

EXPLORING OUR FAITH ~ WORRY OR HOPE?

The rhythm of the Church is one which is all her own. We are invited to enter into that rhythm, but often find it hard to do so, influenced as we are by the secular world in which we live. This Sunday, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, is the second last of this liturgical year. Soon, very soon, we will begin preparations to welcome the Babe. Some may have already begun them. :)

The readings give a feeling of foreboding, 'nation will rise against nation ... there will be great earthquakes ... famines and plagues... you will be betrayed even by your parents.' These words correlate with the continued feeling of angst in the world, present for several years, exasperated now as we seem rapidly headed for a recession, while also struggling with fall-out from the pandemic and a persistent movement of many to far right or far left ideologies. Investments are dropping and costs increasing: home heating fuel, gas for our cars, groceries. Interest rates are the highest they have been since 2008. Those with variable mortgage rates are paying more; others are still struggling to find a home they can afford; rents are up. The Bennett's are feeling concern around this as well - filling our oil tank will cost approximately \$1200, about 50% more than we budgeted; a new car ordered last spring will now cost about \$2000 more. Worries of it all can weigh us down. Added to that we seem surrounded by sickness and death - two young nephews who are encountering health issues; friends who have experienced sudden deaths of good friends; another who has received devastating news about a cancer diagnosis. Life seems hard right now.

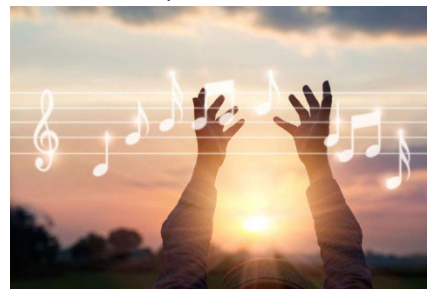
Yet the readings also say 'when you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified. ... not a hair of your head will perish.' Words of comfort; words of hope; words that call us to trust.

For some reason or another, I am always tired at this time of year. It is easier for me to live the worries than the joys; focus on what needs to be done, rather than what has already been accomplished. I am a worker bee, and even though now retired, am challenged to complete the many tasks I keep creating for myself. Maybe it is when one is tired that we are more prone to anxiety, to seeing the half empty glass versus the half full one.

So last week I was thrilled to witness powerful examples of community which brought peace and joy. The Mass for *All Souls Day* - that beautiful, poignant liturgy which remembers those from our pastoral unit who have died in the last 12 months, touched me. Hearing a bit of their story - "I miss the birthday cards that arrived two weeks ahead of schedule with a large 'do not open until...' noted on the front of the envelope. ... I miss that you could not join me to watch the Habs beat the Leafs in the season's opening game. ... Most of all, I miss you." - brought back my own memories of those I love who have died. The Snowflake Bazaar hosted by the IHM Ladies Society presented opportunity to see grandparents shopping with their grandchildren; watch young people find treasures from other people's castaways; chat with those I have not seen in a long time and some I only met that day; spot parishioners and former parishioners mingling together. Last Sunday's liturgy welcomed two young cousins, both honouring their grandmother by bearing her name, into the Church through the celebration of Baptism, surrounded not only by their family, but also by the community.

These simple, ordinary events offered me such positive experiences of community. It is not to say that all we worry about is not happening; that tragedy and struggles are not real and painful. However, when we allow it to, the community can offer comfort and hope, joy and support through times of angst and fatigue. Maybe because it is the Body of Christ which He left us.

~Ellen Bennett, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parish Grouping



Our Lady of Hope Pastoral Unit

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 13 November 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

| Day | Reading 1 | Reading 2 | Reading 3 |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Mon | Revelation 1:1-2:1-5 | Psalm 1 | Luke 18:35-43 |
| Tue | Revelation 3:1-6,14-22 | Psalm 15 | Luke 19:1-10 |
| Wed | Revelation 4:1-11 | Psalm 150 | Luke 19:11-28 |
| Thu | Revelation 5:1-10 | Psalm 149 | Luke 19:41-44 |
| Fri | Revelation 10:8-11 | Psalm 119 | Luke 19:45-48 |
| Sat | Revelation 11:4-12 | Psalm 144 | Luke 20:27-40 |
| Sun | 2 Samuel 5:1-3 Colossians 1:12-20 | Psalm 122 | Luke 23:35-43 |

SIGNS
OF THE
TIMES



PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LAST WEEK

Immaculate Conception

Loose: **\$150.00**; Envelopes: **\$935.00**;
 Mass Stipends: **\$24.00**; Hall Rentals: **\$180.00**;
 Propagation of the Faith: **\$5.00**;
TOTAL: \$1,294.00

