

July 28, 2024
17th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F.
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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 CHARITY

[The first commandment is this:] 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these. —Mt 12:30-31

The excerpt below is from St Thérèse of Lisieux's (d. 1897) autobiography, Story of a Soul. She highlighted words/phrases for emphasis.

THIS year, dear Mother, God has given me the grace to understand what CHARITY is; I understood it before, it is true, but in an imperfect way. I had never fathomed the meaning of these words of Jesus: "*The second commandment is LIKE the first: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*" I applied myself especially to loving God, and it is in loving Him that I understood my love was not to be expressed only in words, for: "*It is not those who say: 'Lord, Lord!' who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but those who do the will of my Father in heaven.*" Jesus has revealed this will several times or I should say on almost every page of His Gospel. But at the Last Supper, when He knew the hearts of His disciples were burning with a more ardent love for Him who had just given Himself to them in the unspeakable mystery of His Eucharist, this sweet Savior wished to give them a new commandment. He said to them with inexpressible tenderness: "*A new commandment I give you that you love one another: THAT AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, YOU ALSO LOVE ONE ANOTHER. By this will all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*" How did Jesus love His disciples and why did He love them? Ah! it was not their natural qualities that could have attracted Him, since there was between Him and them an infinite distance. He was knowledge, Eternal Wisdom, while they were poor ignorant fishermen filled with earthly thoughts. And still Jesus called them his friends, His brothers. He desires to see them reign with Him in the kingdom of His Father, and to open that kingdom to them He wills to die on the cross, for He said: "*Greater love than this no man has than that he lay down his life for his friends.*" Dear Mother, when meditating upon these words of Jesus, I understood how imperfect was my love for my Sisters. I saw I didn't love them as God loves them. Ah! I understand now that CHARITY consists in bearing with the faults of others, in not being surprised at their weakness, in being edified by the smallest acts of virtue we see them practice. But I understood above all that CHARITY must not remain hidden in the bottom of the heart. Jesus has said: "*No one lights a lamp*



and puts it under a bushel basket, but upon the lampstand, so as to give light to ALL in the house." It seems to me that this lamp represents CHARITY which must enlighten and rejoice not only those who are dearest to us but "ALL who are in the house" without distinction. When the Lord commanded His people to love their neighbor as themselves, He had not as yet come upon the earth. Knowing the extent to which each one loved himself, He was not able to ask of His creatures a greater love than this for one's neighbor. But when Jesus gave His Apostles a new commandment, HIS OWN COMMANDMENT, as He calls it later on, it is no longer a question of loving one's neighbor as oneself but of loving him as He, Jesus, has loved him, and will love him to the consummation of the ages. Ah! Lord, I know you don't command the impossible. You know better than I do my weakness and imperfection; You know very well that never would I be able to love my Sisters as You love them, unless You, O my Jesus, loved them in me. It is because You wanted to give me this grace that You made Your new commandment. Oh! how I love this new commandment since it gives me the assurance that Your Will is to love in me all those You command me to love! Yes, I feel it, when I am charitable, it is Jesus alone who is acting in me, and the more united I am to Him, the more also do I love my Sisters. When I wish to increase this love in me, and when especially the devil tries to place before the eyes of my soul the faults of such and such a Sister who is less attractive to me, I hasten to search out her virtues, her good intentions; I tell myself that even if I did see her fall once, she could easily have won a great number of victories which she is hiding through humility, and that even what appears to me as a fault can very easily be an act of virtue because of her intention. I have no trouble in convincing myself of this truth because of a little experience I had which showed me we must never judge. During recreation the portress rang twice; the large workman's gate had to be opened to bring in some trees for the crib. Recreation was not too gay because you were not there, dear Mother, and I thought that if they sent me to serve as third party I would be happy; at exactly that moment Mother Subprioress told me to go and serve in this capacity, or else the Sister who was at my side. Immediately I began to untie our apron but slowly in order that my companion untie hers before me, for I thought of giving her the pleasure of serving as third party. The Sister who was replacing the Procuratrix was looking at us, and seeing me get up last, she said: "Ah! I thought as much, that you were not going to gain this pearl for your crown, you were going too slowly." Certainly, the whole community believed I had acted through selfishness, and I cannot say how much good such a small thing did to my soul, making me indulgent toward the weaknesses of others. This incident prevents me from being vain when I am judged favorably because I say to myself: Since one can take my little acts of virtue for imperfections, one can also be mistaken in taking for virtue what is nothing but imperfection. Then I say with St. Paul: *"To me it is a very small thing to be judged by you, or by any human tribunal, but neither do I judge myself. He who judges me is THE LORD."* In order that this judgment be favorable or rather that I be not judged at all, I want to be

