

OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST. JOSEPH

20 RIVER RD PITTSFIELD, NH/844 FIRST NH TRNPK (RT4) NORTHWOOD, NH

DECEMBER 10, 2023

Second Sunday OF ADVENT



MASS SCHEDULE

Our Lady of Lourdes: Tue. 10 AM,
Wed. - Fri. 8 AM

Saturdays Our Lady of Lourdes: 4 PM
St. Joseph's (Memorial - Labor Day) 5:30 PM

Sundays Our Lady of Lourdes: 8 AM
Saint Joseph's: 10 AM

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Our Lady of Lourdes
Saturday 3 PM

BAPTISM

Families must be registered parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes or St. Joseph's. Please call the rectory for arrangements.

MARRIAGE

Couples must contact the rectory at least six months before intended date to fulfill preparation requirements.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John MacKenzie—Pastor
Jeannie Garcia—Religious Ed. Coord.
Ellen Barbasso—Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8AM-12PM

PHONE LISTING

Rectory—603-435-6242
Religious Ed. Ctr. St. Joseph —
603-942-8716 Fax—603-435-5531
Email Parish—ololstjoseph@metrocast.net
Website —ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org
Email CCD—stjgar@outlook.com
NH Catholic Charities—1-800-562-5249

Welcome to Our Parish

We pray that you enjoy celebrating with us this weekend. Whether you are new to the community or live here, know that you are invited to join our Parish family. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Father after Mass. You may register with us by dropping in or calling our rectory during the week at 435-6242.

If you are just visiting for the weekend, we hope you enjoy your visit with us and consider us your "home away from home".

MASS INTENTIONS Saturday December 9

4PM Michael, Marie & Wayne Kukuruza by Donna Cadose OL
SJ

5:30 PM No Mass

Sunday December 10

8AM For Our Parishioners OL

10AM Well Being and Intentions of Fr. Ray Gagnon by Fr. John & Janice Michaud & Robert Poirier by Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Anzelone SJ

Weekday Masses

Mon. Dec. 11 No Daily Mass

Tues. Dec. 12 10AM In Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary OL

Wed. Dec. 13 (TBA) OL

Thurs. Dec. 14 (TBA) OL

Fri. Dec. 15 (TBA) OL

Weekend Masses

Saturday December 16

4PM Ralph & Marie Capotosto by Steve Nogueira OL

5:30PM No Mass SJ

Sunday December 17

8AM Intentions of all Lectors and Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion by Fr. John OL

10AM For Our Parishioners SJ

Weekly amount needed to meet budget requirement: \$4,000

First Sunday of Advent Offering- \$3,709

Snow Plowing Offering \$1,301

As always we are, very grateful for all who share, in a generous way, their Time, Talent and Treasure.

Lay Ministries	Dec.9/10	Dec.16/17
4 PM	Ellen Barbasso	Donna Brown
5:30 PM	No Mass	No Mass
8 AM	Jay Malette	Anne Boisvert
10:00 AM	Pauline Marston	Betsy Bosiak

Confession Schedule

Saturdays 3-3:45 at OLOL

Thursdays 4:30-5:30 at SJ

Sundays 9:30 to 9:55 and after Mass upon request at SJ

You may also call for an appointment to go to confession

Parish Online Giving QR Code



Religious Education

Jeannie Garcia, Religious Education Coordinator,
Contact Phone: 942-8716 / 269-4143

Email: stjgar@outlook.com

Our Lady of Lourdes/St Joseph's Faith Formation: ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org.



READING

Second Sunday of Advent

Page 36

“We await new heavens and a new earth” (2 Peter 3:13)

What are the signs of a dawning “new creation” that you perceive?

HIS WORD TODAY

A time of crisis is a time of opportunity for change, for newness, for fresh beginnings. When all is well, there is little reason to want a change. When our world is shattered, however, we hearken to those who can help us find a way forward toward a new state of well-being. So it was with the exiles to whom Isaiah prophesied in today's first reading. Hope for a new beginning dawns as the prophet gives them the comforting news that the time of enslavement to Babylon is at last ended.

The new beginning that John the Baptist announces has everyone abuzz. The free gift of forgiveness awaits any who acknowledge their sins and let God's grace wash over them. This fresh start is brought to completion by the one coming after John, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. Mark raises our expectations that God is doing something new with the coming of Jesus—a new creation that begins again in our own way, every time we turn to God and let our hearts be moved to follow the “straight way.”

The second reading speaks of the newness for which we long in terms of “new heavens and a new earth.” Other biblical authors speak of such a new creation but only in 2 Peter does the writer envision a fiery consummation and destruction of the whole of creation before the coming of the new. This reading also assures us that God is patient and does not use the same timetables we do. The delay, says Peter, is so that all have time to accept the transforming love of God that enables them to reshape their lives.

Parish Ministries

Interfaith Community Kitchen Monday Meals– Drive up take-out dinners are offered every Monday at 4:30

The Clothes Closet-Free clothing for men, women, and children. Open on Mondays 3:30-4:30, Thursdays 11-Noon, and during food pantry hours or by appointment.

The Northwood Emergency Food Pantry-Please stop by for our monthly schedule.

Serving God, Our Parish and Our Community.
Our Lady of Lourdes-St Joseph's Church Parish Center

Father John's Jottings

He will prepare your way. (Mark 1:2)

Clearly, John the Baptist was a man of God. He was an ambassador called to prepare the way of the Lord by pointing the people to Jesus.

