

Daily Readings (Week of October 26 <sup>th</sup> – November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020)			
Monday	Ephesians 4:32 – 5:8		Luke 13:10-17
Tuesday	Ephesians 5:21-33		Luke 13:18-21
Wednesday (Saints Simon & Jude)	Ephesians 2:19-22		Luke 6:12-16
Thursday	Ephesians 6:10-20		Luke 13:31-35
Friday	Philippians 1:1-11		Luke 14:1-6
Saturday	Philippians 1:18-26		Luke 14:1, 7-11
Sunday (All Saints)	Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12

# Exploring Our Faith

# TIME TO GET BACK TO THE BASICS

As I sit to write this, the date is October 19<sup>th</sup> and it has been 214 days since Premier Higgs declared a state of emergency and our province was, in effect, shut down. In church world, there have been 31 Sundays come and go since we were last able to gather as an entire faith community, and not just the ones we could fit in and respect social distancing guidelines. And now (as I write this) we are back in the orange phase, and once again cannot gather in person at all. These times have been difficult indeed, both psychologically and emotionally.

Having said that, I would like to pose the following questions: Where are we spiritually in all of this? How are we continuing to be "church" in a time when a lot of us cannot go to church? Are we still able to encounter Jesus in online worship or faith formation Zoom meetings? I would like to take a moment here and state unequivocally that, for me, the community of believers is where I find the greatest inspiration for my faith journey, so, not being able to gather as a whole has been very difficult. However, as we are taught in our liturgical documents from the Second Vatican Council, Jesus is present to us in more ways than one in our celebration of Eucharist, either online or in person.

There is a four-fold presence of Christ in every Eucharistic celebration. In the gathered Assembly, the Word proclaimed, the Body and Blood of Christ and in the Presider. These are important things to keep in mind always, but most importantly, now. While gathering as a faith community online for mass is probably not the ideal, it is still gathering. It is wonderful to see on Sunday mornings, when we are live-streaming mass from my home parish, how many people are tuned in and exchanging greetings with one another in the comment portion of Facebook. Even though we are not physically present in the church, we are still experiencing the presence of Christ in this gathered community. We also experience Christ's presence in the Word proclaimed, whether inside the church building or in the sacred space we have created in our homes. Let's not forget that if it is a space used for worship, it is indeed sacred. We still experience Christ in the Presider, who represents Jesus as he presides over the Body of Christ. And while we may feel that without being there to receive



communion, we cannot experience the presence of Christ in his Body and Blood, the truth is, the miracle of the bread and wine becoming the Body and Blood of Christ happens whether we are in the building or not. It just requires us to see it a little bit more through the eyes of faith. Instead of, "I'll believe it when I see it"; it becomes, "I see it because I believe it".

Yes these are trying times for our faith communities, but think of how much more trying for those who do

not have a faith community, or even a home. How do they experience Jesus' promise that they would never be alone? This is where we, as a community of believers, take this four-fold presence of Christ which we encounter in Eucharist, and bring it face-to-face to the *"Jesus of the bread lines"*. As St. John Chrysostom said, "if you don't find Christ in the beggar at the door, you won't find him in the chalice". This is where the rubber meets the road for those of us who call ourselves Christian. If we can get this right, then when we finally can come back together, *"tout ensemble"*, we will do so with fresh eyes and a new definition of what it truly means to be "CHURCH".

Mark Mahoney

# Reserve Your Spot

#### Please remember that you must call the parish office at 386-6178 each week to reserve the next available spot for Mass.

NOTE: The safety of our parishioners is of utmost importance and we will continue to follow all Province of NB regulations. That being said, unless you have a medical reason, masks are mandatory throughout all of Mass. (i.e. from when you come into the church, during Mass, while walking up and back to your pew for communion and then again, while exiting the church)



Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

# Catechism



We would like to extend our blessings to all of the young people who have received their First Reconciliation this past Thursday.

Jago Belanger, Nathanea Coelho, Raphael Coelho, Ethan Dionne, Joel Dickson, Landon Graham, William Murphy and Catherine Terry



#### All Souls' Day – November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (live-stream)

Each November, our grouping celebrates All Souls' Day, when we remember and honour our loved ones who passed away during the previous year. After much discussion, and to ensure the safety of all families, the decision has been made that we will not physically come together this year. Each family though, will soon receive a letter, followed by a phone call with more details, to explain how this year, the All Souls celebration will be live-

streamed and the video uploaded to YouTube immediately following the memorial. Although the church will have no parishioners physically present, the live-stream will allow all family members to share in this special evening, regardless of distance or 'bubbles' or boundaries. Uploading to YouTube will allow the celebration to be watched at any time in the future. All can be included, regardless of location and schedules.



Parishes have the custom of giving a place of honour to a book in which loved ones write the names of their beloved dead. **The Book of the Names of the Dead** would usually be displayed in each of our churches throughout the month of November but this year, we must do things differently. To that end, a new page has been created for the website that will 'scroll' the names of those who would have normally been written in the books across the churches. Please, call the office (386-6178) or use email to get the names to us and we will

enter those names onto the page throughout all of November and parishioners will be encouraged and reminded to go to that page to read, remember, and pray for, the names that they will see scroll up on the screen.

