

EXPLORING OUR FAITH ~ TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Last week, as part of my own preparation for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, I read the novel *Indian Horse*, by Richard Wagamese. I have been thinking about the multigenerational harm that was done in the name of our faith by those who represented our Church. Even as I was growing up in a Catholic community that fostered my sense of self-worth and unconditional love, Indigenous children were experiencing a Catholicism that stripped them of dignity and made God's love conditional upon the abandonment of their culture. At its root, the word "reconciliation" means to flow together again. But what does it mean to flow together when something that has been life giving for me has been life destroying for others? How can I continue to say "I believe in ... the holy catholic Church" when so much that is evil has been done in the name of that same church?

There are times when I cry out with the disciples in today's gospel, "increase my faith." Without more faith, I don't know how I will continue to be part of the church. There are days when I am on the brink of following the multitudes who have left the church because of all the harm that has been done in the name of faith or by those who were trusted because of their position within the faith community. But then I hear Jesus' response to the disciples' cry: "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." The problem is not that I need more faith to stay in the church. The problem is that I need to act on my faith and be church as church should be.



Faith is not a commodity that I can run out of. It is an action and or an attitude that must be completed. This is the message of the second half of today's gospel. After telling the disciples that faith the size of a mustard tree is more than enough, Jesus launches into a metaphor about servants. A servant is expected to do what is commanded without needing additional thanks or recognition part way through, because that is what it means to serve. In our culture, we might think of it this way: if we go to a restaurant and a server does a wonderful job of explaining the menu and taking our order, but then never brings the food, they did not really serve us. So too, if I say that I have faith in God, but those who meet me do not experience God through my actions, I am not really a person of faith.

So when I say, as part of the Apostles' Creed, each Sunday, that I believe in the "holy catholic Church," I am not saying that I believe in what was done in the name of that Church, or that I believe in the system that allowed those things to happen. I am saying that I am committed to working with the community of believers to build a world in which the image of God is recognized and honoured in all people and all cultures. I am saying that even if I do not clearly see how it will be achieved, I believe reconciliation is possible if each of us individually, and all of us communally, keep moving toward it.

~Pam Driedger, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping

Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 October 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

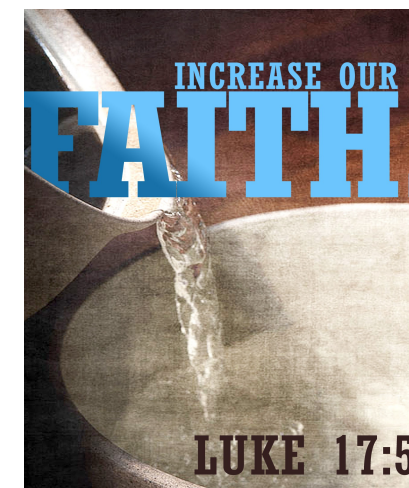
Tuesday – 4:00 pm (Sacristy)

St. Peter's Mass Time

Saturday – 4:00 pm

Scripture Readings for Upcoming Week

Mon	Galatians 1:16-12	Psalms 111	Luke 10:25-37
Tue	Galatians 1:13-24	Psalms 139	Luke 10:38-42
Wed	Galatians 2:1-14	Psalms 117	Luke 11:1-4
Thu	Galatians 3:1-5		Luke 11:5-13
Fri	Galatians 3:7-14	Psalms 111	Luke 11:15-26
Sat	Galatians 3:22-29	Psalms 105	Luke 11:27-28
Sun	2 Kings 5:14-17 Timothy 2:8-13	Psalms 98	Luke 17:11-19



PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Immaculate Conception

Loose: \$120.00; Envelopes: \$500.00;
Hall Rental: \$160.00; **TOTAL: \$780.00**

St. Bartholomew Cemetery

Donation IMO Gordon Ward: \$25.00; **TOTAL: \$25.00**

St. Patrick's Cemetery

3 Plots + 3 Perpetual Care: \$1050.00; **TOTAL: \$1050.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR UPCOMING WEEK

