



*St. John the Baptist Parish, Haverhill, MA
June 13, 2010*

Father of all, we pray to You for those whom we love, but see no longer. Grant them Your peace; let light perpetually shine upon them; and in Your loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of Your perfect will through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. This week the Sanctuary Lamp is given as a Loving Remembrance of Ann Hewson by Hughette Costa.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 13	4:00 PM	Katherine Flanagan (Memorial Mass by Family)
Sunday, June 14	8:30 AM	Michael & Loretta Alaura (Memorial Mass by Daughter & Family)
Sunday, June 14	10:30 AM	John LeBlanc (5th Anniversary Mass by Family)
Monday, June 15	9:00 AM	Rev. Stephen Brennick (6th Anniversary Mass by Parish)
Tuesday, June 16	9:00 AM	Deceased Members of Saint John the Baptist Parish
Tuesday, June 16	6:30 PM	Evening Prayer Service
Wednesday, June 17	9:00 AM	All the Departed Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, June 18	9:00 AM	Prayer Service
Friday, June 19	9:00 AM	Intention of the Celebrant
Saturday, June 20	9:00 AM	Mass of Thanksgiving
Saturday, June 20	4:00 PM	Albert B. Paradis, Sr., and John H. Connors (Memorial Mass by Family)
Sunday, June 21	8:30 AM	Frank L. Crowe (2nd Anniversary Mass by Family)
Sunday, June 21	10:30 AM	Captain Red Slaviv (Fathers' Day Remembrance by Family)

Mass Schedule

Saturday ~ 9 AM, 4 PM;
Sunday ~ 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM Family Mass
Monday to Friday ~ 9 AM
Eve of Holy Days; Holy Days ~ As announced

Sacraments

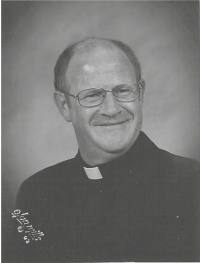
Reconciliation ~ Saturday 3 to 3:45 PM; also by appointment; **Marriage** ~ Couples are asked to call the parish office at 978-372-2780 at least 6 months prior to the planned wedding date; **Baptism** ~ 2nd Sunday of each month @ 1 PM Contact the parish office at 978-372-2780 for more information

Grades K to 4: Sunday, 9:00 AM to 10:25 AM
Grades 5 to 10: Sunday, 5:30 PM to 6:55 PM
Classes meet every other week in the lower Church hall
Phone: 978-521-4557
Administrator: Reneé Barrick
 (rbarrick@parishmail.com)
Safety Coordinator K to G 3: Kim Shapiro
 (kshapiro@parishmail.com) **Safety Coordinator G 4 to 6:** Jennifer Connolly **Safety Coordinator G 7:** Deacon Tom Anthony

Parish Contact Information

Address: 110 Lincoln Ave, Haverhill, MA 01830
Phone: 978-372-2780 **Fax:** 978-469-0947
Website: www.stjohnhaverhill.org
Pastor: Fr. Keith LeBlanc (stjohn@parishmail.com)
Permanent Deacon: Tom Anthony (978-973-0437; razorsedge1970@aol.com) **Secretary:** Diane Forte (dforte@parishmail.com) **Pastoral Council:** Deacon Tom Anthony, Bill Bibeau, Donna Bibeau, Joann Corthell, Linda LeBlanc, Celeste McCusker, Joan Pechnik, Mary Peel, Anne Six & Bill Vlahos **Finance Council:** Deborah Conner, Mary Duchemin & John Stevens **Activities Committee** (stjohnactivitiescommittee@parishmail.com) ~ Roberta Alicata, Deacon Tom Anthony, Donna Bibeau, Sue Brewster, Betty Burrill, Don Clough, Pauline Clough, John Connor, Kathy Connor, David Corthell, Joann Corthell, Mary Duchemin, Celeste McCusker, Barbara O'Shea, Joan Pechnik, Mary Peel, Frank Perra, Joan Perra, Margaret Pfifferling, Eileen Sarcone, Joe Sarcone, Anne Six, Matthew Timony, & Bill Vlahos **Youth Group** ~ Leslie Crowe (stjohnyouthgroup@parishmail.com) **Health Ministry** ~ Donna Bibeau (dbibeau@parishmail.com) **Prayer Shawl Ministry** ~ Donna Bibeau, Diane Forte, Celeste McCusker, Barbara O'Shea, Kay Poole, & Marsha Tartaglia

Welcome to St. John the Baptist. We're glad you are here to celebrate Mass with us today. If you are new to our parish or haven't been here in awhile, *WELCOME*. If you would like to register as a parish family, registration forms can be found at the back of the Church. You can either mail it to the Rectory or drop it in the collection basket. God Bless.



From the desk of Father Keith...

Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

It seems it is very easy for people to judge very quickly when a person of popularity or fame has committed an act that we would right away acknowledge as a grave sin in our societal lifestyle. How do we perceive these people against our own values? Are we ready to forgive them? Are we ready to give them another chance? Can we accept their apology as really being one of sorrow? In fact, very few of us are willing to forgive unless first there is contrition, tears, and words that show that person is truly sorry.

