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St. André Bessette Parish

St. Bernard Church, Enfield
St. Rose of Lima Church, Fall River
Holy Cross Church, Middle Musquodoboit

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 6:30 pm at St. Bernard
Wednesday 6:30 pm at St. Rose of Lima
Thursday 9:00 am at St. Bernard followed by Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament until noon, Benediction and close
Friday 9:00 am at St. Rose of Lima followed by Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament until noon, Benediction and close

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:00 pm at St. Bernard
6:30 pm at Holy Cross
Sunday 9:00 am at St. Bernard
11:00 am at St. Rose of Lima (Live Stream)

Confessions

Tuesdays from 6:00 to 6:20 pm – St. Bernard Church
Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:20 pm – St. Rose of Lima Church
Saturdays from 3:15 to 3:45pm – St. Bernard Church
or by Appointment

SOLEMN FEAST OF EPIPHANY JANUARY 8, 2023

As we gather to reflect on the power of the Birth of Christ, we recognize through the visit of the Magi that Jesus Christ came to renew and bring the whole created world back to God the Father. The power of this birth literally changed the world. The Sacred Scripture provides for us sufficient material to reflect upon how great this gift is. Jesus came that we may have life, that we may reconnect with the gift that God made each and everyone of us.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Monday, January 9) marks the closing of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Ordinary Time in our Church calendar. With the Baptism of the Lord, God's voice reminds us, **"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."** God has given the world a gift – Jesus born in time, in the flesh, comes among us as the Beloved of God to make us who listen, who hear, and who heed, beloved sons and daughters of God as well.

Today, let's give thanks and praise to God, let's commit to make our lives the gift that God intends it to be. Let's rediscover the beauty and the love of a God who desires us to be with Him and live in accordance with that desire in our hearts. Merry Christmas and Happy Feast of the Epiphany!!!

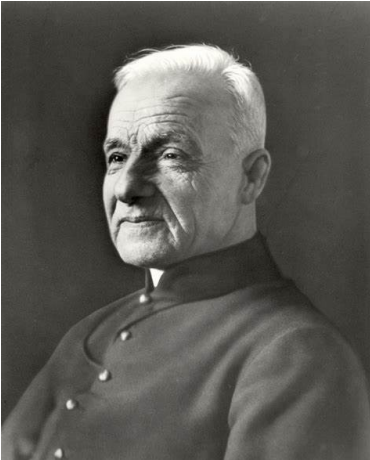
...Fr. Gerald

Extending Condolences – On behalf of Saint André Bessette Parish, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Sam and Lucy Morris on the sudden death of their son, Terry Morris. May your faith in the resurrection of Jesus be your hope and consolation. May Terry receive the gift of eternal life. **Terry's funeral will be at St. Rose of Lima on Monday, January 9 at 11:00 am.** All are welcome to come and prayerfully support the family at this celebration of Terry's life in Christ.

With a Grateful Heart – In my first Christmas with you at Saint André Bessette Parish, I extend my deepest gratitude for your generosity and kindness. I have received many thoughtful gifts and prayers over the Christmas Season. You are a very kind and generous people, and for this I give thanks to God for each and every one of you. I pray this coming year be a year of blessing for each of you and your families. As your pastor, I look forward to journeying with you and leading the Parish Community of Saint André Bessette. May our time together bear some good fruit in building up the Kingdom of God in this portion of the vineyard of the Lord. May we grow to give praise, glory, and honour to God, our Heavenly Father! God’s choicest blessings on you all!!!

...Fr. Gerald

Patronal Feast of our Parish - Feast of St. André Bessette — January 7, 2023 marks the Feast of St. André Bessette, our Patronal Feast. This year, with the Feast Day falling on a Saturday in the Christmas Season, we celebrate at our Sunday Masses on the Feast of the Epiphany.



St. André Bessette was beatified (made Blessed) on May 23, 1982, in St. Peter’s Square in Rome by Pope John Paul II. He was canonized a Saint on October 17, 2010, in St. Peter’s Square in Rome by Pope Benedict XVI. St. André Bessette was the name chosen to be our Patron in 2020 when our three Churches became a new Parish. There are likely many reasons for choosing St. André Bessette — Canadian Saint; one who offered hospitality and acted as a conduit of God’s love, healing, and mercy; a Religious of the Holy Cross in Montreal; are but among a few. I invite each of us as members of the Parish of St. André Bessette to spend some time reflecting on St. André Bessette, his life, his character, his faith. Share in your own Domestic Church and assist your children and grandchildren to grow in an understanding of what makes a saint a saint. Let’s become familiar with the Patron of our Parish. Interestingly enough, we also have a couple more saints in our Parish to reflect upon as well – St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Rose of Lima – two of our churches in our Parish continue to retain their Saint names. Holy Cross, while it speaks of

Christ’s Exaltation, is also the name of the Religious Community that St. André Bessette belonged to. As we reflect on St. André Bessette, St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Rose of Lima and learn more about them, let us try and discover how this can help us formulate our new identity as a Parish. St. André Bessette - Pray for us!!!

