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WECOMING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH AND WORSHIP

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

Pastor
Fr. Gerald David
frgerald@standrebessette.net

Deacon
Rev. Mr. Dan Bowden
dangbowden@gmail.com

Parish Offerings:

To register with our parish Pre-Authorized Debit program, please contact Claire at the St. Bernard office. You can also etransfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com. These are alternatives to the traditional collection envelopes, which of course are still available.

St. André Bessette Parish

Sunday Masses:

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

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

Confessions:

St. Bernard:

Tuesday 6:00 pm - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Thursday 9:40 am - 10:30 am (during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)
First Friday of the month - 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

St. Rose of Lima:

Wednesday 6:00 pm - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Friday 9:40 am - 10:30 am (during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)
First Saturday of the month - 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Holy Cross:

Saturday 3:30 pm - 3:50 pm (prior to the 4:00 pm Mass)
... or by appointment

Enfield Office:

Claire Guyette 902-883-2660
stbernardsenfield@gmail.com
Tues. to Fri. 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Fall River Office

Lynette McMullin 902-860-0475
strose@standrebessette.net
Tues. to Thurs. 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Fri. 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Coordinator, Faith Formation

Maria MacDonald 902-576-2192 maria.mcdonald@standrebessette.net

Communications (Bulletin): standrecommunication@gmail.com
Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

www.standrebesette.net

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

Please note: Fr. Gerald will be away from September 22 to October 5. Any emergencies, please call the parish office and someone will tend to it during office hours.

This Sunday's Gospel drives a very clear point home. We do not always access this Gospel when we have been ridiculed, wronged, hurt or discredited. The immediate reaction at times is one of anger and defensiveness. Jesus reminds us in this story that God's forgiveness is always available. I guess the larger point is that with this forgiveness there must also be a sense of contrition/sorrow on the part of the one who does the wrong. We cannot just keep doing the same thing again and again without true contrition and remorse. This is often where this text can be really confusing - the story is really about God's just ways and His generous distribution of mercy. Once we receive this gift, this must become our way of living with others. Sometimes it's a lot easier to preach about mercy than it is to give it. Jesus is teaching us a very crucial lesson in this Gospel.

A Return to Routine — We are presently returning to some of the normal activities of our routine and schedule. Schools, colleges and universities are back in session. Our Teams, Councils, Committees and Organizations are resuming their efforts. Our hope and prayer is that you all were able to take some time with family and friends throughout the summer to rest, relax and rejuvenate your spirit. May these next few months be for St. André Bessette Parish a time of moving forward, building and growing. Once again, we encourage you to touch base with any former parishioners that you know have not returned to the regular practice of our faith since Covid and welcome them to return. Also, if you have family members who have fallen away from the practice of their faith, invite and encourage them in Christ to return to his Church.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) — Father Gerald had an initial meeting with some who are interested in taking the journey through RCIA this year at St. André Bessette Parish. In our final bulletin before summer began, and in our last couple of Bulletin updates offered through the summer, we issued an invitation for any adults who are not fully initiated in the Catholic Faith (1. baptized but never carried through with the remaining sacraments; or 2. not baptized, but interested in learning more) who have an interest in becoming a Catholic during the celebration of Easter 2024. There were a few others who indicated interest. Please contact the parish office in Enfield or Fall River and leave you name and contact information and Father will contact you when he returns from vacation. **The start-up date for regular meetings will be on Thursday, October 5**, so if you did not attend the meeting last Tuesday, you are still invited to join the group on Thursday, October 5.

Fall Adult Faith Program — Our 10-week fall adult faith program, Metanoia, begins this **Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 pm at St. Rose of Lima**. Contact the St. Rose office to register with your name, phone number and email. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend!

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Women's League — The CWL will meet this Tuesday evening, **September 19, at 6:30 pm in Mitchell Hall**. Any Catholic ladies interested in learning more are welcome and encouraged to attend.

St. Bernard Prayer Wall — The Ways & Means Committee continues to create a prayer wall at St. Bernard. This is raising funds for the parish as well as providing a peaceful area to pray. Plaques are engraved and placed on the bricks. They can be purchased in memory of a loved one or on behalf of a person/family. There are 3 levels of donations - Gold is \$1000, Silver is \$500 and Bronze is \$250. For more information, please contact Sarah White at smwhitey@outlook.com.

