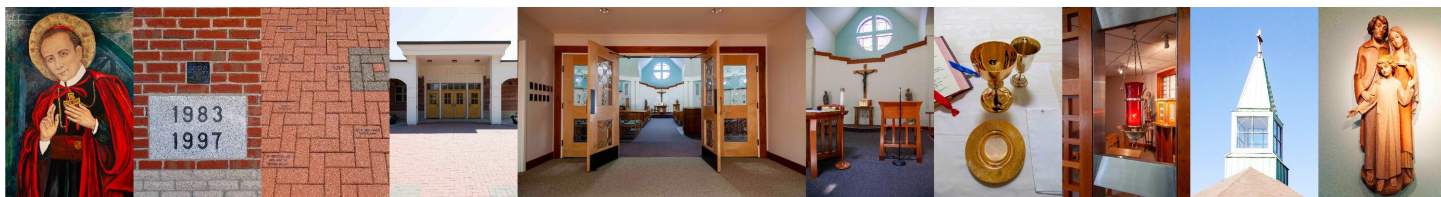


SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH
708 Milford Rd (Rte 101A), Merrimack, NH 03054 — SJNNH.ORG



November 19, 2023
33rd SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F.
Chaplain (LTC) USA (Ret.)
(603) 880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

Deacon Brian Lester
deacon@sjnnh.org

Teri Schmitt
Office Manager
(603) 880-4689 x110, office@sjnnh.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Anticipatory) 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM
Sunday 10:00 AM
Sunday 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.

ON PRAYER

The LORD is near to all them that call on him, to all that call on him in truth. —Psalm 145:18

The first excerpt below is from Pope Benedict XVI's General Audience of 8 Aug 2012 on the Memorial of St Dominic. The second is from The Nine Ways of Prayer of St Dominic, a work compiled between 1260-1288 by an unknown Dominican friar with information provided by Blessed Sister Cecilia (d. 13th c., beatified 1891) of the Monastery of St Agnes at Bologna and others who had known the Saint. It recounts St Dominic's eighth way of prayer.



SAINT DOMINIC AT PRAYER [detail]
by Blessed Fra Angelico (d. 1455, beatified 1982)

IN a previous catechesis I have already illustrated St Dominic's (d. 1221) fundamental contribution to the renewal of the Church in his time. Today, I would like to shed light on one of the essential aspects of his spirituality: his life of prayer. St Dominic was a man of prayer. In love with God, he had no other aspiration than the salvation of souls, especially those who had fallen into the net of the heresies of his time; a follower of Christ, he radically embodied the three evangelical counsels by combining the witness of a life of poverty with the proclamation of the Word. Under the Holy Spirit's guidance he made headway on the path of Christian perfection. At every moment prayer was the power that renewed his apostolic work and made it ever more fruitful.

Blessed Jordan of Saxony (d. 1237), his successor as head of the Order, wrote: "During the day, no one was friendlier than he ... conversely, at night no one watched in prayer more diligently than he. He dedicated the day to his neighbor, but gave the night to God." In



St Dominic we can see an example of harmonious integration between contemplation of the divine mysteries and apostolic work. According to the testimonies of people close to him, "he always spoke with God and of God". This observation points to his profound communion with the Lord and, at the same time, to his constant commitment to lead others to this communion with God. He left no writings on prayer, but the Dominican tradition has collected and handed down his living experience in a work called: The Nine Ways of Prayer of St Dominic. This book, compiled by a Dominican friar, helps us to understand something of the Saint's interior life and also helps us, with all the differences, to learn something of how to pray.

There are, then, nine ways to pray, according to St Dominic, and each one—always before Jesus Crucified—expresses a deeply penetrating physical and spiritual approach that fosters recollection and zeal. The first seven ways follow an ascending order, like the steps on a path, toward intimate communion with God, with the Trinity: St Dominic prayed standing bowed to express humility, lying prostrate on the ground to ask forgiveness for his sins, kneeling in penance to share in the Lord's suffering, his arms wide open, gazing at the Crucifix to contemplate Supreme Love, looking heavenwards feeling drawn to God's world.

