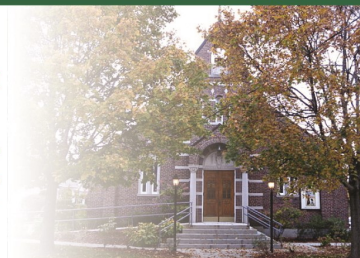


OCTOBER 29, 2023

# 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

9:00 am - First Saturday of every month

### Sunday

10:00 am

### Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 am

**Holy Day Mass** (refer to schedule on inside cover)

### Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays 4:00 - 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

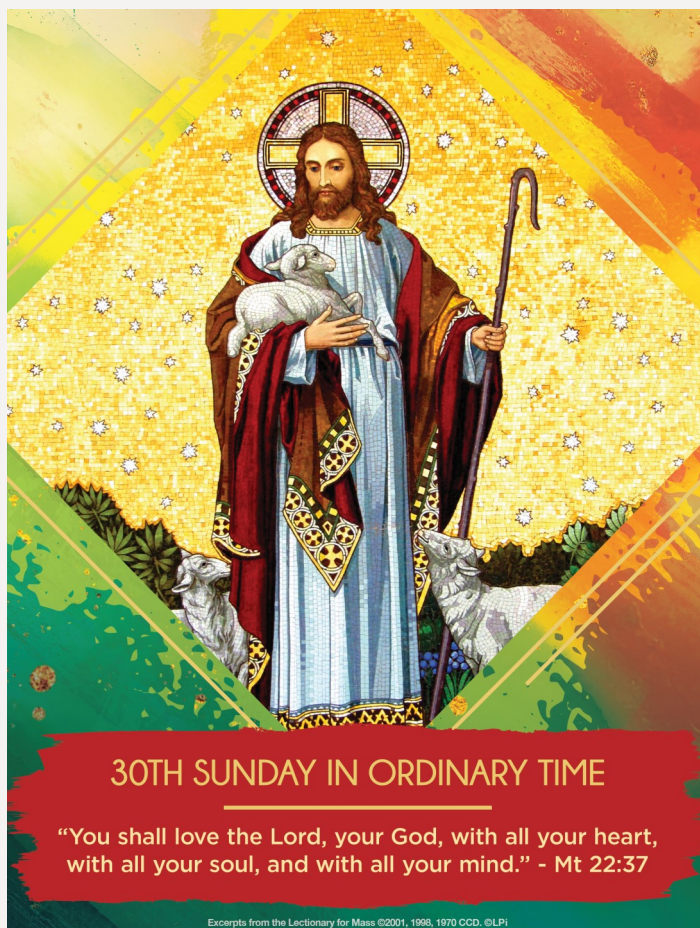
First Saturday of the month from 9:30 - 10:30 am and by appointment.

## 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. Kevin Rousseau, 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.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**EMAIL:** saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com

**PHONE:** 802.447.7504 | **FAX:** 802.442.6620

3 - 5 HOUGHTON STREET, P.O. BOX 219, NORTH BENNINGTON, VT 05257-0219 • WWW.SJTBCC-VT.ORG



## Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 10/28-11/5 at  
**St. John the Baptist and  
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales**

**Sat./Sun., 10/28-10/29 - Saints Simon and Jude,  
Apostles/ Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 pm- Ron Higgins by Daniel Higgins and Mary Ellen  
and Lawrence Dupuis

Karen Mailhot by Fran and Jack Endres

10:00 am- Betty Kees by Kevin and Gayle Kees

Marcus Martinez by Charles G. Salem Caregivers

**Mon., 10/30- Weekday**

**(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)**

9:00 am - Mary & Albert Guasconi by Julie & Rosemarie

**Tuesday, 10/31 - Weekday**

9:00 am - Julie Betit by The Flynn/Thibodeau Family

**Wed. 11/1 - All Saints**

12:15 pm - Mark Lindsey by Joanie James

5:30 pm - Karen Mailhot by Tom and Sandy Fields

**Thurs. 11/2 - The Commemoration of All the Faithful  
Departed (All Souls Day)**

9:00 am - Ron Higgins by the Lindsey Family

**Fri. 11/3- Weekday**

**(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)**

9:00 am - Rosemarie Allard Webster by Rita & Family

Gerry Dachille by The Family

**Sat./Sun., 11/4-11/5-Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop/  
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

