

August 4, 2024  
18th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

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

**Deacon Brian Lester**  
[deacon@sjnnh.org](mailto:deacon@sjnnh.org)

**Teri Schmitt**  
Office Manager  
(603) 880-4689 x110, [office@sjnnh.org](mailto:office@sjnnh.org)

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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.

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#### 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.

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#### ON PURGATORY

Nothing impure will ever enter it [Heaven], nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. —Rev 21:27

The excerpts below are the first four chapters of St Catherine of Genoa's (d. 1510) Treatise on Purgatory published 41 years after her death.

The state of the souls who are in PURGATORY, how they are exempt from all self-love.

1. THIS holy Soul found herself, while still in the flesh, placed by the fiery love of God in PURGATORY, which burnt her, cleansing whatever in her needed cleansing, to the end that when she passed from this life she might be presented to the sight of God, her dear Love. By means of this loving fire, she understood in her soul the state of the souls of the faithful who are placed in PURGATORY to purge them of all the rust and stains of sin of which they have not rid themselves in this life. And since this Soul, placed by the divine fire in this loving PURGATORY, was united to that divine love and content with all that was wrought in her, she understood the state of the souls who are in PURGATORY. And she said: The souls who are in PURGATORY cannot, as I understand, choose but be there, and this is by God's ordinance who therein has done justly. They cannot turn their thoughts back to themselves, nor can they say, "Such sins I have committed for which I deserve to be here," nor, "I would that I had not committed them for then I would go now to Paradise," nor, "That one will leave sooner than I," nor, "I will leave sooner than he". They can have neither of themselves nor of others any memory, whether of good or evil, whence they would have greater pain than they suffer ordinarily. **So happy are they to be within God's ordinance, and that He should do all which pleases Him, as it pleases Him that in their greatest pain they cannot think of themselves.** They see only the working of the divine goodness, which leads man to itself mercifully, so that he no longer sees aught of the pain or good which may befall him. Nor would these souls be in pure charity if they could see that pain or good. They cannot see that they are in pain because of their sins; that sight they cannot hold in their minds because in it there would be an active imperfection, which cannot be where no actual sin can be. Only once, as they pass from this life, do they see the cause of the PURGATORY



they endure; never again do they see it for in another sight of it there would be self. Being then in charity from which they cannot now depart by any actual fault, they can no longer will nor desire save with the pure will of pure charity. Being in that fire of PURGATORY, they are within the divine ordinance, which is pure charity, and in nothing can they depart thence for they are deprived of the power to sin as of the power to merit.

What is the joy of the souls in PURGATORY. A comparison to shew how they see God ever more and more. The difficulty of speaking of this state.

2. **I believe no happiness can be found worthy to be compared with that of a soul in PURGATORY except that of the saints in Paradise; and day by day this happiness grows as God flows into these souls, more and more as the hindrance to His entrance is consumed.** Sin's rust is the hindrance, and the fire burns the rust away so that more and more the soul opens itself up to the divine inflowing. A thing which is covered cannot respond to the sun's rays, not because of any defect in the sun, which is shining all the time, but because the cover is an obstacle; if the cover be burnt away, this thing is open to the sun; more and more as the cover is consumed does it respond to the rays of the sun. It is in this way that rust, which is sin, covers souls, and in PURGATORY is burnt away by fire; the more it is consumed, the more do the souls respond to God, the true sun. As the rust lessens and the soul is opened up to the divine ray, happiness grows; until the time be accomplished the one wanes and the other waxes. Pain however does not lessen but only the time for which pain is endured. As for will: never can the souls say these pains are pains, so contented are they with God's ordaining with which, in pure charity, their will is united. But, on the other hand, they endure a pain so extreme that no tongue can be found to tell it, nor could the mind understand its least pang if God by special grace did not shew so much. Which least pang God of His grace shewed to this Soul, but with her tongue she cannot say what it is. This sight which the Lord revealed to me has never since left my mind and I will tell what I can of it. They will understand whose mind God deigns to open.

Separation from God is the chief punishment of PURGATORY. Wherein PURGATORY differs from Hell.

3. All the pains of PURGATORY arise from original or actual sin. God created the soul pure, simple and clean of all stain of sin, with a certain beatific instinct towards Himself whence original sin, which the soul finds in itself, draws it away, and when actual is added to original sin the soul is drawn yet further away. The further it departs from its beatific instinct, the more malignant it becomes because it corresponds less to God. **There can be no good save by participation in God**, who meets the needs of irrational creatures as He wills and has ordained, never failing them, and answers to a rational soul in the measure in which He

finds it cleansed of sin's hindrance. When therefore a soul has come near to the pure and clear state in which it was created, its beatific instinct discovers itself and grows unceasingly, so impetuously and with such fierce charity (drawing it to its last end) that any hindrance seems to this soul a thing past bearing. The more it sees, the more extreme is its pain. Because the souls in PURGATORY are without the guilt of sin, there is no hindrance between them and God except their pain, which holds them back so that they cannot reach perfection. Clearly they see the grievousness of every least hindrance in their way, and see too that their instinct is hindered by a necessity of justice: thence is born a raging fire, like that of Hell save that guilt is lacking to it. Guilt it is which makes the will of the damned in Hell malignant, on whom God does not bestow His goodness and who remain therefore in desperate ill will, opposed to the will of God.

Of the state of the souls in Hell and of the difference between them and those in PURGATORY. Reflections of this saint on those who are careless of their salvation.

