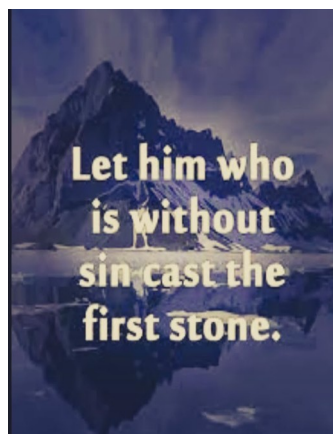


## EXPLORING OUR FAITH ~ CASTING THE STONE

Today in the Gospel according to John we hear of the story of the woman caught in adultery. It reminds us that sin - turning away from God and acting against our own dignity and worth is not an ending. Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others. Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners His mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we, like the woman, are sent to sin no more and live in God's love and peace.

I learned at a young age that I should not be judgmental of others, especially without the knowledge of what truly has led to this behaviour. One day I came home from school and told my mom about how mean some of my classmates were treating this one girl...."She stinks! I'm not sitting near her!" My mother, a nurse who was working part-time with Public Health, would help in wellness clinics, go to certain house to help with healthcare/ assessments (going to a doctor at that time in Ontario cost money) and she told me she knew where this girl lived. She told me that even though there was water, there was no hot water where she lived so she couldn't have the nice, warm bath like I could; nor would her clothes ( school uniform ) have been washed in hot water or hung outside to dry in the clean, warm air. That was maybe why her hygiene wasn't as good. It wasn't her fault so no one should judge her or her appearance. Mom told me not to be like some of the others, reminded me that I should try to be a friend and show her kindness and never, ever judge others when we don't know their particular situation. This was a powerful lesson to me that I recalled when I read this week's gospel.



Pope Francis, in citing St. Augustine, Said "Once those who sought to stone the woman left, only Jesus and the woman remained; "mercy with misery" because in His eyes "that woman, that person was what was of value". For Him the sinner comes before the sin. I, you , each one of us come first in the heart of God... before mistakes, rules, judgments and our failures."

When Jesus forgave the woman, He did not excuse her sin or treat it lightly. Rather, He expected a change of heart- confession and repentance. In turn, He presented the woman with the opportunity to begin a new life. He saw her as valuable , precious , and worthy of love. In going and sinning no more meant being brought back into a relationship with God. This is available to all of us , too.

Thomas Merton said; "Every moment and every event of every man's life on earth plants something in his soul." In a world that increasingly tells us that nothing matters , that we can be critical of someone's behaviour, looks, lifestyle, these words remind us that everything matters infinitely. By not judging others without knowledge of the truth or by not thinking you are 'better' than others, you are saying to God "I don't want to disappoint you. I want my actions to reveal the depth of my love for God and gratitude for the grace He gives us always." As we enter the last weeks toward our Easter celebration, let us take heart and appreciate the mercy and forgiveness we receive in our relationship with God.

~Cathy Keirstead, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping

# Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

## Fifth Sunday of Lent 3 April 2022

**Immaculate Conception Church, Rexton**

**St-Peter's Church, South Branch**



**Parish Office:**

12 School Street Rexton, NB E4W 2E5  
**Phone:** 506-523-6817 ~ **Fax:** 506-717-0245  
**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

**Priest-Moderator:** Fr. Bernard Gauthier, C.Ss.R. 523-9788 Cell Phone: 889-0344

**Immaculate Conception Mass Times**

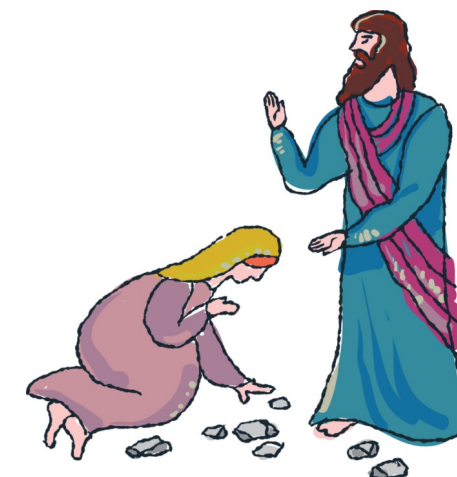
Sunday – 9:00 am  
 Tuesday – 4:00 pm (Sacristy)

