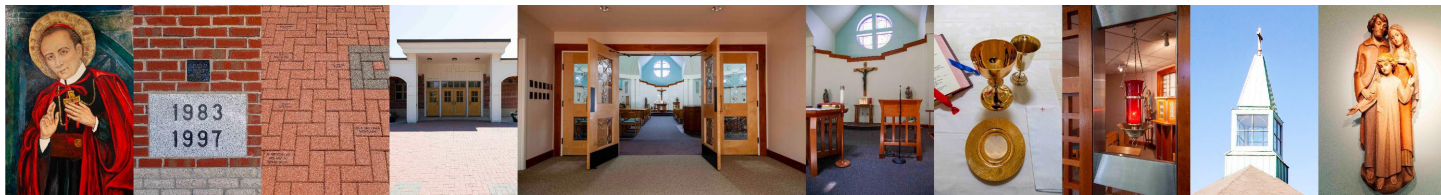


SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH
708 Milford Rd (Rte 101A), Merrimack, NH 03054 — SJNNH.ORG



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 28, 2024

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 (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.

KEEPING FAITH

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. —2 Tim 4:7

The first excerpt below is from a homily by St Basil (d. 379) in which he appeals to the faithful to defend the faith in which they were baptized and by which they received new life in Christ and adoption as children of God: "The common aim of all our adversaries, and of all who are contrary to sound doctrine (1 Tim 1:10), is to overthrow the foundations of the faith of Christ, by leveling the Apostolic traditions to the earth, wholly destroying them." The second excerpt is from a homily by St John Chrysostom (d. 407). He assures the faithful that God's grace is sufficient to overcome all the obstacles that oppose our salvation ... provided we remain "his people, the sheep of his flock" (Ps 95:7).



CHRIST WALKING ON THE WATER
by Richard Dadd (d. 1886)

WHENCE is it that we are Christians? Through faith, all will answer. How are we saved? By being born again in the grace of baptism. For how else could we be? Then, knowing that this salvation is confirmed by the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, shall we cast aside this form of doctrine (Rom 6:17) handed down to us? Would this not be the cause of the greatest grief if we now found we were further off from salvation than when we first believed (Rom 8:11); that we must now deny what before we believed? For it is the same loss for anyone to depart this life unbaptized, as to receive that baptism from



which one thing of what has been handed down has been omitted. And whoever does not observe the profession we made on our first entering in, when, delivered from idols, we approached the living God, and does not hold fast to it throughout life as his surest protection, makes himself a stranger from the promises of God (1 Thess 1:9); dishonoring the pledge he himself gave at his profession of faith.

For if for me my baptism was the beginning of my life, and that day of my rebirth the first of all days, then, plainly, the word I spoke on the day of my adoption is the one most of all to be honored. Can I then, misled by the deceptions of such teachers as these, deny that tradition which brought me to the Light, guided me to the knowledge of my God, and made me a son of God who before was His enemy through sin? For myself I pray that I may depart to the Lord holding fast to this profession; and I exhort them also, to preserved the faith inviolate till the Day of Christ, to maintain the Spirit undivided from the Father, and from the Son, and observe the faith of their baptism, both in their profession of faith, and in giving praise of God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to Whom be praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

AS long as we are sheep, we overcome and, though surrounded by countless wolves, we emerge victorious; but if we turn into wolves, we are overcome, for we love the shepherd's help. [Jesus], after all, feeds the sheep not wolves, and will abandon you if you do not let him show his power in you.

What he says is this: "Do not be upset that, as I send you out among the wolves, I bid you be as sheep and doves. I could have managed things quite differently and sent you, not to suffer evil nor to yield like sheep to the wolves, but to be fiercer than lions. But the way I have chosen is right. It will bring you greater praise and at the same time manifest my power". That is what he told Paul: My grace is enough for you, for in weakness my power is made perfect. "I intend", he says, "to deal in the same way with you". For, when he says, I am sending you out like sheep, he implies: "But do not therefore lose heart, for I know and am certain that no one will be able to overcome you".

