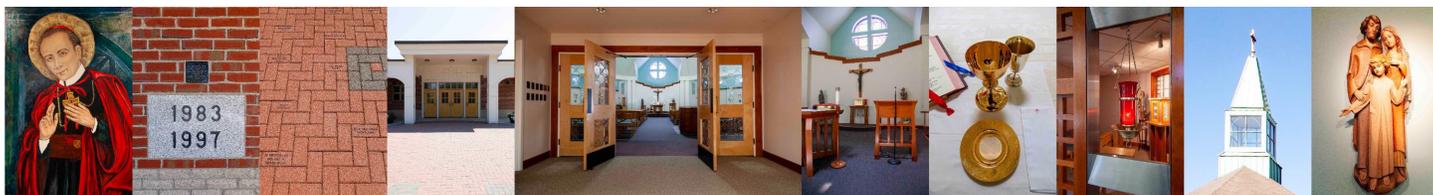


# SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

708 Milford Rd (Rte 101A), Merrimack, NH 03054 — SJNNH.ORG



26th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
September 25, 2022

**Fr. Robert Glasgow**  
Pastor  
Chaplain (LTC) USA, Ret.  
880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

**Teri Schmitt**  
Business Manager / Parish Secretary  
880-4689 x110, office@sjnnh.org

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Anticipatory) ..... 5:30 PM  
Sunday ..... 8:00 AM  
Sunday ..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday (Labor Day thru Memorial Day) .... 6:00 PM  
Daily (Mon, Wed-Fri) ..... 12:15 PM

## CONFESSION

Saturday ..... 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
And before/after daily Mass, or by appointment.

## BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered the first Sunday of each month following the 10:00 AM Mass.

## MARRIAGE

Please contact the office at least six months prior to the wedding date. The diocese requires Marriage Prep.

## VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND AND SICK, ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office to request home or hospital visitation.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

RCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

## HELP OF SOULS

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. —Jas 2:8

The first excerpt below is from The Autobiography of Saint Ignatius [of Loyola] (d. 1556) dictated to Father Louis Gonzalez, S.J. shortly before the Ignatius' death. It begins in 1521 with an account of his conversion during the period of convalescence following surgery for wounds received during the Battle of Pamplona. It then spans the next 17 years detailing the establishment of the Society of Jesus, better known as the Jesuits.



IGNATIUS CONVALESCES AT LOYOLA  
by Albert Chevallier-Taylor (d. 1925)

The second excerpt is from a talk by Fr. John O'Malley, S.J. who explains how education became the Jesuits' primary ministry. Though the first impulse of the new order had been missionary (as evidenced by their 4th Vow of obedience to the Pope), the Jesuits quickly became the Church's first teaching order. From the earliest days of his conversion, Ignatius saw Christian life as a call/summons to help others. No expression appears more often in his writings than "help of souls". To that end, he realized social institutions—especially schools—could be a powerful means for the "help of souls". He spoke of schools as a work of charity, a way of helping, and a contribution to the common good of society at large.

AS Ignatius had a love for fiction, when he found himself out of danger [following two surgeries on his leg] he asked for some romances to pass away the time. In that house there was no book of the kind. They gave him, instead, "The Life of Christ," by Rudolph, the Carthusian, and another book called the "Flowers of the Saints," both in Spanish. By frequent reading of these books



he began to get some love for spiritual things. This reading led his mind to meditate on holy things, yet sometimes it wandered to thoughts which he had been accustomed to dwell upon before.

Among these there was one thought which, above the others, so filled his heart that he became, as it were, immersed and absorbed in it. Unconsciously, it engaged his attention for three and four hours at a time. He pictured to himself what he should do in honor of an illustrious lady, how he should journey to the city where she was, in what words he would address her, and what bright and pleasant sayings he would make use of, what maner of warlike exploits he should perform to please her. He was so carried away by this thought that he did not even perceive how far beyond his power it was to do what he proposed, for she was a lady exceedingly illustrious and of the highest nobility.

In the meantime the divine mercy was at work substituting for these thoughts others suggested by his recent readings. While perusing the life of Our Lord and the saints, he began to reflect, saying to himself: "What if I should do what St Francis did?" "What if I should act like St Dominic?" He pondered over these things in his mind, and kept continually proposing to himself serious and difficult things. He seemed to feel a certain readiness for doing them, with no other reason except this thought: "St Dominic did this; I, too, will do it." "St Francis did this; therefore I will do it." These heroic resolutions remained for a time, and then other vain and worldly thoughts followed. This succession of thoughts occupied him for a long while, those about God alternating with those about the world. But in these thoughts there was this difference. When he thought of worldly things it gave him great pleasure, but afterward he found himself dry and sad. But when he thought of journeying to Jerusalem, and of living only on herbs, and practicing austerities, he found pleasure not only while thinking of them, but also when he had ceased.

