

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

708 Milford Rd (Rte 101A), Merrimack, NH 03054 — SJNNH.ORG



12th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
June 20, 2021

Fr. Robert Glasgow
Pastor
Chaplain (LTC) USA, Ret.
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Eileen Buckley
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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Anticipatory) 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM
Sunday 10:00 AM
Sunday (Labor Day thru Memorial Day) 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.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

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

TO THE YOUNG

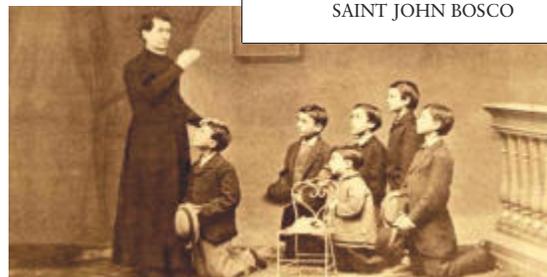
How can the young keep his way without fault? Only by observing your words. —Ps 119:9

The excerpts below are from the *Letters* of St John Bosco (d. 1888).

THERE are two main snares by which the devil usually tempts young people away from the practice of virtue. The first is to convince them that the service of the Lord consists in living a life



SAINT JOHN BOSCO



of melancholy, devoid of all pleasure and enjoyment. This is not the case, my dear friends. I would like to teach you a kind of Christian life that will make you happy and contented. I want to show you what true enjoyment and pleasure is, so that you may follow the advice of the holy prophet David: "Serve the Lord with gladness" (Ps 100:2). This, then, is the purpose of the present book: to teach you how to serve God and to be always happy.

The second snare is the hope of a long life, with the expectation of conversion in old age or when death threatens. Be careful, my dear boys, because many have been deceived in this manner. What assurance have we got that we shall ever reach old age? We cannot expect death to await our convenience at old age, since life and death are in God's hands, and he apportions them as he sees fit. If God, however, grants you a long life, listen to the serious warning that he has uttered: A young man according to his way—even when he is old, he will not depart from it: "Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they



will not swerve from it" (Prov 22:6). In other words, if we lead a good life when we are young, we shall be good when we are old, and our death will be happy, the beginning of eternal bliss. On the other hand, if vice takes hold of us in youth, it will gradually grow in the course of the different stages of our life until death, which will be the terrible herald of a most unhappy eternity. That this misfortune may not befall you, I have drawn up a scheme of life, brief and easy enough, which will enable you to be a joy to your parents, and a glory to your country, making you good citizens upon earth, and one day blessed inhabitants of Heaven.

My friends, I love you with all my heart, and your being young is reason enough for me to love you very much. You will certainly find books written by persons much more virtuous and much more learned than myself; but, I assure you, you would be hard put to find anyone who loves you more than I do in Jesus Christ, or who care more about your true happiness than I do. May God be always with you, and grant that by the practice of these few suggestions you may save your souls, and thereby increase His glory. That is the sole purpose of the writer of these pages.

Live happily and may the Lord be with you.



THINGS needed for a young person to become virtuous: First, an understanding of God.

Look around you, my dear children, and see the wonders in the heavens and upon earth. The sun, moon, stars, air, water and fire are things that at one time did not exist. They could not have come into existence of themselves. God in his omnipotence made them out of nothing; hence he is called the "Creator". When God, who always was and ever will be, had created what we see in this world of ours, he gave existence to man, who of all visible creation is the most perfect. Therefore our eyes, ears, tongue, hands, and feet are all gifts of God.

Man is distinguished from all other animals in a special manner, for he is endowed with a soul that thinks and reasons, and desires what is good, and judges what is good or what is evil. The soul, since it is a spirit, cannot die with the body; for when the body has been carried to the grave, the soul enters on another life that will never cease. If during its time on earth it has done good, it will be ever happy with God in Paradise, where it will enjoy happiness for all eternity. But if it has done evil, it will be punished with terrible pain in Hell, where it will undergo the torments of fire and loss forever. Bear in mind, my dear children, that we were created for Heaven. God, who is our loving Father, will condemn to Hell only those who deserve it on account of their sins. Oh! How much God loves us! How much God desires that we perform good works, so that we may share in that great joy which he has prepared for all of us in the eternity of Heaven.

