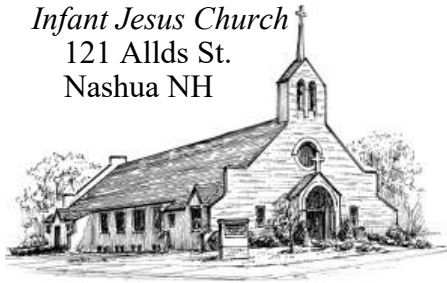
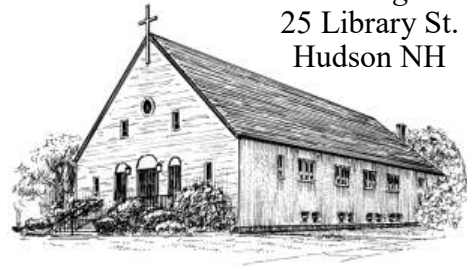


# Saint John XXIII Parish

*Infant Jesus Church*  
121 Allds St.  
Nashua NH



*St. John the Evangelist Church*  
25 Library St.  
Hudson NH



## 1st Sunday of Lent

Repent,  
and believe in the  
Gospel

### Saint John XXIII Parish

#### Office/Mailing Address:

121 Allds Street, Nashua, NH 03060-6354

Phone: 603-882-2462

Email: [office@stjohnxxiiinh.org](mailto:office@stjohnxxiiinh.org)

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [WWW.STJOHNXXIIINH.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNXXIIINH.ORG)

#### Clergy:

Rev. George Mattathilani, Pastor ext. 5

Rev. Leandro Cardoso (Brazilian Ministry)

Rev. Ethelbert Orabuque (hospital chaplain in residence)

#### Religious Education:

E-mail: [Pastor@stjohnxxiiinh.org](mailto:Pastor@stjohnxxiiinh.org)

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	4:00 PM	SJE Church
	6:00 PM	IJ Church
	7:30 PM	Portuguese Mass—IJ
Sunday	8:30 AM	SJE Church
	10:30 AM	IJ Church

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

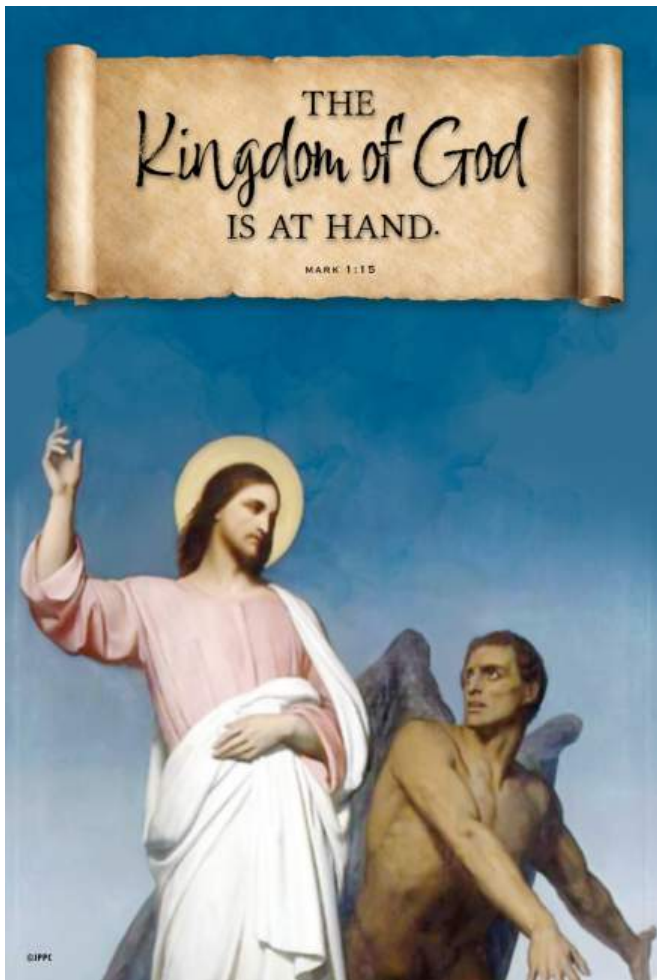
Tuesday	8:30 AM	IJ Church
Wednesday	8:30 AM	SJE Church
Thursday	8:30 AM	IJ Church
Friday	8:30 AM	SJE Church

