

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

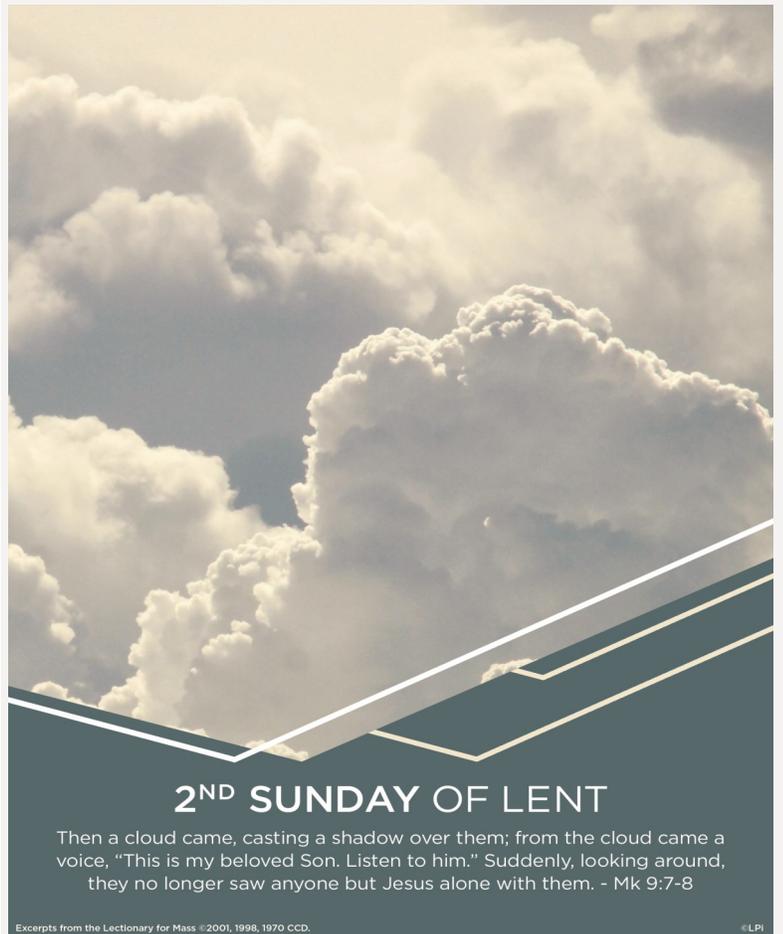
Saturdays from 4:30 PM–5:00 PM and by appointment.

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

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 2/27-3/7

Sat./Sun., 2/27-2/28 – Second Sunday of Lent

5:30 p.m. Doris Donohue by Diana & Chris DeSantis
9:00 a.m. For our parishioners
11:00 a.m. Father Michael DeMasi and other deceased members of the K of C Council #307

Monday, 3/1 – Lenten Weekday

9:00 a.m. The Monroe Family by Joan & Stephen Monroe

Tuesday, 3/2 – Lenten Weekday

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, 3/3 – Saint Katharine Drexel

9:00 a.m. William Bruneau (birthday remembrance) by his wife & family

Thursday, 3/4 – Saint Casimir

9:00 a.m. Maureen Higgins by Ron Higgins

Friday, 3/5 – Lenten Weekday

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 3/6-3/7 – Third Sunday of Lent

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners
9:00 a.m. For the Unborn by Trish Smith
11:00 a.m. Helen Gardner by the Kees Family



Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

- Mk 9:7-8

Readings for the week of February 28, 2021

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

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Gospel Reflection Second Sunday of Lent

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, “You are absolutely beaming!” The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn’t mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald’s and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new “digs,” received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you’re really “into it” this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it’s only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God’s call. Then, there is God’s request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

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Sunday Summary

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Abraham withholds nothing from God, not even the life of his son.

Psalms 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Our lives are precious to God, even in the hour of our death.

Romans 8:31b-34 With God on our side, we have nothing to fear from anyone.

