

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST. JOSEPH

20 RIVER RD. PITTSFIELD, NH/844 FIRST NH TRNPK NORTHWOOD, NH

## THE HOLY FAMILY, DECEMBER 31, 2023



### 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](mailto:ololstjoseph@metrocast.net)  
Website—[ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org](http://ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org)  
Email CCD—[stjgar@outlook.com](mailto: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 30

**4PM** Donald Graves by Janet Graves OL  
**5:30 PM** No Mass SJ

#### Sunday December 31

**8AM** For Our Parishioners OL  
**10AM** Intentions of Janet Graves by Ellen Barbasso SJ

#### Weekday Masses

**Mon. Jan 1** Octave of the Nativity of the Lord  
**Tues. Jan.2** 10AM Bobby Gagne OL  
**Wed. Jan.3** Alan Langley OL  
**Thurs. Jan.4** Riel Family OL  
**Fri. Jan. 5** Channel Laplante and Leola Laplante OL

#### Weekend Masses

#### Saturday January 6

**8am** Intentions of Our Lady of Fatima OL  
**4PM** Cliff Baillargeon by Annette Bilodeau OL  
**5:30PM** No Mass SJ

#### Sunday January 7

**8AM** For Our Parishioners OL  
**10AM** Intentions and Healing of Jeff Thomas by Linda Kownack SJ

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

**December 17th offering-\$3,576**

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

Lay Ministries	Dec.30/31	Jan. 6/7
4 PM	Ben Brown	Ellen Barbasso
5:30 PM	No Mass	No Mass
8 AM	Charlie Hauck	Anne Boisvert
10:00 AM	Teresa Bascom	Robert Laramée

### 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**

### 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 For-  
mation: ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org.**



### READING

**The Holy Family**

**Page 53**

*"The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God" (Lk 2:40)*

Of the seven virtues listed below, which ones do I reflect in my dealings with others?

### HIS WORD TODAY

"Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive whatever grievances you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love which binds the rest together and makes them perfect."

Not much time remains in the current year. How many times will people hear discussions about "new year's resolutions".

Some are serious about change; others will forget pledges and promises within a few days. As we approach a new year let's create a new plan. Because of the richness of St. Paul's letter today, why not revisit the gifts and virtues that he wished others to have and search out whether they are found in our own lives. I wonder if they are Christmas gifts we forgot to open.

On this family day please reflect for a moment. Of the seven virtues mentioned above, who in my family seems to have mercy or kindness? Who is it who possesses patience and meekness?

As I consider my family and family relationships, I too, like the Christ child—the gift, will grow in strength, wisdom and grace. Thanks be to God for the graces of 2023. Lord I ask your abundant life in 2024.

### 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.

### Father John's Jottings

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us. Some may have just experienced the best year ever and look forward to an even greater one looming ahead. Others may have just trudged through one deep struggle after another. The fresh calendar year brings desperate hope for things to be better, with an ache for the still-fresh wounds to slowly begin their process of healing.

Whether you've just walked through the greatest year of your life, or are incredibly glad to see this one finally over, one truth still rings clear amidst it all. You are not alone. Not ever.

Our God is a "with us God". On the heels of the celebration of the birth of our King, that reminder has the power to carry us right into a fresh, new start. He is Immanuel, God with us. And though things and people around us shift and change, our God never changes.

*Meditations for Catholics*

### **The Holy Father wants a year in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee that will help "stimulate prayer with simplicity and in accordance with Christ's heart."**

Pope Francis has announced that the year 2024, in preparation for the [Jubilee 2025](#), will be dedicated to prayer. The Pope made this announcement when he met with a group of shrine rectors and workers at the Vatican on November 11.

**"I wanted next year, in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee, to be entirely dedicated to prayer. Next year will be dedicated to prayer," he told them.**

The Pope said that "guides" will be published, "which will help rediscover the centrality of prayer." I recommend them to you: they will be a good read, which stimulate prayer with simplicity and in accordance with Christ's heart.

The Holy Father called for a daily renewal of the "joy and commitment" of "being men and women of prayer."

Prayer that comes from the heart, not like parrots. No. From the heart. May the words that are spoken come from the heart.

