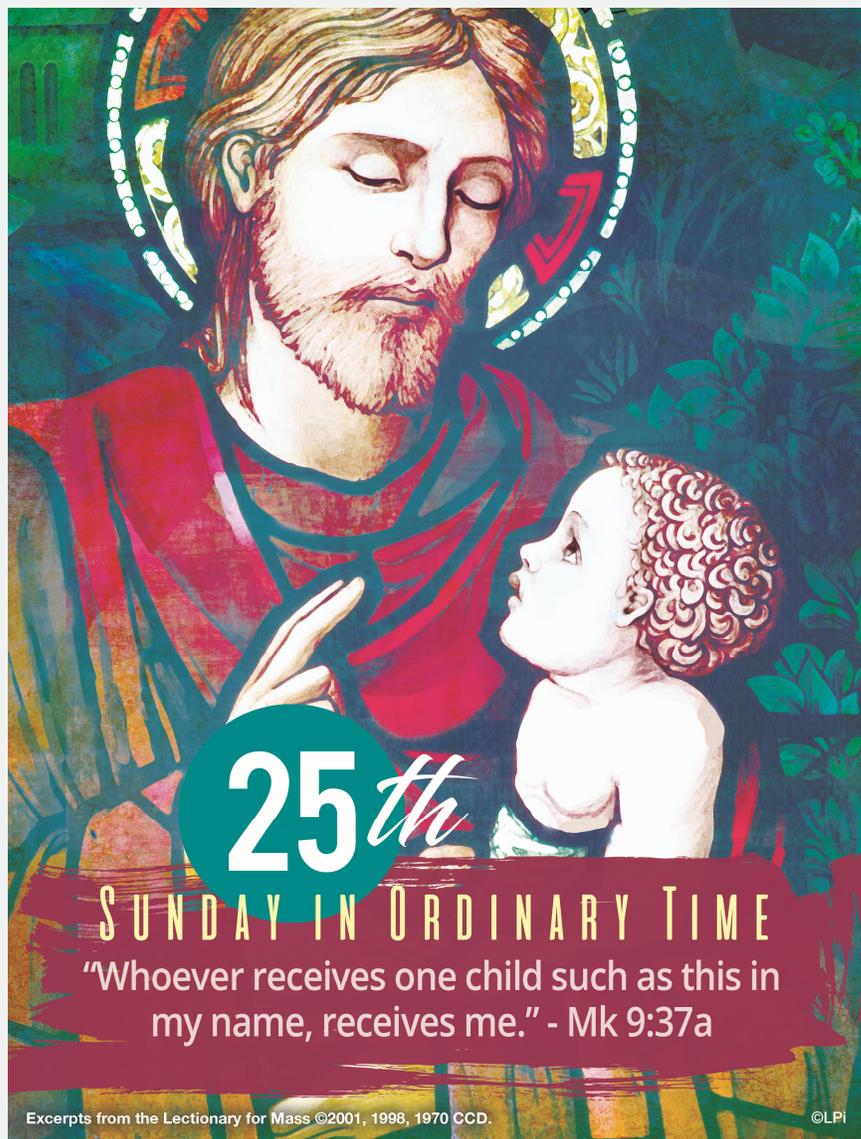
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:00-3:30 PM or by appointment



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.



PARISH CENTER MAIN OFFICE HOURS

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

SACRED HEART ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Mass Intentions for the Week

And Liturgical Celebrations for
September 18—26, 2021

(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)

Sat./Sun., Sept. 18/19 The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00 p.m. † Eva Glode - Henry Maynard
† Marie LaCroix Thomas - Friend, Nan
† Living & Deceased Members
of the Cassano Family - The Family
- 7:30 a.m. † Alfred J. LaCroix - The Family
† Norman Rivers - Dr. & Mrs. Kenneth Cestone
† Reatha Williams - The Lindsey Family
- 9:30 a.m. † James Zack - The Family
† Patrick M. Moore - The Family

Monday, Sept. 20 Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang

- 8:00 a.m. † Erin Watson-Holland
- Madelyn & Brennan Holland
† Phil O'Neill - The Family