Thus there are three positions: standing, kneeling, lying prostrate on the ground; but with the gaze ever directed to our Crucified Lord. However the last two positions, on which I would like to reflect briefly, correspond to two of the Saint's customary devotional practices. First, personal meditation, in which prayer acquires an even more intimate, fervent and soothing dimension. After reciting the Liturgy of the Hours and after celebrating Mass, St Dominic prolonged his conversation with God without setting any time limit. Sitting quietly, he would pause in recollection in an inner attitude of listening, while reading a book or gazing at the Crucifix. He experienced these moments of closeness to God so intensely that his reactions of joy or of tears were outwardly visible. In this way, through meditation, he absorbed the reality of the faith. Witnesses recounted that at times he entered a kind of ecstasy with his face transfigured, but that immediately afterwards he would humbly resume his daily work, recharged by the power that comes from on High.

Then come his prayers while traveling from one convent to another. He would recite Lauds, Midday Prayer and Vespers with his companions, and, passing through the valleys and across the hills he would contemplate the beauty of creation. A hymn of praise and thanksgiving to God for his many gifts would well up from his heart, and above all for the greatest wonder: the redemptive work of Christ.

Dear friends, St Dominic reminds us that prayer, personal contact with God is at the root of the witness to faith which every Christian must bear at home, at work, in social commitments and even in moments of relaxation; only this real relationship with God gives us the strength to live through every event with intensity, especially the moments of greatest anguish. This Saint also reminds us of the importance of physical positions in our prayer.

Kneeling, standing before the Lord, fixing our gaze on the Crucifix, silent recollection—these are not of secondary importance but help us to put our whole selves inwardly in touch with God. I would like to recall once again the need, for our spiritual life, to find time everyday for quiet prayer; we must make this time for ourselves, especially during the holidays, to have a little time to talk with God. It will also be a way to help those who are close to us enter into the radiant light of God's presence which brings the peace and love we all need. Thank you.

OUR Father, Saint Dominic, had yet another manner of praying at once beautiful, devout, and pleasing, which he practiced after the canonical hours and the thanksgiving following meals. He was then zealous and filled with the spirit of devotion which he drew from the divine words which had been sung in the choir or refectory. Our father quickly withdrew to some solitary place, to his cell or elsewhere, and recollected himself in the presence of God. He would sit quietly, and after the sign of the cross, begin to read from a book opened before him. His spirit would then be sweetly aroused as if he heard Our Lord speaking, as we are told in the psalms: "I will hear what the Lord God will speak to me" (Ps 84:9). As if disputing with a companion he would first appear somewhat impatient in his thought and words. At the next moment he would become a quiet listener, then again seem to discuss and contend. He seemed almost to laugh and weep at the same time, and then, attentively and submissively, would murmur to himself and strike his breast.

Should some curious person have desired to watch our holy father Dominic, he would have appeared to him like Moses who went into the desert, to Horeb, the sacred mountain of God, and there beheld the burning bush and heard the Lord speaking to him as he was bowed down in the divine presence. This holy custom of our father seems, as it were, to resemble the prophetic mountain of the Lord inasmuch as he quickly passed upwards from reading to prayer, from prayer to meditation, and from meditation to contemplation.

When he read alone in this solitary fashion, Dominic used to venerate the book, bow to it, and kiss it. This was especially true if he was reading the Gospels and when he had been reading the very words which had come from the mouth of Christ. At other times he would hide his face and cover it with his cappa [cape], or bury his face in his hands and veil it slightly with the capuce [hood]. Then he would weep, all fervent and filled with holy desires. Following this, as if to render thanks to some person of great excellence for benefits received, he would reverently rise and incline his head for a short time. Wholly refreshed and, in

great interior peace, he then returned to his book.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Nov 19, SUNDAY — 33rd Week of Ordinary Time

8:00 AM | Sunday Mass
10:00 AM | Sunday Mass
11:00 AM | **K-5th Grade Formation**
6:00 PM | Sunday Mass
7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 PM | **High School Formation**

Nov 20, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass
6:30 PM | **Middle School Formation**

Nov 21, TUESDAY

6:00 PM | **YOUTH & ADULT "Great Adventure Bible Study"**
7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

Nov 22, WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM | Knitting Group (meets every other Wednesday)
12:15 PM | Daily Mass
6:30 PM | Grief Share w/ Deacon Lester
7:00 PM | **"Jesus and the Eucharist" Video Series**

