

NOVEMBER 21, 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

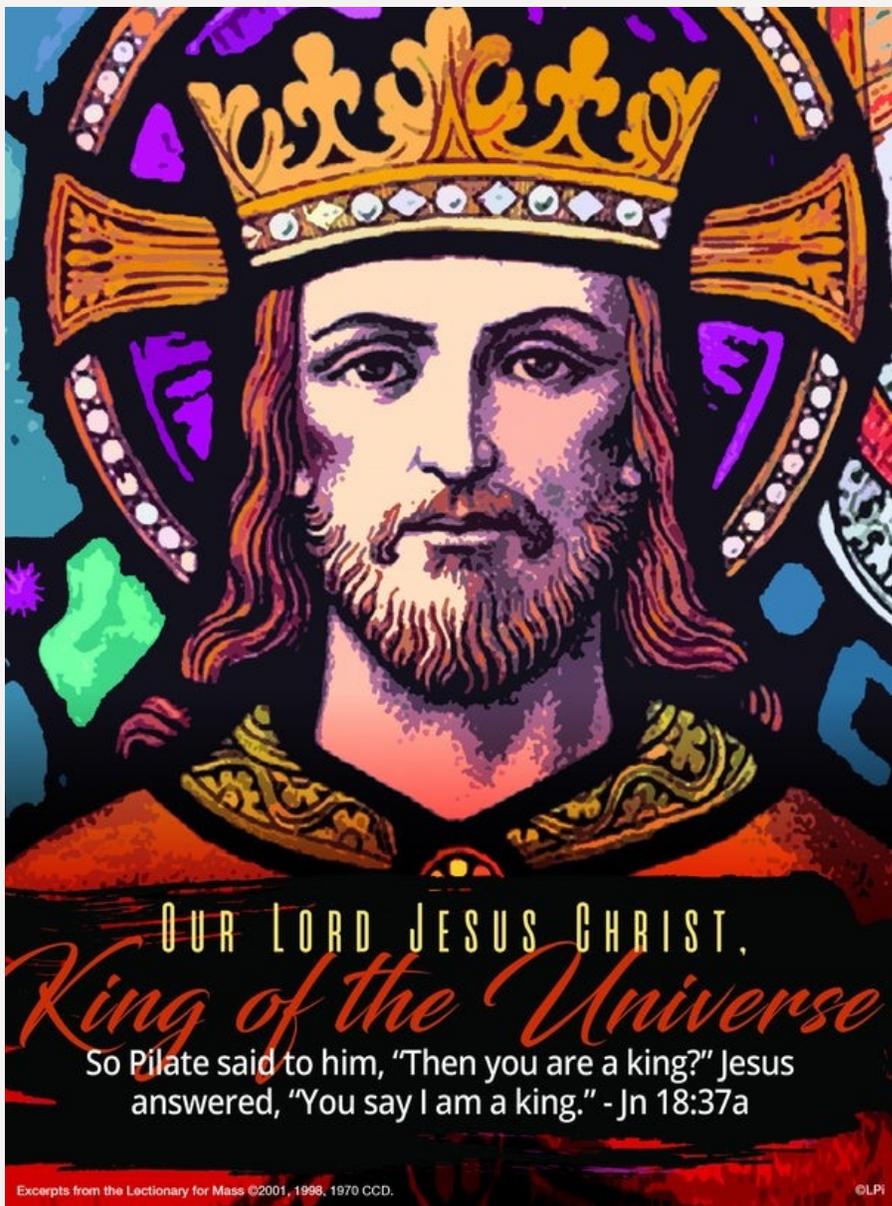
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:00-3:30 PM or by appointment



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

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
November 20 - November 28, 2021

(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)

