



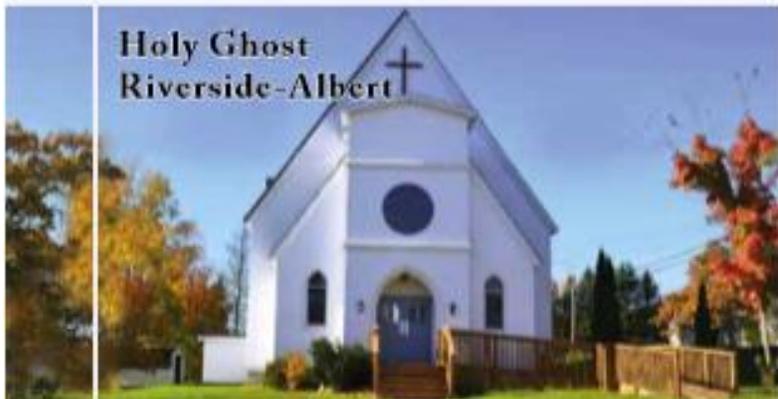
St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish

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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St. Jude's
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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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Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



5 Fatima Dr
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Tel: 386-6178

St. Jude's Church



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Tel: 372-4748

*God of compassion, be close to those who are ill,
afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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, Thérèse Gadoury (sister of Claudette Derdaele) and Roy Pond (brother-in-law of Sharon McCormack).

We pray for those who have died and today, we pray for those mourning the loss of Fr. Raymond Desjardins of Our Lady of Hope and Elsipogtog Parish Grouping.

We also pray for those who have loved ones whom right now they cannot visit or bring comfort. During the Covid-19 pandemic, let us remember these separated families. May love always find a way, even in the midst of a life-altering pandemic.

Daily Readings for Holy Week (April 6th – 12th, 2020)

Monday	Isaiah 42:1-7	John 2:1-11
Tuesday	Isaiah 49:1-6	John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday	Isaiah 50:4-9	Matthew 26:14-26
Thursday (<i>The Lord's Supper</i>)	Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14	1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Friday (<i>Good Friday</i>)	Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12	John 18:1 – 19:42
Saturday (<i>Holy Saturday</i>)	Genesis 1:1-2.2 Genesis 22:1-18	Exodus 14:15-31; 15:20 Isaiah 54:5-14
		Isaiah 55:1-11 Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4
		Ezekiel 36:16-17, 18-28
Sunday (<i>Easter Sunday</i>)	Acts 10:34, 37-43	Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18
		Matthew 28:1-10

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE #3

It is still hard for me to believe that we will not be assembling for Holy Week, the holiest week of the liturgical year for us Christians. Holy Week begins with the blessing of the palms on Passion/Palm Sunday, but it is the last three days, the Triduum, the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord that is the liturgical and spiritual pinnacle for believers.

The Triduum begins at sunset on Holy Thursday, the day we commemorate the Last Supper and, consequently, the First Eucharist. I invite you to take out your Bibles and read ahead the readings for Holy Thursday: Exodus 12: 1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15. Although they are all so rich, it is the first reading from Exodus that speaks most powerfully to me amidst this pandemic.



A little context. In the Book of Exodus, we hear about our ancestors in faith, the Hebrews, who were enslaved for about 300 years (approx. 1600-1300 B.C.E.) in Egypt under various pharaohs. God called a man named Moses to lead his people to freedom. Not an easy task. But when Pharaoh constantly refused Moses' request to **"let my people go (free),"** Moses in response threatened Pharaoh. The threats came in the form of plagues, 10 in all, each one worse than the previous one. Pharaoh remained obstinate, as God had foretold, and refused to let the Hebrews go. The last of the 10 plagues was the striking down of all first-born in Egypt, both humans and animals, Hebrews and Egyptians.

To be spared the death of their own firstborn, the Hebrews were instructed to prepare a special meal. The meal would include bitter herbs, unleavened bread and a lamb. The lamb was to be roasted and eaten. If the lamb was too much for one family, they were to invite another family to join them. Some of the blood from the lamb was to be placed upon the two door posts and the lintel of houses. Those houses marked with the blood of the lamb would have God's protection forcing the angel of death to pass over these houses thus sparing their firstborn.

