

OCTOBER 17, 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.



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But it shall not be so among you. Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all. For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” - Mk 10:43-45

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

SACRED HEART ST FRANCIS DE SALES

Mass Intentions for the Week

And Liturgical Celebrations for
October 16 - 24, 2021

(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)

Sat./Sun., Oct. 16/17 The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00 p.m. † Living & Deceased Members of the
Knights of Columbus Council #307
† Donna Cipperly (21st) - Sister, Terri Knuetter
& Son, Todd Cipperly
- 7:30 a.m. † Priscilla Salem - The Pembroke Family
- 9:30 a.m. † Irene Garder - The Garder Family

Monday, Oct. 18 Saint Luke

- 8:00 a.m. † Gene Farrar - Doris & Ron Alderman

Tuesday, Oct. 19 Saints John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues

- 8:00 a.m. Julie Guasconi (Living)
in honor of her birthday - Jo-Anne Prouty

Wednesday, Oct. 20 Saint Paul of the Cross

- 8:00 a.m. Julie Guasconi (Living)
in honor of her birthday - Vicky
† Phil O'Neill - The Family

Thursday, Oct. 21 Weekday

- 8:00 a.m. † Dale Palmer - Wife, Betty & Family

Friday, Oct. 22 Saint John Paul II

- 8:00 a.m. † Sr. Sheila Daly, SSJ (2nd) - Michael & Peg Daly

Sat./Sun., Oct. 23/24 The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00 p.m. † Edgar Lemieux (1st) - The Family
† Gerald Amadon - Rita & Jane Pinsonneault
† Ann Thibert - The Family
† John Grady - The Family
- 7:30 a.m. † Dotty Haddad - Her Daughters
and their families
† Priscilla Salem - The Belnap Family
- 9:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

Gospel Reflection

Encouraging a deeper understanding of scripture.

October 17, 2021

"What do you wish me to do for you?" Whether we realize it, this is a question God is always asking. It's an important question because the answer we provide will reveal a great deal about where our hearts lie. Our requests of God can often appear very noble and altruistic. They consist of requests for healing for someone in need of prayers, successful resolution of a personal conflict, assistance in overcoming a disease and myriad other desires for both ourselves and others. We are especially concerned about those we love and can easily find ourselves bringing their struggles to God for a hearing in our prayer.

Is that really all that prayer is about? The woman in today's Gospel, having been put in her place by Jesus, was only looking out for the wellbeing of her sons. She was doing what mothers do, protecting and securing the livelihood of her children. But she was sadly mistaken, her request was not granted. We all make this same misguided mistake from time to time. The goal of prayer is not to convince God of the worthiness of our agenda or to gain a hearing. Sometimes we believe that the more we multiply our prayers or discover the right combination of supplications that we will receive more of God's attention. That's not how it works. Even though God desires to hear, know, and be an intimate part of what is on our minds, it goes much deeper.

What we need from God is a relationship. It's a relationship that guides and immerses us in the very stuff of life and in the direction of the Gospel. This relationship sees God's kingdom and agenda, not our own, as what is most important. It builds the strength of character necessary to bring God's Gospel into a world that may not receive it with open arms. It may cause us discomfort and suffering. We are asked to heroically journey with God through suffering, hardship, ridicule, and even death! Ultimately, our desire from God must become our desire for God. It is only when this happens that the powerful words "thy will be done" will be found with sincerity and humility on our lips. Whatever God wishes becomes what we wish as we see this glorious union of wills. Our humble lives will then become powerful witnesses, and what happens to us in God's eternal kingdom the result of his mercy. We become true servants and find ourselves discovering God's definition of success. That definition has nothing at all to do with status, income, or privilege.

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Sunday Summary

Isaiah 53:10-11 Inexplicably, the suffering of the just reconciles the wrongdoing of the guilty.

Psalms 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 The Lord fills the Earth with kindness and rescues us from death.

Hebrews 4:14-16 Jesus, who knows our weakness, presides at the throne of grace.

Mark 10:35-45 James and John seek worldly glory and are promised a share in the Passion of Jesus.

Readings for the week of October 17, 2021

- Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [22]/
Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45
- Monday: 2 Tm 4:10-17/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/
Lk 10:1-9
- Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15, 17-19, 20-21/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9,
10, 17 [8 and 9]/Lk 12:35-38
- Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1-3, 4-6, 7-8 [8]/
Lk 12:39-48
- Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5]/
Lk 12:49-53
- Friday: Rom 7:18-25/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94 [68]/
Lk 12:54-59
- Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 6]/
Lk 13:1-9
- Next Sunday: Jer 31:7-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/
Heb 5:1-6/Mk 10:46-52

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Faith Formation Program

"Growing In Faith Together"

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

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

Welcome Back to Faith Formation!