God loves the young exceedingly.

Since we are persuaded, my dear children, that we are created for Heaven, we should direct all our actions to this great end. The reward that God promises, and the

punishment with which He threatens us should move us to act accordingly. Though He loves all people, since they are the work of His hands, still He has a particular love for the young, and tells us that He finds pleasure in their company: "My delights were to be with the children of men" (Ps 8: 31). [Don Bosco interprets *children of men* in its specific sense of *children*.] So then you are the delight and the love of the God who created you. God loves you, and He expects many good works of you; He loves you, because you are natural, humble and innocent; in a word, because you have not yet fallen a victim to the snares of the devil.

Our Divine Savior also shows a special kindness towards you. He assures us that he considers all favors done to you as done to him (cf. Mt 18:5). He threatens terribly those who give you scandal. Here are his own words: "But he that shall scandalize one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a mill-stone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be drowned in the depth of the sea" (Mt 18:6). He wished children to follow him: he called them to himself, he embraced them and gave them his blessing (cf. Mk 10:13-16).

Since Our Lord loves you so much as the young people you are, you should form the sincere resolution to act in response to his love by doing whatever pleases him, and by avoiding whatever might offend him.

The salvation of the soul depends greatly upon the time of our youth. Two places have been prepared for us in our future life. Hell for the wicked where they will suffer every pain. Heaven for the good where they will enjoy all sorts of good things. Our Lord also wants you to know that if you practice virtue in your youth, you will be confirmed in it for the remainder of your days, which will be followed by an eternity of glory. On the other hand, if you begin badly in your youth, you will surely continue so until death, and inevitably secure hell for yourself. Therefore, when you see people addicted to the vices of drunkenness, gambling or swearing, you can be sure that these vices began in their youth: "The young man, once he has set out on life, will not waver even when he is old" (Prov 22: 6). Ah! "Remember your Creator," we are admonished, "in the days of your youth" (Qo 12:1). Indeed, elsewhere he declares that the man who began to observe the commandments from his youth is a happy man" (cf. Lam 3:27). This truth was well known to the saints, especially to St Rosa of Lima and St Aloysius Gonzaga, who very early on began to serve the Lord fervently, and later found no satisfaction save in what pertained to him, and thereby became great saints. The same can be said of the son of Tobias, who from the earliest days of his childhood was always obedient and submissive to his parents. When they died, he continued to live most virtuously until his death (Tb 5:1-4; 14:12-15).

But some of you may object: if we begin to serve God now, we shall become sad and depressed. This is not true. He who serves the devil is miserable, even if he pretends to be happy, because in his heart he never ceases to hear the reproach: You are unhappy because you are the enemy of God. Who was more affable or more cheerful than St Aloysius Gonzaga? Who was more happy and joyful than St Philip Neri? And yet we know that their lives were entirely spent in the practice of every virtue. Courage then, my dear

friends; employ your time virtuously, and I assure you that your heart will always be happy and contented. As a consequence you will experience how sweet and pleasing it is to serve the Lord.

MASS INTENTIONS

June 19 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Miranda Lightbody (req. by Linda Partish)
June 20 (Sun), 8:00 AM	Eugene Mooney & Al Porcaro (req. by family)
June 20, 10:00 AM	Roberta Magnante (req. by Peter Maresco)
June 21 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Deceased clergy of the diocese

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).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

20 Jun, 12th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM | Mass
10:00 AM | Mass
6:00 PM | Adoration (until 7:00 PM)

21 Jun, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass
7:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal

22 Jun, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scout Meeting

23 Jun, WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM | Faith Sharing
12:15 PM | Daily Mass

24 Jun, THURSDAY

10:00 AM | "Blessed Is She" Women's Group
12:15 PM | Daily Mass

25 Jun, FRIDAY (Day of Penance)

10:00 AM | Food Pantry (until 12:30)
12:15 PM | Daily Mass (followed by Adoration)
30-HOUR FAST BEGINS