4. Reflections of this saint on those who are careless of their salvation. Hence it is manifest that there is perversity of will, contrary to the will of God, where the guilt is known and ill will persists, and that the guilt of those who have passed with ill will from this life to Hell is not remitted, nor can be since they may no longer change the will with which they have passed out of this life, in which passage the soul is made stable in good or evil in accordance with its deliberate will. **As it is written, "Ubi te invenero"** [Lt., where I find you] **that is in the hour of death, with the will to sin or dissatisfaction with sin or repentance for sin, "Ibi te judicabo"** [Lt., there I shall judge you]. **Of which judgment there is afterwards no remission, as I will shew: After death free will can never return, for the will is fixed as it was at the moment of death.** Because the souls in Hell were found at the moment of death to have in them the will to sin, they bear the guilt throughout eternity, suffering not indeed the pains they merit but such pains as they endure, and these without end. But the souls in PURGATORY bear only pain, for their guilt was wiped away at the moment of their death when they were found to be ill content with their sins and repentant for their offences against divine goodness. Therefore their pain is finite and its time ever lessening, as has been said. O misery beyond all other misery, the greater that human blindness takes it not into account! The pain of the damned is not infinite in quantity because the dear goodness of God sheds the ray of His mercy even in Hell. For man dead in sin merits infinite pain for an infinite time, but God's mercy has allotted infinity to him only in time and has determined the quantity of his pain; in justice God could have given him more pain. O how dangerous is sin committed in malice! Hardly does a man repent him thereof, and without repentance he will bear its guilt for as long as he perseveres, that is for as long as he wills a sin committed or wills to sin again.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

Aug 4, SUNDAY — 18th Week of Ordinary Time

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

Aug 5, MONDAY

12:15 AM | Daily Mass  
6:15 PM | Monday Women's Group

Aug 6, TUESDAY — Transfiguration of the Lord

7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting

Aug 7, WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM | Knitting Group (meets every other Wednesday)  
10:30 AM | "HEBREWS" Bible Study Class  
12:15 PM | Daily Mass  
6:30 PM | "HEBREWS" Bible Study Class

Aug 8, THURSDAY — St Dominic, Priest

9:00 AM | Day Away  
10:00 AM | Thursday Women's Group  
12:15 PM | Daily Mass

Aug 9, FRIDAY

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

Aug 10, SATURDAY — St Lawrence, Deacon

8:30 AM | Men's Group  
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

28 Jul '24 (17th Sunday Ordinary Time): \$4,828.00

**THANK YOU for your generosity!**

### MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 3 (Sat), 9:00 AM	Marilyn Waule - LIVING INTENTION (req. by the Connelly Family)
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 Denise Weinstock)
Aug 5 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Rosa Brands (req. by the Roy Family)
Aug 7 (Wed), 12:15 PM	Mike Vincent (req. by Linda Ray)
Aug 8 (Thu), 12:15 PM	Carlos Medeiros (req. by Emily Medeiros)
Aug 9 (Fri), 12:15 PM	Rose Higgins (req. by John & Mary Mann)
Aug 10 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Tom Vennard (req. by family)
Aug 11 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Joan Veilleux (req. by Mary Ellen Brookes)
Aug 11, 10:00 AM	Lee Ray - LIVING INTENTION

Aug 11, 6:00 PM

(req. by Linda Ray)  
Alice Danas - LIVING  
INTENTION (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

#### FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION is at the heart and center of parish life. Only the LITURGY is more important.

- The parish offers a K-thru-5th Grade program on Sunday mornings, High School on Sunday nights, and Middle School on Monday nights.
- REGISTRATION FORMS and additional information (e.g., dates, Sacraments information) are available on the parish website: [SJNNH.ORG](http://SJNNH.ORG)
- Diocesan Sacramental Policy—the "Restored Order"—provides for FIRST RECONCILIATION during 2nd Grade, and both CONFIRMATION and FIRST EUCHARIST during 3rd Grade.

### FALL ENROLLMENT

SAINT CHRISTOPHER ACADEMY in Nashua, NH offers an outstanding Catholic education that emphasizes faith, academics, and strong moral values for students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8. Advanced academic programs and a broad range of athletic and extracurricular opportunities support the development of students who are well-rounded learners and leaders grounded in the Catholic faith. APPLICATIONS are open for the fall of 2024 ... apply now! To learn more, visit [SaintChrisAcademy.org](http://SaintChrisAcademy.org) or contact Enrollment Coordinator Lorraine Bedard at (603) 882-7442, ext. 310.

### CREATION CARE

"The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it" (Ps 24:1).

## PARISH PRAYER LINE

To add someone please contact Teri at the parish office: (603) 880-4689, [tschmitt@sjnnh.org](mailto: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. Mark. Ruthann. Lisa. Elaine. John. Gail. All  
our priests. Holy Souls in Purgatory. Those that  
have stepped away from the faith. For vocations.

**ONLINE** *giving*

<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](#)

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### SJN Staff

LOUISE HICKEY – Children (K-5)

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

EMILIE FULCHINO – Middle School Ministry

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

MICKAYLA WACLAWIK – High School Ministry

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

CHERI ANDERSEN – Adult Ministry

[candersen@sjnnh.org](mailto:candersen@sjnnh.org) | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW – Music Ministry

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

SHILA BURNETT – Pastoral Associate

CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER & EVELYN VERBECK

Outreach & Food Pantry

[outreach@sjnnh.org](mailto:outreach@sjnnh.org) | (603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS – Day Away (Thursday)

[dayaway@sjnnh.org](mailto:dayaway@sjnnh.org) | (603) 880-4689

PARISH COUNCIL

[parishcouncil@sjnnh.org](mailto:parishcouncil@sjnnh.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>