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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](http://www.standrebesette.net)

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

The Gospel for this Sunday is known as Jesus' "community discourse" — how the community of the faithful should treat one another. Paul's letter to the Romans also concerns itself with how people treat one another, with his reference to the Old Testament and the commandments that focus on being in right relationship with each other. This indeed does take a lot of work and effort. It involves forgiveness and it involves more than second chances. Most importantly, it involves a grace and a strength that does not come from us entirely. It begins with recognizing what God gives to you and me. The tools of forgiveness are recognizing God's generous and wasteful offer of mercy time and again, even to me and you who are undeserving of such a gift. I guess the big question is "What makes you/me so much more important than God that you/I could forgo forgiving anyone else?" Concern for the other in our earthly journey has to trump everything else we believe is important. For many us, it takes a lifetime to learn this lesson. ... Fr. Gerald

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.

**Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross — Thursday, September 14** is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. As you are aware, our church in Middle Musquodoboit is called Holy Cross - therefore the feast of this church is this Thursday. To mark the Feast Day, **we will celebrate Mass at 6:30 pm at Holy Cross.** All are welcome to attend. The parish picnic and Mass on Saturday, September 16, will be an opportunity to celebrate the three Communities of faith and to seek our patron Saints – Bernard of Clairvaux, Rose of Lima and André Bessette.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** — We continue to issue an invitation to any adults not fully initiated in the Catholic Faith (1. baptized but never carried through with the remaining sacraments; 2. not baptized but interested in learning more) who have an interest in becoming a Catholic during the celebration of Easter 2024. Father has received a few names and has encouraged some who are returning to the Church to consider this opportunity. He would like to meet those who are interested on **Tuesday, September 12, 2023 after 6:30 pm Mass at St. Bernard** in the Fr. Granville Room. This is just an initial meeting to share the process at St. André Bessette Parish.

**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 [smwhite@outlook.com](mailto:smwhite@outlook.com).

**Fall Adult Faith Program** — Our 10-week fall adult faith program, Metanoia, begins on **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!

**Parish Picnic and Mass** — Rain or shine, our parish picnic and outdoor Mass will be **Saturday, September 16** at Holy Cross Church. The picnic starts at 2 pm, with a barbeque, facepainting, and children and adult games. Mass is at 4 pm. Please bring your lawn chair and appetite! In the event of rain, the picnic and Mass will be inside. Hope to see you all there!

**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 [smwhite@outlook.com](mailto:smwhite@outlook.com).

**Knights of Columbus Council 8387 Meeting** — The Council will meet this Wednesday evening, **September 13, at 7:00 pm in Mitchell Hall.** Any Catholic gentlemen interested in learning more about the Knights are welcome to attend.

**Reconciliation and Healing Collection** — The archdiocese established the Reconciliation and Healing Fund in 2021 to help fund local projects as determined through consultation with Mi'kmaq leadership, the Mi'kmaq Pastoral Council, survivors, elders and other community members. The collection for Reconciliation and Healing opens this weekend, September 9-10. A letter from Archbishop Dunn is posted on the bulletin boards, inviting people to partner with him in their efforts to effect real reconciliation and healing between the local Church and Mi'kmaq communities in our archdiocese. You can donate online by going to [www.halifaxyarmouth.org](http://www.halifaxyarmouth.org) and clicking on "Donate" or by e-transfer to [finance@halifaxyarmouth.org](mailto:finance@halifaxyarmouth.org). Note "September 2023 Donation" in the memo box. You may also drop an envelope in the collection marked "Reconciliation." Please prayerfully consider how you can give to this collection.

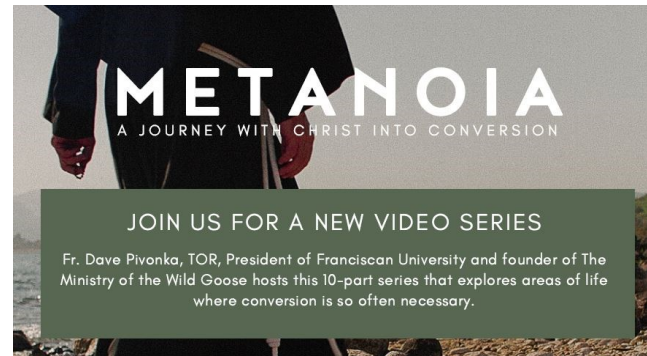
**Assembly of the People of God** — The annual Assembly of the People of God will be on **Saturday, November 4, 2023.** All the faithful are invited to come together for a day of prayer, listening, learning...and hopefully a little fun. This year the Assembly will happen in McNally Theatre on the campus 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 soon!

**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 - \$5.00 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.

**Mass Intentions for the week of September 11 to 17, 2023**

Tuesday, September 12 @ 6:30 pm (St. Bernard) - **William Scott †**  
 Wednesday, September 13 @ 6:30 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - **Carol and Gary Obritsch**  
 Thursday, September 14 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - **Joan Marchand †**  
 Friday, September 15 @ 9 am (St. Rose of Lima) - **Amelia Villegas †**  
 Saturday, September 16 @ 4 pm (Holy Cross) - **For the people**  
 Sunday, September 17 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - **Peter Murphy †**  
 Sunday, September 17 @ 11 am (St. Rose of Lima) - **For the people**



**Family Formation News**

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](http://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.



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](mailto:maria.mcdonald@standrebessette.net).

Don't forget to support the work of Beacon House and Caring & Sharing Angel Tree Foodbanks!



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