

JULY 4, 2021

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

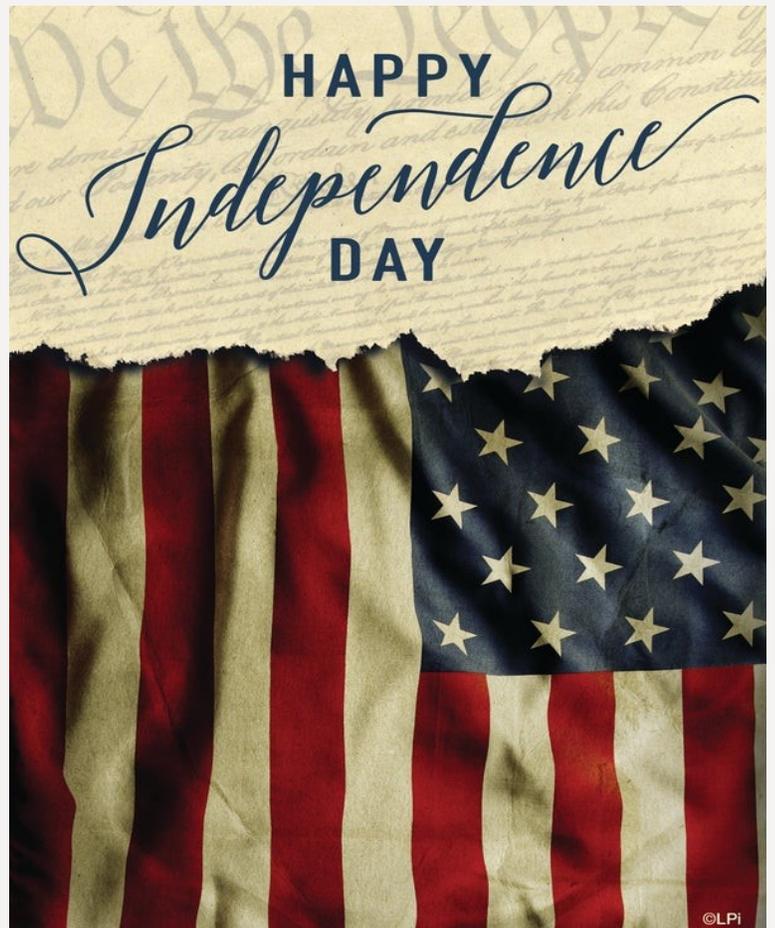
Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

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 7/3-7/11

Sat./Sun., 7/3-7/4 – Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Theresa DeMasi by the family of Henri Billow

11:00 a.m. Doris Donohue by Mamie Dearstyne

**Monday, 7/5 – Saint Anthony Zaccaria;
Saint Elizabeth of Portugal**

No Mass

Tuesday, 7/6 – Saint Maria Goretti

9:00 a.m. John Hogan by Jerry & Jane

Wednesday, 7/7 – Weekday

No Mass

Thursday, 7/8 – Weekday

9:00 a.m. Theresa DeMasi by Bill & Jeanne Bourdon

Friday, 7/9 – Saint Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 7/10-7/11 – 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



Jesus said to them,

“A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house.”
So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there,
apart from curing a few sick people
by laying his hands on them.

- Mk 6:4-5

Readings for the week of July 4, 2021

- Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 [2cd]/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a
- Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15 ab [cf. 2b]/Mt 9:18-26
- Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 [15a]/Mt 9:32-38
- Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 [22]/Mt 10:1-7
- Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 10:7-15
- Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Mt 10:16-23
- Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 [cf. Ps 69:33]/Mt 10:24-33
- Next Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13

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Gospel Reflection Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It's all so ordinary that we can easily miss it. The seagulls hunting and diving for mollusks at the beach offer a display of determination and precision as they gather their food for the day. It's simply what these creatures do. Yet, there's a magical artfulness and skill to their work that speaks volumes about the One who breathed life into their being. This is pretty much the way it is with God's presence. God comes in common ways through common things and ordinary people. Sadly, we are so engulfed in our little worlds of order and ideas to notice the beauty and wonder of it all. Many have numbed themselves to the Divine spark at the essence of all life because that's just the way it is. What's so special about it? A sunset is a sunset and a seagull is a seagull. That's precisely what they thought about Jesus too. After all, isn't he just the carpenter's son? What merit can his words possibly have?

If we're looking for God to come in an event that is so dramatic and intense that it knocks our socks off, then think again. When pondering God's relationship with His people and God's action in our lives, we have to go back to the stable and the recurring, creative, unending power of God's presence. It was a quiet, run of the mill kind of night. There was nothing spectacular or extraordinary. To the naked eye, a woman gave birth to a child and there wasn't anything extraordinary to see. We have a hard time understanding God's ordinary-ness. Jesus grew up in an ordinary town, had neighbors and did normal human things. Perhaps that's why we don't always like the Gospel. It doesn't dazzle us with extraordinary things but simply challenges us to take a different look at our ordinary stuff. That makes us uncomfortable. We prefer things as they are. Our lack of faith can even cause us to take offense at what Jesus says and does, dismissing it as folly.