charitable in my thoughts toward others at all times, for Jesus has said: "Judge not, and you shall not be judged." Mother, when reading what I have just written, you could believe that the practice of CHARITY is not difficult for me. It is true; for several months now I no longer have to struggle to practice this beautiful virtue. I don't mean by this that I no longer have any faults; ah! I am too imperfect for that. But I mean that I don't have any trouble in rising when I have fallen because in a certain combat I won a great victory; and the heavenly militia now comes to my aid since it cannot bear seeing me defeated after having seen me victorious in the glorious battle I am going to try to describe. There is in the Community a Sister who has the faculty of displeasing me in everything, in her ways, her words, her character, everything seems very disagreeable to me. And still, she is a holy religious who must be very pleasing to God. Not wishing to give in to the natural antipathy I was experiencing, I told myself that CHARITY must not consist in feelings but in works; then I set myself to doing for this Sister what I would do for the person I loved the most. Each time I met her I prayed to God for her, offering Him all her virtues and merits. I felt this was pleasing to Jesus, for there is no artist who doesn't love to receive praise for his works, and Jesus, the Artist of souls, is happy when we don't stop at the exterior, but, penetrating into the inner sanctuary where He chooses to dwell, we admire its beauty. I wasn't content simply with praying very much for this Sister who gave me so many struggles, but I took care to render her all the services possible, and when I was tempted to answer her back in a disagreeable manner, I was content with giving her my most friendly smile, and with changing the subject of the conversation, for the Imitation says: "It is better to leave each one in his own opinion than to enter into arguments." Frequently, when I was at recreation (I mean during the work periods) and had occasion to work with this Sister, I used to run away like a deserter whenever my struggles became too violent. As she was absolutely unaware of my feelings for her, never did she suspect the motives for my conduct and she remained convinced that her character was very pleasing to me. One day at recreation she asked in almost these words: "Would you tell me, Sister Thérèse of the Child Jesus, what attracts you so much toward me; every time you look at me, I see you smile?" Ah! what attracted me was Jesus hidden in the depths of her soul; Jesus who makes sweet what is most bitter. I answered that I was smiling because I was happy to see her (it is understood that I did not add that this was from a spiritual standpoint).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Jul 28, SUNDAY — 17th Week of Ordinary Time

8:00 AM | Sunday Mass

10:00 AM | Sunday Mass

6:00 PM | Sunday Mass

7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration

Jul 29, MONDAY — SS Martha, Mary and Lazarus

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

6:15 PM | Monday Women's Group

Jul 30, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

Jul 31, WEDNESDAY — St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

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

10:30 AM | No "HEBREWS" Bible Study Class

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

6:30 PM | No "HEBREWS" Bible Study Class

Aug 1, THURSDAY — St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop

9:00 AM | Day Away

10:00 AM | Thursday Women's Group

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Aug 2, FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Aug 3, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group

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 Jul '24 (16th Sunday Ordinary Time): \$7,609.00

