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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

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.

Pastor: Fr. Gerald David
frgerald@standrebessette.net

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

Parish Staff

Enfield Office:
Claire Guyette, Secretary
902-883-2660
stbernardsenfield@gmail.com

Fall River Office:
Lynette McMullin, Secretary
902-860-0475
strose@standrebessette.net

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

Coordinator, Faith Formation:
Maria McDonald
902-576-2192
Maria.McDonald@standrebessette.net



Ash Wednesday Masses (February 22)

9:00 am - St. Bernard
4:00 pm - Holy Cross
7:00 pm - St. Rose of Lima



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 19, 2023

"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." This is a high calling. As

we search for the way to do this, many just give up, stating it is impossible. Some say God is not perfect, otherwise He would zap each of us and we would be too. The imperative today found in the Gospel of Matthew is an invitation to recognize there is a good way to live - everyone has been given access to the grace of God through Jesus Christ. The invitation to follow Him, as the Way, the Truth and the Life, is to imitate Him. Unfortunately, in most people is not found the humility necessary to do this. We are always intent on coming up with our own way, as if we could do better than Jesus. More than that, there is an arrogance in the human person that believes they can actually create something out of nothing, ignoring all that has gone before us and trudging totally new territory. To be perfect as the heavenly Father consists primarily of knowing first that He created us totally good. What was good - lost by disobedience - is restored by the obedience of Christ. Perfection is found in acknowledging exactly who we are, why we were created, and to serve so as to demonstrate what we believe, with a focus on where we hope to be eternally. Responding to evil with good disempowers evil and gives direction to the better way. Opening our eyes to the good that needs to be done calls for a transformation of heart, mind and soul. The world teaches us to hate our enemy - the Gospel calls us to perfection in the love of our enemy. There is work to be done. To strive for that perfection in Christ, we are called to an obedience, to an authority, beyond ourselves. The call for obedience to God, lived and expressed in humility, deepens within us the perfection of God. ...Fr. Gerald

Messages from Father Gerald...

The Way of the Cross — We will begin praying together the Way of the Cross this coming Friday evening, **February 24, at 7:00 pm at St. Bernard Church** in Enfield. Along with the Youth of the Parish who will be leading, I invite you all to join in that time of prayer. We will pray the Way of the Cross the following week, Friday, **March 3, at St. Rose of Lima Church at 7:00 pm**. The Pastoral Council will be leading us in prayer that evening. Once again, I invite all from the Parish to join together in this prayer and reflection on Jesus' Way of the Cross. We will gather four more times as follows:

St. Bernard: March 10 - Parish Leadership Team March 24 - Catholic Women's League
St. Rose of Lima: March 17 - Finance Council March 31 - Knights of Columbus

Ash Wednesday Masses at St. André Bessette Parish (February 22, 2023) – Hopefully these varying times at various locations will give everyone an opportunity to begin the Lenten journey together as a Parish.

9:00 am - St. Bernard Church (Enfield)

4:00 pm - Holy Cross Church (Middle Musquodoboit)

7:00 pm - St. Rose of Lima Church (Fall River)

Ministry to the Sick and Shut-in — I ask those bringing Holy Communion to our sick or shut-in brothers and sisters following Sunday or weekday Mass to **approach the Altar by way of the centre aisle after everyone has received Communion**. I, or in my absence the replacement priest or Deacon Dan, will place the number of hosts required in each pyx. A prayer and blessing will be said over you and you can leave and go directly to the homes of the sick or shut-in parishioners. You can also wait until the Mass is over. For those bringing Communion during the week and maybe outside Mass times, please make arrangements to get access to the Church/Tabernacle.

An Invitation toward a Spiritual Lent — I invite Groups, Committees, Organizations and Councils of St. André Bessette Parish to invite your membership to a more 'spiritual' experience of Lent this year. We are so used to a schedule or routine throughout the regular year. I encourage each of you to take some time to participate in some of the more spiritual ways of praying through Lent – bringing us some good spiritual and reflective time to prepare for Easter/The Paschal Mystery.

