



# St. André Bessette Parish

## Welcoming Communities of Faith and Worship

Parish Office: 9 Jamieson Drive, Fall River, Nova Scotia B2T 1E5

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 9 am to 2 pm [www.standrebesette.net](http://www.standrebesette.net)



### St. Bernard Church 253 Highway 2, Enfield

- Sundays at 9 am
- Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
- Thursdays at 12 pm followed by Adoration until 1:30 pm



### St. Rose of Lima Church 1400 Fall River Road, Fall River

- Sundays at 11 am
- Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

- Fridays at 12 pm followed by Adoration until 1:30 pm (3 pm on First Friday)



### Holy Cross Church 11645 Highway 224, Middle Musquodoboit

- Saturdays at 4 pm

**Pastor:** Father Gerald David

[frgerald@standrebessette.net](mailto:frgerald@standrebessette.net)

902-860-0475 ext. 5

**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Dan Bowden

[dangbowden@gmail.com](mailto:dangbowden@gmail.com)

902-999-6720

### Parish Staff

Carla Donadoni, Secretary

[office@standrebessette.net](mailto:office@standrebessette.net)

902-860-0475 ext. 2

Lynette McMullin, Office Coordinator

[businessoffice@standrebessette.net](mailto:businessoffice@standrebessette.net)

902-860-0475 ext. 3

Julie Gosselin, Family Faith Formation Coordinator

[familyfaith@standrebessette.net](mailto:familyfaith@standrebessette.net)

902-860-0475 ext. 4

### Confessions

#### St. Bernard

Tuesdays from 6:00-6:20 pm (prior to 6:30 pm Mass)

Thursdays from 11:30-11:55 am (prior to noon Mass)

First Saturday of the month following the 9 am Mass

#### St. Rose of Lima

Wednesdays from 6:00-6:20 pm (prior to 6:30 pm Mass)

Fridays from 11:30-11:55 am (prior to noon Mass)

#### Holy Cross

Saturdays from 3:30-3:50 pm (prior to 4:00 pm Mass)

... or by appointment

### Your Financial Support

Your generous donations support the vital ministries, programs and outreach efforts of our parish. With your contributions, we can nurture spiritual growth, provide community services, and maintain a welcoming space for all. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a meaningful impact on fulfilling our mission. There are many ways to donate:

- Weekly offertory envelopes – Cash or cheques (payable to St. André Bessette Parish)
- Etransfers – [stbernardsenfield@gmail.com](mailto:stbernardsenfield@gmail.com)
- PAR (pre-authorized remittance) – PAR is invaluable to the parish, as these contributions still arrive even if you can't. PAR provides a steadier and more predictable stream of funds, which is extremely helpful for budgeting and planning for larger projects.

Thank you!

### Mass Intentions for the week of September 21 to 27, 2026

|                         |                             |                              |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday, September 22   | 6:30 pm @ St. Bernard       | Peter Todd †                 |
| Wednesday, September 23 | 6:30 pm @ St. Rose of Lima  | Evelyn Morris †              |
| Thursday, September 24  | 12:00 pm @ St. Bernard      | Hutchins Family              |
| Friday, September 25    | 12:00 pm @ St. Rose of Lima | Francie Curtis               |
| Saturday, September 26  | 4 pm @ Holy Cross           | Shelly Woodgate †            |
| Sunday, September 27    | 9 am @ St. Bernard          | Cassie & Cathal McNaughton † |
| Sunday, September 27    | 11 am @ St. Rose of Lima    | For the people               |

### Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Phone: 902-476-8626

Email and e-transfers  
(include in message box your  
name and address):  
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Make cheques  
payable to *Society of  
St. Vincent de Paul.*

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – September 20, 2026

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** — If you are interested in becoming a Catholic or discerning through completing the Sacraments of Initiation, please call or email Fr. Gerald to register for our process starting this fall. If you know of someone who might be considering becoming a Catholic, Fr. Gerald would love to know. Reach out to him at 902-860-0475 ext. 5 or by email at [frgerald@standrebessette.net](mailto:frgerald@standrebessette.net).

