

MAY 2, 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

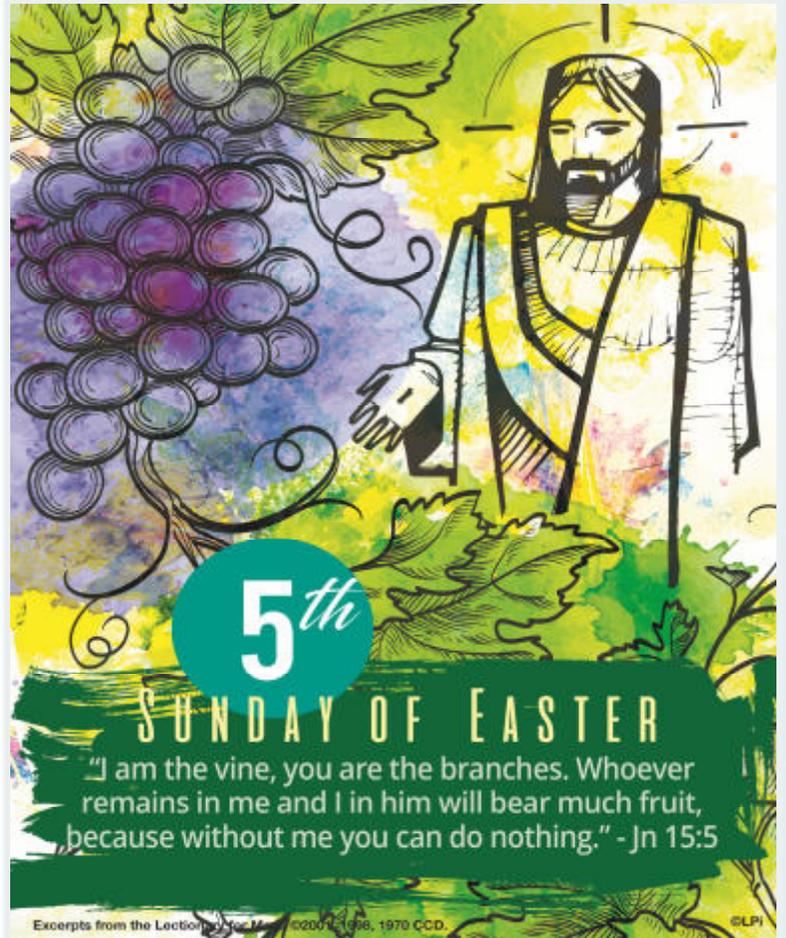
Saturdays from 4:30 PM-5:00 PM and by appointment.

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.



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 5/1-5/9

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

Monday, 5/3 – Saints Philip and James

9:00 a.m. The Monroe Family by Joan & Stephen Monroe

Tuesday, 5/4 – Easter Weekday

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, 5/5 – Easter Weekday

9:00 a.m. Jack Deming by Linda Meskun

Thursday, 5/6 – Easter Weekday

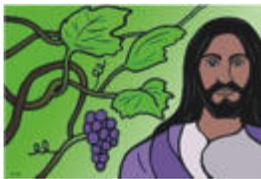
9:00 a.m. Carol Beaudoin by Ron & Rosemary Lindsey

Friday, 5/7 – Easter Weekday

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 5/8-5/9 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

5:30 p.m. Raymond F. Cox, Jr. by his family
9:00 a.m. Simon Runyan by the Belnap Family
11:00 a.m. For our parishioners



“Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.”

- Jn 15:4-5

Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

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Gospel Reflection 5th Sunday of Easter

“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checkered past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

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Sunday Summary

Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31 Barnabas acts as RCIA sponsor to the converted Saul.

Psalms 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 To God alone is praise and worship due.

1 John 3:18-24 Believing in Christ means loving one another as he commanded.

John 15:1-8 Jesus is the vine in whose life our discipleship bears its fruit.



**First Holy Communion
May 2, 2021**

Addison Estey

Riley Estey

Charlotte Hastings

*Congratulations on receiving the
Sacrament of First Holy Communion!*



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. For more information, please email: 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.



**The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord
Thursday, May 13**

Holy Day Mass Schedule

St. John the Baptist:

Wednesday, May 12 at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales:

Thursday, May 13 at

8:00 a.m., 12:15 p.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading: Luke tells us how the conversion of Saul (Paul) and the acceptance by the disciples of him helped facilitate peace in the Church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria. What do you think is needed to bring about peace in our Church today?

Second Reading: John teaches his community that believing in Jesus and loving one another is the heart of God’s commandment. How would you assess yourself in following this two-fold command?

Gospel: Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus urges his disciples to “remain in me” in order to bear good fruit and thereby glorify God. What would be some examples of “good fruit” that you have produced?



Kids’ Corner - Sharing the Gospel

Put a brand new light bulb in a lamp. Turn the lamp on. It shines brightly. Now, unplug the lamp. The lamp goes dark. It might be a nice lamp. It might have a new light bulb. Yet, without being plugged in to electricity, the lamp cannot shine. In today's Gospel, Jesus is the vine and you are a branch. As long as you are attached to Jesus, your faith can grow fruit like love, kindness, and gentleness. If you break away from Jesus, your faith will die, and you will not grow any fruit. Stay plugged in to Jesus, so you can shine. Stay connected to Jesus, so your faith can grow fruit.

Prayer: God, help me to stay connected to Jesus.

Something to Draw: Draw a picture of a tall vine with one branch for every person in your family. Write Jesus' name on the vine, and write the names of your family members on the branches.

Mission for the Week: Read Galatians 5:22-23 with your family. Write down the nine different kinds of fruit that will grow from your faith, when you stay connected to Jesus.

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Pick of the Week for May 2:

Watch: The Way of Saint James

Learn: Acts of the Apostles with Mark Hart

Listen: Reaching Out to Today’s Culture by Bishop Robert Barron

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