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.

EUCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
4:00 PM

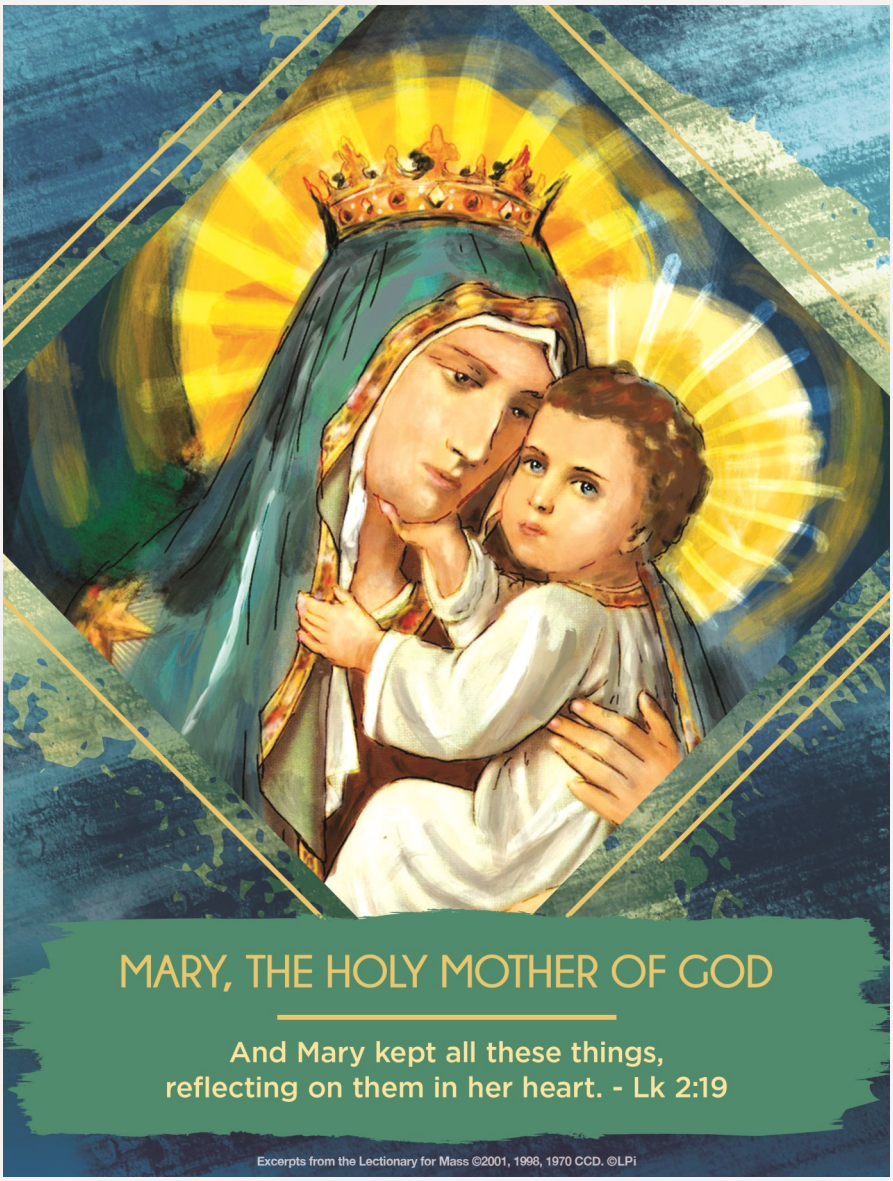
Sunday
7:30 AM & 9:30 AM

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

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



CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS
EDUCATION · PARISH · MISSION

Rev. Kevin Russeau, 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

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

And Liturgical Celebrations at
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales and St. John the Baptist
December 31, 2022—January 8, 2023
(Numbers next to a name indicate anniversary of death)

Sat./Sun., Dec. 31/Jan. 1 **Solemnity of Mary**
4:00 p.m. † Raymond Pinsonneault
in memory of his birthday - His Wife
8:00 a.m. † Mary Ann Bautz - Gary & Kathy Zack
Bob Cummings (living) in honor of his Birthday - Justin Salem

Monday, January 2 **Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen**
9:00 a.m. † Charlie Dobrochowski - Joseph Flood

Tuesday, January 3 **Christmas Weekday**
Mass at St. John's, North Bennington
9:00 a.m. † Eleanore Simpatico - Dr. Roy Girasa

