

SAINT JOHN NEUMANN PARISH

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



24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 12, 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 (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

Saturday 4:00 PM - 5:00 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.

Q. The four Gospels are represented by what four symbols? [See answer below.]

FOUR GOSPELS

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work. —2 Tim 3:16-17

The development of the New Testament (NT) canon was, like that of the Old Testament (OT), a gradual process.

The first listing of the 27 books of the NT dates to St Athanasius' (d. 373) Easter Homily in 367. By the fourth century, there was unanimity in the West concerning the canon as it is today. Before St Ireneus (d. 202)—regarded as the first great Catholic theologian—, Christian communities differed on the gospel(s) they accepted/preferred and whether the gospels should be harmonized (i.e., edited/combined into a single



BOOK OF THE GOSPELS

gospel). Ireneus asserted that all four gospels—MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN—were canonical scripture. The excerpt below is from Ireneus' Adversus Haereses [Lt., Against Heresies], composed ca. 180. Italics added.

AGAINST HERESIES: Book III, Chapter IX: The Gospels Are Four in Number, Neither More Nor Less.

IT IS not possible that the Gospels can be



either more or fewer in number than they are. For, since there are four zones of the world in which we live, and four principal winds, while the Church is scattered throughout all the world, and *the pillar and ground* (1 Tim 3:15) of the Church is the Gospel and the spirit of life; it is fitting that she should have four pillars, breathing out immortality on every side, and vivifying men afresh. From which fact, it is evident that the Word, the Artificer of all, He that sits upon the cherubim, and contains all things, He who was manifested to men, has given us the Gospel under four aspects, but bound together by one Spirit. As also David says, when entreating His manifestation, *You that sits between the cherubim, shine forth* (Ps 80:2). For the cherubim, too, were four-faced, and their faces were images of the dispensation of the Son of God. For, (as the Scripture) says, The first living creature was like a *lion*, symbolizing His effectual working, His leadership, and royal power; the second (living creature) was like a *calves*, signifying (His) sacrificial and sacerdotal order; but the third had, as it were, the face as of a *man*,—an evident description of His advent as a human being; the fourth was like a flying *eagle*, pointing out the gift of the Spirit hovering with His wings over the Church (Rev 4:7). And therefore the Gospels are in accord with these things, among which Christ Jesus is seated. For that according to John relates His original, effectual, and glorious generation from the Father, thus declaring, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God* (Jn 1:1). Also, all things were made by Him, and without Him was nothing made. For this reason, too, is that Gospel full of all confidence, for such is His person. But that according to Luke, taking up (His) priestly character, commenced with Zechariah the priest offering sacrifice to God. For now was made ready the fatted calf, about to be immolated for the finding again of the younger son. Matthew, again, relates His generation as a man, saying, *The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham*; and also, *The birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise* (Mt 1:18). This, then, is the Gospel of His humanity; for which reason it is, too, that (the character of) a humble and meek man is kept up through the whole Gospel. Mark, on the other hand, commences with (a reference to) the prophetic spirit coming down from on high to men, saying, *The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet* (Mk 1:12),—pointing to the winged aspect of the Gospel; and on this account he made a compendious and cursory narrative, for such is the prophetic character. And the Word of God Himself used to converse with the ante-Mosaic patriarchs, in accordance with His divinity and glory; but for those under the law he instituted a sacerdotal and liturgical service. Afterwards, being made man for us, He sent the gift of the celestial Spirit over all the earth, protecting us with His wings. Such, then, as was the course followed by the Son of God, so was also the form of the living creatures; and such as was the form of the living creatures, so was also the character of the Gospel. For the living creatures are quadriform, and the Gospel is quadriform, as is also the course followed by the Lord. For this reason were four principal covenants given to the human race: one, prior to the deluge, under Adam; the second, that after the deluge, under Noah; the third, the giving of the law, under Moses;

the fourth, that which renovates man, and sums up all things in itself by means of the Gospel, raising and bearing men upon its wings into the heavenly kingdom.



PRAYER BEFORE READING SCRIPTURE
St John Chrysostom (d. 407)

O LORD Jesus Christ, open the eyes of my heart, that I may hear your word and understand and do your will, for I am a sojourner upon the earth. Hide not your commandments from me, but open my eyes, that I may perceive the wonders of your law. Speak unto me the hidden and secret things of your wisdom. On you do I set my hope, O my God, that you shall enlighten my mind and understanding with the light of your knowledge, not only to cherish those things which are written, but to do them; that in reading the lives and sayings of the saints I may not sin, but that such may serve for my restoration, enlightenment and sanctification, for the salvation of my soul, and the inheritance of life everlasting. For you are the enlightenment of those who lie in darkness, and from you comes every good deed and every gift. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sep 11 (Sat), 5:30 PM	Paul Krzewick - LIVING INTENTION (req. by Paul & Sandy Statz)
Sep 12 (Sun), 8:00 AM	SJN Parishioners
Sep 12, 10:00 AM	Kristine Mack (req. by Barbara Dunn)
Sep 13 (Mon), 12:15 PM	Deceased clergy of the diocese

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).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

12 Sep, SUNDAY — 24th WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

8:00 AM | Mass

10:00 AM | Mass

6:00 PM | Adoration (until 7:00 PM)

