

# St Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping

## December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Family Church	Holy Ghost Church	Immaculate Heart of Mary Church	St. Jude's Church
			
52 Falkland St Moncton, NB E1E 4S8 Tel: 506- 854-6099 Saturdays at 7 p.m.	2 Church St Riverside-Albert, NB E4H 3W8 Tel: 506- 882-1123 Saturdays at 4 p.m.	5 Fatima Dr Riverview, NB E1B 2X8 Tel: 506- 386-6178 Sundays at 11 a.m. Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.	3062 Main St Salisbury, NB E4J 2L5 Tel: 506- 386-6178 Sundays at 9 a.m.



The St. Elizabeth of the Trinity parish grouping acknowledges that we carry out our worship and ministry on the traditional *unceded* territory of the Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik (Maliseet) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which these nations first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but, in fact, recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

**Welcome to our parish grouping! If you are new to any of our churches, please reach out to the parish office to find out more about the life and work of our parishes!**

### Staff Directory

**Parish Office hours - Monday to Friday from 9-4pm**

Priest Moderator	Fr Phil Mulligan	philstoryguy@hotmail.com	(506) 386-6178 ext 106
Pastoral Associate	Mark Mahoney	markmahoney.set@gmail.com	(506) 386-6178 ext 101
Parish Secretary	Debbie Brideau	debbiebrideau.set@gmail.com	(506) 386-6178 ext 103
Director of Catechetics	Karen LeBlanc	catechism.set@gmail.com	(506) 387-4198
Business Manager	Anne Marcoux	annemarcoux.set@gmail.com	(506) 386-6178 ext 102

**To meet with Fr. Phil, please call the parish office.**

**We pray for the sick, and those who are awaiting or recovering from surgery, those receiving treatment, and those needing strength including Victor Godbout.**  
**We also pray for those who have died including Alexandre Belliveau and for those who mourn the loss of a loved one.**



### Daily Readings for Dec 11<sup>th</sup> - Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Monday	Isaiah 35.1-10		Luke 5.17-26	
Tuesday	Zechariah 2.10-13		Luke 1.39-47	
Wednesday	Isaiah 40.25-31		Matthew 11.28-30	
Thursday	Isaiah 41.13-20		Matthew 11.11-15	
Friday	Isaiah 48.17-19		Matthew 11.16-19	
Saturday	Sirach 48.1-4,9-11		Matthew 17.10-13	
Sunday	Isaiah 61.1-2a	1 Thessalonians 5.16-24		John 1.6-8,19-28

2024 St Joseph Missals are available at the parish office **\$7.00 each**

### *Upcoming Liturgies*

Wed, Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Immaculate Heart	9:30 a.m.	Jeanne Poirier – Terry & Yvonne Clancy
Fri, Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	People's Park Tower	2:00 p.m.	Sr. Katherine Young- Bob & Helen Vaughan
Sat, Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Ghost	4:00 p.m.	Arvilla Campbell - Lillian Doherty
Sat, Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Family	7:00 p.m.	Ernest Murphy - Daughter Nancy Murphy
Sun, Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	St Jude's	9:00 a.m.	Margaret Lucas- Albert & Marita Jackson
Sun, Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	Immaculate Heart	11:00 a.m.	Chantal Atkinson (Anniv) Terry & Yvonne Clancy



*Did you know?* Beloved by God, Jesus comes to us as a King, but as a meek king, gentle and humble of heart. Everything you have heard him endure, his betrayal, suffering and death, He endured for us. Listen to Him who loves you very much. (p. 146, SB 2023)

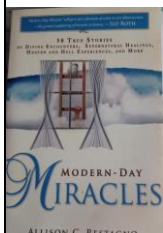
**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

### *Upcoming Meetings and Events*

Are you interested in joining a parish activity? Or seeking a faith formation time?  
Please see below for a list of upcoming meetings and events

DATE	LOCATION	
Mon, Dec 11	Holy Family	<b>Prayer Group</b> gathers at 6:30 p.m
Mon Dec 11	IHM	<b>Choir Practice</b> at 6:30 pm
Mon Dec 11	Holy Family	<b>Prayer Group</b> at 6:30pm – all welcome!
Tues Dec 12	IHM	<b>Catechism</b> (Years 1,2,3) at 6:30pm
Wed Dec 13	IHM	<b>Catechism</b> (Years 1,2,3) at 6:30pm
Sun, Dec 17	St Jude's	<b>Name Tag Sunday</b> and coffee and refreshments after mass – all welcome!
Sun, Dec 17	IHMC	<b>RCIA-6:30-8pm</b> call Mark for more info
Wed, Dec 20	Holy Family	<b>Reconciliation Service</b> at 7 pm
Wed, Dec 27	IHM	<b>No morning Mass</b> - Wednesday morning mass will resume on Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>

### **St. Elizabeth of the Trinity**



#### **Modern-Day Miracles by Allison C. Restagno (Biographies and Journals)**

Another book new to our library for those who like a volume offering short reads of inspiring true stories of believers who have experienced divine intervention during life's struggles.

