

NOVEMBER 12, 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 11/11-11/19 at  
**St. John the Baptist and  
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales**

**Sat./Sun., 11/11-11/12 - Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop,  
Veteran's Day/ Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 pm- Bernie Galipeau by Charlene and Gary Martin  
Ron Higgins by Jane Taylor

10:00 am- Bob Locke by Kevin and Gayle Kees  
John Lyons (10th Anniv) by the family

**Mon., 11/13 – Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin  
(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)**

9:00 am - Jonathan Winner by Carol & Dean Winner  
Fran O'Neill by The Family

**Tuesday, 11/14 – Weekday**

9:00 am - Special Intention  
Richard Lamontagne (BD Remem) by the family

**Wed. 11/15 - Weekday**

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

9:00 am - Aldona Guilmette by Jennifer McGean  
Mass of Thanksgiving by Mary Pat Racicot

**Thurs. 11/16 – Weekday**

9:00 am - In Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Ron and  
Rosemary Lindsey by the family

**Fri. 11/17– Saint Elizabeth of Hungary**

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

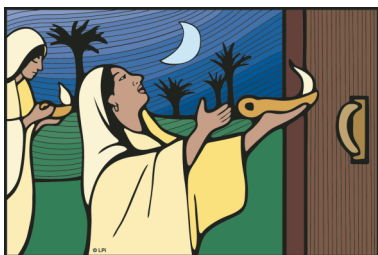
9:00 am - Lorinna & Don Abrams by Rita & Family

**Sat./Sun., 11/18-11/19 - Weekday/Thirty/Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

5:30 pm- Fr. Michael Demasi and other deceased members  
of the K of C Council #307

For our Parishioners

10:00 am- Marcus Martinez by Linda Meskun  
Ron Higgins by The McGean Family



*“The bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’ But he said in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’”*

— Mt 25:10b-12

Excerpts from the Lectioary for Mass 0301, 1988, 1970 CCO.

## Sunday Summary

**Wisdom 6:12-16** Wisdom is an attribute worth keeping the light on for.

**Psalms 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8** The thirst of the soul is for God alone, and nothing else will satisfy.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** The real “rapture” is experienced by those who are always with the Lord.

**Matthew 25:1-13** The wise keep vigil for the unsuspected hour of God’s fulfillment.

## ✠ From the Pastor’s Desk ✠

On the feast of All Saints Day, we gave thanks to God for the graces that enabled women and men to say “yes” to His will and follow His call to holiness of life. We also asked for their intercession so that we too might grow in holiness.

The next day, All Souls Day, we gathered to remember the souls of all those who have died. Many of us remember our family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. At our parishes, we are invited to write the names of these beloved dead in our Book of Remembrance. Throughout November, we hold these people in our prayers asking God to invite them into eternal life in heaven.

It is good for us to remember our beloved dead in November. And, as a Catholic community, we also remember the souls we may or may not know: the souls in purgatory. The church teaches that at our death, we face judgment for the way we lived our lives. Heaven is the hope of all believers – it is life with God! Hell is the absence of God and our dread. Purgatory is a “purification so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven,” which is experienced by those “who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified” (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1030). The Catechism clarifies that “this final purification of the elect ... is entirely different from the punishment of the damned (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1031). Therefore, purgatory is a hopeful state where God prepares us for the joy of heaven. Just like the saints who pray for us, we pray for the souls in purgatory that they swiftly accept God’s purifying grace and enter heaven.

An interesting book that deals with purgatory is called “The Great Divorce” by C.S. Lewis. I used to think this book was about matrimony, but it is not. If you would like to pray about purgatory with a fictional narrative background, I recommend this book to you.

God bless,  
Fr. Kevin

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**First Reading:** Wisdom is presented as a virtue seeking to be found. How might you search for wisdom this week?

**Second Reading:** Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be comforted in the belief that believers will be raised from the dead and live eternally with the Lord Jesus. What family members, friends, or co-workers need to hear these words of comfort?

**Gospel:** In the parable of the ten virgins, Jesus is teaching about the importance of being prepared for his Second Coming. In what ways is this directive from Jesus a challenge for you?

