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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



5 Fatima Dr
Riverview, NB E1B 2X8
Tel: 386-6178

St. Jude's Church



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Tel: 372-4748

Jesus, take away the fear, anxiety and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine.

Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease.

Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them. Amen

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 26th, 2020



Until further notice

Weekend and weekday Mass has been cancelled

Parish Office is CLOSED

All of our churches are CLOSED

Cathy Kennedy Lending Library is 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 regularly.



We pray for those who are sick and today, we hold in our hearts Kelly Campbell and Roy Pond (brother-in-law of Sharon McCormack).

We also pray for those who have died and today we hold in our hearts those mourning the loss of Armando Ciotti, (dear friend of Mike and Mary Ann Jeffries), those who grieve the passing of Bruce Carter, (brother-in-law of Roger Legere), all mourning the loss of Davida Creaghan (mother of the late, Tim Creaghan and sister of Mary Cunningham), the family and loved ones of beloved parishioner, Dorothy Gallant and also, all who mourn the loss of Elizabeth Gautreau, mother of Harvey Maillet.

We also pray for the victims of the mass shooting in Nova Scotia, for their families, colleagues and friends, as they grieve this heartbreaking tragedy.

LET YOUR
Faith
BE BIGGER
THAN YOUR
Fear

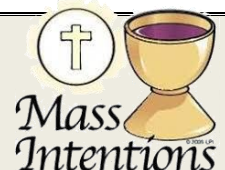
Lisa McCully, one of the victims in the mass shooting in Nova Scotia, was a teacher and volunteered as a youth leader. She had been sharing posts and videos during the COVID-19 pandemic to help lift the spirits of others. One month ago, Lisa posted this, "I challenge you to meditate or pray, keep yourself grounded in faith not fear. Let's raise the vibration of our earth. Let's take care of each other."

Upcoming Liturgies for April 26th and May 3rd, 2020

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity

Sunday, April 26th 10:00 a.m. Margaret McNeil (Anniv) – Roy McNeil

Sunday, May 3rd 10:00 a.m. Albertine Thibodeau – her husband, Joe Thibodeau



MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE #6

Just when I thought things could not get worse, with all the suffering COVID-19 has brought the world, things actually did get worse with the mass shooting in Nova Scotia this week. With 23 known dead, what great pain there must be within those families, including the family of the shooter.



When I try to ponder something that is either too good or too bad, my mind boggles, and I lose words. Even wordsmiths—writers, poets, and songwriters—often cannot find words. When words fail, then symbols, images, and rituals become the carriers of meaning. What carries meaning for me right now is the image of the butterfly, the symbol of perseverance, transformation and new life.

A few years ago, while on a men's rite of passage retreat, one of the presenters mentioned "imaginal cells". It sounds like a term from a children's storybook; but it is the actual term used by scientists.

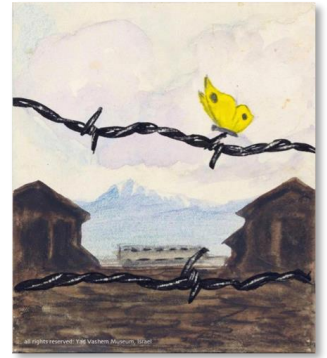
Here's the story. When a caterpillar nears its transformation time, it begins to eat ravenously, consuming everything in site. (Interestingly, we are often called "consumers" and one of the largest manufacturers of heavy construction equipment is called "Caterpillar Inc." I digress). After eating many times its body weight, the caterpillar becomes heavy and too bloated to move (much like some of us couch potatoes the last four weeks. I digress, again). Attaching itself to a branch, the outer layer of hardened skin forms a chrysalis limiting the caterpillar's freedom for the duration of the transformation. While hanging upside down, this is when the call imaginal cells, begin to appear. These caterpillar's cells that the caterpillar's and begins to destroy them. But these caterpillar cells and vibrating at a They start to clump together, resonate at from one to another. Biologists have only own unique genome (the unique genetic the caterpillar. Who would have imagined genetic makeup of another! Because of system tries to fight these imaginal cells; it thinks that a totally different organism is attacking it. Eventually, the caterpillar's immune system is overwhelmed as the imaginal cells form clumps building the new creature—the butterfly. The caterpillar's body dies and becomes a soupy, nutritious mixture necessary for the butterfly's growth. The string of imaginal cells suddenly realizes that it is something altogether different from the caterpillar. The chrysalis becomes transparent, the need for restriction has been outgrown, and the butterfly hatches. The butterfly emerges upside down but immediately turns right side up and holds its chrysalis reverently as if to say, "thank you" to where it came from.