Enjoy! *Colleen*

**Cathy Kennedy Lending Library**

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."





**Planning for 2024 for all our churches:** If your committee will be using church funds for special projects or initiatives in 2024, please call Anne at the Business Office by December 15<sup>th</sup> in order to add your expenses to the budget.



**Storm/ Mass Cancellations! For all Mass cancellations:** (weekend and weekday), we will post the cancellation on the website ([www.setmoncton.com](http://www.setmoncton.com)), our Facebook page, and the office phone (506-386-6178) will be updated with the cancellation message. Please, do not venture out if the weather is dangerous. Stay safe!!



We are accepting donations in memory of deceased family and friends for **Christmas season environment** in each of our churches!  
A list will be printed in the bulletin of those being remembered.  
The easiest way for you to do this is to call the Parish Office (506-386-6178) and then put your donation in a clearly marked envelope and drop it into the collection basket if you're at Mass, or bring it or mail it into the office, or use one of the online payment options.  
Please have your donation requests in by **Dec 18<sup>th</sup>**



## November Winners!



No winner \$0 (Nov 2)  
Al Daly \$121 (Nov 9)  
Henry Wall \$111 (Nov 16)  
No winner \$0 (Nov 23)  
Sandra Perkison \$157 (Nov 30)

To buy tickets, go to the parish website, [www.setmoncton.com](http://www.setmoncton.com) and click on the **red Knights button**. Thank you all!



## Help for the Homeless

In the past we have issued an appeal for help for the homeless in the Greater Moncton Area and you have answered generously. We are once again asking for your help. **YMCA Re-Connect** is looking for donations of new or gently used sweaters, sweatpants, socks, hand/foot warmers and warm blankets. If you can help, please drop your donations off here at the church between now and the Third Sunday of Advent (December 17<sup>th</sup>) and we will make sure they get to Re-Connect. Thank you in advance for your generosity



## Final grand total collected for Coats for Kids

....drum roll please .....\$4,750.00

**Thank you to everyone!**

Another successful year thanks to you kind folks.





## Let's Do Lunch!

Want to consider something different for gifts this year? How about sharing your blessings with those less fortunate by donating a number of dinners to the Karing Kitchen! When \$1 to- \$2 buys one serving, **this is a wonderful gift idea!** We have red 'Karing Kitchen' cards at the office that could be put under the tree for your loved ones. What a great gift idea! Karing Kitchen says thank you for your generosity and for sharing with so many who have so much less.

## Immaculate Heart of Mary Church



**Grocery gift cards** are a great way to budget your grocery bill! Available at the parish office, they are a great way to keep you 'on track'! AND your parish earns 5% on the value of every card sold. Purchase with cash or cheque (made out to Immaculate Heart of Mary). Thank you!



*The Ladies Society recently showed their overwhelming support for Harvest House during this Christmas Season. The Ladies are truly 'women of compassion' and have made a difference to so many who are in need. Thank you all for your continued support of this great cause God bless you all!*

## Saint Jude's Church

**HELLO**  
my name is

Mary Anne

### SAVE THE DATE

Fellow parishioners, do you ever see someone in church week after week but don't know their name? Or have you ever wanted a chance to just sit for a few minutes over a coffee and chat with someone you see in church every week? **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** is going to be the day we



address those issues. At 9 a.m. mass we will be having our first name tag Sunday. As you enter the church, we will ask you to put on a name tag that we will provide. Then, after mass, we are inviting all to stay for a little brunch downstairs with coffee and treats provided. Also, if you are feeling ambitious, we will be setting up the church for Christmas after brunch. This will be a great way to connect with folks you see all the time, but maybe don't know all that well. All are welcome!

## Holy Family Church



### Congratulations to winners of our Christmas Raffle

First prize the village	Maria Gillis
Second Prize Large Santa	Laura Ross
Third prize Snowman	Marie Gill McGee
Fourth prize Santa and cookie jar	Peter Mulroy
Fifth prize Santa Face	Jennifer Saldanha

*Thank you for your support!*

## Holy Ghost



### ***Holy Ghost Fundraiser –***

1<sup>st</sup> prize \$300.00 Gift Card collection  
we will also have a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize with this draw.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3/\$5.00.

Draw date December 16<sup>th</sup> following mass.



### **Advent Tree Gift Giving –** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

we hope to have a tree full of gifts to give to the less fortunate such as hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, socks, underwear, soap, shampoo, maybe you have a used coat, pants, etc .... just a few ideas for the gift of giving.



