

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

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



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 19, 2021

Fr. Robert Glasgow
Pastor
Chaplain (LTC) USA, Ret.
880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

Eileen Buckley
Business Manager / Parish Secretary
880-4689 x110, office@sjnnh.org

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.

ON PURGATORY

"He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the LORD." —Mal 3:3

The "COMMUNION OF SAINTS" is the spiritual union that exists between the three states of the Church—Church Militant, CHURCH SUFFERING, Church Triumphant —, a union of grace and good works. The quotes below, drawn mostly from the lives of the Saints, describe not only the purifying fire of Purgatory, but how we can assist the Holy Souls there with our prayers, penances, and good works. It is a holy and pious work to do so. As St Pio of Pietreclina (d. 1968) urged: "WE MUST EMPTY PURGATORY WITH OUR PRAYERS."



TWO ANGELS VISITING THE SOULS IN PURGATORY
by Charles Le Brun (d. 1690)

- "Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice (Job 1:5), why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them." —St John Chrysostom (d. 407).
- "That there should be some fire even after this life is not incredible, and it can be inquired into and either be discovered or left hidden whether some of the faithful may be saved, some more slowly and some more quickly in the greater or lesser degree in which they loved the good things that perish, through a certain purgatorial fire." —St Augustine (d. 430)
- "Temporal punishments are suffered by some in this life only, by some after death, by some both here and hereafter, but all of them before that last and strictest judgment. But not all who



suffer temporal punishments after death will come to eternal punishments, which are to follow after that judgment. —St Augustine (d. 430)

- "A person may say I am not much concerned how long I stay in purgatory, provided I may come to eternal life. Let no one reason thus. Purgatory fire will be more dreadful than whatever torments can be seen imagined, or endured in this world. He who is afraid now to put his finger into the fire, does he not fear lest he be then all buried in torments for a long time?" —St Caesarius of Arles (d. 542)
- "As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offenses can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come." —Pope St Gregory the Great (d. 604)
- "The more one longs for a thing, the more painful does deprivation of it become. And because after this life, the desire for God, the Supreme Good, is intense in the souls of the just (because this impetus toward him is not hampered by the weight of the body, and that time of enjoyment of the Perfect Good would have come) had there been no obstacle; the soul suffers enormously from the delay." —St Thomas Aquinas (d. 1274)
- "I do not think that part from the felicity of Heaven, there can be a joy comparable to that experienced by the souls in Purgatory. An incessant communication from God renders their joy more vivid from day to day: and this communication becomes more and more intimate, to the extent that it consumes the obstacles still existing in the soul. On the other hand, they endure pain so intense, that no tongue is able to describe it. Nor is any mind capable of comprehending the smallest spark of that consuming fire, unless God should show it to him by a special grace." —St Catherine of Siena (d. 1380)
- "No one is barred from heaven. Whoever wants to enter heaven may do so because God is merciful. Our Lord will welcome us into glory with his arms wide open. The Almighty is pure however, and if a person is conscious of the least trace of imperfection and at the same time understands that Purgatory is ordained to do away with such impediments, the soul enters this place of perfection gladly to accept so great a mercy of God. The worst suffering of these suffering souls is to have sinned against Divine Goodness and not to have been purified in this life." —St Catherine of Genoa (d. 1510)
- "Even convicts, with whom I have spent some time, are not won over in any other way. Whenever I happened to speak sharply to them, I spoiled everything; on the contrary, when I praised them for their resignation and sympathized with them in their sufferings; when I told them they were fortunate to have their purgatory in this world, when I kissed their chains, showed compassion for their distress, and expressed sorrow for their

misfortune, it was then that they listened to me, gave glory to God, and opened themselves to salvation." —St Vincent de Paul (d. 1660)

- "If, during life, we have been kind to the suffering souls in purgatory, God will see that help be not denied us after death." —St Paul of the Cross (d. 1775)
- "I come to tell you that they suffer in Purgatory, that they weep, and that they demand with urgent cries the help of your prayers and your good works. I seem to hear them crying from the depths of those fires which devour them: "Tell our loved ones, tell our children, tell all our relatives how great the evils are which they are making us suffer. We throw ourselves at their feet to implore the help of their prayers. Ah! Tell them that since we have been separated from them, we have been here burning in the flames!" —St John Vianney (d. 1859)
- "I saw my guardian angel, who ordered me to follow him. In a moment I was in a misty place full of fire in which there was a great crowd of suffering souls. They were praying fervently, but to no avail, for themselves; only we can come to their aid. The flames, which were burning them, did not touch me at all. My guardian angel did not leave me for an instant. I asked these souls what their greatest suffering was. They answered me in one voice that their greatest torment was longing for God." —St Maria Faustina Kowalska (d. 1938)
- "Our souls demand Purgatory, don't they? Would it not break the heart if God said to us, It is true, my son, that your breath smells and your rags drip with mud and slime, but we are charitable here and no one will upbraid you with these things, nor draw away from you. Enter into joy? Should we not reply, With submission, sir, and if there is no objection, I'd rather be cleansed first. It may hurt, you know—even so, sir." —C. S. Lewis (d. 1963)
- "Purgatory basically means that God can put the pieces back together again. That He can cleanse us in such a way that we are able to be with Him and can stand there in the fullness of life. Purgatory strips off from one person what is unbearable and from another the inability to bear certain things, so that in each of them a pure heart is revealed, and we can see that we all belong together in one enormous symphony of being." —Pope Benedict XVI

