



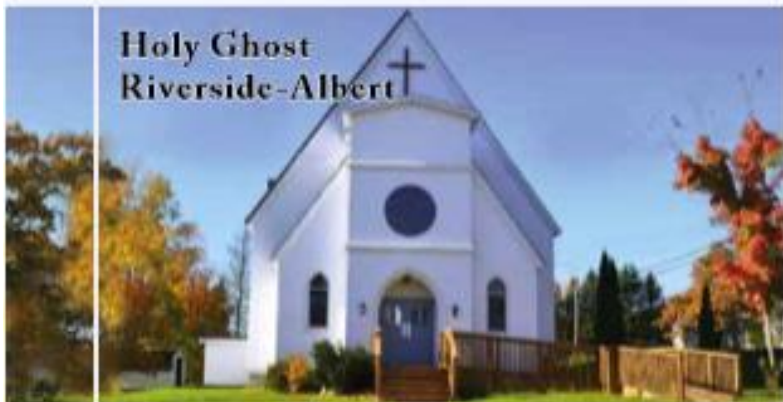
St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish

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.

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Riverside-Albert



St. Jude's
Salisbury



Holy Family
Moncton



Immaculate Heart of Mary
Riverview



Regional Parish Office

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



St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish

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Tel: 854-6099

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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



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Tel: 386-6178

St. Jude's Church



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Tel: 372-4748

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you.

In this time of anxiety, please give us strength to comfort the fearful, compassion to tend to the sick, and the ability to assure the isolated of our love and always, of your love.

In Jesus' name, Amen



Until further notice

Weekend and weekday Mass has been cancelled

Parish Office is CLOSED

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church is now CLOSED

Cathy Kennedy Lending Library is now CLOSED

**To meet with Fr. Phil, Fr. Charlie or for Confession, please call to make an appointment – 386-6178
If no answer, please leave a message. We'll be checking messages from home.**



We pray for those who are sick and today we hold in our hearts Evilena Kendrick, Kelly Campbell, Earl Rossiter and Thérèse Gadoury (sister of Claudette Derdaele).

We also pray for those who have died and today, in these times of such unrest, let us hold in our hearts the family and loved ones of Bill Wade and Bernie Touesnard.

Daily Readings (week of March 30th – April 5th, 2020)

Monday	Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-64	John 8:1-11
Tuesday	Numbers 21:4-9	John 8:21-30
Wednesday	Daniel 3:13-20, 24, 49-50, 91-95	John 8:31-42
Thursday	Genesis 17:3-9	John 8:51-59
Friday	Jeremiah 20:7, 10-13	John 10:31-42
Saturday	Ezekiel 37:21-28	John 11:45-56
Sunday (Palm Sunday)	Isaiah 50:4-7	Philippians 2:6-11
		Matthew 26:14-27, 66



The Way of the Cross

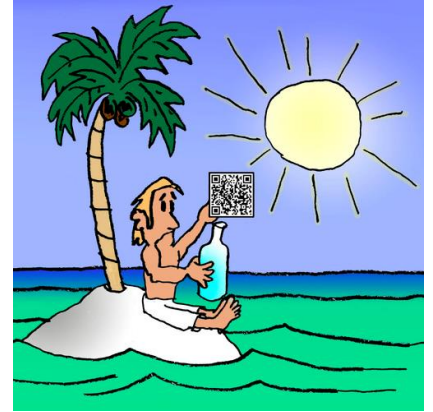
Although coming together as a faith community to celebrate the Way of the Cross has been cancelled, parishioners are encouraged to make the Way of the Cross individually.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE #2

In 1624, English poet and clergyman, John Donne (1572-1631) coined the expression, “no man is an island.” Yet, as we sequester ourselves in our homes and remain two metres apart in public, many of us are beginning to feel like little, isolated islands. I happened to cough in the grocery store the other day, and five people gave me dirty looks. (I’m used to dirty looks but not that many at the one time!) It was a little taste of what lepers would have experienced in Biblical times, except now we are all lepers. My hunch was that when John Donne wrote “no man is an island” he must have been at a low point in his life, perhaps suffering some form of isolation. Wikipedia confirmed my hunch when I read John Donne wrote this at a time when he was physically helpless from typhus.