**Missals are available at the Holy Ghost church entrance for the coming year.**



### ***In Dulci Jubilo: A night of Carols & Music***

*Join us on Saturday, December 16th at 7:00pm for an evening of Christmas carols, music and sing-alongs at Saint Augustine's Church. During the evening, a collection will be passed around for our partnering charities - the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, the Ray of Hope Soup Kitchen, the QAS International Outreach and the Beaverbrook School Breakfast Program.*



**FEED THE HUNGRY**



### **Please support the Food Banks in our area**

**House of Nazareth (Holy Family)**

**Albert County Food Bank (Immaculate Heart of Mary)**

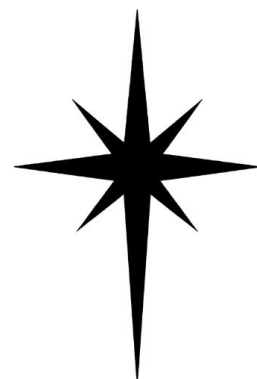
**Salisbury Helping Hands (St Jude's)**

**Shepody Food Bank (Holy Ghost)**

When shopping this week, if you are able, pick up  
Cheese Whiz, soup, cereal, crackers, juice boxes, and applesauce  
and bring the items to mass with you! Thank you for sharing with others.

## **ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

On Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. we will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family Church. This will be a wonderful opportunity to come together as Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity faith community in preparation for the coming of our saviour. All are welcome.



## Faithful Giving

As we travel the Advent path, as we seek the hope and peace of the season, as we make preparations for Christmas, let us remember the ultimate gift from God – *Emmanuel* (God with us!) All our gifts come from God and through gratitude and faith, we return them to God. **Help us in our mission** of sharing the Good News, of ministering to the poor in spirit, the sick, and the lonely, of ministering to our faith community and all God's people, whoever is in need. Your **gifts to church support** help us be the hands and feet of Jesus. Thank you for giving generously to our parish over the past year – but the year isn't over yet! All our parishes need your help to meet our financial commitments for 2023. Please give generously this December. God bless you!

### Collection from last weekend

**People's Park Tower:** Loose \$22.00, Church Support \$240.00 (13), Maintenance Fund \$5.00 (1)  
Nazareth House & 170.00

**Holy Family:** Loose \$170.00, Church Support \$7,295.00 (47), Maintenance Fund \$115.00 (6)

**Holy Ghost:** Loose \$10.00, Church Support \$150.00 (9), Fundraising \$265.00,  
Cemetery \$200.00 (2), Missal \$10.00.

**Immaculate Heart of Mary:** Loose \$352.00, Church Support \$9,827.00 (172),  
Property Upkeep \$350.00 (13), Youth \$71.00 (5), Social Action \$235.00 (13)

**Saint Jude's:** Loose \$20.00, Church Support \$575.00 (15)

thank  
you



**2024 Offering Envelopes are available at your church.** Please check if the information on the label is correct. If you would like a box of envelopes or wish to know more about donating by PAD, or online through Canadahelps, please reach out to Anne at the parish office.



**THEOLOGY ON TAP (MARK THE DATE!)** Our next Theology on Tap will take place on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Five Bridges Pub in Riverview. Our guest speaker will be Maurise Levesque who will share with us talk entitled “Dealing with Loss in Death and Life: Common Misconceptions about Grief.” Please register with Karen at 387-4198 or email [karen.diocese@gmail.com](mailto:karen.diocese@gmail.com)



**May 17– 27, 2024: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje where Our Lady has been appearing daily for 42 years.** Cost of \$3570 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner, and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) **INFO:** Hector Caissie at [hectorcaissie@gmail.com](mailto:hectorcaissie@gmail.com) or 506-857-2295.

**BREAKING OPEN THE WORD DURING ADVENT** - Come join us in breaking open the Sunday readings of Advent. The Third Week of Advent will be at Immaculate Heart of Mary (after 9:30am mass) on Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>. Fourth week of Advent will be at St. Bernard’s (after 9:30am mass) Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup>. *Take this opportunity to reflect and grow in what God is telling you this Advent.*

**WELCOME TO SENIORS CONNECT** a safe space for Seniors to gather, socialize, learn about, and discuss issues related to aging in New Brunswick. Our **next gathering** will take place on **January 11** at 10:30 am at the Dan Bohan Centre at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 5 Fatima Dr., Riverview. We will have retired dietician Lynn Burdock join us. Jot down any questions you may have in the meantime. Questions? Contact Karen LeBlanc at 387-4198 or email [karen.dioceses@gmail.com](mailto:karen.dioceses@gmail.com)

**ADVENT @ THE MOVIES** We are excited to announce that again this year we will meet four times prior to Christmas to discuss Advent themes found in some of our favourite popular films. **All discussions will be held on Mondays at 2:00 pm via Zoom.** December 11<sup>th</sup>: ***Frozen***; and December 18<sup>th</sup>: ***The Polar Express***. Please contact Karen at 506 387-4198 or [karen.diocese@gmail.com](mailto:karen.diocese@gmail.com) if you are interested.