MASS INTENTIONS

Sep 18 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Hank Syseskey (req. by family)
Sep 19 (Sun), 8:00 AM	SJN Parishioners
Sep 19, 10:00 AM	Kristin Mack (req. by Barbara Dunn)
Sep 19, 6:00 PM	Craig Wilson (req. by Rita)

Sep 20 (Mon), 12:15 PM Geringer)
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

19 Sep, SUNDAY — 25th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM | Mass

10:00 AM | Mass

6:00 PM | Mass

7:00 PM | Adoration (until 8:00 PM)

20 Sep, MONDAY

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

21 Sep, TUESDAY

8:00 AM | Red Cross Blood Drive

7:00 PM | Scout Meeting

22 Sep, WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM | Faith Sharing

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

4:30 PM | Grade 3 Faith Formation

6:30 PM | "CATHOLICISM" Series

23 Sep, THURSDAY

10:00 AM | "BLESSED IS SHE" Women's Group

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

24 Sep, FRIDAY (Day of Penance)

10:00 AM | Food Pantry (until 12:30)

12:15 PM | Daily Mass (followed by Adoration)

25 Sep, 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 | Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS

— AMAZON SMILE —

Please consider supporting our St John Neumann FOOD PANTRY whenever you purchase items through AMAZON.COM. This past quarter (Apr-Jun) we received \$102.45 from the AmazonSmile Foundation. To participate, 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.

YARN MINISTRY UPDATE

We continue to donate to the Hospice House, St Joseph Hospital, Southern NH Medical Center, and many area nursing homes. We also support Linus Project, scarfs for the military, along with chemo caps, infant caps, plus the hats/mittens given out each year with the SJN Food Pantry Thanksgiving Baskets. The ministry has been providing warmth and love to our community for 20+ years. With colder months ahead the need for full skeins of yarn, or gift cards for yarn, are needed. DONATIONS may be left in the Coat Room in the bin marked "YARN". And THANK YOU for your support through the years!

Rest in peace, Nancy Zoltek who passed away this past week. She was an integral part of our group for many years. She will be sorely missed. Our heartfelt thoughts and prayer go to her family.

— NOTICE —

"THE WORD AMONG US" (Sep-Nov issue) is available in the foyer. It offers the Sunday Readings, the Order of Mass, and daily reflections. They will be available until the new missalettes take effect Nov 28, the First Sunday of Advent.

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)

SJN MASSES CONTINUE 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>

CATECHETICAL HANDBOOKS

Thru prophet Hosea, God said: "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. A 7-part LIFE OF CHRIST will be available shortly as well.

HOLY HOUR

HOLY HOUR is scheduled Fridays following the 12:15 PM daily Mass, and Sundays from 7:00 PM (6:00 PM during the Summer months).

"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)

DIOCESAN NEWS

FALL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS (17 Oct 2021, St Joseph Cathedral):

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2021 to attend the FALL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS (St Joseph Cathedral, 17 Oct at 2:00 PM). TO REGISTER: please contact the parish office by 22 Sep. Once registration has been completed by the parish office, all registrants will receive an invitation to this special celebration. To all you married couples, congratulations and we look forward to seeing you at this fall's Wedding Anniversary Mass!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

The Catholic Schools of New Hampshire provide a robust education for students of all learning styles. As the 2021-2022 academic year begins, there is a strong need for teachers in several areas. If you know of anyone interested in applying to teach in one of our Catholic Schools, please pass this information along. The Catholic Schools Office will work with certification needs. Interested individuals may complete an inquiry form at <https://nhcatholicsschool.com/inquire>. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Zolkos, Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools at (603) 669-3100.

EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS:

The Diocese of Manchester is currently hiring for

the following full-time positions to assist the Bishop of Manchester in serving the parishes, schools and institutions of the Catholic Church in New Hampshire:

- Communications Director
- Camps Bernadette & Fatima: Facilities Tech/Carpenter
- Auditor/Field Advocate Coordinator

For more information, please check the diocesan website: <<https://www.catholicnh.org/about/stay-informed/bulletin/>>

SJN Staff

CLAIRE BRYSON
Children's Ministry (K-5th Grade)
(603) 880-4689 x114
cbryson@sjnnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN
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DIANE BONENFANT
Sacristan

CAROL YETTO
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CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER and EVELYN VERBECK
Outreach & Food Pantry
(603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS
Day Away (Thursday)
(603) 880-4689
dayaway@sjnnh.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL
Steve De Beradinis (President)

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Leo Bobek, Grand Knight
lbobek63@gmail.com

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