By Kathleen N. Hattrup for [ALETEIA](#)



## PUZZLE

Find the path to bring Jesus to the temple.



## MISSION

I will offer everything I do for you,  
Lord, Jesus Christ.



## GOSPEL

Mary and Joseph went to the temple and presented the baby Jesus to God. Two older people recognized that Jesus was the Messiah. They gave him special blessings. They thanked God for this child. Just like Mary and Joseph, your parents gave thanks to God when you were born. They were very happy God gave you to them. They had you baptized in church, and presented you as a gift to God, too.

## PRAYER

Lord, thank you for bringing the baby Jesus into my life.

# GROWING WITH THE *Gospel* CYCLE B

## COLOR

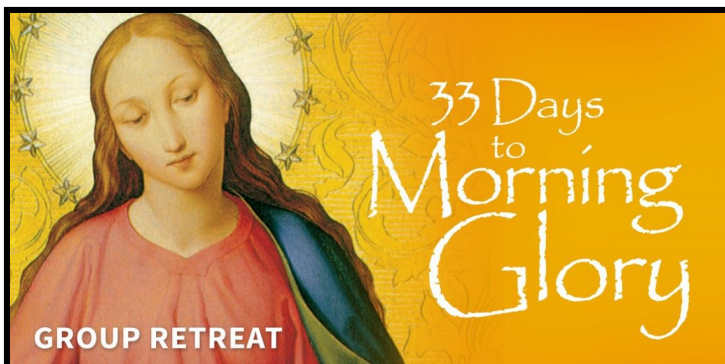
Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Holy Family • Luke 2:22-40

## DRAW

Draw Mary and Joseph carrying the baby Jesus to the altar in the temple.



### **3 Day Marian Consecration Retreat begins Sunday, January 7**

Consecration means setting yourself aside for service to God. The Church has always advocated consecrating yourself to Jesus Christ through the Blessed Virgin Mary, the perfect model of discipleship. *The 33 Days to Morning Glory Do it Yourself Retreat*, by Fr. Michael Gaitley, deepens the understanding of Marian Consecration to those who are preparing for the first time and those who have already been consecrated.

Join us for the 33 Day orientation video on Sunday, Jan 7, in the Parish Center after the 10am Mass and prepare for your spiritual journey to begin on Jan 9. The Marian Consecration will take place on Sunday, February 11, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes!

The group will meet once a week during the preparation which will be determined at the orientation. Books can be ordered through Amazon or contact Jeannie Garcia at [stigar@outlook.com](mailto:stigar@outlook.com) to order. The companion workbook is optional. RSVP by Wednesday, January 3rd.

### **SCAM ALERT**

"There have been multiple cases of text messages sent to parishioners as well as employees purportedly from the Pastor, asking for assistance and a reply. These have all turned out to be scams. Please do not respond to the text or email in any way, as this will increase the likelihood that you will become a victim of fraud. I would not send you a text message or an email indicating that I need personal assistance. If you ever receive something appearing to be from me or any parish employee and have a question about its authenticity, please contact the parish office.

Fr. John

### **Online Bereavement Support Group: Catholic Charities NH**

Have you recently lost a spouse or a loved one? Are you struggling to navigate this difficult time? If so, Catholic Charities NH is here to help with our "Bereavement – Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding Your Way Again" online support group. The five-session program will be held via Zoom on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., starting January 24, 2024 and running through February 21. You will learn about the dynamics of grief, explore different coping strategies, and have an opportunity to connect with others in similar situations. To register, visit [//www.cc-nh.org/bereavement](http://www.cc-nh.org/bereavement) or call Louise at 603-752-1325; ext. 4573. There is no cost to attend.

**God needs priests. Is He calling you?  
If you are 30-60, you may be surprised.**

### **First Friday Visits, 5:00 PM**

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary  
558 South Ave., Weston, MA

**January 12, 2024**

Join the Seminary community either **virtually** or **in person**  
for prayer & fellowship  
Holy Hour and Evening Prayer

In Person: Dinner with the seminarians and a tour of the Seminary

RSVP or receive more information  
Msgr. William Fay at 781-899-5500 ext. 134  
[msgr.fay@psjs.edu](mailto:msgr.fay@psjs.edu)

[www.psjs.edu](http://www.psjs.edu)