How ironic are the times we live in with COVID-19. For the time being, we cannot do as our ancestors did. We cannot gather households together for a common, sacred meal. Although not all scripture scholars agree, the majority do hold to the belief that Jesus, at the Last Supper, was celebrating Passover. For he sent Peter and John to, **"Go and make the preparations for us to eat the Passover"** (Lk. 22:8). We cannot, unfortunately, gather to commemorate our own Passover.



For 1956, I thought the classic movie, "The 10 Commandments" did quite well with the special effects. In the movie the 10th plague, the angel of death, is represented as a mist moving from house to house. You cannot really see it, but its effects are deadly. Those with the blood of the lamb on their doorframes are spared; those without it are doomed. Similarly, COVID-19 is as insidious, sinister, and deadly as the angel of death. It has us hunkering down in our houses, maintaining physical distancing, and praying this virus passes over us. We are living our own Passover similar to those who celebrated that first Passover.

How were our ancestor in faith, the Hebrews, told to eat that first Passover meal? **"With a belt around your waist..."** (Ex. 12:11). Whenever I read "with a belt around your waist" it means: PREPARE TO BE LED. The Hebrew were about to be led by God. But they had to trust that God would lead them out of slavery, that God would sustain them on the journey, and that God would bring them into the land of freedom. I connect this "belt around your waist" instruction to something the Risen Lord, some 1500 years later, would say to Peter. "(Peter) **when you grow old** (when you're no longer in control and can't move about freely), **you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will put a belt around you and take you where you would rather not go**" (Jn. 21:18). Again, I think it means: PREPARE TO BE LED. The doom and gloom side of coping with this pandemic is that we are hemmed inside our houses, seemingly not in control, and hoping the angel of death can be warded off. The faith side of this is that we are being led by God—always have been and always will be.

The liberated Hebrews, venturing from Pharaoh's cruelty, had no idea where they were going. They had to trust God and support one another. In the same vein, we will get through this pandemic not by individual will power. We will get through this pandemic by grace, God's grace, and community. Yes, community. Although we cannot gather now, we are still a community. And not just any community; we are the Body of Christ. Jesus, the Lamb of God, insidious as a virus, cunning as a fox, still whispers, "Stretch out your hands...PREPARE TO BE LED."

Handwritten signature of Jn. Paul

Exploring Our Faith



IMAGINE



Imagine what it must have felt like for the apostles to follow behind Jesus entering Jerusalem as King David did, to the shouts and cheers of the crowds. Finally He (and they) were being awarded the recognition and praise that the Christ deserved. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST! What was their understanding of the Christ? I imagine that the picture most people had, and have, was much like this: a triumphant conqueror who will put everything in the world to right. He will get rid of the Romans. He will provide us with everything we need or want. Yay!

Back on the first Sunday of Lent, Satan described a very good picture of this Christ: 1. He can turn stones into bread, as the very rich can do through mining natural resources. To be a kind ruler who feeds his people, just be sure to please the wealthy; 2. He will be unassailable, for no one can hurt him no matter how boldly he acts as long as he has protective army; 3. If He does achieve those two, He will become Ruler of the World, if only he bows down to the Prince of Lies and covers up all weaknesses and crimes.

I imagine that the Temptation in the Desert actually took place in the Garden of Olives when Jesus was left alone to struggle with how to be the Christ. He was truly human. It was a real temptation. Three times He went looking for support. Finally, He accepted His own Truth that He could not use all those crutches that Satan offered.

The apostles did not get it. Even Simon who was called Peter after his great acknowledgement of Jesus as the Christ, was also called Satan by Jesus when he would not give up his own understanding of what Christ was. (Matthew 16: 18 and 22,23) On the Road to Emmaus, the Stranger explained to Cleopas and his friend how the Scriptures taught that the Christ "must suffer these things" in order to enter into his glory. (Luke 24:13-35) Even after the resurrection apostles asked Jesus, "Will you now restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6)

Those temptations in the desert seem very surreal when put into story form but they are always with us in everyday life: the temptation to lie to cover up mistakes and sins; the temptation to use force and pretend it is righteous; the temptation to put down people we think are beneath us; the temptation to do favours for the rich in the hope of getting something back, even something good for others; to seek praise by covering up our faults. One of the athletes at the Dubbin Inquiry into Steroids in Sport said, not as an excuse but an explanation, "The glory is too sweet, the money too big..." Louisa May Alcott wrote in Little Women, (Chapter 9) "Learn to value the praise which is worth having..." but do not betray yourself by pretending.

