



Saint John XXIII Parish

(603) 882-2462 | www.stjohnxxiiinh.org

INFANT JESUS
121 Allds St, Nashua

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
25 Library St, Hudson

December 15, 2024
3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
"Gaudete [Lt., Rejoice] Sunday"

Very Rev. Robert Glasgow, V.F.
Pastor | (603) 880-4689, rglasgow@rcbm.org

Rev. Ethelbert Orabucho
Priest Associate

Rev. Leandro Cardoso
Brazilian Ministry

Linda Morello
Parish Secretary | (603) 882-2462

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 4:00 PM St John Evangelist
Saturday, 6:00 PM Infant Jesus
Saturday, 7:30 PM (Brazilian) Infant Jesus
Sunday, 8:30 AM St John Evangelist
Sunday, 10:30 AM Infant Jesus
Daily Mass (Tue/Thu), 8:30 AM Infant Jesus
Daily Mass (Wed/Fri), 8:30 AM St John Evangelist

CONFESSION

Saturday, 3:30 PM St John Evangelist
And after daily Mass, or by appointment.

BAPTISM

Parents must attend a Parent Baptism Class before the baptism of their child. The class is offered on request.

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.

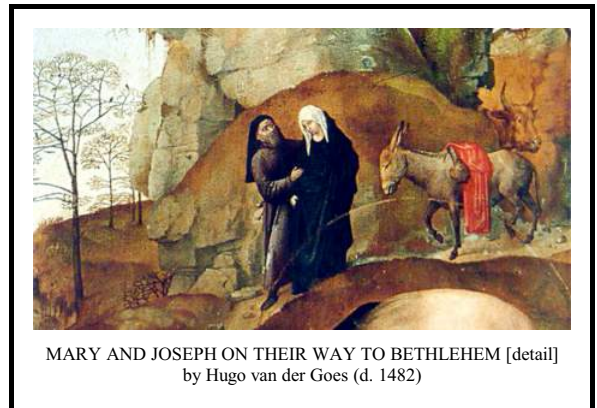
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

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

PROMISE KEPT

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. —John 3:16

The first excerpt below is from St Augustine's (d. 430) Commentary on Psalm 109: God's promises are given to us through His Son. The second is from St Irenaeus of Lyon's (d. 202) treatise Against Heresies: When Christ comes, God will be seen by men.



MARY AND JOSEPH ON THEIR WAY TO BETHLEHEM [detail]
by Hugo van der Goes (d. 1482)

GOD decreed a time for making promises and a time for the promises to be fulfilled. The time for making promises was the time of the prophets, ending with John the Baptist, the last prophet. From then until the end is the time for the fulfilment of promises.

God is faithful. He has made himself our debtor, not by receiving anything from us but by promising us so much. The promise alone was not enough for him: he wanted it in writing, so that he could be held to it, practically entering into a contract with us that listed the promises he was making. In that way, when he began to fulfil his promises, we could see the order of their fulfilment by looking in Scripture. Therefore the time of the prophets was (as I have said so often) the time of making promises.

He promised us eternal salvation and an unending life of blessedness with the angels, and an imperishable inheritance, the joy of seeing his face, a dwelling-place with him in heaven, and the fear of death removed from us through the resurrection. This is, if you like, his ultimate promise. We look forward to it, and when we reach it, we will want nothing more. But as to how this final end is to be reached, he has also told us in promises and prophecies.

He has promised to men that they will be like God; to mortals he has promised immortality; to sinners, righteousness; to the lowly, glory.

Indeed, brethren, because what God promised seemed incredible to men—that from mortality, decay, weakness,

lowliness, dust and ashes they should become equals of the angels of God—he did not only sign a contract with them to convince them. He sent, not just any prince, not just any angel or archangel, but his only Son. The road by which he was to lead us to the end he had promised—through his Son he would show us that road.

Even so, it was not enough for God to send his Son to point out the way. He made his Son the way itself, so that we can go on our journey guided by him as he walks along his own way.

So the only Son of God was to come to men, to take on humanity, and thus to die, to ascend to heaven and sit at the right hand of the father, and so to fulfil what he had promised among the nations. After that promise to the nations had been fulfilled, he would fulfil his other promise, to come, to demand the return of what he had given, to separate the vessels of anger from the vessels of mercy, to give the wicked what he had threatened and the righteous what he had promised.

All this had to be prophesied and foretold. It had to have its coming announced. It could not come suddenly and unexpectedly, causing terror and alarm: people had to be awaiting it with faith.

THERE is one God, who by his word and wisdom created all things and set them in order. His Word is our Lord Jesus Christ, who in this last age became man among men to unite end and beginning, that is, man and God.

