

4th SUNDAY OF LENT
March 30, 2025

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.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

OCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

INFINITE GOODNESS

No one is good except God alone. —Mt 10:18

The first excerpt below is from a meditation posted to Catholic Exchange (17 July 2017). The second is from a treatise entitled "Flight from the World" by St Ambrose (d. 397). The last two are from the writings of St Mary Magdalen dei Pazzi (d. 1607) and St Teresa of Avila (d. 1582) respectively. All speak of the infinite goodness of God.

WHEN Moses asked God to show him his glory, God replied: "*I will show thee my GOODNESS*" (Exod 33:19), as if to say that his glory is infinite GOODNESS, the GOOD that he possesses in such plenitude that all GOOD is in him and no GOOD exists independently of him. God possesses GOOD, not because he has received it from anyone, but because he himself is, by his nature, the sovereign GOOD, because his Being is infinite GOODNESS. If creatures are GOOD, they are so, only because God has communicated to them a little of his GOODNESS. Of itself, the creature cannot even exist, therefore it cannot possess any GOOD of its own. That is why Jesus said to the young man who had called him "GOOD Master," "*Why callest thou me GOOD? None is GOOD but one, that is God*" (Mark 10:18). Not even Jesus, as man, possessed GOODNESS as his own; but he possessed it only because the divine nature, which was hypostatically united to his human nature, communicated it to him. Only of God can it be said that he is GOOD, in the sense that he is GOODNESS itself, that GOODNESS belongs to Him by nature, as divinity belongs to him by nature; and just as it is impossible for his divinity to be lessened, so it is impossible for his GOODNESS to be lessened. Heaven, earth, and the ages will pass away, but the GOODNESS of God will never pass away. Man's wickedness may accumulate sin upon sin, evil upon evil, but over all, God's GOODNESS will remain unchangeable. The shadow of evil will not mar it; instead, God who is always benevolent, will bend over the evil to change it into GOOD, and to draw a greater GOOD from it. Thus infinite GOODNESS stooped over man, the sinner, and made an immensely superior GOOD come from Adam's fall: the redemption of the world through the Incarnation of His only-begotten Son. This is the distinctive character of God's GOODNESS: to will the GOOD, only the GOOD, even to the point of drawing GOOD from evil.

WHERE a man's heart is, there is



his treasure also. God is not accustomed to refusing a GOOD gift to those who ask for one. Since he is GOOD, and especially to those who are faithful to him, let us hold fast to him with all our soul, our heart, our strength, and so enjoy his light and see his glory and possess the grace of supernatural joy. Let us reach out with our hearts to possess that GOOD, let us exist in it and live in it, let us hold fast to it, that GOOD which is beyond all we can know or see and is marked by perpetual peace and tranquillity, a peace which is beyond all we can know or understand. This is the GOOD that permeates creation. In it we all live, on it we all depend. It has nothing above it; it is divine. No one is GOOD but God alone. What is GOOD is therefore divine, what is divine is therefore GOOD. Scripture says: *When you open your hand all things will be filled with GOODNESS*. It is through God's GOODNESS that all that is truly GOOD is given us, and in it there is no admixture of evil. These GOOD things are promised by Scripture to those who are faithful: *The GOOD things of the land will be your food*. We have died with Christ. We carry about in our bodies the sign of his death, so that the living Christ may also be revealed in us. The life we live is not now our ordinary life but the life of Christ: a life of sinlessness, of chastity, of simplicity and every other virtue. We have risen with Christ. Let us live in Christ, let us ascend in Christ, so that the serpent may not have the power here below to wound us in the heel. Let us take refuge from this world. You can do this in spirit, even if you are kept here in the body. You can at the same time be here and present to the Lord. Your soul must hold fast to him, you must follow after him in your thoughts, you must tread his ways by faith, not in outward show. You must take refuge in him. He is your refuge and your strength. David addresses him in these words: I fled to you for refuge, and I was not disappointed. Since God is our refuge, God who is in heaven and above the heavens, we must take refuge from this world in that place where there is peace, where there is rest from toil, where we can celebrate the great sabbath, as Moses said: The sabbaths of the land will provide you with food. To rest in the Lord and to see his joy is like a banquet, and full of gladness and tranquillity. Let us take refuge like deer beside the fountain of waters. Let our soul thirst, as David thirsted, for the fountain. What is that fountain? Listen to David: With you is the fountain of life. Let my soul say to this fountain: When shall I come and see you face to face? For the fountain is God himself.