Agnes Beirne

AFTERWORD: Mark 13:5-8 is relevant today. A good leader does not lie or spread fear but gives firm, clear and honest direction. We can have faith that following the protocols will slow the pandemic; we can dare to hope that global cooperation today will light the way to slow down climate change; we can practice charity, for by protecting ourselves, we protect our neighbors and by communicating through phone and internet, we can comfort one another.

Catechism

All Catechism activities are currently cancelled until further notice.



Update: Office & Holy Week

This weekend begins the holiest week of our lives, yet we are not able to gather for it. We do continue to hold each other in prayer during this difficult crisis. That's what people of faith do. The doors of all churches, including our own office situated in Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, are locked to the public. One person on staff will continue to work 9 a.m. until noon manning the phone, replying to e-mails, and paying the bills. I do not expect them to open the door to anyone unless it's an absolute emergency.

Fr. Charlie (386-6852) and I (386-6737) will continue to make ourselves available and render sacraments under very strictest of guidelines.

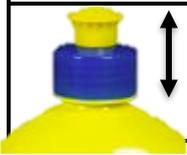
Our plan is to videotape Mass on Passion/Palm Sunday and post the video on our website (www.setmoncton.com) and on the grouping's Facebook page, but we will be unable bless the palms at that time. As with the ashes on Ash Wednesday, I know it is important for many to have a palm as a tangible sign of Lent and Holy Week, but the COVID-19 crisis will render that impossible this year. I wish we could all just jump ahead to some future time when all of this will be behind us. Until then, we do our best. Let's keep all peoples of this earth in our prayers, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Did you know?



Being a Christian is not an easy walk. We are called to do things that are hard for us to do – to stand up for what is right and good and to do things that are right, but not popular. Jesus wants us to carry the cross of doing things that are challenging. Doing difficult things can be good for us. Following Jesus is not something that happens to us, it is something we choose every day. And making our Lord Jesus Christ our refuge; we can rest in His love for us. Jesus' love and care for us is present from the moment we exist and into eternal life in Heaven. He will care for us forever. When we struggle to feel God's love for us, we can know that deep abiding love is present. God's love for us is not dependent on our feelings.

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 April 5th – Palm Sunday

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada wants to thank everyone who was able to either mail in or go online to give their Share Lent donation. Whatever money our parish grouping was able to give will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to mail your Share Lent envelope in or to donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.



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, messages and words of hope and encouragement for all.  www.facebook.com/saintelizabethofthetrinity

And if you aren't on Facebook, please visit our website at www.setmoncton.com where we are posting weekly homilies from Fr. Phil and Fr. Charlie, messages from Fr. Phil and the weekly bulletins. Go have a peak! 😊



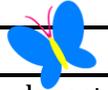
Holy Ghost Church



**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!



Thank you for being faithful with your church donations as we navigate this difficult time. Although we cannot 'pass the collection basket', you are encouraged to continue in your stewardship and make a regular offering.

Options available are:

- Postdated cheques which you can mail to the parish office or drop them off in Fr Phil's mailbox
- E-transfer: Please put your name and contact information in the message.
ihmc@rogers.com (for Immaculate Heart, St Jude's and Holy Ghost) and
holyfamily.set@rogers.com (for Holy Family)
- By credit card online through the DONATE button located on our website www.setmoncton.com
- By credit card over the phone – call the parish office on Mondays (10-11.30 a.m.) to speak with Anne Marcoux

May God bless your gifts!

Weekly Collection for all Churches

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St. Jude's Church
Church Support \$0.00

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charlesbroderick1@gmail.com

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

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

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