

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

July 30, 2023

58 Elm Street
Claremont, NH 03743



St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Pastor, Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

sebaafri@comcast.net or 603-542-9518

Parish Finance Council

Rick Logan, Chairman
David Smith
Sharon Wood

Music Director

Richard Brown
Organists
Tristan Smith
Deborah Stone

Parish Office Hours

Wednesday, August 2 603-542-5732 6:30pm to 7:30 pm

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

July 30 9:15 am

For the soul (†) of Lucille Merchant
requested by Roy and Deborah Stone

Wed. August 2 5:00 pm

For the soul (†) of John Barth
requested by Connie Barth

Feast of the Transfiguration

Sunday, August 6 9:15 am

For the soul (†) of Raymond Janelle
requested by his family

There will be no 2nd Collection today.

Offertory July 23, 2023

Offertory	\$535.00
Candles	\$89.00
Church Maintenance	\$364.00
Mass stipends	\$ 20.00
Total	\$ 1,008.00
Upcoming Collections	
Fuel	Aug. 13
Ongoing Collections	
NH Catholic Appeal (19 donors)	\$2,041.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$5,710.00

Homebound?
 Schedule a visit with
 Fr. Sebastian on the 2nd
 Monday of the month:.
 Call
 St Mary Parish Office
 603-542-9518
 or email
sebaafri@comcast.net

**Confessions
 at St. Mary Church**
 Fridays
 9:30 am
 Saturdays
 3:00 - 3:45pm

Choir Rehearsal
Wed. Aug. 2 at 6:30 pm
 New members welcome!

Bulletin Deadline
 Send information to be
 included each week to
 stjosephsclaremont
 @gmail.com
 by 3pm on Tuesday.
Our current bulletin
 is available online at
[https://www.jppc.net/
 onlinebulletins/
 9021template.pdf](https://www.jppc.net/onlinebulletins/9021template.pdf)

WHEN WRITING CHECKS
 to St. Joseph Church,
 please mark the name of
 the collection
 (Offertory or Specific
 Collection) to be sure it is
 put in the right place.

Safety and Security
 Please remember to lock
 your car doors while at-
 tending any event in the
 church.

THANK YOU for your generosity
 to our Church and our Diocese!


Please remember
 St. Joseph Church In your will

The Sanctuary Lamp burns 24/7 near the
 tabernacle in all Catholic Churches in
 honor of the True Presence
 of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
 It burns this week in memory of
 Lucille Merchant
 requested by Roy and Deborah Stone



To schedule an intention for the
 Sanctuary Lamp, ask Sharon
 Wood if the date is available.
 (603-542-6454) or
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com
 After you have confirmed the
 date, a donation of \$10 may be
 placed in an envelope marked
 Sanctuary Candle and the
 intention, the confirmed date,
 your name and contact
 information, and put into the
 collection basket.

Prayer List
 Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert
 Fr. John Loughnane
 Chris Currier
 Carol Girard
 Isabella Gowell
 Deborah Hemingway
 Brenda Ruest
 Janet Ruest
 Roger Sheehan
 Barbara Trask
 Chee Chee Tyrrell



For Catholics

www.mycatholic.life

One of the best ways to learn is to ask questions. Interestingly, the most significant summary of our Catholic faith was written by St. Thomas Aquinas (called the *Summa Theologica* – Summary of Theology) and is set up in a question-and-answer format. It's hard to believe an answer if you don't understand the question it is addressing. The Q&A below is no *Summa Theologica*, but hopefully some of these reflections will answer questions that are important to you.

Q. In church we are told to raise our arms during the Our Father. I am still struggling with why this is done only at Mass. Nowadays some raise their hands, others don't. Which is right?

A. This is a good and practical question; many share your confusion. In some churches, everyone holds hands during the Lord's Prayer; sometimes the congregation raises both hands at the doxology at the end of the prayer; and in some churches, no one does either. So what's correct?

Let's start with the value of holding hands while praying and even raising hands during prayer. From there, we can look at doing this within the Liturgy itself.

It's worth noting that the priest raises his hands in prayer as part of the liturgical rite. The raising of one's hands in prayer is spoken of in the Psalms and is a very holy act. There is nothing wrong with it, and in fact, there is something very holy about this external posture when it is expressing an interior intention. The interior intention that raised hands represents is that of worship and openness to God. It's a sign of abandonment to God and surrender to His holy will. So raise your hands high when you pray, especially when alone.

As for holding hands during prayer, there are certainly very appropriate times to do so. This is an external sign indicating that you are united with those with whom you are praying. Oneness comes primarily through our joint union with God, but oneness is also expressed externally at times by the joining of hands or the raising of hands together. This is especially the case among family members and close friends.

But now to the point of the question. What about doing these practices within the Liturgy? Is this good? The problem we face with this question has to do with the importance of uniformity within the Liturgy. Liturgical prayer is intended to unite us on a spiritual level. But the external unity is also important. Therefore, it's important that we strive to pray in union with what we call the rubrics of the Mass.

As for the rubrics at the time of the Lord's Prayer, there is no instruction given to the congregation to hold hands or to lift them at that time. It's not that it is a bad idea, it's just that it's not in the rubrics. Therefore, it seems best to refrain from this act if it is a distraction or imposition on others. For example, to grab a stranger's hand next to you during the Lord's Prayer might be well-intentioned, but is not part of the Mass rubrics, so it should be avoided.

One suggestion is that if this is a local custom and is expected, feel free to just go with the direction the priest gives. If he asks you to hold hands or to raise them, then it's fine to do so. The priest should offer some guidance on this but if he doesn't, try to keep it discreet among family members if this is your family practice. Ideally, the universal Church will eventually offer some direction on this so that all confusion is avoided.

