

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 4:00 PM-5:00 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

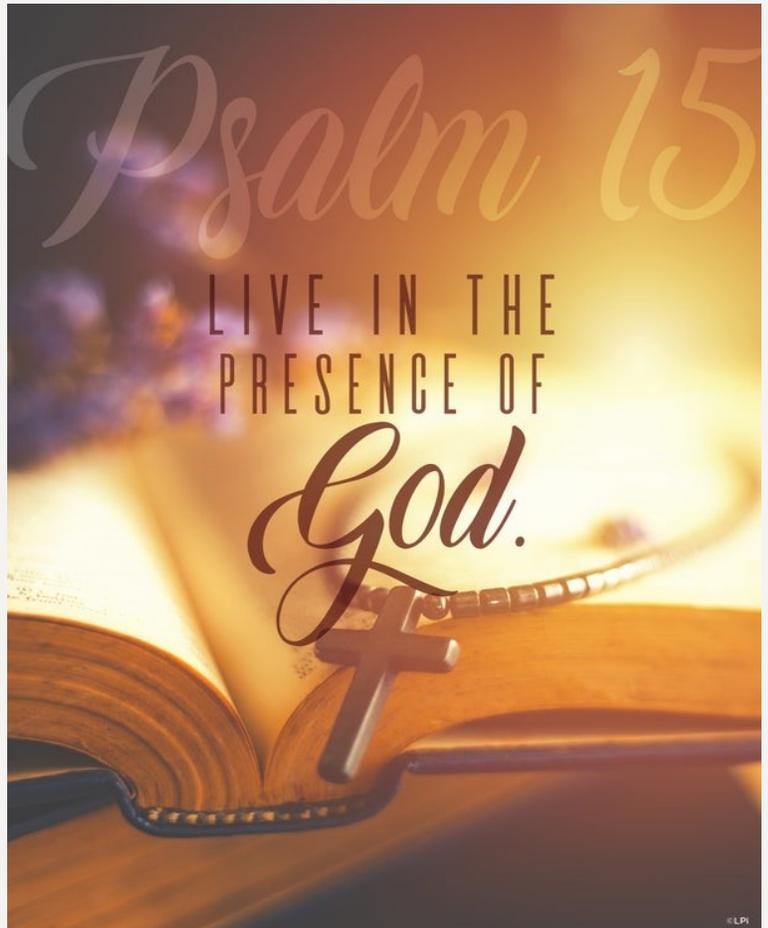
Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

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 8/28-9/5

Sat./Sun., 8/28-8/29 – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Darlene Galipeau by Charlene & Gary Martin

9:00 a.m. For our parishioners

11:00 a.m. Louise Gauthier by Lisa Paturzo

Monday, 8/30 – Weekday

No Mass

Tuesday, 8/31 – Weekday

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, 9/1 – World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

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

Thursday, 9/2 – Weekday

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

Friday, 9/3 – Saint Gregory the Great

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 9/4-9/5 – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners

9:00 a.m. Theresa DeMasi by Linda Meskun

11:00 a.m. Janet Paturzo (birthday remembrance)
by her daughter Lisa



“Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?”

He responded, “Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written:

*This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.”*

- Mk 7:5b-6

Readings for the week of August 29, 2021

Sunday:	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday:	Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

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Gospel Reflection

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Albert Einstein said that the “true measure of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.” Being a disciple of Jesus Christ requires a great deal of imagination. It is not enough to simply attend to facts, rules and rituals and consider the job done. Quite contrarily, the Gospels demands creativity, of trying to discern how to put flesh on the Beatitudes and properly serve God’s children. Jesus never doled out a top down agenda. Not once did he ever demand conformity over conversion or sacrifice over mercy. The Gospel is always about putting people in touch with their compassionate, forgiving, and unconditionally loving God and meeting them where they are.