...Fr. Gerald

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfasts — KOC Council 11625 of St. Bernard will be holding a Community Breakfast at the Enfield Fire Hall from **9:00 am until noon on Sunday, January 29**. For a mere \$8.00 for adults (13 years and older), \$5.00 for youth (5 to 12 years old), and free for children (4 years and under), you will get to enjoy scrambled eggs, hash browns, baked beans, bacon, toast, pancakes, juice, tea or coffee. So c’mon out St. André Bessette parishioners and meet a new neighbour over the best breakfast in the Corridor! **Mark your calendars for future KOC breakfasts— March 5 and May 14 (Mother’s Day).**

Offering Envelopes — Envelopes for 2023 are ready to be picked up. Those who had 2022 envelopes have been assigned the same number. The boxes have been labeled and placed in alphabetical order by last name. If you don’t currently have envelopes, there are a number of boxes that have not yet been assigned to anyone. Take one! Please fill out the box’s registration slip with your full name (including middle initial) and contact information and place it in the collection. **Please include your name and the donation amount on your weekly envelope to ensure the charitable tax receipt can be produced for the accurate amount.** To register with our parish Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program, please contact Claire at the St. Bernard office. You may also make direct deposit e-transfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Classes in January:

St. Rose of Lima
P-8
January 22
9:45 to 10:45 am

St. Bernard
P-8
January 15 and 29
10:00 to 11:00 am

Appreciation from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul — The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to express its gratitude to the parishioners of St. André Bessette for their overwhelming support during 2022. Your monetary donations and gift cards enabled members to help clients with their needs. Their clients are like all of us, just doing their best to get by. But sometimes the unexpected happens and they need help with food, oil, power or a shortfall on their rent. Some may only need help once, others need help more frequently. The members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are the ones who reach out to clients, but it is your generosity that makes that help possible. Thank you so much.

Below is a list of how clients were supported in 2022:

\$3200	Rent
\$6550	Heating Oil
\$2200	Electrical
\$530	Gas
\$400	Medical
\$150	Bus Tickets
\$5200	Grocery Gift Cards
\$1200	Walmart, Giant Tiger, and Dollarama Gift Cards for clothes and gifts for children



The Society also supports Beacon House with donations of food and connects clients with this organization. St. Vincent de Paul is always looking for new members. If you would like more information or know someone who needs help, call 902-476-8626.

Knights of Columbus Lottery Calendars — Only \$20 each. This is a major fundraiser for the Knights. Proceeds go to KoC charitable causes. There are 354 daily draws of \$50, 8 monthly draws of \$150, draws for \$200 in March, \$250 in June, \$300 in September, and \$2,500 in November. All numbers drawn are re-entered, so you can win more than once. Winners will be contacted and paid at the end of each month. Maximum of 6000 calendars sold. Contact any Knight or call Joe at 902-997-1983 for details.

Distribution of Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound — If you or someone you know lives in the Fall River area, cannot physically attend Mass, and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, we would like to help. Contact Audrey DeMone (902-860-1798) or Eleanor Hanlon (902-860-3957) for more information.

Breakaway Adult Program (At The Open Gate - 5 Miller Lane, Fall River) — Breakaway is a program for seniors with chronic illness, mobility issues (wheelchair accessible), isolation or dementia which provides participants an opportunity to socialize and meet new friends. It also provides a morning respite for caregivers. The program consists of a variety of social activities and fun, gentle exercises and special events, all run by volunteers. They meet Monday from 9:30 am to noon, from September to the end of June. A suggested donation of \$5 a week is put toward supplies. If you are interested in learning more, call The Open Gate at 902-860-2662.

Support the Emergency Shelters Project — Let us continue to be mindful of the many people who do not have a warm home in which to live. The Diocesan Emergency Shelters Project is a year old. In that year, the need for sustainable and affordable housing has not lessened but grown. This shelter initiative has made a big impact on our community. It can only continue with your help. Donations can be made using a credit card or by making a cheque payable to the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth (note “Emergency Shelters Project” in the memo line) and mail it to 1559 Brunswick Street, Suite 101, Halifax, NS B3J 2G1 Attn: Business Office. You can also make a donation on behalf of a friend, a family member, or an organization. For more information, go to www.halifaxyarmouth.org/shelters.

