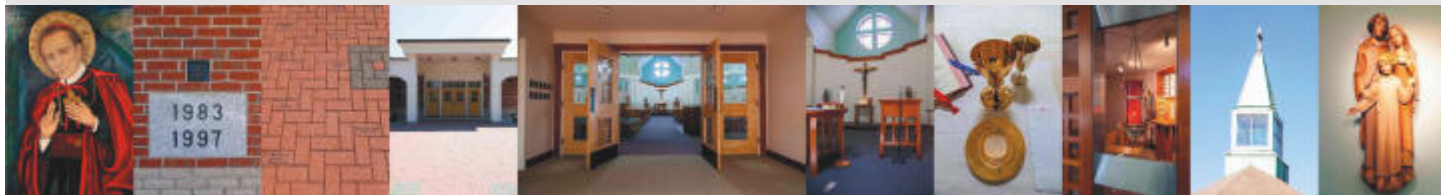


# SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

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



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
August 29, 2021

**Fr. Robert Glasgow**  
Pastor  
Chaplain (LTC) USA, Ret.  
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**Eileen Buckley**  
Business Manager / Parish Secretary  
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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.

## NOW IS DAY OF SALVATION

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a contrite, humbled heart, O God, you will not scorn. —Psalm 51:19

The first excerpt below is St Bernard of Clairvaux's description of the Stages of Sin. The second is from St Cyril of Jerusalem's (d. 386) Catechetical Instructions. The third, from a sermon by St Augustine (d. 430). Sin is the one thing we must truly fear, but easy to cure by the one acceptable sacrifice we offer God: a humble/contrite heart. We're urged to repent at the time of God's favor (i.e., now!). In the words of St Paul: "Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor 6:2).



LOST SHEEP — HOLY DOOR PANEL  
St Peter's Basilica, Vatican City

IF this cold once penetrates the soul when (as so often happens) the soul is neglectful and the spirit asleep and if no one (God forbid) is there to curb it, then it reaches into the soul's interior, descends to the depths of the heart and the recesses of the mind, paralyzes the affections, obstructs the paths of counsel, unsteadies the light of judgment, fetters the liberty of the spirit, and soon—as appears to bodies sick with fever—a rigor of the mind takes over: vigor slackens, energies grow languid, repugnance for austerity increases, fear of poverty disquiets, the soul shrivels, grace is withdrawn, time means boredom, reason is lulled to sleep, the spirit is quenched, the fresh fervor wanes away, a fastidious lukewarmness weighs down, brotherly love grows



cold, pleasure attracts, security is a trap, old habits return. Can I say more? The law is cheated, justice is rejected, what is right is outlawed, the fear of the Lord is abandoned. Shamelessness finally gets free rein. There comes that rash leap, so dishonorable, so disgraceful, so full of ignominy and confusion; a leap from the heights into the abyss, from the courtyard to the dung-heap, from the throne to the sewer, from heaven to the mud, from the cloister to the world, from paradise to hell. —St Bernard of Clairvaux (d. 1153)

IF there is any slave of sin here present, he should at once prepare himself through faith for the rebirth into freedom that makes us God's adopted children. He should lay aside the wretchedness of slavery to sin, and put on the joyful slavery of the Lord, so as to be counted worthy to inherit the kingdom of heaven. By acknowledging your sins strip away your former self, seduced as it is by destructive desires, and put on the new self, renewed in the likeness of its Creator. Through faith receive the pledge of the Holy Spirit, so that you may be welcomed into the everlasting dwelling places. Draw near to be marked with the supernatural seal, so that you may be easily recognized by your master. Become a member of Christ's holy and spiritual flock, so that one day you may be set apart on his right hand, and so gain the life prepared as your inheritance.

Those whose sins still cling to them like a goatskin will stand on his left hand because they did not approach Christ's fountain of rebirth to receive God's grace. By rebirth I mean, not rebirth of the body, but the spiritual rebirth of the soul. Our bodies are brought into being by parents who can be seen, but our souls are reborn through faith: the Spirit breathes where he wills. At the end, if you are made worthy, you may hear the words: Well done, good and faithful servant, when, that is, you are found with no stain of hypocrisy on your conscience.

If anyone here present is thinking of putting God's grace to the test, he is deceiving himself, and he does not understand the nature of things. You are but a man; there is one who searches out men's thoughts and hearts. You must keep your soul innocent and free from deceit.

**The present is a time for the acknowledgment of sins. Acknowledge what you have done, in word or deed, by night or day. Acknowledge your sins at a time of God's favor, and on the day of salvation you will receive the treasures of heaven.**

Wash yourself clean, so that you may hold a richer store of grace. Sins are forgiven equally for all, but communion in the Holy Spirit is given in the measure of each one's faith. If you have done little work, you will receive little; if you have achieved a great deal, great will be your reward. The race you are running is for your own advantage; look after your own interests.

If you have a grudge against anyone, forgive him. You

are drawing near to receive forgiveness for you own sins; you must yourself forgive those who have sinned against you. —St Cyril of Jerusalem (d. 386)

**I ACKNOWLEDGE** *my transgression*, says David. If I admit my fault, then you will pardon it. Let us never assume that if we live good lives we will be without sin; our lives should be praised only when we continue to beg for pardon. But men are hopeless creatures, and the less they concentrate on their own sins, the more interested they become in the sins of others. They seek to criticize, not to correct. Unable to excuse themselves, they are ready to accuse others. This was not the way that David showed us how to pray and make amends to God, when he said: *I acknowledge my transgression, and my sin is ever before me.* He did not concentrate on others' sins; he turned his thoughts upon himself. He did not merely stroke the surface, but he plunged inside and went deep down within himself. He did not spare himself, and therefore was not impudent in asking to be spared.