And lastly, we will keep track of which name requests come from which parishioners, so that at the end of November, those names will be written into the correct book at each church. This way, next year when we are, hopefully, back to normal, all names will have been recorded in their official book.

# Vision Bookstore Closing Sale



Vision Bookstore is permanently closing its store Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Come visit us and benefit from 50 to 85% on most of the books, CD's and DVD's on stock. We are open on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Due to the coronavirus, you are invited to reach us for an appointment at 857-9531, ext. 1238. We are located at Place de la Cathédrale, 224, St-George St.

# **Holy Family Church**



There will be a meeting of the Holy Family Parish Council this Tuesday evening, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 o'clock. If there are any items you would like brought up at the meeting, please let one of the council members know or email the office. Minutes from council meetings can be found at the back of the church and are posted on our website.

# Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



#### COATS FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN This past week we received \$45 in donations and 4 coats from across the parish grouping!

The campaign is due to end on October 31<sup>st</sup>, so please remember that these little kids need our help, and you can help by:



- Placing your donation in an envelope marked 'COATS' and drop it off at the parish office. Please remember to ring the doorbell! For your income tax receipt, please include your name and/or envelope number.
- If you have used coats to donate, they may be dropped at the Church any morning during the week. If you need to have them picked up, please contact Ray March (866-4195) and thank you!



#### **Special Olympics Fundraiser!**

**Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** the Knights will have a Take-Out Turkey Dinner at the Dan Bohan Centre, with pickup from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Be sure to place your order for turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, carrots, roll and butter! Price will be \$15 and we can take advance orders only. Mark this on your calendar and to order email <u>march.ray@gmail.com</u> or call 866-4195.

# From the Offices of Faith Development, Liturgy and Youth Faith Development

To contact us: Ellen - 857- 9952 or <u>ellen.diocesemoncton@gmail.com;</u>

Trevor - 857-4879 or <u>trevord.diocese@gmail.com</u>

## Update on catechism



Given the expectation of an announcement by the Province of NB, and the NB Office of the Chief Medical Officer returning Zone 1, which includes the Archdiocese of Moncton, back to the yellow level on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, physically gathering for catechetical sessions will resume beginning Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. The only exception for this will, of course, be for those with compromised health care issues, who will continue as usual participating in catechism virtually. Your parish catechetical

coordinator will be in touch with you regarding additional details. Thank you for your patience as we navigate through these unprecedented times of frequent changes.

# **Upcoming Meetings:**

**Adult Faith Commission:** Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



**Sacrament Resource Preparation Committee:** Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

**Parish Catechetical Coordinators:** Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Meetings will take place at the Diocesan Offices on York Street. Masks are mandatory. Please use the Dominion Street entrance.

## Faith Experiments Express (via Zoom)

Join Karen and Trevor on Zoom as they share lessons in faith using science experiments that your children (Grades 1-6) will do at home.

Each session will be approximately one hour and will take place on Mondays (November 9<sup>th</sup>, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, and December 14<sup>th</sup>). Please contact Karen at 387-4198



or ihmccatechism@rogers.com for more information and to register.

#### Community



Made possible by a partnership between the United Way of Southeastern NB, Horizon Health and Rural Rides, meals are available for seniors in the Petitcodiac, Salisbury, Elgin and surrounding areas who need it, at no cost. These meals are prepared in a commercial kitchen at a local café and are frozen in individual portions that can be reheated. They are meant for seniors who may not be able to cook for themselves or who may not have someone who lives close enough to help with food. Delivery happens on a weekly basis (Tuesdays) and recipients can receive up to 14 meals per week.

To apply for yourself or on behalf of someone else, please fill out this form: <u>https://forms.gle/TvMS67MhGUaxaWx78</u>

# **Memorial Gifts**

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 click on the 'Donate' button on our website (www.setmoncton.com) or simply contact the parish office for the various options, if you wish to make a donation in someone's honour.

#### During the month of October 2020

At St. Jude's Church, a donation was made to the Cemetery in memory of: **Bud Kavanaugh** by Debbie Ouellette



At Holy Family Church, a gift was made to the church from the Estate of: Earle Stevens



At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, donations were made in memory of: Jim and Hazel Hendriks by Al and Bridget Daly & by a friend

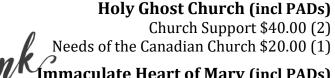
Bill McGrath by Al and Corinne Kavanaugh & Leo and Beryl Ronan Helen Murnaghan by her son, Peter Margaret Comeau by Carol Hanson and Marilyn Landry

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, gifts were made to the church from the Estates of: Al Close and Noryne and Ross Matheson

## Weekly Collection for all Churches

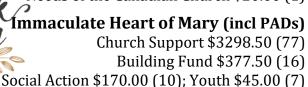
#### Holy Family & Peoples Park Tower

(incl PADs) Church Support \$1775.50 (27) Maintenance Fund \$494.50 (14)



St. Jude's Church (incl PADs)

Church Support \$90.00 (3)



Office San Noon

The Parish Office is open Monday to Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. (Remember to call during that time to book your spot for Mass! ☺)