26 Jun, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group
9:00 AM | Divine Mercy Cenacle (1st & 3rd Sat)
9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)
4:00 PM | Confession (until 5:00 PM)
5:30 PM | Anticipatory Mass
30-HOUR FAST ENDS w/ Break-the-Fast Meal

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS,
Council #10896

CONGRATULATIONS to this year's winners of our annual Father's Day Steak Raffle: **Maureen Mooney & Phyllis Coldwell**. *And thanks to all who participated. We were able to raise \$800.00 for Knights' charities!*

CONGRATULATIONS, too, to **Erica Faucher & Nicholas Schmitt** who received this year's Knights of Columbus High School Graduate Scholarships—\$500.00 each—to help further their education.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

2021-2022 School Year

Registration Begins this Weekend

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE) is at the heart and center of parish life. Only the LITURGY is more important.

- Diocesan Sacramental Policy—the "Restored Order"—now provides for FIRST RECONCILIATION during 2nd Grade, and both CONFIRMATION and FIRST EUCHARIST during 3rd Grade. The parish offers a K-thru-5th Grade program, much like previous years, on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons.
- <REGISTRATION FORMS> will be available online and from the SJN Faith Formation Office. TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION, parents are asked to attend any of the short FAITH FORMATION BRIEFING offered after all of the weekend Masses in August, or to meet with Fr. Glasgow separately.
- The parish offers a High School (LIFETEEN) program on Sunday nights, as well as a Middle School (EDGE) program on Monday nights. NOTE: either program will satisfy Sacramental Prep requirements for those who have not yet received Confirmation.

— NOTICE —

CONFESSION has moved from Sunday back to Saturday 4:00-5:00 PM. With the end of most COVID precautions, we are using the Confessional once again.

PLEASE NOTE: The parish has a HEARING



ASSIST SYSTEM. Those in need can request a receiver and earphone from any of the ushers for use during Mass.

The 10:00 AM Sunday Mass is LIVE STREAMED on YOUTUBE. To find our channel, search for "SJN Merrimack NH Mass"—or—go to:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfkbhzv4yg9mUOnwnJ5dNvA>

The 12:15 PM Daily Mass (Mon, Wed-Fri) is posted to our FACEBOOK page:

<https://www.facebook.com/sjnnh>

PARISH NEWS — WE LOVE BEING IN TOUCH WITH YOU! Now you can keep in touch with us via email and/or text messaging:

Visit > <https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>
Text > "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message and data rates may apply)

Choose to get updates from parish groups you're interested in. Unsubscribe anytime.

FAST 2021 June 25-26, 2021

The FAST FOR SOCIAL ACTION (FAST) is back! We are looking for people—6th Grade through adults—to fast for 30 hours with us, for people to sponsor the participants, and for people to provide other support for the event. We need parishioners to help with:

CHECK IN, GREETERS,
ADULT CHAPERONES, FIRST AIDERS,
DINNER HELPERS, FOOD WEIGH-IN,
FOOD DONATIONS,
BREAK-FAST DINNER HELPERS.

You may sign up on line to volunteer your help or to sponsor anyone fasting:

<https://sjnnh.org/fast-volunteer-form>

Or, by calling the SJN office at (603) 880-4689.

DIOCESAN QUO VADIS DAYS June 25 & August 6

Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for you! You are invited to attend our QUO VADIS DAYS HIKE on June 25 and QUO VADIS DAYS GAME DAY on August 6 to spend time with other young men your age

looking at the Lord's call in your life while having lots of fun. QUO VADIS DAYS are led by pri and ests seminarians of the diocese and includes a variety of games, prayer, other activities and opportunities to grow in friendship with the Lord and with each other. Visit liveinblackandwhite.com to register.

— AMAZON SMILE —

Please consider supporting our St John Neumann FOOD PANTRY whenever you purchase items through AMAZON.COM. Go to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0370038>

and add "Saint John Neumann Parish" as your charity of choice. 0.5% of every purchase is donated by Amazon.com to the SJN FOOD PANTRY.

SJN Staff

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