

4th Sunday OF ADVENT



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.

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

508-636-2251

EMAIL: stjb@sprintout.net

WEBSITE: stjohnthebaptistwestport.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:00PM

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 3:30 P.M. or by calling the Rectory for an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements to be made at least six months in advance.

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

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Paula Brown

Music Director: Mr. Scott Simpkin



Saturday December 19, 2020
4:00 PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday December 20, 2020
8:00AM Barry Beaulieu (Family)
 Michael & Manuela Orlando
10:00AM Eleanore & Arthur McDonald
 (Daughter)
 Gerry Boucher (Family)
 Thomas Coasta (Family)
 Kevin Sousa (Godmother)

Monday December 21, 2020
8:00 AM Special Intentions of Maureen &
 John

Tuesday December 22, 2020
8:00 AM Kyle Pontes (Parents)

No Mass on Wednesday



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Thursday December 24, 2020
Christmas Eve
2:00 PM For the People of the Parish
4:00 PM Aime & Rita Lafrance
 Leopold & Georgette Baraby
10:00 PM Bob Condon

Friday December 25, 2020
Christmas Day
9:30AM Melania Kaharl and M. Albertina &
 Joseph Ferreira (Family)

Saturday December 26, 2020
4:00 PM For the People of the Parish

Sunday December 27, 2020
8:00AM Norm Sorel; 5th Anniversary
 Diane Mello; 10th Anniversary
 (Betty Sorel)
 Carlin Lynch (Family)
10:00AM Brian McDonald (Sister)



December 20th.....\$2,248.00

Retired Religious.....\$252.00

**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***

**THE CANDLE at the
FOOT OF MARY**

is burning this week in memory of

Arlene Monarch

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

Is burning this week in memory of

Carlin & John Lynch

Once again, we would like to thank
Potter Funeral Services for donating our
2021 Calendars. They are available at the
entrance of the church.

WINTER REMINDER

**WEEKDAY MORNING
MASS**

**WILL BE CANCELLED IF
SCHOOL IS**

**CANCELLED and/or DELAYED IN WEST-
PORT DUE TO
INCLEMENT WEATHER.**

***Schools will not be actually cancelling school, as
they will be remote on Snow Days; which means
we will not have Mass on those days.**

**Please call the answering service and/or check the
Facebook Page for cancellation notice, also.**



Once again a special **Thank You** to
Jack's Landscap'n for donating the beauti-
ful wreaths on the Church and the
Religious Education Center.

Bishop da Cunha's 2020 Christmas Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas is upon us, although seemingly a bit different this year. Because of the pandemic, many of us will not be celebrating in the ways we typically associate with Christmas - large family gatherings, holiday parties, seasonal concerts, and caroling.

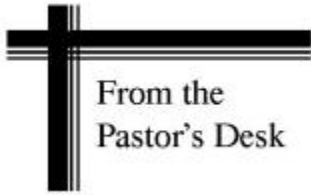
However, I firmly believe that this can be a very special Christmas with less emphasis on many of the external and social dimensions of the season. What we have instead is an opportunity to focus more on the spiritual aspect—the true meaning of Christmas: the coming of Christ into our lives and into our world. So my prayer and hope for each one of you is that, as you celebrate Christmas this year - as family, as friends, as a community of faith - Jesus will be at the center of all that you do, the purpose for all you do and give meaning to all you do. Let us put Jesus back into Christmas, and as the saying goes, make Jesus truly the “reason for the season”.

This year, more than ever before, is a time to remember the blessing of the Octave of Christmas. The Catholic Church does not keep the celebration of Christmas to December 25th only. Christmas is celebrated over eight days, from Christmas Day to January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. What a marvelous opportunity to embrace the joy of the season, allowing the Light of Christ to dispel the darkness of the past nine months. Just as I did during Advent, I again encourage you as a family to place Christ at the center of your celebrations.

To all of us in the Diocese of Fall River, may the coming of Christ, the Prince of Peace, fill us with a new peace, one that only He can give. Let us embrace not only His peace, but the joy of this season. I believe we will get through all the challenges ahead of us with the Lord's help. In His presence, in His grace, we'll reach a unique place this year where we can truly say that Christmas is about Christ.

May the peace, hope, and joy of this season be with us now and remain with us far beyond this Christmas. May these gifts, that only God can bestow upon us, reign in our hearts, in our homes, and in our world. May God bless you and your loved ones, and may you enjoy a very happy, joyful, blessed, and Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas! Feliz Natal! Feliz Navidad! Joyeux Noël!



From the
Pastor's Desk

The dawn is breaking on Our Lord's coming to this world once again. His birth we herald and sing with the joy and fervor of our parish patron St. John the Baptist. We, like him, are a people who look forward, and that looking forward allows the joy of this season and the Lord's coming to fill our hearts and souls at a time when so many are downcast. The heaviness, frustrations, and desolations of this past year could be the cause of a bit of consternation if we allow ourselves to dwell on them, yet, the Birth of Christ makes all things new. Let this newness continue to inspire hope within yourselves that the new breaking Day of the Lord can indeed allow things to begin again.

Fr. Paul and I are so grateful to all the parishioners, volunteers, and parish staff of St. John the Baptist who have been such a help to us in this new setup of things here in the Westport parishes alongside the added trickiness of everything happening in the midst of a pandemic. We look forward to meeting those parishioners who may not have journeyed out yet and hope to see some new faces in the New Year! May the joy and hope of this season be with you and may Our Lord continue to rain down his choicest blessings. Be assured of our prayers for everyone in the parish. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your families!

-Fr Chris

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe you are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen



Westport Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

**2:00 PM - St. John the Baptist*

**2:00 PM - St. George*

**Early Mass Time Dispensation from Bishop daCunha for 2020*

4:00 PM - St. John the Baptist

5:00 PM - Our Lady of Grace (Hall)

5:30 PM - St. George

10:00 PM - St. John the Baptist

*12:00 (Midnight) - Our Lady of Grace
(Church)*

Christmas Day

8:30 AM - St. George

9:30 AM - St. John the Baptist

10:00 AM - Our Lady of Grace (Church)

10:30 AM - St. George

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