In today's Gospel from Luke we are presented a similar situation; not that much different from our modern way of living and judging. We have a sinful woman, with a very suggestive lifestyle. She was unescorted. She was touching men in public. She had let her hair down in public. Because no "proper" woman of Jesus' day did these things. Her actions suggested sinfulness in the area of sexuality. But Luke does not tell what that sin is. Luke avoids telling us of it altogether. He somehow wants to see if the reader can make a fair and accurate judgment of this woman. Luke does not present the woman in making her "confession." Not only does he not reveal the woman's sin, he does not even show her making an act of contrition. Luke wants us to assume that the woman's act of anointing of Jesus' feet was an act of contrition. Even though Jesus had yet to say, "Your sins are forgiven you," she had in some way already felt God's forgiveness! This woman's motivation was love!

What we see is her response to having been forgiven, not a begging for forgiveness.

Jesus offered forgiveness without even being asked for it! How are we to deal with this kind of forgiveness? Something stirred this woman to seek out Jesus. In doing only this she came to experience a sense of forgiveness. When she found Jesus she didn't have to ask for forgiveness. She had already had gratitude to express, something entirely different from having to beg for forgiveness. We so often misunderstand God's desire to forgive that we even think we hear the misunderstanding at Mass. At the beginning of Mass we hear, "Lord Have Mercy!" "You were sent to heal the contrite" is usually the phrase said by the priest. Sometimes we hear it differently. We will hear instead "Lord we are sinners in need of your forgiveness. Lord have mercy." The "Kyrie" (from the original Latin) is part of the penitential rite as an act of praise and it's about God. We are to give praise and show gratitude for God's forgiveness and mercy, and not turn it around and make ourselves the subject saying "we" or "I."

Yet we know God forgives before we even ask, and even when we don't ask. We must stop our own judgment of others. We must stop committing what all others always seem to point out. We must just simply praise God for Divine Mercy. We don't know when we will truly need it.

God Bless, Father Keith

Readings for today's Mass begin on page 181 of the *2010 Breaking Bread Missal*. Proper parts of the Mass begin on page 3.

Join Deacon Tom Anthony for **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** followed by **Evening Prayer** on **Tuesdays at 6:30 PM.**

Morning Prayer Service with Deacon Tom will be every **Thursday at 9 AM.** All are welcome.



This weekend there will be two collections—our regular Sunday Offertory and the Special Monthly Collection.

Next weekend there will be two collections as well—our regular Sunday Offertory and a Father's Day Collection to support the Clergy Benefit Trust Funds.

The special collection for the Clergy Funds supports the healthcare and retirement needs of priests throughout our Archdiocese. We ask that you give generously to the priests who have devoted their lives to faithfully serve God and the good work of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity.

Tickets for this year's Catholic Parishes of Haverhill **Annual Raffle** are in the mail. The drawing will be held at St. James Church on



Sunday, July 11 at 1 PM. Please be sure we have your correct mailing address on file.

Grand Prize is \$5,000 CASH! Second prize is \$500; third prize is \$250 and a bonus prize of \$250 to the seller of the winning ticket for the Grand Prize. Start selling your tickets today! Cost is \$5 per ticket or \$25 for a book of six...*get one free!* You may also purchase just some of the tickets in your book. Please send back any unused tickets with your return envelope. Good luck to all!!

Tickets will also be available for purchase at our Annual Parish Picnic or through Mary Peel.

Due to a **shortage of food at the local food pantry** we support, **St. John's will be accepting donations every weekend.** Please leave your non-perishable items at the back of the church. Thank you.

Have you been called to serve Christ? Do you want to help your parish and church?

If you answer "**yes**" to either of these questions, take a moment out of your day and have a cup of coffee and a conversation with Deacon Tom Anthony. Call him anytime at 978-973-0437.

Please pray for all those who are sick or in need and especially for...



- Alban, Alex, Ann S., baby Angelina, Barbara, Bernie, Carmine, Cathy, Celeste, Cristina, Danny, Eleanor, Elizabeth P., Ernest J., Florence L., Francis D., Fr. Fred, Gage, Jeannette S., Fr. Jim, John C., John P., Kathy, Kathleen, Lenny, Linda, Logan, Lorraine, Louise, Fr. Marc, Marguerite, Marion, Mary, Mary R., Mary S., Mary Z., Melissa, Mike, Rita, Ron S., Rose, Russell, Stephen, Susan B., Tom, Wally, William & Yvonne*



Please pray for all those in the United States Armed Services who are serving our country at home and abroad and especially for...

- Alan, Allan, Angela, Christopher, Colin, Douglas, Eric, Josh, Joshua, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Rick & Rob*

Please pray also for their families and loved ones.

*Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families
For the selfless acts they perform
For us in our time of need.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Our Lord and Savior. Amen.*



**PLEASE PATRONIZE
OUR ADVERTISERS**



On **Sunday, June 13**, we will be having a

Registration Celebration

after the **10:30 AM Mass** for Vacation Bible School. Please join us to find out more about this exciting ministry here at Saint John's. Pizza, soda and refreshments will be served!!