**St. Peter's Mass Time**

Saturday – 4:00 pm

**Scripture Readings for Upcoming Week**

<b>Mon</b>	Deuteronomy 13:1-30	Psalms 23	John 8:12-20
<b>Tue</b>	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalms 102	John 8:21-30
<b>Wed</b>	Deuteronomy 3:14-20	DN 3:52-56	John 8:31-42
<b>Thur</b>	Genesis 17:3-9	Psalms 105	John 8:51-59
<b>Fri</b>	Jeremiah 20:10-13	Psalms 18	John 10:31-42
<b>Sat</b>	Ezekiel 37:21-28	JER 31:10-12	John 11:45-56
<b>Sun</b>	Luke 19:28-40 Isaiah 50:4-7 Philippians 2:6-11	Psalms 22	Luke 22:14-56



## PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

### Immaculate Conception

Loose: **\$30.10**; Envelopes: **\$475.00**;  
 Christmas Env.: **\$20.00**; Oil Tank Donation: **\$20.00**;  
 Potluck Donation: **\$20.00**;  
 Funeral Mass: **\$100.00** **TOTAL: \$665.10**

### Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Funeral Music: **\$100.00**

### St. Peter's

Loose: **\$31.00**; Envelopes: **\$60.00**;  
 Hall Donation: **\$50.00**; Church Donation:  
**\$50.00**; Misc. Donation: **\$15.00**;  
 Funeral Expenses: **\$100.00**; **TOTAL: \$306.00**

### St. Peter's Cemetery

Memorial Tree 2021: **\$505.00**

## 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	2	SP	4:00 pm	Cathy Roach†	JoAnn Murphy & Family
Sun	3	IC	9:00 am	Rose Jean Cormier†	Norma McNairn & Family
Tue	5	IC	4:00 pm	Patrick Scoretz†	Maia, Mark & Family
Sat	9	SP	4:00 pm	Raymond Murphy†	Gertrude Connolly
Sun	10	IC	9:00 am	Hanrahan Family	Nancy

## LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING WEEK

				Lectors		Eucharistic Ministers	
Sat	9	SP	4:00 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading & Psalm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading & Intentions	Lois	Stella	
Sun	10	IC	9:00 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading & Psalm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading & Intentions	Gloria Bob	Adona	

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ROSARY SCHEDULE

				Leader	Intentions
Sun	3	IC	8:30 am	Maia Scoretz	<b>1st Decade: For our clergy</b> <b>2nd Decade: For our parishioners</b> <b>3rd Decade: For our youth</b> <b>4th Decade: For peace in our world</b> <b>5th Decade: For the intentions of parishioners</b>
Sun	10	IC	8:30 am	Gail Barlow	
<del>Sun</del>	<del>17</del>	<i>No mass in Rexton on Easter Sunday</i>			
Sun	24	IC	8:30 am	Gail Barlow	

## WE PRAY FOR STRENGTH FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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

**ROSARY** For those who wish to participate, we will be praying the Rosary prior to Sunday mass each Sunday, beginning at about 8:30 am. If you wish to assist with leading the Rosary, please contact the parish office so you can be included on the schedule.

**PARISH POTLUCK** There will be a parish potluck on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the Parish Hall in Rexton. Everyone is invited, but you will need to sign up and indicate which dish you plan to bring with you. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church, as well as on the bulletin board in the parish hall. You may also contact Trevor at the parish office to indicate what you plan to bring.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK (CORRECTION)** Fr. Bernard will be offering Anointing of the Sick in Rexton on Wednesday, April 13th at 2:30 PM, and in Elsipogtog at 7:00 PM on the same day. The Anointing of the Sick will not take place on April 3<sup>rd</sup> as indicated in last week's bulletin.