Tuesday, Sept. 21 Saint Matthew

- 8:00 a.m. † Monica Barrett - Annley & Gerard Tierney

Wednesday, Sept. 22 Weekday

- 8:00 a.m. † Pat Farnum - Jane, Joan & Mary Pat

Thursday, Sept. 23 Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

- 8:00 a.m. † Howard Therrien - Paula & Dana Chellis

Friday, Sept. 24 Weekday

- 8:00 a.m. † Magdalene W. Hogan (27th) - Sheila

Sat./Sun., Sept. 25/26 The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00 p.m. † Barbara Green - Sister, Elizabeth Green
† Mark Lindsey - Pam & Everett Wager
† Debi Cardillo - Sandra J. Lemieux
- 7:30 a.m. † Reatha Williams - Vicky & Julie
† Rev. Tom Steffen- Dr. & Mrs. Ken Cestone
- 9:30 a.m. † Howard Shea - BCHS Class of 1960

Readings for the week of September 19, 2021

- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/
Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37
- Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/
Lk 8:16-18
- Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/
Mt 9:9-13
- Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/
Lk 9:1-6
- Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b
[cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9
- Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22
- Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13
[cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45
- Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/
Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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Gospel Reflection

Encouraging a deeper understanding of scripture.

September 19, 2021

There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

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Sunday Summary

Wisdom 2:12, 17-20 Evildoers plot against the just one, scorning the idea that God will deliver him.

Psalm 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 God is the one who sustains and saves our lives.

James 3:16-4:3 The spirit of peace breeds virtue, and the spirit of conflict breeds wrongdoing.

Mark 9:30-37 Greatness is properly defined as choosing to serve the rest.



Faith Formation Program

"Growing In Faith Together"

For more information contact the parish office at 442-3141 or shsfaithformation@vermontcatholic.org

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



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

The School of Sacred Heart
St. Francis de Sales
307 School Street
Bennington, VT 05201
Mrs. Tiffany McKenna, Principal
802-442-2446



Registration for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation

Registration is now open for fall enrollment for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Sacred Heart St. Francis and St. John the Baptist church programs are now merged at all levels.

For grades 1 - 5 and children 3 - 6 years old, classes will meet Sundays after the 9:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart St. Francis from 10:30 am - 11:45 am beginning Sunday, September 26

Confirmation is for grades 6 through 8, and will meet twice a month on Sundays from 4:30 pm - 5:45pm beginning Sunday, August 29, 2021.

Registration is on-line at <https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms> for both parishes. You may register your family on one form.

We ask that a registration fee of \$10 per student or \$25 per family be submitted. Payment can be made in one of the following ways:

- ◆ On-line by clicking the [donate button](#) and choosing "Class Registration Fees".
- ◆ In person at on the first day of class
- ◆ Mail to: Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Faith Formation Registration, 238 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201.

Please contact Kathy Murphy or Mary Drew at 802-442-3141 with any questions.

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.

Lunch Time!

Everyone is delighted that lunch is once again being held in the big room!



"As we walk the road of our spiritual journey, let us not miss the opportunity to offer a smile and a word of kindness to every person we encounter, for we are welcoming the presence of Christ among us."



Please remember the sick, including ~

Joan Douglass, Gerald Amadon, Mark Fortun, Yvonne LaFlamme, Kay Krawczyk, Pauline Restino, Adelaide Talbot, Nolin Danforth, Donna Peters, Kyle Dame, Rose Santarcangelo, Charlie Buckley, Frank Babcock, Tami Greene, Robin Guertin, Nan Mears, Diane Roy, Dorothy Roy, Rene Cassano, Caleb St. John, Don Place, Cathy Place, Elaine Letourneau, Janet Sausville, Eden Jeannine Beckwith, Cindy Levitte, Christopher Rubino, Lena Reap, Ruth Emaish, Matthew Rubino, Gloria VanDerzee, Adrianna Dewey, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the residents of River's Edge Community Care Home.

Eucharistic Adoration *"The Eucharist, in the Mass and outside of the Mass, is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and is therefore deserving of the worship that is given to the living God, and to him alone."*



— Pope John Paul II

Adoration Fridays in the chapel from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Sign-up sheets for one hour shifts are in the chapel.