This difference he did not notice or value, until one day the eyes of his soul were opened and he began to inquire the reason of the difference. He learned by experience that one train of thought left him sad, the other joyful. This was his first reasoning on spiritual matters. Afterward, when he began the Spiritual Exercises, he was enlightened, and understood what he afterward taught his children about the discernment of spirits. When gradually he recognized the different spirits by which he was moved, one, the spirit of God, the other, the devil, and when he had gained no little spiritual light from the reading of pious books, he began to think more seriously of his past life, and how much penance he should do to expiate his past sins.

Amid these thoughts the holy wish to imitate saintly men came to his mind; his resolve was not more definite than to promise with the help of divine grace that what they had done he also would do. After his recovery his one wish was to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. He fasted frequently and scourged himself to satisfy the desire of penance that ruled in a soul filled with the spirit of God.

The vain thoughts were gradually lessened by means of these desires, desires that were not a little strengthened by

the following vision. While watching one night he plainly saw the image of the Blessed Mother of God with the Infant Jesus, at the sight of which, for a considerable time, he received abundant consolation, and felt such contrition for his past life that he thought of nothing else. From that time until August, 1555, when this was written, he never felt the least motion of concupiscence. This privilege we may suppose from this fact to have been a divine gift, although we dare not state it, nor say anything except confirm what has been already said. His brother and all in the house recognized from what appeared externally how great a change had taken place in his soul.

He continued his reading meanwhile, and kept the holy resolution he had made. At home his conversation was wholly devoted to divine things, and helped much to the spiritual advancement of others.

In 1548, just a little over 450 years ago, 10 members of the recently founded Society of Jesus opened the first Jesuit school in Messina in Sicily. That event would have immense repercussions on the character of the Society of Jesus, giving it a new and quite special relationship to culture; but it was also a crucial event in the history of schooling within the Catholic church and in western civilization. Within a few years the Jesuits had opened some thirty more primary/secondary schools, but also the so-called Roman College, which would soon develop into the first real Jesuit university (Gregorian University). In 1585 they opened in East Asia a school in Macau that also soon developed into a university; and about the same time they founded in Japan a remarkable art school and workshop in which local painters were introduced to Western techniques. They were the teachers of Descartes, Moliere, and, yes, Voltaire. In Latin America they had constructed magnificent schools of stone and brick, with huge libraries, before any serious school of any kind had been founded in the British colonies.

A word of explanation may be in order. What is meant by the expression "the first teaching order within the Catholic church"? What about the monasteries of the Benedictines in the Middle Ages, and what about the great Dominican and Franciscan teachers at the medieval universities? The Jesuits differed from these and similar prototypes in three significant ways. First, after a certain point; they formally and professedly designated the staffing and management of schools a true ministry of the order, indeed its primary ministry, whereas in the prototypes it never achieved such a status. Second, they actually set about to create such institutions and assumed responsibility for their continuance. Third, these institutions were not primarily intended for the training of the clergy but for boys and young men who envisaged a worldly career. No group in the

church, or in society at large, had ever undertaken an enterprise on such a grand scale in which these three factors coalesced.

### LAST WEEK

Sep 18 (25th Sunday Ordinary Time) — \$5,247.00

**THANK YOU for your generosity!**

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sep 25 SUNDAY — 26th Week of Ordinary Time

8:00 AM | Sunday Mass  
10:00 AM | Sunday Mass  
6:00 PM | Sunday Mass  
7:00 PM | Adoration

Sep 26, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Sep 27, TUESDAY — St Vincent de Paul

7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

Sep 28, WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM | Knitting Group (meets every other Wednesday)  
10:00 AM | Faith Sharing  
12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Sep 29, THURSDAY — Archangels Michael, Gabriel, Raphael

10:00 AM | Women's Bible Study  
12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Sep 30, FRIDAY — St Jerome

10:00 AM | Food Pantry  
12:15 PM | Daily Mass w/ Adoration

Oct 1, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group  
8:30 AM | First Saturday Rosary  
9:00 AM | First Saturday Mass  
9:00 AM | Divine Mercy Cenacle (1st/3rd Sat)  
9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)  
4:00 PM | Confession (until 5:00 PM)  
5:30 PM | Anticipatory Sunday Mass

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sep 24 (Sat), 5:30 PM Dan & Carl - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Diane Bonenfant)  
Sep 25 (Sun), 8:00 AM Ginny DeFinis (req. by Maureen Mooney)  
Sep 25 10:00 AM Charetta Mutarelli (req. by the Sheehan Family)  
Sep 25, 6:00 PM Charles E. O'Neill (req. by Bill O'Neill)

Sep 28 (Wed), 12:15 PM Elizabeth Hetzler - 4th Anniv. (req. by Rita Wadleigh)  
Oct 1 (Sat), 5:30 PM Rick Gagne - LIVING INTENTION  
Sep 25 (Sun), 8:00 AM Julia Bilow (req. by Lynne Weihrauch); Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)  
Sep 25, 10:00 AM Renee Lau (req. by Sue & Jennie)

The Code of Canon Law confirms the practice of offering Mass(es) for particular intentions is ancient: "The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PARISH COUNCIL SURVEY

The Parish Council is conducting a SMALL FOCUS GROUP SURVEY of Parishioners to gain feedback on questions about the SJN community and to help guide a second PARISH-WIDE SURVEY to occur later this year.

