

St. John the Evangelist



Established 1866

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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
508-435-3313x201
rec55xp@outlook.com

DEACON

Deacon Anthony C. Sicuso
508-435-3313x206
asicuso@stjohnhopkinton.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mary Pawela, 1-6
Debbie Lysik, 7-10
Ken Lysik, 9 & 10

PARISH CENTER

Maureen Belger, Manager
508-435-3313x210
parishhallstjn@gmail.com

All Masses, (Sunday, Saturday and morning Mass) in all archdiocesan parishes are suspended until further notice.

The cardinal has issued a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass.

We most strongly encourage everyone to pray the rosary as a family on Sunday.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

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

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arranged at least 6 months in advance

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

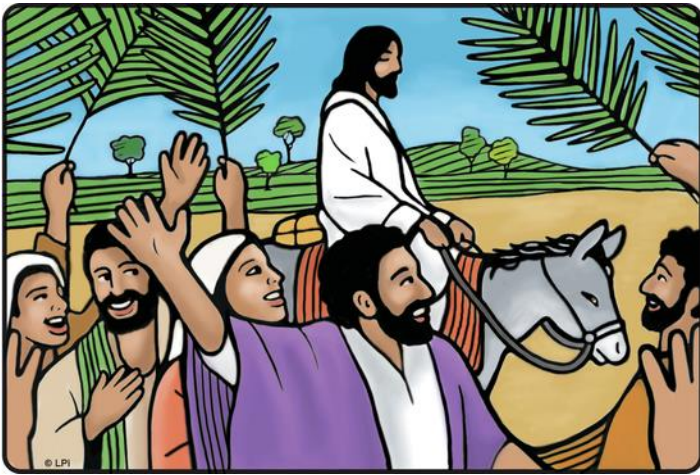
Bernadette Nadeau
momandberni@gmail.com

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



**"Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee."
- Mt 21:9-11**

Readings for **NEXT** Sunday, April 12, 2020:
Acts 10:34a, 37-43/ Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/
Col 3:1-4 / Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10



SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Parishioners of St. John's
All the Holy Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY, APRIL 6

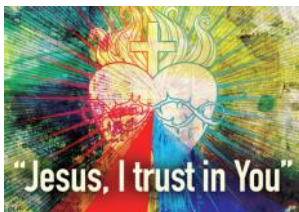
Anthony Scaggs

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

Ernie & Rita Fecteau

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

Special Intention



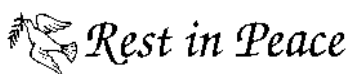
DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena is prayed as a preparation for the Feast of the Divine Mercy, celebrated each year on the first Sunday after Easter. Those that would like to pray it should begin on Good Friday.



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.



C. J. Harris

A Special Note From Fr. Cannon

Please know that all of you are in my thoughts and prayers. Every day when I offer Mass, all of you are most certainly in my intention. If you know of anyone who is in any special need, please feel free to call and most assuredly, we'll do whatever we can. God bless each one of you and with the grace of God and prayers of Our Lady and our patron, St. John the Evangelist, we'll get through this—together.

Where We Are With Religious Services

- Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms will continue to be offered, within the current Commonwealth emergency guidelines.
- The Church will be opened for all those who would like to make a visit on weekends, from 8AM-7PM. The lower chapel on weekdays from 7AM-7PM, except on Thursdays: 9AM-2PM.
- Sunday mornings the most holy Eucharist will be exposed for adoration from 8AM-12Noon.
- Private Masses are taking place and the scheduled Mass intentions are being said.
- At this time, there are no public Masses; no public confessional times; no public Stations of the Cross. The parish mission has been canceled.
- The rich and powerful devotional practices of the Church, i.e., the holy rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and the Stations of the Cross are encouraged, most especially a family rosary on Sunday.

Please note that we are all in a state of flux, and all things listed above are contingent on the Commonwealth and Archdiocese protocols.

A Prayer in Time of Pandemic

O God, whose Only Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, bore the weight of human suffering through His Passion and Cross for our salvation, hear the prayers of Your Church for our sick brothers and sisters and deliver us from this time of trial. Open our ears and our hearts to the voice of Your divine Son: Be not afraid, for I am with you always. We humbly beseech You, to bless all doctors and nurses, researchers and public servants; Grant us the grace to do what is right and the faith to endure this struggle, that we might gather once again to praise Your most holy Name in the heart of Your Church, delivered from all distress and confident in Your divine mercy. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

The current situation has certainly impacted many in a very negative way financially, the parish included. We are very grateful for those small number of parishioners that are on ParishPay* and for those that have been sending in their offertory envelopes via the mail. For those that are able, if you could, please send in a weekly offering. It would be very, very much appreciated.

