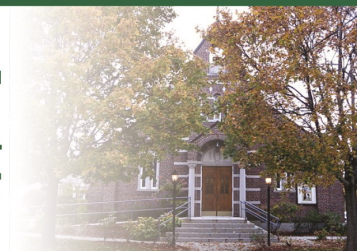


MARCH 17, 2024

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.



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." - Jn 12:23-24

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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

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



Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 3/16-3/24 at
**St. John the Baptist and
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales**

Sat./Sun., 3/16-3/17- Lenten Weekday/Fifth Sunday of Lent

5:30 pm- For Our Parishioners

Viola Myers by Kevin and Gayle Kees

10:00 am- Eileen Flynn by Molly and Ashley

Martha Paquin by Linda Meskun

Mon., 3/18 - Lenten Weekday

(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)

9:00 am - Eleanore Simpatico by Henry Simpatico

Tues., 3/19 - Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 am- Thomas and Mary Fox

Patty Mahar Ryan for health & healing by a friend

Wed. 3/20 - Lenten Weekday

(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)

9:00 am - Pat Farnum by Jane Taylor & Mary Pat Racicot

Sherry Arsenault (5) by the family

Thurs. 3/21 - Lenten Weekday

9:00 am- Patricia Becker (2nd Anniv) by the Becker and

Malinowski families

Fri. 3/22 - Lenten Weekday

(Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church)

9:00 am - Our Parish Family

Sat./Sun., 3/23-3/24 - Lenten Weekday/Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

5:30 pm- Marion P. McCarthy (BD Remembrance) by the McCarthy Family

Darlene Galipeau by Charlene and Gary Martin

Jack Murphy (2nd Anniv) by the family

10:00 am- Helen Gardner by Kevin and Gayle Kees

Martha Paquin by Joe and Jean Paquin-Maillet



“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.” — Jn 12:24, 31-32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sunday Summary

Jeremiah 31:31-34 In the days of the new covenant, all people will have personal knowledge of God.

Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 God's mercy offers us hope of a clean heart and renewed spirit.

Hebrews 5:7-9 The reverent heart gains a hearing in the presence of God.

John 12:20-33 Some Greeks—outsiders to the story—seek personal access to Jesus.

✠ From the Pastor's Desk ✠

Before Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection, Jesus celebrated the Passover feast with His disciples. On Holy Thursday, we will commemorate this supper and profess our faith in the Real Presence. During the Mass, we will remember Jesus' call for us to serve our brothers and sisters – He did this when he washed the feet of His disciples and commanded them, and us, to imitate His example.

The strength for this command to serve comes from Jesus Himself. At the Last Supper, He gave us the gift of the Eucharist – nourishment to assist us along the way. Simple gifts of bread and wine become Jesus' Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity at each Mass. On Holy Thursday we process behind Jesus in the Consecrated Host to remember the agony He suffered before He was arrested. We stay with Him for moments of prayer (adoration) resisting the sleep that our bodies might want or need so that we can join Him as he accepts His cross out of love for us.

The gift of the Eucharist is celebrated every day of the year except on Good Friday. When altar servers are present, they ring bells as the priest elevates the Consecrated Host and Precious Blood. These bells are meant to “wake us up” and focus our attention that a miracle has taken place: the bread and wine have been changed into Jesus Himself! After these elevations, the priest genuflects in adoration – in awe and thanksgiving!

As we continue the season of Lent, let us remember that we do not live our lives alone – Jesus gives us strength and grace with His own Body and Blood. Let us be grateful for the gift of the Eucharist and let us serve others as Jesus commands.

God bless,
Fr. Kevin

ST JOHN'S HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday 3/28 Mass of the Lord's Supper 7 pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday 3/29 - Celebration of the Lord's Passion 7 pm

Holy Saturday 3/30 Easter Vigil at 8 pm

Easter Sunday 3/31 Mass at 10 am



Please notice our Cross of Compassion.

Parishioners are invited to write their spiritual and material needs on the purple papers in the basket in front of the cross. Then place your petition papers on a nail on the cross. Throughout Lent we ask our parish family to pray for all of these special needs.

Readings for the Week of March 17, 2024

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39



Class schedule for Pre K- 5th grade at SHSF Parish Center
Sundays 9:00 -10:30 am: March 17, 24, April 7, 21, 28, May 5

Mondays 4:30 - 6 pm at SHSF Parish Center (CGS Level II only): March 18, 25, April 8, 22, 29, May 6

Confirmation class schedule at St. John's 4:30 - 6 :00 pm.