Sat./Sun., Nov. 20/21 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

4:00 p.m. † Gerald E. Morrissey, Sr. (19th) - Mary Morrissey
† Anthony Napolitano - His Family
† Yvonne LaFlamme - Shirley Barnhardt
7:30 a.m. † Priscilla Salem - The Drew Family
9:30 a.m. † Joanne Bourgeois - Kathy & Kevin Murphy
† John & Shirley Lapean - Anthony & Cindy Lapean

Monday, Nov. 22 Saint Cecilia

8:00 a.m. † Gerald Amadon - Jane Taylor

Tuesday, Nov. 23 Saint Clement I; Saint Columban; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro

8:00 a.m. † Mary O'Connor - The Grady Family

Wednesday, Nov. 24 Saint Andrew Dűng-Lac and Companions

8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family
7:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

Thursday, Nov. 25 Saint Catherine of Alexandria / Thanksgiving Day

No Mass

Friday, Nov. 26 Weekday

8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family

Sat./Sun., Nov. 27/28 First Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. † Stephen Vaczi - The Family
† Eunice Jordan - Henry Maynard
7:30 a.m. † Priscilla Salem - Rose Santarcangelo
9:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

Gospel Reflection

Encouraging a deeper understanding of scripture.

November 21, 2021

We often come to life expecting all of the pieces of the puzzle to nicely fit together. We want and expect harmony, order, and fairness, the achievement of rewards for good behavior, good health, and happiness. We can more easily accept death when it comes naturally after a good long life, but have a real difficulty comprehending the meaning of it all when it is cut short. Willing to put in a good measure of effort, we desire positive results. When things go wrong and life gets hurtful, unjust, and downright ugly, we become unsettled and can quickly fall into despair. This is especially true if we are people of faith who believe in a God who sees things on our terms and works in favor of our life agenda. What happens to our faith when we find ourselves sitting in a mess?

Does it help to know that God understands and that hardship, failure, disappointment, injustice, confusion, and all of life's ugliness do not make faith irrelevant or irrational? God is wonderfully and surprising creative! He turns the tables on not only our understanding of life, but of what it means to be a king. God sends us a king who is not exempt from life's ills but embraces them. The king that God gives to us knows what it means to be poor, suffer insults, be ridiculed, face rejection, endure suffering, be betrayed, and face a most unjust and horrific death. This is our king. Jesus is not a king of prestige or grandeur but a king who brings light to darkness, hope to despair, sinners to mercy, and new life out of death. Christ dances before us pleading with us to hold on, cling to love, avoid being negative, stop feeling cheated, and be strong in faith! There may be hardship and disappointment now but there are more surprises to come.

Once we understand this truth, we will also understand that we are on a most incredible and awesome universal journey to Christ and becoming one in Christ. We all carry within us the image of God, the image of our suffering king. The One who lives in us also lives in all of our brothers and sisters. Failing to see this universal Divine Presence in all is one of the greatest mistakes we can make, for we also fail to see God, our king, as well. There are many things that can bring hardship to life. If we keep our head about us and do not lose hope, we can persevere and strive for the greatest degree of justice possible. Even though there are ample things that can challenge our faith, we also know that our deepest joy comes from union with God and our brothers and sisters. One day, the fullness of that joy will be ours to have when we are all eternally one with Christ our King forever. @LPI

Sunday Summary

Daniel 7:13-14 The prophet foresees a time when dominion is handed forever to a Son of man.

Psalms 93:1, 1-2, 5 God rules this world, robed in majesty, and is worthy of our trust.

Revelation 1:5-8 God is first and last, and Jesus Christ is faithful witness to this revelation.

John 18:33b-37 Pilate wonders what sort of king could be treated so brutally by his own people.

Readings for the week of November 21, 2021

Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37
Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/Lk 21:20-28
Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36



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



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.

Volunteers Needed!