Immaculate Conception Cemetery

Donation IMO Martin Walsh: **\$10.00**

St. Peter's

Loose: **\$22.00**; Envelopes: **\$280.00**;
 Mass Stipends: **\$12.00**; Propagation of the Faith: **\$5.00**;
TOTAL: \$319.00

St. Bartholomew Cemetery

Donations: **\$133.25**

St. Patrick's Cemetery

Burials: **\$625.00**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR UPCOMING WEEK

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sat | 12 | SP | 4:00 pm | Gerald Johnson† | Debbie & Dale Harnett |
| Sun | 13 | IC | 11:00 am | Joseph and Jacqueline Kincaid† | Stephen Kincaid |
| Tue | 15 | IC | 4:00 pm | Emerise Maillet† | Géralda Comeau |
| Sat | 19 | SP | 4:00 pm | The People of St. Peter's Parish | A Parishioner |
| Sun | 20 | IC | 11:00 am | Joseph Scoretz | The Scoretz Family |

LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING WEEK

| | | | | Lectors | Eucharistic Ministers |
|-----|----|----|----------|---|-----------------------------|
| Sat | 19 | SP | 4:00 pm | 1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions | Lois Stella |
| Sun | 20 | IC | 11:00 am | 1 st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading & Intentions | Stephen Corinne Adona |

ROSARY SCHEDULE FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

| | | | | Leader | Intentions |
|-----|----|----|----------|--------|---|
| Sun | 13 | IC | 10:30 am | Maia | 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 | 20 | IC | 10:30 am | Gail | |
| Sun | 27 | IC | 10:30 am | Maia | |
| Sun | 4 | 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.

PLEASE NOTE THE 4:00 PM MASS IN REXTON ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH WILL BE CANCELLED but Fr. Bernard will still honour the mass intention for that day.

MEMORIAL WALL The photographs from our Memorial Wall at the back of the church have been taken down after The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) and before the beginning of the new liturgical year (First Sunday of Advent). Anyone wishing to collect the photo of a loved one should contact the parish office.

LIVING WITH CHRIST MISSALS are now available for purchase at the back of the church at a cost of \$5.00 each.

UPCOMING FILIPINO MASS 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.

SOUTH BRANCH LADIES GROUP COOKBOOK The 2003 South Branch Ladies Group Cookbook has been reprinted and are being sold for \$20.00 a copy. *Please note this is a reprint of the 2003 cookbook (same recipes).* To purchase a copy, contact Cathy Butler at 955-3612, 59cathybutler@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office.

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAYS @ THE MOVIES is a group that meets regularly on Zoom to discuss faith connections in popular films. This year we will have a special series of discussions called Advent @ The Movies where we will meet every Monday on Zoom for three consecutive weeks beginning Monday, November 28th at 10:30 am when we will talk about the (1951) family classic *Scrooge*, starring Alastair Sim. On December 5th, we will discuss the (2010) *Company of Men*, and on December 12th, we will be talking about the (1982) *E.T. the Extraterrestrial*. For more information or to register, contact Karen at 387-4198 or karen.diocese@gmail.com.

CONVERSATIONS AROUND DEATH AND DYING (MAID) One theme arising from previous sessions on MAiD was that many of us are uncomfortable discussing our own death as well as the death of a loved one. However, honest conversations (about values, good palliative care, or advanced care planning) can help to improve the care we receive at the end of our lives. In response to this, the committee responding to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) is planning a session for 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. The aim of this session will be to help families start conversations about death and dying before circumstances force them to. How can families and loved ones accompany those who find themselves struggling with illness, pain and difficult medical circumstances? Register with Karen LeBlanc at 387-4198, karen.diocese@gmail.com or online at www.diomoncton.ca → Pastoral Offices → Adult Faith → Formation Opportunities.

RED WEDNESDAY On Wednesday, November 16, 2022, The Canadian office of Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) invites everyone to show solidarity with persecuted Christians around the world by participating in Red Wednesday. In Montreal, a Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 p.m. at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral, whereas in Toronto, an ecumenical vigil will begin at 7 p.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica. Salt + Light TV will be airing both events. Further details are available at: <https://acn-canada.org/red-wednesday/> Let us pray in a special way for our brothers and sisters persecuted around the world because of their faith so that all countries can achieve respect and tolerance between people of different religious traditions.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR Set for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, World Day of the Poor is a day explicitly desired by Pope Francis and promulgated by the Catholic Church as of 2017. This day is intended above all **for and with poor people**. The Holy Father refuses to see the poor as only recipients of a good deed of volunteering to do once a week. He insists rather on the need to dedicate oneself to a true encounter with them and to a sharing that becomes a way of life. He hopes that this world day will become a **strong appeal to our conscience as believers**.

