

708 Milford Road (Route 101A) Merrimack, New Hampshire 03054

We Live + as we Believe + as we Worship

August 18, 2024 20th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME Thirteenth 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@sinnh.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

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

So submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. —Jas 6:7-8

The excerpt below, on perseverance in prayer, is from St Theresa of Avila's (d. 1582) The Way of Perfection.

Why we should persevere in prayer. Because we must be generous. Perseverance in prayer defeats the devil and gives us courage. Reward gained by mental prayer.

1. HOW I have wandered from the subject! It is essential, I think, to begin the practice of prayer with a firm resolution of persevering in it. The reasons for this are so many that it would take too long to enumerate them besides, they are explained in a number of books. I will content myself, then, with mentioning two or three.

Firstly, when we pay this attention (slight in itself) of our thoughts an attention which is not fruitless, but which brings us a rich reward when we render this homage to God, Who has bestowed so much on us and Who continues to shower benefits upon us, it would be wrong not to give it Him entirely; not as one who gives a thing, meaning to take it back again. This cannot be called giving, in fact any one who has received a present always feels more or less annoved at its being reclaimed by the donor, especially when he had come to look upon it as his own property. If this occurs between friends, and the giver is indebted for many gratuitous favors to the recipient, the latter may justly consider that meanness and want of affection are shown if nothing has been left him as a gage of love. Where can a wife be found who, after receiving a number of valuable jewels from her husband, will not give him in return even a ring, not so much for its value (for all that she possesses is his), but as a pledge that she will be faithful to him until death? Does God merit less than this, that we should mock Him by first giving Him this trifle and then taking it away? Since we have resolved to devote to Him this short space of time (which we should otherwise bestow on our friends, who would not thank us for it) let us yield it Him with thoughts that are free and withdrawn from all else. Let us fully resolve never to take it back, whatever crosses it may bring us, and in spite of all aridities.

2. We must no longer reckon this time as our own: we should feel that God will have the right to call us to account for it unless we render it entirely to Him.



When I say entirely I do not mean that we should be taking it back if we missed it for a day or two on account of lawful duties or illness, but that you should keep your resolution unchanged. God is not exacting: He does not scrutinize details, and if you seek to please Him you are offering Him a gift. The other way of afting suits spirits so miserly that they have not the heart to give, but will only lend. Still, even then, they do something: this Lord of ours takes any payment and accommodates Himself to our humours. He is liberal, not exacting about His dues: however heavy our debts may be, He easily remits them in order to win us. He watches us so closely that you need never fear He will leave you unrewarded if you but raise your eyes to heaven with the thought of Him.

- 3. Secondly. A second reason why our resolution should be firm is that this lessens the devil's power of tempting us. He is very frightened of determined souls, knowing by experience how they injure him, and that by trying to do them mischief he only profits them and others and damages himself. Still, we must not grow careless or trust to this, for we have to deal with traitors who, though too cowardly to attack the wary, yet inflict great harm on the negligent. If they find that a soul is fickle, irresolute, and wanting in perseverance in the right path, they will never leave it alone day or night and will suggest to it endless fears and difficulties. Experience has convinced me of this, and I have been able to explain it to yo. Most people do not realize its gravity.
- Thirdly. A third and very weighty reason is that a resolute soul fights more courageously, knowing that, come what may, it must never retreat. It is like a soldier in the midst of the fray, who knows that if he is vanquished he must expect no quarter, but that, if he does not fall during the battle, he will be killed afterwards. I am sure that he must fight the more doggedly and intend to sell his life the more dearly for this, as the term goes. Besides, he would care less for his wounds, realizing the price of victory and that his life depended upon gaining it. We ought to feel no doubt that, unless we allow ourselves to be defeated, we are sure to succeed. This is certain, for however insignificant our conquest may be we shall come off with great gains. Never fear that our Lord will allow us to die of thirst after inviting us to drink of this fountain. I have said it before and I shall often repeat it, for people who have not learnt our Lord's goodness by experience, but only know of it by faith, are often discouraged. It is a great grace to have proved for oneself what friendship and caresses He bestows on those who walk by the way of prayer, and how, as it were, He defrays all the costs. It does not surprise me that those who have never practised it should want the security of receiving some interest. You know that we receive a hundredfold even in this life, and that our Lord said: Ask and ye shall receive. His Majesty has promised this in several places in the Gospels: if you do

not believe Him, sisters, it would be of little use for me to wear myself out with telling you about it. However, I can assure any one who still feels doubtful that she has little to lose by beginning the practice and that prayer has the advantage of gaining for us more than we ask or can even desire. This is incontestable: I know it from experience. If you find it is false, never believe a single word I have ever said to you. Those who, by the mercy of God, have learnt it for themselves can bear witness to what I affirm. It is well to have said this for the sake of those who will come after me.