God's life-giving presence continues to sustain that seagull in flight and keep all things in being regardless of whether we have the faith to see and understand this. Our personal agendas, preconceived ideas, misconceptions, and expectations can often cause us to be hardened and blinded to what God is doing or desiring to do. While God continues to do what he has done for all eternity, faith is needed for God's presence to bear fruit. The blinders we wear and the expectations we bring to life can often prevent us from seeing graced moments that radiate with God's graceful presence. They also prevent God's transforming, healing, and hope filled vision for our world from being realized. Without faith, God won't be able to do much for us either.

Sunday Summary

Ezekiel 2:2-5 The prophet is commissioned to peddle God's word to a tough audience.

Psalms 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 A repentant people turns to the God of mercy.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Being a minister of the word comes with its own thorn in the flesh.

Mark 6:1-6 Jesus gets a poor reception in the one place people really knew him: back home.

Lectors Needed

We are in serious need of lectors to read at the 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. Training is provided. Scheduling is done at your convenience. A Lectors' Workbook is provided to help you prepare the readings. Please call Margy Boulet at 442-3434 or e-mail margyb46@yahoo.com.

Come Join Us!

The Holy Family Prayer Group at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church

The Holy Family Prayer Group at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church will resume Prayer Meetings on Tuesday, July 6. We praise God in song and ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide our meetings with his gifts and truths. We pray, read scripture, and share how God is working in our lives.

We meet every Tuesday evening in the Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Holy Cross Chapel from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Please come join us any Tuesday evening and deepen your love with the Holy Spirit.

Family Night Tri-City ValleyCats Baseball Game Tuesday, July 27 at 6:30 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus Council 307 invites you to Family Night at the Tri-City ValleyCats Baseball Game in Troy, NY on Tuesday, July 27 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for some good fun, food, and fellowship. K of C subsidized tickets are \$10.00 each. Contact Bob Kobelia at 442-4749.



Kids' Corner - Sharing the Gospel

Have you ever felt left out? Jesus did. In today's Gospel, Jesus visited his relatives and old friends. These were the people he grew up with, the people who knew him the best. All of a sudden Jesus was not acting like he used to. They heard that Jesus was healing people, raising people from the dead, and telling evil spirits to leave. Jesus was even teaching about God's kingdom, like he really knew what he was talking about! Well, Jesus' old friends and neighbors did not like it one bit. How sad for them. God's own Son wanted to help them, but they didn't want it.

Prayer: Dear God, help me to listen to you and to accept the help that you want to give me. Amen.

Something to Draw: Draw a picture of Jesus visiting his old friends.

Mission for the Week: Read today's Gospel with your family. Talk about ways that people sometimes turn Jesus away. Pray together, asking God to keep you close to Jesus.



Keep your family involved in your faith journey throughout the summer!

- ◆ Bring your family to Mass
- ◆ Say the Rosary as a family
- ◆ Talk to God throughout the day
- ◆ Say grace before meals
- ◆ Make prayer a part of your nighttime routine
- ◆ Have a movie night with a movie from FORMED.org
- ◆ Attend Eucharistic Adoration
- ◆ Make Christ a part of your family

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading: Today's reading is an excerpt from the prophetic call Ezekiel received while in exile in Babylon (Ez 1:1-3:27). The Lord commissioned Ezekiel to go and confront the "rebellious house" of Israel. How do you imagine the Israelites received Ezekiel's message?

Second Reading: Paul learned that the "thorn in his flesh" taught him to be humble and dependent upon God's grace alone. Where do you see God's grace most present in your life?

Gospel: Jesus was "amazed" at the lack of faith his fellow Nazareans had in him, suggesting Jesus expected a different response. Why do you think the villagers of Nazareth "took offense" at Jesus?



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

Pick of the Week for July 4:

Watch: *John Paul II in America: Uniting a Continent*
In celebration of our country this week, enjoy this film documenting the journeys of John Paul II, the "Pilgrim Pope."

Learn: *FORMED Now! Catholic Spirituality and Baseball*
Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Michael Barber discuss how these seemingly opposite topics relate to one another.

Listen: *Walking Through the Valley of the Shadow of Death*
by Adm. Jeremiah Denton

Admiral Jeremiah Denton spent over seven years as a prisoner of war. In this moving presentation, he recalls how, through the power of prayer, he withstood extreme torture rather than betray God or the U.S.A. For his valor, he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, the Navy Cross, and the POW Medal. He is now a champion of various humanitarian causes.