### OUTREACH

Hudson Community Food Pantry 603-883-6048  
Corpus Christi Food Pantry: 603-882-6372  
NH Catholic Charities: 603-889-9431

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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



Mass Intentions

Saturday

SJE 4:00 PM

IJ 6:00 PM

IJ 7:30 PM

Sunday

SJE 8:30 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 8:30 AM

IJ 10:30 AM

*February 17*

Raymond "Butch" Dumont  
by Patti Peters

Doris Lancourt  
by The Ladies of Ste. Anne  
Mass in Portuguese

*Feb. 18 1st Sunday of Lent*

Joseph Zagarella by the family  
Fr. Marcel Allard

*February 20*

All Souls Intentions

*February 21*

All Souls Intentions

*February 22*

All Souls Intentions

*February 23*

All Souls Intentions

*February 24*

The Shanholtz Family  
Dick Guerette  
by Patrick & Diane Dubreuil  
Mass in Portuguese

*Feb. 25 2nd Sunday of Lent*

Robert Clark by the family  
Gilda & John Balandis  
by the family

**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.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Friday mornings following 8:30 AM Mass at St. John the Evangelist Church in Hudson.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Week Ending ~ February 10 & 11, 2024

<b>Adult Envelopes (36)</b>	<b>\$1,661.00</b>
<b>WeShare (Online Giving) (47)</b>	<b>\$690.00</b>
<b>Loose Cash</b>	<b>\$525.92</b>
<b>Offertory Total:</b>	<b>\$2,876.92</b>
<b>Debt Reduction</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Fuel</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Catholic Education</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>

*May our loving God bless you for your continued generosity!*

**Weekly Readings Feb. 19 – Feb. 25, 2024**

- Monday** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday** Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday** Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday** 1 Pt 5:1-4 Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 Mt 16:13-19
- Friday** Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday** Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 8:31b-34 Mk 9:2-10

# Saint John XXIII Parish

## REFLECTION - 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

Each Lent we open the Sundays with the account of Our Lord entering the desert. We might naturally picture Him in the land of the ancient pyramids. Or maybe the vast stretches of sand where Lawrence of Arabia fought his epic battles. This scene, however, is not one of endless sand, with the complete absence of water and greenery. The desert mentioned here was a remote area for sure, largely soundless as opposed to the noise of villages and towns. Wild beasts were the only creatures who would lurk around Him from time to time. But mainly it was the kind of place free of the usual distractions, where a person could face his inmost thoughts, hopes and desires, as well as his faults and failures.

Here it was that Jesus went, not contending with any faults or failures, but to commune with His Father and prepare for His unique mission. We know from the other gospel accounts that Satan himself came to disturb and tempt Jesus with the same matters that often lure us into sin: wealth, power and fame, sex, and addictions of all kinds. Not only is Jesus' strength and endurance remarkable as he deals with this confrontation with the same human nature as we have. But He also does so with His divine power armored with humility and the words of the Scriptures.

St. Mark does not give us the details of this high drama. Simply a blunt statement that the Spirit "drove" Jesus to the desert, in itself a remarkable declaration. It comes across as a mandatory requirement for Jesus to begin saving the world from its sin.

Lent has ever since been symbolized in our churches by decorations that include barren growth, perhaps with cactus plants, rocks and even some sand. But more importantly, the Church wants us to go to our own "desert," whether it's at a nearby park or woods, perhaps even in our parked car, or a corner of our bedroom with a lit candle and a notebook for writing. Certainly, with the cell phone off and packed away. Certainly, a handy copy of the Bible would be helpful. Or a prayer book you favor, or your rosary. Give yourself some time to "shut down" your busy brain and grow calm. Then you can go on to "meet yourself" so to speak. But always be careful to listen to the Lord with less talk from you.

In this simple way, practiced as close to a daily effort as we can, that we can learn the major truths of Lent. To be at peace with the one Person who loves you completely, enough to die for your sake on a cross. To have a focus for your Lent 2024, which, who knows? could be your last.