Welcome back to the Faith Formation year! It was great to see those who joined us for the first weekend. It's not too late to join us.

We send out reminders and communications through Flocknotes, so if you have not been receiving notifications, please check your spam folder or call me at 802-442-3141 to be sure we have the correct information.

Our classes for pre-K to 5th grade meet each Sunday. In addition to meeting EVERY SUNDAY, here are some dates to note:

November 7 - at 9:30 am Mass - First Eucharist Rite of Welcome and Parent Meeting to follow Classes will still be held this weekend

November 28 - No Class Thanksgiving Weekend

December 26 - No Class Merry Christmas!

January 2 - No Class

January 16 - No Class Martin Luther King weekend

February 20 - No Class school break

April 17 - Easter - No Class

May 7 - 8 - Retreat, Reconciliation and First Eucharist

May 8 - No Class, but retreat for those receiving First Eucharist

May 22 Last Class - Pentecost celebration

Please let me know if you have questions.

Kathy Murphy
802-442-3141

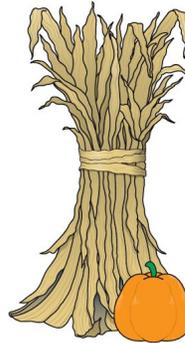
1kathy.murphy@gmail.com .

"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."



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

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.



Annual Harvest Bazaar November 6th

Come one come all to the School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Harvest Bazaar on **November 6th**! For the fifth year we are **selling vendor or artist booths in the Parish Hall**. These booths will be a flat fee of \$40 per spot and **all of the profits from your retail sales are yours to keep**. We will be advertising this event locally on all available media. If you would like to have a booth at this year's bazaar please contact the school office at 442-2446 to receive your packet and contract or you can also print out an application from the school's web-site:

<http://sacredheartbennington.org/support/harvest-bazaar/>

OR contact Nichole Warner at nichole.l.warner@gmail.com.

In addition to the vendor booths the Bazaar will feature the following:

- Bake Sale**
- Big Money Raffle**
- Silent Auction**

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to support our parish school!

Volunteers Needed!



Our school is in desperate need of some extra hands to make light work.

- ◆ Arrival Crossing Guard (7:50-8:15 am)
- ◆ Lunch Helpers (11:00 am to 12:30 pm Mon & Fri)
- ◆ **Basketball Coaches (Boys & Girls)**

Please reach out to tiffany.mckenna@sacredheartbennington.org **OR** marcia.hendery@sacredheartbennington.org



Please remember the sick, including ~

Joan Douglass, 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 patients of Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.

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.



**Updated Wish List for
Catechesis of the
Good Shepherd**

Thank you so much for the generosity of those who have already donated items and talents to our new Level II atrium! We are ready for classes, but are continuing to add materials throughout the year.

Items still needed:

- ◆ table or floor lamps
- ◆ Bibles in a foreign language
- ◆ Carrying trays
- ◆ Houseplants
- ◆ Bookshelves: units of three or four shelves at least 10” deep
- ◆ We have a wish list of items to purchase if you would be interested in sponsoring one
- ◆ Prayers!

Any help with these needs would be greatly appreciated!



Thanksgiving Baskets

When we sit with family and friends around our tables this Thanksgiving and give thanks for all of the blessings that God has bestowed upon us, may we remember that He called us to care for the least among us. There are those who will struggle to put together a meal for their families this day. They would like to share in this great American tradition, but may not have the means to provide a bountiful table for their families. We are blessed to be able to help.

Please consider adopting a family and donating \$25 to provide all that is needed for a family to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Envelopes are available at the entrances of the church.



**Votive Candles
October 2021 Intentions**

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

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

† Al Pinsonneault
requested by Rita & Jane

*The **Second Collection** this weekend
is for Mission Sunday.*

*The **Second Collection** next weekend is for
the Priests Benefit Fund.*

We thank you for your generosity!

NEWS FROM The Inland See

October 9–15, 2021

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

Catholic school superintendent's prayer: *'hope-filled joy that flows from authentic peace'*

Jeanne Gearon, superintendent of schools for the Diocese of Burlington, was recently interviewed about the past and current school years by Vermont Catholic Managing Editor Cori Fugere Urban. Here is their Q and A:

Q: For the 2020-21 school year, how did Vermont Catholic schools adjust for the pandemic safety protocols?

A: The principals worked collaboratively with the Office of Catholic Schools to draft a guiding document titled: "United in Faith, Returning with CARE: Communities and Academics Reimagined Effectively." This document provided a framework for responding to the pandemic that each school in turn used to craft its local protocols and procedures.