Wednesday, January 4 **Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton**
9:00 a.m. † Len Anzivino - Judy Pembroke

Thursday, January 5 **Saint John Neumann**
Mass at St. John's, North Bennington
9:00 a.m. † William Winstanley by Dr. Roy Girasa

Friday, January 6 **Christmas Weekday**
9:00 a.m. † Bea & Earl Alderman - The Family

Sat./Sun., Jan. 7/8 **The Epiphany of the Lord**
4:00 p.m. † James Horrigan (6th) - His Family
8:00 a.m. † Gene Farrar (24th) - Doris & Ron Alderman
† Theresa Grady - The Scarey Family

Readings for the week of January 1, 2023

Sunday:	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21
Monday:	1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
Wednesday:	1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
Friday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/ Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a, and 9b/Jn 2:1-11
Next Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

From the Pastor's Desk

Christmas, like Easter, is such a Solemn Feast Day that the Church celebrates it not only for a day but for eight days. We call these eight days the "Octave" of Christmas. Even after these eight days, we continue to celebrate the season of Christmas. A day is not enough time to process God's love revealed at Christmas, a week is not enough time to fully ponder the mystery, and while a season also lacks enough time, we do have other mysteries to ponder. So I begin this letter as I did on December 25th: Merry Christmas!

One of the customs that many of us observe during Christmas is to give gifts. We do this because we recognize that God is the Giver of Gifts. Since God gave us his Son on Christmas as a gift to the world, so we give gifts to others as a way of imitating God.

My parents and sister left me some gifts when they visited over the Thanksgiving holiday. Some of these were unwrapped and I could enjoy them as soon as I discovered them. Others had "do not open until Christmas" written on the paper. While gifts are not something I seek, this year they reminded me of another lesson: gifts can make us grateful. So many of you have given me gifts: food I could eat, money to purchase treats, and prayers to strengthen me to holiness. My heart is overflowing with gratitude. Thank you.

I am grateful to be here in Vermont – at these parishes – doing wonderful ministries side by side with you! This gratitude makes me want to become a better man, a holier priest, and a sharper tool for God to use. As I make New Year resolutions this year, I ask God to let my gratitude inform the resolutions so that He might guide me, and guide us, to grow closer to Him.

God Bless,
Fr. Kevin
krusseaucsc@gmail.com

Thank You For Supporting Sacred Heart St. Francis Parish

November 2022 Offertory

Offering:	$ 22,567.83
Online:	$ 1,860.00
Total:	$ 24,427.83
Needed Each Month:	$ 26,000.00
Monthly Ahead/Behind:	$ - 1,572.17
Fiscal YTD Ahead/Behind:	$ - 14,757.31

(Fiscal Year is July - June)

Faith Formation Program

"Growing In Faith Together"

For more information contact Kathy Murphy or Mary Drew
at the parish office at 442-3141
1kathy.murphy@gmail.com
maryedrew1@gmail.com

Faith Formation Dates for 2022 - 2023

Sacred Heart St. Francis and St. John the Baptist Churches

SUNDAY Classes for CGS Level I (3-6 year olds), CGS Level II, and Grades 4 & 5:

9:00 to 10:30 (beginning December 4)

MONDAY Classes for CGS Level II only:

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

No Classes:
January 1, 2 - New Year's Day

Please keep our children and catechists in your prayers!

Sharing the Gospel

Mothers think their babies are pretty special, and Mary was no different. She probably kissed his nose, snuggled his little cheeks, and sang songs to him. But a lot of people thought her baby was special. Mary had more than just curious relatives showing up to visit. Angels praised God, and shepherds came running to see the baby, too. When it was time to name him Jesus, Mary knew he was the Savior.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for letting everyone know that Jesus was more than a special baby. He was the Savior. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Mary giving baby Jesus snuggles.

Mission for the Week

Ask your parents what they enjoyed about you as a little baby. You might also want to look at some baby pictures together.

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.

honor roll

The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales announces its Honor Roll for the Fall Trimester.