### Restoration of the Blessed Virgin Mary Statue at St. Rose of Lima

Parishioners attending St. Rose of Lima may have noticed that the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been removed from her pedestal beside St. Joseph because it requires major restoration. **We invite your support for this important effort.**

- The statue was originally located at the old church building in Windsor Junction sometime between 1884 and 1955.
- After some research, we learned that the nearest restoration facility is in the Ottawa area, which would have required shipping as well as the cost of time and materials. A visitor with experience and a background in the restoration of Catholic statues has undertaken the restoration for the cost of materials only.
- We have already received an anonymous donation to cover the cost of materials. We therefore welcome your donations to assist us in providing something more than just the cost of materials. Please place your contribution in one of the envelopes provided, or in an envelope marked **"For Mary,"** and place it in the collection.

Thank you for your consideration and generosity.

### LUNCHEON & CARDS

 Holy Cross Catholic Church  
Middle Musquodoboit

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

#### Cold Plate

11:30 am to 1:00 pm

\$10

45's

1:00 to 3:00 pm

\$2

Cash Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Place



**Windows Project at St. Bernard** — The three remaining large windows are scheduled to be installed next week. It will take approximately four days for the install. To date, we have raised \$175,435.00 – our target to complete the window project and to pay the final bill is \$186,143.00. If you are able to assist in helping us reach this goal please consider making a donation toward the windows – we have **\$10,708.00** as the remaining amount to be raised. Thank you for your generosity!!

**Newly Baptized in our Parish** – Let us pray for Rita Irene Higgins, who was baptized at St. Bernard this weekend. Let us also remember her parents, Doug and Catherine, as we offer them our love, prayers and support.

**Administrator for the Ministry of Consolation** — The Ministry of Consolation is a team of volunteers who visit and support those members of our community who are facing terminal illness, grief, bereavement, or end-of-life issues. We are currently looking for an individual to support the team in an administrative way.

This administrator will help the team by

making phone calls to parishioners and volunteers; scheduling visits; maintaining records; planning team meetings; and supporting the coordinator with recruitment and education sessions. It will require approximately 3 to 4 hours a week, and any training needed would be supplied by Jean Morris. If you are an organized person who wants to support the Parish in this Healing Ministry, please contact the office at 902-860-0475 ext. 2. Thank you and God Bless You.

**Mental Illness and MAiD** -- There's a good chance that you know someone impacted by mental illness. In any given year, 1 in 5 Canadians experience it. On March 17, 2027, eligibility for medically-assisted death (MAiD) automatically opens to Canadians whose only underlying health condition is mental illness. Suicide is already the second leading cause of death among people aged 15-34. Examples of conditions that will qualify for MAiD after that date include major depression and anxiety disorders, psychosis, eating disorders and substance use disorders (alcohol, etc). Due to privacy laws, family members may not learn of the request to die until after the patient's life has been ended.

If it acts quickly, Parliament could pass a new law to stop this extension of MAiD. There is a Private Members Bill C-218 scheduled for debate on September 23 and possibly a vote in early October. Now is a critical time to find out if your Federal MP and the Federal leadership plan to vote 'yes' and prevent medically-assisted death solely on the grounds of mental illness. More information can be found at this link: <https://www.helpnotharmcanada.ca/>

The Catholic Women's League of St. Rose of Lima cares about this. We think you do too. By taking just a few minutes to contact your Member of Parliament, you can help demonstrate that Canadians in their community care deeply about this issue. Write, call, or email your MP and respectfully share your concerns. Braedon Clark is the MP for Sackville-Bedford-Preston. He can be reached at [Braedon.Clark@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Braedon.Clark@parl.gc.ca) or by calling 902-861-2333.

### Ways and Means Committee Fundraiser

1st Prize - Handmade Wooden Outdoor Nativity

2nd Prize - \$100 Sobeys Gift Card

Tickets: 1 for \$2 and 3 for \$5



## Family Faith Formation

### Faith Formation Registrations for Sacramental Prep!!

(1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation/Holy Communion and Confirmation)

St. Bernard: **Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** (after 9 am Mass)

Julie will be at the back of the church to greet you. SEE YOU THEN!



|            |                                 |                                              |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| October 4  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Class | St. Bernard from 10:00 to 11:00 am           |
| October 4  | Confirmation Class              | St. Rose/Mitchell Hall from 12:10 to 1:30 pm |
| October 18 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Class | St. Rose/Mitchell Hall from 9:45 to 10:45 am |

### Upcoming Family Masses (Music Ministry led by Heather Jansma)



St. Bernard: **Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> @ 9 am**  
 St. Rose of Lima: **Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> @ 11 am**

We would be delighted to have parents and their children participate in our Family Masses! Contact Julie to let her know in what way you'd like to share your time and talent: **choir (voice or instrument), greeters, altar servers, readers, collection, offertory.**

Calling all **CATECHISTS** and those wanting to learn more.... Is God calling you to be a witness of faith, hope and love to the families/children of our parish? If you would like to get involved in teaching the sacraments at our parish, please contact the coordinator, Julie Gosselin, at [familyfaith@standrebessette.net](mailto:familyfaith@standrebessette.net)



**In Search of Choir Plaque at St. Rose of Lima** – We are looking for the plaque that used to hang near the organ which lists deceased members of the senior choir. If you have any information as to its whereabouts, please call the parish office.

