

JANUARY 2, 2022



# 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

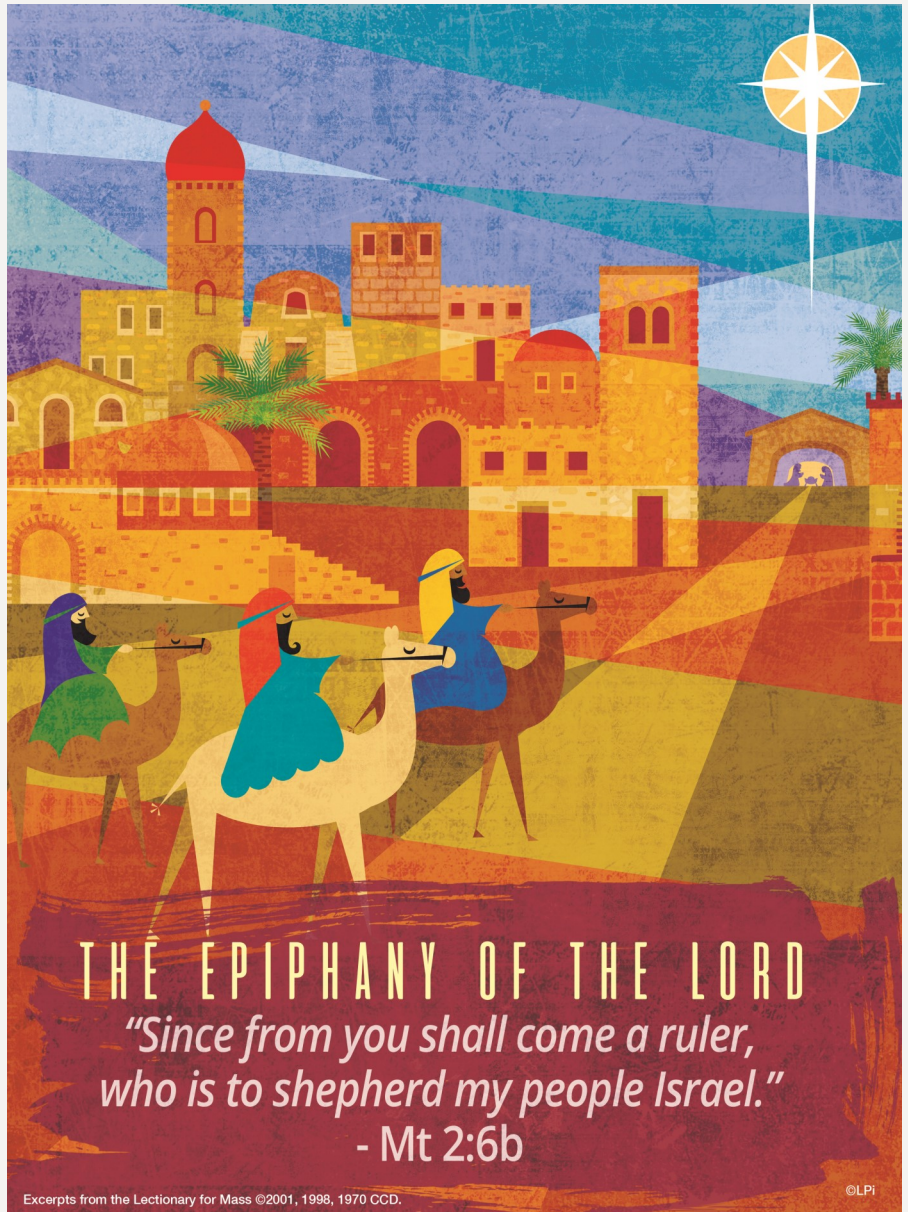
Reconciliation  
Saturday 3:00-3:30 PM or by appointment



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](mailto:benncath@comcast.net)

238 MAIN STREET, BENNINGTON, VT 05201 • 802.442.3141 • [WWW.SACREDHEARTSAINTFRANCIS.ORG](http://WWW.SACREDHEARTSAINTFRANCIS.ORG)



## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

And Liturgical Celebrations for  
January 1 — January 9, 2022

*(Numbers next to a name indicate Anniversary of death)*

<b>Sat./Sun., Jan. 1/2</b>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b>
4:00 p.m.	† Raymond Pratt - Tom Maynard
7:30 a.m.	Our Parish Family
9:30 a.m.	Our Parish Family
<b>Monday, Jan. 3</b>	<b>Holy Name of Jesus</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Butch Hebert - The Lindsey Family
	† Ethel Shelc (20 <sup>th</sup> ) and Paul Shelc (5 <sup>th</sup> ) - Carolyn & John Reed
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 4</b>	<b>Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Bea & Earl Alderman - The Family
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 5</b>	<b>Saint John Neumann</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Mary & Anna Bushee - Mary Pat Racicot
	† Madeleine & Howard Fitzgerald - Mary Pat Racicot
	† Rita Myers - Mary Pat Racicot
	† Albert Racicot - Mary Pat Racicot
	† Alda & Philip Racicot - Mary Pat Racicot
	† Alice & Philip Riley - Mary Pat Racicot
<b>Thursday, Jan. 6</b>	<b>Saint André Bessette</b>
8:00 a.m.	† Deceased members of the Keatley Family - Paula
<b>Friday, Jan. 7</b>	<b>Saint Raymond of Peñafort</b>
8:00 a.m.	Our Parish Family
<b>Sat./Sun., Jan. 8/9</b>	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>
4:00 p.m.	† Gene Farrar (23 <sup>rd</sup> ) - Doris & Ron Alderman
	† James Horrigan (5 <sup>th</sup> ) - His Family
7:30 a.m.	Our Parish Family
9:30 a.m.	† Gerald Kuroghlian - Barbara Condon
	† Glenn Hebert - BCHS Class of 1963

### Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday:	1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12- 17, 23-25
Tuesday:	1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday:	1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52
Thursday:	1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
Next Sunday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/ Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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### Gospel Reflection

*Encouraging a deeper understanding of scripture.*

#### The Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, “Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God’s love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being.”

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

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### Sunday Summary

**Isaiah 60:1-6** God’s glory shines on Jerusalem, and God’s people are radiant with the vision.

**Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13** Kings of every nation pay tribute to the true God of Israel.

**Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6** The mystery of the generations is revealed for a new age of promise.

**Matthew 2:1-12** Herod is troubled at the news of a new king that makes other nations take notice.





**Faith Formation Program**

*"Growing In Faith Together"*

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

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



**Christmas Pageant**

Congratulations to all on a beautiful Christmas Pageant which included parishioners from both St. John's and Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales. A special thanks to Jessica O'Connell who directed the program. If you missed it and would like to watch the wonderful production, enjoy this recording:  
<https://youtu.be/rlzl7QzLFmg>



**"Rise Up" Confirmation Retreat**

The "Rise Up" Live event designed especially for the Diocese of Burlington is a fully-interactive Virtual Retreat that will provide a dynamic, inspirational event. All Confirmation students are asked to join us at St. John's as a group on **Saturday, January 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** We will tune into a virtual retreat offered by the Diocese with a dynamic group called Array of Hope. Masks and social distancing will be required. The Diocese requires that the Confirmation students attend a retreat as part of their preparation for the sacrament.



**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.*



**Tornado Relief**

**SHSF School Families Make a Difference!**

At the SHSF school's weekly Mass on December 18, Fr. Bob had a friend who currently serves in Owensboro, Kentucky, send a video to our students about the impact they are making by living our mission and deepening our faith through service.

The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis raised over \$700 by having a fun "Hat Day" and collecting donations to be sent to the Diocese of Owensboro in Kentucky to help with their current needs following the recent tornadoes that left so much in ruins.

SHSF Jennie Hogan was in touch with the Diocese of Owensboro and received this response:

*Thank you so much. It's amazing how much kindness and generosity is coming out of these very dark days. Please ask the people in your Vermont community to remember us in prayer. Our Owensboro Catholic Charities office is handling emergency financial aid and distributions started immediately. You can donate online at: <https://owensborodiocese.org/give/> You can also send checks to the Catholic Diocese of Owensboro or the Owensboro Catholic Charities at the address below. Make sure it is designated as "Tornado Relief." Let us know if you have any additional restrictions. 100% of the dollars will go toward those impacted.*

*We have been offering Catholic Schools an option outside of collecting money. We think it would be a great project to ask students to write letters to families impacted by the tornado and make intentional prayer commitments and sacrifice. We would request something above and beyond their regular routines. Our hearts are broken, but we are so thankful for all the kind and generous people expressing love and concern.*

*Blessings,*

*Tom Lilly, Chancellor, Chief Administrative Officer*  
600 Locust Owensboro KY 42301 | 270.683.1545



**Please remember the sick, including ~**

Jean Thomson, Thomas Gauthier, Jim Derby, Sally Letourneau, Joan Douglass, Mark Fortun, 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 Van Derzee, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the residents of The Centers for Living and Rehabilitation.



**Votive Candles  
January 2022 Intentions**

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

† Beatrice Alderman  
*requested by Ron & Doris Alderman*

† Theresa & Bob Long, Sr.  
*requested by their Children & Families*

† James Horrigan  
*requested by his Family*

† Annette Poblocki  
*requested by Family & Friends*

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.*



Pope Francis'

**Ten New Year's Resolutions for You**

If you need some help with your New Year's Resolutions, here are some ideas from the Holy Father himself.

- 1) "Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are."
- 2) "Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention and love."
- 3) "Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy."
- 4) "Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence."
- 5) "Heal wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others."
- 6) "Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord."
- 7) "Be careful of envy, lust, hatred and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people."
- 8) "Watch out for anger that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation."
- 9) "Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker... the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless and strangers, because we will be judged on this."
- 10) "Making sure your Christmas is about Jesus and not about shopping."

