

# 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

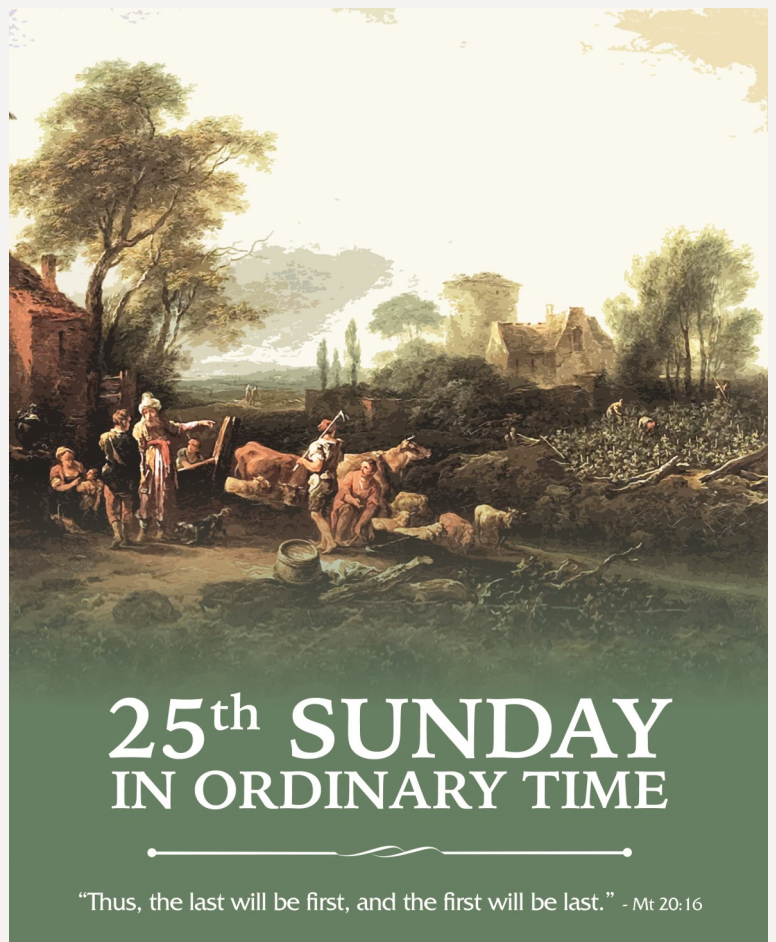
Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

## 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.



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 9/19-9/27

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

5:30 p.m. Laura Meehan (5<sup>th</sup> 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 (9<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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, jealousy, 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!

©LPi

## 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!

**Psalms 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?



