

APRIL 18, 2021

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

CATHOLIC CHURCH • NORTH BENNINGTON, VERMONT



MISSION STATEMENT

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is a community of baptized people who have, as their common goals: to love, model, teach, serve, and celebrate Christ in our lives. Committed to the Eucharist, our Bread of Life, and guided by the Holy Spirit, we are dedicated to service to God's people and center our faith-life around liturgical celebrations, the Gospel, and prayer. Based on the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, we reach out to all people lovingly, acknowledging their uniqueness and dignity, and treat all with respect, tolerance, and acceptance, having the love of Jesus as our core.

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
5:30 PM

Sunday
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Monday through Thursday
9:00 AM

Holy Day Mass
(refer to schedule on inside cover)

Eucharistic Adoration
Wednesdays 5:00 PM-6:00 PM

Gluten-free hosts are available upon request. Visitors or parishioners need to notify the Pastor or Deacon prior to the particular Mass they are attending.

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

VISITORS

Welcome. Thank you for joining us for our Eucharistic Celebration. Please know that we have a long tradition of kneeling after every Mass to say a brief prayer for vocations.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome new parishioners to St. John's and ask that they register at the parish office. Parishioners with new addresses or who are moving should also contact the parish office.

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. And he said to them, "Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day." - Lk 24:45-46



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Rev. Robert Wiseman, C.S.C.—Pastor
Rev. Hugh Cleary, C.S.C.—Parochial Vicar

The Congregation of Holy Cross Priests and Brothers have offered continuous service for over 60 years to the Diocese of Burlington and the Bennington area.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

EMAIL: saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com
PHONE: 802.447.7504 | FAX: 802.442.6620



Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 4/17-4/25

Sat./Sun., 4/17-4/18 – Third Sunday of Easter

- 5:30 p.m. For our parishioners
- 9:00 a.m. Phyllis Jakubowski by Fran Endres and friends from Vermont
- 11:00 a.m. John Hogan by the Kees Family

Monday, 4/19 – Easter Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. Louise Gauthier by St. John's Sodality

Tuesday, 4/20 – Easter Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. Paul Censani (2nd anniversary) by Joan Monroe

Wednesday, 4/21 – Saint Anselm

- 9:00 a.m. Adele Luliano by Maria Luisa Barresi

Thursday, 4/22 – Easter Weekday

- 9:00 a.m. Janusz Bielawski by the Family

Friday, 4/23 – Saint George and Saint Adalbert

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 4/24-4/25 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 5:30 p.m. For our parishioners
- 9:00 a.m. Francis Carriere by the Shay Family
- 11:00 a.m. Harold & Florence McMahon by Linda Meskun



He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled. You are witnesses of these things.”
- Lk 24:44, 48

Readings for the week of April 18, 2021

- Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
- Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
- Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
- Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
- Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
- Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
- Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69
- Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 [22]/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18

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Gospel Reflection Third Sunday of Easter

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their “aha” moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our “aha” moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our “aha” moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, “peace be with you,” and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.

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Sunday Summary

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19 Peter accuses the crowds in Jerusalem of denying the Righteous One.

Psalms 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 The glory of the Lord shines on his faithful ones.

1 John 2:1-5a Only liars would claim the Lord and break his commandments.

Luke 24:35-48 The resurrected Christ is no ghost. We can still eat and drink with him.



Welcome to our newest member

Aacyra Lylia Sullivan

who joined us through the Sacrament of Baptism
on April 11, 2021.



Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading: In publicly bearing witness to Jesus' resurrection, Peter urged the people to repent of their sin of ignorance and their denial of Jesus. How does Jesus' resurrection from the dead inspire you to repentance?

Second Reading: John teaches his community that the key to avoiding sin is to follow Jesus' commandments. What do you find challenging in this seemingly simple and clear instruction?

Gospel: Luke tells us that the resurrected Jesus opened the minds of the disciples "to understand the Scriptures" and see how his suffering, death, and resurrection was connected to repentance and forgiveness of sins. What tools do you use to better understand our faith?

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Kids' Corner - Sharing the Gospel

Turn to God in the name of Jesus Christ so that you will be forgiven. When you hurt someone, say to God and to the person, "I made a mistake. I am very sorry. Will you forgive me?" After God forgives you, he will show you good things to do in his Son's name. Choosing ways to honor and serve God will lead you to heaven.

Prayer: Father God, forgive me and show me ways to serve you in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Something to Draw: Draw your friend breaking your favorite toy. Draw yourself forgiving him.

Mission for the Week: When someone hurts me I will forgive. I will ask God to forgive me if I hurt someone. ©LPi



Earth Day ~ 51st Anniversary Laudato Si' ~ 6th Anniversary

At Catholic Relief Services, every day is Earth Day. CRS' immediate goal is to improve family well-being through agro-economic development and environmental stewardship. Join us as we celebrate our environment and the people who make it a better place.

• **Learn more about climate change.** This year marks the sixth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical letter, **Laudato Si' On Care for Our Common Home**. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that we have a responsibility to care for the Earth - our common home. He calls on the world to "dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet."

• **Plant a tree.** God calls us to be stewards of the Earth. Trees clean the air and provide oxygen. They help us prevent soil erosion and can conserve energy. They are also beautiful.

• **Support farmers and their families.** CRS' farming projects help hundreds of thousands of people feed their families, work toward self-sufficiency, and steward the Earth's resources for future generations. By giving a bag of fertilizer, for instance, you are helping farmers nourish the soil, reap better harvests, and earn more income.

• **Reuse.** Reuse durable, non-toxic straws, utensils, to-go containers, bottles, bags, and other everyday items. Choose glass, paper, stainless steel, wood, ceramic, and bamboo over plastic.

• **Attend a farmers' market.** These stands offer locally grown produce that's nearly as fresh as picking it yourself. By supporting local farmers' markets, you are also supporting your neighbors.

• **Pray.** Pope Francis advocates greater stewardship of global resources as one way to help our most vulnerable sisters and brothers. Please pray for those who suffer the most from environmental disasters.

For more ways you can help or for more information on the works of Catholic Relief Services, please visit crs.org.



Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl. Our community changed lives this Lent, and CRS Rice Bowl wants to say THANK YOU! If you haven't already done so, please return your CRS Rice Bowl as soon as possible.

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