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

- ◆ Arrival Crossing Guard (7:50-8:15 a.m.)
- ◆ Lunch Helpers (11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mon & Fri)
- ◆ **Parking Lot Snow Removal**

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



Update on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

A heartfelt Thank You to all who have donated to our new Level 2 Atrium, and most especially to those who have been keeping our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program in your prayers. The year is off to a wonderful start! Since we now have two atria, we are calling them **The Good Shepherd Atrium** (level 1) and **The True Vine Atrium** (level 2).

In these first weeks, the children in The True Vine Atrium have been contemplating the awesome History of the Kingdom of God! We began by presenting a very, very long ribbon (la fettucia), to help us "visualize" how much time and loving care God took in His work of creation, preparing such a beautiful home for humankind with everything that we need, and eventually giving us the ultimate Gift of His own Son. Unwinding this LONG ribbon and reflecting on billions of years past and the marvel of creation, it is hard not to feel awe and gratitude, considering that the God of this vast universe chose to create each of us, as part of His loving plan.

In a later week, we introduced the large Unity Strip (also called the Blue Strip), which helped us to ponder again on the unity and vastness of this great plan, conceived in the mind of God from all eternity. The Unity Strip includes more details to reflect on, including our own "Blank Page." This is the page that each of us are writing daily, together with God, as we help to spread the light of Christ and build up His kingdom in the world. We have a "mute" strip in the Atrium that is the same size as the Unity Strip, so the children can place images and text in sequence, as they consider the unfolding of salvation history.

Update on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (continued)

These various presentations have focused particularly on three key "moments": **Creation** - when God brought everything into being, and guided the growth of this great work, culminating in the creation of humans, made in His image and likeness; **Redemption** - the time that began with the coming of Christ, and continues to this very day; **Parousia** - the joyfully hoped-for time that will begin with Christ's Second Coming when God will be all in all, and there will be no more sadness or death, and all creation will be made new in God's Kingdom without end.

There is a lovely tradition in CGS Level 2 - the names of each child who will be receiving the sacraments in the spring are written out individually: these names are kept on or near the prayer table so we can all remember them in prayer during their time of preparation. After they have received the sacraments, their names are kept in a little chest on the prayer table. They are kept there forever, even after they move on to Level 3 and beyond.



NOVEMBER 21, 2021



Please remember the sick, including ~

Jim Derby, Sally Letourneau, 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, Elaine Letourneau, Janet Sausville, Christopher Rubino, Ruth Emaish, Matthew Rubino, Gloria VanDerzee, Adrianna Dewey, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the residents of Brookdale Fillmore Pond.

*“Listen, and for organ music thou wilt ever,
as of old, hear the Morning Stars sing together.”*

~ Thomas Carlyle

Donald McMahon in Recital

In Celebration of the Feast of Christ the King
and in Thanksgiving for the Many Blessings Bestowed Upon
the Parishes of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales
and Saint John the Baptist.

Sunday, November 21, 3:00 p.m.

Come As You Are - No Free-Will Donations will be
Asked of Anyone.

In Loving Memory

Remembrance Book

As a personal way of remembering loved ones, our Remembrance Book will be located near the Sanctuary for those wishing to inscribe names of family and friends. Although different from sponsoring a Mass, the Book of the Dead provides a means to remember someone special in our lives.

Mass Intentions for 2022

We are now taking Mass Intentions and Votive Candle requests for 2022. Requests can be made in person during parish office hours, by mail, email (benncath@comcast.net), or in a separate envelope and placed in the offertory basket. Please be sure to include:

- ◆ who the Mass is for
- ◆ who the Mass is from
- ◆ the date and time requested
- ◆ your phone number
- ◆ your mailing address

You will be notified when your Mass(es) have been scheduled. The stipend remains at \$10.00 per Mass.



Save the Date!

**Calling all 1st graders and up of all
talents, abilities, and interests!**

Sacred Heart St. Francis and St. John the Baptist Parishes
are excited to announce a
Nativity Christmas Pageant!

What we need: Singers, readers, actors, musicians, and
stage hands

Performance Date: Sunday, December 19

Rehearsal Dates: December 10 & 17; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.,
December 18 TBD

Keep an eye out for more information to come!