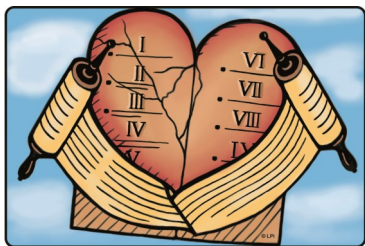
9:00 am - For Our Parishioners

5:30 pm- Ron Higgins by The McGean Family

Jane and Clifton Dietrick by The Belnap Family

10:00 am- Marcus Martinez by Margy Boulet

Aurelia Hogan (26th Anniv) by The Lindsey  
Family



**H**e said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all  
your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This  
is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is  
like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

— Mt 22:37-39

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1988, 1970 CCC

### Sunday Summary

**Exodus 22:20-26:** The Lord reveals to Israel that taking  
care of one another is the divine will.

**Psalms 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51:** God is the ultimate source of love,  
strength, refuge, and victory.

**1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10:** Paul set an example that others in  
turn now follow.

**Matthew 22:34-40:** The Pharisees devise a new test for  
Jesus: How should we live?

Dear Parishioners,

Father Kevin offered me his Bulletin space "From the Pastor's  
Desk" to write a note of thanks to everyone for celebrating the  
50th Jubilee of my ordination to the priesthood. On Sunday,  
October 8th we celebrated at St. John the Baptist Church and on  
Sunday, October 15th we celebrated at Sacred Heart, St. Francis  
Church. I am very grateful to everyone who extended their  
prayers and best wishes.

I had hoped to "fly under the radar" at the time of the Jubilee to  
escape making any kind of special fanfare for the occasion. But  
some parishioners who knew about the April 28, 1973, ordination  
date were vocal about having a parish recognition. I was and am  
very humbled by the celebrations. I feel very blessed to have  
been called to the priesthood and especially blessed to have the  
opportunity to be a priest here in Bennington and North  
Bennington these past 7 years. All of you have been very kind  
and generous in offering your prayers and encouragement.

The history of the Church since Vatican II has seen an incredible  
shift in the way people worship God. We Catholics have  
undergone enormous change over these past 60 years. Some  
people have become disillusioned and have even decided to leave  
the Church and express their faith and worship in new  
settings. Some people have abandoned their faith in God  
altogether. Many older parishioners have been heartbroken by the  
decision of their children to move away from their faith and their  
Church altogether in these secular times. And of course, the  
seemingly unforgivable sins of clergy have brought ruin and  
destruction upon us all.

These have been challenging times, to say the least. But for me, I  
humbly express my gratitude to all of you for your deep faith in  
God and the Creed of our Church. I truly believe, as do you, in  
the truth of God's steadfast love for all of us. God knows our  
human sin, weakness, and inability to live as faithfully in his love  
as we would hope. All of us are sinners but we know God's  
mercy and forgiveness are our salvation.

All of you have reinforced our Catholic faith for me through your  
own good lives. You have invited me into your hearts where I  
have found a deepened sense of the Kingdom of God. Our faith  
expresses the meaning, purpose and joy of our lives. I cannot  
image living life apart from our Catholic faith.

Thank you for welcoming me into your lives, for reinforcing for  
me your love of the priesthood and the Sacraments, particularly  
the Sacrament of the Eucharist which I believe, as do you, to be  
the apex of life.

You are a beautiful gift of God's grace for me, one I cherish with  
all my heart. As the mystic Dag Hammarskjöld stated so simply  
and forthrightly: "For all that has been thanks; for all that will be  
yes."