Parish Variety Show — A family variety show is being planned by the St. André Bessette Ways & Means Committee for **Sunday, November 26 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm** at the Enfield Legion. If you would like to share your talent or know of anyone else who would, please contact Sarah White at smwhitey@outlook.com.

Thank you — Mona Maatouk sends her heartfelt thanks to all the parishioners for their continuing love, support and prayers for her and the family during her illness.

Assembly of the People of God — The annual Assembly of the People of God will be on **Saturday, November 4, 2023**. All the faithful are invited to come together for a day of prayer, listening, learning...and hopefully a little fun. This year the Assembly will happen in McNally Theatre on the campus of Saint Mary's University. There will also be three Assembly hosting sites: Corpus Christi Parish in the Annapolis Valley, Immaculate Conception Parish in Truro, and Saint Ambrose Co-Cathedral Parish in Yarmouth. Everything happening in Halifax will be livestreamed to the hosting sites. We hope this allows as many people as possible to take part. Registration will open next week!

Breakaway Adult Program at The Open Gate, 5 Miller Lane, Fall River — Breakaway is a program for seniors held Monday mornings from 9:30 to noon, September to the end of June. The morning consists of a variety of social activities, fun, gentle exercises, special events and a light lunch, all run by volunteers. We can offer support for those with mobility issues or mild dementia, if needed. Suggested donation - \$5 a week. To register, call The Open Gate at 902-860-2662. To learn more about the program from a parishioner/volunteer, call Eleanor Hanlon 902-860-3957.

Beacon House — This very busy food bank is looking for **volunteers** to help put food away and pack orders. You must be energetic, empathetic and able to work in a confined, fast-pace environment. For more information, contact Anne Marie at 902-864-3025 or foodmgr@beaconhouses.org.

The shelves are quite empty right now. **Food donations** would be greatly appreciated. Most needed items: Kraft Dinner, pasta sauce, diced tomatoes, cereal, baby food and canned goods (vegetables, fruit, ham/chicken, beans, stew, and chicken noodle, tomato or mushroom soup). Thank you!

Mass Intentions for the week of September 18 to 24, 2023
 Tuesday, September 19 @ 6:30 pm (St. Bernard) - Raymond Benere †
 Wednesday, September 20 @ 6:30 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - Jessie O'Keefe †
 Thursday, September 21 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - George Walters †
 Friday, September 22 @ 9 am (St. Rose of Lima) - Dolores Fraser †
 Saturday, September 23 @ 4 pm (Holy Cross) - Steve Estey †
 Sunday, September 24 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - For the people
 Sunday, September 24 @ 11 am (St. Rose of Lima) - Tony Chesal

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
 as we gather together in Your name.
 With You alone to guide us,
 make Yourself at home in our hearts;
 Teach us the way we must go
 and how we are to pursue it.
 We are weak and sinful;
 do not let us promote disorder.
 Do not let ignorance
 lead us down the wrong path
 nor partiality influence our actions.
 Let us find in You our unity
 so that we may journey together
 to eternal life
 and not stray from the way of truth
 and what is right.
 All this we ask of You,
 who are at work in every place and time,
 in the communion of the Father and the Son,
 forever and ever.
 Amen.

Family Faith Formation News



Faith Formation
 Register today!! Forms are available online.

Registrations for Family Faith Formation Classes are ongoing for the month of September. You can register online by visiting our parish website: www.standrebesette.net (under the Faith Formation tab). You can also print out the registration form and fill it out by hand. Forms are also available at the entrance of the church on the Family Formation table. Please leave completed forms in the folder provided.

The Family Formation Program kick-off/ice cream social will take place on Sunday, September 24, 2023 at Mitchell Hall following the 11:00 am Mass at St. Rose of Lima.

Calling all catechists and those wanting to learn more.... Place yourself in this revealing work of art; pray, listen and "do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). Is God asking you to be a witness of faith, hope and love to the families/children of our parish? Cast out your nets to the deep with complete trust that God will send us faithful and willing catechists.

If you would like to learn more about the family faith formation program at our parish or about becoming a catechist, please contact the coordinator, Maria McDonald, at maria.mcdonald@standrebessette.net.

St. Thomas Anglican Church Dinner Theatre — "Superhero Support Group" will be held on November 2, 3 and 4, 2023. Cost is \$50. Phone number for tickets is 902-860-0092.



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