Contact Jessica O'Connell with any questions:

jessicaconnell86@gmail.com

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.

*“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.”*

NEWS FROM
The Inland See
November 20–26, 2021
FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

My friends, I offer this prayer of gratitude that comes from my own reflections on reasons to be thankful this holiday. May God bless you all with his mercy and love.

— Bishop Christopher Coyne

A Thanksgiving Prayer of Gratitude

I thank you, Lord God, for the gift of creation, “for the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,” for the abundance that we have which over and around us lies.

I thank you, Lord God, for the gift of life — my life, the lives of all whom I treasure as family and friends, and the lives of all humanity who I know as my brothers and sisters.

I thank you, Lord God, for the salvation you offer me and all my brothers and sisters through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ in the glorious communion of our Church.

I thank you, Lord God, for the talents and the strength to serve you as a bishop in your Church, I thank you for all of our clergy — priests and deacons — for our seminarians, for the dedicated lay men and women who serve the Church as ministers and employees, and for all of the dedicated volunteers in our Diocese and parishes who do so much to your praise and glory.

I thank you for the presence and support of all the Catholics in this Diocese who gather every week in our parishes, who give so generously of their time, treasure, and talents, and who serve as faithful witnesses to others as disciples of Christ.

I thank you for the gift of your Holy Word and for the Sacraments I and my brothers and sisters are so privileged to celebrate and receive, especially in the Holy Mass.

I thank you, Lord God, for this great country in which we live, for the freedoms we know, especially the freedom of religion, for the safety we know, for the rights we exercise, for the government “of the people, by the people and for the people.”

And as we celebrate Thanksgiving Day I thank you for the food, the fellowship, and fun that I will share around this table today with my family and friends. May I always remember that every day is day of thanksgiving for those who believe in you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and may I move from that thankfulness into the mission “to feed the hungry, to give water to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, to visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive, and to bury the dead.” [The Corporal Works of Mercy]

Amen.



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



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 p.m.

Fridays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

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 miscellaneous 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.



Advent Appeal - 2021

Please join Vermont Catholic Charities in supporting the Annual Advent Appeal. The "Season of Giving" has no bounds for people in need. Whatever the season, it is a daily struggle for many Vermonters to maintain housing, stay warm or feed their families. With your help, we can make a difference in lives of those living on the edge. ***Help people like John and Lisa feed their children. John and Lisa have five school-aged children. They both have jobs, but due to a medical emergency, Lisa had to take extra time off from work. The family was getting by, but as Christmas approached Lisa and John worried about making ends meet. Vermont Catholic Charities provided the family with a food card. They commented, "Thank you for your kindness. We were losing hope, but this gift helped us have a joyful Christmas."***

Whether your gift is \$10, \$100, \$1000 or more, your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy family. To donate, please mail a check to Vermont Catholic Charities, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403 or give online at www.vermontcatholic.org/adventappeal.



Votive Candles

November 2021 Intentions

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

† Kelly Smith Wright & Gavin Smith
requested by the Family

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

† Constance, Edward, Bernard, & Richard Kuhn
requested by Ann & Jeff and Family

† Lollie, Arthur, & John Hogan
requested by the Family



Christmas Gifts for Children in Need

Green Mountain Christian Center is sponsoring "A Green Mountain Christmas". If you would like to provide a toy for a child in need (ages infant to 10 years old), you are welcome to purchase one and **drop it off at Sacred Heart St. Francis in the large box to the parking lot side of the altar or to the office in the parish center** between now and **November 28**. Gifts can be of any value and should be left **unwrapped**. We will ensure that the gifts are delivered to the center. (No clothing or stuffed animals, please.)

Happy Thanksgiving

The **Second Collection** this weekend is for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

The **Second Collection** next weekend is for Christmas Flowers.

We thank you for your generosity!