The 1:1 SURVEY is expected to last about 15-20 minutes and can be conducted after mass or over the phone. The ultimate goal of the SURVEYS is to aid the Parish Council in developing a strategic plan for the Parish.

To participate or for more information, please see a member of the Parish Council the weekend of September 17-18th or email Keith Faucher at the parish council email address:

[pastoralcouncil@sjnh.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@sjnh.org)

#### **40 DAYS FOR LIFE**

#### **Fall '22 Manchester Campaign**

From Sep 28-thru-Nov 6 you're invited to join other Christians in more than 60 countries and 600 cities around the world for 40 DAYS FOR LIFE: 40 days of prayer, fasting, and outreach for an end to abortion. To sign up for vigil hours by creating an account on the website, or just contact Manchester Leader, Norm Thibault, at 603-289-0574. For ADDITIONAL INFO, visit our website:

[40daysforlife.com/manchester](http://40daysforlife.com/manchester)

**KICKOFF RALLY** — Sep 25 (Sun) at 2:00 PM on the public sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood (24 Pennacook St, Manchester). Come and hear a mom tell us about her recent experience of CHOOSING LIFE for her twins!

**VIGIL HOURS** — Sep 28 (Wed) through Nov 6 (Sun) from 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.

**SIDEWALK ROSARY** — Oct 15 (Sat) at 10:00 AM, led by the Marian Knights of Columbus

**MIDPOINT CANDLELIGHT VIGIL** — Oct 19 (Wed) at 6:30 PM on the Planned Parenthood public sidewalk

**CLOSING RALLY** — Nov 6 (Sun) at 2:00 PM on the Planned Parenthood public sidewalk.

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### **SAINT ANDREW DINNER**

We would like to invite young men in our diocese who are considering a vocation to the priesthood, or would simply like some help discerning the Lord's call for their life, to an evening of prayer and conversation with priests and for dinner. Call Fr. Charles Pawlowski at 603-448-1262 for more information. RSVP: [rvinson@rcbm.org](mailto:rvinson@rcbm.org) or (603) 770-0227 if you would like to attend.

**Oct 14 (Fri)  
St Christopher Church  
(62 Manchester St, Nashua)  
6:00-8:00 PM**

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### **OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS**

#### **Day Away Volunteer Lunch Assistant**

St John Neumann (SJN) Day Away is seeking friendly VOLUNTEERS to assist with assembling boxed (or bagged) lunches that consist of fresh fruit, a prepared salad, a protein (e.g, sandwich, wrap or cup of hot soup), a snack, a beverage, and dessert. All food and supplies are provided by Day Away. LUNCH ASSISTANTS will be working in the parish kitchen and assisting with serving lunch. All LUNCH ASSISTANTS are welcomed to eat lunch prior to providing a simple cleanup. Our LUNCH ASSISTANTS prefer to work as a team with a minimum of two lunch assistants at a time.

ORIENTATION to the N.H. state food handling and storage regulations is provided along with guidance on proper use of the individual sinks for hand washing, food prep and dishwashing.

SPECIAL ATTIRE: Includes a wide hair band or scarf to pull hair back and off the collar. Gloves (vinyl or nitrile) are provided & required to be worn while handling/preparing food. Surgical mask (during COVID) is required of all food establishment workers when around food to be served to others.

#### **TIME COMMITMENT:**

- 1 or 2 Thursdays each month (NOTE: Some months have a 5th Thursday to be covered)
- 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM

For more information, email Kathy Hopkins, RN,  
Director of SJN Day Away or call 603-880-4689.

St John Neumann Parish Online

To subscribe to SJN via FLOCKNOTES go to:

<https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

—or—

"SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message/data rates  
may apply)

**INSTAGRAM**

[instagram.com/sjnmerrimack/](https://www.instagram.com/sjnmerrimack/)

**FACEBOOK**

[facebook.com/St John Neumann-Merrimack](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnNeumannMerrimack)

**YOUTUBE**

The SUNDAY MASS is live streamed at 10:00 AM  
at: "SJN MERRIMACK NH MASS"

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SJN Staff

**CLAIRE BRYSON**

Children's Ministry (K-5th Grade)

(603) 880-4689 x114

[cbryson@sjnnh.org](mailto:cbryson@sjnnh.org)

**CHERI ANDERSEN**

Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade)

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**DIANE BONENFANT**

Sacristan

**CAROL YETTO**

Music Ministry

[cyetto3358@gmail](mailto:cyetto3358@gmail.com)

**CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER and EVELYN VERBECK**

Outreach & Food Pantry

(603) 880-4689 x116

**KATHY HOPKINS**

Day Away (Thursday)

(603) 880-4689

[dayaway@sjnnh.org](mailto:dayaway@sjnnh.org)

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Keith Faucher (President)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Bob Fregault (Chairman)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Leo Bobek, Grand Knight

[lbobek63@gmail.com](mailto:lbobek63@gmail.com)