Nov 23, THURSDAY

9:00 AM | Day Away
10:00 AM | Thursday Women's Group
12:15 PM | Daily Mass
5:30 PM | **"Jesus and the Eucharist" Video Series**

Nov 24, FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry
10:30 AM | **ADULT "Great Adventure Bible Study"**
12:15 PM | Daily Mass w/ Eucharistic Adoration

Nov 25, SATURDAY

9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)
4:00 PM | Confession (until 5:00 PM)
5:30 PM | Anticipatory Sunday Mass

OFFERING

12 Nov '23 (32nd Sunday Ordinary Time):
posted on the bulletin board opposite the
front office.

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Nov 18 (Sat), 5:30 PM | James Gallagher (req. by Thomas & Cynthia Sullivan)
Nov 19 (Sun), 8:00 AM | Kelly Paquin (req. by Maureen Mooney)
Nov 19, 10:00 AM | Peggy Capozzi + Rev. Alban Bulger (req. by John & Mary Mann)
Nov 19, 6:00 PM | Michael Lafleur (req. by family)
Nov 20 (Mon), 12:15 PM | Jean Gagne (req. by Linda Ray)
Nov 22 (Wed), 12:15 PM | Larry Hardy (req. by Judy Hardy)
Nov 23 (Thu), 12:15 PM | Blaise Flynn, Dominican Sister

Nov 24 (Fri), 12:15 PM | (req. by Louise Hickey)
Carol Medeiros Family both living and dead (req. by Emily Medeiros)
Nov 25 (Sat), 5:30 PM | Roger Barney - 9 yrs. (req. by John & Karen Bozzuto)
Nov 26 (Sun), 8:00 AM | Theresa Calautti (req. by Maureen Mooney)
Nov 26, 10:00 AM | Mike & Judy Hardy (62nd Wedding Anniv.) - LIVING INTENTION
Nov 27, 6:00 PM | Bill Raven (req. by Heather Wiggins)

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

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

K-5th GRADE: Sundays - 19 Nov, 3 and 17 Dec

HIGH SCHOOL: Sunday - 19 Nov, 3, 10 and 17 Dec

MIDDLE SCHOOL: Mondays - 20 Nov, 4 and 18 Dec

YOUTH "Great Adventure Bible Study):

Tuesday nights at 6:00 PM

ADULT "Great Adventure Bible Study":

Tuesday nights at 6:00 PM and Friday mornings at 10:30 AM (except for Nov 24 and Dec 26).

Next EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL ENCOUNTER NIGHT:

Nov 30 (Thu), 7:00-8:00 PM

IN MEMORIAM

We remember our faithful departed in prayer:

Diane Bonenfant, Maria Amelia, Deceased Members of the Ammirati Family, Andy Anderson, Mary Attella, Leo Attella, Jeryl Bacon, The Baffoni Family, Elizabeth Barney, Roger Barney, Batcheller Loesch Ancestors, The Beaupre Family, Pauline Bellerose, Berthelsen Pennel Ancestors, John Berube, Lorraine Berube, Evelyn Blomehard, OFS, Mary & Larry Boudreau, Albin Boulger, Bower Family, James H. Bowyer, Jackie Bozzuto, John A. Bozzuto, Marie Bozzuto, Vince & Marie Buscema, Fr. Bernard Carger, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Chaisson, Pete Champagne, Ian Connolly, Maryann Coulter, Nancy DeBeradinis, Marie Davis, Pat Davis, Barbara Davis, Kenneth Davis, Ronald Denver, Lisa Deware, Ezio DiFilippis, Joseph Doherty, The Dubay Family, Roland & Jeanne Dube', Mr. & Mrs. Joseph DuBois, Russ & Edna Durkee, The Durkee Family, Evelyn & Ralph Dyan, Joseph & Anna Fagan, Joseph Feamster, Ramon Fernandez, Laurence Fletcher, Beatriz Fuentes, Ernest & Mary Jane Fusi, Maurice and Jean Gagne, Sr.

