

# SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

708 Milford Rd (Rte 101A), Merrimack, NH 03054 — SJNNH.ORG



## 4th SUNDAY OF LENT March 14, 2021

**Fr. Robert Glasgow**  
Pastor  
Chaplain (LTC) USA, Ret.  
880-4689 x113, pastor@sjnnh.org

**Eileen Buckley**  
Business Manager / Parish Secretary  
880-4689 x110, office@sjnnh.org

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday (Outdoor) ..... 4:00 PM  
Saturday (Anticipatory) ..... 5:30 PM  
Sunday ..... 8:00 AM  
Sunday ..... 10:00 AM  
Sunday (Labor Day thru Memorial Day) .... 6:00 PM  
Daily (Mon, Wed-Fri) ..... 12:15 PM

### CONFESSION

Sunday ..... 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM  
And before/after daily Mass, or by appointment.

### BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered the first Sunday of each month following the 10:00 AM Mass.

### MARRIAGE

Please contact the office at least six months prior to the wedding date. The diocese requires Marriage Prep.

### VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND AND SICK, ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the office to request home or hospital visitation.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

RCIA is the process of formation offered to those who seek to become Catholic. For information, please call the office.

## ON TEMPTATION

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. (Matt 6:13)

The following excerpt is St Thomas Aquinas' (d. 1274) Catechetical Instructions.



ADAM AND EVE [detail]  
by Lucas Cranach the Elder (d. 1553)

THERE are those who have sinned and desire forgiveness for their sins. They confess their sins and repent. Yet, they do not strive as much as they should in order that they may not fall into sin again. In this indeed they are not consistent. For, on the one hand, they deplore their sins by being sorry for them; and, on the other hand, they sin again and again and have them again to deplore. Thus it is written: "Wash yourselves clean! Put away your misdeeds from before my eyes; cease doing evil" (Isa 1:16).

We have seen in the petition above that Christ taught us to seek forgiveness for our sins. In this petition, He teaches us to pray that we might avoid sin—that is, that we may not be led into temptation, and thus fall into sin. "And lead us not into temptation" (Roman Catechism, Part IV: The Lord's Prayer). Two questions are now considered:

1. What is temptation?
2. In what ways is one tempted and by whom?

**WHAT IS TEMPTATION?** Regarding the first, it must be known that to tempt is nothing other than to test or to prove. To tempt a man is to test or try his virtue. This is done in two ways just as a man's virtue



requires two things. One requirement is to do good, the other is to avoid evil: "Turn away from evil and do good" (Ps 33:15). Sometimes a man's virtue is tried in doing good, and sometimes it is tested in avoiding evil.

First, a person is tried in his readiness to do good, for example, to fast and such like. Then is thy virtue great when thou art quick to do good. In this way does God sometimes try one's virtue, not, however, because such virtue is hidden from Him, but in order that all might know it and it would be an example to all. God tempted Abraham in this way, and Job also. For this reason God frequently sends trials to the just, who in sustaining them with all patience make manifest their virtue and themselves increase in virtue: "He therefore let you be afflicted with hunger, and then fed you with manna, a food unknown to you and your ancestors, so you might know that it is not by bread alone that people live, but by all that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord" (Deut 8:3). Thus does God tempt man by inciting him to good deeds.

Second, the virtue of man is tried by solicitation to evil. If he truly resists and does not give his consent, then his virtue is great. If, however, he falls before the temptation, he is devoid of virtue. God tempts no man in this way, for it is written: "No one experiencing temptation should say, 'I am being tempted by God'; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one" (Jas 1:13).

**HOW IS ONE TEMPTED?** Man is tempted by his own flesh, by the devil and by the world.

**The Temptations of the Flesh.** He is tempted by the flesh in two ways:

First, the flesh incites one to evil. It always seeks its own pleasures, namely, carnal pleasures, in which often is sin. He who indulges in carnal pleasures neglects spiritual things: "Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire (that is, by concupiscence; Jas 1:14).