Dear Friends,

The Filipino Community of the Archdiocese of Moncton invites everyone to join in our first ever ***Simbang Gabi*** in Moncton. ***Simbang Gabi***, a tagalog phrase that literally means “Evening Mass,” is the Filipino traditional novena Masses offered for nine consecutive evenings before Christmas Eve. It is a spiritual journey for Filipinos, a time of reflection, devotion, and anticipation as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Centred on the Eucharist, the nine Masses honour the Blessed Mother Mary, who carried Our

Lord Jesus in her womb for nine months. How is it different from a daily Advent Mass? On Simbang Gabi Masses, the priest wears white festive vestments, and the Gloria is sung. In Moncton, I will preside at **Simbang Gabi Masses at St. Bernard’s Church from December 15<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM.**



**COP28** - Because Pope Francis thought the world climate conference in Dubai, was so important he planned to be there in person. When illness prevented it, he still made two presentations virtually. He said that “the destruction of the environment is an offence against God, a sin that is not only personal but greatly endangers all human beings”. Also, that it is important to see ourselves as brothers and sisters in the one human family and we have a duty to protect our common home. See [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va) for his presentations

**BENEFIT CONCERT** - "Music of the World" on Sunday, December 10, 2023, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm at OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH (11 rue St Andrews), Pointe Du Chêne. The Christmas concert will be followed by a potluck supper in the basement. All are welcome. Donations will be accepted at the door to support the church's mission projects. This musical afternoon will see artists from Canada, Nicaragua, Mexico, Poland, and the Philippines present pieces from their native countries. For information, contact 506-531-0252. Thank you for your support!



# Following our Faith

## The Wilderness of 2023

As we observe the Season of Advent amid the wilderness of 2023, we are reminded to not get ahead of ourselves and celebrate Christmas before spending time reflecting and preparing. This is good advice. I do not think we are meant to move from Halloween directly into celebrating Christmas without preparation. But depending on how you look at it, I feel like there is a lot of stuff going on.



How many of you have already put up your Christmas trees and not even patiently decorated them progressively each week in order to build upon the sense of Advent hope, expectation and waiting? Do you feel guilty? I know several people have told me (some whispered) they put their Christmas tree up on November 12<sup>th</sup>. Still others I know put their Christmas tree up annually by the end of October and listen to Christmas music year-round. In my years working in public libraries, I learned there is a whole group of people out there who read Christmas romance novels all year long. Others watch Hallmark Christmas movies regardless of the time of year. And did you know in Philippines it is common for Christmas trees to go up as early as September or October? Four months!

Driving the 134 between Shediak and Rexton, I have never seen so many houses lit up so early and so brightly as this year. Full confession here...our Christmas tree went up shortly after Remembrance Day. My plan was to decorate it slowly and light it the Fourth Week of Advent but this plan failed almost immediately and that tree is fully decorated and lit brightly enough to be seen from Truro. This year we needed the light. I do not think my Christmas tree means I am celebrating Christmas already, but it does remind me that I am waiting for something greater. It gives me hope for better days to come. It softens the darkness.

There is no need to describe the harsh darkness in the world we navigate in December 2023 as we struggle to hear the voice in the wilderness. Globally there are escalating wars, a worsening climate crisis. Locally, we are experiencing a homelessness epidemic, economic insecurity, and an ever-deepening despair among many. If you feel unaffected by these I would like to know your secret.

Advertising messages are almost inescapable. We need products to make us more skinny, less old, more successful, less ugly. There will always be peer pressure messages to fit in: *"You have to do it this way," "you don't fit in," "you need to be more Catholic," "you obviously have that wrong," "if you think this you're wrong,"* or *"if you did that you're clearly imprisoned by sin."*

Even in our Church, how often is the message we receive about our need to be more virtuous, more Catholic, less secular, more loving, more evangelized, more liberal, less conservative. Always more something and less something, but how often do we hear we are enough? When was the last time you felt that you were enough? I wonder if there is there a place that would allow us to step back, rest, and disconnect ourselves from the multitude of messages telling us what we need to be? A place where we can be enough? A place where we dare to feel joy or hopeful anticipation.

Interestingly, those early Christmas trees I mentioned earlier, the bright outdoor lights I see everywhere I go, the movies on television, the music on the radio, the Christmas baking in August? Something about all of these helps to silence the other competing, often toxic messages I encounter in the wilderness, and takes me to a place and time when I can hear more clearly the voice I listen for, *"Get ready for something awesome, folks."*

In case you have not heard this lately, you are enough. I think God wants us all to know this. Now get ready, I heard someone say a miracle was supposed to happen.

**Trevor Droesbeck**

~Office for Evangelization and Catechesis