

1866

150th Anniversary

2016

St. John the Evangelist



Established 1866

20 Church Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748

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for all parish offices

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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

Rev. Richard E. Cannon

E-Mail: rec55xp@outlook.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Carol Zani, 1-6
Debbie Lysik, 7 & 8
Ken Lysik, 9 & 10

PARISH CENTER

Maureen Belger, Manager

ST. JOHN'S ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 PM
8:00 and 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday - Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM
No Mass on Thursday
Saturday 8:00 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES:

See inside bulletin for Holy Day Mass schedule

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 Noon
Please call for information.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

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

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arranged at least 6 months in advance.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Brendan Kenney

PARISH "NEWS" DEADLINE

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



"Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."- Lk 3:5-6

Readings for **NEXT** Sunday, December 13, 2015:
Zep 3:14-18a/ Is 12:2-6/ Phil 4:4-7/ Lk 3:10-18



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

8:00 AM Regan Family and Trefry Family
10:00 AM Parishioners of St. John
6:30 PM Shirley Rose Leung

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 AM The conversion of sinners

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:00 AM Florence Imperato and Pearl Lavanchy
7:00 PM All the Holy Souls in Purgatory

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:00 AM Charlie Bakstran

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

5:00 PM Arlene & Esau Olio

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John
10:00 AM Grade 5 children & their families



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

5:00 PM Grade 10

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

2:15 PM Grade 6
4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 and 5
7:00 PM Grade 9

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 and 5
6:30 PM Grade 7

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

4:15 PM Grades 1 and 2

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows the 9AM Mass in the lower church every 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.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception
A Holy Day of Obligation
Tuesday, December 8
Masses at 4PM on Monday, December 7 and 9AM & 7PM on December 8 in the upper church

Please note: There will be **NO 9AM Mass on Wednesday, December 23.**



St. John's parish family invites you to join us for coffee and conversation following the 10AM Mass hosted this Sunday by the Hoyt Family.

Year of Mercy

Starting December 8, The Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will be celebrating The "Year of Mercy." Pope Francis has announced this is a holy year for Mercy which Catholics are invited to focus on Christ's command from Luke 6:36. "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful".



CONFESSION TIMES FOR ADVENT

Friday, December 18, 6:30-7:30PM

Monday, December 21, 6:30-7:30PM

During the penitential season of Advent, extra times of parish confessions will be made available. In addition to Saturday morning, confessions will be offered Friday, December 18, and Monday, December 21, from 6:30-7:30PM.

Confessions are heard in the lower chapel.

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE (Thurs. 12/24) 4PM (x2*), 6PM & Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY (Fri. 12/25) 8 & 10AM

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Thurs. 12/31) 5PM

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Fri. 1/1) 9AM

***There will be 2 Masses offered at 4PM on Christmas Eve. One will be in the upper church and the other will be in the Parish Center.**

WEDNESDAY EVENING ROSARY

 On Wednesday evenings at **6PM in the lower chapel**, the rosary will be offered. This will be held every Wednesday evening throughout the year. Please feel free to come on down, and don't be afraid to let your children join in. Rosary booklets will be made available for those who need a refresher in this beautiful Marian devotion.

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 welcomed.

150th Ornaments/Paper Weights

We will be selling 150th Anniversary paper weights and ornaments after Masses this weekend. The cost is \$20 for each. The ornaments will be available on December 18.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated 8:30-9:15AM in the lower church NEXT Saturday, December 12.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to the Parish, please introduce yourself. We want to know and serve you. We hope you will support your parish with your prayers, your presence and your talents. **Please call the Parish Office (435-3313x203) to register.**

Celebrating 150 Years as a Parish: Stories from Our Past

By 1846 there were as few as 22 Irish Catholics living in Hopkinton. There was no Catholic church. Hopkinton was a small part of the Milford parish which included Medway, Holliston, Ashland, Upton, Marlborough, Maynard, Rock Bottom, Westborough, Cordaville, and Saxonville. Mass was celebrated by one of a few traveling priests who, regardless of poor roads or bad weather, arduously visited towns over vast areas. When in Hopkinton, Mass took place at 44 Grove Street, the home of John McDonough, a sympathetic grocery store owner. The few parishioners, mostly from outlying areas, walked miles to attend. Those were hard years.

The Giving Tree – Global Mission Apostolate

The Giving Tree is a wonderful Advent tradition here at St. John's. This year's gifts will support the poor in Africa, Haiti, the Philippines, as well as the homeless here in Worcester. A document describing all the missions and gift designations is located on the table with the Giving Tree at the back of the church. Gifts may be brought through January 3rd. Gifts for The Mustard Seed are preferred by Friday, December 18th to allow for delivery before Christmas, although donations will still be happily accepted after that time.

