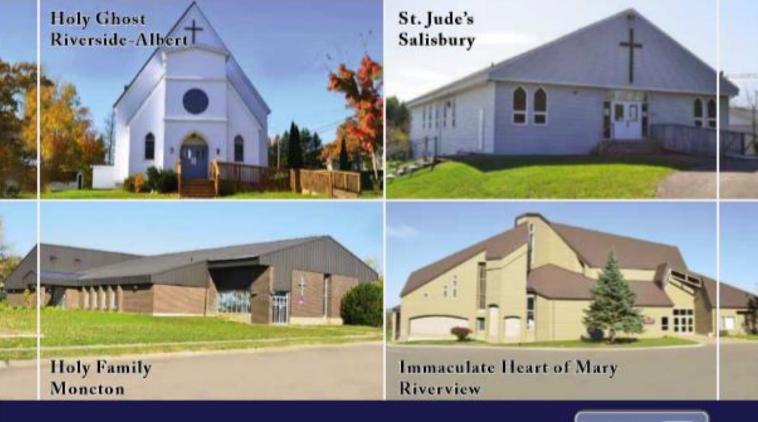


St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish

Mission Statement:

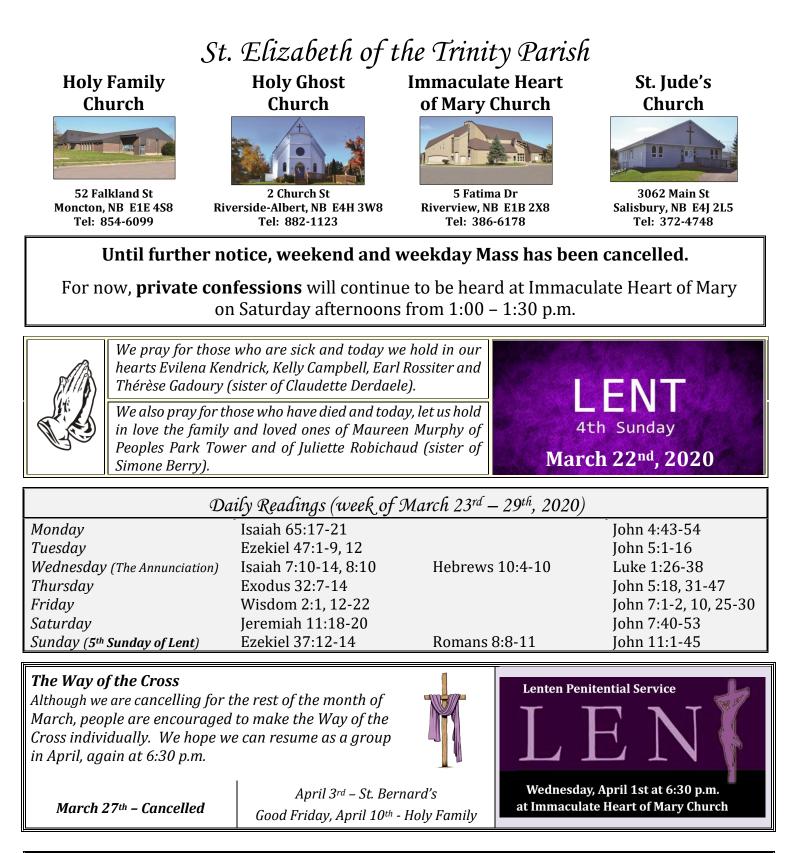
All Are Welcome! Rooted in the Roman Catholic tradition, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity is a faith Community working to bring about the fullness of the Kingdom of God. As Christians, we share the mandate to worship God, to celebrate the liturgy, to teach Christ's gospel message, to be in service to one another, and to build up faith in all people. We believe in using our time, talent, and treasure to strengthen our parish by responding to the needs of others and being supportive, compassionate and caring Christians in our diocese and in the world.



Regional Parish Office

5 Fatima Dr., Riverview, NB (506) 386-6178 Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm info@setmoncton.com | www.setmoncton.com





Did you know? Blindness manifests itself in many different ways: closed mindedness, lack of belief, fear, an air of superiority. Lent can be a time of enlightenment: light to see the way God sees, to love with God's heart expanding our vision and our response to the needs of others - changing the world.

Psalm 119:114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE #1

Ahoy, dear parishioners, we are living in a very different and almost surreal moment of history. So much of our personal and collective routines, both as Church and within the greater society, have been upended by something that cannot be seen with the naked eye. How could something so small cause such catastrophic effects throughout the entire world? I do not know. But what I am reminded of, as we all hunker down, is how fragile and vulnerable and interconnected we all are. This is not a new way of describing ourselves, but the pandemic has brought this awareness to the surface like never before.



