



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
945 Main Road, P.O. Box 3328
Westport, Massachusetts 02790-0702

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WEBSITE: stjohnthebaptistwestport.org

OUR MISSION

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church is a family of believers in Christ. As sacramental people, filled with God's love, we strive to provide a welcoming community, supporting one another on our journey to salvation. We are committed to each other in a spirit of compassion and love while promoting hope, healing and evangelization in our midst.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM
Sunday 8:00 and 10:00AM

Sacrament of Baptism

1st Sunday of the Month, Please contact the Rectory to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:00 P.M. or by calling the Rectory for an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements to be made at least six months in advance.

Holy Communion at Home

Notify us of any parishioner who is unable to attend Mass. Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit weekly.

Pastor: Rev. Leonard P. Hindsley

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Paula Brown

Religious Education Director: Mrs. Susan Orzeck

Music Director: Scott Simpkin



May God Bless you for generosity, thank you for your continued support!!

6/21.....\$3,698.03

4:30.....\$429.00
 8:00.....\$1315.00
 10:00.....\$665.00
 By Mail.....\$610.00
 Online.....\$679.03

Catholic Charities YTD.....\$11,060.00

Saturday June 27, 2020
4:30 PM Michael St. Laurent;
 22nd Anniversary (Family)

Sunday June 28, 2020
8:00AM Fr. Dick Segreve
 Fr. Bill Condon (Rita McCarthy)
10:00AM Christopher & Aires Resendes
 Roger Court
 Marie Kelley (Colleen Polselli)

Monday June 29, 2020
 ~*Saints Peter & Paul*
8:00AM Virginia Routhier

Tuesday June 30, 2020
8:00 AM Fr. Bill Condon;
 Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday July 1, 2020
8:00 AM Kyle Pontes (Parents)

Thursday July 2, 2020
8:00 AM Lorraine Fontes

Friday July 3, 2020
8:00 AM Judith Lopes

Saturday July 4, 2020
4:30 PM Michael Almeida & Gilbert Almeida
 (Linde Pierce)

Sunday July 5, 2020
8:00AM Carlin Lynch (Family)
10:00AM Salome & Jacinto Fonseca & Family
 Martine Kublbeck (Women's Guild)
 George Cataldo (Daughter)

Kindly take a moment to pray for the intentions, the welfare, the healing and salvation of...

Betty Zuber,
 Michael Marchand, Shawny Smith, Linda, Richard, Ken, Thomas Marques, Ray Richard, Rachel S., Lisa D., Lori Araujo, Yanni Spanos, Sydney Neronha, Judith Fralic, Mary Alice Fast, Bob Da Silva, Bob Condon, Mike Coleman, Holly Rodrigues, Pat Beland, Bruce Reynolds, Janet Mohr, Deborah Silvia, Devyn Arruda, Brenna, Margaret Kelley, Marie Drago, John Massa, Susan Tremblay, Stacey, Katherine Buschman, Kerri Martel, Carlos Silveira, Miguel DeSouza, Floris, Claire Sennett, Kevin Kelly, John, Edward Polgar, Joseph F. Heitzler, Jennifer Lavoie, Jim O'Hearn, Patrick Masterson, Dennis Martel, Kathy, Jeff Noetzel, Muriel & Henry Navarette, Anne Sennett Bahm, Maureen Stewart, Paul Desmarais, Randy Carvalho, and Our Service Men and Women

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning this week in memory of

Carlin & John Lynch

THE CANDLE at the FOOT OF MARY

burns this week in memory of Alice Moreira

THE CANDLE at the

Statue of The Sacred Heart
is perpetually burning in memory of

Sarah Valentine

From the Pastor's Desk



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP DACUNHA

Due to Fr. Hindsley's impending retirement, and after consultation with the Priests Personnel Board and the Strategic Planning Leadership Team, Bishop Da Cunha has asked Fr. Paul Bernier of St. George's and Fr. Chris Peschel of Our Lady of Grace to assume the pastoral care of St. John the Baptist Parish as co-pastors starting September 1st. While we are still in very early phases of working out the transition, please know that the three pastors will be collaborating with a small group of parishioners from each parish to help guide the process. We appreciate your patience and will keep you updated as appropriate. Please pray for all three parish communities of Westport, for Fr. Hindsley as he moves into retirement and for Fr. Bernier and Fr. Peschel as they assume the additional responsibility to serve God's people in Westport.

