

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



27th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
October 2, 2022

Rev. Robert Glasgow
Pastor
880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

Rev. Mr. Brian Lester
Deacon

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.

AS WE TOO FORGIVE

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. —Col 3:13

The excerpt below is from St Thomas Aquinas' (d. 1274) Catechetical Instructions, an explanation of the 5th petition of the Lord's Prayer: "And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" (Mt 6:12).

THERE are some men of great wisdom and fortitude who, because they trust too much in their own strength, do not wisely carry out what they attempt, and they do not bring to completion that which they have in mind. "Designs are strengthened by counsels" (Prov 20:18). It must be known that the Holy Ghost who gives fortitude also gives counsel. Every good counsel concerning the salvation of man is from the Holy Ghost. Thus, counsel is necessary for man when he is in difficulty, just as is the counsel of physicians when one is ill. When man falls into spiritual illness through sin, he must look for counsel in order to be healed. This necessity for counsel on the part of the sinner is shown in these words (Dan 4:27): "Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue." The best counsel, therefore, against sin is alms and mercy. Hence, the Holy Spirit teaches sinners to seek and to pray: "Forgive us our trespasses."

We owe God that which we have taken away from His sole right; and this right of God is that we do His will in preference to our own will. Now, we take away from God's right when we prefer our will to God's will, and this is a sin. Sins, therefore, are our trespasses. And it is the counsel of the Holy Spirit that we ask God pardon for our sins, and so we say: "Forgive us our trespasses."

We can consider these words in three ways: (1) Why do we make this petition? (2) How may it be fulfilled? (3) What is required on our part?

WHY DO WE MAKE THIS PETITION? It must be known that from this petition we can draw two things that are necessary for us in this life. One is that we be ever in a state of salutary fear and humility. There have been some, indeed, so presumptuous as to say that man could live in this world and by his own unaided strength avoid sin. But this condition has been given to no one except



Christ, who had the Spirit beyond all measure, and to the Blessed Virgin, who was full of grace and in whom there was no sin. "And concerning whom," that is, the Virgin, "when it is a question of sin I wish to make no mention," says St. Augustine. But for all the other Saints, it was never granted them that they should not incur at least venial sin: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8). And, moreover, this very petition proves this; for it is evident that all Saints and all men say the "Our Father" in which is contained "Forgive us our trespasses." Hence, all admit and confess that they are sinners or trespassers. If, therefore, you are a sinner, you ought to fear and humble yourself.

Another reason for this petition is that we should ever live in hope. Although we be sinners, nevertheless we must not give up hope, lest our despair drive us into greater and different kinds of sins. As the Apostle says: "They have lost all sensitivity and have abandoned themselves to licentiousness, greedy to practice every kind of impurity" (Eph 4:19). It is, therefore, of great help that we be ever hopeful; for in the measure that man is a sinner, he ought to hope that God will forgive him if he be perfectly sorry for sin and be converted. This hope is strengthened in us when we say: "Forgive us our trespasses."

The Novatiani destroyed this hope, saying that one who has sinned but once after Baptism can never look for mercy. But this is not true, if Christ spoke truly when He said: "I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me" (Mt 18:32). In whatsoever day, therefore, you ask, you can receive mercy if with sorrow for sin you make your prayer. Both fear and hope arise from this petition. For all sinners who are contrite and confess their guilt, receive mercy. Hence, this petition is necessary.

THE FULFILLMENT OF THIS PETITION. Concerning the second consideration of this petition (*viz.*, how it may be fulfilled), it must be known that there are two factors in sin: the fault by which God is offended, and the punishment which is due because of this fault. But the sin is taken away in contrition which goes with the purpose to confess and make satisfaction: "I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin" (Ps 32:5). One has no need to fear then, because for the remission of a fault contrition with a purpose to confess is sufficient.

But one might say: "If sin is thus taken away when a man is contrite, of what necessity is the priest?" To this it must be said that God does forgive the sin in contrition, and eternal punishment is changed to temporal, but nevertheless the debt of temporal punishment remains. If one should die without confession, not out of contempt for it but prevented from it, one would go to purgatory, where the punishment, as St Augustine says, is very great. When you confess, the priest absolves you of this punishment in virtue of the keys to which you subject yourself in confession. When, therefore, one has confessed, something of this punishment is taken away; and similarly when he has again confessed, and it could be that after he has confessed many times, all would be remitted.

The successors of the Apostles found another mode of

remission of this punishment, namely, the good use of indulgences, which have their force for one living in the state of grace, to the extent that is claimed for them and as indicated by the grantor. That the Pope can bring this about, is sufficiently evident. Many holy men have accomplished much good, and they have not greatly sinned, at least not mortally; and these good deeds were done for the common use of the Church. Likewise the merits of Christ and the Blessed Virgin are, as it were, in a treasury; and from it the Supreme Pontiff and they who are by him permitted can dispense these merits where it is necessary. Thus, therefore, sins are taken away not only as regards their guilt by contrition, but also as regards punishment for them in confession and through indulgences.

WHAT MUST WE DO? Concerning the third consideration of this petition, it must be known that on our part we are required to forgive our neighbor the offenses which he commits against us. Thus, we say: "As we forgive those who trespass against us." Otherwise God would not forgive us: "Does anyone harbor anger against another and expect healing from the Lord? If people have no mercy toward those like themselves, can they then seek pardon for their own sins?" (Eccl 28:3-4). "Forgive and you shall be forgiven." Therefore, only in this petition is there a condition when it says: "As we forgive those who trespass against us" (Luke 6:37). If you do not forgive, you shall not be forgiven.