**MOVIE & DISCUSSION** On Good Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30, we will be showing the film *Jesus of Nazareth* (1977) at the parish hall, following which Fr. Bernard will lead a discussion on the film. For more information contact Maia at 506-688-6061 or [family@forourlady.com](mailto:family@forourlady.com)



## SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER TRIDUUM

Date	Event	Time	Location
April 12 <sup>th</sup> ***	Chrism Mass	6:30 PM	Our Lady of the Assumption Cathedral
<b>***There will be no 4:00 PM Mass in Rexton on April 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Chrism Mass, which all are welcome to attend.</b>			
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Anointing of the Sick	2:30 PM	Rexton
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Anointing of the Sick	7:00 PM	Elsipogtog
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Thursday	7:00 PM	Rexton (followed by a time of prayer)
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Thursday	7:00 PM	Indian Island (followed by a time of prayer)
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday (Way of the Cross)	10:00 AM	Elsipogtog
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday	3:00 PM	Rexton
April 15 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday	3:00 PM	Elsipogtog
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Saturday	8:30 PM	Rexton
April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Saturday	8:30 PM	Elsipogtog
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday	10:30 AM	South Branch
April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Sunday	10:30 AM	Indian Island

## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

### DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

Good news! After two years celebrating with a minimal number of people due to the pandemic, I am happy to be able to invite you in great numbers this year for the Chrism Mass that I will preside on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Assumption in Moncton. During this beautiful and grandiose celebration, priests and deacons renew their promises. Also, the Holy Chrism used in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Ordination is consecrated. And the oil of the catechumens and the oil of the sick are blessed. So, we are all invited to reaffirm together our desire to proclaim the Gospel and build God's Kingdom. I will therefore be pleased to welcome you to the Chrism Mass. ~Archbishop Valéry <sup>Vienneau</sup>

**JOB OFFER - PART TIME MANAGEMENT POSITION** The Archdiocese of Moncton is seeking candidates to fill the position of Manager of Our Lady of Calvary Cemetery on a part time basis. The interested candidates must be proficient in both English and French and have demonstrated management experience. Candidates may submit their resume to the Moncton Archdiocese Reception Office at 224 St George Street Moncton, Attention: Financial Administrator, by April 8, 2022. A job description is available by email: [annettel.diocese@gmail.com](mailto:annettel.diocese@gmail.com)

**DEVELOPMENT & PEACE** This Solidarity Sunday, Development and Peace's *People and Planet First* campaign invites you to give from the heart and thanks you warmly for your generosity. Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world. In Cambodia, for instance, your solidarity helped our partner DPA establish a community fishery in Srey Packly's village. She said, "Thank you very much to DPA and to the donors for supporting my family and fellow villagers to have fresh and healthy fish to eat and to improve our livelihoods." Such is the difference you can make by giving to your Share Lent parish collection or at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give). Thank you for helping us build a world of justice.

**ONLINE COLLECTION FOR UKRAINE** Development and Peace is taking online donations to help the thousands of people affected by the ongoing war in Ukraine. You can make a donation on our website ([www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org)), by calling 1 888 664-3387 or by sending us a cheque by mail (1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, 3rd floor, Montreal, QC, H3G 1T7) made out to Development and Peace and marked "**Ukraine Emergency**". Thank you for your generosity in showing your affection for the women, men and children injured or forced to flee their homes.

**#LISTENINGCHURCH** The Atlantic Association of Catholic Youth Ministers is sponsoring an informal Zoom listening session where young people aged 14 and up are invited to join the conversation and share how they have been feeling about what's happening in their world. It will take place via Zoom on Thursday, April 7th at 7:00 PM with special guest and youth worker Jo Townsend from Community CARES in Sydney Mines. #ListeningChurch is an initiative arising from a series of virtual conversations held in collaboration with the CCCB and with young people across Canada in 2020. All young people aged 14 and up are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Trevor.

**VBS EXPRESS Vacation Bible School** This year's Vacation Bible School will take place 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm on Zoom from June 6th-9th. The theme is **MONUMENTAL: Celebrating God's Greatness**. Register with Karen at 387-4198 or [catechism.set@gmail.com](mailto:catechism.set@gmail.com) or Trevor at 857-4879 or [trevord.diocese@gmail.com](mailto:trevord.diocese@gmail.com). Due to limited space, the registrations must be received by May 1st, and there will be a \$20 registration/place-holding fee that will be refunded at the end of the program.