As you already know, Bishop Vienneau, and the bishops of New Brunswick, have suspended weekend and weekday Mass until further notice. They have no more of a crystal ball than the health authorities do when it comes to predicting when we can once again gather for Eucharist and get on with life as usual. For now, all gatherings, no matter how small, have been postponed until further notice. This includes committee meetings and any group gatherings in our church buildings and halls. However, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church will remain open as usual for individuals to come in and pray during these trying times. Continually, we will be re-evaluating the situation based on good judgment, common

sense, and what the health authorities deem safe. In other words, we will err on the side of safety and caution. Most, if not all, seniors' complexes, nursing homes, and hospitals are closed except for immediate family members. This makes pastoral care to the sick and shut-ins difficult, if not impossible. If you are one of these people, who appreciated the visit of a priest or one of our pastoral care team members, I feel for you. You are not forgotten. You are still important to us. You are held in prayer. Ah, prayer! It is the one thing we can all do under any circumstance that still costs nothing. Prayer can be small like a virus, but it's always more subversive and contagious.

Faith is rarely created in times of crisis, but it's always tested there. Lean on your faith; that is why it's there. Scripture always has a way of coming alive in my own life whenever I am facing a personal struggle or challenge. And although the gospel readings we have during Lent are powerful, this particular Easter gospel reading is speaking to me now. It is the Risen Lord addressing Peter on the shore of Galilee. I have included my own additions. *"Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger (before coronavirus) you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished (work, stores, church, restaurants, social events). But when you grow old, (since the epidemic hit) you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (Jn. 21:18).*

COVID-19 may seem to be taking all of us to places where we never wished to go. The idea of being led rather than leading, the idea of having your life in someone else's hands, the idea of losing control, are all challenges to our so-called "independence." Can we trust in these times that our lives are, not only in the hands of a virus, but more importantly in the hands of God? I do not believe God is sending us a virus to teach us a lesson nor to punish us. But I do believe God is speaking to us through these trying times. Without belittling the human loss and suffering of many, I think this could be an opportunity. Yes, an opportunity to slow down, to listen to God, to break with routine, to re-evaluate what is really important, and to respond with the faith we always had. We may have to practice social distancing, but there is not social distancing on God's side. God is as close to us as ever. I miss you all and can't wait until we can all gather again around the Lord's Table.

In. H

Exploring Our Faith TIME OUTSIDE TIME

Where does one begin, as we sit where we sit right now? Two weeks ago, we watched with interest as Covid-19 continued to spread. I, ashamed as I am to admit it today, was one of the naysayers – 'the media is blowing this out of proportion.' Yet, now here we are, a country - nay a world as there seems not to be one country in the world that has not been affected – watching, waiting, hoping, despairing, anxious. We are a world in angst.

On this coming Sunday, the fourth of Lent, we will be unable to gather with our communities of worship to pray together, arguably at a time when we would most want to. Yet listen to the responsorial psalm this Sunday: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." This psalm, used often at funerals to bring comfort to those grieving, could not have come at a better time in our liturgical calendar. Coincidences, I have heard it said, are God's way of remaining anonymous. Maybe not so anonymous after all.

"Who sinned," we hear in the Gospel from John. Who did sin, we wonder? Because even though we



know, scientifically and theologically, that Covid-19 has nothing to do with sin, ours or anyone else's, many of us still go there. We want ... we need to have an explanation, and the simple explanation - that sickness happens, and that the travelling world we are today aides and abets the passing on of our contagious viruses - is not one we are prepared to accept. This is clearly evidenced by the thousands who continued to travel as concerns around the spread of Covid-19 were rising.

"Night is coming when no one can work," the Gospel continues. Our son Marc, works (or better stated, worked, and hopes to again) at Casino NB. I write this the day after Casino NB has temporarily suspended all operations per direction of the NB government. Schools and day-cares are closed for at least two weeks, businesses across the country have closed – some ordered to, some choosing to. Marc is one of many who has been laid off because of these closed businesses or reduced business, as we struggle to contain the spread of this disease in our part of the world. He expresses, with his constant, repetitive questions, expressions of anxiety, puzzling through a situation he cannot understand or accept on any level, what many of us feel: What is going to happen now? How long will this last? And a culture which is not used to being unable to find the answers to all their questions, must accept, however unwillingly, that we don't know.