Secondly, the flesh tempts man by enticing him away from good. For the spirit on its part would delight always in spiritual things, but the flesh asserting itself puts obstacles in the way of the spirit: "For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthly tent weighs down the mind with its many concerns" (Wis 9:15). "For I take delight in the law of God, in my inner self, but I see in my members another principle at war with the law of my mind, taking me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members" (Rom 7:22-23). This temptation which comes from the flesh is most severe, because our enemy, the flesh, is united to us; and as Boethius says: "There is no plague more dangerous than an enemy in the family circle." We must, therefore, be ever on our guard against this enemy: "Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matt 26:41).

**The Temptations of the Devil.** The devil tempts us with extreme force. Even when the flesh is subdued, another tempter arises, namely, the devil against whom we have a

heavy struggle. Of this the Apostle says: "Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in high places" (Eph 6:12). For this reason he is very aptly called the tempter: "Lest perhaps he that tempteth should have tempted you" (1 Thess 3:5). The devil proceeds most cunningly in tempting us. He operates like a skillful general when about to attack a fortified city. He looks for the weak places in the object of his assault, and in that part where a man is most weak, he tempts him. He tempts man in those sins to which, after subduing his flesh, he is most inclined. Such, for instance, are anger, pride and the other spiritual sins. "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for (someone) to devour" (1 Pet 5:8).

**How the Devil Tempts Us.** The devil does two things when he tempts us. Thus, he does not at once suggest something that appears to us as evil, but something that has a semblance of good. Thereby he would, at least in the beginning, turn a man from his chief purpose, and then afterwards it will be easier to induce him to sin, once he has been turned away ever so little. "Satan himself transformeth himself into an angel of light" (Cor 11:14). Then when he has once led man into sin, he so enchains him as to prevent his rising up out of his sin. The devil, therefore, does two things: he deceives a man first, and then after betraying him, enralls him in his sin.

**Temptations of the World.** The world has two ways of tempting man:

The first is excessive and intemperate desire for the goods of this life: "For the love of money is the root of all evils, and some people in their desire for it have strayed from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains" (1 Tim 6:10.)

The second way is the fears engendered by persecutors and tyrants: "We are wrapped up in darkness" (Job 37:19). "In fact, all who want to live religiously in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (2 Tim 3:12). And again: "And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna" (Matt 10:28).

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### MASS INTENTIONS

Mar 13 (Sat), 4:00 PM	Pauline Nadeau
Mar 13, 5:30 PM	Ginny Early - FOR HEALING (req. by friends); Jim Bonenfant - LIVING INTENTION (req. by family)
Mar 14 (Sun), 8:00 AM	SJN Parishioners
Mar 14, 10:00 AM	Benny Beebe (req. by Joanne Pcolart & Linda Koch); Joe Thomas (req. by family)
Mar 18, 12:15 PM	Janet Mayo - LIVING INTENTION (req. by family)

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The Code of Canon Law confirms the practice of

offering Mass(es) for particular intentions is ancient:  
"The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works" (945 §2).

## LENTEN SCHEDULE

### ADORATION

Fridays following the 12:15 PM daily Mass

—and—

Sundays following the 6:00 PM Mass

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays of Lent

6:00 PM (12, 19 Mar)

in-person and via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/112258683764613/live>

### PASSION PLAY

26 Mar (Fri) at 7:00 PM,

—and—

28 Mar (Sun) at 2:00 PM

### CONFESSION

Fridays of Lent

7:00-8:00 PM

—and—

15-18 Mar (Mon-Thu)

6:00-8:00 PM



### HOLY WEEK

#### HOLY THURSDAY

*Mass of the Lord's Supper*

1 Apr — 7:00 PM

#### GOOD FRIDAY

*Commemoration of the Lord's Passion*

2 Apr — 7:00 PM

#### HOLY SATURDAY

*Easter Vigil*

3 Apr — 7:30 PM

#### EASTER SUNDAY

4 Apr — 8:00 and 10:00 AM

(\*no 6:00 PM Mass)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

— NOTICE —

Due to the rehearsals for the Youth Passion Play, SUNDAY CONFESSION has moved to 4:00-5:30 PM.

## MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWERS

DONATIONS for Easter Flowers that'll be used to decorate the Sanctuary are being accepted. Donations can be made in the name of a friend or family member. If you do not have the special envelope, envelopes are available in the foyer. Please print the name on the envelope, and they'll be remembered at all Masses through the seven-week Easter Season.

