

**St Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping
December 17th, 2023 -Third 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 Wəlastəkwiyyik (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 Wəlastəkwiyyik 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 Mary Chase (sister for Lowell Brine)
and Patricia Cormier.

and for those who mourn the loss of a loved one.



Daily Readings for Dec 18th - Dec 24th, 2023

<i>Monday</i>	Jeremiah 23.5-8	Matthew 1.18-24
<i>Tuesday</i>	Judges 13.2-7,24-24a	Luke 1.5-25
<i>Wednesday</i>	Isaiah 7.10-14;8.1d	Luke 1.26-38
<i>Thursday</i>	Zephaniah 3.14-18a	Luke 1.39-45
<i>Friday</i>	1 Samuel 1.24-28	Luke 1.46-56
<i>Saturday</i>	Malachi 3.1-4;4.5-6	Luke 1.57-66
<i>Sunday</i>	2 Samuel 7.1-5,8b-12,14a,16	Romans 16.25-27
		Luke 1.26-38

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

Upcoming Liturgies

Wed, Dec 20 th	Immaculate Heart	9:30 a.m.	Sara Lia Loberza- Gordon & Liliana Trail
Fri, Dec 22 nd	People's Park Tower	2:00 p.m.	Charles (Chuck) Kinney-Joanne Girouard
Sat, Dec 23 rd	Holy Ghost	4:00 p.m.	Otto, Violet, & Andrew O'Hara- O'Hara Family
Sat, Dec 23 rd	Holy Family	7:00 p.m.	Bill Morano & Mannella Family- Sheila & family
Sun, Dec 24 th	Immaculate Heart	11:00 a.m.	Tony Strangis- Patsy Read
Sun Dec 24 TH	Immaculate Heart	4:00 p.m.	Ron Marcoux – IHM Ladies Society
Sun, Dec 24 th	St Jude's	6:30 pm	Florence Holland- Mary Lamb
Sun Dec 24 th	Immaculate Heart	8:30 p.m.	Pricilla LeClair – Chris, Denis and Serge
Sun-Dec 25 TH	Holy Ghost	9:30 a.m.	Fred Morrissey- Beulah Morrissey



Did you know? By reordering society, giving those who hunger and thirst, their body's needs, we demonstrate our commitment to the re-creation of the world in Jesus Christ.

(p. 111, SB 2023)

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

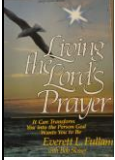
Upcoming Meetings and Events

Are you interested in joining a parish activity? Or seeking a faith formation time?

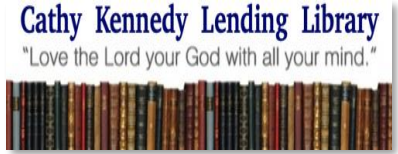
Please see below for a list of upcoming meetings and events

DATE	LOCATION	
Mon, Dec 11	Holy Family	Prayer Group gathers at 6:30 p.m
Mon Dec 11	IHM	Choir Practice at 6:30 pm
Mon Dec 11	Holy Family	Prayer Group at 6:30pm – all welcome!
Tues Dec 18	IHM	Advent at the Movies- Polar Express starts at 2:00pm
Tues Dec 12	Holy Family	Choir Practice at 7:00pm
Sun, Dec 17	St Jude's	Name Tag Sunday and coffee and refreshments after mass – all welcome!
Sun, Dec 17	IHMC	RCIA-6:30-8pm call Mark for more info
Wed, Dec 20	Holy Family	Reconciliation Service at 7 pm
Fri Dec 22	IHMC	Parish office is closed for the Holidays- from Friday 4:00pm till Tues Jan 2 nd 8:00am
Wed, Dec 27	IHM	No morning Mass - Wednesday morning mass will resume on Jan 3 rd

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity



Living the Lord's Prayer by Everett L. Fullam
(*Commentary and Discourse*) An older book, it is a treasure of information about each line, bringing the possibility of deeper connection to this our central prayer. Very thoughtful. Colleen.



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 18th**



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)

Canned goods, sandwich meat, Soup, pasta sauce, juice drinks
and bring the items to mass with you! Thank you for sharing with others.



ATTENTION EVERYONE: If you are attending the **Family Mass** at 4:00pm on Sunday December 24th at Immaculate Heart of Mary church we invite you to bring in a handheld percussion instrument to accompany the music ministry for that mass. If you have a real instrument like maracas, a triangle or a tambourine bring that, or this link will show you how to make a very simple one with a toilet paper roll and rice. [Indoor Fun: Noisemakers - The Caterpillar Years](#) .

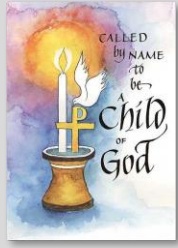


Let's Do Lunch!

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.

The parish office will be closed between Dec 25 and Jan 1
closes at 4 pm Dec 22 and reopens Tuesday, Jan 2.

Saint Jude's Church



Sacrament of Baptism Through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, we welcome

Lucy Isabella Lobo Dewitt, daughter of Joshua & Maria

Sweet Lucy Isabella may the grace and blessings received at Baptism guide you throughout your life and may this holy occasion bring your family great joy.

God bless you little one, beloved child of God!

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE



On Wednesday, December 20th 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

For your donations to count toward your **2023 charitable receipt**, please use the offering plate on Sunday, December 24, or drop your donation off in person at the parish office by Friday, December 22, or donate online through the DONATE button on the website.