In the autumn of 1983, while taking an introductory psychology course in college, I had decided to do a term paper on the morbid topic of death and dying. Little did I know when I chose the topic, that the world's authority on death and dying, Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, would be giving a lecture not far from the college campus. Bingo. (You may recall that this pioneering psychiatrist developed the classical stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance). Following the end of the Second World War, Elisabeth told us she felt compelled to visit a former Nazi-run concentration camp.



She visited one in Poland and there she discovered hundreds of butterflies carved into the walls of the barracks. As the Jews, and others, were led to the gas chambers, their last act of defiance was to pick up a sharp stone or a rusty nail from the ground and hurriedly carve an image of a butterfly. These final works of art, by those facing death, stayed with Elisabeth her entire life and influenced her thinking about the end of life.



While I think of the inconveniences COVID-19 has brought to my regular routines, I immediately think of those who have lost loved ones due to this pandemic. I think of the 23 people who lost their lives due to the mass shooting this week as well as their families and friends. I think of the butterflies in the concentration camps. In comparison, my little inconveniences are just that—little inconveniences. In the midst of it all, I hang on to hope. Hope always seems to present itself in the smallest form. It is like imaginal cells (butterfly cells in disguise) living in the caterpillar without the caterpillar ever being aware. The caterpillar plays host to something it initially resists and finally succumbs to—the new life it was destined for. Good Friday must succumb to Easter Sunday, just as winter must succumb to spring.

The Cross for Christians, much like the butterfly for the secular world, is the ultimate symbol of perseverance, transformation, and new life. Perhaps the butterfly isn't so secular after all. Deep was calling on deep in those dreaded barracks.

Something small and destructive is afoot in the land, an air-borne virus. Something else is also afoot in the land. This something else, like the imaginal cells, will not be deterred until its work is done. It is the Spirit of the Risen Lord. In time, this Spirit will lead us from our upside down world within our own chrysalis, to finally being right side up. And when we finally emerge from this pandemic, we might even hold reverently this time and say, "thank you" to where we came from.

Jr. P. Hill

Daily Readings for Week (April 27th – May 3rd, 2020)

<i>Monday</i>	Acts 6:8-15	John 6:22-29
<i>Tuesday</i>	Acts 7:51-60	John 6:30-35
<i>Wednesday (St. Catherine of Siena)</i>	Acts 8:1-8	John 6:35-40
<i>Thursday (St. Marie de l'Incarnation)</i>	Acts 8:26-40	John 6:44-51
<i>Friday</i>	Acts 9:1-20	John 6:52-59
<i>Saturday (St. Athanasius)</i>	Acts 9:31-42	John 6:53, 60-69
<i>Sunday (4th Sunday of Easter)</i>	Acts 2:14, 36-41	1 Peter 2:20-25 John 10:1-10

Did you know?

A faith that does not lead to some form of investment in humanity, is in need of rebirth. We fill our lives with noise and clutter, rather than sit in silence to face ourselves with loving honesty, rather than to lose ourselves in the enormity of God. Lent is not the only time to acknowledge whatever we cling to that impedes our path to God, keeping us from falling into the loving hands of God. When we lose ourselves in God, we find ourselves being born again, breathing in the Spirit, falling in love again with our sister and brothers, especially the ones who need us the most.



(2020 Sourcebook, Pg. 107)

Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful, and praising God until we ourselves are an act of praise.

Fr. Richard Rohr

Exploring Our Faith

How Are You Today?

In the midst of the strangest Easter season I have ever experienced comes the familiar story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. As I have mentioned before in these reflections, I have always viewed biblical figures as ordinary folks (like you and me) who are witness to things that are extra-ordinary. Some are able to see the significance of the moment immediately and others only in hindsight. As we meet the two disciples walking and talking along the road to Emmaus, I would invite you to think of yourself and another person close to you out for a walk when a stranger stops (six feet away) to say "Hi". In the course of your conversation, you mention something of the current pandemic, to which this person immediately replies: "What pandemic?" If we can imagine this scenario, I think it gives us a sense of the impression these two disciples would have of this stranger when he asks "What things?" The fact that they continued to listen to him is remarkable, to say the least.