**Votive Candles
September 2021 Intentions**

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

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

† Fred & Marie Parker
requested by Donald & Margaret Wehrung

**Holy Family Prayer Group
Join Us!**

The Holy Family Prayer Group has resumed our Tuesday evening Prayer Meetings. We praise God in song and ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide our meetings with his gifts and truths. We pray, read scripture, and share how God is working in our lives.

We meet every Tuesday evening in the Holy Cross chapel at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Please come join us Tuesday evening and deepen your love with the Holy Spirit.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is Expanding!

We are very excited to open a Level II Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium this fall, and we could use some help! Our needs include:

- ◆ a small low table for a prayer table
- ◆ Bookshelves: units of three or four shelves at least 10" deep
- ◆ school desks or small tables at which one or two children could work
- ◆ Woodworkers who are willing to help create materials for us.
- ◆ We have a wish list of items to purchase if you would be interested in sponsoring one.
- ◆ And especially your prayers! Any help with these needs would be greatly appreciated!

Classes will meet after the Sunday, 9:30 am Masses beginning September 26, 2021. If you know of anyone interested in Faith Formation, or could help us with our wish list, please contact Kathy Murphy at 802-442-3141.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd ("CGS") is a Montessori based hands-on method of faith formation.

CGS utilizes a prepared space for children called the "atrium." The atrium, a space where both the children and catechists can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith, contains models representing people, places, and objects found in scripture and liturgy.

The Atrium is such a peaceful place, and at the same time, it's a very "fun" place, with real materials for the children to work with, custom made to meet their needs. It's marvelous to see how the children thrive in this environment. As they practice new skills, and learn more about our Lord and His Church, you can see them growing in confidence. It's a joy to witness and be a part of their journey.

For the past three years, we have been holding Level 1 sessions for some of the youngest children in our Parishes. This summer, Kathy Murphy and Martha Hojnowski will be attending another weeklong training in order to begin the process of expanding our program to include Level 2 sessions. This will enable us to welcome children from the ages of 3 to 9/10 years old into our CGS program

HELP WANTED: Would you be interested in learning more about what it would mean to be an assistant in the Atrium or would you like to learn more about what is involved in becoming a certified CGS catechist? Please contact Kathy Murphy shsfaithformation@vermontcatholic.org to learn more.

NEWS FROM The Inland See

September 18–24, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

The Diocese of Burlington will dedicate 2022 as “The Year of Communion: Unity in Creed, Worship and Life” to coincide with the theme Pope Francis has chosen for the next synod of bishops.

That theme is “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.”

The pope will formally open the synod process at the Vatican Oct. 9-10 this year; the bishop of every Diocese will open the process in his Diocese Oct. 17.

The three-year synodal journey will have three phases — diocesan, continental and universal — of consultations and discernment, culminating with the assembly in October 2023 in Rome.

The diocesan phase will go through April 2022, featuring a consultation with local Catholics discussing a preparatory document and questionnaire that the synod office will send with guidelines for how the consultation should work.

The theme for 2022 in the Diocese of Burlington, “The Year of Communion: Unity in Creed, Worship and Life” was chosen not only as part of the preparation for the synod of bishops but as an effort to bring people back to parishes, back to communion, said Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne.

Diocesan pastoral and senior clergy staffs are preparing for the special year, which he wants to incorporate a focus on unity in creed, worship and life.

He said another round of questions for Vermont Catholics is needed even though they answered questions for the recent Diocesan Synod because the questions will be different for the synod of bishops, which will be more specific about the process of the synod rather than the content.

In revisions to the synod process announced in May, Pope Francis asked that it begin with consultations with laypeople. “Without this consultation, there would be no synodal process, because the discernment of pastors, which constitutes the second phase, emerges from listening to the people of God,”

Cardinal Mario Grech, secretary of the synod, explained.

“The Second Vatican Council teaches that the people of God participate in the prophetic office of Christ,” he said. “Therefore, we must listen to the people of God, and this means going out to the local churches.”

“The governing principle of this consultation of the people of God is contained in the ancient principle ‘that which touches upon all must be approved by all’ — ‘Quod omnes tangit ab omnibus approbari debet,’” the cardinal said. “This is not about democracy or populism or anything like that. Rather, it is the Church that as the people of God, a people who by virtue of baptism, is an active subject in the life and mission of the Church.”