Mark 9:2-10 Jesus is revealed as the Beloved of God.



Lenten Mission with Father Hugh

March 1 - 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church

Fr. Hugh will be offering a Lenten Mission at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church on March 1 - 3 at 7:00 p.m. This event will be in-person at SHSF Church in collaboration with Fr. John Britto's parish, St. John's in Viera, Florida. It will also be live-streamed.

This Lenten Mission extends over three evening reflections illuminating Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter "Miracles of Life." On Ash Wednesday we literally grounded ourselves in the realities of our creation. The breath of God promised us miracles beyond nature. Bread and wine become the living presence of Christ Himself; pain and suffering become instruments of redemption; death no longer has the last word. The Sacred Triduum are miracles of abundant, everlasting life.

Join us for one night or all three, in-person or live-streamed. The link for the video will posted on the following website: <https://www.stjohnviera.org/>



Lenten Programs

Light Shines in the Darkness

An Evening of Hope and Light

March 11 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church

Join Deacon Phil Lawson and Bill Gavin from the Diocese of Burlington for an evening of prayer. An opportunity for Reconciliation will be offered. An option to livestream will also be available.

The Wild Goose

Discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit

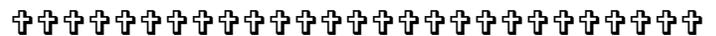
March 15 & 22 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This program will be held via Zoom; registration information will be provided through Flocknote.

The ancient Celtic people saw the Holy Spirit not as a hovering white dove, but as a "wild goose."



Cross of Compassion: Please notice our Cross of Compassion. Parishioners are invited to write their spiritual and material needs on the purple papers in the basket in front of the cross. Then place your petition papers on a nail on the cross. Throughout Lent we ask our parish family to pray for all of these special needs.



11th Anniversary

Wintertastic Raffle & Fundraiser

A Benefit for the Educational Programs at The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales

March 19

The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales' annual Wintertastic Celebration has transformed to a virtual Wintertastic Raffle with amazing prizes donated by some of our most ardent supporters.

Raffle Items include: \$1,000 cash, Wine and Dine, Golf Membership at Mount Anthony Country Club, Condo in Florida, King or Queen Natural Form Bed, Unlimited Car Washes for 1 year at Bennington Car Wash, 2020 tax return from Love & Cody, Photography Session, Jewelry, Pampering Package, and more! To see the full list, go to: <https://sacredheartbennington.org/support/winter-auction/>

We are seeking sponsors at the Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, Angel, or Friend level. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$50 each. Tickets will be drawn RANDOMLY, and the prizes will be issued in the order they are listed at a virtual event on **Friday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

We are grateful to our teachers and staff who have continued to provide, when safe, in-person and outstanding education to the students. This year's event is especially important due to the inability to support our school through our traditional fundraisers.

To purchase tickets or sponsor the event go to: <https://sacredheartbennington.org/support/winter-auction/> Donations should be sent by Wednesday, March 10 directly to The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis, attention Wintertastic, 307 School Street, Bennington, VT 05201. Thank you for your support!



Better Meals in Madagascar:

In Madagascar, half of all children are undernourished. That means 50% of kids won't grow to reach their full potential. But communities are changing this by focusing on improving health and nutrition. What role has food played in your life? How can you help those who lack access to enough nutritious food? Visit crisricebowl.org to learn more.



Lent is a time for penance, reflection, and spiritual growth. One way we can increase our holiness is to incorporate the Rosary into our daily prayer life. **Each day the Diocese of Burlington offers a recitation of the Rosary** featuring a member of our Vermont diocesan community.

If you are looking for ways to grow in holiness this Lenten season, consider visiting our Rosary page <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/news/communication/rosary/> to pray with fellow Vermont Catholics, or to sign up to lend your voice for a recording. Saint Padre Pio has been quoted as saying, "The Rosary is the weapon for these times." May we grow together in holiness and protection from all evil. For more information email Valerie Parzyck: vparzyck@vermontcatholic.org