



## 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him.” - Mt 21:32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

GLP

### 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.

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**EMAIL: [stjb@sprintout.net](mailto:stjb@sprintout.net)**

**WEBSITE: [stjohnthebaptistwestport.org](http://stjohnthebaptistwestport.org)**

### Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:00PM

Sunday 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00AM

### 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.

**Co-Pastors:** Fr. Paul Bernier  
Fr. Christopher Peschel

**Administrative Assistant:** Mrs. Paula Brown

**Music Director:** Mr. Scott Simpkin



**Saturday September 26, 2020**  
**4:00 PM\*** Marques/Fontaine Family  
 (Joan Marques)

**Sunday September 27, 2020**  
**8:00 AM** Mary Agnes & Thomas Henry  
 (Granddaughter)

**9:30 AM\*\*** Matthew & Statia Dobyne (Family)  
**11:00 AM** Ambrosia Vieira (Family)

**Monday September 28, 2020**  
**8:00 AM** Scott Lajoie; 1st Anniversary

**Tuesday September 29, 2020**  
 ~ *St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael*  
**8:00 AM** John J. Buckley (Family)

**NO DAILY MASS ON WEDNESDAY**

**Thursday October 1, 2020**  
 ~ *St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus*  
**8:00 AM** Fr. Bill Condon

**Saturday October 3, 2020**  
**4:00 PM** Roger Court (Colleen Polselli)

**Sunday October 4, 2020**  
**8:00 AM** Kevin McGill (Family)  
**9:30 AM** Ken Sullivan (Family)  
 Bob Condon (Rita McCarthy)  
**11:00 AM** Johanna Plasonig (Duquette Family)

***THE CANDLE at the FOOT OF MARY***

is burning his week

***FOR THE SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF Viola Abreu  
 and Gus Medeiros***

***THE SANCTUARY CANDLE***

*Burns this week*

***For the People of the Parish***



9/20.....\$3,152.00  
 Online.....\$269.19

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

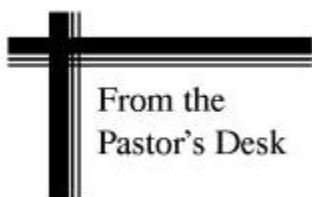
*Kindly take a moment to pray for the  
 intentions, the welfare, the healing and  
 salvation of...*

**Betty Zuber,  
 Michael Marchand, Shawny Smith, Linda,  
 Richard, Ken, Thomas Marques, Ray Richard,  
 Rachel S., 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 CANDLE  
 at the***

***Statue of The Sacred Heart  
 is perpetually burning in memory of***

***Sarah Valentine***



Dear Parishioners,

I want to again extend a great word of thanks to all of you who have been so welcoming and helpful to Fr. Paul and myself during this time of transition as we both take on some additional responsibilities. It is great to see folks willing to step forward to aid in liturgical roles and sanitize the building after Masses, we truly appreciate all the volunteers who are stepping forward in order to help make public Masses even possible in our church during these times.

One of the issues that has needed to be addressed since Fr. Paul and I assumed the responsibilities of St. John the Baptist Parish on September first has been religious education. There was a job description and request for resumes that was sent out this Summer and I am grateful to Paula Brown as well as Catechists; Patty Martin, Michelle Harrison, and Cheryl Olivier for aiding in the interview process. Since early September, they have provided indispensable aid in helping me comb through resumes and conduct a few online interviews by Zoom of potential candidates for the job. However, there were still so many uncertainties as to what religious education would be this year given all of the distancing and precautions that the State is mandating at this time.

I did another walk through recently of our parish religious ed building with a tape measure set to 6ft. It helped me put into perspective the size of our classrooms, particularly on the second floor of the religious ed building, as well as what we could reasonable accommodate for any in-person class setting. Prudently, I have to say that it would not be feasible or safe to hold in-person religious education classes at this time. Fortunately, the religious education provider, Pflaum, that our parish had already been working with, has moved their entire grade school curriculum online and made their materials accessible to us. I had wanted to wait until a new religious ed director was onboarded to say definitively what we'd be doing for the year, but I've realized that with time being of the essence and so many questions still lingering, that a decision couldn't be prolonged in that department. We will have a remote program for the 2020-2021 school year. Though certainly less than ideal, it is a prudently safe move at this time, and will have the added benefit of allowing students to work through the material at their own pace while permitting catechists to be able to regularly monitor their progress and check in that grade-appropriate coursework is being completed. Also, with

the program being entirely remote, it has moved a director's position to being much more of an online one. That being said, our parish Administrative Assistant, Paula Brown, graciously offered to take on the temporary position of being the religious education director for this year. Some of you may have received her email earlier this week, announcing her new duties; she assures me that it won't be too much on her plate! I am confident that this program will work for this coming year and I'm particularly relieved to know that Paula is already familiar the database of religious education families and students and has been able to have regular contact with them by e-mail up to this point. She will be in touch soon as to what the registration process and signup process will be for this year.

