

AUGUST 1, 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.

A religious painting of Jesus Christ with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a red robe over a grey tunic. He is holding a white host in his right hand and has his left hand over his heart. The background is a soft, golden light.

**18th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” - Jn 6:33



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 7/31-8/8

Sat./Sun., 7/31-8/1 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Janusz Bielawski (birthday remembrance)
by Ewa Bielawska

9:00 a.m. For our parishoners

11:00 a.m. Freida Pello Gardner by the Kees Family

**Monday, 8/2 – Saint Eusebius of Vercelli;
Saint Peter Julian Eymard**

No Mass

Tuesday, 8/3 – Weekday

9:00 a.m. For the health of Sandeep Roychowdhury
by Joan & Stephen Monroe

Wednesday, 8/4 – Saint John Vianney

No Mass

**Thursday, 8/5 – The Dedication of the Basilica
of Saint Mary Major**

9:00 a.m. Theresa DeMasi by Joe & Peg Crossman

Friday, 8/6 – The Transfiguration of the Lord

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 8/7-8/8 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. For our parishoners

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

11:00 a.m. Louise Gauthier by Ron, Rosemary, Ashley,
& Molly Lindsey



Jesus said to them,
“I am the bread of life;
whoever comes to me will never hunger,
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”
- Jn 6:35

Readings for the week of August 1, 2021

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54
[24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17
[2a]/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13
[cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps
106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/ Mt
15:21-28

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt
16:13-23

Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and
9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10

Saturday: Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4, 47 and 51/Mk
17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/
Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51

Gospel Reflection Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“You cannot see the forest for the trees” is a widely known saying that can bring wisdom to our understanding of our journey. Often, our sight becomes limited to what is immediately before us. We lose touch with lessons and experiences from the past and promises and hope for the future. As human beings, we have the privilege of being able to choose things. What I like and don’t like, want, and don’t want can be major preoccupations of our minds and hearts. Our preferences and desires begin to define us more than the simple fact of our being. Who we are matters more than what we are or what we have. If we don’t move beyond the external and superficial stuff to what really is of essence, we risk becoming very unsettled, disorientated, angry, and unhappy. We fail to see the bigger picture of hope and promise that lies ahead and the Divine Presence that has sustained and carried us before.

We like it when the “now” time of our lives satisfy us. Even the people who witnessed Jesus feed the five thousand got confused and distracted. It felt good when thousands of people were able to eat. They wanted to know what they could do to get this to happen again! But Jesus quickly reminds them that this is not the point of this sign. As much as the now time of our lives is of concern, it is not what is ultimately important. We need to learn the difference between being and doing, drawing more strength from who we are and who God is rather than what is happening around us and the choices we can make. Jesus is the true bread that came down from heaven. Jesus is the very incarnate presence of God who sustains life and assures us that we will not perish. This is not easy to understand and feel. We have to practice being in the presence of ourselves, others, creation, and God. We are brought to a holy place when we encounter the sacredness of being. This is real prayer.

Then, we learn to trust. It is when we cease trusting that we start to become afraid, uncertain, apprehensive, and doubtful, and overly self-concerned. We even start to grumble. God has our back. That is the essential powerful message of the living bread come down from heaven. God, who is alpha is also omega, the beginning and the end, and has everything in between in his care as well. A woman once remarked that her most powerful God moment happened when she and her husband cuddled with their new baby for a time. Without exchanging words and using only the affection communicated through sight and touch, they rested in being with each other. This brought them to the sacred, where they realized that a greater Being was with them. It was real. They knew that they were part of something bigger, intimate, and profound. When we rest in the Living Source of life, we will find that our souls are no longer hungry or thirsty.

Sunday Summary

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 The people protest their sparse conditions, and God sends them bread from heaven.

Psalms 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 This saving event becomes a sign for the ages: God gave the people manna to eat.

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24 The old, empty way of illusion and desire must give way to fresh, spiritual thinking.

John 6:24-35 Jesus feeds the crowds miraculously, and they seek the perpetual free lunch.



Thank you to those who have given to the 2021 Bishop's Appeal. Your gift supports a variety of ministries and services impacting all of our parishes, including Catholic faith formation, education, vocations, emergency aid, and so much more. Please visit bishopsappealvt.org for more information or to make a gift.

To date, our parish has raised \$7,635 toward our goal of \$29,448.10. This is 26% of our parish goal.

Eucharistic Ministers Needed

We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers for all weekend Masses. Training will be provided. Scheduling is done at your convenience. If you are able to assist with this Ministry, please contact Diane Granger at 518-366-8642 or email at dianeg1229@gmail.com.

Lectors Needed

We are in need of Lectors to read at the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. 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.

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Pick of the Week for August 1:

Watch: *Companions in Shipwreck*

Good relationships are a vital part of human well-being. In fact, studies show that those with the healthiest relationships live the longest! But where can we see these friendships lived out? Look no further than the life of famed author J.R.R. Tolkien. The relationships he exhibited are a wonderful example for all of us to follow, especially with those we may disagree with.

Learn: *A Bible Study on the Luminous Mysteries: The Transfiguration*

This week we celebrate the feast of The Transfiguration, the mountaintop manifestation of Christ's glory that we read about in the Gospel. As we recall this wondrous event, however, many questions might come to mind. Why did Moses and Elijah appear? Why did Jesus only bring Peter, James, and John? Hear the answers to these questions and more in this episode of FORMED Now.

**Faith
FORMATION**



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori based hands-on method of faith formation. CGS utilizes a prepared space for children called the Atrium. The Atrium, a space where both the children and catechists can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith, contains models representing people, places, and objects found in scripture and liturgy.

The Atrium is such a peaceful place, and at the same time, it's a very fun place, with real materials for the children to work with, custom made to meet their needs. It's marvelous to see how the children thrive in this environment. As they practice new skills, and learn more about our Lord and His Church, you can see them growing in confidence. It's a joy to witness and be a part of their journey.

For the past three years, we have been holding Level 1 sessions for some of the youngest children in our Parishes. This summer, Kathy Murphy and Martha Hojnowski will be attending another weeklong training in order to begin the process of expanding our program to include Level 2 sessions. This will enable us to welcome children from the ages of 3 to 9/10 years old into our CGS program.

HELP WANTED: Would you be interested in learning more about what it would mean to be an assistant in the Atrium or would you like to learn more about what is involved in becoming a certified CGS catechist? Please contact Kathy Murphy to learn more.



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