The Lord, however, does want them to contribute something, lest everything seem to be the work of grace, and they seem to win their reward without deserving it. Therefore he adds: You must be clever as snakes and innocent as doves. But, they may object, what good is our cleverness amid so many dangers? How can we be clever when tossed about by so many waves? However great the cleverness of the sheep as he stands among the wolves—so many wolves!—what can it accomplish? However great the innocence of the dove, what good does it do him, with so many hawks swooping upon him? To all this I say:

Cleverness and innocence admittedly do these irrational creatures no good, but they can help you greatly.

What cleverness is the Lord requiring here? The cleverness of a snake. A snake will surrender everything and will put up no great resistance even if its body is being cut in pieces, provided it can save its head. So you, the Lord is saying, must surrender everything but your faith: money, body, even life itself. For faith is the head and the root; keep that, and though you lose all else, you will get it back in abundance. The Lord therefore counseled the disciples to be not simply clever or innocent; rather he joined the two qualities so that they become a genuine virtue. He insisted on the cleverness of the snake so that deadly wounds might be avoided, and he insisted on the innocence of the dove so that revenge might not be taken on those who injure or lay traps for you. Cleverness is useless without innocence.

Do not believe that this precept is beyond your power. More than anyone else, the Lord knows the true natures of created things; he knows that moderation, not a fierce defense, beats back a fierce attack.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Apr 28, SUNDAY — 4th Week of Easter

8:00 AM | Sunday Mass

10:00 AM | Sunday Mass

6:00 PM | Sunday Mass

7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration

Apr 29, MONDAY — St Catherine of Siena

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

6:15 PM | Monday Women's Group

Apr 30, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

May 1, WEDNESDAY

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

10:30 AM | "EPIC: The Early Church" Study

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

6:00 PM | "EPIC: The Early Church" Study

6:30 PM | Grief Share

May 2, THURSDAY — St Athanasius

9:00 AM | Day Away

10:00 AM | Thursday Women's Group

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

6:00 PM | CONFIRMATION MASS w/ Bishop Francis Christian

May 3, FRIDAY — SS. Philip and James

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

10:15 AM | ADULT "Great Adventure Bible Study"

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

May 4, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | First Saturday Rosary

9:00 AM | First Saturday Mass

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

21 Apr '24 (4th Sunday of Easter): \$6,452

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 27 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Jacob - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Rose Picone)
Apr 28 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Jacob - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Rose Picone)
Apr 28, 10:00 AM	Lourdes Pineda - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Linda Ray)
Apr 28, 6:00 PM	Michael - MEMORIAL (req. by Rose Picone)
Apr 29 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Paula Super (req. by Denise & Claudette Odesse)
May 1 (Wed), 12:15 PM	Jen Medeiros - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Emily Medeiros)
May 2 (Thu), 12:15 PM	Jen Medeiros - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Emily Medeiros)
May 3 (Fri), 12:15 PM	Jen Medeiros - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Emily Medeiros)
May 4 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Michael - MEMORIAL (req. by Rose Picone)
May 5 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)
May 5, 10:00 AM	Ginny Early (req. by family)
May 5, 6:00 PM	Joseph Oertel (req. by the Connelly Family)

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

TOTUS TUUS

After a wildly successful first year, **TOTUS TUUS** will return to St John Neumann this Summer (July 7-12). All youth, Grades 1-12 are encouraged to attend this very special week led by a team of college aged young adults.

- Rising 1st thru 6th Graders** will gather during the daytime Monday-Friday (July 8-12) from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM for songs, games, Mass, lots of learning and lots of fun.

- Rising 7th-12th Graders** will gather in the evenings Sunday-Thursday (July 7-11) from 6:30-8:30 PM for fellowship: socializing, play, music, snacks and prayer: Adoration, Evening prayer, Confession and more.