*Reprinted from December 2015*



# NEWS FROM The Inland See

January 1–7, 2022

FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON

## Vermont Catholic Professionals to meet on Wednesday, January 19

**"P**erfection of the life or of the work?" will be the topic of the next keynote speaker at the Vermont Catholic Professionals networking meeting.

The speaker, Laurie Brands Gagne, is the retired director of the Edmundite Center for Peace and Justice at St. Michael's College in Colchester.

Her presentation will be on Jan. 19.

The title comes from a poem by William Butler Yeats entitled "The Choice."

"I'll be talking about the importance of that choice and what it means to integrate one's work-life with one's whole life as a Christian," said Gagne, of South Burlington, who worships with the St. Michael's College community.

Gagne received her doctorate in systematic theology from the University of Notre Dame and taught religious studies for many years at Trinity College of Vermont. While at Trinity, she wrote *The Uses of Darkness: Women's Underworld Journeys Ancient and Modern*, which was published by University of Notre Dame Press (2000) as well as a number of articles on philosopher/mystic Simone Weil and the spiritual journey.

When Trinity closed in 2001, she began a new phase of her career teaching "Peace and Justice" at St. Michael's College.

Outside the classroom, Gagne was an activist, beginning a nationwide campaign on behalf of Congolese women in 2010 and helping to found the Vermont Ibutwa Initiative, a non-profit that assisted women who are survivors of rape in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Now retired, she has edited a book on Simone Weil ("Love in the Void"), serves on Burlington's Mater Christi School Board of Trustees and gives workshops for the Catholic Nonviolence Initiative.

Continuing her activism, she served as a member of Meta Peace Team, an unarmed force for civilian protection, for a

month in Palestine in 2018 and conducted a fact-finding trip to Ibutwa's projects in South Kivu, DRC in 2019.

Among her awards, Gagne received from Trinity College in Burlington the Sister Katherine O'Donnell Outstanding Faculty Award (1988) and from St. Michael's, the Vermont Campus Compact Award for Excellence in Community-Based Teaching (2012).

"I would advise Catholic professionals to take the time to share their faith with each other and how it might apply to their work. Without support, it is easy to let merely professional goals override the goals we all should be striving for, namely, wisdom and love," Gagne said.

The purpose of Vermont Catholic Professionals — founded in 2018 — is to join Catholic men and women and others with shared values from the business and professional communities to encourage intellectual discussions, to foster professional and faith-based relationships and to inspire service and charity to the community in Vermont. Events take place quarterly with a professional development speaker that is relevant

to the business and professional communities in Vermont.

For more information about Vermont Catholic Professionals and the location of the Jan. 19 event, go to [vermontcatholic.org/vcp](http://vermontcatholic.org/vcp).

**VTC • Cori Fugere Urban**



**Wednesday, January 19, 2022 • 8 a.m.**

Laurie Brands Gagne,  
retired director of the Edmundite Center for Peace  
and Justice at St. Michael's College in Colchester

Register at: [vermontcatholic.org/vcp](http://vermontcatholic.org/vcp)



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



### 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.



### Sign up for Flocknote

Flocknote enables you to receive parish event information, Holy Day reminders, Mass time changes and inspirational resources via text and/or email. Flocknote is free and you may unsubscribe at any time. Please take advantage of this invitation to join today!

Visit our church at: [www.flocknote.com/vermontcatholic](http://www.flocknote.com/vermontcatholic) OR text vermontcatholic to 84576 from your phone.

### Join us for a Zoom Adult Enrichment on

#### **Compassion: A Reflection on the Christian Life**

by Donald McNeill, Douglas Morrison & Henri Nouwen

Dates & Times are as follows:

(Please read following pages before each.)

Jan 10, 2022 10:30 AM - 12 Noon Read pp 1-43

Jan 24, 2022 10:30 AM - 12 Noon Read pp 47-84

Jan 31, 2022 10:30 AM - 12 Noon Read pp 87-127

Feb 7, 2022 10:30 AM - 12 Noon Read pp 129-137

Please register through the Zoom registration link:

<https://tinyurl.com/fwk2vh44>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Consider attending as many sessions as you can.

Books will be available at The Bennington Bookshop at the discounted price of \$12.80. If all of these are sold, additional participants can order them for \$16.

For more information, contact facilitator Wilma Ann Johnson at [johnsonwa7@msn.com](mailto:johnsonwa7@msn.com) or 802-681-7290



## RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

### Rite of Welcoming

Welcome to the following RCIA Candidates and Catechumens who will be received into Full Communion at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 16, 2022. Thank you to Scott Murphy for directing the RCIA program.

Allie Fredette

Jeff Inman

Justin Minarcik

John Monopoli

Rachel Rogge

Kelli Walczak

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!

*"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."*