

# St. John the Evangelist



**Established 1866**

**20 Church Street  
Hopkinton, MA 01748**

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

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**Web Page:  
[www.stjohnhopkinton.com](http://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**  
508-435-3313x201  
[rec55xp@outlook.com](mailto:rec55xp@outlook.com)

### **DEACON**

**Deacon Anthony C. Sicuso**  
508-435-3313x206  
[asicuso@stjohnhopkinton.com](mailto:asicuso@stjohnhopkinton.com)

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

### **PARISH CENTER**

**Maureen Belger, Manager**  
508-435-3313x210  
[parishhallstjn@gmail.com](mailto:parishhallstjn@gmail.com)

### **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**  
[bkenney@stjohnhopkinton.com](mailto:bkenney@stjohnhopkinton.com)  
508-435-3313x214

### **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



**"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 16, 2018:  
Zep 3:14-18a/ Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/ Phil 4:4-7/ Lk 3:10-18

**MASST  
INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

5:00 PM Fr. Walter Ciszek

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9**

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John  
10:00 AM Jose Dias  
6:30 PM Special Intention

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 10**

9:00 AM Beverly Ann Ellison

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11**

9:00 AM John Dzerkacz  
Dzerkacz and Zocchi Families

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12**

9:00 AM Justine Murray

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14**

9:00 AM Sr. Anne Campbell

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15**

8:00 AM Priscilla Presley (living)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16**

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. John

 **Weekly Schedule**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 10**

2:10 PM Grade 6  
4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 & 5  
7:00 PM Grade 9

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11**

4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 & 5  
6:30 PM Grade 8

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12**

4:15 PM Grades 1 & 2

**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.

**Winter Weather Notice:** Please note that if Hopkinton schools are canceled or delayed due to the weather, there will be no morning daily Mass.

**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.**

**COFFEE HOUR**

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

2nd collection **NEXT** weekend  
Parish Upkeep and Maintenance

**Advent Evening of Prayer**

Please join us for an Advent Evening of Prayer with Fr. Robert Lacombe **THIS Thursday, December 13, at 7PM** in the lower chapel. There will also be opportunity for confession.

**GRAND ANNUAL**

**Grand Annual Update THANK YOU!**

Since last Sunday, 52 parishioners have returned their Grand Annual commitment forms. These wonderful commitments averaged over \$300 in gifts to the parish's year-end appeal. To those of you that made your commitment, thank you for your generosity and dedication to St. John's. We are now up to \$15,953 raised toward our \$60,000 goal. Thank you very much for this terrific beginning! Our parish has responded with great generosity and enthusiasm. We hope to have all commitments in by Christmas. Psalm 116:12 *"What return shall I make to the Lord for all He has given to me?"*

**St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Needs Your Help**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for help at Christmas. We need parishioners to play Santa to a number of families. We can also use gift card donations—Target, Walmart, and gas cards are helpful. Please contact Colleen at 508-497-9144 for further information and to volunteer.

**CONFESSION TIMES FOR ADVENT**

**Monday, December 17, 6:30-7:30PM**

During the penitential season of Advent, extra times of parish confessions will be made available. **In addition to Saturday mornings at 8:30-9:15AM, confessions will be offered Monday, December 17, from 6:30-7:30PM in the lower chapel.**



**HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE (Mon. 12/24) 4PM(x2\*), 6PM & Midnight**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY (Tues. 12/25) 8&10AM**  
**MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD Mon. 12/31 at 4PM and**  
**Tues. 1/1 at 10AM**  
**\*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.**

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

## 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.

### 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.

### Please Remember in Prayer

Please pray for Anthony Khalife and Brody McDermott, seriously ill young people in need of healing.

### Remade for Happiness

In this classic work, Fulton Sheen explains the secret of authentic happiness: being spiritually remade. A genuinely spiritual life, Sheen contends, consists in more than obeying a set of commands, reading the Bible, or even following the example of Jesus. Before all else, it consists in being recreated and incorporated into a new, higher kind of life—the supernatural life of grace—and in being brought into a new kind of spiritual relationship, as a child of God through Jesus Christ. What does it mean to be a Christian? Christianity is not a system of ethics; it is a life. It is not good advice; it is divine adoption. Being a Christian does not consist in just being kind to the poor, going to church, singing hymns, or serving on parish committees, though it includes all of these. It is first and foremost a love relationship with Jesus Christ. **For this and other selections, please stop by our Media Kiosk in the Parish Center hallway.**

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to those who volunteered their time and talents organizing another successful Advent wreath and Christmas card workshop: Garden Gate Florist, Maureen Belger, Meg Gaughan, Sharon Harris, Carrie Hoyt, Donna McKeon, Colleen Souza, Debra Villani, and many of our teens. St. John's parishioners created their own Advent wreaths, wreaths for our homebound parishioners, and Christmas cards for the residents of Golden Pond. Thank you and have a blessed Advent.

