

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

02/01

(Septuagesima Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** will be held after the Mass in the Church Hall. No **Catechism class**. At the meeting: Fr. Adam's Pastoral report, Parish Committee reports & election of the Parish Committee officers for 2026. **All Parishioners are strongly encouraged to participate in this very important meeting.** *In case of bad weather, the meeting will be postponed to the following Sunday, Feb 8.*

02/08

(Sexagesima Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the hall. **Mass Intention: For RACHEL and ANDREW MENARD family (new members of St. John's Parish)**

02/16

(Monday) **Kids Movie Night at 5pm.** This event is open to all kids - both from our parish and the wider community. Come enjoy a fun, family-friendly movie and a great evening together. We look forward to seeing you there!

- **Mass Intentions Announcement:** If you have a particular date in mind for a Mass Intention, please be sure to book it in advance, as we are able to schedule only one intention per Sunday. At this time, the first available Sunday with no intention is February 22, 2026. Please contact the parish office to reserve your date.

ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS

- Upcoming birthdays & anniversaries: LINDA SPINELLI (02/01), JOSEPH STEPIEN (02/01). Happy birthday!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Facebook: **John the Baptist, Manchester CT**

Rector phone: **860-643-5906**

PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarszewski

February 1, 2026

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY

MASS INTENTION

For + LOVERN FRERICKS-MILLIGAN (req. by Tim)

INTROIT

C: Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

R: **The Lord has eyes for the just and ears for their cry.**

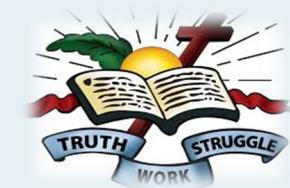
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**



HOLY MASS

10.00 am



MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for a particular intention, you must stop by the Parish Office or the sacristy in the Church before/after Sunday mass. Masses can be said for a deceased person or as a special intention for the living. You may reserve a Sunday of your choice, and your intention will be published in the parish bulletin.

We encourage you to offer a Mass on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special personal (family) need.

READING 1

SIR 15:15-20

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him. Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power, and all-seeing.

The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands man's every deed. No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

„Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!”

PS 119

READING 2

1COR 2:6-10

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away. Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew; for, if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written:

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

MT 5:20-22, 27-28, 33-34, 37

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with brother will be liable to judgment.

“You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

“Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In this Gospel, Jesus challenges His disciples to move beyond a faith that is satisfied with outward appearances or minimal obedience. When He says that our righteousness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees, He is not dismissing the Law, but revealing its deeper purpose - to transform the heart. Jesus teaches that sin does not begin with actions alone, but with the inner attitudes that shape them: anger that poisons relationships, lust that objectifies others, and dishonesty that destroys trust. By addressing these interior movements, He calls us to a more honest and demanding form of discipleship.

This teaching invites us to examine our conscience more deeply. It is not enough to avoid physical violence if we allow resentment to grow unchecked, or to avoid infidelity while nurturing impure desires. Likewise, Jesus' call to let our "Yes" mean "Yes" and our "No" mean "No" reminds us that integrity and simplicity are marks of a life rooted in truth. In a world that often values appearances, Christ calls us to authenticity. True righteousness flows from a heart aligned with God's will, shaping not only what we do, but how we love, speak, and live each day.