

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 9, 2025

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

Rev. Ethelbert Orabuche
Priest Associate

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 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 at 5:00 PM, prior to the 6:00 PM 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.

ON PRAYER

The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.
—Ps 145:18

The three excerpts below [an additional three will follow next week] are from St Augustine's (d. 430) Letter to Proba, his only substantial explanation of the fundamentals of prayer. Before turning to the question of prayer, he says, we must first account ourselves "desolate" in this world. For however great our earthly circumstances, peace, happiness, and consolation are found only in Christ Jesus. And, unless we believe this, all our prayers will go wrong.

LET US EXERCISE OUR DESIRE IN PRAYER. Why in our fear of not praying as we should, do we turn to so many things, to find what we should pray for? Why do we not say instead, in the words of the psalm: *I have asked one thing from the Lord, this is what I will seek: to dwell in the Lord's house all the days of my life, to see the graciousness of the Lord, and to visit his temple.* There, the days do not come and go in succession, and the beginning of one day does not mean the end of another; all days are one, simultaneously and without end, and the life lived out in these days has itself no end.

So that we might obtain this life of happiness, he who is true life itself taught us to pray, not in many words as though speaking longer could gain us a hearing. After all, we pray to one who, as the Lord himself tells us, knows what we need before we ask for it.

Why he should ask us to pray, when he knows what we need before we ask him, may perplex us if we do not realize that our Lord and God does not want to know what we want (for he cannot fail to know it) but wants us rather to exercise our desire through our prayers, so that we may be able to receive what he is preparing to give us. His gift is very great indeed, but our capacity is too small and limited to receive it. That is why we are told: *Enlarge your desires, do not bear the yoke with unbelievers.*

The deeper our faith, the stronger our hope, that greater our desire, the larger will be our capacity to receive that gift, which is very great indeed. No eye has seen it; it has no color. No ear has heard it; it has no sound. It has not entered man's heart; man's heart must enter into it.

In this faith, hope and love we pray always with unwearied desire. However, at set times and seasons we also pray to God in words, so that by these signs we may instruct ourselves and mark the progress we have made in our desire, and spur ourselves on to deepen it. The more fervent the desire, the more



worthy will be its fruit. When the Apostle tells us: *Pray without ceasing*, he means this: Desire unceasingly that life of happiness which is nothing if not eternal, and ask it of him who alone is able to give it.

LET US TURN OUR MIND TO THE TASK OF PRAYER AT APPOINTED HOURS. Let us always desire the happy life from the Lord God and always pray for it. But for this very reason we turn our mind to the task of prayer at appointed hours, since that desire grows lukewarm, so to speak, from our involvement in other concerns and occupations. We remind ourselves through the words of prayer to focus our attention on the object of our desire; otherwise, the desire that began to grow lukewarm may grow chill altogether and may be totally extinguished unless it is repeatedly stirred into flame.

Therefore, when the Apostle says: *Let your petitions become known before God*, this should not be taken in the sense that they are in fact becoming known to God who certainly knew them even before they were made, but that they are becoming known to us before God through submission and not before men through boasting.

Since this is the case, it is not wrong or useless to pray even for a long time when there is the opportunity. I mean when it does not keep us from performing the other good and necessary actions we are obliged to do. But even in these actions, as I have said, we must always pray with that desire. To pray for a longer time is not the same as to pray by multiplying words, as some people suppose. Lengthy talk is one thing, a prayerful disposition which lasts a long time is another. For it is even written in reference to the Lord himself that he spent the night in prayer and that he prayed at great length. Was he not giving us an example by this? In time, he prays when it is appropriate; and in eternity, he hears our prayers with the Father.

The monks in Egypt are said to offer frequent prayers, but these are very short and hurled like swift javelins. Otherwise their watchful attention, a very necessary quality for anyone at prayer, could be dulled and could disappear through protracted delays. They also clearly demonstrate through this practice that a person must not quickly divert such attention if it lasts, just as one must not allow it to be blunted if it cannot last.