13 Sep, MONDAY

12:15 PM | *No Daily Mass

14 Sep, TUESDAY

7:00 PM | Scout Meeting

15 Sep, WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM | Faith Sharing

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

6:30 PM | "CATHOLICISM" Series

16 Sep, THURSDAY

10:00 AM | "BLESSED IS SHE" Women's Group

12:15 PM | Daily Mass

17 Sep, FRIDAY (Day of Penance)

10:00 AM | Food Pantry (until 12:30)

12:15 PM | Daily Mass (followed by Adoration)

18 Sep, SATURDAY

8:30 AM | Men's Group

9:00 AM | Divine Mercy Cenacle (1st & 3rd Sat)

9:30 AM | Widow's Group (2nd Sat of month)

4:00 PM | Confession (until 5:00 PM)

5:30 PM | Anticipatory Mass

ANNOUNCEMENTS

— NOTICE —

The SUNDAY 6:00 PM MASS resumes this Sunday (12 Sep). Additionally, the Sunday HOLY HOUR moves to 7:00-8:00 PM, immediately following the Mass.

We have subscribed to "THE WORD AMONG US" for September, October and November. They offer the Sunday Readings, the Order of Mass, and daily reflections. Please take a copy. Next year's Missalettes start the 1st Sunday of Advent, November 28.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Starts 8 & 12 September

The FIRST CLASS for our "Wednesday" 3rd Graders is Sep 8. The FIRST CLASS for all "Sunday" classes (Grades K-5) is Sunday, Sep 12. Books and Lanyards will be distributed.

For families who've not yet registered, REGISTRATION FORMS (Grades K-High School) are still available online, at the church lobby, or from the SJN Faith Formation Office.

PARISH NEWS

WE LOVE BEING IN TOUCH WITH YOU! You can keep in touch with us via email and/or text messaging. Unsubscribe anytime. Choose to get updates from parish groups you're interested in:

Visit > <https://SJNMERRIMACK.flocknote.com>
Text > "SJNMERRIMACK" to 84576 (message and data rates may apply)

SJN MASSES ONLINE

SUNDAY MASS is live streamed at 10:00 AM on YOUTUBE page. To find us, search for:

"SJN Merrimack NH Mass"

DAILY MASSES (Mon, Wed-Fri) are posted to our FACEBOOK page. Go to:

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

CATECHETICAL HANDBOOKS

Thru prophet Hosea, God said: "My people perish for lack of knowledge" (Hos 4:6). Four CATECHETICAL PARENT HANDBOOKS are available on request (Creed, Sacraments, Life in Christ, Christian Prayer). The primary purpose is to help parents talk to their children about the Faith in a systematic way. A 7-part LIFE OF CHRIST will be available shortly as well.

DIOCESAN NEWS

FALL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS (17 Oct 2021, St Joseph Cathedral):

Bishop Peter A. Libasci invites all couples celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2021 to attend the FALL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS (St Joseph Cathedral, 17 Oct at 2:00 PM). TO REGISTER: please contact the parish office by 22 Sep. Once registration has been completed by the parish office, all registrants will receive an invitation to this special celebration. To all you married couples, congratulations and we look forward to seeing you at this fall's Wedding Anniversary Mass!

CATHOLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

The Catholic Schools of New Hampshire provide a robust education for students of all learning styles. As the 2021-2022 academic year begins, there is a strong need for teachers in several areas. If you know of anyone interested in applying to teach in one of our Catholic Schools, please pass this information along. The Catholic Schools Office will work with certification needs. Interested individuals may complete an inquiry form at <https://nhcatholicschool.com/inquire>. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa

Zolkos, Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools at (603) 669-3100.

EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS:

The Diocese of Manchester is currently hiring for the following full-time positions to assist the Bishop of Manchester in serving the parishes, schools and institutions of the Catholic Church in New Hampshire:

- Communications Director
- Camps Bernadette & Fatima: Facilities Tech/Carpenter
- Auditor/Field Advocate Coordinator

For more information, please check the diocesan website: <<https://www.catholicnh.org/about/stay-informed/bulletin/>>

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL REQUEST

St Joseph's Hospital, Nashua is seeking volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers, tending to the spiritual needs of patients. Point of contact: Tara Collins, Mission Integration and Pastoral Care Office: tacollins@sjnh.org, (603) 884-3306.

HOLY HOUR

HOLY HOUR is scheduled Fridays following the 12:15 PM daily Mass, and Sundays from 6:00 PM (7:00 PM during the school year).

"Visits to the BLESSED SACRAMENT are a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord." —Pope St Paul VI (d. 1987)

— 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@sjnnh.org

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

TERI SCHMITT
Religious Education Secretary
tschmitt@sjnnh.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@sjnnh.org

PASTORAL COUNCIL
Steve De Beradinis (President)

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Bob Fregault (Chairman)

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Leo Bobek, Grand Knight
lbobek63@gmail.com

- A. The connection of the four Evangelists AND Gospels with Ezekiel's four living creatures (Ezek 1:1-14; 10:1-22) dates to St Irenaeus' argument for the fourfold gospel in Adversus Haereses. Early Christian authors connected them in various combinations. Today, the connection is made as follows:

Matthew — HUMAN
Mark — LION
Luke — OX
and John — EAGLE