How did John fulfill his calling? By his witness and by his words. His witness was that of a detached, ascetic man who dressed in rough clothes and lived in the wilderness. And backing up his witness were his words --words that cut people to the heart and moved them to examine their lives. Because of John's witness and his words, people from all over Judea came to see him. And once they saw and heard, many repented of their sins and turned back to God. (Mark 1:5).

We often think of John the Baptist as a fire and brimstone kind of person. And he was to some degree. But fire and brimstone without love and mercy don't do justice to the message of Christ. John was also humble and compassionate. He was concerned for the people around him, so much so that he attracted disciples who committed themselves to following him and learning from him.

Like John, we all have a part to play in God's plan. We are called to be Jesus' messengers and to bear heavenly fruit by the witness of our lives and by the words we speak. So as Christmas draws near, let's set our hearts on preparing the way for Jesus. As John called the people of his day, let's repent and go to Confession. Let's also tell our families that we need to go to Confession and get right with the Lord--not in a threatening or self-righteous way but as loving ambassadors of God who care about our families.

Peter's letter tells us that Jesus will come again. It says that he will usher in “new heavens and a new earth” (2 Peter 3:13). It will be glorious. Until he comes, let's try our best to be Christ's ambassadors, through “holiness and devotion” (3:11)

“Lord, help me to be like John, a living, loving ambassador for your kingdom.”

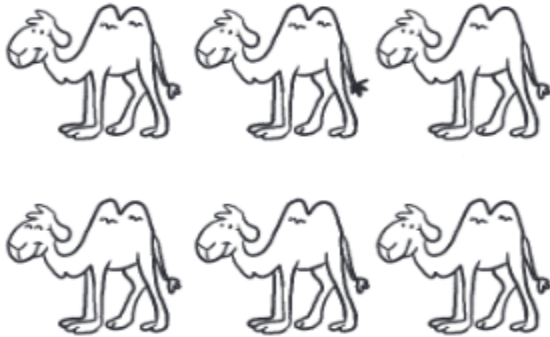
Meditations for Catholics

DIVINE MERCY MILITIA

Please join us every Thursday evening beginning at 5:30 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church as we pray for our nation, our Church, our parish, and our world. Concludes with Benediction.

PUZZLE

Find the 2 identical camels.



MISSION

Ask your family if you have hurt their feelings.
Ask them to forgive you.



GOSPEL

John the Baptist had an important message. When you make sinful mistakes, and when you turn away from God, stop. Learn from your mistakes, and do things God's way. Were you bossy or rude? Be thoughtful and kind. Did you tell a lie? Be honest instead. God wants you to share his love with other people.

PRAYER

Jesus, help me to learn from my mistakes.
Thank you for forgiving me.

GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



2nd Sunday of Advent • Mark 1:1-8

DRAW

Draw a picture of yourself being kind to a friend.

Christmas Cheer Cookie Project.....

The Interfaith Community Kitchen invites holiday bakers to donate two dozen of their favorite homemade Christmas cookies for our Christmas Cheer Cookie Project the weekend of Dec 17 & 18. A sign-up sheet to donate, or volunteer, will be available at both churches.



Children's Nativity Play and Children's Choir! Celebrate the coming of the Infant Jesus with our parish children at the end of Mass on Sunday, December 17, at St. Joseph Church.

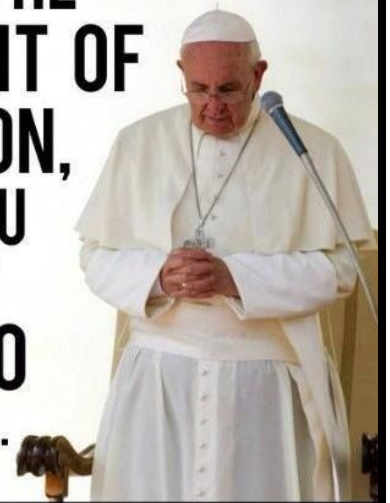
Reconciliation Hours for Advent-This period of Advent is not just a time of getting ready for Christmas by planning celebrations, decorating homes and buying gifts. It is, most significantly, a spiritual preparation for the Second coming of Christ, which is enriched through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.-Fr. John will be available all Sundays of Advent, at St. Joseph's Church at 9:30am prior to Mass and immediately afterwards. Reconciliation at Our Lady of Lourdes will remain at 3pm on Saturdays. Additional time will be available Thursday evenings from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm beginning December 3, or by making an appointment with him at the rectory.

The Parish Knights of Columbus Council wishes to heartily thank the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Joseph's for contributing so generously to our Holiday Gift Card collection. Our goal was to purchase 162 \$25.00 Hannaford gift cards. Thanks to you, we reached our goal. The gift cards have been purchased and given to Food Pantries in: Pittsfield, Chichester, Epsom and Northwood, based on their needs. Thank you again for your generosity.

Thank You!

**DON'T BE AFRAID
TO GO TO THE
SACRAMENT OF
CONFESSION,
WHERE YOU
WILL MEET
JESUS WHO
FORGIVES YOU.**

Pope Francis



Deanery Penance Service

A Deanery Penance Service will be held at Christ the King Parish on North Main Street in Concord on Sunday, December 17, at 2pm.