Let's think for a minute of the space these two disciples would have been in that day as they were leaving Jerusalem. Their life turned upside down; everything they had believed in or hoped for, seemingly destroyed. And, although we are not told this in the story, I think worst of all, they had lost all their hope. Now, let's see what space we are in today with everything that's happening.

A quick recap of the happenings of 2020 so far, which is only 111 days old as I sit to write this: assassination of an Iranian General by the United States; Ukraine flight shot down; Australian bush fires; UK's exit from the European Union; Donald Trump impeachment trial; Corona Virus (Covid-19) pandemic and all that has gone with that; and now, the worst mass shooting in Canadian history. I don't know about you, but for me, this is a time when gathering with my faith community would really be helpful. I think I am starting to understand the dismay of the disciples.



Yet, into all of this turmoil, Jesus comes along and walks beside them to provide much needed comfort. But before he starts to talk, he invites them to tell their story; to name why they are where they are. I don't want to skip over this because I think it's important for us to name what exactly it is we are feeling **each day**. I feel that naming it, saying it in our prayer, acknowledging the anxiety, somehow helps us begin the journey to healing. Jesus walks with us always, just as he promised. But, that doesn't mean he is going to rid our lives of all problems. What it does mean is that we have an anchor. Someone we can hold on to when the waves are crashing in from all sides. Someone who assures us that no matter how rough the waters, this boat is not going down.

Jesus did not fix all the problems of these two disciples. He did not change what had happened. Their life didn't become magically easier nor did the lives of any of the early Christians. Yet, he gave them joy. He gave them purpose. He gave them a renewed resolve to carry on in the midst of the uncertainty of that first Easter season. He can and will do the same for us. Just like the Last Supper, and the meal we hear about today, he will **take** (choose) us, **bless** us, **break** us (from our anxiety and fear) and he will **give** us to others to provide peace.

In each of these trying days, I pray that we may all know the peace and joy of the risen Christ in our lives.

Mark Mahoney

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!!

The draw for this great prize will take place once we can gather together again for Mass.

This fundraiser is especially important now and so thank you for your support!

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



Knights of Columbus Council 9270 is offering 4 bursaries of \$500 each to all graduates who are children and grandchildren of fellow Knights. Application forms are at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, so if you want one, please call 386-6178 and we will place an application form in the mailbox for you to pick up. Same idea for when you want to drop it off. Applications must be received no later than May 4th.

Memorial gifts are a special way to give to the life and works of the church. These gifts can be made in memory of a loved one and they can also be made to honour a living person.

You can contact the parish office (386-6178), you can click on the 'Donate' button on our website (www.setmoncton.com) or you can e-transfer your memorial gift, if you wish to make a donation in someone's honour.



During the months of March and April 2020

At St. Jude's Church, memorial donations were made for:

Bill Dwyer by his wife, Melda Dwyer

Diane Hache by Gary and Mary Ann Griffin

Diane Hache by Ray and Eleanor Boucher



At Holy Family Church, a donation was made in honour of Armando Ciotti by Mike and Mary Ann Jeffries

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, memorial donations were made for:

Fred Kennedy by Bill and Shirley Connor

Doris Sanderson by Garth and Simone Berry



And for all of you who have found new ways to give to the church – thank you! We have received donations by drop off, in the mail, e-transfers and online. All is most appreciated and gratefully received! Give Anne a call on Monday mornings if you would like to find out alternative ways to give to the life and work of the church.

Again, thank you all.

Weekly Collection for all Churches

Holy Family and Peoples Park Tower

Church Support \$1535.50

Maintenance Fund \$34.50

Holy Ghost Church

Church Support \$785.00

Fundraiser \$105.00

St. Jude's Church

Church Support \$0.00

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Church Support \$2638.50

Building Fund \$452.50; Youth \$35.00

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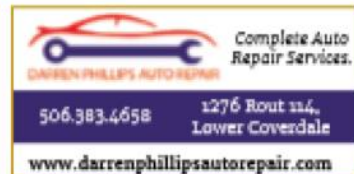


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Director of Catechetics for Immaculate Heart of Mary and Holy Family Churches

Karen LeBlanc 506-387-4198 ihmccatechism@rogers.com

Family Faith Formation


Holy Ghost Church: Teresa O'Hara - 506-882-0997

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