

COMMUNITY COMING EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10/18

(XXIX Ordinary Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids right after the Mass. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall.
- 10/20

(Tuesday) **Women's Rosary Group** meeting at 6pm in the church hall.
- 10/25

(XXX Ordinary Sunday) **Holy Mass** at 10am. **Catechism Class** for kids right after the Mass. Coffee hour (fellowship hour) in the church hall. *No Mass Intention.*
- 11/01

(All Saints - Solemnity) **Solemn Holy Mass** at 10am. **NO Catechism Class!** Children are invited to come to Mass dressed as their favorite saint! After Mass, we will bless the cemetery and dedicate the new flag pole in memory of Ed and Millie Koski, followed by pizza and ice cream for everybody. *No Mass Intention.*
- 11/02

(Commemoration of All Souls) **Solemn Holy Mass** at 5pm.

- **Our New Parish App Is Here!** Stay connected with St. John's wherever you are! Our new church app brings parish news, events, Mass times, and announcements right to your phone. To install it, scan the QR code below or visit stjohnspncc.netlify.app. We are still building and improving the app, so if you have any suggestions or ideas, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you!



CHURCH MEMBERS

- Upcoming birthdays & anniversaries: WINSTON MENARD (10/18), RENÉE MEUNIER (10/19). Happy anniversary! Happy birthday!

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH POLISH NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Facebook: [John the Baptist, Manchester CT](https://www.facebook.com/JohntheBaptistManchesterCT)
Rectory phone: 860-643-5906

PASTOR - Rev. Dr. Adam Piekarczyewski

October 18, 2026

BEHOLD

PARISH BULLETIN

XXIX SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS INTENTION

For the benefactors of St. John's Church, both living and deceased.

INTROIT

C: Let every person be subordinate to the higher authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been established by God.

R: **The Most High rules over the kingdom of men: He can give it to whom He will.**

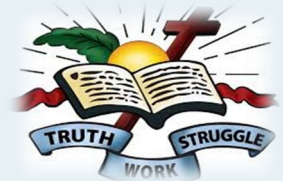
C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

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

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus,
whose right hand I grasp,
subduing nations before him,
and making kings run in his service,
opening doors before him
and leaving the gates unbarred:
For the sake of Jacob, my servant,
of Israel, my chosen one,
I have called you by your name,
giving you a title, though you knew me not.
I am the LORD and there is no other,
there is no God besides me.

IS 45:1, 4-6

It is I who arm you, though you know me not,
so that toward the rising and the setting of
the sun people may know that there is none
besides me.
I am the LORD, there is no other.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

„Give the Lord glory and honor.”

PS 96

READING 2

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace.
We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were

chosen.
For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 THES 1:1-5B

GOSPEL

MT 22:15-21

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory be to You, Lord.

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying,
"Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?"
Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin.
He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?"
They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them,
"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise be to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The question put to Jesus was a trap dressed up as flattery. The Pharisees and Herodians were usually enemies, yet here they joined forces, praising his honesty only to corner him. If Jesus said “Pay the tax,” he would lose the people, who resented Roman rule. If he said “Don’t pay,” he could be handed over to the authorities as a rebel. Jesus sees through the malice and does something unexpected: he asks for a coin. The very men who claimed to be so devoted to God’s law pull Caesar’s money from their own pockets, stamped with the emperor’s face and an inscription calling him divine. Without saying a word, the coin exposes them. Then Jesus gives an answer that silences the debate and lifts it far higher: give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.

The heart of the answer lies in a single word: *image*. The coin bears Caesar’s image, so let Caesar have it back. But what bears the image of God? From the first page of Scripture we hear that God created humanity “in his own image” (Genesis 1:27). We are the coins stamped with God’s likeness. Taxes, money, and the claims of the world have their place, and Christians are called to be good citizens. But no government, employer, or possession can claim the whole of us. Our hearts, our lives, and our deepest loyalty belong to the One whose image we carry. This week, we might ask ourselves an honest question: Caesar gets his share of my time, energy, and attention, but am I giving back to God what is truly his, which is my whole self?