

JULY 12, 2020

# SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH • NORTH BENNINGTON, VERMONT



## MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is a community of baptized people who have, as their common goals: to love, model, teach, serve, and celebrate Christ in our lives. Committed to the Eucharist, our Bread of Life, and guided by the Holy Spirit, we are dedicated to service to God's people and center our faith-life around liturgical celebrations, the Gospel, and prayer. Based on the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, we reach out to all people lovingly, acknowledging their uniqueness and dignity, and treat all with respect, tolerance, and acceptance, having the love of Jesus as our core.

## EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil  
5:30 PM

Sunday  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Monday through Thursday  
9:00 AM

Holy Day Mass  
(refer to schedule on inside cover)

Eucharistic Adoration  
Wednesdays 5:00 PM-6:00 PM

*Gluten-free hosts are available upon request. Visitors or parishioners need to notify the Pastor or Deacon prior to the particular Mass they are attending.*

## RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

## VISITORS

Welcome. Thank you for joining us for our Eucharistic Celebration. Please know that we have a long tradition of kneeling after every Mass to say a brief prayer for vocations.

## NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome new parishioners to St. John's and ask that they register at the parish office. Parishioners with new addresses or who are moving should also contact the parish office.

A close-up photograph of an olive branch with several dark olives hanging from it. The background is a soft, yellowish light.

*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday*  
**IN ORDINARY TIME**

"Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:7-8



CONGREGATION OF  
**HOLY CROSS**  
EDUCATION • PARISH • MISSION

Rev. Robert Wiseman, C.S.C.—Pastor  
Rev. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C.—Parochial Vicar  
Rev. Mr. David M. O'Brien—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 OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

EMAIL: [saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com](mailto:saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com)  
PHONE: 802.447.7504 | FAX: 802.442.6620



## Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 7/11-7/19

**Sat./Sun., 7/11-7/12 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Joe Talbot by his wife Bea & Family

11:00 a.m. Edward Gardner, Jr. by the Kees Family

**Monday, 7/13 – Saint Henry**

9:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, 7/14 – Saint Kateri Tekakwitha**

9:00 a.m. Thomas & Mary Fox

**Wednesday, 7/15 – Saint Bonaventure**

9:00 a.m.

**Thursday, 7/16 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

9:00 a.m.

**Friday, 7/17 – Weekday**

No Mass

**Sat./Sun., 7/18-7/19 – Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Charles Ulrich

11:00 a.m. Peter Sweeney by Stephen & Joan Monroe



“The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

- Mt 13:22-23

### Readings for the week of July 12, 2020

- Sunday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
- Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34—11:1
- Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24
- Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27
- Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30
- Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8
- Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21
- Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

## Thank You

Dear Parishioners of Saint John the Baptist Parish,

We want to express our heart-felt gratitude to all of you for your love and commitment to the parish. These pandemic months have been nerve-wracking and difficult for everyone. It has been a chaotic and stressful time. In order to keep the COVID-19 virus from spreading, all the routine demands and pleasures of daily life have been curtailed and disrupted. We have not even been able to gather as a community for the celebration of the Eucharist.

Through it all you have not forgotten the financial needs of the parish. Many of you have mailed in your envelopes or dropped off your generous contributions or contributed electronically through our parish website. You have been extraordinary in maintaining your stewardship of the Parish.

We are aware of the financial strain everyone is experiencing in these complex times which makes your generosity even more outstanding. Thank you for your goodness and for the inspiration you have given us. We are blessed to be serving here at the parish.

Please know of our prayers for you and deep appreciation.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Bob and Fr. Hugh



**The Cemetery Committee** would like to remind anyone who leaves plants at St. John's Cemetery to please remember to water them during the hot summer months. Pots and other containers placed on the ground may be damaged by the mowers attempting to trim around the stones, so we strongly recommend that shepherd's hooks be used to avoid breakage. Dead plants and flowers will be removed from the cemetery. Thank you for your cooperation.