**Eleanor Nordlund FOOD DRIVE for Beacon House** – The St. Rose of Lima CWL is coordinating this food drive for **Sunday, October 4**. Donations can be placed at the back of the church before Mass. All non-perishables welcome; suggested items include: Kraft dinner, mayonnaise, pasta sauce, canned fruit, boxed cereal, oatmeal, juice, granola bars, cookies and crackers. Thank you for your support!

The **Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada** will take place next weekend. When you give, your offering begins in our parish but reaches far beyond it. It helps support the mission of our diocese and joins the gifts of Catholics across the country in supporting the shared work of the Bishops of Canada. Together, this support makes possible work that no single diocese or eparchy could accomplish alone - from providing catechetical resources for families, young people and parishes, to promoting respect for human life and the dignity of every human person, and accompanying migrants and refugees. Your gift helps strengthen the Church here at home and supports its mission across Canada. Please give prayerfully and generously next weekend. To donate online, visit [cccb.ca/donate](http://cccb.ca/donate).



### The Atlantic Marian Gathering Presents: **Woman, behold your son.** (John 19:26)

October 2 to 4, 2026 @ St. Vincent de Paul Church, Dartmouth, NS

The Atlantic Marian Gathering, based in Halifax/Dartmouth, NS, is an annual event in the Atlantic provinces where the faithful are invited to grow closer to Jesus through Mary. This year, they are excited to announce our special guest speaker is Fr. Tim Devine, CC, a Companion of the Cross and Pastor of Holy Trinity Parish in Lower Sackville, NS. Fr. Tim has chosen the theme, "Woman, behold your son," based on John 19:26 where Jesus, from the cross, takes care of His mother's welfare, and gives us to here as our Mother. Check the website for special hotel group rates for those coming from out of town. For more information and to register go to: <https://atlanticmariangathering.ca/or> email: [mariangatheringhalifax@gmail.com](mailto:mariangatheringhalifax@gmail.com).

Register Here:



**Sacred Heart Pilgrimage – Medjugorje:** September 27 to October 9, 2026 Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with **Father Mark Cherry**, Spiritual Chaplain and Rhonda-Lynn Cormier, Group Leader. Cost - \$3699.00 includes airfare and all airport taxes from Halifax; twin accommodation, breakfast and dinner daily, professional local guide, day trip to "Little Lourdes" shrine, Makarska, Croatia. Single room supplement -\$350.00. Contact Rhonda-Lynn for info: 902-448-3660.



### Daily Bread Outreach Needs Your Helping Hands

Daily Bread Outreach is seeking four individuals or couples to join its team to shop for a small list of groceries to be delivered for food preparation once a month. Please contact Molly Palmer at [mpalmer@halifaxyarmouth.org](mailto:mpalmer@halifaxyarmouth.org), or during office hours at 782-321-8831 (Monday to Friday, 10 am to 2 pm). Daily Bread Outreach is a ministry that runs out of Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica and provides an average of 100 brown bag meals each day to the poor and vulnerable in our city. Volunteers with a heart for serving the poor with dignity come from all over the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. For more information about Daily Bread Outreach visit: [stmccathedral.com/ministries/daily-bread](http://stmccathedral.com/ministries/daily-bread).

### The Musquodoboit Valley Food Bank

The food bank is always in need of non-perishable food. Items can be dropped off at Holy Cross Church at Mass on Saturdays. Financial donations can also be e-transferred to [mvfoodbank2020@gmail.com](mailto:mvfoodbank2020@gmail.com).

**Caring and Sharing (Enfield) food bank** All non perishables accepted. Baskets and donation envelopes can be found by both St. Bernard Church entrances.



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**Councillor  
Cathy Deagle Gammon**

**District 1**  
Waverley - Fall River - Musquodoboit Valley

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cathy.deaglegammon@halifax.ca

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