A BRAND NEW JESSE TREE

*"...a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,
and from its roots a bud shall blossom." Isaiah 11:1*

Thank you so much to Chris Taylor, who handcrafted a wooden tree, and the sixth grade students and their teachers who researched scripture passages from the bible to make ornaments that decorated the bare branches in order to create the "family tree of Jesus." Be sure to take notice of it when you're in the Parish Center.

Grade 5 Students at Mass

NEXT Sunday, December 13, at 10AM Mass, students in grade 5 and their catechists will serve as greeters, offer the gifts, join the choir in a song and wish you farewell. Families of 5th graders are encouraged to attend this Mass.

FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sunday, December 20, at 3PM

Featuring Southeastern Massachusetts Community Concert Band and St. John's Children's Choir at St. John's Parish Center. You may bring a donation of hats and mittens for toddlers or new in-package underwear for all children's ages to benefit Project Just Because. Everyone is welcome, especially families and little ones.



Middle School Youth Group (Gr. 6-8)

Watch the bulletin for upcoming events.

High School Youth Group (Gr. 9-12)

Mission Trip Information Night: Wednesday, December 16, at 7PM in the Parish Center

The mission trip is scheduled for June 26 through July 2, 2016 for current 9-12 grade students. Come hear about the upcoming trip.

St. John's Middle School Youth Group Thanks You!

Thank you to all that helped make the Bake Sale a huge success. We want to thank all those that baked, supported and helped plan. You all made this a wonderful experience for the students and parishioners. The money raised will help defray the cost of activities and scholarships if needed. Your support is what makes our Youth Ministry Programs grow.

REMINDER: Grade 10 Confirmation meets THIS Sunday, December 6, from 5-7:15PM.

World Youth Day (WYD) Krakow, Poland 2016

Twelve of our young adults and four chaperones will be attending the World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland, next July. During the next few weeks, they will be kicking off their fundraising drive to help defer the cost of this trip. Please consider lending your support to our young adults.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thanks to all who participated in the St. Vincent de Paul frozen turkey drive. 33 turkeys were delivered to St. Joan of Arc Parish in Worcester for distribution with Thanksgiving meals.

Christmas Help

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for Christmas help. We need people willing to play Santa to Hopkinton families in need, and we are also in need of Target and gas gift cards. If you can help, please call Colleen at 508-497-9144.

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 rear of the church.) These envelopes provide an opportunity to donate to the flower costs and other altar supplies during the upcoming Advent and Christmas Seasons. These donations can be made in memory of loved ones. They can be put in the regular collection or sent in to the office anytime between now and Christmas. Thank you.

DECEMBER 6, 2015

Today we continue the "joyful expectation" of the birth of Christ in history, the present, and the future. Today we hear the words of John the Baptist calling people of his time to repentance. Now, this baptism that John was calling people to is not the same baptism that we Christians celebrate. However, John's baptism is at the root of our Christian baptism. John's baptism had its roots in the "oblation washing" of the Jewish people before undertaking anything of great importance. Christian baptism is a sacrament to wash away original sin so as to enter sinless into the Christian community. It is the one sacrament that is celebrated by all Christians, even those Christians who are not in communion with Rome. John enjoins us to "prepare the way of the Lord." His call is to be taken in the widest sense. This preparation is a personal preparation, and is also a communal preparation. We are called to make sure we are ready to meet the Lord, and this means that we need to make a difference in the world to make it better, to make it more peaceful, and to make it more just. We are called to protect each other's dignity and share of our abundance with others so that each may live a life that is centered on helping others. Prepare the way!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Poster Contest

The Ashland/Hopkinton Council of the Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest open to children aged 5-14. This fun contest will allow our parish youth to demonstrate their artistic skills on the true meaning of Christmas: the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in three age categories (5-7, 8-10, and 11-14). Each participant will also receive a small crucifix for entering. All posters need to be on an 11"x17" sheet of paper and be accompanied by an official entry form. Deadline for entry is December 15 and awards will be made before Christmas. For more details and an entry form please contact your religious education instructor or contact Carol Zani (czanistjn@verizon.net), Debbie Lysik (dlysikstjn@verizon.net) or Chris Alicandro (chris.alicandro@comcast.net).



Christmas Lighting Display Opens at Holliston's Fatima Shrine

It's getting to look a lot like Christmas at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Holliston. This year's lighting display includes some 100 elegantly decorated devotional and seasonal fixtures over a compact parcel of the Shrine's grounds. The Fatima Shrine annually attracts thousands of visitors, and this year's lighting display will be particularly appealing to families. Admission to the Shrine is free and the lighting display will continue every day from **November 28-December 27, 2015, 5-9PM**. Hot chocolate and coffee are served in the Shrine Hall. Our Gift Shop will be open daily 11AM-9PM. There are volunteer opportunities at the Shrine. Anyone interested in helping out should contact Fr. Joe at 508-429-2144. Our Lady of Fatima Shrine is a ministry of the Xaverian Missionaries, an international missionary community serving in 20 countries around the world.