## St Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping December 29th, 2024 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

#### Immaculate Heart **Holy Family Holy Ghost** St. Jude's Church Church of Mary Church Church 52 Falkland St 2 Church St 3062 Main St 5 Fatima Dr Moncton, NB E1E 4S8 Riverside-Albert, NB E4H 3W8 Salisbury, NB E4J 2L5 Riverview, NB E1B 2X8 Tel: 506- 854-6099 Tel: 506-882-1123 Tel: 506- 386-6178 Tel: 506- 386-6178 Saturdays at 7 p.m. Saturdays at 4 p.m. Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday at 9:30 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 The parish office is open Monday to Friday 9-4:00pm To meet with Fr. Phil, please call the parish office.

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



We pray for the sick, and those who are awaiting or recovering from surgery, those receiving treatment, and those needing strength including Eric Tracy, Helen Skidmore, Glenda O'Hara, Danahy, Leo Ronan, Chris Hachey (nephew of Terry Clancy), Johanna Van Elst, Kris Jensen and Albert Jackson;

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

Daily Readings Dec 30th –Jan 5th ,2024					
Monday	1 John 2.12-17		Luke 2.36-40		
Tuesday	1 John 2.18-21		John 1.1-18		
Wednesday	Numbers 6.22-27	Galatians 4.4-7	Luke 2.16-21		
Thursday	1 John 2.22-28		John 1.19-28		
Friday	1 John 2.29-3.1-6		John 1.29-34		
Saturday	1 John 3.7-10		John 1.35-42		
Sunday (The Epiphany of the Lord)	Isaiah 60.1-6	Ephesians 3.2-3a,5-6	Matthew 2.1-12		

## Upcoming Liturgies Jan 1st —Jan 5th

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Wed, Jan 1st	IHM	10.00 a.m.	Donald McGinn — Lou & Pat McGinn	
Fri, Jan 3rd	People's Park Tower	2:00 p.m. Jim & Barry Heath—Ruth Heath		
Sat, Jan 4th	Holy Ghost	4:00 p.m.	00 p.m. For the People	
Sat, Jan 4th	Holy Family	7:00 p.m.	Shirley Clement— Dale & Jean Ryan	
Sun, Jan 5th	St. Jude	9:00 a.m.	00 a.m. David Scroll — Roberta Brine	
Sun, Jan 5th	IHM	11:00 a.m.	Evelyn Tuzon Turingan (Spec Int) - The Philippines	

## 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 29th	Parish	Parish office - is closed till Thursday, Jan, 2nd 2025
	Office	
Mon, Jan 6th	IHM	Choir Practice — Meet at 6:30pm
Mon, Jan 6th	Holy Family	Prayer Group – Meet at 7:00pm
Tues, Jan 7th	IHM	Catechism— at 6:30pm
Tues, Jan 7th	Dan Bohan	IHM Ladies Society—Meet at 7:00pm
Wed Jan 8th	IHM	Catechism — at 6:30pm
Wed Jan 8th	TBD	Knights of Columbus—Meet at 7:00pm

## Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity



### 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)

If you can, please give non perishable items —Thank you!



#### DYING WITH CHRIST, LIVING WITH HOPE

St. Elizabeth of the Trinity pastoral unit is pleased to present the three-part series, Dying with Christ –Living with Hope. Developed by the Christian Medical and Dental Association (CMDA), this program explores topics related to death and dying in a Christian context.

The purpose of the series is to help those who are searching to understand the meaning of a Christian death and how it fits into God's plan. It can help participants find strength in their faith and in their ability to articulate a Christian approach to these issues.

Using both large and small groups discussions, video presentations from theologians and medical specialists, and individual reflections, the program addresses the topics of: **Session 1** – Death and Dying; **Session 2** – Pain, Suffering and End of Life and; **Session 3** – The Christian Duty to Care.

The course will be taking place on three evenings, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Registration is required. Please contact Karen at 386-6178 or <a href="mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca">youth@diocesemoncton.ca</a> to register or for more information.



#### A Note of Thanks!

I personally want to thank all of you who gave me cards and gifts. It was so appreciated. The staff, Stephen, Anne, Mark, Karen, Debbie also appreciated your cards and thoughtfulness. I really do work with the "ATeam". I want to express my gratitude to those of you who put extra effort and time into your ministry, liturgical or otherwise, during the Advent and Christmas

Seasons. And lastly, my gratitude is for all your efforts in making Christmas special, meaningful, and less lonely for many in our church in the greater community.

## Holy Family Church



**Holy Family Church** is seeking an enthusiastic, musically gifted team player to serve as **Music Leader**. The perfect candidate will lead the music at mass celebrations and choir practices. This is a paid position. For a detailed position description or additional information, please reach out to Mark at the parish office: 506 386 6178 this posting will remain open until filled.

## New Years Mass

#### **Dec 31**

Holy Ghost Church 4:00pm

Jan 1

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church 10:00am

Happy New Year!





"And now we welcome the New Year full of Things that have never been."

Díd you know? Everything is a choice. We choose to be disciples, or we don't. We



choose to live as Christ, or we don't. We are presented life -God's law and Christ's example -- and death - personal gain and
the counsel of the wicked. It isn't always easy to make the decision, but the choices are clear. (p.100, SB, 2024)

## Memorial & Special Gifts this Month

Memorial & Special 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, or to honour a living person.

During the month of December 2024

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish,



donations were made to the church in memory of Harvey Richard – By: Bob & Helena Vaughan and Al & Beth Kavanaugh

Laurencia Kavanaugh – By: Al & Beth Kavanaugh
Bernie & Phyllis Mc Tiernan – By: Neil & Monique McTiernan
Marcel & Nola LeBlanc — By: Neil & Monique Mc Tiernan

At Holy Family Parish

donations were made to the church in memory of **Twin Brother John & Brother Ralph Furlong** – By: Dale & Jean Ryan **At St Jude's Parish** 

donations were made to the church in memory of **Linda Constantine**—by NBTA Branch 0216, and Marilyn Stephens



## **Exploring Our Faith**

#### The Im/Perfect Family

This weekend marks the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Like most lifelong Catholics, I am well familiar with the images of the Holy Family depicted in the nativity creche, the icons and other artistic works, or a diverse array of statues, big and small. At this time of year a visitor to my house will find a simple nativity creche set up (a gift from either my sister or Aunt Susan), usually illuminated by a tea light or some other lights. At first I thought I might add figures to it each year, but now I appreciate the beauty of its plainness. There is also a humble and unassuming carving of the Holy Family sitting in my office throughout the year, gifted to me by my mother.

Having visited Israel a few years ago, I may have a better understanding than before of how it was for a large family unit traveling through the Middle Eastern heat, the diverse crowds of pilgrims from various backgrounds and traditions, the chaos of the markets, and even getting separated from the group. During a visit to Bethlehem, three or four of our group got separated from the rest along the way and I will tell you there were a few bad moments. We had no idea where the group went or how to find them and I was conscious of being lost not only in a foreign country but in the Palestinian-ruled West Bank where entering and exiting the region involved unnerving road-stops by guards with guns. Maybe I am over-reacting but getting lost and left behind in a particularly volatile region of the Middle East is not something I will forget or wish to experience it again.

We also spent a day of pilgrimage along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, where we encountered thousands upon thousands of other pilgrims on their own journey to the Holy Land, each with their own complex story of joys and frustrations. It was hot, dusty, loud and at times intimidating. Even though the crowds that day looked different than two thousand years go, I understand how easily one could become lost amid the chaos of a sea of people pushing their way through the crowds, along with markets and the vendors and absence of anything familiar. We do not know what Jesus' emotions were at the time he was separated from his family, but I can only imagine at the age of 12, the human part of him must have experienced some fear when he realized what had happened. And if Jesus was not afraid, then his parents certainly must have been, and I suspect the wording may have been far stronger than "You have caused us great anxiety."

My experience living on earth has shown me families can be complex, and even though I am often guilty of understanding the Holy Family in a one-dimensional way, they should serve as a reminder that even two thousand or so years ago they experienced many of the same joys and trials we do in 2024. This much has not changed. In his Angeles address for the Feast of the Holy Family in 2023, Pope Francis said:

In the Gospel, we see that even in the Holy Family things did not go well: there were unexpected problems, anxiety, suffering. The Holy Family of holy cards does not exist. Mary and Joseph lost Jesus and search for him anxiously, only to find him three days later. And when, seated among the teachers in the Temple, he responds that he had to be about his Father's business, they do not understand. They need time to learn to know their son.

So while the Holy Family shows us a divine model to strive towards, they also serve as a reminder to not beat ourselves up about the imperfections that accompany being part of a human family. It may seem at times the entire world around us is set up to make us feel badly about not being perfect, and it can be a struggle to not compare ourselves with others who we consider to be more successful at life. The good news here is that whatever we might think, the perfect person or a perfect family does not exist, and Jesus, along with his mother and father remind us of the grace that comes along with being children of a Creator who loves each of us infinitely. Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years to each of you and your own holy family.

~Trevor Droesbeck

## Sharing God's Gifts

Weekly Offerings for all Churches for Christmas and New Year's Masses will be posted in next week's bulletin.





2025 Offering Envelopes are available to anyone who would wish to use offering envelopes. Also, 2025 may be your year to start donating by PAD (pre-authorized donations) or online via canadahelps.org.

The church is the people and we cannot function without your gifts of time, talent and treasure!

Thank you for faithfully and generously sharing with our parishes!