The same God who tells us "night is coming when no one can work" also responds "neither this man nor his parents sinned." "The opposite of faith is not doubt, but certainty … faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns." (Anne LaMott) Right now we are unable to do anything but live in the mess, the discomfort, the unknowing – doing our part to 'flatten the curve,' accepting the challenge of being still, being home, being safe, being patient.

God is with us in this also the psalmist assures us. Iconic songwriter Leonard Cohen sang, "there is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in." (*Anthem*, 1992). And so we wait ... yet again ... for the light.

Ellen Bennett Archdiocese of Moncton Office of Faith Development

Catechism

All Catechism activities are currently cancelled until March 30th.



Vacation Bible School – set for last week of June!

Karen needs your 'pop up' dishwashing liquid tops for our upcoming **Vacation Bible School**! Please start to save yours and then bring them in. This is the kind where you pull up on the little top to allow the soap out. Thank you!



The COVID-19 pandemic has made it abundantly clear - each of us is part of the human family and we are all interconnected and interdependent. *Loving our neighbour,* something we are called to do as Christians, must take its rightful place in the priorities of our lives.

Solidarity is a recognition that we are 'all in this together.' *Solidarity* is a commitment to strengthen community and to promote a just society.

The Development and Peace Solidarity Sunday will be celebrated on March 29th! Despite there being no Masses celebrated as this time, we appeal to your generosity. Two weeks ago, as an insert, every bulletin contained a Solidarity Sunday envelope. Please use it and mail in your donation. Your neighbour needs you. Your global neighbour depends on you. Thank you and God bless you.

This Share Lent, let's stand in solidarity with the defenders of the Earth

Development and Peace

This year, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is encouraging us to support all those in the Amazon and the Global South who are caring for God's creation. How can we help?

- 1. Donate online at devp.org/give or give during the Solidarity Sunday collection on March 29th. Your generosity helps support over 149 projects in 36 countries around the world!
- 2. Read Development and Peace's Share Lent literature (in last week's bulletin) and watch the videos to learn about, and hear from, the guardians of the Earth.
- 3. Sign the Solidarity Letter addressed to two embattled Brazilian communities at devp.org/act. For more information, please contact Al Daly at 386-2563.



March 22nd - The seringueiros: protectors in peril



On reserves created by the Brazilian state, the seringueiros tap rubber trees and gather nuts and fruits for subsistence. But their lands are now coveted by powerful loggers, hunters, ranchers, soybean farmers, etc. They are facing increasing threats, intimidation and persecution. Despite these hardships, the seringueiros prefer remaining in place to tend their beloved forest. Development and Peace's partner, the Pastoral Land Commission (CPT), supports the seringueiros by documenting violations of their rights and by helping them legally contest the seizure of their lands. "Those who want to help us should immediately come to see what is happening here so that we may keep the forest standing." – Ederson Chaves Dias, seringueiro, Angelim Reserve, Machadinho d'Oeste.

Watch the seringueiros' testimony at devp.org/campaign/seringueiros.



Life in the Spirit Seminar

Was supposed to start March 23rd.

CANCELLED

Community

NB Right to Life (Moncton Chapter)





10 Thousand Villages Fair Trade "Close-Out" Sale March 27th and 28th

Caretaker Immaculate Heart of Mary Church 5 Fatima Drive, Riverview, NB

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church is seeking a full time **Caretaker**. The Caretaker plays an integral role in the life of the parish by keeping the church buildings and property clean and maintained. Additionally, the Caretaker does set ups and take downs for events and activities in our parish. The successful candidate will be capable of physical work, independent work, and working with other staff and committee members. The tasks require the successful candidate to work both inside and outside. This position is full time with a probationary period of up to 6 months.

Qualifications:

- Physically capable of completing the work assigned
- Able to lift objects up to 50 lbs
- Previous caretaker or custodial experience is an asset

Conditions of employment:

- Must have reliable transportation
- Must pass an RCMP security clearance



References will be required (at least 2)

For more information about the position or to request a full position description, please send an email to <u>ihmc@rogers.com</u> or call 386-6178 to speak to the Business Manager.

Applicants may submit a resumé by email to <u>ihmc@rogers.com</u>, or by mail, or in person at the church office, 5 Fatima Drive, Riverview, NB E1B 2X8

Deadline for applications:March 25th, 2020Start date:April 22nd, 2020

Holy Ghost Church

Holy Ghost parishioners are still selling tickets (\$2 each or 3 for \$5) on a wonderful combination of gift cards worth \$300!! Let's make this fundraiser another wonderful success!