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Jul 27 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Private Intention (req. by Patricia)
Jul 28 (Sun), 8:00 AM	William Fahey, Jr. (req. by Maureen Mooney)
Jul 28, 10:00 AM	Jean Gagne (req. by Linda Ray)
Jul 28, 6:00 PM	Al Porcaro
Jul 29 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Dr. Boris Naprta (req. by Anica, Sara & Emma)
Jul 31 (Wed), 12:15 PM	Ronald White (req. by Doris Nolan)
Aug 1 (Thu), 12:15 PM	Kenneth Call (req. by Loretta Keaney)
Aug 2 (Fri), 12:15 PM	Eugene Mooney
Aug 3 (Sat), 9:00 AM	Holy Souls
Aug 3, 5:30 PM	Rick Boucher (req. by family)
Aug 4 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)
Aug 4, 10:00 AM	Paula Super (req. by Denis & Claudette Odesse)
Aug 4, 6:00 PM	Lauren Weinstock - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Denis Weinstock)

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



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress was this past week (July 17-21). Speaker presentations and more can be viewed on either the EWTN or YOUTUBE websites.

PARISH PRAYER LINE

To add someone please contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, tschmitt@sjnnh.org. PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Karen. Fran. Derrick. Jen. Lisa. Bob. Sue. Peg. Paul. Mike & family. Larry. Steve. Jessica. Theresa. Nancy. Mary. Joe. Maria. Ryan. Maria. Mona Lisa. Family of Larry. Family of Dolores. Russ. Special intention. Vivian. Ginny. Tom. Ellen. Bob. John. Barb. Mahmoud. Alejandra. Joe. Hazel. Branden. Personal Intention. Kathy. Leon. Ron. Brianna. Brenda. Jane. Melody. Tony. Bob. Lisa. Andrew. Dale. Suzie. Carol-Ann. Deb. Soul of Jeremiah. Ginny. All our priests. Eucharistic Procession heading to Indianapolis. Holy Souls in Purgatory. Those that have stepped away from the faith. For vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS

Join us to read and discuss the ENDOW STUDY: "CREATED FOR COMMUNITY", where we'll talk about who God calls us to be as women and what that looks like in our day to day lives. This is a great opportunity to grow in relationship with God and friends. **We will meet Sundays (June 30th-August 11th) from 11:00 AM-12:30 PM.** The group will be led by Elizabeth Bryson (a sophomore at Franciscan University) and Katie Oslin. Cost is \$20. To sign up, email cbryson@sjnnh.org

PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, non-judgmental help is

available from Project Rachel Ministry. Call or email: (603) 663-0192; ProjectRachel@rcbm.org for PROJECT RACHEL in New Hampshire. Spanish speakers may visit EsperanzaPosAborto.org.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL 2024

The New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) is a Diocesan wide effort to support the ministries of our local Catholic Church here in New Hampshire. The annual appeal supports the following charitable works:

- Catholic Education and Catholic Schools
- Seminarians, Permanent Deacons, and Vocations
- Priest Retirement
- Parable magazine
- Parish needs (Parish-to-Parish Support Fund and individual parish support)**
- Missionaries abroad and multicultural ministry in NH**
- Catholic University of America**
- The US Conference of Catholic of Bishops**
- Faith Formation: Campus Ministry and the Totus Tuus Program
- Catholic Cemeteries

**These were second collections that used to be taken up in the parishes, but which are now consolidated into the annual New Hampshire Catholic Appeal.

Our participation helps the entire Church in New Hampshire where the needs are the greatest: recruiting new priests, evangelization, the vulnerable, and more. Also, our support makes these ministries possible that no one parish could support on its own. Our gifts demonstrate our commitment to the greater Church for we are many parts in the Diocese of Manchester but one body in Christ with a common mission.



TO MAKE A GIFT: Return the GIFT ENVELOPE distributed at Mass, or the one you may receive in the mail. Or, DONATE ONLINE at the NHCA website:

<https://www.catholicnh.org/nhca>

CREATION CARE

"Respect for creation is of immense consequence, not least because 'creation is the beginning and the foundation of all God's works,' and its preservation has now become essential for the pacific coexistence of mankind." —Pope Benedict XVI

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)

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FACEBOOK: St John Neumann-Merrimack

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