Forgiveness Reflection

- This Thursday, February 23 at 3:00 pm, we will gather at Holy Cross Church for our first of a four-week reflection on Forgiveness. Our first gathering will include a two-part video: **Part I Introduction - Children of God** and **Part II - Passion and the Suffering of Jesus**. Following reflection and discussion, we will pray together the Way of the Cross, after which we will enjoy a meal. We ask that you sign up if you are planning to attend so we can prepare copies of material as well as food. The sessions will take place on February 23, March 2, March 9, and March 16.
- Another opportunity will be offered at St. Bernard on Tuesday evenings following the 6:30pm Mass. The sessions with the video, reflection and discussion will run on the following dates: February 28, March 7, March 14, and March 21. Where we are beginning with Mass at 6:30 pm, we will not pray as a group the Way of the Cross. We ask that you sign up if you are planning to attend so we can prepare any materials.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday — In the Roman Rite, these days we are invited to fast and to abstain from eating meat. In addition to our regular acts of penance for Lent, we are encouraged to do special penance on these days. The law of 'fasting' binds those who are 18-59 years of age; the law of 'abstinence from eating meat' binds those who are 14 years of age and older.

Collection of Email Addresses — Email addresses are being collected from all parishioners to compile an up-to-date list. The email list will be used to send quick notices, for example, if Mass has been cancelled. It will also allow us to email the Bulletin to those who wish to receive it electronically. The email list will be kept confidential, and your address will never be made public. Please take a minute after Mass in the next couple of weeks to provide your email address. Thanks!

Holy Cross Church Take-Out Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Pick-up is between 4:00 and 5:30 pm at Holy Cross. Meal includes pancakes, sausages, beans, plus biscuits and dessert. Adults: \$10, Ages 5-12: \$6, Children under 5 eat free! Please call to pre-book — Betty Lou: 902-384-2961 or Judy: 902-384-2183.

CWL News

The ladies of the **St. Rose CWL** would like to give recognition to one of our founding mothers, **Dean Frizzell**, for 58 years of dedicated and selfless service to our CWL Council and to the parish community. In January, the St. Rose CWL Council presented Dean with a framed Certificate of Service and Appreciation, a Spiritual Bouquet, and a Perpetual Living Mass Card. Dean continues to be an active contributing member of our CWL and to her parish community. Thank you, Dean and God Bless you!

The **Adult Prayer Shawl** and **Baptismal Prayer Shawl** Ministries at St. Bernard are very active and well-received. The CWL is **in need of knitters/crocheters, washable yarn, or monetary donations**. For further information, please contact Georgena MacIsaac, President, St. Bernard CWL at 902-883-9743.

The winner of the **St. Bernard CWL Valentine Basket** was **Martina Cejpova**. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets.



Knights of Columbus Community Breakfasts — In light of Archbishop Dunn's visit to the Parish on the weekend of March 4/5, the Knights of Columbus in Enfield have **postponed** their Community Breakfast until **Sunday, March 26**. The Mother's Day (May 14) breakfast remains unchanged.

From the Office...

Income Tax Receipts — Please note both parish offices will be closed on Thursday, February 23, so that staff can dedicate the day to preparing these receipts. We anticipate having these available for pickup at Mass the weekend of February 25/26.

Working Alone Best Practices — A memo has been received from the Archdiocese regarding "Office Safety." When only one staff member is present for office hours, the entry doors will be locked and only those expected and/or known to the employee will be granted entry. Please knock or ring the bell and we will let you in.

Beacon House Food Bank — Top 10 for February:

canned stew, chicken noodle/tomato soup, boxes of cereal or oatmeal, diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6), crackers, pudding cups, canned fruit, baking supplies ie. muffin/cake mix, juice boxes, canned vegetables

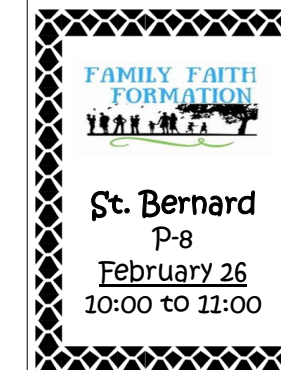
Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: May 17 to 27, 2023 —

Cost of \$3417 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Maritimes, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast and dinner, and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/person) For information: Hector Caissie at hectorcaissie@gmail.com or 506-857-2295.

Yesterday Once More — Are you interested in reconnecting with former friends from St Paul's School and Church on Windmill Road, Dartmouth? A committee is arranging a reunion dinner and dance on July 15, 2023 at the Waverley Legion on Rocky Lake Drive. For more information, please contact Ann Louise (Redmond) lwanski at aliwanski50@gmail.com.

THE WILD GOOSE

adult faith program has resumed. Sessions take place on Thursday evenings at 6:15 pm at Mitchell Hall in Fall River. New and prior participants are welcome to one or all sessions. YOU are invited to "Come and See" how the Holy Spirit prompts our hearts.



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