St. John's **Vacation Bible School** will be the week of **August 2 to August 6** from 9 AM to 12 noon. Preschoolers to those children who will be going into Grade 4 in September are invited to participate. Tuition is \$35 for the first child in your family with a family cap of \$60.

Our VBS "campers" will be learning about the life of Jesus, making crafts, having snacks and participating in fun activities. On Friday evening, we will have a family event to celebrate all the children have shared during the week.

Registration is on-going through Reneé in our CCD office @ 978-521-4557 or rbarrick@parishmail.com, Diane in the Rectory at 978-372-2780 or dforte@parishmail.com or at the *Registration Celebration*. A \$10 deposit will reserve a spot. Deposit will be applied towards total fee. Reservations will be accepted through July 18. The balance of tuition is due by July 18. Join us!!

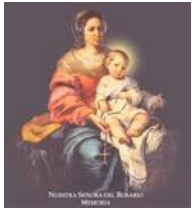
In celebration of our 55th Anniversary, the **2010 Annual Parish Picnic** will be a two-day event this year.

Saturday, June 26, will be an adult only event beginning at 7 PM in the church parking lot. Bring an appetizer to share and your own beverages. A DJ will be provided. There will be an at-will donation to cover expenses.

Sunday, June 27, will be a family, fun-filled event after the 10:30 AM Mass also in the church parking lot. There will be lots of games, rides and food. This year we will also have a "Dunk the Deacon" tank for a nominal fee of \$1 per ball. Please bring a dish to pass (pasta, macaroni, potato or garden salad, cole slaw, baked beans, etc.) or a finger-type dessert (cookies, cupcakes, brownies, congo bars, etc.) **Tickets for the Sunday event will go on sale after all Masses beginning this weekend.** Cost is \$5 per adult; \$3 for children 12 and under.



For more information on our parish or any of our parish ministries, please visit our website at www.stjohnhaverhill.org



St. John the Baptist's ministry devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary will offer the **Rosary every Saturday morning at 10 AM** in the main church. Everyone is welcome.

Coffee and light refreshments will follow in the lower church hall. Rosaries and handouts will be available for those who are unfamiliar with this beautiful devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Come and pray with us.

*O holy Mary, my Mistress,
Into your blessed trust and special blessing,
Into the bosom of your tender mercy,
This day, and every day of my life
And at the hour of my death,
I commend my soul and body;
To you I entrust all my hopes and
consolations,
All my trials and miseries,
My life and the end of my life,
That through thy most holy intercession
And your merits,
All my actions may be ordered
And disposed according to your will
And that of your Divine Son, Jesus. Amen.*

Readings of the Week

Sunday, June 13

2 Sm 12:7-10, 13/Gal 2:16, 19-21/Lk 7:36—
8:3 or 7:36-50

Monday, June 14

1 Kgs 21:1-16/Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday, June 15

1 Kgs 21:17-29/Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday, June 16

2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, June 17

Sir 48:1-14/Mt 6:7-15

Friday, June 18

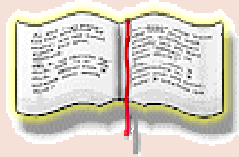
2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday, June 19

2 Chr 24:17-25/Mt 6:24-34

Sunday, June 20

Zec 12:10-11; 13:1/Gal 3:26-29/Lk 9:18-24



Many Sins, Great Love

By Scott Hahn

In this Sunday's readings we are like the fallen king, David, and the woman who weeps at Jesus' feet.

Like David, the Lord has rescued us from sin and death, anointed us with His Spirit in baptism and in confirmation. He has made us heirs of His promise to the children of Israel.

And like David, and like the woman in the Gospel, we fall into our sin. Our crimes may not be as grave as David's (see 2 Samuel 11:1-26) or as "many" as that woman's (see Luke 7:47).

But we often squander the great gift of salvation we've been given. Often we fail to live up to the great calling of being sons and daughters of God.

The good news of today's readings, the good news of Jesus Christ, is that we can return to God in the sacrament of confession. Each of us can repeat Paul's wondrous words in this week's Epistle: "The Son of God has loved me and given Himself up for me."

Our faith will save us, as Jesus tells the woman today. Our faith that no matter how many our sins, or how serious, if we come to Him in true sorrow and repentance we will hear His words of forgiveness. Like David. Like the woman in the Gospel this Sunday.

We hear David's heartfelt confession in the First Reading. The Psalmist, too, confesses his sins to God. And we hear our Lord's tender words of mercy and pardon in the Gospel.

By His word of healing and His promise of peace, He makes it possible for us to join Him at the banquet table of the Eucharist.

We can't be like the Pharisee in the Gospel. We should never disdain the sinner or doubt the Lord's power to convert even the worst of sinners.

Instead we should pledge today to better imitate that sinful woman. In gratitude for the debt we've been forgiven, let us promise to live by faith and for God alone. Like her, let us devote our lives to serving Him with great love.

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com*