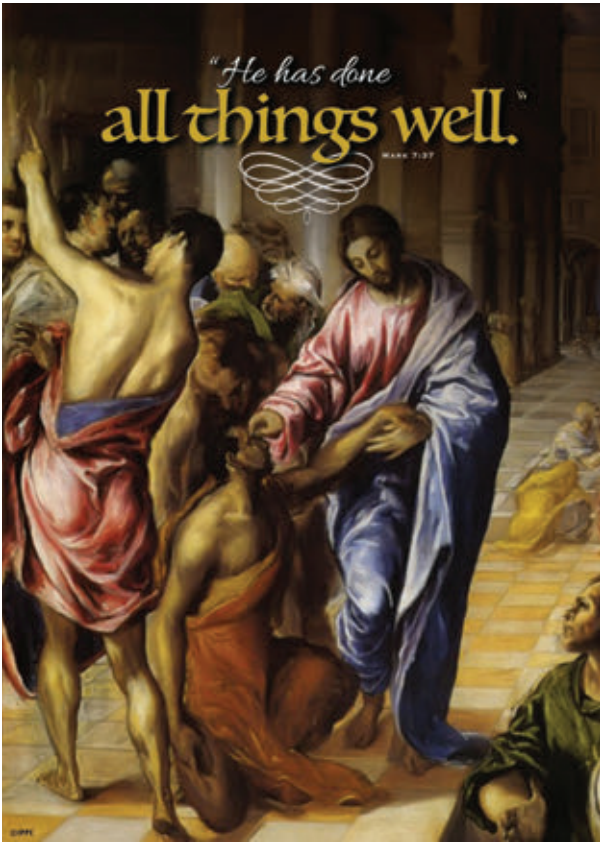


Saint John XXIII Parish

Happy
LABOR
DAY!

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Mass Intentions

Saturday

SJE 4:00 PM

IJ 6:00 PM

IJ 7:30 PM

Sunday

SJE 8:00 AM

IJ 10:30 AM

Tuesday

IJ 8:30 AM

Wednesday

SJE 8:30 AM

Thursday

IJ 8:30 AM

Friday

SJE 8:30 AM

Saturday

SJE 4:00 PM

IJ 6:00 PM

IJ 7:30 PM

Sunday

SJE 8:00 AM

IJ 10:30 AM

September 4 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Adrian Landry 20th Ann.
by Venette Theriault & Family

Yvette Blanchette
by the Ladies of Ste. Anne
Mass in Portuguese

Sept. 5 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Intentions of the parishioners
Theresa Duchesne by Doug & Lori Fowler

September 7

Paul & Irene Houle by their family

September 8

Intentions of the parishioners

September 9 Saint Peter Claver

Yvette Blanchette
By the Bereavement Committee

September 10

Intentions of the parishioners

September 11 Anticipated Weekend Mass

Robert Hackett by Faith Quigley
Theresa Morin

by the Ladies of Ste. Anne

Mass in Portuguese

Sept. 12 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Timothy Coulter by his family

Gloria A. Levesque by her daughters

IJ = Infant Jesus Church SJE = St. John the Evangelist Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:00 to 3:30 PM
at St. John the Evangelist Church.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



September 6- September 12

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6ab, 6c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6; Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5, 6-7; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA COLLECTION

This annual collection takes place this weekend, Sept. 4 & 5. Funds collected enable the University to continue its work of preparing the next generation of leadership, both religious and lay, for our Church and nation. It also supports the Catholic Project which brings together clergy and lay leaders to develop solutions to the issues facing our church and bring about reforms.

To learn more visit collection.Catholic.edu.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Week Ending ~ August 28 & 29, 2021	
Adult Envelopes (71)	\$2,622.00
WeShare (Online Giving) (53)	\$906.00
Loose Cash	\$277.00
Offertory Total:	\$3,805.00
Fuel	\$250.00
<i>May our loving God bless you for your continued generosity!</i>	

Saint John XXIII Parish

REFLECTION FOR 23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Last June, in the course of just one week, I listened to the stories of pain that came at me from varied people. A brave but anxious mother pleading for my prayers for her young son about to endure yet another cancer-fighting surgery. Just after a morning Mass, I learned from a younger but calm mother that the Mass had been offered for her baby who had only lived for a week. Another plea from a friend desperate for a new job. A woman religious superior needing the strength to make an unpopular decision.

Not every week is like that for us priests, but many are similar. It is the suffering of the sheep presented to us weak shepherds in the hope that somehow our prayers are special. Somehow superior to their own. Of course, that last supposition is not true. But they trust that our calling gives us a special connection to the divine Caller. For our part, how often we have wished that we had the miraculous power of Jesus so that we could bring the relief He brought to the poor deaf man in today's account from St. Mark. I tell you these things as just some examples of the pain in this life, lived in this world, and how our yearning is for the relief and joy Christ promised us in the next. Of course, there is real joy in this world, not to be denied. But there is always the tinge of sadness knowing that many of our joys are temporary, like the arrival of December 26 and the martyrdom of St. Stephen that our Liturgy presents us on the day after Christmas.