Eight-ninths of the bulk of an iceberg is below the waterline and out of sight. Only one-ninth is visible above the surface. Our prayer life should be like an iceberg, with about one-ninth showing in public group prayer and eight-ninths out of sight in our personal prayer time.

Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

## CORPUS CHRISTI FOOD PANTRY

Corpus Christi Food Pantry & Assistance continues to serve the residence of Nashua that are struggling to make end meet. No matter how small or large a family is, our volunteers are able to fill the client's grocery bags with the items that they specifically need and request. Just this month, the pantry was able to provide over 100 pounds of food to a family of eight. The parents were beyond words with gratitude that they would be able to feed their children. It is very humbling to see such appreciation.

## PILGRIMS FOR LIFE

The journey of faith is lifelong, and there is much work to be done as we seek to ensure that all human life is valued and protected. Learn about local prayer and advocacy opportunities for the cause of life. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/pilgrimsforlife](http://www.catholicnh.org/pilgrimsforlife)

## 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](http://catholicnh.org/ccn)

## GRIEVING THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE?

Deacon Brian Lester is starting GriefShare sessions at St. John Neuman Hall (708 Milford Rd, Merrimack, NH) on Feb 21 (6:30 - 8:30 pm). Group will meet for 13 total sessions; join at anytime in the series. Contact Deacon Brian Lester ([deacon@sinnh](mailto:deacon@sinnh)) for more information or visit [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org).

## NH MONTHLY COUPLE ENRICHMENT CIRCLE

The N.H. Enrichment Circle is a monthly gathering of married couples who make time to nurture their relationship. Some of the couples have attended a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience in the past but this is not a requirement and new couples are welcome. Each gathering offers a different topic designed to foster strong, healthy married relationships and communication. Participants have a chance to collectively explore the topic and then, as a couple, share on a related question. Meetings are on the first Saturday of each month from 6:30-8PM at the Immaculate Heart Of Mary parish center in Concord, NH. Participants are asked to bring a snack to share and a writing notebook. For more information, contact Dave and Karen Demers: (617) 448-0745 or [dkd1974@aol.com](mailto:dkd1974@aol.com).

## DIVORCE & SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUPS

Divorce and separation can be painful experiences. Support groups are available to those who are seeking healing, comfort, and empowerment. Visit [www.catholicnh.org/support](http://www.catholicnh.org/support) for a listing of groups. Do you know someone who is going through a separation or divorce? Please consider passing this information along to them.

## 2023 NH CATHOLIC APPEAL REPORT

The 2023 New Hampshire Catholic Appeal (NHCA) annual report is now available at your parish and online at [www.catholicnh.org/nhca](http://www.catholicnh.org/nhca). Also, copies are being mailed to all who donated to the NHCA. Thanks to over 10,000 donors, the NHCA has raised more than \$3.7 million to date which is helping to fund the Community Services program at Catholic Charities New Hampshire, Catholic Education, Parable magazine, priest retirement, the seminarian fund and so much more! The annual report breaks down the total raised and the initial distributions as of October 2, 2023, at which time \$402,090 was issued in rebates to parishes who reached their NHCA goal. Please take a moment to review the annual report which allows us to work toward a more sustainable and collaborative church in New Hampshire. For any questions regarding the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal, please contact Bevin Kennedy at 603-663-0136 or at [bkennedy@rcbm.org](mailto:bkennedy@rcbm.org)

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Thank you.



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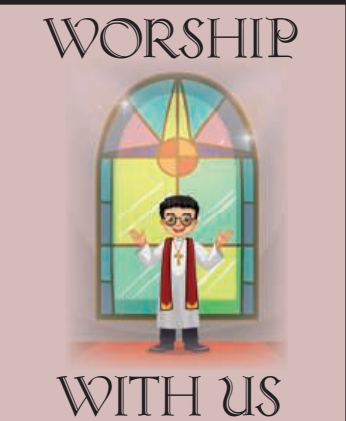
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**Child Safety Reporting**  
If you know of or suspect abuse or neglect of a minor (under 18 yrs.), you must report it to the NH Division for Children, Youth and Families: 1-800-894-5533 or 603-271-6566.  
If you have experienced abuse by someone representing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