

APRIL 25, 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.



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep." - Jn 10:14-15

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass 02001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

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Rev. Robert Wiseman, C.S.C.—Pastor  
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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](mailto:saintjohnchurch1@gmail.com)  
PHONE: 802.447.7504 | FAX: 802.442.6620



## Mass Intentions

And Liturgical Celebrations for 4/24-5/2

### 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

### Monday, 4/26 – Easter Weekday

9:00 a.m. Joe DeMasi by Theresa DeMasi

### Tuesday, 4/27 – Easter Weekday

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

### Wednesday, 4/28 – Saint Peter Chanel; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort

9:00 a.m. For the health of the Luliano Family  
by Joan Monroe

### Thursday, 4/29 – Saint Catherine of Siena

9:00 a.m. For the intentions of Marie & Rosina Censani  
by Joan Monroe

### Friday, 4/30 – Saint Pius V

No Mass

### Sat./Sun., 5/1-5/2 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

5:30 p.m. For our parishioners  
9:00 a.m. Louise Gauthier by Linda Meskun  
11:00 a.m. Edward Gardner III by the Kees Family



“I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.” - Jn 10:16-17

### Readings for the week of April 25, 2021

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  
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:1-10  
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30  
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50  
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20  
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6  
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14  
Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

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## Gospel Reflection Fourth Sunday of Easter

Any builder worth his or her salt knows the value and importance of a cornerstone. Properly laying and securing this primary unit determines how the rest of the project unfolds and its success. Cornerstones are necessary elements not only of buildings but of lives as well. Many human beings conduct the business of their lives paying little attention to a grounding reference or starting point. Hence, what unfolds is a tapestry of relativism, with few anchors or guideposts and many impulsive choices. Some consider love to be their cornerstone. While this may sound attractive and useful, the pursuit of love without a simultaneous pursuit of its source can be shallow and self-focused. Just because a person chooses to do no harm and love others does not mean that they are living in truth and properly anchored to the real cornerstone.

Jesus is the true and authentic cornerstone and shepherd. It is only in following the Risen One as the way, the truth, and the life that we can move from being well grounded ethical people to properly focused moral ones. Proper conduct, a true sense of justice, wisdom, virtue, moral principles, faith, hope, and love will be difficult to find unless we listen to the right Voice. It is when we learn to listen to the voice of God that we begin our journey on the road to salvation. It is only the Good Shepherd, the authentic and solid cornerstone, who can guide us through life's questions and challenges and bring us to the safe and proper pasture.

A person's life only has meaning when the cornerstone is properly selected and set. Understanding themselves only as random acts of creation, existing without intent or purpose, will color their choices and influence their decisions. The foundation of their lives will be simply a matter of preference and choice, leaving benchmarks of growth and higher ideals optional to pursue. Whereas people who believe that they are fashioned and loved into existence by a God who purposely made them, have this incredible unconditional relationship at their source which has tremendous significance. Their allegiance is not to themselves but to their Creator. Life, then, is an adventure in search of this Creator God and a journey of self-discovery that seeks to unite their will to His. There is a cost. We have to give up our life in order to gain our life. As ironic as that sounds, it is true. It is only when we finally figure this out that the true cornerstone of our lives will be properly laid and we can, with God's help, get about the business of properly constructing a temple that endures.

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### Sunday Summary

**Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12** Jesus is the name by which salvation comes.

**Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29** The rejected stone is the cornerstone.

**1 John 3:1-2** We are the children of God, leaning into fuller revelation.

**John 10:11-18** The good shepherd protects the sheep with his own life.

# Thank You

Thank you to Ron, Rosemary and Molly Lindsey, Fran Endres, Barbara Marino, and Kevin Kees for helping to decorate the church.

Thank you to Nancy Myers for helping me make flower arrangements for the altar.

Thank you to John Ulrich for helping with the fire for the Easter Vigil.

Thank you to Brian Granger for assisting the lectors safely up and down the altar step in the darkened church during the Vigil.

They say it takes a "village" and St. John's is blessed to have so many wonderful "villagers" who give so lovingly of their time and talents. Bless you all.

~ Margy Boulet



This weekend we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories, because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Thank you for your generosity. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



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## Kids' Corner - Sharing the Gospel

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He wants you to help your family and friends. Jesus wants to guide you like a shepherd guides the sheep. Do what you can to help others. Bring in a bag of groceries. Take someone a drink of water. Get a blanket for someone. Or just sit down and listen to a friend's funny or sad story. Then you will be a good shepherd just like Jesus.

**Prayer:** Jesus, show me ways to help my family and friends.

**Something to Draw:** Draw yourself carrying in a bag of groceries for your parents.

**Mission for the Week:** Every morning I will ask my parents, "How may I help you today?"

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## Totus Tuus Summer Catholic Camp

Join us for a week of faith and fun!

Totus Tuus is a high-energy dose of faith building led by four young adults. Totus Tuus is Latin for "Totally Yours" and is a Catholic youth program dedicated to promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, evangelization, and Eucharistic worship. The goal of Totus Tuus is to help young people grow in their understanding of, and strengthen their faith in, Jesus Christ. The program strives to bring our faith to life.

**Grades 1 – 8:** August 2 - 6, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**High School:** August 1 - 5, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Registration forms are available at the Parish Office or at [www.vermontcatholic.org](http://www.vermontcatholic.org). For more information, please email: [shsftotustuus@gmail.com](mailto:shsftotustuus@gmail.com).

*This summer, due to the pandemic, the number of children participating will be limited. Registrations will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Please register early to ensure a space for your child.*

## Reflect and Respond to Scripture

**First Reading:** We hear how Peter courageously testified before the Sanhedrin that in Jesus' name the crippled man was healed and in Jesus' name all believers are saved. How strong is the conviction of your faith when someone challenges you?

**Second Reading:** John speaks to his community of believers as "children of God." What do you see as some of the implications of such a designation?

**Gospel:** In speaking of himself as "the good shepherd" who cares deeply for his sheep, Jesus contrasts himself to "a hired man" (the Pharisees) who has no concern for his sheep. How should have the Pharisees reacted to this criticism?

### Lord, make us instruments of your truth...

Where there is shouting, let us practice listening;  
Where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;  
Where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;  
Where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;  
Where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;  
Where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;  
Where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;  
Where there is hostility, let us bring respect;  
Where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.

~ Pope Francis

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