Sponsors and parents are encouraged to attend

April 7

March 23 -Pilgrimage/retreat in Jamaica

April 21 - class and practice will be at SHSF

May 5th - Confirmation at 1:00 pm at SHSF Church with Mass

You may register on-line: <https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms>. Please reach out to Kathy Murphy (1kathy.murphy@gmail.com) or Mary Drew (maryedrew1@gmail.com) with any questions or call 802-442-3141.



SPAGHETTI DINNER

to benefit School of SHSF 8th grade end-of-year trip and graduation activities

When: Thursday, March 21 from 5-7 pm

Where: VFW, 137 North St., Bennington VT

Tickets are \$15 per person, and are sold by 8th graders, at the school or VFW. (Also sold at the door.)

Dinner includes salad, garlic bread and dessert - eat in or take out.

The Diocese will be hosting the annual Spring Women's Retreat on Saturday, April 6th from 9AM to 3PM, at Holy Family Parish in Springfield, VT. Sr. Paul Mary Dreger, FSE, will be the keynote speaker this year. Cost is \$30pp, which includes lunch. You can find more information and how to register at <https://www.vermontcatholic.org/event/womens-retreat/>

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

FEBRUARY 2024 MONTHLY OFFERTORY

Offertory / Mail Collections	\$ 23,843.15
Online Offertory	\$ 1,525.00
Total:	\$ 25,368.15
Needed Each Month	\$ 14,200.00
Monthly Ahead	+ \$ 11,168.15
Fiscal Year to Date	\$130,340.01
Fiscal YTD Ahead	+ \$ 18,093.73

Fiscal Year is July-June

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



Sunday, 3/17 at 1 pm - Reconciliation Service at SHSF
Sunday, 3/17 at 2 pm - St. Patrick's Day concert
Tuesday, 3/19 from 5:30 - 6:00 pm - Taize Service at SHSF
Wednesday, 3/20 from 10-11:30 - Choir practice
Wednesday, 3/20 from 4-5 pm - Eucharistic Adoration
Thurs. 3/21 after the 9 am mass - Mollie Clark talk
Saturday, 3/23-Confirmation Pilgrimage/Retreat in Jamaica



Lenten Series Continues with a talk by Mollie Clark

Mollie Clark, a member of SHSF Parish and graduate of SHSF School and MAUHS is currently attending Fordham University. She will share some of her experiences as a youth representative to the Synod in Rome and more. Meet Mollie on **Thursday, March 21 after the 9 am Mass at St. John's or at 6:30 pm at SHSF Parish Center.** All are welcome!

EMBODYING THE LOVE OF CHRIST BY CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Reflect on your Lenten journey thus far: What have you learned from our global family members in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia? How does the Eucharist unite us with our sisters and brothers around the world? Consider how Christ is present in Adolf and Florence, Sandra and Santos, and Evita. Visit csrcicebowl.org to read this week's Story of Hope.

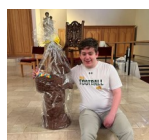


ST. PATRICK'S DAY IRISH MUSIC

Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm at St. John's

Donations accepted for the benefit of St. John's Food Shelf and HIS Pantry.

Music by the Ukelele String Ensemble and the Penny Whistle Tones. Hope to see you there!!



BUNNY RAFFLE

Thank you to the Village Chocolate Shoppe for generously donating the 3 foot chocolate bunny to the Youth Group of our parishes again this year. We are so happy to be able to have this raffle to support our youth programs! Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00 and will be available at both parish offices and sold after Masses this weekend. The Bunny Raffle will be drawn on March 25th in time for Easter.



The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales would like to thank all those who donated to our Wintertastic Auction. Your generosity is amazing.

We also thank the following sponsors for their continued support. Please know our students and staff pray for you all every day.

Hayden Plumbing and Heating

Bank of Bennington

State Farm: Mark Sekora

Ron and Rosemary Lindsey

John and Sonia Lacy

Mance Engineering

East Road Deli/Hamilton Home Improvement

Casella Waste

KCM Oil

And others who wish to remain anonymous.

God Bless you.

Come and Rest in the Lord

Rediscover Christ's redeeming love, mercy and compassion during the holy season of Lent through song and scripture in the tradition of Taize.

Tuesday evenings through March 19, 2024 from 5:30 to 6:00 pm at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales.