

EXPLORING OUR FAITH ~ PEARLS OF WISDOM

Jesus spoke in parables with amazing insights into human behaviour; many of them so convincing that they have become clichés of our language. One short parable was about a merchant who collected pearls and finally found the perfect one. He was so invested in his search that he sold everything else he had in order to buy it. When a young rich man asked Jesus for his advice Jesus drew on his own parable and suggested the young man sell all he had in order to obtain what he wanted most. But Jesus gave the parable a twist and told him to sell all he had and give to the poor and "come follow me."

I once heard a "fire and brimstone" preacher who believed in the literal interpretation of the Bible say about the parable of the rich man and the eye of the needle that Jesus was just exaggerating. No literal interpretation there. Of course all parables require personal interpretation. That is the point of a parable.

Today's first reading is set at the time of Amos and the two kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Periods of peace were interrupted by periods of war among the various peoples in the surrounding lands. Between wars there were various levels of economic prosperity. It is always so, even now. When Jesus said to Judas "The poor you will always have with you" he could have said "as well as the rich". What is really hard to process is the "correct" Christian way to relate to material ownership and how to evaluate what is important in life.



I had a friend who quite tragically but slowly became such a hoarder surrounded by so much stuff that eventually there was no longer any room left for people to get close to her. She died alone. I have also read and tried to put into practice Marie Kondo's book "the life changing magic of tidying up" (no caps in the title). It was actually quite helpful but not a total solution to the question of what attitude to take towards personal prosperity.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit". We try to understand this but we know that the poor are not necessarily happy. Why else would we be asked to give to them? In my own personal search for "pearls of wisdom" I recently found one I am trying out and will share with you. In Maeve Binchy's quite humorous little self-help manual "Aches and Pains" there is a section called "How to Be Hilarious About Making a Will". In it she recommends we make a will every year. She started at age 21. List what you own and value and decide who you want to bequeath it to, not if but when you die.

I am trying it out.

Agnes Beirne

Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 25 September 2022

Immaculate Conception Church, Rexton

St-Peter's Church, South Branch



Parish Office:

12 School Street Rexton, NB E4W 2E5

Phone: 506-523-6817

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 – 11:00 am

Tuesday – 4:00 pm (Sacristy)

St. Peter's Mass Time

Saturday – 4:00 pm

Scripture Readings for Upcoming Week

Mon	Job 1:6-22	Psalms 17	Luke 9:46-50
Tue	Job 3:1-17	Psalms 88	Luke 9:51-56
Wed	Job 9:1-16	Psalms 88	Luke 9:57-62
Thu	Daniel 7:9-14	Psalms 138	John 47-51
Fri	Job 38:1—40:5	Psalms 139	Luke 10:13-16
Sat	Job 42:1-17	Psalms 119	Luke 10:17-24
Sun	Hebrews 1:2-2:4 Timothy 1:6-14	Psalms 95	Luke 17:5-10



PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Immaculate Conception

Loose: **\$71.20**; Envelopes: **\$615.00**;
Parish Social Donations: **\$35.00**; Needs of Cdn.
Church Env.: **\$20.00**; **TOTAL: \$741.20**

St. Peter's

Loose: **\$46.00**; Envelopes: **\$140.00**;
Misc. Donation: **\$5.00**; Faith Formation Env.: **\$5.00**
TOTAL: \$196.00

Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Perpetual Care: **\$100.00**; Urn Burial: **\$75.00**
TOTAL: \$175.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR UPCOMING WEEK

Sat	24	SP	4:00 pm	Leon Vautour†	Lillian Vautour
Sun	25	IC	11:00 am	Rose Jean Cormier†	Nancy & Joan
Tue	27	IC	4:00 pm	Rita Whalen† (Mum)	Elizabeth & BeLinda Thompson
Sat	1	SP	4:00 pm	Josie McGlynn†	Sharon & Raymond Bulger
Sun	2	IC	11:00 am	Ken Sawyer†	Garnet & Irene Sawyer

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING WEEK

				Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat	1	SP	4:00 pm	1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions	Lois Stella
Sun	2	IC	11:00 am	1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions	Corinne Vina Gloria

ROSARY SCHEDULE FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

				Leader	Intentions
Sun	25	IC	10:30 am	Gail	1st Decade: <i>For our clergy</i> 2nd Decade: <i>For our parishioners</i> 3rd Decade: <i>For our youth</i> 4th Decade: <i>For peace in our world</i> 5th Decade: <i>For the intentions of parishioners</i>
Sun	2	IC	10:30 am	Maia	
Sun	9	IC	10:30 am	Gail	
Sun	16	IC	10:30 am	Maia	

WE PRAY FOR STRENGTH FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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

QUILT RAFFLE Tickets are still available for the Parish Quilt Raffle (estimated draw date October 9th). Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. If you would like to purchase tickets or would like tickets to sell, please contact the parish office.

FILIPINO MASS Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Filipino Mass on September 18th. Our next Filipino Mass will be held on Sunday, November 20th at 4:00 PM, followed by a parish social. Please note this mass will be conducted in Tagalog, one of the two official languages of the Philippines.

PARISH SOCIALS The next parish social will be held on Sunday, October 16th following the 11:00 am mass. Everyone is invited to attend and you may bring food to share if you like, but is not necessary. For more information contact Maia Scoretz at family@forourlady.com, 778-804-8370 or 506-688-6061.

CATECHISM FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN is scheduled to begin in the Parish Hall on Sunday, October 2nd following 11:00 am mass. Please bring with you a bible if you have one. Families can still register online through the parish website or Facebook page. Registration forms are also available at the back of the church.

PLEASE NOTE *Fr. Bernard will be away from October 2nd until October 7th. There will be no mass on Tuesday, October 4th but Fr. Bernard will still honor the mass intention for this mass.*

773 RICHIBUCTO AIR CADETS will be hosting a Bottle Drive on Saturday, October 1st from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Items can be dropped off at one of the following locations: Warman's Welding, Richibucto Town Hall, La Source, Recylage Kent Recycling, and Xperience Kouchibouguac Resort.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF CREATION - LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE... NORTH!

"The greatest burden of climate change is falling on people in the Far North and global South—those who have contributed least to the problem. Indigenous voices in the church remind us that we are called upon to look after Creator's gifts and to pass along these gifts to our children." What can we do? To learn more please go to <http://www.diomoncton.ca>.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. It is a day dedicated to acknowledging the tragic history and legacy of residential schools, its victims and survivors. Last July, Pope Francis began his penitential pilgrimage to Canada. The central objective of this apostolic journey was reconciliation and healing between the Catholic Church and the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. It was a first step on the road to healing. It will take a long time to rebuild trust, but the Pope has given us a message of hope (Honourable Graydon Nicholas, member of the Maliseet First Nation and former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, p. 13, Columbia Magazine, C of C, September 2022). As we begin this journey with our Aboriginal brothers and sisters, let us pray that the Virgin Mary, Saint Anne and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha will intercede for us on this journey of healing and give us the courage to persevere. ~*Diocesan Justice and Solidarity Team, Archdiocese of Moncton.*

ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN takes place Sunday, October 2nd, from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Champlain st. (beginning at Paul St. Dieppe). Arrive for 2:15 pm for the prayer and departure will be from Burger King, Paul St. We pray while distancing and in silence for the protection of the unborn and their families. Info Sr. Cécile F. at 857 9414.

FAITH EXPERIMENTS EXPRESS Children in grades 1 through 6 are invited back to Faith Experiments Express where we use science experiments to teach about God and Scripture. Sessions are conducted via Zoom and our first session will take place on Monday, October 3rd at 6:00 PM. For more information, Contact Karen at 387-4198 or karen.diocese@gmail.com.