

EXPLORING OUR FAITH: Another Mystery of Faith

Bridging us from the great 50 day season of Easter to Ordinary Time, are a couple of significant feast days in the Church's liturgical calendar. One of these is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity or Trinity Sunday, which we celebrate today. In the eyes of the Church, "a solemnity is a feast day of the highest rank, celebrating a mystery of faith." In other words, a solemnity is kind of a big deal.

The Trinity is kind of a big deal too. And it is indeed a mystery of our faith. The Trinity is an essential doctrine of Christianity, to the point that to deny the Trinity is to deny Christianity. Yet understanding the Trinity is difficult to say the least. How can these three distinct persons exist in one being? It is, as is much about faith, a mystery that one accepts without fully understanding. Much like God, eh?

What the Trinity speaks to me most profoundly about is relationship. The Trinity is three persons: God the Father, Jesus his Son, and the Holy Spirit, each of whom is fully God. Three; yet there is only one God. In the first reading from Deuteronomy, we are told, "the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath: there is no other." Somehow, these three persons are one. God the Father creates; God the Son teaches, heals, forgives; God the Holy Spirit guides, strengthens our gifts. Each is God, and God is One. This Triune God is in relationship with each another and with us from the beginning of our conception - and before - with us "always" as we are reminded in today's Gospel.



Years ago, during a retreat, I heard: "We have Jesus Christ who is the Son of God. That Jesus loves the Father, and the Father loves the Son is easily understood. The name of the love they share is the Holy Spirit. This love always overflows, because it is of the Spirit, which led to the creation and salvation of humanity."

Pope Francis says "the very mystery of the Trinity reminds us that we have been created in the image of that divine communion, and we cannot achieve fulfillment or salvation purely by our own efforts." (EG178) It is God's encompassing and unending love and mercy which brings salvation. The best way to experience that is through the love and mercy of others.

This relationship of three in one, therefore calls us into relationship - with others and with God. Matthew's Gospel says we are to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." This element of the Rite of Baptism is so crucial that unless those words are used, the Baptism is not valid. The Church teaches that Baptism begins our relationship with God. We are told by Jesus to "make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..."

Trinity Sunday, as does the Most Holy Trinity, helps us to rediscover or, if necessary, discover, what this fundamental relationship, which is a cornerstone of our faith, means. It is complex. It will never be fully understood. It is difficult to explain.

As are all relationships. As is love.

However, perhaps this year, there will be a brief moment of breaking through the mystery of the Trinity - when we look at someone we love deeply, maybe - and for now ... that will be enough.

~Ellen Bennett, Archdiocese of Moncton Office of Faith Development

Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

Solemnity of The Most Holy Trinity May 30th, 2021

Immaculate Conception Church, Rexton



Parish Office:

12 School Street Rexton, NB E4W 2E5

Phone: 523-6817 ~ Fax: 523-6868

Email: icprexton@rogers.com

Web: <https://ourladyofhope.weebly.com/>

Office Hours:

Tuesday 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm,

Wednesday & Thursday - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

St-Peter's Church, South Branch



Priest-Moderator: Fr. Bill Bernard, C.Ss.R. 523-9788 (house) 233-6587 (cell)

Assistant: Fr. Bernard Gauthier, C.Ss.R. 523-9788 (house)

Immaculate Conception Mass Times

Sunday - 9:00 am & 4:00 pm

Tuesday & Thursday - 4:00 pm (Sacristy)

St. Peter's Mass Times

Saturday - 4:00 pm

<i>Scripture Readings for Upcoming Week</i>			
Mon	Zephaniah 3:14-18	Isaiah 12	Luke 1:39-56
Tue	Tobit 2:9-14	Psalm 112	Mark 12:13-17
Wed	Tobit 3:1-17	Psalm 25	Mark 12:18-27
Thur	Tobit 6:10-17	Psalm 128	Mark 12:28-34
Fri	Tobit 11:5-17	Psalm 146	Mark 12:35-37
Sat	Tobit 12:1-20	TBT 13	Mark 12:38-34
Sun	Exodus 24:3-8 Hebrews 9:11-15	Psalm 116	Mark 14:12-26



PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Immaculate Conception

Loose: **\$113.00**; Regular Envelopes: **\$940.00**;
Funeral Mass & Music: **\$200.00**; **TOTAL: \$1253.00**

Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Cemetery Env.: **\$105**; Cemetery Env. *IMO Earl and Bessie Walsh and the Donald Robichaud Family*: **\$20.00**; **Total: \$125.00**