Please email Claire (cbryson@sjnnh.org) with any questions. Sign up form is available in the gathering space and online at SJNNH.ORG.

EPIC: THE EARLY CHURCH

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM or 6:00 PM

EPIC: THE EARLY CHURCH is a 10-part video series that explores the people and events that shaped the first 500 years of the Church. Pope St John Paul II said, "Christ is the foundation and center of history; he is its meaning and ultimate goal." For more info: candersen@sjnnh.org. STARTS Wednesday, 10 April.

MAKING MIDDLE SCHOOL MEANINGFUL



DROP-IN TOURS

May 15

Tours any time between 8:30 am - 1:00 pm
6 Bartlett Ave • Nashua, NH


Saint Christopher
ACADEMY



Coats for Kids

 **Knights of Columbus®**

The Knights of Columbus are accepting donations of coats for kids between the ages of 3 to 12 from April 5 thru September 6, 2024. All coats will be checked and cleaned to ensure good condition. A collection box is located in the church coat room. They will be donated to families in need

this Fall.

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:

For those in our Grief Share Ministry (Sheryl. Mike. Samantha. Don. Angela. John. Jo. Diane. Cheryl. Theresa. Priscilla.) Joe. Mike. Cecile. Caleb. Joan. Matt. Sue. Barbara. Benjamin. Julianne. Thomas. Paul. Kathleen's Family. Steve. Ruth. Ginny. Gratitude for Linda's Recovery. Dan. Bob. Tom. Rose. Deb. Pat. Julianne. Gary. Jan. Phyllis. Deb. Alison. Russ. Souls of Roland, Lillian, Melodie and Paula. Claire & family, Dan & family. Cameron. Mark. Thomas. Fr. Lopez. Fr. Roger. Loreen. Jay. Paul. Joe. Paul. Evelyn. Alan. Matt & Michael. Faige. Bob. Gary. Phyllis. Jessica. Diane. Ky. Thanksgiving for Paul. Cindy & Family. Jim. Leon. Diane. Chase. Thomas. Rita. Soul of Christopher and Thomas. Red. Timmy. Andres. Caitlin. Hazel. Dean. Alyssa. Rose. Angelo. Sue. Maria Elena. Margaret. Sue. Phyllis. Jake. Roseanne. Steve. Kathleen. Thanksgiving for Michael and Avery. Those that have stepped away from the faith. Vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs.

CREATION CARE

Pope Francis asks, "What kind of world do we want to leave to those who will come after us, to children who are growing up?" LAUDATO SI WEEK (May 19-26) is a Vatican-sponsored initiative to reflect on the encyclical letter LAUDATO SI, "On Care for Our Common Home". "Let's take care of creation, a gift of our good Creator God.

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>

PARISH *online*

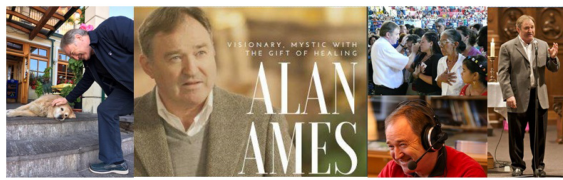
For monthly parish updates, subscribe to FLOCKNOTES by going to:

<https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

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

INSTAGRAM: sjnmerrimack

FACEBOOK: St John Neumann-Merrimack



Mass, Talk, Adoration, Healing Service

Join us for the visit of
ALAN AMES
of Perth, Australia
International Catholic Evangelist
for a Healing Service following Mass:
May 6 (Monday), 7:00 PM

St John Neumann Parish
708 Millford Rd (Rte 101A)
Merrimack, NH 03054
(603) 880-4689

No Registration, No Charge, Optional Basket Offering

SJN Staff

CLAIRE BRYSON

Children (K-5) and Family Ministry

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

CHERI ANDERSEN

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)