Principal's Honors –

Grade 8 – Evan Frey, Laikin Gallant, Aoi Takano, Jozef Segura, Gracie Darby
Grade 7 – Ryleigh Cornell
Grade 6 – Colin Eldred
Grade 5 – Addyson Brosnan
Grade 4 – Noah Lauzon, Ella Hayden
Grade 3 – Madison Liguori, Lucille Frey, Leah Dame, Sidney Rice

High Honors –

Grade 8 – Arianna Keyes, Addison Baker, Orion Breese, Greta Bitteker
Grade 7 – Kali Coon, Hunter Favreau, Bryn Babson
Grade 6 – Michael Allen, Colin Gulley, Natalie Pello, Brooke Snyder, Amelia Zazzaro
Grade 5 – Riley Favreau, Steve McCay, Alana Buryk, Paislee Potvin, Wyatt Lozier, Abigail Smith
Grade 4 – Storm White, Willow Gulley, Sydney Purzycki, Molly Minarcik, Owen Sokolowski, Wyatt Walker
Grade 3 – Rylee Snyder, Kinley Foster, Mimi Rivers, Nicholas Goodrum, Logan Gulley, Brycen Dickie, Gaspar Stappung

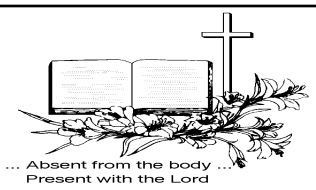
Honors –

Grade 8 – Joshua Allen
Grade 7 – Jack Sauer
Grade 6 – Donovan Smith, Milo Darby
Grade 5 – Hadley Weaver, Emma Dwyer, James Sauer
Grade 4 – Emma Lackey, Marley Clark, Hunter McLenithan, Dominic Kingsley
Grade 3 – Wesley Walker, David Galipeau, Eric White, Olin Morrissey

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please remember the sick, including ~

Jacob Hebert, Monica Murray, Connie Smith, Amy Johnson, Gloria Lauzon, Phyllis McGinty, Cindy Levitte, Barbara Marino, Dotti DePollo, Donna Savoia, Jean Thomson, Kay Krawczyk, Pauline Restino, Adelaide Talbot, Kyle Dame, Charlie Buckley, Frank Babcock, Robin Guertin, Nan Mears, Diane Roy, Dorothy Roy, Caleb St. John, Elaine Letourneau, Janet Sausville, Christopher Rubino, Ruth Emaish, Matthew Rubino, Kenneth Swierad, Kathy Keenan, and this week we remember the patients of Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.



Clara G. Bishop

Votive Candles
January Intentions

† Perpetual for Frances Bender

† Theresa & Bob Long, Sr.
requested by their children & families

† Raymond Pinsonneault (birthday remembrance)
requested by his wife

† Beatrice Alderman
requested by Ron & Doris Alderman

† James Horrigan
requested by his family

Colleen & family (for health and well-being)
requested by Carol, Anthony & Maria

Nate Mahon (for health and well-being)
requested by Carol, Anthony & Maria

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

Eucharistic Adoration, First Friday and First Saturday

Please plan to spend some time with Jesus at Adoration and plan to attend the next beautiful First Friday closing service on Friday, January 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales.

On Saturday, January at 9:00 a.m. at St. Johns, join us for a First Saturday Mass with Adoration and Confession to follow.

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales has Eucharistic Adoration each Friday starting after the 9:00 a.m. Mass and ending at 8:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist Church has Eucharistic Adoration each Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. These two programs provide an opportunity to honor the Real Presence.

NEWS FROM
The Inland See
FOR THE DIOCESE OF BURLINGTON
December 31, 2022 – January 6, 2023

In Vermont, Eucharistic Revival to focus on Eucharistic celebration

The Catholic Church in the United States is observing the inaugural year of the National Eucharistic Revival, taking place thru July 2024. This multi-year effort is a response to some sobering statistics that shed light on the current state of affairs in the Church: Only 31 percent of people who self-identify as Catholic profess belief in the Eucharist as the true Body and Blood of Christ, and less than 40 percent indicate they attend Mass weekly. Beyond the situation in the Church, we look upon a hurting world in need of healing.

The revival's goal is to renew our hope in the midst of these challenges by bringing us back to the source and summit of our faith — Jesus Christ in the Eucharist — so that our light can shine once again brightly for this hurting world. "The Eucharistic Revival is a call back to the heart of the faith so that we can be vessels of Christ in our families, communities and parishes" reads the Leader's Playbook published by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops that provides guidance to diocesan and parish leaders on best practices to implement the revival locally.