For Jesus, it often meant breaking a few rules. Well respected and time-honored traditions had to be set aside in order to attend to what really mattered. God’s compassion, mercy and true conversion were always the trump cards. The story of the Good Samaritan, healing on the Sabbath, and bypassing of purification rituals all display this theme. Human beings can get too hung up on protocol and tradition. This is so much so that often preserving all of these things is of greater concern than the beggar knocking on our door or the sinner looking for mercy. It is no wonder, then, that we can easily become hypocritical. Many can see us on our knees in prayer while our true heart and actions, rooted in judgment and self-preservation, are hidden from others. It is a trap into which we can easily fall. Who cares how we live our lives as long as our hands are properly washed!

Here enters the need for imagination and the distinction of truly being a wise and intelligent person. It takes a good measure of creativity and a lot of guts to really be a doer of God’s word and not merely a hearer. Being a person who doesn’t just tell people about God but shows people God requires courage and ingenuity. That’s why people like St. Francis of Assisi and St. Teresa of Calcutta are timeless. Their genuineness speaks volumes generation to generation. It’s risky business taking the step to allow God into our hearts. Permitting God to release us from the grip of our evil thoughts, infidelity, greed, malice, sexual improprieties, licentiousness, envy, arrogance, folly, and the like takes courage. That’s why we prefer to spend our energy rearranging the future rather than take measures to secure a foundation that is most certainly crumbling.

Sunday Summary

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 Moses proclaims in the hearing of the people the wisdom of the law.

Psalms 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 Life in God’s presence is realized fully by those who are just.

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 The saving word has been planted in us; now we must welcome it and do it.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Jesus denounces exterior observances that have no inward dimension.

*“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.”*

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation September 1, 2021



"LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore" - "Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.

So opens Pope Francis' letter to the whole world on the importance of protecting and healing our natural world. As we approach this day, let us each commit to doing one thing to celebrate creation.

Let us pray...

Good and gracious God
of all created things, seen and unseen.

You created all things in this world for our use,
and charge us with protecting that creation.

Help us to see in all things
the reflection of a parent's love for a child.

When we see your goodness in the face of the moon,
we see our sister.

When we feel the warmth of the sun on our face,
we feel the love of a brother.

We ask for your strength
to give us wisdom and courage
to protect our earthly environment
from destruction and overuse.

Help us to share
the goodness and generosity of the earth
with every living person.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ,
our brother and savior.

Amen.



Special Collection

This weekend we have a special collection to support the efforts of **Catholic Relief Services** in **Haiti** following the recent devastating earthquake. Monies collected will go to Holy Cross Missions in Haiti. A basket and envelopes marked "Special Collection" are on the table at the front entrance. Thank you for your generosity.

Eucharistic Ministers Needed

We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers for the 9:00 a.m. Mass. 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.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.



"Through Mary the cause of our joy you discover that no where on earth are you more welcomed, no where on earth are you more loved, than by Jesus, living and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament... He is really there in Person waiting just for you." –*Saint Teresa of Calcutta*



Registration for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation

Registration is now open for fall enrollment for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Sacred Heart St. Francis and St. John the Baptist church programs are now merged at all levels.

For grades 1 - 5 and children 3 - 6 years old, classes will meet Sundays after the 9:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart St. Francis from 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. beginning Sunday, September 26.

Confirmation is for grades 6 through 8, and will meet twice a month on Sundays from 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. beginning Sunday, August 29.

Registration is online at <https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms> for both parishes. You may register your family on one form. We ask that a registration fee of \$10 per student or \$25 per family be submitted. Payment can be made in one of the following ways:

- Online by clicking the donate button and choosing "Class Registration Fees"
- In person on the first day of class
- Mail to: Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Faith Formation Registration, 238 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201

Please contact Kathy Murphy or Mary Drew at 442-3141 with any questions.



We are very excited to open a Level II Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium this fall, and we could use some help! Our needs include:

- A small low table for a prayer table
- Bookshelves: units of three or four shelves at least 10" deep
- School desks or small tables at which one or two children could work
- Woodworkers who are willing to help create materials for us
- We have a wish list of items to purchase if you would be interested in sponsoring one
- And especially your prayers! Any help with these needs would be greatly appreciated!

Classes will meet after the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Masses beginning September 26. If you know of anyone interested in Faith Formation, or could help us with our wish list, please contact Kathy Murphy at 442-3141.