Holy Family and Immaculate Heart of Mary Churches

ATTENTION ALL: For the Lenten project this year, the children and parents have been asked to do acts of kindness. These acts are to bring life to another person. Since the butterfly is a symbol of resurrection, or new life, they are going to write their act on butterflies and then we will put them up. We would like to invite our church family to do this with us, so in the fover there is a basket full

of butterflies and you are welcome to take some and bring them back with your acts of kindness or how you gave someone new life.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Riverview Knights of Columbus Invitation

The Knights of Columbus are pleas the **Exemplification of CL CANCELLED** of our parish to attend and witness ite, which will take place

Sunday, March 29th at 2:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



The 40 Cans for Lent campaign is still on!

You CAN buy your cans while you do your grocery shopping and bring them to the church. A wagon will be placed in the foyer so you don't have to carry them too far.
You CAN purchase a grocery card at the church and drop it in the box provided.

Each week, a priority item for the upcoming week will be posted in the bulletin.

This coming week, we hope to collect CANNED PASTA & PASTA SAUCE



Week 3 (last week) – 128 cans! \$75 in grocery cards! We CAN still do this! Week 2 – 262 cans! \$440.00 in cash! \$50 in grocery cards! CAN you believe it? Week 1 – 142 cans! \$118.04 in cash! \$125 in grocery cards! Together, we CAN do this!



From the Offices of Faith Development, Liturgy and Youth Faith Development Ellen - 857- 9952 or <u>ellen.diocesemoncton@gmail.com</u> Trevor - 857-4879 or <u>trevord.diocese@gmail.com</u>





Given the reality of Covid-19, requests made by the Government of NB, and after meeting with Archbishop Valéry Vienneau, the Offices of Faith Development and Youth Faith Development have made the decision to suspend in-person meetings that may have been scheduled up to April 12th. Ellen and Trevor will be in contact with the various groups and committees to determine rescheduled meeting dates and times in the coming weeks.

Volunteering gives hope; only a few hours a month! "Second Chance Workshop" a non-profit agency, restores and sells used items to help unemployed people and thus increase their chances of finding a job. Trainees registered in the program are provided 5 hot lunches / week. Do you like to cook? We need you! Come visit! Jesus says, "For I was hungry and you gave me food." (Matthew 25:35) It is now for us to act to advance his reign of love! Enviro Plus - 315 Baig Boulevard, Moncton - 853-7722.

We know that you know that our parishes rely on weekly collections, so if at all possible, please continue to make your weekly contribution.

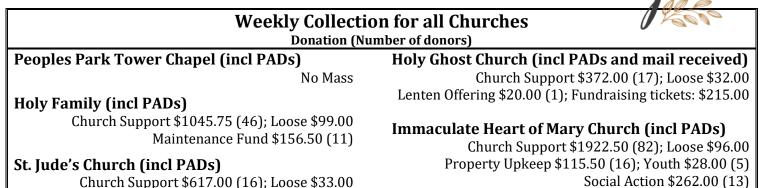
The parish office is open Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to drop off your envelope (or if you already have PAD, thank you) and you can also mail in your envelope,

use the Donate button on the website (<u>www.setmoncton.com</u>) and/or use e-transfer.

For IHMC, St. Jude's and Holy Ghost, e-transfer to ihmc@rogers.com

For Holy Family, e-transfer to <u>holyfamily.set@rogers.com</u>







With Masses being cancelled across the country, the Daily TV Mass offers Mass each day on television and on the internet.

Vision TV

Sunday - 9:00 a.m. Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m. Saturday - 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.



Salt + Light Sunday - 12:00 p.m. & 11:30 p.m. Monday - Saturday - 7:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., 11:30 p.m.

Internet <u>www.dailytvmass.com</u> www.youtube.com/dailytvmass

Atlantic Time Zone Daily TV Mass Times

Check your local listings for FaithTV and JoyTV and EWTN

When you go out

Some local grocery stores and pharmacies are doing something pretty wonderful! While stores are disinfecting and restocking shelves overnight, some are also now opening their doors early for seniors, and those with other health concerns, to give them an opportunity to shop first! This will ensure a cleaner store with fewer customers and a better, quicker shopping experience for those most affected.

Right now, these stores are dedicating the 7 – 8 a.m. morning hour for seniors and those with other health concerns:

- Shopper's Drug Mart
- Atlantic Superstore (including Pharmacy)
- Sobeys

Please note!

Pharmacies in NB have announced that patients will be given no more than 30 days' worth of prescription medication. We need to make sure that there's enough for everyone!