O LORD, I want to trust always in your GOOD-

NESS which is greater than all the evil we can do. When, with full knowledge of ourselves, we desire to return to friendship with you, you remember neither our ingratitude nor our misuse of the favors you have granted us. You might well chastise us for these sins, but you make use of them only to forgive us the more readily, just as you would forgive those who have been members of your household, and who, as they say, have eaten of your bread. See what you have done for me, who wearied of offending you before you ceased forgiving me. You are never weary of giving and never can your mercies be exhausted: let us not grow weary of receiving.



WHAT advantage does a soul receive from understanding your GOODNESS? The advantage of being clothed with your GOODNESS. Oh! if we would only open our eyes and see how great it is! But sometimes we are blind and do not see. The precious Blood of Christ is the only remedy which can open, not only our eyes, but also our heart, and make our soul understand the immensity of God's GOODNESS ... O my God, you reveal your infinite GOODNESS to me as a great river flowing over the earth, into whose waters all creatures are immersed and nourished like the fish in the sea. I am absorbed in the contemplation of this great river; but when I look around and see human malice so opposed to Your GOODNESS, I grieve exceedingly. O infinite GOODNESS, my soul desires to honor you in two ways; first by praise—recounting your splendors, thanking You, blessing you unceasingly for all the gifts and graces you are always bestowing, and narrating all your grandeurs; and then by my works—not spoiling your image in me, but keeping it pure and spotless as you created it from the beginning.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mar 30, SUNDAY — 4th Week of Lent
 8:00 AM | Sunday Mass
 10:00 AM | Sunday Mass
 11:00 AM | Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues
 11:30 AM | Order of Christian Initiation of Adults
 6:00 PM | Sunday Mass
 7:00 PM | Eucharistic Adoration

Mar 31, MONDAY
 12:15 AM | Daily Mass

Apr 1, TUESDAY
 7:00 PM | Scouts

Apr 2, WEDNESDAY
 12:15 AM | Daily Mass
 10:30 AM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled
 6:30 PM | Luke: The Story of Salvation Fulfilled
 6:30 PM | Grief Share

Apr 3, THURSDAY

9:00 AM | Day Away
12:15 AM | Daily Mass

Apr 4, FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry
12:15 PM | Daily Mass (w/ Stations [Short Form]
followed by Adoration)
6:00 PM | Confession (until 8:00 PM)
6:00 PM | Stations [Long Form] (followed by Soup
Supper)

Apr 5, 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

23 Mar '25 (3rd Sunday of Lent): \$6,968.00

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Mar 29 (Sat), 5:30 PM | Leslie Sheehan (req. by Robert Sheehan) |
| Mar 30 (Sun), 10:00 AM | Alfred Dion & family (req. by Louise Hickey) |
| Mar 30, 6:00 PM | Marie Duda (req. by Teresa Cushing) |
| Apr 5 (Sat), 9:00 AM | Pat Davis - 3rd Anniv. (req. by Tom Davis) |
| Apr 5, 5:30 PM | Mark & Ruth Kenna (req. by Mark & Joanne Kenna) |
| Apr 6 (Sun), 8:00 AM | Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis) |
| Apr 6, 10:00 AM | Jeremy Amazeen (req. by Ronan O'Sullivan) |
| Apr 6, 6:00 PM | Kevin Condon (req. by Robert Sheehan) |

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



The annual 40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign to end abortion runs from Mar 5-Apr 13. The theme of the campaign is "LOVE THEM BOTH"—both the parents considering abortion and their fragile

unborn children.