Each Diocese implements the revival in a beautifully unique way. What will it look like in the Diocese of Burlington? Bishop Christopher Coyne would like us to focus on the Eucharistic celebration — the Mass. To that end, here's a highlight of what the Diocese will be promoting in 2023:

- The promulgation and implementation of updated sacramental and liturgical guidelines for the Diocese, specifically around the celebration of the Mass, bringing communion to the sick and guidelines and best practices for Eucharistic Adoration. As part of this effort, parishes will be encouraged to intentionally think about how they engage different aspects of the "ars celebrandi" — the art of celebrating — the Mass.
- Catechetical efforts spread throughout the year: social media, website, bulletin snippets, videos, podcasts, magazine articles. January through March will focus on Preparing to Celebrate Mass and the Gathering Rites; April through June will focus on the Liturgy of the Word; July through September will focus on catechesis around the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the Communion Rite; and October through December will focus on the Concluding Rites and linking liturgy to life.
- Restarting diocesan lector and extraordinary minister of holy communion training, which took a hiatus due to Covid-19.
- Collection and publication of "Eucharistic Testimonies" from parishioners throughout the Diocese — people witnessing their faith and love for Jesus in the Eucharist and how the Eucharist is transformative in their lives. Joined to these testimonies will be writings from the saints regarding the Eucharist.

— Josh Perry is director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Burlington.

Eucharistic Testimonies

If you would like to contribute a testimonial, please prepare a reflection (no minimum length, maximum 1-page type-written or two pages hand-written — please print legibly) using one or more of the prompts below. Please include your name, email/phone number, parish name and town. If you do not want your name included in the publication, please indicate so; otherwise, first name and last initial will be published.

Submissions can be emailed to revival@vermontcatholic.org or mailed to:

Office of Worship, RE: Eucharistic Testimony, 55 Joy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403.

Prompt Questions

1. Why is the Mass important in your life?
2. How did you come to love the Mass in your life?
3. Have you ever experienced a closeness to God during Mass or adoration outside of Mass? What was that experience like?
4. How does going to Mass affect the rest of your week?
5. How has Christ's presence in the Eucharist changed your life?

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 make a donation to HIS Pantry, we have a continued need for the following items:

- Canned vegetables, fruit, soups, canned pasta meals
- Pasta sauces (preferably not in glass containers)
- Peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, mac & cheese
- Toiletries: shampoo, deodorant, bars of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Store gift cards or cash donations: to be used by our volunteer shoppers to buy needed staples and dairy items

Our deepest thanks for your kindness and generosity!

Christmas Wish List

Many times during the Christmas season parents and friends of **The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales** wonder if there is something in particular that the school needs and how can they can help. If anyone is willing to donate a special gift during the holidays, the following items are suggested:

- ◊ Postage stamps (books or rolls)
- ◊ #10 size self-adhesive white envelopes
- ◊ Address labels 2 1/4 x 4 inches
- ◊ Driveway salt
- ◊ colored copy paper or card stock (any color)
- ◊ Staples or Walmart gift cards
- ◊ Latex free Band-Aids
- ◊ Paper towels
- ◊ Coffee/hot chocolate Keurig pods

No limit on any of the items,
as few or as many as you would like to donate.
We can always use them.
THANK YOU!

Changes to Our Daily Mass Schedule

All weekday Masses will now begin at 9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m.

Saint John the Baptist
Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 a.m.

Changes to Our Weekend Mass Schedule:

Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales
Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

The Doves are Back!

The advocates for the Aids Project of Southwestern Vermont reached out to us a few weeks ago. They are *"trying to start up a program to help the families we have as clients who are struggling not only for the holidays but all year round. The types of things we are looking for are: Toiletries, cleaning supplies, gift cards to stores and restaurants, clothing such as warm socks , men's, women's and children's gloves, warm hats, blankets, things for pets, etc….. with some of our clients being either homeless or in motels we try to make sure they have the essentials they need, every little bit helps. We appreciate what you can do if anything. " Jill Joy, APSV*

If you can help, please take a dove and purchase whatever is written on the dove, return your purchase to the basket provided under the dove bulletin board or to the parish office.

Changes to Office Hours**

***These have yet to be reflected on the cover of the bulletin.*

Sacred Heart St. Francis Office Hours:
Monday: 8:30 a.m.—noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday thru Friday: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

St. John the Baptist:
Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please plan accordingly.

Closed

In accordance with Diocesan policy, all parish offices will be closed beginning at noon on Friday, December 23 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2022.