St. Peter's

Loose: **\$36.00**; Regular Envelopes: **\$205.00**;
TOTAL: \$241.00

St. Patrick's Cemetery

Donation *IMO James and Bridget Roach*: **\$50.00**

Regional Mass Account

Masses: **\$280.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Please note your envelope donations can also be left in the locked box outside the parish hall.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR UPCOMING WEEK

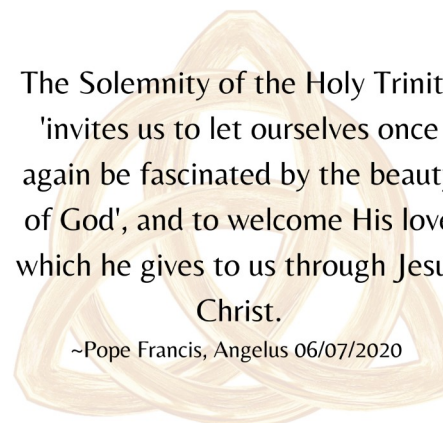
Sat	29	SP	4:00 pm	<i>Exilda & William Vautour†</i>	Stella & Yvon
Sun	30	IC	9:00 am	<i>Eric Johnson, Sr.†</i>	Elva & Family
Sun	30	IC	4:00 pm	<i>George & Margaret Robichaud†</i>	Donna & Family
Tue	1	IC	4:00 pm	<i>St. Anne</i>	S.H.
Thur	3	IC	4:00 pm	<i>Raymond Perry†</i>	George & Vivian
Sat	5	SP	4:00 pm	<i>Dick Murphy†</i>	Barbara Delahunt & Family
Sun	6	IC	9:00 am	<i>Herman Warmant†</i>	Elizabeth & BeLinda Thompson
Sun	6	IC	4:00 pm	<i>Emile Cormier†</i>	Noella & Family

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEKEND

				Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat	5	SP	4:00 pm	1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions	Lois / Sharon Stella
Sun	6	IC	9:00 am	1 st & 2 nd Reading Intentions	Corinne Gloria
Sun	6	IC	4:00 pm	1 st & 2 nd Reading Intentions	Stephen Stephanie

WE PRAY FOR STRENGTH FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Alverie Robichaud, Roger Mazerolle, Brenda Beers, and all residents in special care homes.



The Solemnity of the Holy Trinity 'invites us to let ourselves once again be fascinated by the beauty of God', and to welcome His love which he gives to us through Jesus Christ.

~Pope Francis, Angelus 06/07/2020

PLEASE WELCOME OUR SUMMER STUDENTS who you might see around the grounds of St. Peter's and Immaculate conception this summer. William Cassell will serve as Groundskeeper at Immaculate Conception and Carly Warman will serve as Groundskeeper at St. Peter's.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS STILL NEEDED at Immaculate Conception to fill various roles for both the 9:00 am and 4:00 pm masses. We are in particular need of ALTAR SERVERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, GREETERS and MASS COORDINATORS. You may want to commit to once a month, twice a month, or more if you wish. If you think you may be called to one of these important ministries, contact the parish office or speak to Fr. Bill or Fr. Bernard.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Celebrating the Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis has declared this the year of Saint Joseph. One of the many things Saint Joseph is known for is providing for the Holy Family. With this in mind, the Adult Faith Commission is seeking to partner with organizations who are working to feed those less fortunate in our community. We recently met with Alicia Clarkson from the Peter McKee Community Garden and she gave a wonderful presentation on the work they are currently doing and their plans for the future.

When asked what their most pressing needs are she responded with "seeds and funding". Some of the seeds they would be looking for are **Carrots** (Tenderly Emperor, Scarlet Nantes), **Lettuce** (Buttercrunch, Little Gem, Romaine) and **Tomato** (Prudens Purple, San Morzano). Also, gift cards to hardware stores or garden centers are always useful.

As far as funding. They currently have 101 Garden Boxes on the go; of the 101, only 16 are currently being sponsored. You can sponsor a box for \$200 for the year. This will provide seeds, soil and maintenance, updates, a charitable tax receipt, and the good grown in your name will go to the food bank, or a family in need. Also, for the \$200 there will be a sign put up with the information of the sponsor.

If you would like more information about this, please check out their Facebook page or email Alicia at alicia.clarkson@fooddepot.ca

AFC Committee members: Mike Jefferies, Susan McCarthy, Debbie Theriault, Mark Mahoney, Fr. Phil Mulligan.

