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.

EUCHARISTIC 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

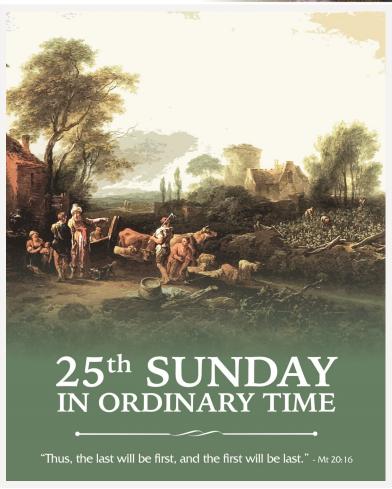
Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

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.





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 9/19-9/27

Sat./Sun., 9/19-9/20 — Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Laura Meehan (5th anniversary) by the Family 9:00 a.m. Antonio Mazzola (birthday remembrance)

by the Family

11:00 a.m. For our parishioners

Monday, 9/21 – Saint Matthew

9:00 a.m. Father Michael DeMasi (birthday remembrance)

by Henri Billow

Tuesday, 9/22 – Weekday

9:00 a.m. For the intentions of Deacon David & Gail

O'Brien by St. John's Sodality

Wednesday, 9/23 - Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

9:00 a.m. Louise Beaupré by St. John's Sodality

Thursday, 9/24 – Weekday

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

Friday, 9/25 - Weekday

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 9/26-9/27 – Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Joseph O'Brien (9th anniversary)

by David & Gail O'Brien

11:00 a.m. For our parishioners



"Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." - Mt 20:14-16

Readings for the week of September 20, 2020

Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 [18a]/Phil

1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9

-13

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34. 35,

44 [35]/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104,

163 [105]/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and

17bc [1]/Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4 [1]/

Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Eccl 11:9—12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14

and 17 [1]/Lk 9:43b-45

Next Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [6a]/Phil

2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

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Question of the Week Good and Evil

Question:

If God is good, why is there evil in the world?

Answer

The problem of evil is perplexing. If God is all-powerful and all-good, why doesn't He stop bad things from happening? He must either not be all-powerful, or perhaps He's not very good after all. Human beings have faced the possibility of evil since the very beginning of our existence. In granting us free will, God gives us the ability to make free choices. God does not force us into moral perfection. We are not forced to love Him or to love our neighbor. We must make the decision ourselves. This means, of course, that we have the ability to choose against love.

One small decision of selfishness, jealously, or pride may not seem so bad. But every decision — good or bad — is like a stone dropped into a still pond. The ripples extend much farther than the original stone. When decisions against love begin to compound, they affect families, neighborhoods, and nations. This is all the more reason for Christians to be faithful to our baptismal call to love one another as Christ has loved us!

Live the Liturgy - Inspiration for the Week

Think for a moment about the most special person in your life. Why do you love them? Many people will answer that question noting character traits they admire about the person, pointing to an indescribable compatibility that exists and describing a deep sense of connection and intimacy or even a sense of rightness about the relationship. In relationships that are authentic and true, rarely are the personal benefits gained from the relationship noted as motivating factors for its pursuit. If we truly love someone we do so simply because it is right and good to do so and not for some other self-serving reason. Why do you love God? The sense of happiness and the gift of mercy that come from that relationship are God's to give, regardless of when in life we come to Him. God's ways are different than ours. ©LPi

Sunday Summary

Isaiah 55:6-9 Don't try measuring God's ways against ours. There's no comparison—thank God!

Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 God is near, with mercy, kindness, and justice in hand for those who call upon him.

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a It's a great problem to have: choosing between life and death in Christ.

Matthew 20:1-16a God is more generous with mercy than we are. Is that a problem?



Dear SJB and SHSF Catholic Community,

I wanted to send a quick note of thanks to everyone who attended Gail's and my send-off, and to all who sent us cards, gifts, and warmest wishes as we closed this 42 year chapter in our lives.

We have arrived safely at our second, now only home in East Hardwick. Though exhausted by the whole process, God's grace accompanied us along the way. We feel sorry for all of you we could not see, and for all the hugs we would have given, but couldn't.

A year ago, when we officially started this process of selling our house, I wrote a piece for the Interfaith Council's weekly column in the Banner about saying goodbye to our Beloved Community. I have asked if this could be shared with you again, since I don't think I can say thanks and goodbye in a better way. Please keep us in your prayers, as I do you.

May God's love and peace reign in your hearts and lives, *David O'Brien*

(If you did not receive David's article via Flocknote, and would like a copy, please contact the parish office.)



Kids' Corner - Sharing the Gospel

Whether you work for God your whole life, or whether you just got started, God will reward you in heaven. God doesn't want you to compare yourself with other

people. God just wants you to love him with your whole heart.

Prayer

God, help me to be ready when you ask me to work for you.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself telling a friend at school about Jesus.

Mission for the Week

Say a special prayer for each person in your family.

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"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."

From Loneliness to Solitude in Time of Pandemic



"Loneliness is the poverty of self; solitude is the richness of self." ~ Mary Sarton

Sacred Heart Saint Francis de Sales & Saint John the Baptist

invite you to a **ZOOM** Book Discussion Group on Henri Nouwen's classic

Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life

Sessions will take place from **10:30** a.m. – **12:00** noon on the following dates:

Monday, **September 21** – From Loneliness to Solitude Monday, **September 28** – From Hostility to Hospitality Monday, **October 5** – From Illusion to Prayer

Registration information was sent out via Flocknote.

Books are available at The Bennington Bookshop for \$12.

For further information, contact Wilma Ann Johnson at johnsonwa7@msn.com or 802-681-7290.

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Features for September:

September 19 – Saint John Henry Newman Study: Lead Kindly Light

September 21 – Saint Matthew

Book: You Can Understand the Bible Audio: The Gospel of Matthew

September 23 – Saint Padre Pio

Movie: Padre Pio: Miracle Man

Movie: Padre Pio: Between Heaven and Earth

September 25 – Saint Finbarr

Book: Twenty Tales of Irish Saints

September 29 – Saints Michael, Gabriel, & Raphael

Program: YDisciple: This Present Darkness

September 30 – Saint Jerome

Book: Sacraments in Scripture

Audio: Lessons from the Early Church Fathers