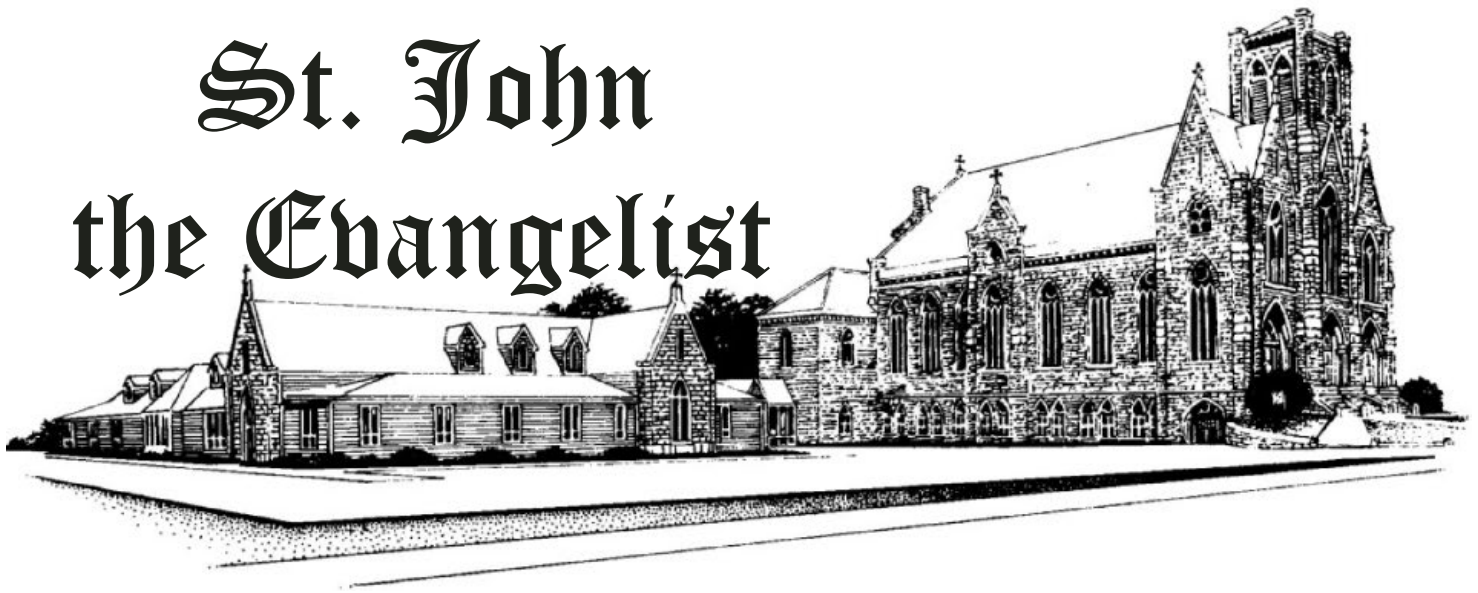


St. John the Evangelist



Established 1866

**20 Church Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748**

**Telephone: 508-435-3313
for all parish offices
Fax: 508-435-5651**

**E-Mail: stjohnshopkinton@verizon.net
Web Page:
www.stjohnhopkinton.com**

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

Please introduce yourselves. We hope to know and serve you. We hope you become an active part of our Parish Community.

PASTOR

Very Rev. Richard E. Cannon, V.F.
508-435-3313x201
rec55xp@outlook.com

DEACON

Deacon Anthony C. Sicuso
508-435-3313x206

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

508-435-3313x208
Mary Pawela, 1-6
Debbie Lysik, 7-10
Ken Lysik, 9 & 10

PARISH CENTER

Tim Keary, Manager
508-435-3313x210
parishhallstjn@gmail.com

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday through Friday at 9:00 AM
Saturday 8:00 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES:

See inside bulletin for Holy Day Mass schedule

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 8:30-9:15 AM in the lower chapel

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11:30 AM
Please call for information

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arranged at least 6 months in advance

ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR

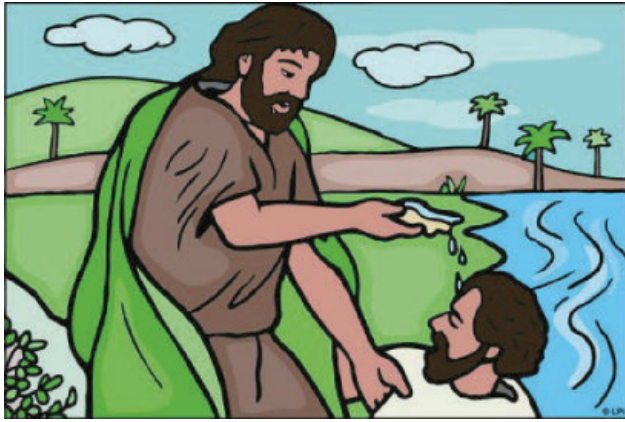
Bernadette Nadeau
momandberni@gmail.com

PARISH "NEWS" DEADLINE

All copy must be submitted in writing no later than Monday noon. (Holiday weeks may require a longer lead time.)