Part of the reason that good trusting people come to us, their priests, is a presumption that somehow we are closer to God than they. It is largely an unfounded assumption. Believe me, we know that many of the people in the pews are closer to God than the vested people at the altar. We know it because we know their struggles and their faith. Yours also.

It is precisely because of our Baptism that we can claim to be God's adopted children, and rely on our inner strength to live life with confidence and trust no matter what twists and turns life takes. Furthermore, we are members of Christ's Mystical Body, the Church, with Jesus as the Head. There is nothing that can overwhelm us or drive away our optimism, unless we let it. When each of us acts like what we are in that context, living fortified by our reception of Confirmation, goodness multiplies. We don't deny the headlines and their record of human disregard for fellow humans, the ugliness of violence, abuse, and the destruction of life in the form of mass slayings like abortion and "ethnic cleansing." We just have to remember that God is still in charge, and that even our worst sins can be forgiven.

Tomorrow we honor all those who work for a living with our annual end-of-summer holiday, Labor Day. A virus called Covid 19 made us newly aware of the dedicated work of often unnamed first responders and emergency workers, doctors and nurses, police and firefighters, delivery truck drivers, grocery store staffers. We also noticed anew the services of our plumbers and painters, carpenters and car mechanics, street cleaners and dry cleaners, and service workers of all kinds. They showcased our interdependence, and that's a good thing. Aligned with them are all who labor in our Church to make it functional as well as faith-filled. The foundation of it all is Love, and God, the gospel tells us, is Love itself. It flourishes everywhere, in ways big and small.

Once upon a time there was a middle-aged business executive who approached the front entrance of the office building in which he worked. A young feminist came up at the same moment, so he stepped back and held the door open for her to pass on through. Whereupon she turned and looked at him and said with annoyance, "Don't hold the door for me just because I'm a lady."

To her surprise, he looked right back and replied, "I'm not. I'm holding it open because I'm a Christian gentleman."

Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE

Many Catholics want to read the Bible but get bogged down by the long stretches that seem not to make sense or get lost among the sea of Old Testament names and places. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, an 8-part Bible study, helps you uncover the story woven throughout Scripture, so you can get the "big picture" of the Bible and understand what it's all about. Aided by a unique color-coded Bible Timeline TM Chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible will help you pick up the Bible with confidence and understand how you fit into God's plan. St. Patrick Parish in Nashua will begin the Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study on Friday, September 24, 2021 at 6:15p.m. Participants will meet weekly to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

For more information or to register, visit <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/unlocking-the-mystery>, or contact Adam D'Entremont at Word@DEntremont.org.

RECEIVE CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP NEWS

Are you looking for an easy way to stay informed about public issues in New Hampshire? The Diocese of Manchester offers an e-mail newsletter with updates on important public policy matters facing our elected officials.

Register at catholicnh.org/ccn

K OF C ITALIAN DINNER NIGHT

The Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets to our annual Italian Dinner Night. Adult tickets are \$12 for adults and children under 12 are \$6. Come enjoy pasta, meatballs, pulled pork, beef, salad, dessert and all the sides! The dinner takes place on Saturday, October 16th with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and dinner starting at 6 p.m. Win raffle prizes, eat, drink and partake in the Italian heritage of our patroness. Tickets will go on sale starting the weekend of September 11th after all masses.

NHCC ONLINE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Have you recently lost a spouse, family member or friend, and are struggling to cope with the loss? Catholic Charities NH will be starting its next online support group, "Bereavement – Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and Finding your Way Again," a six-week program helping participants discover new ways to cope with loss, while creating opportunities to be supported and support others also sharing a painful journey. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays (September 29 – November 3) from 1:30-2:30 p.m. To register, visit www.cc-nh.org/beravement. You may also call 603-752-1325 or email efrenette@nh-cc.org. To learn more visit collection.Catholic.edu.

ST. PATRICK'S IN PELHAM LOOKING FOR CRAFTERS

We are looking for crafters for St. Patrick's Christmas Craft Fair in Pelham, NH to be held on Dec. 4, 2021. Cost for is \$30 for an 8'x6' space. All crafters who have hand crafted items are welcome. Please call the parish office at 603-635-3525 for an application and more details.

VISITING ANGELS SEEKING CAREGIVERS

Visiting Angels, a home care provider, is looking for people to join their team. They have part-time, full time, day and weekend positions available. No experience is required and training is provided. For more information call 603-821-0277 or on line at www.Visitingangels.com/nashua

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For further information, please call the Parish Office.
Thank you.

Child Safety Reporting
If you know of or suspect abuse or neglect of a minor (under 18 yrs.), you must report it to the NH Division for Children, Youth and Families: 1-800-894-5533 or 603-271-6566.

If you have experienced abuse by someone representing the Catholic Church, you may contact the Office for Healing and Pastoral Care of the Diocese of Manchester: 603-668-0014 or 800-475-5585 x233.

Sponsored by the Office for Ministerial Conduct, Diocese of Manchester.

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