Excessive talking should be kept out of prayer but that does not mean that one should not spend much time in prayer so long as fervent attitude continues to accompany his prayer. To talk at length in prayer is to perform a necessary action with an excess of words. To spend much time in prayer is to knock with a persistent and holy fervor at the door of the one whom we beseech. This task

is generally accomplished more through sighs than words, more through weeping than speech. He places our tears in his sight, and our sighs are not hidden from him, for he has established all things through his Word and does not seek human words.

ON THE LORD'S PRAYER. We need to use words so that we may remind ourselves to consider carefully what we are asking, not so that we may think we can instruct the Lord or prevail on him.

Thus, when we say: *Hallowed be your name*, we are reminding ourselves to desire that his name, which in fact is always holy, should also be considered holy among men. I mean that it should not be held in contempt. But this is a help for men, not for God.

And as for our saying: *Your kingdom come*, it will surely come whether we will it or not. But we are stirring up our desires for the kingdom so that it can come to us and we can deserve to reign there.

When we say: *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*, we are asking him to make us obedient so that his will may be done in us as it is done in heaven by his angels.

When we say: *Give us this day our daily bread*, in saying this day we mean "in this world." Here we ask for a sufficiency by specifying the most important part of it; that is, we use the word "bread" to stand for everything. Or else we are asking for the sacrament of the faithful, which is necessary in this world, not to gain temporal happiness but to gain the happiness that is everlasting.

When we say: *Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us*, we are reminding ourselves of what we must ask and what we must do in order to be worthy in turn to receive.

When we say: *Lead us not into temptation*, we are reminding ourselves to ask that his help may not depart from us; otherwise we could be seduced and consent to some temptation, or despair and yield to it.

When we say: *Deliver us from evil*, we are reminding ourselves to reflect on the fact that we do not yet enjoy the state of blessedness in which we shall suffer no evil. This is the final petition contained in the Lord's Prayer, and it has a wide application. In this petition the Christian can utter his cries of sorrow, in it he can shed his tears, and through it he can begin, continue and conclude his prayer, whatever the distress in which he finds himself. Yes, it was very appropriate that all these truths should be entrusted to us to remember in these very words.

Whatever be the other words we may prefer to say (words which the one praying chooses so that his disposition may become clearer to himself or which he simply adopts so that his disposition may be intensified), we say nothing that is not contained in the Lord's Prayer, provided of course we are praying in a correct and proper way. But if anyone says something which is incompatible with this prayer of the Gospel, he is praying in the flesh, even if he is not praying sinfully. And yet I do not know how this could be termed anything but sinful, since those

who are born again through the Spirit ought to pray only in the Spirit.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Nov 9, SUNDAY [Dedication of Lateran Basilica] — 32nd Week in Ordinary Time

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

Nov 10, MONDAY — St Leo the Great, Pope

12:15 AM | Daily Mass

Nov 11, TUESDAY — NOTE: Office closed in observance of the Veterans' Day holiday

6:00 PM | "Matthew" 24-part Video Series
7:00 PM | Scouts

Nov 12, WEDNESDAY — St Josaphat, Bishop

8:30 AM | Yarn Ministry
10:30 AM | "What We Believe: the Beauty of the Catholic Church" Video Series
12:15 AM | Daily Mass
6:30 PM | "What We Believe: the Beauty of the Catholic Church" Video Series
6:30 PM | Grief Share

Nov 13, THURSDAY — St Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

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

Nov 14, FRIDAY

10:00 AM | Food Pantry
10:30 AM | "Matthew" 24-part Video-Series
12:15 PM | Daily Mass (followed by ADORATION)

Nov 15, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group
9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)
5:30 PM | Anticipatory Mass

OFFERING

Nov 2, '25 (31st Sunday OT): \$6,599.00

THANK YOU for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Nov 8, 5:30 PM | Oscar Ocana (req. by Rita Gehringer)

Nov 9 (Sun), 8:00 AM | Pat Davis (req. by Tom Davis)
Nov 9, 10:00 AM | Walter Fritz (req. by Steve & Lisa Beradinis)
Nov 9, 6:00 PM | Cynthia Gavert (req. by the Gavert Family)

Nov 10 (Mon), 12:15 PM | Intentions of Silva Family (req. by Adviges Silva)