Please consider praying peacefully with other NH Catholics, Christians, and people of GOOD will on the public sidewalk outside PLANNED PARENTHOOD (24 Pennacook St, Manchester). The Prayer Volunteers offer an hour of prayer between the hours of 7:00 AM-7:00 PM weekdays or weekends as a witness to the beauty and sacredness of life, particularly the life of our tiniest neighbors—the unborn.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

CONFESSION

Fridays of Lent:

Apr 4, 11: 6:00-8:00 PM

5th Week of Lent:

Apr 7, 9, 11: 6:00-8:00 PM

Monday of Holy Week:

Apr 14: 10-12, 1-3 PM and 6-8 PM

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

Tenebrae
16 Apr, 7:00 PM



HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper
17 Apr, 7:00 PM



GOOD FRIDAY

Stations of the Cross
18 Apr, 3:00 PM
—and—
Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
18 Apr, 7:00 PM



HOLY SATURDAY

Easter Vigil
19 Apr, 7:45 PM



EASTER SUNDAY

20 Apr
8:00 AM, *10:00 AM and 6:00 PM

*Children's EASTER EGG HUNT
follows the 10:00 AM Mass

SEVEN DEADLY SINS, SEVEN LIVELY VIRTUES

Starting March 9, we will stream Bp. Barron's "SEVEN DEADLY SINS, SEVEN LIVELY

VIRTUES" videos during Coffee & Donuts in the hall (Room 3) after the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass. The videos are approximately 15 minutes in length. The first video has a 10-minute introduction, then the first of the seven deadly sins.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #10896



EASTER HAM RAFFLE. The Knights will be raffling off five (5) Easter Hams. The drawing will be held on Palm Sunday (Apr 11) following the 10:00 AM Mass. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six (6) for \$5.00. Proceeds will benefit the St John Neumann Food Pantry.

In addition, the Knights are offering Eat-In or Take-Out BAKED FISH (w/ potato and green beans) or GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES on Friday, April 11. Sign-up is offered after all Masses.

MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWERS



DONATIONS for Easter Flowers that'll be used to decorate the Sanctuary are being accepted. Donations can be made in the name of a friend or family member.

If you do not have the special envelope, envelopes are available in the foyer. Please print the name on the envelope, and they'll be remembered at all Masses through the Easter Season .

SCAM ALERT

Should you receive a text/email purportedly from St John Neumann parish staff requesting gift cards, it is a SCAM! For more information on internet scams or to file a report, go to the FBI INTERNET CRIME COMPLAINT CENTER:

<https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>

PRAYER LINE

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

Youth volunteers and students (past, present, & future). The Grief Share Group. Michael. Kathy. Andrew. Amy. Sue. Clara. Millisa. Mikala. Baby Gallagher. Baby S. (due March). Baby S. (due April). Dick. Laura. Peg. Dale. Christine. Lisa. Kimberly. Hazel. Soul of Rosemary. Caitlin. Susan. Mark. Helena. Mike. Keagan. Sheila. Roma. Pope Francis. Bernie. Special Intention. Abdul. Tricia. Marie. Jay. Leon. Ron. Russ. Sue & her surgical team. Ginny. Sofia. Margaret. David. Marty. Barbara. Tom. Our Guardian Angels. Steve. Jillian. Ella. Morgan. Anthony. Pat. Matthew & Diane. Jan. Joe. Margaret. Family of Bill. Soul of Judie. Christina & Cody. Edna. Bob. Joe. Peggy. College Students. Jeff. Linda. Sue. Ginny. Alan. Pope Francis. Special Intention. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Vocations. All of our parishioners and their needs.

PARISH *online*

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<https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

Or, by texting "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576
(message/data rates may apply)

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