But you may think, "I shall say what goes first in the petition, namely, 'forgive us,' but that 'As we forgive those who trespass against us,' I shall not say." Would you seek to deceive Christ? You certainly do not deceive Him. For Christ who made this prayer remembers it well, and cannot be deceived. If therefore, you say it with the lips, let the heart fulfill it.

But one may ask whether he who does not intend to forgive his neighbor ought to say: "As we forgive those who trespass against us." It seems not, for such is a lie. But actually it must be said that he does not lie, because he prays not in his own person, but in that of the Church which is not deceived, and, therefore the petition itself is in the plural number. And it must also be known that forgiveness is twofold. One applies to the perfect, where the one offended seeks out the offender: "Seek after peace" (Ps 33:15). The other is common to all, and to it all are equally bound, that one offended grant pardon to the one who seeks it: "Forgive your neighbor the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray" (Eccl 28:2). And from this follows that other beatitude: "Blessed are the merciful." For mercy causes us to have pity on our neighbor.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Oct 2, SUNDAY — 27th Week of Ordinary Time
8:00 AM | Sunday Mass
10:00 AM | Sunday Mass
6:00 PM | Sunday Mass
7:00 PM | Adoration

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Oct 3, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Oct 4, TUESDAY — St Francis of Assisi

7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

Oct 5, WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM | Knitting Group (meets every other Wednesday)

10:00 AM | Faith Sharing

10:30 AM | "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist" (2nd of 4 classes, offered 3x each week)

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

6:30 PM | "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist"

Oct 6, THURSDAY

10:00 AM | Women's Bible Study

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Oct 7, FRIDAY — Our Lady of the Rosary

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

12:15 PM | Daily Mass w/ Adoration

Oct 8, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group

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

7:00 PM | "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist" preceded by shared dinner

LAST WEEK

Sep 25 (26th Sunday Ordinary Time) — \$6,079.00

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Oct 1 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Rick Gagne - LIVING INTENTION
Oct 2 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Julia Bilow (req. by Lynne Weihrauch); Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)
Oct 2 10:00 AM	Renee Lau (req. by Sue & Jennie)
Oct 2, 6:00 PM	SJN Parishioners
Oct 3 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Anne McCann (req. by family)
Oct 7 (Fri), 12:15 PM	Frank & Elsie Cirrone (req. by family)
Oct 8 (Sat), 5:30 PM	SJN Parishioners
Oct 9 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Joanne Normandie
Oct 9, 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).

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

CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE

The CONTEMPORARY ENSEMBLE is always looking for new members. If you play an instrument, or love to sing, please consider joining us. We rehearse Monday nights, and sing at Mass typically two Sunday evening Masses, as well as Christmas and Easter. For more information, please reach out to Heather at heathermb769@gmail.com, or at (609) 930-2543. COME AND JOIN US!

THURSDAY MORNING WOMEN'S GROUP

This group of women meets Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM to grow deeper in faith through friendship, conversation, and shared reading. Our next session will begin on Oct 13 and continue through January. We'll be reading and discussing DWELL: A STUDY ON THE EUCHARIST. This is a study by BLESSED IS SHE. For more information about this 15-session study, visit: <https://blessedisshenet/product/dwell-blessed-conversations-eucharist/>. If you are interested in joining us, we would be delighted to welcome you! Please contact Claire Bryson at cbryson@sjnnh.org.

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.

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

To add someone to the prayer line, please contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, tschmitt@sjnh.org. To preserve the confidentiality we ask that you only provide the first name and last initial. Please pray for:

Michelle, Dan, James, Emily, Jane, Mike, Bill, Tony, Samantha, Amy, Jerry, Chandler, Priscille, Caitlin, George C., Phil, Owen, Brian, Marie, Linda, Lizzie, Elizabeth, Gerry, Diane, Paul, George, Kevin, Patrick, Kim, Joe, Deneen, Eric, Phyllis, Jim, Natalie, Tammy, Cheryl, Rob, Julia, Allan, Jamie, David, Claudette, the people of Ukraine, and all of our parishioners and their needs.

GARDEN CLEANUP

CJ Bourn will be heading the effort to clean up the gardens at the entrance to church property on Sunday, Oct 9 from 1:00-3:00 PM. If anyone would like to take a plant(s) home for their own garden, they're free to do so! They must come to collect! We hope to spread the joy and energy of that garden to many other gardens in doing so!

Saint Gianna's Place ANNUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

ST. GIANNA'S is a home for women in crisis pregnancies located in Hudson, NH. Their doors have been open for three years, and they've been able to offer a loving, supportive home to 20+ women and many babies during this time! They

will hold their ANNUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN Oct 1-thru-Oct 23. Our financial support is greatly appreciated, and helps to defray the costs day-to-day operations and educational programs offered to the young mothers. **If you would like to help, simply take home a BABY BOTTLE, fill it with your donation, and return it to the bin in the church lobby. Thank you!**

ONLINE giving

St John Neumann Parish offers ONLINE GIVING for families to easily give one-time as well as recurring donations. You can make a secure donation via Electronic Check or Debit/Credit Card by visiting the parish website <SJNNH.ORG> and scrolling to the bottom of the homepage and clicking on <ONLINE-DOANATION>.

<https://sjnnh.org/online-donation>

SJN Staff

CLAIRE BRYSON

Children's Ministry (K-5th Grade)

(603) 880-4689 x114

cbryson@sjnnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN

Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade)

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DIANE BONENFANT

Sacristan

CAROL YETTO

Music Ministry

cyetto3358@gmail

CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER and EVELYN VERBECK

Outreach & Food Pantry

(603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS

Day Away (Thursday)

(603) 880-4689

dayaway@sjnnh.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Keith Faucher (President)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Leo Bobek, Grand Knight

lbobek63@gmail.com