

*Saint John xxiii Parish*

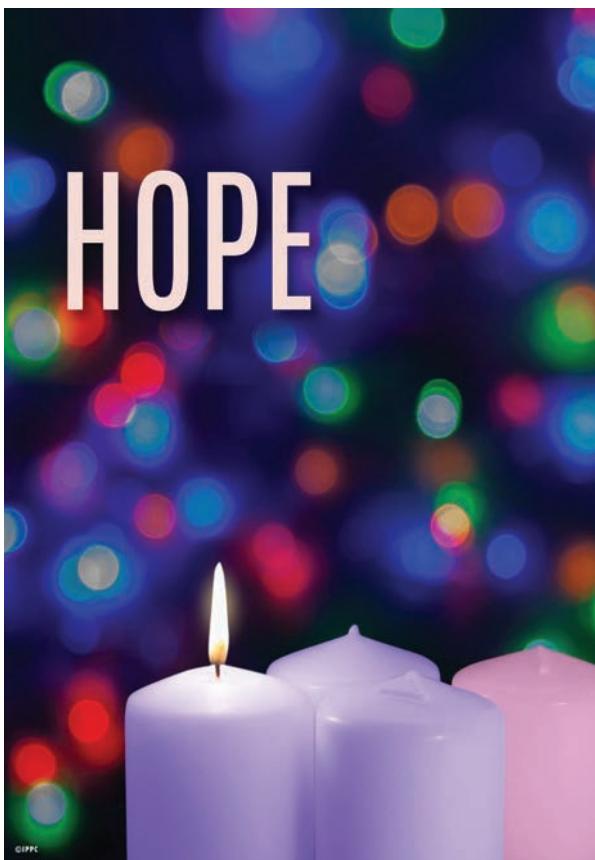
*Advent*



love  
Peace  
JOY  
HOPE  
PEACE  
LOVE  
PEACE  
HOPE

**November 28, 2021**

**First Sunday of Advent**



### **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

#### **November 27 Anticipated Weekend Mass**

Deceased loved ones of Anne Marie Bitler  
Deceased loved ones of  
Jeannine & Andy Gagnon  
Mass in Portuguese

#### **Nov. 28 First Sunday of Advent**

Deceased loved ones of  
Tom & Debbie Gagnon  
Deceased loved ones of the Hilston Family

#### **November 30 Saint Andrew**

Deceased loved ones of  
Jeannine T. Levesque

#### **December 1**

Intentions of the parishioners

#### **December 2**

Dceased members of the  
L'Heureux & Nolin Families

#### **December 3 Saint Francis Xavier**

David Foley by Doris Foley

#### **December 4 Anticipated Weekend Mass**

Marcel Dubord by his family  
Maurice Vaillancourt by his family  
Mass in Portuguese

#### **December 5 Second Sunday of Advent**

Shannon Allison 4th Ann. by her family  
Christopher Hilston  
By Bruce & Claire Tessier

*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.



#### **November 29 – December 5**

**Mon.:** Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday:** Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22

**Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday:** Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

#### **JOURNEYSONGS HYMNALS**

We are transitioning to a new hymnal, Journeysongs. Scripture readings for all three cycle years, hymns, mass settings and rituals are all included in this one book—which means we no longer have to change them every year. To keep with Covid protocols we are encouraging everyone to purchase and use their own—rather than share. The cost of the hymnal is \$20. See Fr. George to purchase your copy

#### **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

The Knights of Columbus Council #5162 will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, December 4th at St. Kathryn Church Hall, 4 Dracut Road, Hudson. The church hall is at the rear of the building, lower level. Donation hours will be 9AM to 2:30 PM. The Red Cross is taking special precautions during the COVID-19 crisis to ensure the safety of donors and staff. Whole Blood and Power Red donors will be accepted. You can sign up on line at [www.rcblood.org/appt](http://www.rcblood.org/appt)

#### **STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

*Because of an early holiday bulletin deadline, the Stewardship report for November 20 & 21 will appear in next weekend's bulletin.*

# Saint John XXIII Parish

## REFLECTION FOR THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Volcanoes, even when they are dormant, mark the places where the possibility of violent destruction always looms over the landscape. History provides the record. East of Naples, Italy, stands the imposing cone of Mt. Vesuvius. It had an explosive eruption in 79 A.D., which buried Pompeii and Herculaneum. Our only record of that is the site of petrified bodies of those people caught by the surprise of it.

Closer to our time, who among those of us living can forget the May 18, 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helen. We saw the videos that showed us the most significant eruption to occur in the contiguous United States since the much smaller 1915 eruption of Lassen Peak, California.