ST. JOHN'S ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For those that need a little help,
please call: 508-435-3313x207



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

Readings for **NEXT** Sunday, December 22, 2024:
 Mi 5:1-4a/ Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/
 Heb 10:5-10/ Lk 1:39-45

The readings for this weekend's Masses begin on page 63 in the pew missal.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

4:00 PM Yvonne Marchon & John Fernandes

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John's
 10:00 AM Fr. John Henault (living birthday)
 6:30 PM Special Intention

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:00 AM Epi Fania and David Guzman

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 AM Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:00 AM Cathy Sison (living intention)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00 AM Duds Sison (living intention)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:00 AM Muriel Burgess

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 AM Orlando Mozo Coronado
 4:00 PM Deceased members of the Lobo, Almeida and Sharma Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00 AM Eleanor Muller
 10:00 AM Parishioners of St. John's
 6:30 PM All the Holy Souls in Purgatory



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:45 AM Grades 1-6

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

2:45 PM Grade 6
 4:30 PM Grades 1-4

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:30 PM Grades 2 & 5

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22—NO CLASSES

Join Us For Coffee,
 Donuts and Conversation
COFFEE HOUR

St. John's parish family invites you to join us for coffee and conversation in the parish center following the 10AM Mass this Sunday.

2nd collection **THIS** weekend
 Parish Upkeep & Maintenance

Evening Opportunity for Confessions

In addition to our regular Saturday morning confession times, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered **THIS Monday, December 16, 6:30-7:30PM** in the lower chapel.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

For those parishioners on our offertory envelope system, you will notice a Flower Offering envelope in your packet. (Flower envelopes are also available at the back of the church.) These envelopes provide an opportunity to donate to the flower costs and other altar supplies during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. These donations can be made in memory of loved ones. They can be put in the regular collection or sent to the parish office anytime before Christmas. Thank you.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE: 4PM, 6PM & Midnight
CHRISTMAS DAY: 8AM & 10AM

Third Thursday Holy Hour for Priests

Thursday, December 19

7PM, lower chapel

For many holy priests, and in reparation for the sins of the clergy
 Exposition, Rosary, short meditation, silent prayer, petitions, chaplet for priests, Benediction

"To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement."

--St. Augustine

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows the 9AM Mass in the lower church every Tuesday and Friday, beginning with the Litany to our Blessed Mother. The *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* is recited at 11:45AM followed by *Benediction*. Please feel free to drop in for a visit.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated 8:30-9:15AM in the lower church THIS Saturday, December 21.



Please Remember in Prayer

All confined, all in need of healing...Please pray for all deceased and their families...Our servicemen and women, and their families, and all who suffer in embattled countries.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

There will be a holy hour of Divine Mercy **every Monday from 6:30-7:30PM in the lower church.** All are welcome.

Monday Zoom Rosary

Monday evenings at 7PM. This 30 minutes once a week provides a quiet and reflective time. You also pray in the comfort of your home but with a community of faith praying with you. Try it out. All are welcome! Contact Deacon Guy (deaconguy@verizon.net) for more information and Zoom link.

MUSTARD SEED



Thank you for your continued support of the people who come to this Catholic Worker Soup Kitchen for a nourishing meal. Please use the boxes on the tables at the rear of the church for your donation. Thank you for your generosity.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank our benefactors for the generous donations to support over 50 Hopkinton families at Thanksgiving! We are now preparing for Christmas and need additional gift cards in increments of \$50. Grocery stores, Target/WalMart and gas cards will be greatly appreciated. Gift cards and cash donations can be mailed to or dropped off at the parish office. As always, thank you for your past, ongoing and future support.

St. John the Evangelist Pro-Life Initiative

"The life of the whole world burnt in the tiny flame of an infant's life."

"Christ came out of the darkness of the womb. He was the Light of the World. He came to give the world life. The life of the whole world burnt in the tiny flame of an infant's life; it began the age-long fight with death in the least and frailest that human nature can be; in the helplessness, the littleness, the blindness of an infant, life prevailed. The Light of the World shone in darkness."