Prayer of St Teresa of Avila

+ LET nothing disturb you, Let nothing frighten you, All things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices. Amen.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Aug 18, SUNDAY - 20th 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 19, MONDAY — St John Eudes, Priest 12:15 AM | Daily Mass 6:15 PM | Monday Women's Group Aug 20, TUESDAY — St Bernard, Abbot 7:00 PM | Scouts Meeting Aug 21, WEDNESDAY — Pope St Pius X 9:30 AM | Knitting Group (meets every other Wednesday) 10:30 AM | "Hebrews" Bible Study FINAL **CLASS** 12:15 PM | Daily Mass 6:30 PM | "Hebrews" Bible Study FINAL **CLASS** Aug 22, THURSDAY — Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Marv 9:00 AM | Day Away 10:00 AM | Thursday Women's Group Aug 23, FRIDAY — St Rose of Lima, Virgin 10:00 AM | Food Pantry 12:15 PM | Daily Mass Aug 24, SATURDAY — St Bartholomew, Apostle 8:30 AM | Men's Group

Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)

Confession (until 5:00 PM)

5:30 PM | Anticipatory Sunday Mass

9:30 AM

4:00 PM

OFFERING

11 Aug '24 (19th Sunday Ordinary Time): Posted on BB outside office.

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 17 (Sat), 5:30 PM	James Gallagher (req. by Tom
	& Cynthia Sullivan)
Aug 18 (Sun), 8:00 AM	George Ritz (req. by Pat Ritz)
Aug 18, 10:00 AM	Diane Bonenfant & Bridget
	Gigliotti (req. by the Bourn
	Family)
Aug 18, 6:00 PM	Holy Souls
Aug 19 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)
Aug 21 (Wed), 12:15 PM	David Roy - LIVING
	INTENTION
Aug 22 (Thu), 12:15 PM	Andrew Previte
Aug 23 (Fri), 12:15 PM	Jackie Bozzuto (req. by John
	& Karen Bozzuto)
Aug 24 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Paul Ally (req. by Ellie
	Boucher)
Aug 25 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Laura Sassak (req. by Pat Ritz)
Aug 25, 10:00 AM	Ethnea Daniels (req. by
	Browen Pritchard)
Aug 25, 6:00 PM	Holy Souls

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
- Diocesan Sacramental Policy—the "Restored Order"—provides for FIRST RECONCILIATION during 2nd Grade, and both CONFIRMATION and FIRST EUCHARIST during 3rd Grade.



Our next session of GRIEF SHARE starts on Sep11 (Wed) at 6:30 PM. This 14-session series is for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. You can join at any point during the series. For more information contact Deacon Brian Lester at: deacon@sjnnh.org.

Blessed Brunch

ALL WOMEN are invited to join us for a Blessed Brunch on Sep 7 (Sat) from 9:30–11:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Please sign up in the gathering space and bring a dish to share.

Is God Calling You to Work for Him?



ST. GIANNA'S PLACE is seeking a mature, caring individual to work directly with our residents. Responsibilities include supporting residents on a daily basis with their immediate and long-term goals.

Previous experience working with families and knowledge of early childhood care is a plus. If interested. Contact Donna Meade at:

DMeade@StGiannasplace.org



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 or contact Enrollment Coordinator Lorrice Bedard at (603) 882-7442, ext. 310.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Follows the Sunday 6:00 PM + Friday 12:15 PM Masses

PARISH PRAYER LINE

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

Youth volunteers and students-past, present and future. 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. Maureen. Eileen. Ivory. Susan. Tom. Jordyn & baby. Karen. Chris. Barbara. All our priests. Holy Souls in Purgatory. Those that have stepped away from the faith. For vocations.

SJN Staff

LOUISE HICKEY – Children (K-5) lhickey@sjnnh.org

 $\label{eq:emille_full} \begin{tabular}{ll} EMILIE FULCHINO - Middle School Ministry \\ efulchino@sjnnh.org \end{tabular}$

MICKAYLA WACLAWIK – High School Ministry mwaclawik@sjnnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN – Adult Ministry candersen@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW – Music Ministry music@sjnnh.org

SHILA BURNETT - Pastoral Associate

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 parishcouncil@sjnnh.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – Arvid Skogsholm (Grand Knight) kofc@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.



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