But while God seems to permit the earthly forces He created to be capable of violence, as when a volcano has one of these “coughing fits”, so to speak, He prefers calm and silence as the backdrop for His special works. Consider the Annunciation and the very private encounter of Archangel Gabriel and the subsequent Nativity on a silent night when “all was calm and bright.” In like manner comes the lovely little season of Advent that begins this weekend. In our country, it seems to arrive so suddenly but quietly, like cat’s paws on carpet, so soon after the happy but noisy family gatherings only last Thursday, Thanksgiving Day. The joyful white vestments have suddenly transformed into the much more solemn purple of penance. Penance has been the long standing Christian preparation for a major feast.

One could call Advent “a little Lent” or even “Lent light” because it features elements of fasting and repentance. But the accent is more on that of hope and anticipation, first by recalling that this world as we know it has a final destination, known only by its Creator, and then by the encouragement of a bright future brought about by our Savior’s entry into our history.

I think we can all acknowledge the added difficulty for prayer and silent reflection brought on by how the outside world approaches these weeks before Christmas. Having all but eliminated any serious contemplation of the world’s future, except under the heading of climate change, it hardly acknowledges the birth of Jesus as the central focus. Look at the pitched battles every year on where and whether to set up the creche scene. Therefore the onus is ours as believing Christians to strike a balance. No need to be volcanic.

One of the most famous books of all time is Edward Gibbon’s “Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire,” in which Gibbon traces what happened to that mighty empire and how it disintegrated from within. He says this concerning the Church within the empire: “While the great body (the Roman Empire) was invaded by open violence or undermined by slow decay, a pure and humble religion gently insinuated itself into the minds of men, grew up in silence and obscurity, derived new vigor from opposition, and finally erected the triumphant banner of the cross on the ruins of the Capitol.” Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

## 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](http://www.Visitingangels.com/nashua)

## CORPUS CHRISTI NOTES

In addition to offering our clients financial support and guidance, Corpus Christi Food Pantry and Assistance occasionally is able to provide them with a few small items to help them get set up in a new living situation. Some of the items include: kitchen appliances, plates, silver ware, utensils and pots and pans when they are available. Every kind of assistance, financial, material and emotional, helps our clients become more successful. Thankyou for your generosity and support

## LOOKING FOR LECTORS

Due to Covid concerns and restrictions, the use of Lectors at Mass had been suspended. As we work toward a healthier time, we would like to reintroduce Lectors to our Masses. If you were a Lector in the past or are interested in being a Lector, please see Deacon Carl at any of the weekend Masses and he will be glad to get you scheduled.

## CASA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers make a life-changing difference for abused or neglected children. Volunteers are urgently needed NOW. You can provide a voice for a child in need. Register online today for a virtual info session on November 17 that will focus on the need for volunteers in the greater Manchester and Nashua regions. Learn more and register at [www.casanh.org/infosessions](http://www.casanh.org/infosessions). If you register and are unable to attend, CASA will send you a link to the recorded session. For more information contact Katie Pelczar at 603-528-8006 ext. 6

## RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

The New Hampshire Knights of Columbus is once again sponsoring a Student Respect Life Essay contest. The contest is open to any Junior High (grades 6 - 8) and Senior High (grades 9p-12) student in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Knights of Columbus will provide up to six cash awards of \$100 each. The deadline: is midnight, December 15, 2021 Visit [www.catholicnh.org//koc-respectlife](http://www.catholicnh.org//koc-respectlife) for more information.

## ST. PATRICK'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

St. Patrick Parish in Pelham is hosting its annual Christmas Craft Fair, Dec. 4th from 9am-4pm in the Parish Center at 12 Main St. Pelham, NH. We have many local crafters who amaze us every year! We will also have food, a Home Made Baked Goods Table, a coloring contest and raffles. Please join us and get great gifts for your holiday shopping.

## ST. JOHN HUDSON COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY GIVING TREE - GIFT CARDS

St John Hudson Community Food Pantry is looking for donations of store gift cards (\$10, \$15, \$20, or \$25). Put gift cards into an envelope and deposit them into the decorated box in the sanctuary. OR call 882-2462 Ext. 6 to schedule a time to drop them off. All gift cards need to be received no later than Saturday, December 11th. We appreciate your generosity and support.



## BABY SHOWER FOR JESUS

For many years, baby items have been collected to assist the ministry of Real Options (formerly Care Net Pregnancy Center).

This year, there is a great need for diapers (newborn and sizes 2 & 3), baby wipes, sleep sacks, baby towels, diaper bags, girl's & boy's clothes (newborn to 3 months) and maternity clothes. Used baby and maternity clothes are fine; they only ask that they be clean and in good condition. New infant car seats would be greatly appreciated. Knitted and crocheted items are treasured for their personal touch! If you can help, please place your donation in or near the cradle on the Allds Street side of Infant Jesus Church, from Nov. 27 to Sunday, Dec. 12.

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