Today's Mass Readings are found on page #626

Prayer Cards are in each Missal for your convenience. Please do not remove them.

Cards to take home are available at the back of the church.

HYMNS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Entrance Hymn: No. 404
"This Day God Gives Me"

Offertory Hymn: No. 311
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Communion: (Choir)

Recessional Hymn: No. 335
"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

CHURCH SUPPER

Saturday August 5th

4:30 – 6:30 pm

St Joseph Church Hall

Elm St

Claremont, NH

Chicken Cacciatore,
Pasta, Vegetable, Salad,
Dessert, and Beverage

\$15.00

Dine In or Take Out



PENNY SALE

Sunday - August 20, 2023 - 1:00 PM
(doors open at 12 noon)

St. Joseph Church Hall

Over 100 Prizes - Refreshments

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**Our next Coffee Hour
after Mass on Aug. 13**

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jppcadvertising.com

**Wednesday, Aug 2, 6:30 pm in the gym
Kick-off Meeting for
St. Mary Annual Yard Sale
to be held**

Saturday August 26th 8AM to 2PM

Volunteers needed. Please help if you can!
Contact: Norma Limoges @ (603) 542-2916

Details of items accepted and
times of drop-off may be seen in St Mary's bulletin
<https://www.stmaryparishnh.org/Resources/Sunday-Bulletin>

Feast Days and Memorials

July 31 : St Ignatius of Loyola, 1491-1556, Priest

Patron of soldiers, teachers, the Society of Jesus

This Spanish priest, along with Peter Faber and Francis Xavier, was one of the founders of the Society of Jesus, (the Jesuits) who are dedicated to teaching and missionary work. What a change from his early life, when he was obsessed with heroic tales of El Cid, Knights of the Round Table and the romance of chivalry! His youthful military career and dissolute living ended when he suffered injury in battle, and then experienced a spiritual conversion during his recovery. Riches and dreams of glory were replaced by a desire to study religious texts and the lives of the saints. A vision of the Virgin Mary and Infant Jesus while on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land led him to hang his sword and dagger at the shrine of Santa Maria de Montserrat and turn his life around.

Aug 1: Alphonsus Ligouri, 1696-1787, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Alphonsus Maria de Ligouri was born near Naples, Italy, the son of a captain in the Royal Navy and a very devoted mother from a noble family. He honored his father's wishes by becoming a lawyer, but left that profession to enter the priesthood, dedicating himself to the poor and most abandoned. He was known to be a brilliant preacher, spiritual writer, composer, musician, artist, poet, scholastic philosopher, and theologian. He founded the order known as the Redemptorists and the author of the traditional Stations of the Cross meditations.

Aug 2: St Eusebius of Vermeccelli, 283-371 Bishop

When Constantine declared Christianity as state religion in 313, there was widespread hope among the faithful that persecution of Christians would end. But many of those who adopted the religion did so only for political reasons, without understanding or truly believing. This led to the rise of numerous heresies, such as Arianism, which claimed that Jesus was not God. Powerful Arians with armies under their command were a threat to true Christianity. Eusebius, a historian, was considered to be one of the most learned Christians of his time. Sent to a council in Milan where he tried to secure a peaceful settlement with Arians, Eusebius staunchly defended supporters of Christianity. He and others suffered exile and torture for their beliefs, leading some to describe him as "a latter-day Saint Paul traveling all over in order to strengthen the faith and spread the truth."

Aug 2: St Peter Julian Eymard, 1811-1868, Priest

This French Catholic priest was the founder of two religious institutes: the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament for men and the Servants of the Blessed Sacrament for women. Throughout his life, Eymard was in poor health, particularly 'weakness of the lungs' and migraine headaches. He had an deep devotion to Mary, the Mother of Jesus and worked to promote devotion to her and to the Eucharist, particularly through the Forty Hours. Named as Provincial of the Society at Lyon in 1844, he was in charge of the Third Order of Mary, a lay group dedicated to Marist spirituality and to the promotion of the Christian family. St. John Vianney was a member. Learning of the practice of sustained eucharistic worship during a visit to Paris, he established the "Society of the Blessed Sacrament", a fraternity promoting adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. His work began with children preparing for first Holy Communion and extended to non-practicing Catholics, encouraging their repentance, absolution and to once again receive Communion. "You take Communion to become holy, not because you already are."

Aug 4: St John Vianney 1786-1859, Priest

The fourth of six children born to a French farming family, John Vianney was raised in a pious Catholic home. The family often helped the poor and when St. Benedict Joseph Labre made his pilgrimage to Rome, he stayed in the Vianney home. Young John witnessed the bravery of priests during the French Revolution when they had to work in secret or face execution. Drafted into Napoleon Bonaparte's army, John found that his status as a seminarian did not exempt him from military service. Stricken with illness after only a few days, he was led to safety in the mountains with other military deserters in hiding. For 14 months he ran a school for children in a nearby village, until deserters were granted amnesty and Vianney could return to his seminary. He became a deacon and well-known as Fr John Vianney of Ars, where he established a home for girls. Many thousands of the faithful made the pilgrimage to Ars to see him. A champion of the poor, he left behind a legacy of faith and charity.



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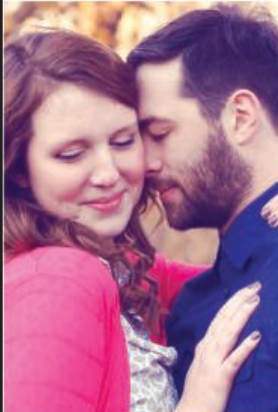
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