Nov 12 (Wed), 12:15 PM | Holy Souls (req. by Emily Medeiros)

Nov 13 (Thu), 12:15 PM | Miles Latz

Nov 14 (Fri), 12:15 PM | Erandina Botelho (req. by Lucia Pacheco)

Nov 15 (Sat), 5:30 PM | James Gallagher (req. by Tom & Cindy Sullivan)

Nov 16 (Sun), 8:00 AM | Joseph Caspaer (req. by family)
Nov 16, 10:00 AM | Hester Rapoza (req. by Joseph Rapoza)
Nov 16, 6:00 PM | Fletcher Merkel (req. by KofC)

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

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Due to shortages at the NH Food Bank, the St John Neumann Food Pantry needs help filling their Thanksgiving Baskets. They are asking for our help in providing the following:

Cans of Pumpkin + Green Beans + Cake Mix + French Fried Onions + Large Boxes of Instant Potatoes + \$25 Market Basket Gift Cards

They are appreciative of your support!

The NH Food Bank has a website (nhfoodbank.org) that offers ways that people can help. Specifically:

- Donate to the NH Food Bank.
- Volunteer.
- Host a food drive or consider donating some of the NH Food Bank's "Most Needed Items" (canned healthy fruits and vegetables and so on – see the website for further details).
- Participate in upcoming programming and events happening throughout the state.

ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE

It is customary to offer prayers for family members and to remember them at Mass throughout the whole of November, beginning with the Feast of All Souls (Nov 2). SPECIAL ENVELOPES are available in the foyer if you would like to have family members remembered at Mass throughout November. You may place the envelopes in the Collection Basket.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We will sing as a CHOIR for the Solemnity of Christ the King (34th—and last—Sunday of the Liturgical Year). We will hear that Sunday (Nov 23) immediately following the 8:00 AM Mass, and then sing for the 10:00 AM Mass. All are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Whether you've had experience singing in a choir or not, you are welcome to join with us to praise God in song. For more info, please contact Artie Carew: music@sjnnh.org.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

The Parish Council is hosting a CHRISTMAS GIFT BASKET RAFFLE to help raise funds for parish youth to attend the Life Team Summer Camp in Georgia next summer, and for parish facility capital improvements. If you have any questions please reach out to Rachel Maccini at rachelmaccini@gmail.com or another Parish Council member.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL OPEN GYMS "Come Hoop with Us"

St John Neumann, Fridays at 6:00 PM

High School boys from any parish are invited to come to basketball open gyms weekly.

Come and get ready for school tryouts or learn about joining a CYO High School basketball team this winter or just come with friends and have fun! Open gyms run throughout October and November.

PARISH PRAYER LINE

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Our past and present youth volunteers and students. Our new parish Homebound Outreach program volunteers. Past and current members of Grief Share Ministry. Emily. Macy. Vivian. Milly. Lenard. Wendy. Jody. Stephan. Tommy. Dave. Jenny. Abby. Ann. Ashley & Mia. Karen. Roselle. Walter. Natalie. George & Martha. Jim. John. Kim. Vicky. Gwen. Marilyn & Joe. Sue. David. Christine & Joe. Lisa. Caly. Carter. Jan. Vivian. James. Maggie & Family. Soul of Gary. Tricia & Family. Soul of Craig.

Diocesan clergy. Those who have no one to pray for them. Family and friends who have stepped away from the faith. Vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life. All of our parishioners and their needs.

ONLINE giving

St John Neumann offers ONLINE GIVING for one-time or recurring donations:

<https://sjnnh.org/online-donation>



To receive parish updates subscribe via FLOCKNOTES by going to:

<https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

—or by texting—

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

SJN Staff

LOUISE HICKEY — Children (K-5)

lhickey@sjnnh.org

EMILIE FULCHINO — Middle School

efulchino@sjnnh.org

MICKAYLA WACLAWIK — High School

mwaclawik@sjnnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN — Adult

candersen@sjnnh.org | (603) 880-4689 x111

ARTIE CAREW — Music

music@sjnnh.org

SHEILA 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

Dino Quintero (Grand Knight)

kofc@sjnnh.org