COMMENTARY BY FR. HINDSLEY

The three Westport pastors met with Laura Carrillo, the Director of Strategic and Pastoral Planning for the Diocese of Fall River on Friday, June 19, 2020 for 2 hours. Fr. Bernier and Fr. Peschel were enthusiastic about assuming the pastoral care of St. John the Baptist Parish and asserted that they could work well together. Laura Carrillo was concerned to make the transition a success for all involved. All 3 parishes remain as independent parishes and so will maintain their personnel and projects. Of necessity there will be an alteration in the Mass schedules at all three parishes. Normally there are 11 Masses each weekend at the three parishes. The priests who have been helping out at St. John's---Fr. Camara,

Fr. Gumbert and Fr. Brilhante---are no longer able to assist. That means that 2 priests would have to celebrate 11 Masses, which is not possible. Some members of the respective Pastoral Parish Councils will aid the new pastors in this decision-making process. This is an opportunity for the people of the parish to develop even stronger bonds as a community to maintain the distinct identity of the parish.

Celebration Summary: Bryan M. Cones

The opening prayers and second reading of today's liturgy sound a clear baptismal note as we continue our journey through Ordinary Time. In Romans Paul contrasts our new life in Christ through baptism to our former death in sin. The opening prayers contrast the "darkness of hatred and sin" with the "light of Jesus" (alternative opening prayer). We who have been baptized now "walk in the light of Christ," sheltered by the "radiance" of God's truth (opening prayer). That baptism commits us to service in the world, and our Sunday Eucharist strengthens us for that mission. We acknowledge the power of the Eucharist to help us serve God faithfully (prayer over the gifts), and so we ask that our celebration and communion may bring us a share of divine life and help us bring God's love to the world (prayer after communion). The interplay between the first reading and gospel put flesh on that baptismal call to service. The woman of Shunem recognizes Elisha as a prophet and holy man, and so welcomes him into her home. Her reward, the gift of a son, is a foretaste of what those who aid Jesus' disciples will receive in the reign of God. Since our baptismal call to service stands at the heart of today's liturgy, let the preaching, prayers, and song point the assembly to the needs of the world, for even the gift of a "cup of cold water" (gospel) can bring God's reign nearer.

ALLELUIA 1 PT 2:9

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL MT 10:37-42

Jesus said to his apostles: *“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”*

Gospel: Fr. Eugene Hensell, OSB
Matthew 10:37-42

The reality of early Christian discipleship always had the potential of being harsh. Hard choices had to be made and these choices could effect one’s relationship with one’s family. Keep in mind that family membership, identity, support, and care were held in highest honor by the culture of Jesus. Family was everything. The teaching of Jesus does not say that one should value and love family less, but it does say that one must value and love Jesus more (Mt 10:37). If ever one had to choose between family or Jesus the choice always had to be Jesus. This is a true test of discipleship and some would find it impossible. Disciples must know that the way of discipleship is not a way of glory, power, and wealth. It is, at its core, the way of the

cross (Mt 10:38). Without the cross there is no resurrection. Without death there is no new life. For a disciple what really constitutes life will appear like death to others, and what others see as death will be life for a disciple (Mt 10:39). Discipleship is fundamentally a counter-cultural way to live. The disciple represents Jesus on earth. Therefore whoever receives a disciple in effect actually receives Jesus. In turn, whoever receives Jesus will actually be receiving God (Mt 10:40). Often this all takes place anonymously.

Christian prophets who were often itinerant missionaries deserve to be received as those who speak in the name of God (Mt 10:41). This was not always easy to determine and was sometimes a judgment of faith. Still whoever is willing to risk and to reach out to meet even the most basic needs of a disciple will receive a just reward (Mt 10:42).

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A Little Humor

A man riding in a taxi realized he had forgotten his wallet. "How can I pay the fare?" About a block from his home an idea struck him and he said to the driver, "Please stop at the hardware store. I need to buy a flashlight so I can find the hundred dollar bill I dropped in the car." The driver stopped. When the man came out of the store, the taxi was gone.

Director of Religious Education

After 15 years of dedicated service to the youth of St. Johns, Susan Orzeck is retiring as our Religious Education Director as of June 30th. Although we are very sad to see her go we wish her the very best!!

With that, we have begun our search for a new DRE. This position is a paid 12 month position as of right now, but we will entertain the possibility of a part time position. This is a wonderful opportunity for Ministry within our Parish Community. The DRE must be a practicing Catholic, in good standing with the Church, a person of prayer who is committed to the authentic teaching of the Catholic faith.

If you are interested in hearing more about the position please see Fr. Hindsley after Mass or contact the Rectory.

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