

JULY 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.



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



"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. - Jn 6:9, 11

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCC.

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## 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 7/24-8/1

**Sat./Sun., 7/24-7/25 – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 p.m. Michael Borden by the Family

9:00 a.m. For our parishioners

11:00 a.m. John Hogan by the Henrietta Billow Family

**Monday, 7/26 – Saints Joachim and Anne**

*No Mass*

**Tuesday, 7/27 – Weekday**

9:00 a.m. Louise Gauthier by the Henrietta Billow Family

**Wednesday, 7/28 – Weekday**

*No Mass*

**Thursday, 7/29 – Saint Martha**

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

**Friday, 7/30 – Saint Peter Chrysologus**

*No Mass*

**Sat./Sun., 7/31-8/1 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:30 p.m. Janusz Bielawski (birthday remembrance)

by Ewa Bielawska

9:00 a.m. For our parishioners

11:00 a.m. Freida Pello Gardner by the Kees Family



Jesus said, “Have the people recline.”

Now there was a great deal of grass in that place.

So the men reclined, about five thousand in number.

When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples,

“Gather the fragments left over,  
so that nothing will be wasted.”

- Jn 6:10, 12

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

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18  
[cf. 16]/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22,  
23 [1a]/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9,  
10-11, 12-13 [8a]/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9 [cf. 9c]/Mt  
13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and  
8a, 11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-  
4, 5-6, 10-11ab [2a]/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 [4]/Mt  
14:1-12

Next Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54  
[24b]/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35

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## Gospel Reflection

### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Oscar Romero said, “We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is the beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest.”

There were a group of ladies many years ago who made quilts. They were beautiful creations reflecting inspirational designs artfully composed from the simple scraps of fabric each woman would bring to their individual pieces. There was no plan for the finished project as each finished work became the combined creation of what each woman contributed. They abounded in vibrant colors and dazzled the beholder with intricate patterns and their myriad textures. They were so beautiful that they became coveted family treasures passed from generation to generation. Those women never realized the power of their work. Countless babies rested in the comfort of those quilts warmly nestled in the legacy of tradition they were fortunate to inherit. They adorned countless homes with their beauty and brought joy and solace to many faces.

We cannot do everything. We are not meant to. Our work in life is to contribute our individual piece, a piece that reflects the unique thumbprint I claim as my own. We only have to do small things well. Then, as St. Oscar Romero reminds us, the Lord’s grace will enter and do the rest. We have to trust that this is true just as those women trusted in the eventual beauty of their final work.

Eucharistic blessings are blessings that start small and multiply. We all come to life with only a few loaves of bread and a few fish. Not any single one of us has all that it takes to transform our world. Who knows what God will do with the little we have and how many will benefit from our kindness, compassion, wisdom, courage, conviction, love, warmth, zeal, faith, and hope? That young lad never dreamed that his few leftovers would do all that they did. God shows up in unexpected ways! Where would life’s adventure and fun be if it were any other way? Being able to be part of bringing God’s creative, transforming, healing to the world opens us up to wonder, awe, and excitement! We can all bring our little piece to the bigger work of God that can result in being a coveted jewel passed generation to generation. This is good news indeed!

Bread and wine transform into Christ’s Body and Blood and we become what we eat. Trust that.

### Sunday Summary

**2 Kings 4:42-44** Elisha feeds a hundred with 20 loaves of barley.

**Psalms 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18** God satisfies the desire of every living thing with open hands.

**Ephesians 4:1-6** All are united under one Lord, in one faith, by one Baptism.

**John 6:1-15** The crowds seek to make Jesus king, for he alone can feed the multitudes.

## Food Shelf

We want to thank our parishioners, friends, and organizations that continued to donate to St. John's Food Shelf during the past year of the COVID pandemic. Our shelves were stocked with food and toiletries for our families in need.

Again, thank you for your continued support of this Parish Ministry.

~ Joyce Scarey

~ Marcy & Dennis McCarthy

At this time, we are saddened by the death of Barry Silva, a dedicated volunteer of St. John's Food Shelf Ministry. He enjoyed working with and loved to "kid" with our food recipients. Barry will be greatly missed in this Parish and the Parish Food Shelf Ministry.

Please remember Barry in your prayers.



## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori based hands-on method of faith formation. CGS utilizes a prepared space for children called the Atrium. The Atrium, a space where both the children and catechists can hear, ponder and celebrate the most essential mysteries of the Christian faith, contains models representing people, places, and objects found in scripture and liturgy.

The Atrium is such a peaceful place, and at the same time, it's a very fun place, with real materials for the children to work with, custom made to meet their needs. It's marvelous to see how the children thrive in this environment. As they practice new skills, and learn more about our Lord and His Church, you can see them growing in confidence. It's a joy to witness and be a part of their journey.

For the past three years, we have been holding Level 1 sessions for some of the youngest children in our Parishes. This summer, Kathy Murphy and Martha Hojnowski will be attending another weeklong training in order to begin the process of expanding our program to include Level 2 sessions. This will enable us to welcome children from the ages of 3 to 9/10 years old into our CGS program.

**HELP WANTED:** Would you be interested in learning more about what it would mean to be an assistant in the Atrium or would you like to learn more about what is involved in becoming a certified CGS catechist? Please contact Kathy Murphy to learn more.

## Eucharistic Ministers Needed

We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers for all weekend Masses. Training will be provided. Scheduling is done at your convenience. If you are able to assist with this Ministry, please contact Diane Granger at 518-366-8642 or email at dianeg1229@gmail.com.



St. John the Baptist is 22% to our Bishop's Appeal goal. **On July 29**, we will celebrate **Founder's Day of Giving** in memory of our first bishop, Bishop de Goesbriand, and raise money to support the mission of our Diocese.

We have received a matching grant that will match any gift made online on this day up to \$20,000. If you have not yet made a gift to the appeal or would like to make an additional gift online, visit [vermontcatholic.org/giveonline](http://vermontcatholic.org/giveonline).



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## Pick of the Week for July 25:

**Watch:** *Saint Ignatius of Loyola: Soldier for Christ*

At the end of this week, we celebrate the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the "Soldier for Christ." Taught directly by God, Ignatius offered the Church a new spirituality of devoted service to Christ and founded a religious order dedicated to evangelization, the Jesuits.

**Listen:** *FORMED Now! Does Faith Take a Vacation?*

Since it's easy for us to be distracted by the excitement of the summer rhythm, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger discuss what we can do to make sure we don't let the spiritual life take a back seat.

## Interfaith Dinner

On Sunday, July 4, parishioners of St. John's answered our call to lend a hand with the Interfaith Dinner at the Second Congregational Church. Thank you to Diane & Brian Granger, Marissa Naumowicz, Jareth Fleming, and Jaxson LaBombard. We truly appreciate their willingness to lend their time, talent, and treasure to this worthwhile community outreach.

Second Congregational Church has gone to great lengths to create protocols that keep everyone safe during this time of the pandemic. If you (or a group) would be interested in hosting one of these dinners, please call the Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Parish Office at 442-3141. Thank you.

**We are in desperate need of volunteers for the dinner on August 1! Please consider lending a hand to this worthwhile community outreach.**

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