All great prose, all great poetry, all great music, and all great pieces of art were created by men and women who were pushed to the edge, who suffered, in some sense. Suffering, whether physical, mental, or emotional, tends to make us feel isolated but also really focused in getting back to “normal” as fast as we can. When we cannot get back to our “normal,” suffering takes us to the edge and has us sit there, against our will, until the creative muses or the Holy Spirit visits us. Remember when the great prophet Elijah was hold up in a cave, God’s voice did not come to him in a hurricane, or an earthquake, or in fire; it came to him in silence (1 Kg. 19:12). He had to wait, though, and so do we.

In a similar way, while suffering and isolation can bring out bitterness, anger and self-pity, it can also bring out creativity and insights. For a family who is suffering the death of a loved one, Bible verses speak to them and name, like never before, what they are living. Right now, as we all deal with the effect of coronavirus, a couple of Scripture passages are speaking to me. They are passages I have read countless times but always from the safety of some middle ground. Now that I feel I’ve been pushed to the edge, and my safe buffer zone is diminished, these passages have come alive. It’s like they were written just for me.



The first passage I share with you is the one we hear every Ash Wednesday. Jesus says in Matthew’s gospel, **“But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father in who is in secret...”** (Mt. 6:6) Like many of you, I do feel isolated in a room with the door closed. But here’s the genius of the Christian faith: God comes to us in any and every circumstance of life...even in secret and even when it’s not our choosing. The fancy, theological word for this is incarnation--the coming of God into every facet of human life. Your room, your house, is the cave Elijah was forced to find refuge in. God’s word came to him, and it will come to us. Inner work and transformation, which is spiritual work, always seems to happen in silence.

The second passage seems personally directed at me. It would have been the long gospel reading had we been gathering for Passion/Palm Sunday. The text begins with Jesus saying at the Last Supper, **“I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”** I, too, long to drink of the fruit of the vine with you, my parishioners. And when I do, it will be a little piece of heaven, or what Jesus calls his “Father’s kingdom.”

On a more practical note, Bishop Valery has informed us that all Holy Week celebrations are suspended. He will bless the holy oils privately instead of celebrating the Chrism Mass publicly. Confessions are by appointment only, and the celebration of sacraments, when allowed, are curtailed under the strictest of guidelines. The staff, who function mostly out of the offices at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, have all been temporarily laid off. However, each one has decided to give a half day of their time (9 a.m. until noon, M-F), to keeping the church building open. If you do have business to do at the church, or if you simply want to come in and pray, we ask you to respect the social distancing we are all trying to adhere to.

Please carry in your prayers two families in our grouping who have lost loved ones and whose funerals will have to be celebrated at a later date. I especially feel for them as the normal grieving and closure processes are not available to them in the usual ways.

Keep safe. Be creative. We may have stopped “going” to church, but we never stop “being” Church. No man, woman, or child is an island.

Handwritten signature of John Donne.

Exploring Our Faith

*"I will... bring you up from your graves, O my people.
I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live..."*



Outside my window, birds are singing and tulips are poking through a small patch of warmed soil in my flowerbed. How can nature seem so predictably normal, while in our human reality nothing feels normal or solid? It's been said that humanity's true character is often exposed when confronted with great upheaval and uncertainty. I suspect the coronavirus pandemic of 2020 will prove no different when we look back in the months and years to come, and reflect on who "we became" during this time of turmoil.

For three Sundays, the gospels tell of how Jesus revealed his true identity and purpose as "living water" to the Samaritan woman at the well, "the light of the world" to the man born blind and as "the resurrection and the life" in this Sunday's story of Lazarus being restored to life. Each time, Jesus challenges those whom he encounters, to trust and to believe in the power of God working through him. As we face our present-day adversity, our own faith and trust in God's presence is also being challenged.

For some, fear may lead them to overlook the *loving* God in whom Jesus asks us to trust. They're convinced that disasters are a sign that God is punishing a sinful world. Really? Would the loving and merciful God shown to us by Jesus over and over in our gospels, sacrifice the elderly and most vulnerable to teach the world a lesson? What image of God does this "teach" us? Still others might abandon their faith in God completely, as they doubt a benevolent God would allow such disasters to even occur. For those who question God's "motive," I recall words of Fr. Ronald Rolheiser who reminds us that God promises to "redeem," not "rescue;" promising to *redeem* what is broken and fearful into something that is whole and life-giving. God did not "rescue" Jesus, nor did Jesus "rescue" Lazarus. He did redeem them, however.