Cecile Gamache, PM, Jean Gelinas, Susan Geraghty, Linda Graham, Jean B. Greene, John J. Greene, Leona Guercio, Patrick Guercio, Little Larry Hardy, All nine of the Hardy Family, Matthew Harris, Nina Helfreth, Enrique Henriquez, Rosario Hernandez, Herman G. Hetzler, Elizabeth Hetzler, Billy Howell, Jr., Jane Hrogh, The Hunsader Family, The Jerabek Family, Deceased Members of the Kelly Family, James Kenna, Mark Kenna, Sr., Ruth Kenna, Theresa Klumpp, Roy Klumpp, Edith Krhoun, Edward Krhoun, Bea Lampin, Joseph & Laura Leclerc, Tara LePore, Geary LePore, Riley Lessard, Norman Levasseur, Alfred Levasseur, Yvonne Levasseur, The Licata Family, Rainy Lill, Paul & Alice Lowney, The Lowney Family, Michael Lyle, Zachary Lyle, Deceased Members of the Maresco Family, Deceased Members of the Marolla Family, Deb Matson-Champagne, OFS, Anna M. McCann, Mary A. McCann, Michael C. McCann, Mary McCormack, John & Kathleen McKee, Martin McKee, Paul McKee, Michael Mercier, Tom Mercier, Ben Millikan, Mr. & Mrs. Max Miosek, Marion Morgan, Edna Mosher, William Mulcahy, Mary Mulcahy, Tom Mulhern, Carlos Mulino, Ed Myers, Mike & Jean Nader, Alma Needer, James Neely, Bill & Pauline Neely, John Neuzil, Florence Neuzil, Camilla Neveu, Roger Neveu, Jennie Pinelle, Peter Prifty, Pauline Prifty, Barbara Prifty, Roland & Juliette Poulin, Roger & Normand Poulin, Luis Quintero, Brigida Quintero, Sr. Rita R., Robert Riley, George Ritz, Mary Jane Ritz, John & Catherine Rombola, Francis Ryan, Ruth Ryan, Marie Ryan, Joseph Ryan, Laura Sassak, Fred Scherr, Glenn Scherr, Patricia Sciple, Deceased Members of the Stabile Family, Kazimierz Stankiewicz, Czeslawa Stankiewicz, Alina Stankiewicz, Eugeniusz Stankiewicz, William Steele, Earl Stimson, James & Connie Sullivan, Pat Sullivan, OFS, Nancy Tanner, Mary Moss Tanner, Ed Towne, Lorraine Trombley, Ray Trombley, Lillie & Carl Tuzris, Cyra Valdez, Cal Vincent Usera, Usera Tous Ancestors, Janet Wadleigh, Mary Irene Walsh, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Wezalis, Rodger Yargeau, John Zewski, Sophie Zewski, Al Zewski.

**V. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.
R/. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May
their souls and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in
peace. Amen.**

PRAYER LINE MINISTRY

**To add someone to the PRAYER LINE, please
contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689,
tschmitt@sjnnh.org. Please pray for:**

Those in our Grief Share Group. Michelle. Thanksgiving for Jerry. Jennifer. Marina & Chris. Mel & her student. Steve & family. Jan. Jeanne. Victoria. Christina. Brian. Pat & James. Thanksgiving for Riley. Ian's family. The Gavert family. Heather W. Heather A. Elaine's sister. Kim. Erick. Danny. Eric. Shannon. Bill. Deanna. Sue. Lorin. Jennifer. Bob. Joan. Crystal. For a just ending to the wars in Israel and Ukraine. All of our parishioners and their needs.

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>

The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #10896 from St. John Neumann would like to Congratulate this year's winners of our ANNUAL TURKEY RAFFLE:

Andy Usera, Jim Jolly, Paula Durkee (donated to SJN Food Pantry), Chris Lussier, Parishioner (donated to SJN Food Pantry), Sheila Burnette, Teri Schmidt, Judy Hardy, Teri Schmidt (donated to SJN Food Pantry), Mike Fletcher.

Thanks to your efforts, the Knights were able to raise almost \$350.00 for Knights Charities, including the SJN Food Pantry!

SJN Staff

CLAIRE BRYSON

Children (K-5) and Family Ministry

cbryson@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x114

CHERI ANDERSEN

Youth (6-12) and Adult Ministry

candersen@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW

Music Ministry

music@sjnnh.org

CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER & EVELYN VERBECK

Outreach & Food Pantry

outreach@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS

Day Away (Thursday)

dayaway@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689

PARISH COUNCIL

Keith Faucher (President)

parishcouncil@sjnnh.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

kofc@sjnnh.org

Arvid Skogsholm (Grand Knight)