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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 e-transfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com. These are alternatives to the traditional collection envelopes, which of course are still available.

Fr. Gerald is away until October 5. In the event of an emergency, please call the parish office. Please note that there will be no Mass on October 3 at St. Bernard and on October 4 at St. Rose of Lima. Deacon Dan will have Liturgy of the Word and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on October 5 at St. Bernard.

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 1, 2023

We listened to some wonderful words last week about our kind, generous and just God. The question posed in the Gospel this week invites us to reflect upon the will of God more deeply and what our response would be. In answering the question posed in the Gospel, we are given a greater sense of who we are in relationship to God. Do we do what God asks of us—to know God's mercy, to know the way God wants us to be and to strive to the best of our ability to serve Him in this life so as to be received into our eternal home in Heaven?

Faith Formation Begins — This Sunday, formation in Faith for this coming Catechetical year begins for students from grade primary to eight. I want to take this opportunity to wish each and all a good year of growing in the Faith. I pray that all parishioners of St. André Bessette Parish will make efforts to invite those we know have not returned to celebrating their Faith since the disturbance of Covid, invite them to join us each week to rediscover the beauty of their Faith and the practice of that Faith in the Community of the Faithful. I pray for deeper and more intentional accompanying one another as we strive to grow closer to God this year. There are many reasons that we need to grow and be more confident in the Faith. There is a tremendous challenge to our Faith and our fidelity to God. I hope that we truly are willing to pass on the gift of Faith to our young people – that we not view our practice of the Faith as something optional or that we leave to a later time in our lives (as if we know our time). Now is the "RIGHT TIME" to grow in fidelity to God's invitation to His Love and Mercy. ...Fr. Gerald

First Friday and First Saturday

I proposed early in September to begin offering more time before the Lord – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation. I hope this will assist those who are not able to participate in the other times of Reconciliation or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Both the Sacrament of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation are ways for us to become stronger and more confident on the journey on which the Lord invites us to embark. Please be sure to let those who have not been back to Church for a long time know they are invited to return to celebrate with us. Reconciliation to prepare them to come back is also available.

The following is the schedule:

First Friday at St. Bernard - We will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. I will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during that time. At 8:00 pm, we will have Benediction to close off our time of prayer.

First Saturday at St. Rose of Lima - We will celebrate Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 9:00 am, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 9:45 to 10:45 am, during which I will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. At 10:45 am, we will have Benediction to close off our time of prayer.

Happy Thanksgiving — The Fall is really moving by quickly. As we approach Thanksgiving weekend, I pray we take the time to foster that sense of gratitude in our hearts for the many good and gracious gifts we have received. We are given a time to stop and give thanks! May we be ever mindful also to give gratitude for our ability to serve our brothers and sisters, seeing Christ in the other and striving to assist and make life better for those who most need our help. Take some time to reflect and meditate on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. These help us to understand the many and varied ways we are called by God to exercise special service. ...Fr. Gerald

Thanksgiving Day Mass – On **Monday, October 9, at 10:00 am**, you are invited to join Father Gerald for a special Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. Bernard.



Fall Adult Faith Program — Our fall adult faith program, Metanoia, runs **Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm at St. Rose of Lima's Mitchell Hall**. Contact the St. Rose office to register with your name, phone number and email. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend!

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 summer updates and September bulletins, 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 your 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 initial Tuesday meeting, you are still invited to join the group on Thursday, October 5.

Blessing of the Pets — It is tradition for us to have an opportunity to thank God for our pets and the joy they bring to our lives. The celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi occurs on Wednesday, October 4. Anytime through the month of October it is appropriate to gather our *furry friends* for that special blessing. I invite those who wish to have their pets blessed to gather in the **St. Bernard parking lot at 2:00 pm on October 8**.

Prayer of Commissioning for Catechists — Fr. Gerald will offer a prayer of Blessing/Commissioning for all Catechists and Catechists helpers on Sunday, October 15 at the 9:00 am Mass at St. Bernard and the 11:00 am Mass at St. Rose of Lima. The Commissioning Prayer and Blessing will take place following the Homily. Thank you very much for taking an interest in sharing and witnessing to the Faith with our Domestic Church – The Family.

2023 Atlantic Marian Gathering — October 20 to 22, 2023

Location: Christ the King Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Church site at 320 Flying Cloud Drive, Dartmouth
Guest Speaker: Fr. Dominic Sultana, SThD
Registration fee: \$60/person with another \$10 for lunch and \$10 for supper on Saturday (book by October 16)
Register at atlanticmariangathering.ca/. Etransfers and information requests to mariangatheringhalifax@gmail.com.

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-paced environment. For more information, contact Anne Marie at 902-864-3025 or foodmgr@beaconhouses.org.

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 October 2 to 8, 2023

Friday, October 6 @ 9 am (St. Rose of Lima) - Elnora McPherson
Saturday, October 7 @ 4 pm (Holy Cross) - Mona Maatouk
Sunday, October 8 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - For the people
Sunday, October 8 @ 11 am (St. Rose of Lima) - Tony and Ellen 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

October 1: First class at St. Rose of Lima. Students from Gr. P-8 will meet at Mitchell Hall at 9:45 am to meet their teachers. There will also be a parent session.

October 1: Confirmation Students and Parent Information Session following the 11:00 am Mass at Mitchell Hall.

October 8: Thanksgiving Weekend NO CLASSES

October 15: First Class at St. Bernard. Students/Parents will meet in the Hall following the 9:00 am Mass. Students will meet the teachers. Parent session as well.

October 15: All Catechists will be asked to come forward at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses for a blessing from Fr. Gerald.

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.

Treaty Day: October 1 — A reminder that Archbishop Dunn will recognize Treaty Day in the context of the 10:30 am Mass at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica this Sunday. Mi'kmaw leaders and community members will be present with some serving in various ministries during the Mass. All are welcome. The Mass will also be livestreamed and can be viewed at: <https://livestream.com/halifaxarmouth/cathedral>.

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 and learning. The theme is "accompaniment." 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 is happening in Halifax will be livestreamed to the hosting sites. The time is 8:30 am to 4:00 pm (concludes with Mass). Cost is \$25 (includes lunch). To register, visit www.halifaxarmouth.org/assembly.



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