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## Readings for the Week of November 12, 2023

Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday: Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Wis 2:23—3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Wis 7:22b—8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21



## Join us for a Vermont Catholic Advance Care Directive workshop!

**When:** Saturday, November 18 at 10:30 A.M.

**Where:** SHSF Parish Center at 238 Main Street, Bennington

**What:** The Vermont Catholic Advance Directive is an important legal document that enables a person to direct his or her healthcare agent and care providers to act on his or her behalf in a manner consistent with Catholic teachings in the event of an accident or end of life illness. This workshop will enable participants to understand Catholic teaching on health care and ensure their desires are met.

Deacon Pete Gummere will conduct this workshop in which he will explain Catholic teachings on health care. Deacon Gummere, in addition to holding graduate degrees in Biological Science and Theology, is certified in Catholic Healthcare Ethics by the National Catholic Bioethics Center. Although he has retired as an adjunct faculty member of the Pontifical College's Diaconate Institute, Deacon Pete has continued to teach classes in Moral Theology, Medical Morality, and a course in Philosophy for Understanding Theology. He is also a published author.

*Tony Tomasi said that he took the seminar a number of years ago and that It was very informative and helpful. He made some adjustments to his end of life documents .*

This event is free. For more information, please call the Parish Office at 802-442-3141.



*Throughout the month of November, you are invited to inscribe the names of your deceased family members and friends in our **Book of Remembrance**, placed on the stand in front of the statue of St. Joseph.*

*Although different from sponsoring a Mass, the Book of Remembrance provides a means for those who wish to personally remember someone special in their lives.*

## 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



**Sunday, 11/12 after 10 am mass - Coffee and donuts to celebrate Discovering Catholic Schools week**  
**Sunday, 11/12 from 12 - 2 pm - Choir Rehearsal**  
**Tuesday, 11/14 from 3-4 pm - Food Shelf Open**  
**Tuesday, 11/14 at 7 pm - Liturgy meeting**  
**Wednesday, 11/15 from 10-11:30 am - Choir rehearsal**  
**Wednesday, 11/15 from 4-5 pm - Eucharistic Adoration**



**Thank you** to all the participants and volunteers that were part of our wonderful Light of the World retreat. We appreciate the Knights of Columbus donating toward the food for the retreat. Especially thanks for all the prayers!

**SAVE THE DATE** for "A Ukulele Christmas" - a Christmas Musical on **Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 1:00 pm** to benefit the St. John's Food Shelf and HIS Pantry. More information to follow!

## Thanksgiving Baskets



Sodality will be sponsoring Thanksgiving Baskets again this year for needy families. Envelopes for monetary donations will be on the table at the entrance of the church and in the pews through

this weekend. Envelopes can be placed in the collection baskets or dropped off at the parish office. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

You are invited to the parish center at St. John the Baptist on Sunday, November 26, to make an Advent wreath for you to



enjoy at home for advent. The event runs from 3:00 to 5:00. All materials are provided at no cost. If you have some garden snips, bring them with you.



**Reminder** - coffee hour hosted by Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales School **after the 10am mass on November 12th** to celebrate Discover Catholic Schools Week. Thank you for your continued support for the school. We look forward to seeing you!

## ††† May They Rest In Peace †††

During this month of November we remember and pray for all our deceased family and friends. Following is a list of people whose entrance into eternal life was celebrated in our parish from November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023.

<b>Eileen M. Flynn</b>	<b>February 5</b>
<b>Frederick A. Solari</b>	<b>February 15</b>
<b>Marilyn J. Baldwin</b>	<b>March 2</b>
<b>Gregory "Rex" Burke</b>	<b>July 26</b>
<b>Marcus Martinez</b>	<b>August 3</b>
<b>Karen Mailhot</b>	<b>August 3</b>
<b>Thomas Pavliga</b>	<b>September 5</b>
<b>Ron Higgins</b>	<b>September 12</b>
<b>Merton J. Snow</b>	<b>September 30</b>
<b>Elaine Letourneau</b>	<b>October 10</b>

*Lord, hear our prayers for those who have left this life.  
 Grant them the place of rest, light, and peace.  
 May their families and friends find in your Son,  
 comfort in their sadness,  
 certainty in their doubt,  
 and courage to live through their loss.*