With my love, prayers and gratitude,  
Fr. Hugh

### Readings for the Week of October 29, 2023

Sunday: Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2)/1 Thes 1:5c-10/  
Mt 22:34-40

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/1 Jn 3:1-3/  
Mt 5:1-12a

Thursday: Wis 4:7-14/Ps 25:6, and 7b, 17-18, 20-21/Rom 5:17-  
21/Mt 11:25-30

Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-  
18/Lk 14:1, 7-11

Next Sunday: Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b  
-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12





**It's not too late to register for Faith Formation and Confirmation!**

**Class schedule for Pre k - 5th grade at SHSF Parish Center**  
**Sundays 9:00 -10:30 am:**

October 1, 15 and 22  
 November 5 and 19  
 December 3, 10, and 17

**Mondays 4:30 - 6 pm at SHSF Parish Center (CGS Level II only):**

October 2, 14 and 23  
 November 6 and 20  
 December 4, 11, and 18

**Confirmation class schedule at St. John's 4:30 - 6 :00 pm.**  
**Sponsors and parents are encouraged to attend**

October 15  
 November 19  
 December 3, 17

If your child will be receiving First Communion this year, please save the date for a parent/child meeting on Monday, **October 16 from 6:00-7:00 pm** at the Sacred Heart St. Francis Parish Center. Food will be served. Children are welcome.

It's not too late to register on-line: <https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms>. Please reach out to Kathy Murphy([1kathy.murphy@gmail.com](mailto:1kathy.murphy@gmail.com)) or Mary Drew ([maryedrew1@gmail.com](mailto:maryedrew1@gmail.com)) with any questions or call 802-442-3141.

## A NOTE FROM THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE

The Cemetery Committee would appreciate the removal of all plants in the St. John's Cemetery before October 31. Any plants left after that date will be disposed of. Thank you for your cooperation.

## INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

God became human to show us that only love can change the world. Let's not just believe in that love — let's be that love, each and every day. ©LPI



## A Concert for the Feast of Christ the King

On Sunday, November 26, at 3:00 p.m., Donald McMahon will honor Christ the King with a concert at the King of Instruments. The performance will include Sir William Walton's Crown Imperial Coronation March, J.S. Bach's Cathedral Prelude and Fugue in e minor, Henri Mulet's "Rose Window," and other selections. Everyone is warmly invited to gather in friendship and harmony for this afternoon of splendid music.



## Thanksgiving Baskets

Sodality will be sponsoring Thanksgiving Baskets again this year for needy families. If you know of someone in need of a basket this year, please contact the Parish Office at 802-447-7504. Envelopes for monetary donations will be on the table at the entrance of the church and in the pews starting this weekend, October 28-29 through November 11-12. Envelopes can be placed in the collection baskets or dropped off at the parish office. Thanks in advance for your generosity.



## Wednesday, November 1

Holy Day Mass Schedule

**St. John the Baptist:**

12:15 and 5:30 pm

**Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales:**

5:30 pm Vigil Mass, and 9:00 am

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

### SEPTEMBER 2023 MONTHLY OFFERTORY

Offertory / Mail Collections .....	\$ 11,473.78
Online Offertory .....	\$ 1,560.00
Total: .....	\$ 13,033.78

Needed Each Month .....	\$14,200.00
Monthly Behind .....	\$ -1,166.22

Fiscal Year to Date .....	\$39,722.77
Fiscal YTD Behind .....	\$ -1,523.51

*Fiscal Year is July-June*

Please remember St. John the Baptist in your will and estate planning



The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales announces that it will hold its annual Harvest Bazaar on **Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup>** at the SHSF Parish Hall.



## Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Annual Harvest Dinner

**Saturday, November 11th at 5:00 pm**

Slips are on the back table for you to make reservations if you'd like to attend, and you can drop your slip in the collection baskets. Deadline to sign up is October 30th, or when 250 participants have registered.



**Friday eve., 10/27 - Monday eve. 10/30 - LOW retreat**  
**Wednesday, 11/1 from 10-11:30 am - Choir rehearsal**  
**Wednesday, 11/1 ALL SAINTS DAY - masses at St. Johns at 12:15 pm and 5:30 pm**  
**Friday, 11/3 at 7 pm - First Friday Service at SHSF**  
**Saturday, 11/4 at 9 am - First Saturday mass followed by Adoration and Confession.**  
**Saturday 11/4 Harvest Bazaar at SHSF Parish Center**

## First Friday Holy Hour at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales and First Saturday Mass at St. Johns

First Friday closing service on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at SHSF.

Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 9:00 am at St. John's, First Saturday Mass with Adoration and Confession to follow.

SHSF has Eucharistic Adoration each Friday starting after the 9 am Mass, and St. John's has Eucharistic Adoration each Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. These two programs provide an opportunity to honor the Real Presence.