I cannot say enough how the efforts at the local level from the principals, teachers and school staffs made it possible for our students to experience in-person learning on a full-time basis. The support they received from the pastors/priests who minister to our schools as well as from the students' families and all members of each school community was phenomenal. The work they undertook and the sacrifices they endured were not easy, and it only happened because everyone worked together to place the needs of the students at the forefront.

Q: How did the pandemic affect enrollment?

A: Preschool through grade 12 enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year in Vermont was 1,908. For the 2020-2021 it was 1,835, and the projected enrollment for 2021-2022 was 1,990.

Q: To what do you attribute this change in enrollment?

A: As a Diocese, last year we experienced an overall enrollment decline of around 4 percent. I believe that this was largely due to families opting to home school due to concerns regarding the pandemic.

For the upcoming school year, diocesan-wide, we are projecting around an 8 percent enrollment increase. There are many reasons for this, one of which may have been our ability to provide consistent in-person

learning last year. Our schools welcoming students back full-time and remaining full-time throughout the year may have sparked interest within the community to explore more deeply what we have to offer.

Q: According to "Data Brief: Catholic School Enrollment and School Closures, Post-Covid-19" from the National Catholic Educational Association, a report released in February, the Covid-19 pandemic can be seen as one of the most transformative catalysts for educational change in the United States. Schools of all types — public, charter, private, parochial, online or homeschool — have been significantly impacted as a result of the pandemic's disruptions to communities and society. What is your comment?

A: While the pandemic is certainly not something anyone wanted to have occur, nor, I suspect, do any of us want it to reoccur, there is the reality that it forced us to think outside the box. We discovered things about ourselves that we did not know before both as individuals and as a community. Schools are made up of people, and as each of us learns more about ourselves, our schools are changed. We have to look for the positives from this pandemic, and if one of those positives is that we have learned how to provide education in more meaningful ways for students, then this is indeed a blessing.

Q: Why are Catholic schools needed in Vermont today?

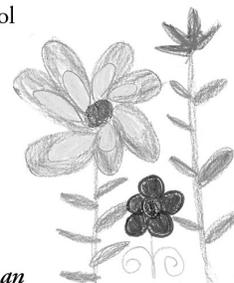
A: Catholic schools are one of the options Vermonters have who are seeking a faith-based education for their children. Many parents value this, and they sincerely want their children to be educated within a spiritually rich environment. If the Catholic schools were not in Vermont, then the Vermonters seeking this for their families would have far fewer options.

Q: What is your hope for Vermont Catholic school students, teachers, staff and families for this school year?

A: I pray daily for our school communities, and just as this past year was a year like no other, I pray that the upcoming school year is also a year like no other. During this year of St. Joseph, we have no one better to turn to who can teach us how to journey through hardship with grace and come out of it with a renewed sense of hope-filled joy that flows from authentic peace. That is my prayer for each school community, each principal, each teacher, each staff member, each student, each family — hope-filled joy that flows from authentic peace.

Catholic schools in the Diocese of Burlington are supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

VTC • Cori Fugere Urban



THE TWENTY-NINTH 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.

Donations:

For those of you who would like to donate items to the pantry, we have a continued need for the following items, which the Foodbank usually does not supply:

- ◆ Peanut butter
- ◆ Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- ◆ Shampoo

Due to increased concern over the delta variant, we will be continuing to operate outside on Wednesdays and Fridays for the next few months.

We can not accept any more of the following donations: used shoes, adult diapers, books and misc household items. We are overflowing and have little space left! As the weather begins to turn cooler we are accepting warm winter coats and blankets.



Blessing of the Animals

There will be a “drive-thru” Blessing of the Animals at St. John the Baptist Church in North Bennington on this Sunday, October 17 at 1:00 p.m. All creatures, big and small are welcome!

The Last One.....

Six and a half years and approximately 325 bulletins, countless intercessions, too many funerals, not enough weddings, and more than a few editor errors the time has come for me to say good bye as bulletin editor and parish secretary.

To those of you who I’ve gotten to know over the years, it has truly been a pleasure. And to the parish community as a whole, your generosity of time, talent and treasure never ceased to amaze me.

May God continue to bless you all,

Judy Pembroke, former parish secretary

RCIA ~ THIS SUNDAY!

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 for this year’s class is October 17.

Thank You

FOR YOUR HELP



Shout Out to Our Youth Group!

The twenty-one students picture above came together on Sunday, October 3 to cook (40 pounds of potatoes for one thing), do dishes and deliver meals to the Second Congregational church for the Interfaith Dinner.

We thank them for their service and 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!