Do you want God to be appeased? Learn what you are to do that God may be pleased with you. Consider the psalm again: *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it; in burnt offerings you will take no delight.* Are you then to be without sacrifice? Are you to offer nothing? Will you please God without an offering? Consider what you read in the same psalm: *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it, in burnt offerings you will take no delight.* But continue to listen, and say with David: *A sacrifice to God is a contrite spirit; God does not despise a contrite and humble heart.* Cast aside your former offerings, for now you have found out what you are to offer. In the days of your fathers, you would have made offerings of cattle—these were the sacrifices. *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it.* These then, Lord, you do not want, and yet you do want sacrifice.

*You will take no delight in burnt offerings,* David says. If you will not take delight in burnt offerings, will you remain without sacrifice? Not at all. *A sacrifice to God is a contrite spirit; God does not despise a contrite and humble heart.*

You now have the offering you are to make. No need to examine the herd, no need to outfit ships and travel to the most remote provinces in search of incense. Search within your heart for what is pleasing to God. Your heart must be crushed. Are you afraid that it might perish so? You have the reply: *Create a clean heart in me, O God.* For a clean heart to be created, the unclean one must be crushed. —St Augustine (d. 430)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We should be displeased with ourselves when we commit sin, for sin is displeasing to God. Sinful though we are, let us at least be like God in this, that we are displeased at what displeases him. In some measure then you will be in harmony with God's will, because you find displeasing in yourself what is abhorrent to your Creator.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 28 (Sat), 5:30 PM Craig Wilson (req. by Ellie Boucher)  
 Aug 29 (Sun), 8:00 AM Earl G. Stimson (req. by Sandra Towne)  
 Aug 29, 10:00 AM SJN Parishioners  
 Aug 30 (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

29 Aug, SUNDAY — 22nd WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

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

30 Aug, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

31 Aug, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scout Meeting

1 Sep, WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM | Faith Sharing  
 12:15 PM | Daily Mass  
 6:30 PM | "CATHOLICISM" Series

2 Sep, THURSDAY

10:00 AM | "BLESSED IS SHE" Women's Group  
 12:15 PM | Daily Mass

3 Sep, FIRST FRIDAY (Day of Penance)

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

4 Sep, FIRST SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group  
 8:45 AM | Rosary  
 9:00 AM | Mass  
 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

### MASS SCHEDULE

NOTE: the Sunday 6:00 PM Mass resumes September 12 following the Labor Day weekend. That weekend, the Sunday Holy Hour will revert to 7:00-8:00 PM as well.

### PARENT HANDBOOKS

The prophet Hosea was told: "My people perish for lack of knowledge" (Hos 4:6). Four CATECHETICAL PARENT HANDBOOKS are available on request (Creed, Sacraments, Life in Christ, Christian Prayer). The primary purpose is to help parents talk to their children about the Faith in a systematic way.

### FAITH FORMATION - REGISTRATION 2021-2022 School Year

Faith Formation REGISTRATION FORMS (Grades K-High School) are available online, in the church lobby, or from the SJN Faith Formation Office.

### ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL REQUEST

Saint Joseph's Hospital in Nashua is seeking volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers, tending to the spiritual needs of their patients. Point of contact: Tara Collins, Mission Integration and Pastoral Care Office: tacollins@sjnh.org; (603) 884-3306.

### TAB & CAP DRIVE



The Quintero family is collecting [the Collection Box is in the Coat Closet]: (1) ALUMINUM TABS in support of the Shriners Hospital for Children, and (2) Coca Cola bottle caps in support of Merrimack High School. Aluminum has a recycling value. COCA COLA BOTTLE CAPS have a code which when entered into their product website is worth 5¢. The Collection Box is in the Coat Closet. THANKS to all who can help out!



### HOLY HOUR

HOLY HOUR is scheduled Fridays following the 12:15 PM daily Mass, and Sundays from 6:00

**PM (7:00 PM during the school year).**

"Visits to the BLESSED SACRAMENT are a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord." —Pope St Paul VI (d. 1987)

### SJN MASSES ONLINE

SUNDAY MASS is live streamed at 10:00 AM on YOUTUBE page. To find us, search for:

"SJN Merrimack NH Mass"

DAILY MASSES (Mon, Wed-Fri) are posted to our FACEBOOK page. Go to:

[https:// www.facebook.com/sjnnh](https://www.facebook.com/sjnnh)

### PARISH NEWS

WE LOVE BEING IN TOUCH WITH YOU! You can keep in touch with us via email and/or text messaging. Unsubscribe anytime. Choose to get updates from parish groups you're interested in:

Visit > <https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

Text > "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message and data rates may apply)

### **"REST AND RENEW" YOUNG ADULT RETREAT Sep 10-12 (Register by Sep 3)**

All YOUNG ADULTS aged 21-35 are invited to join us for a retreat at Camp Marist (Effingham, NH) 10-12 September for a time of rest, reflection, prayer and socializing. The deadline for REGISTRATION is Friday, September 3. For more information or to REGISTER visit: [yaretreat2021.eventbrite.com](http://yaretreat2021.eventbrite.com).

### **— AMAZON SMILE —**

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

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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.

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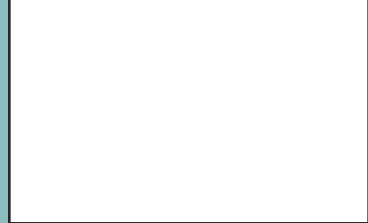
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