The prophets, receiving the gift of prophecy from this same Word, foretold his coming in the flesh, which brought about the union and communion between God and man ordained by the Father. From the beginning the word of God prophesied that God would be seen by men and would live among them on earth; he would speak with his own creation and be present to it, bringing it salvation and being visible to it. He would *free us from the hands of all who hate us*, that is, from the universal spirit of sin, and enable us *to serve him in holiness and justice all our days*. Man was to receive the Spirit of God and so attain to the glory of the Father.

The prophets, then, foretold that God would be seen by men. As the Lord himself says: *Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God*. In his greatness and inexpressible glory *no one can see God and live*, for the Father is beyond our comprehension. But in his love and generosity and omnipotence he allows even this to those who love him, that is, even to see God, as the prophets foretold. *For what is impossible to men is possible to God*.

By his own powers man cannot see God, yet God will be seen by men because he wills it. He will be seen by those he chooses, at the time he chooses, and in the way he chooses, for God can do all things. He was seen of old through the Spirit

in prophecy; he is seen through the Son by our adoption as his children, and he will be seen in the kingdom of heaven in his own being as the Father. The Spirit prepares man to receive the Son of God, the Son leads him to the Father, and the Father, freeing him from change and decay, bestows the eternal life that comes to everyone from seeing God.

As those who see light are in the light sharing its brilliance, so those who see God are in God sharing his glory, and that glory gives them life. To see God is to share in life.

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 14, Sat	4:00 PM (SJE)	- Sandra Lee Farrell (req. by Don Smith)
	6:00 PM (II)	- Parishioners of St John XXIII
Dec 15, Sun	8:30 AM (SJE)	- Albert & Matilda Herrera
	10:30 AM (II)	- Domenic Cardinale (req. by family)
Dec 17, Tue	8:30 AM (II)	- *NO DAILY MASS
Dec 18, Wed	8:30 AM (SJE)	- Dougie Duchesne (req. by Lori & Doug Fowler)
Dec 22, Sun	8:30 AM (SJE)	- Holy Souls
	10:30 AM (II)	- Theresa Duchesne (req. by Lori and Doug Fowler)

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).

OFFERING

8 Dec '24 (2nd Sunday Advent): \$3,391.00
 Brazilian Community: \$359.00
 9 Dec '24 (Immaculate Conception): \$315.00
 Online (Nov '24): \$2,994.00
 Debt Reduction: \$530.00
 Retired Religious: 170.00
 Christmas: \$125.00
 Snow Removal: \$200.00

As always, THANK YOU for your generosity!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LINE

The parish would like to establish a PRAYER LINE. Should you know of anyone in need of prayer, please

submit their name (First Name only) by way of email or by calling the office, and we will list them in the bulletin asking the entire parish to lift them up in prayer.

Holy Day of Obligation
NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christmas Eve Masses
(24 Dec, Tue)
4:00 (SJE) and 6:00 PM (IJ)

Christmas Day Mass
(25 Dec, Wed)
8:00 (SJE) and 10:00 AM (IJ)



Holy Day of Obligation
MARY MOTHER OF GOD

Vigil Mass
(31 Dec, Tue)
5:30 PM (SJE)

Holy Day Mass
(1 Jan 2025, Wed)
10:00 AM (IJ)

CONFESSION hours this week (Infant Jesus):
Dec 17 (Tue) & 19 (Thu)
from 6:00 to 8:00 PM

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

The following prayer is repeated each day. The purple candles are lit the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of Advent, the pink candle is lit the 3rd Sunday of Advent [Gaudete Sunday].

- V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R/. *Who made heaven and earth.*
- V. O God, by whose Word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from You abundant graces. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
R/. *Amen.*
- V. O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord.
R/. *Amen.*

NOTES

1. 2025 Catholic Extension Society Calendars are available in the back of the church(es). Catholic Extension Society is a fundraising organization that helps ensure that all American Catholics can practice their faith within vibrant faith communities. Together with their donors, they connect poor and remote Catholic communities with essential financial support, educational partnerships, and infrastructure. For more information: catholicextension.org.
2. An initial meeting of the Parish Council and Finance Committee is scheduled for this Wednesday, December 18th at 6:30 PM (Infant Jesus Rectory). It will be a short joint organizational meeting. Those willing to serve on either the committee or council are asked to attend.
3. THANKS to everyone who've supported the Giving Tree initiative and have made a donation to the Corpus Christi Food Pantry or Hudson Food Pantry!

St Polycarp of Smyrna (d. 188, a disciple of St John the Apostle/Evangelist) said: "When you have the opportunity to do good do not let it go by!"
4. THANKS, too, to everyone who helped decorate the churches for Christmas!
5. The parish needs 2-4 people willing to help count the offering each week. (We'd like to simplify and standardize the counting procedures so it takes less than an hour.) The new Parish Secretary will assist. Diocesan financial regulations mandate strict counting safeguards.

ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER

HEAVENLY FATHER, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.

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#WHATSMYNAME

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