*A link for electronic giving can be found at: <https://stjohnhopkinton.churchgiving.com/weshare> or on the St. John website home page - <http://www.stjohnhopkinton.com>
The link can be found on the right side of the page.

How to Make a Spiritual Communion

Given our current restrictions, many are trying to watch Mass at home either through EWTN or CatholicTV, and when we do so we are encouraged to make a Spiritual Communion. What is that? A Spiritual Communion is a prayer professing faith in Jesus Christ's real presence in the Holy Eucharist and inviting our Savior to come live in our hearts.

Begin by examining your conscience and making a good Act of Contrition. Then pray one of the prayers recommended by the saints for inviting Christ into your heart. Here is one by St. Alphonsus Liguori:

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

A Spiritual Communion can never fully take the place of receiving Holy Communion at Mass, but in these extraordinary times, It can help us to stay close to our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The traditional Act of Contrition:

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended thee, And I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven And the pains of hell, But most of all because they have offended thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace, To confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

*Special thank you to the Catholic Free Press for their helpful information.

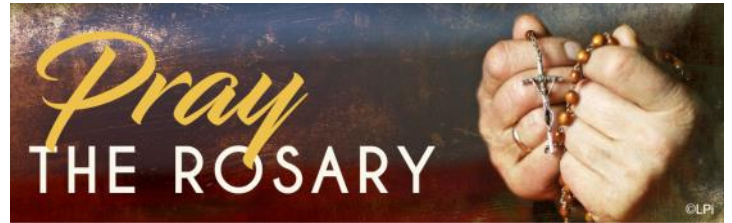
The Veiling of Crosses and Statues

According to the Roman Missal, the practice of covering crosses and images in the church may be observed, beginning on the Saturday before the fifth Sunday of Lent. In 1988, the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship, in Paschale Solemnitatis, encouraged the practice, though it is not mandatory. This practice was obligatory in the Church for centuries, up until 1970. Why does the Church encourage this practice? To heighten our Lenten awareness and sharpen our spiritual focus on the great mysteries of our faith that Holy Week makes present: the passion, death, and resurrection of our beloved Savior. In the words of the noted Benedictine liturgist Abbot Dom Gueranger, "The presentiment of that awful hour of our Savior's passion leads the afflicted mother, the Church, to veil the image of her Jesus: the cross is hidden from the eyes of the faithful. The statues of the saints, too, are covered; for it is but just that, if the glory of the Master be eclipsed, the servant should not appear."



Middle School And High School Youth Groups

All activities and gatherings, including the HS Youth Ministry Annual Fundraiser are canceled until further notice.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

Are you or someone you know in need of financial help, for example: paying rent, buying food, or paying utilities? If so, please call the St. Vincent de Paul Society at 508-435-3313x207.

Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

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APRIL 5, 2020



CROSS ROADS

By Deacon Tony

**Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7;
Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24; Philippians 2:6-11;
Matthew 26:14—27:66**

Today 's readings illuminate that Jesus truly came to us to fulfill the Scriptures regarding who and what the Messiah would be. Out of overwhelming love, Christ, the Word of God who always was and always will be, poured himself out into the frailty of human existence to sacrifice himself to save humanity. As such, Jesus Christ would open a path to sainthood, a path to eternal life with Him. The quickly changing scenes, events, and behaviors portrayed in today's readings can overload our senses, and logic, so much more for those who lived through it. The adulation of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, and his celebration of the Passover with the Apostles, dramatically changes into Jesus' prediction that he would be betrayed, that the faith of the apostles would be shaken, and that even Peter would deny him. The scene at Gethsemane is peaceful and prayerful at first; but quickly and dramatically changes to Jesus' agony in anticipation of what he must face, his submission to the will of the Father, the betrayal, his arrest, the abandonment by his apostles, Peter's denial, and Peter's bitter distress and sorrow. Finally, we follow Jesus through his humiliation, torture, and death on the cross.

Today's readings also remind us that we too betray and deny Christ by our own sinfulness. Do not despair. Saint Augustine coined a phrase that was made popular by Oscar Wilde, "Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future." If there was hope for the apostles who knew Christ and abandoned him, there is hope for us. The remaining eleven apostles, plus Paul all became saints.

Let us prepare ourselves during Holy Week to celebrate the Resurrection. Let us fast, sacrifice and pray. In this time of pandemic, let us remember that social distancing need not lead to social disengagement. Reach out. Call people and remind them that somebody cares. Jesus moved determinedly into the headwinds of resistance to the point of death on a cross, and he would be lifted and exalted. Planes take off by heading into the wind. During Holy Week and thereafter let us move determinedly through the head winds or our own crosses so that, by the grace of God, we too may rise to be the saints that the Lord intends us to be.