I would very much like to encourage our religious education families, and all parish families, in their attendance at Sunday Mass, either in-person or virtually. Though there has been a temporary dispensation granted from our bishop for the in-person attendance at Sunday Mass, we are never dispensed from the Third Commandment to "Keep Holy the Lord's Day." Please remember to keep faith and prayer as a component of your family life. For Sacramental preparation years, (Grades 2, 9, and 10) I will hold periodic meetings in the lower church (optional attendance) most likely following a Sunday Morning Mass that will allow some sense of community to develop among those in these key years of catechetical formation, details on those gatherings will be forthcoming. We will also look at what the possibility for sacramental year retreats will be this upcoming Spring. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the plan will be that First Communion for grade 2 and Confirmation for grade 10 will be held in the Spring as usual.

We will be looking to fill the director's position for the 2021-2022 school year. The added time affords our parish the ability to do a more thorough and comprehensive search, that is not so pressed for time, as well as potentially brainstorming and having the discussion of the possibility of bringing a director on in a full-time capacity who could oversee religious education for all three Westport parishes in the future.

Thank you all so much for your patience and understanding at this time. Keep Paula, Fr. Paul, and me in your prayers if you have the chance. Feel free to reach out by phone or email to any of us in the parish office with any questions that may arise.

With God's Love,

Fr Chris

## **Fr. Richard T. Donahue**

Father Richard T. Donahue of West Harwich, age 79, Sept. 9, 2020.

Devoted brother of Catherine Proia and her husband Dominic of Newton. He is also survived by 2 nieces, 2 nephews, 10 grand-nieces and many, many friends.

Fr. Donohue attended St. John's Seminary and was ordained a priest by Richard Cardinal Cushing in 1968. He later earned a Masters Degree from Fairfield University. After serving in several parishes in the Boston area for 23 years he asked to go to Honduras "for 3 years" to do missionary work.

Missionary work exemplified his love for the poor and he knew that the only way out of poverty was through education. That began his building of an educational system, the Olancho Aid Foundation. The Nazareth School for special needs children opened in 1996 followed by his overseeing the construction of a regional campus of the Catholic University. The Santa Clara Elementary School and Instituto now provide a bilingual education for students through grade 12 and the Cardenal Rodrigues High School provides a Spanish only education for those students who graduate from the public schools but are not adequately prepared to enter the university. Due to medical issues Fr. Donohue returned to the states five years ago.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Cape Cod Hospital and The Stone Institute Rehab Center in Newton for their exceptional care. Donations in Fr. Donohue's name can be made to the Olancho Aid Foundation PO Box 15 Rockland MA 02370  
FR. Donahue's wake and funeral were held at Our Lady Help of Christian Church in Newton on Tuesday September 15th. Burial at a later date in Honduras.



In celebration of the *Feast of St. Francis of Assisi* in  
October

**Blessing of the Pets  
will take place**

**Saturday, October 3  
At 11:00 AM**

**St. John the Baptist Church  
945 Main Road  
Westport**

Whether furry or feathery, big or small, bring your pet (s) to the blessing! The blessing will take place in the parking lot. Please make sure they are on a leash or secured safely!

**This event is open to all, tell your friends and  
Neighbors!!!**

**ONLINE ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES**  
begin on October 15th (for 6 consecutive weeks)  
Thursday Evenings from 6:30-8:00. The Adult Confirmation will be held on Thursday, December 10th at 7:00pm at St. Mary's Cathedral. Please contact the Rectory at 508-636-2251 to register.

### **REGISTRATIONS IN THE PARISH**

We welcome you to our faith community and invite you to register in the parish. Registration forms are available online or by contacting the Rectory. If you would like to register, fill out the form and return it to Fr. Bernier or Fr. Peschel after Mass.. If you need any more information or have any questions, please call the Rectory Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00.



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