Wood of the Cradle, Wood of the Cross
by Caryll Houselander

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LIVING ROSARY

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Living Rosary on **Wednesday, December 18 at 7PM at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Holliston.** Led by Deacon Mike Mott, we will pray the rosary while in the gorgeous Christmas setting of the Fatima Shrine. Immediately following we will go inside for hot cocoa and cookies. Please join us in this wonderful prayer event. If you have any questions, please email Chris Alicandro at chris.alicandro@comcast.net.



Religious Education Classes Collecting Donations for Mustard Seed

During this Advent Season, the Religious Education classes will be collecting **adult-sized** socks, gloves, mittens, hats and gently used hoodie sweatshirts for the Mustard Seed food kitchen in Worcester. During the month of December, please have your child bring an item to class. There will be boxes outside the Religious Education office that you can also place them in. Thank you from the Religious Education Staff!

Keep Christ In Christmas Poster Contest

The Knights of Columbus, Bishop Rice Council is holding its annual poster contest and inviting all children between the ages of 5-14 to participate. It is a great way to show your creativity, have some fun and also focus some time thinking about what the Christmas season is truly all about. Anyone interested, who has not already received an entry form, can contact the religious education office or contact Bill Maginnis, billmaginnis@verizon.net, to get more information. There will be a prize for the 1st and 2nd place for each age category, 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14, and all participants will receive a small gift for their participation. The K of C is looking forward to seeing all the great posters.



Southeastern Massachusetts Community Concert Band 25th Annual Christmas Concert

NEXT Sunday, December 22, 3PM at St. John's Parish Center. Everyone is welcome, especially families and "little ones". Admission: voluntary donation of socks and underwear for all ages to benefit Project Just Because



THE GIVING TREE Global Mission Apostolate

The Giving Tree is a long-time Advent tradition here at St. John's. This year's gifts will support the poor in Haiti, and Africa, as well as the homeless here in Worcester. A document describing the missions and gift designations is located on the table with the Giving Tree at the back of the church. Ornaments representing the gifts you wish to make may be taken from the tree and placed on your own tree at home as a sign of your solidarity with the poor. Monetary gifts of checks, cash or gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked **Global Mission Apostolate** and placed in the collection basket rather than left by the tree. Please designate the specific charity or charities and designated amounts on a paper inside the envelope so we can get your donation(s) to the right place. Gifts for the mustard seed should be unwrapped. **Gifts may be brought through January 5th.**

DECEMBER 15, 2024

CROSS ROADS

By Deacon Tony

Zephaniah 3: 118; Isaiah 12: 2-6;

Philippians 4:4-7; Luke3: 10-16

Today is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete in Latin means rejoice. And that is the basic theme of today's readings. The first reading exhorts us to shout for joy, to be glad and exult with all our hearts, because the LORD is in our midst. That is applicable to this day, because the Lord is still with His people in the new Jerusalem, the Church. As we patiently wait for Christmas, we accept the truth that the Lord is with us in Spirit and in the flesh in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and the Eucharist. When we sing joyfully to the LORD in thanksgiving for His incarnation and sacrifice, the LORD rejoices over us and renews us in His love and showers us with the gift of the Sacraments.

Saint Paul goes further. He challenges us twice to rejoice in the Lord **always**, to pray in thanksgiving, to share our requests and petitions with the LORD, to let go of our sorrows, anxieties and fears by handing them over to the Lord and joining such things with the LORD'S sacrifice. As Isaiah suggests, be not afraid because the LORD **is** our strength and courage. In today's gospel we heard about John baptizing with water. He baptized repentant people, including the poor, tax collectors, and soldiers. Many speculated about whether John was the promised messiah. But John told them the truth that there was another coming, much greater than John, and who would baptize with the Holy Spirit. The people wanted to know what they should do. John gave advice that was particular to each of them, but applicable to all including us. Be fair and just, be truthful, in essence to spread the good news in word and in how we live.

In this season of gift giving and rejoicing, as we anticipate Christmas and our celebration of God with us in the person of Jesus Christ, let us avoid excesses. Let us remember that rejoicing, especially this time of year is in appreciation of God's gifts of His son, truth and sacraments, and passing them along to others in love, peace, and harmony. Let us live as we should. Saint Augustine wrote, "*A Christian is: a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks, and a hand through which Christ helps.*" To paraphrase another writing of his: The greatest kindness one can render to a person is leading him or her to the truth.





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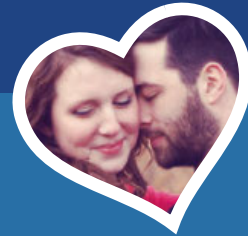
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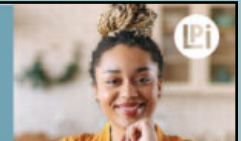
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