## FORMED

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

FORMED gives you access to the best Catholic content on any device, including your computer, smartphone and tablet with internet access. Go to FORMED.org and use parish code JHGX4D

### Features for July:

**July 12 – Saints Louis and Zelig Martin**

**Read: A Family of Saints**

**July 14 – Saint Kateri Tekakwitha**

**Watch: St. Kateri Tekakwitha: Lily of the Mohawks**

**Listen with kids: St. Kateri Tekakwitha**

**July 16 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

**Watch: St. Therese of the Child Jesus**

**Watch: A Unique Portrait of the Carmelite Nuns**



Congratulations to **Dante Babcock**, who received Jesus in the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday, June 27, 2020.

Many blessings to Dante as he continues to grow in faith and partake in the Eucharistic celebration!



**Many families will miss Totus Tuus this summer!**

Therefore, you are invited to participate in an at home Diocesan Program;

**Exodus: Trusting in God as we journey to Freedom.**

This program will have five lessons. Each lesson will take approximately one hour. They are geared toward K-5 graders, but are adaptable to suit the whole family; perfect for quiet time, a rainy day or simply an opportunity to reflect on greater truths and hope during these difficult times.

- Take an imaginary trip to Ancient Egypt - Land of Pharaohs and pyramids
- Examine our Catholic connections
- Ten Commandments
- Passover
- Journey to the Promised Land

These easy lessons will include everything you need to facilitate prayer, reflection and fun while growing your family faith this summer.

- music
- crafts
- skits
- games

Lessons and all materials will be available mid-July for you to complete at your own pace.

**The registration fee is \$10.00 per family.**

We will make arrangements to get the materials to you. *(For families experiencing financial hardship, we will waive the fee.)*

**TRUST IN GOD AND TAKE THIS JOURNEY OF FAITH WITH YOUR FAMILY!**

For more information, please contact Kathy Murphy at: [1kathy.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:1kathy.murphy@gmail.com)

or  
SHSF Parish Office: 442-3141.

**Gospel Reflection**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Using the best seeds doesn't always guarantee the best plants. An older Italian gentleman straight from Italy gave me these amazing tomato seeds that he claimed produced the best tomatoes ever grown. Without doubt, the fruit he shared with me was a testament to that fact. These tomatoes were amazing! I couldn't wait until the next growing season to plant these seeds and harvest my own tomatoes. The whole experiment ended up a failure. I did everything the gentleman said, but my fruit didn't even come close. What happened? At first I was perplexed, then some years later the light dawned. The problem wasn't the seeds, it was the soil!

You cannot sow seeds in any old place and in a haphazard way and expect them to be at their best. It doesn't work that way. Planting the seeds is the easiest part. Preparing the soil is the challenge. Tilling, mulching, enriching, and building up the nutrients are all required for good fruit. Then after the seeds are planted, more care is required in order to maintain that healthy, nutrient rich environment for those seeds to sprout, grow, and flourish. God happily sows the seeds of his Word. What do we do with them?

If we expect to be a passive bystander and have good fruit magically grow, we are mistaken. Bearing the good fruit of God's Word requires preparation and work. We have to cultivate the soil of our lives so that those seeds can find a proper home. This one thing alone takes a great deal of patience, time, and effort. What kind of preparation have we put into our lives so that we can be a recipient of God's seed? It takes a great deal of soul-searching and ego-checking to properly prepare. God is the ever faithful and persistent sower. If the seeds do not bear fruit the first time, God will come back time and time again, giving it another try.

If we have created a suitable bed for sowing, then once the seed is sown, we must properly maintain them. What is our maintenance plan for the seeds of God's Word? We need not only a source for water but a watering schedule. We need to weed, aerate the soil, nurture the young plants, protect them, and provide proper nutrients. What does our spiritual maintenance plan look like? If we have done all things well, imagine what the seeds of God's Word could produce in us.

©LPi

**Sunday Summary**

Isaiah 55:10-11 God's word is effective according to the divine will.

Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 The bounty of the land comes from the Lord.

Romans 8:18-23 All creation will share in the freedom of the children of God.

Matthew 13:1-23 The sower sows, but the ground determines its yield.