### Knights of Columbus "Living Rosary"

The Knights of Columbus, Bishop Rice Council will host a "Living Rosary" on **Thursday, December 19th**, at 7PM, at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine's "Annual Festival of Lights – Outdoor Rosary Walk" in Holliston. Knight, Deacon Mike Mott, will lead us in the "Living Rosary". Our group will have access to the Fatima Shrine Hall afterwards for hot cocoa & cookies. If planning to attend, please contact Deputy Grand Knight, Bill Muench (508-259-3382 or [william.muench@comcast.net](mailto:william.muench@comcast.net)).



### Middle School Youth Group

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Glow in the Dark Epiphany Party, Friday, evening, **January 11, 2019**. Stay tuned for more details to come.

### High School Youth Group

**Next Youth Leadership Team Meeting: Sunday, Jan. 6 at 7:15PM** in the lower church. All high school youth and adults interested in helping to plan events are welcome to attend.

**Thursday, December 13: Mission Trip 2019 Information Night at 7PM** in the parish center. Come find out more information about our upcoming June mission trip. This is NOT the sign up meeting. That will be on January 10.



### CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

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. 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 after Christmas. For more details and an entry form please contact your religious education instructor or contact Carol Zani ([czanistjn@verizon.net](mailto:czanistjn@verizon.net)), Debbie Lysik ([dlysikstjn@verizon.net](mailto:dlysikstjn@verizon.net)) or Bill Maginnis ([billmaginnis@verizon.net](mailto:billmaginnis@verizon.net)).



### FIRST RECONCILIATION

Please pray for the children, their families and their catechists who are preparing for their first confession in the coming months.

### Grade 5 Students at Mass

THIS weekend at the 10AM Mass, students in grade 5 and their catechists will serve as greeters, offer the gifts, and wish you farewell. Families of 5th graders are encouraged to attend this Mass.

### A JESSE TREE

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

The sixth grade students and their catechists researched scripture passages from the bible to make ornaments that decorated bare branches in order to create the "family tree of Jesus." Be sure to take notice of it when you are in the Parish Center.

**DECEMBER 9, 2018**

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**CROSS ROADS**

**By Deacon Tony**

**Baruch 5: 1-9; Psalm 126: 1-6; Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11;  
Luke 3: 1-6**

The Second Sunday of Advent is here. Father John Foley, SJ has written that "Advent is the Church's world-wide retreat in preparation for The Birth." Every year we do this because we are celebrating the fact that Our Lord and Savior wants to be reborn in us every day, irrespective of the obstacles we face: subjective morality (which is really no morality at all), the breakdown of families, the ordinary difficulties of life that can feel like treacherous mountains and "age old depths and gorges," and our slavery to habits, fear, and sin because of the fallen nature of the Human Race.

It is through Jesus Christ taking up residence in our souls that the obstacles can be overcome. John the Baptist tells us we can do this only through repentance, and forgiveness. The Sacrament of Penance is a tool that has been given to us to allow Our Savior to help us to straighten our own personal paths, to unlock the chains of sin and habits that bind us, to bear our crosses with confidence and joy, to love one another ever more because we can have more of a share in the love of God which is boundless in its depth and scope. The cumulative burden of even the smallest sins can weigh us down. People have told me that the Sacrament of Penance can feel like a physical burden has been taken off their back. I have experienced this myself.

Humanity has been struggling on this journey for thousands of years. Each of us will do so for the rest of our natural lives. What are we waiting for? Share fully in the joy and hope of the season. Repent, give alms, serve one another, sacrifice. The Lord will lower some of those mountains, straighten some of those roads, fill in some of those gorges, grant us sure footing as we follow Him toward the day when we are fully in union with Him, and living forever in the Love of God.



**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 Haiti, and Africa, as well as the homeless here in Worcester. There is also a special opportunity to contribute to the building of a new Church in Nicaragua. 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 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gifts for The Mustard Seed are preferred by Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> to allow for delivery before Christmas, although donations will still be happily accepted after that time.