

## EXPLORING OUR FAITH ~ FAITH ON EARTH

I have been blessed to be on the team that writes these scripture reflections for over ten years, so it stands to reason that every now and then I would be writing about the same group of readings as I had in the past. This is one of those weeks, and I have to say that it is so true that you can read the same passage of scripture countless times and it can impact you in very different ways depending on what's happening in the world and in your life.

In this week's gospel we have the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent (nagging) widow. All this lady was looking for was justice and she was not going to stop until she got it. I would like to compare her longing to the longing of the homeless, working poor, under privileged and less fortunate in our society today. In my role at Immaculate Heart of Mary, I take incoming phone calls and emails from people who are in need of help. Listening to their stories and how they got to where they are now can be heartbreaking. It is often a stark reminder that your life can change, and not for the better, in the "blink of an eye", and all your best laid plans go up in smoke.

Almost every morning as I am driving to work, I hear a story on the news about a person or family who have been forced out of their homes due to a spike in rent that they cannot afford. From there they seek affordable housing, which is in short supply, and when they cannot find that they are living in their car or a homeless shelter within a couple of months. So, as a predominantly Christian society (I think I can say that), what are we doing about it? What is our response to this growing crisis? What is our answer to these persistent people who continue to ask for help?

Like the judge we hear about in the gospel today, I think a lot of us try to figure out what we can do that will make these people just go away. The judge did not have much interest in finding out more about who this woman was, what her struggles were, and how it was that she had been mistreated. He just wanted her gone. Similarly, we often times are not interested in engaging with the street person who is in the same place every day begging for money. It becomes easier to pass judgment on the person in line at the soup kitchen every day if we don't know who they are. We can wonder out loud why they don't pull themselves together and start making something of their lives. If we allow ourselves to actually get to know them, then we become invested at a level we would prefer not to be. The question I am asking myself more frequently is "how much am I willing to step out of my own comfort zone to help someone else who I don't know and am of whom I am a little leery?" My honest answer is "not as much as I should be."

At the end of this week's gospel, Jesus asks the question, "when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" I don't think he's wondering if he will find a whole lot of people who can recite the Creed. If we profess to be people of faith, then it has to manifest itself in our actions. Will he find people who worked tirelessly to help the poor, the widow, the orphan, the needy? Will he find people who welcomed the immigrant and embraced the stranger? Will he find people who upheld the other's dignity, regardless of their station in life? I will end by quoting a priest in our diocese who has said in more than one homily, "you will need a letter of reference from the poor to get into heaven".

-Mark Mahoney, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping



# Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

## Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time 16 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](mailto: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

<b>Mon</b>	Ephesians 2:1-10	Psalm 100	Luke 12:13-21
<b>Tue</b>	2 Timothy 4:10-17	Psalm 145	Luke 10:1-9
<b>Wed</b>	Ephesians 3:2-12	Psalm 12	Luke 12:39-48
<b>Thu</b>	Ephesians 3:14-21	Psalm 33	Luke 12:49-53
<b>Fri</b>	Ephesians 4:1-6	Psalm 24	Luke 12:54-59
<b>Sat</b>	Ephesians 4:7-16	Psalm 122	Luke 13:1-9
<b>Sun</b>	Sirach 35:12-14 Timothy 4:6-18	Psalm 34	Luke 18:9-14

## The Parable of the Persistent Widow



## PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

### Immaculate Conception

Loose: **\$123.00**; Envelopes: **\$735.00**;  
 Quilt Raffle Tickets: **\$25.00**; Votives: **\$196.80**;  
 Hall Rental: **\$95.00**; **TOTAL: \$1,174.80**

### Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Donations *IMO Karol Ike-Duninowski*: **\$1,350.00**;  
 Perpetual Care: **\$100.00**; **TOTAL: \$1,450.00**

### St. Peter's

Loose: **\$16.05**; Envelopes: **\$125.00**; **TOTAL: \$141.05**

### St. Bartholomew Cemetery

Donations IMO Gordon Ward: **\$380.00**

### Regional Mass Account

Masses: **\$110.00**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!**

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR UPCOMING WEEK

Sat	15	SP	4:00 pm	John & Catherine Daigle†	Claire Murphy
Sun	16	IC	11:00 am	Nathalie Robichaud†	Stuart & Bill
Tue	18	IC	4:00 pm	Margie Sullivan†	Dick & Family
Sat	22	SP	4:00 pm	Wallace Best†	Lois & Richard
Sun	23	IC	11:00 am	Julia Scoretz	The Scoretz Family

## LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING WEEK

				Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat	22	SP	4:00 pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading & Psalm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading & Intentions	Lois Stella
Sun	23	IC	11:00 am	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading & Psalm 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading & Intentions	Gloria Corinne Adona

## ROSARY SCHEDULE FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

				Leader	Intentions
Sun	16	IC	10:30 am	Maia	<b>1st Decade:</b> <i>For our clergy</i> <b>2nd Decade:</b> <i>For our parishioners</i> <b>3rd Decade:</b> <i>For our youth</i> <b>4th Decade:</b> <i>For peace in our world</i> <b>5th Decade:</b> <i>For the intentions of parishioners</i>
Sun	23	IC	10:30 am	Gail	
Sun	30	IC	10:30 am	Maia	
Sun	6	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.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ODETTE MARTIN**, of Saint-Louis de Kent who won the Immaculate Conception Quilt Raffle. The winning ticket was drawn prior to mass last weekend by Huguette Robichaud, who sold the most tickets. **IN TOTAL, \$1,143.00 WAS RAISED TO SUPPORT THE PARISH! THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the success of the Quilt Raffle by selling tickets, those who bought tickets, and especially to the Lady's Sewing Circle for donating the quilt.

**UPCOMING FILIPINO MASS** Our next Filipino Mass will be held on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 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.



## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MONDAYS @ 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 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](mailto:karen.diocese@gmail.com).

**CONVERSATIONS AROUND DEATH AND DYING (MAiD)** A session on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) will take place on Monday, November 21st at Holy Family (Falkland Street, Moncton) from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. The session will be led by Pam Driedger, member of the Adult Faith Commission and a Director of Spiritual Care at the Moncton Hospital with Horizon Health Network. Register with Karen LeBlanc at 387-4198, [karen.diocese@gmail.com](mailto:karen.diocese@gmail.com) or online at [www.diomoncton.ca](http://www.diomoncton.ca) → Pastoral Offices → Adult Faith → Formation Opportunities.

**SYNOD UPDATE** The CCCB has submitted its national Synod Synthesis to the Holy See. The national synthesis document is divided into 11 sections, collectively reflecting on the major themes of this process and the voices heard. The report can be found through the CCCB Website online at the following link: <https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Synod-on-Synodality-EN-2022-08-31.pdf>

**NB RIGHT TO LIFE (MONCTON CHAPTER)** will be holding a Fundraising Dinner on Sunday November 6 at 5pm at the Dan Bohan Centre. Tickets (25.00) are available at St. Bernard's, St. Augustine's and Immaculate Heart of Mary parish offices or call Lise 854 4209, Diane 387 7377 Karl 229 0740.

**24-HOUR ADORATION OF OUR LORD WITH BENEDICTION** will take place on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm to November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm (followed by Mass at St. Augustine's Church, 40 Dominion Street, Moncton) Do you have any free time? Visit our all-powerful God in Eucharistic Adoration. Doors are open for 24 hours with the repose of Jesus, November 1st beginning at 6:45 pm followed by Mass. If you are able to commit to a specific hour, please contact Tiffany Good at [goodtiffany@hotmail.com](mailto:goodtiffany@hotmail.com) or 386-5442.