

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.

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

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



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

PHONE: 802.447.7504 | FAX: 802.442.6620



Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 8/22-8/30

Sat./Sun., 8/22-8/23 – Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Jo-Ann Cross Browe (7th anniversary)
by her sisters

9:00 a.m. For the intentions of newly ordained
Deacon Casey Weber by Kevin & Kathy Murphy

11:00 a.m. For our parishioners

Monday, 8/24 – Saint Bartholomew

No Mass

Tuesday, 8/25 – Saint Louis and Saint Joseph Calasanz

9:00 a.m. Joe DeMasi by Theresa DeMasi

Wednesday, 8/26 – Weekday

No Mass

Thursday, 8/27 – Saint Monica

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Friday, 8/28 – Saint Augustine

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 8/29-8/30 – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Prof. James Castagna by Roy Girasa

11:00 a.m. Jim Sampsell by Lisa Paturzo



He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”
Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son
of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed
are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has
not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.”

- Mt 16:15-17

Readings for the week of August 23, 2020

- Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
- Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18
[12]/Jn 1:45-51
- Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13
[13b]/Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/
Mt 23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt
24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/
Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab
and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29
- Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom
12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

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CONGREGATION OF
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Holy Cross Mission Appeal Day August 22 & 23

The Congregation of Holy Cross has been serving the Catholic Church for over 175 years. A commitment to mission has been a part of Holy Cross' charism from its inception. The priests and brothers of Holy Cross, inspired by founder Blessed Basil Moreau, work with missionary zeal in 16 countries, on five continents. The Holy Cross Mission Center, sponsored by the United States Province of Priests and Brothers, has provided education, parish ministry, healthcare, care for the poor and religious formation in East Africa, Mexico, Chile, Perú, and Bangladesh since 1923. An estimated 100,000 people in these countries are helped by Holy Cross every day.

However, as you will hear on Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23, so many of our international brothers and sisters are still in need. Learn how you can support the Holy Cross Mission Center and help feed the souls and bodies of those suffering in unimaginable poverty. You can learn more about the Holy Cross Mission Center by visiting www.holycrossmissions.org.

Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week

To stand in the presence of God is to stand in the presence of incomprehensible mystery. We are people of proofs and facts. With good reason, we are becoming more doubtful of what presents itself to us, as technology makes it easy to fabricate false images and distort what is actually true. What we think is real actually may not be. We become skeptical. Does this skepticism affect our relationship with God? To have faith in God means that we must be willing to trust in the absence of full knowledge. To know the mind of God means we would know God himself, and that is impossible. To acknowledge Jesus as the Christ means we acknowledge that the reality and presence of an incarnate God has a fundamental claim on who we are. When we name this truth, we participate in a depth of knowledge that stretches us far beyond the scope of our minds. It brings us to silence, which is the only way to touch our soul.

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Sunday Summary

Isaiah 22:19-23 God chooses who will be raised up and brought low.

Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 God is exalted yet sees the lowly even from a distance.

Romans 11:33-36 We cannot know the mind of God or the depth of divine wisdom.

Matthew 16:13-20 Peter is chosen to be the rock that will support the church.



Our plans are to hold in-person classes with safety protocols and social distancing measures in place. In addition, we understand and will work with families who have concerns about in-person classes. We are developing a plan that will be fluid, based on guidelines from the state and Diocese.

- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori faith based catechesis program for 3 - 6 year olds. This program is held at Sacred Heart St. Francis and is open to all pre-school and kindergarten students. Classes will be held on Sundays and Tuesday mornings.
- Grades 1 - 6 will begin on Sunday, September 13 with a Youth Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by classes at 10:00 a.m. If parents would like their children to participate in at-home learning, please indicate so on the registration form. Materials will be provided, as well as follow-ups throughout the year via email and phone.
- The Diocese of Burlington has directed us to lower the age of Confirmation and this year will be confirming students in 7th and 8th grades. The Confirmation program is a collaborative effort between Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales School, SHSF Church, and St. John the Baptist Church. This is a one-year program with the goal of Confirmation in April or May of 2021.

For more information on our Faith Formation programs, please contact the parish office at 447-7504 or saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com.



What it Means to be a Knight

We are Catholic men who lead, serve, protect, and defend. We share a desire to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors, and role models, and put charity and community first.

Our local council 307 helps support our churches, our school, and our community through donations of time, talent, and treasures of its membership.

During these difficult times with the pandemic, we are unable to hold our normal in person membership drives. We are always here to welcome new members to the Knights of Columbus and our council. For the remainder of August there will be free online membership using the promo code **MCGIVNEY2020**. For the rest of this month, every man who joins online at kofc.org/joinus will pay \$0 first-year dues by entering the above promo code.

Please contact Michael Daly Grand Knight with any questions at Michaelkofcvt@comcast.net or call 447-1892.

Farewell Reception for Deacon David and Gail O'Brien

Join us for a social distancing
Farewell Reception and Open House
Sunday, August 30 from Noon – 1:30 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Church's Mary's Garden

A drive-by opportunity will be available as well from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. at St. John's parking lot.

We are so grateful for all the gifts that both Deacon David and Gail have shared with our faith community throughout the years. They will be greatly missed!

We will also be creating a book with pictures and memories by going to <https://O-Brien-farewell.fromabirdie.com/> contribute. Keep posted for more information.



The *Christ Our Hope: Building a Vibrant Church* campaign is underway! Teamed with the rest of the parishes across the state, we come together in our effort to strengthen our Catholic Church in Vermont and renew our own parishes.

You should have received a letter with a document of Frequently Asked Questions that hopefully answered many of your questions about the campaign and why we need to do this now.

This week every registered parish household will receive a packet of campaign information from our parish. The mailing will include a gift request letter with instructions on how you can invest in the future of St. John the Baptist Parish and strengthen the Catholic Church in Vermont.

Please note the gift request included in the letter is an invitation **not** an expectation. We understand these are difficult times, but, as a Church, our needs have not diminished and for many they have increased.

We first ask you to make the gift of prayer for the success of the campaign. We then ask you to consider our shared responsibility for the needs of our spiritual home, our parish, and the future of our Catholic Church in Vermont. Finally, we invite those who can give to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift beyond their usual offertory and bishop's appeal contribution.

To learn more about the campaign visit: www.christourhopevt.org

“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.”