## ADULT CONFIRMATION

The diocesan ADULT CONFIRMATION MASS is scheduled for 11 Apr 2021 at St Joseph's Cathedral (145 Lowell St, Manchester, NH) for Catholics ages 18 and older who have been baptized and have received First Holy Communion and who are practicing the faith but who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. **NOTE: the Registration Form and Baptism Certificate must be submitted to the diocesan Office of Adult Faith Formation no later than Monday, 5 Apr 2021. For more information, please see Fr. Glasgow.**



The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS,  
Council #10896

## LENTEN FISH BAKE

March 19 (Friday). This year will be "take out" only with advanced reservation required. LOCAL DELIVERY can also be arranged. Meals will be available for pick up starting at 5:00 PM in the Church Hall. To minimize crowding, a specific pick up time will be provided when your reservation is confirmed.

BAKED FISH—"Fr. Aggie" Recipe

Baked Potato

Fresh Vegetable

Gluten free on request (in advance)

\$10.00

—or—

GRILLED CHEESE

French Fries

\$7.00

## ENGAGED COUPLE MARRIAGE FORMATION COURSE

The diocese will offer an Engaged Couple Marriage Formation Course beginning 7 Apr 2021 (Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:30 PM). The cost is \$135.00. Registering couples will receive a box of

resources by mail, including all program materials.  
To register:

<https://form.jotform.com/RCBM/ecc-apr21>

### FAMILY ROSARY

Wednesday evenings Feb 24-Mar 24 at 6:00 PM  
on Zoom. To register click on link at:  
<https://sjnnh.org/lent>. Once registered you will  
receive an email with a link to join. The same link  
will give you access each week.

### JASON EVERT EVENTS

Register at: [iccnashuanh.org/jason-evert](http://iccnashuanh.org/jason-evert)

Mar 19/26, 6:30-8:00 PM

Immaculate Conception Parish (216 E Dunstable Rd, Nashua) is hosting an IN-PERSON and VIRTUAL EVENT with JASON EVERT—Catholic author and chastity speaker—on Friday, March 19 (for students Grades 7-12): "**What's So Great About Being Catholic?**" and again on Friday, Mar 26 (General Audience): "**Love or Lust? Straight Answers About Dating, Relationships, and Sexual Purity**". Jason Evert founded TOTUS TUUS PRESS and CHASTITY PROJECT (an organization that promotes chastity primarily to high school and college students).

### — NOTICE —

SUNDAY MASS continues to be live streamed at  
10:00 AM:

<https://www.facebook.com/112258683764613/live>

The 12:15 PM DAILY MASS is posted Monday,  
Wednesday thru Friday to:

<https://www.facebook.com/sjnnh>

### PARISH INFORMATION

WE LOVE BEING IN TOUCH WITH YOU! Now  
you can keep in touch with us via email and/or text  
messaging:

Visit > <https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>

Text > "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message and  
data rates may apply)

Choose to get updates from parish groups you're  
interested in. Unsubscribe anytime. No spam, we  
promise.

— AMAZON SMILE —

Please consider supporting our St John Neumann FOOD PANTRY whenever you purchase items through AMAZON.COM. Go to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0370038>

and add "Saint John Neumann Parish" as your charity of choice. 0.5% of every purchase is donated by Amazon.com to the SJN FOOD PANTRY.

SJN Staff

CLAIRE BRYSON  
Children's Ministry (K-5th Grade)  
(603) 880-4689 x114  
cbryson@sjnh.org

CHERI ANDERSEN  
Youth Ministry (6th-12th Grade)  
(603) 880-4689 x111  
candersen@sjnh.org

TERI SCHMITT  
Religious Education Secretary  
tschmitt@sjnh.org

DIANE BONENFANT  
Sacristan

CAROL YETTO  
Music Ministry  
SJNMusic@myfairpoint.net

CAROL HOPFENSPIRGER and EVELYN VERBECK  
Outreach & Food Pantry  
(603) 880-4689 x116

KATHY HOPKINS  
Day Away (Thursday)  
(603) 880-4689  
dayaway@sjnh.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL  
Steve De Beradinis (President)

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
Tom Davis, Grand Knight  
gk10896@comcast.net