Today's gospel shows God's commitment, not only to life after death, but of God's promise to bring new life and hope to all the dark places in our lives today! There are many among us who, long before they are buried in the ground, are "buried" in the darkness of anxiety, hopelessness and loneliness. I was struck by the commands Jesus gives to those around Lazarus' grave that still challenge us today: "Roll away the stone," "Come out!" and "Unbind him and let him go." Are we not also being challenged to remove the "stones" or barriers that keep people trapped in darkness, by reaching out in friendship and acts of neighbourly compassion that they may see some light in their lives?

Is Jesus not asking those who feel "buried" by overwhelming fears of the future to "Come out" into the world and share both their gifts and burdens with others, so that "burdens shared may become burdens halved?" Giving of oneself diminishes our sense of loss and nurtures gratitude for what we do have.

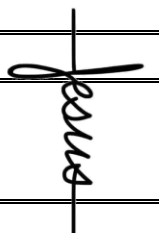
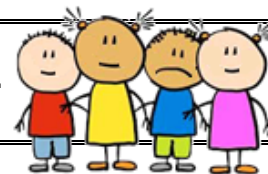
For those of us who have time, finances and prayers to offer, is Jesus not challenging us to *give of what we have* so that those who are on the front line of essential services are not "bound" in their efforts by shortages of materials or worries that their own families are not being cared for? We can *all* do something to "open the graves" of fear and hopelessness of those who are struggling the most in this newest adversity of our time.

The inevitable approach of spring reminds us all that God's gift of new life and new hope is always available to us – even if we may not always *feel* it. Jesus challenges us to trust that God is alive and working amidst us (faith), that God's redeeming love will always prevail (hope), and that we are called to be Christ to all who are most in need (charity), not just in our present adversity, but in the years to come.

Mary Joshi

Catechism

All Catechism activities are currently cancelled until further notice.



Did you know? The first of the two Greatest Commandments simplifies the first three of the Ten Commandments, defining what is expected in our human relationship with God. The second of the two Greatest Commandments, defines the last seven of the Ten Commandments, and establishes the rules for human relationships among God's people.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

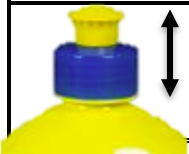
1. You shall have no other Gods before me.
2. You shall make no idols.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

4. Keep the Sabbath day holy.
5. Honour your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
10. You shall not covet.



Vacation Bible School – set for last week of June! (gotta have hope!)



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! 😊

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



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 29th – Solidarity Sunday

This Lent, give from the heart For our Common Home

This Lent, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada invites us to be in solidarity with the guardians of the Amazon rainforest and to care for our common home. On this Solidarity Sunday, we extend warm thanks for your generosity. Your donation will help our sisters and brothers across the world. Thank you for helping us build a world of peace and justice. Give to your Share Lent parish collection or at devp.org/give.

Mass for Shut-Ins is on Sundays at 11:30 a.m. on your CTV television channel!



If you have the internet, please 'Like' our Facebook page. Everyday, we will post articles of interest; prayers from Pope Francis, homilies from Fr. Phil and Fr. Charlie and words of hope and encouragement for all.  www.facebook.com/saintelizabethofthetrinity

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, our faith community has 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, everyone had been asked to write their act on butterflies and then we were to put them up in the church. Since we can no longer do that, Karen is asking people to write their acts of kindness on Facebook...then she'll write those on the butterflies and put them up! Wouldn't it be just the best to see butterflies galore when we all return to church!



Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



The 40 Cans for Lent campaign has been postponed until further notice.



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

Even though the parish office is now closed you can mail in your envelope, you can use the Donate button on the website (www.setmoncton.com) 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 holyfamily.set@rogers.com



Weekly Collection for all Churches

Peoples Park Tower Chapel

Church Support \$0.00

Holy Ghost Church

Church Support \$0.00

Holy Family (PADs)

Church Support \$220.00
Maintenance Fund \$15.00

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church (PADs)

Church Support \$1815.00
Building Fund \$55.00; Youth \$15.00
Social Action \$80.00

St. Jude's Church (PADs)

Church Support \$720.00

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you.

Psalm 143:8

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Director of Catechetics for Immaculate Heart of Mary and Holy Family Churches
Karen LeBlanc 506-387- 4198 ihmccatechism@rogers.com

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