

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 4:00 PM-5:00 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.



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

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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 9/11-9/19

Sat./Sun., 9/11-9/12 – Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Joseph & Anna Cross by their daughters
9:00 a.m. Jane & Clifton Dietrick by the Belnap Family
11:00 a.m. For our parishioners

Monday, 9/13 – Saint John Chrysostom

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Tuesday, 9/14 – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00 a.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, 9/15 – Our Lady of Sorrows

9:00 a.m. Theresa DeMasi by Lori, Mark, & Timothy Franceschetti

Thursday, 9/16 – Saints Cornelius and Cyprian

9:00 a.m. Henrietta Billow by Linda Meskun

Friday, 9/17 – Saint Robert Bellarmine

No Mass

Sat./Sun., 9/18-9/19 – Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:30 p.m. Darlene Galipeau by Charlene & Gary Martin
9:00 a.m. Laura Meehan (6th anniversary) by the Family
11:00 a.m. Bob Flynn (20th anniversary) by the Family



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For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it.”

- Mk 8:34-35

Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37

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Gospel Reflection

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, “You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.” Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: “We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.” Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.

Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

Sunday Summary

Isaiah 50:5-9a The Servant of the Lord counts on God and receives the world's abuse.

Psalms 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 Death drew near, but God's mercy rescued the faithful one.

James 2:14-18 The line between faith and works is an illusion quickly crossed.

Mark 8:27-35 Peter doesn't like the sound of the Servant's way through suffering and rejection.





Thank you to those who have given to the 2021 Bishop's Appeal. Your gift supports a variety of ministries and services impacting all of our parishes, including Catholic faith formation, education, vocations, emergency aid, and so much more. Please visit bishopsappealvt.org for more information or to make a gift.

To date, our parish has raised \$18,423 toward our goal of \$29,448.10. This is 63% of our parish goal.



The National Collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. will be taken up this weekend, **September 11 – 12**. It is unique as the national university of the Catholic Church and the only institution of higher education founded by the United States Bishops and chartered by the Vatican. The Catholic University of America educates clergy, religious, and young lay men and women from every region of the United States, providing future leaders for our Church and nation. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting the university and the countless number of students who will experience an education grounded in Catholic tradition.



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Pick of the Week for September 12:

Watch: *The Reluctant Saint: The Story of St. Joseph of Cupertino*

Maximilian Schell stars as "the flying friar," St. Joseph of Cupertino, in this heartwarming and true story of the humble Franciscan friar who literally rose to sainthood. In the impoverished village of seventeenth century Cupertino, Italy, Joseph's peasant mother convinces the reluctant Abbott to accept her son into the monastery. With the support of the kindly local Bishop who sees in him a great deal more than others do, and by a series of miraculous incidents, the simple but pious Joseph is ordained a priest.

Listen: *Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows* by Kimberly Hahn

Speaker and author Kimberly Hahn, wife of Dr. Scott Hahn and mother of six, is a convert to the Catholic Faith. Although honoring Mary was difficult for her to understand initially, she began to encounter Mary's loving guidance in little ways on a daily basis. In this presentation, Kimberly reflects on the joys and sorrows that Mary prayerfully experienced during her time on earth, and shares how her example leads us closer to Christ.



Registration for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation

Registration is now open for fall enrollment for Faith Formation, First Communion, and Confirmation. Sacred Heart St. Francis and St. John the Baptist church programs are now merged at all levels.

For grades 1 - 5 and children 3 - 6 years old, classes will meet Sundays after the 9:30 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart St. Francis from 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. beginning Sunday, September 26.

Confirmation is for grades 6 through 8, and will meet twice a month on Sundays from 4:30 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Classes began Sunday, August 29.

Registration is online at <https://sacredheartsaintfrancis.org/registration-forms> for both parishes. You may register your family on one form. We ask that a registration fee of \$10 per student or \$25 per family be submitted. Payment can be made in one of the following ways:

- Online by clicking the donate button and choosing "Class Registration Fees"
- In person on the first day of class
- Mail to: Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, Faith Formation Registration, 238 Main Street, Bennington, VT 05201

Please contact Kathy Murphy or Mary Drew at 442-3141 with any questions.



We are very excited to open a Level II Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium this fall, and we could use some help! Our needs include:

- A small low table for a prayer table
- Bookshelves: units of three or four shelves at least 10" deep
- School desks or small tables at which one or two children could work
- Woodworkers who are willing to help create materials for us
- We have a wish list of items to purchase if you would be interested in sponsoring one
- And especially your prayers! Any help with these needs would be greatly appreciated!

Classes will meet after the Sunday 9:30 a.m. Masses beginning September 26. If you know of anyone interested in Faith Formation, or could help us with our wish list, please contact Kathy Murphy at 442-3141.

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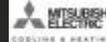
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