2024 PAD changes for all our churches – Are you planning to increase your PAD donations starting in January? That would **Please call the office before Wednesday, Dec 20 to advise the Business Manager of the changes.** However, if you are not sure if you want to make an increase, you are welcome to reach out at any time of the year to adjust your PAD donations. Your faithful offering is gratefully received!

Are you planning to make your donations to our parish more regularly or efficiently in 2024? **You may want to consider donating through Canadahelps (see the DONATE button on our website!)** You have options to set up monthly donations, or one-time donations, as well as access to donating to any Canadian charity – all under one site. It's safe, secure, and very efficient – especially if you like e-giving!



Offering Envelopes For 2024

Envelopes are a great way to help you become an intentional donor to our parish. Use them weekly, or biweekly or monthly, as you wish, to make your offering by cash or cheque to the church.

All these options are a great way to practice generosity, to become an intentional donor to our parish, and the life and work of our church. **Please be generous when giving to Church Support.** We cannot do this work without your faithful support.

Collection from last weekend

People's Park Tower: Loose \$26.00, Church Support \$185.00 (9), Maintenance Fund \$5.00 (1)

Holy Family: Loose \$206.00, Church Support \$428.00 (21), Maintenance Fund \$85.00 (3)

Holy Ghost: Loose \$1.00, Church Support \$285.00(11), Nov PAD \$352.38

Fundraising \$190.00, Christmas Flowers \$ 80.00, Christmas \$50.00 (1)

Immaculate Heart of Mary: Loose \$399.00, Church Support \$2,675.00 (74),

Property Upkeep \$86.00 (9), Youth \$27.00 (3), Social Action \$140.00 (7)

Saint Jude's: Loose \$45.00, Church Support \$1006.00 (17)

thank
you

Following our Faith

The Consoling Joy of the Gospel¹

In a world that has not enough of any, the themes of Advent are significant – hope, peace, joy and love. This Sunday the focus is on joy. The prophet Isaiah, a key character of the season, reminds us of the ‘good news’ which he has been sent to proclaim, for which he is ‘greatly rejoicing.’ Mary, on arriving at her cousin Elizabeth’s



home, responds to Elizabeth’s greeting with her beautiful Magnificate – a prayer of joy and praise. And the words of John’s Gospel, from which we also draw the Gospel for Christmas morning, speaks of one who has come to ‘testify to the light.’

From these possibilities, the words which resonate with me are those of this young mother-to-be. We know there are many unwanted children conceived. Given what we know about that time period, Jewish women were considered marriageable by the age of 13/14, so while we don’t know this definitely, it is expected that Mary would have been about that age when Jesus was born. She was young. Clearly she would have reservations about this pregnancy.

Initially she resists the news from the angel Gabriel. She is poor, uneducated, has no attachment with a man, is a powerless member of society – a nobody. During this time, many women who had no husband, father, or brother to look after them had to resort to prostitution simply to survive. Women did not have it easy. Mary **must** have had doubts. Even when a child is long desired, and couples well prepared, pregnancy creates anxiety. On my much longed for first pregnancy, I remember lying awake one night mere weeks before my due date, saying to Wayne, “I can’t do this. I want out.” “Well, girl,” he replied, “too late for that now.” Even living in 20th/21st century North America, with good medical care, mother’s to be worry about what can go wrong; we worry about the financial strain of having a child; we worry about the parenting which will continue for the rest of our lives. (My mother used to say, “Until you die, or they die, you worry about your children.” She was right!) Despite this, Mary finally agrees to the angel’s request.

Scant weeks after hearing the news from the angel, Mary speaks these words of gratitude and awe: “My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. ... For the Mighty One has done great things for me.” With all she has in front of her, at this point not even yet having shared the news with her husband to be, this is a woman who is filled with joy.

It is joy within the tumultousness of unknowing – unknowing how Joseph will respond; unknowing what exactly it means to bear the “Son of the Most High;” (Lk 1:32) unknowing, as no parent does, what the future will hold for this Jesus.

In her book, *Lessons in Chemistry*, author Bonni Garmus compares raising children to rowing: “Both require patience, endurance, strength, and commitment. And neither allow us to see where we’re going – only where we’ve been.” Where Mary has been does not give much confidence for where she is going.

Within this struggle, Mary still feels joy and proclaims that joy to the first person who recognizes that she is with child. Every child born has the potential to be someone

great, do something amazing. Children are such a wonderful gift, even those born in the most trying of circumstances. How much more for one who is the Son of God. In the midst of these last hectic weeks before Christmas, we are asked to look at our world with eyes of joy; to live, despite all that may be troubling us, with joy. We think of joy and happiness as interchangeable words and yet they are not always so. We all have prayers that seem to go unanswered, or are answered contrary to what we had hoped. Life does not always work out the way we plan, especially the plans we make for our children – Wayne frequently reminds me, me wanting it for them does not make them want it. However, within all the disappointments, pain, stress we may experience, we can also find joy – in morning sunrises, Christmas lights, inspiring music, errands completed, good books, quiet reflection. And always, always there is joy for the many possibilities that exist because of the imminent birth of a child.

Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

Ellen

Christmas / New Years Mass Schedule



Christmas Mass's

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Dec 24th - 4:00pm
 St. Jude Church Dec 24th - 6:30 pm
 Holy Family Church Dec 24th -7:00pm
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Dec 24th -8:30pm
 Holy Ghost Dec 25th – 9:30

New Years Mass's

Peoples Park Tower Dec 29th – 2:00pm
 Holy Ghost Dec 30th – 4:00pm Dec 31, 5:00pm
 Holy Family Dec 30th -7:00pm
 St. Jude Dec 31st – 9:30 am
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Dec 31st -11:00am
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Jan 1st- 11:00am