Bishop Coyne said this is an effort under the power of the Holy Spirit for members of the Church to consult and discuss the best way to move forward focusing on unity in creed, worship and life, “moving toward salvation and our love for God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

Listening to every Catholic is “the true ‘pastoral conversion’ of the Church,” Cardinal Grech said. “God willing, one of the fruits of the synod is that we might all understand that

a decision-making process in the Church always begins with listening, because only in this way can we understand how and where the Spirit wants to lead the Church.”

Bishop Coyne began a series of “town meetings” a few years ago that had to be curtailed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. But he hopes to resume them so he can visit different parishes and listen to parishioners’ concerns.

Details for “The Year of Communion: Unity in Creed, Worship and Life” must be worked out, but the bishop said its main focus will be on “our unity in love for God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, unity and love for each other as brothers and sisters and for all of our brothers and sisters in the world and unity around the faith of the Church, the worship of the Church and the life of the Church.”

— *Cori Fugere Urban and Catholic News Services*

2022 The Year of COMMUNION

Unity in Creed, Worship and Life



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

To see more events or to submit your event to the diocesan calendar: vermontcatholic.org/events

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VERMONT
Catholic
VERMONTCATHOLIC.ORG/VTC

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



HIS Pantry

"Seeing Christ in the hungry"

Phone Number: **442-1720**

hispantryshsf@gmail.com

HIS Pantry at SHSF

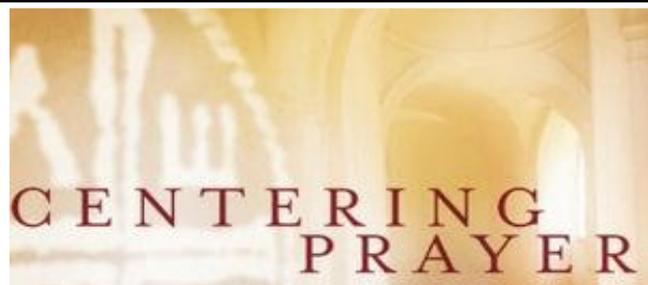
(Facebook link)

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.

If you would like to become a volunteer at HIS Pantry please email hispantryshsf@gmail.com or call 802-823-0195.



**Do you long to deepen your relationship
with God?**

Do you seek the still, quiet voice of God?

If so, please consider.....

An Introduction to

Centering Prayer Workshop

October 9, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church

200 Pleasant Street, Bennington

This workshop will help us to understand the Indwelling Presence of God within each of us and our intimate relationship with the Presence. There will be videos explaining the background and method of Centering Prayer, and there will be members of Contemplative Outreach Bennington to talk with you and to share their experiences with Centering Prayer.

We will explore the benefits of Centering Prayer in ordinary life and experience two periods of Centering Prayer practice. All are welcome to attend! This introduction is the beginning of the journey into Centering Prayer and a contemplative life. Participants are urged to attend weekly sessions following this workshop. These sessions provide support and encourage those who wish to establish a daily prayer practice.

Please bring your own lunch or snack, beverages will be provided. The rooms at St. Peter's have air purification systems, but you are invited to wear a mask and sit at a social distance.

Please register by October 6

Email: mcmogui@comcast.net or

call 802-442-5908 to register

or for more information.

**Also feel free to contact Neva Hebert at
802-442-2919.**



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 interested 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 for this year's class is October 17.**

Choir Postponed

The reunion of our parish choir, initially scheduled for September 18, has been postponed because of safety concerns. Please check the bulletin and Flocknotes for updates.

Interfaith Dinner

On Sunday, September 5, the following parishioners graciously agreed to host the Interfaith Dinner at the Second Congregational Church. **We thank Carolyn and Gerry McMurray, Mary Morrissey, Janet and Dan Lucy, Mary Drew and David Hojnowski.** We truly appreciate their willingness to lend their time, talent and treasure to this worthwhile community outreach.

Second Congregational church has gone to great lengths to create protocols that keep everyone safe during this time of the pandemic. If you (or a group) would be interested in hosting one of these dinners, just give the office a call at 442-3141. Thank you. We can always use new talent!

*The Second Collection this weekend
is for Vermont Catholic Magazine.*

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

We thank you for your generosity!