Sat	1	SP	4:00 pm	Josie McGlynn†	Sharon & Raymond Bulger
Sun	2	IC	11:00 am	Ken Sawyer†	Garnet & Irene Sawyer
Tue	4	IC	4:00 pm	Anna Scoretz	The Scoretz Family
Sat	8	SP	4:00 pm	David Harnett†	Stella & Yvon
Sun	9	IC	11:00 am	William & Mary Carter†	Dick & Family

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING WEEK

				Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat	8	SP	4:00 pm	1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions	Lois Stella
Sun	9	IC	11:00 am	1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions	Pat Donna Adona

ROSARY SCHEDULE FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

				Leader	Intentions
Sun	2	IC	10:30 am	Maia	1st Decade: For our clergy 2nd Decade: For our parishioners 3rd Decade: For our youth 4th Decade: For peace in our world 5th Decade: For the intentions of parishioners
Sun	9	IC	10:30 am	Gail	
Sun	16	IC	10:30 am	Maia	
Sun	23	IC	10:30 am	Gail	

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.

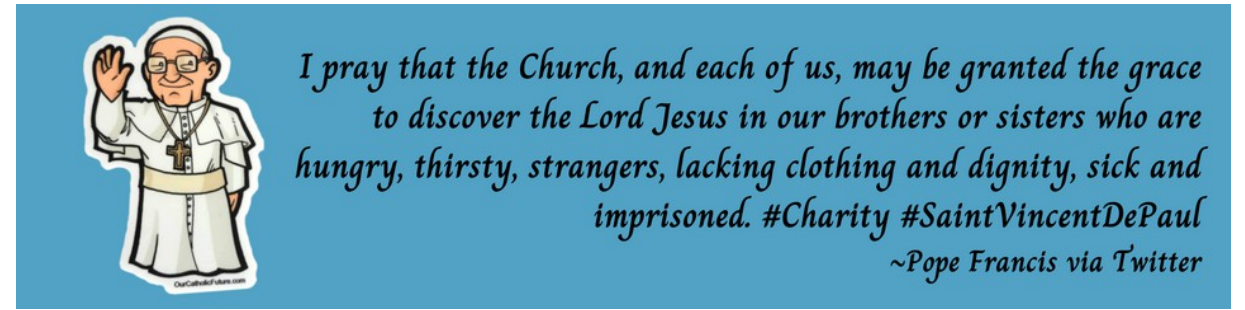
CATECHISM FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN will not proceed at this time due to insufficient registrations.

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 intention for this mass.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE The Parish Office will be closed the week of October 10th-14th as I will be attending meetings on Prince Edward Island.

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.



DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS ASSISI "But now ask the beasts to teach you, the birds of the air to tell you; Or speak to the earth to instruct you, and the fish of the sea to inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of God has done this?" **Job 12:1-9** October 4th is the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, lover of the poor and of all God's creatures. Please go to: <http://www.diomoncton.ca> and follow the links to read the Prayer for the blessing of the animals.

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 24th at 6:00 PM. For more information, Contact Karen at 387-4198 or karen.diocese@gmail.com.

MONDAY @ THE MOVIES is a group that meets regularly to discuss faith connections in popular films. Our next discussion will take place on Zoom on Monday, October 31st at 10:30 am when we will talk about faith connections in the (2001) psychological thriller, *The Others*, starring Nicole Kidman. For more information or to register, contact Karen at 387-4198 or karen.diocese@gmail.com.

DIVE INTO THE SUNDAY GOSPEL (October 6th Saint Lawrence O'Toole, October 7th St. Augustine's) We invite you to join us weekly, starting October 6th, for an hour of study on the upcoming Sunday Gospel from the perspective of St. Thomas Aquinas. (Zoom option available) For detailed information or to register, please contact Charlie Farrell at 857-4223 or charlie.farrell@qasmoncton.com.