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WELCOMING 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 Lynette at the parish office. You can also etransfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com. These are alternatives to the traditional collection envelopes, which of course are still available.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - November 30, 2025

Christmas Flowers — Please consider making a donation in your deceased loved ones' names to the cost of the flowers and decorations that will adorn the churches this Christmas. Names will be posted in the churches, thus marking their presence for all of the Masses from Christmas Eve until the Epiphany. To make a donation, simply place it in an envelope with the name of your deceased family member or friend and drop the envelope in the collection at Sunday Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24 6 pm at St. Bernard
6 pm at St. Rose of Lima
8:30 pm at Holy Cross

Thursday, December 25 10 am at St. Bernard
11 am at St. Rose of Lima

Reconciliation During Advent

December 16 – Following the 6:30 pm Mass at St. Bernard
December 17 – Following the 6:30 pm Mass at St. Rose of Lima
Please note also the times scheduled prior to weekday Masses throughout the month of December and at Adoration times throughout the week. If these times do not fit your schedule, maybe a neighbouring Parish has times that will be able to accommodate you.

Mass Intentions for the week of December 1 to 7, 2025

Tuesday, December 2 @ 6:30 pm (St. Bernard) - Bernard Thompson †
Wednesday, December 3 @ 6:30 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - Evelyn Murphy
Thursday, December 4 @ 12:00 pm (St. Bernard) - Cecilia (Mickie) LaPierre †
Friday, December 5 @ 12:00 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - Claude Landry
Saturday, December 6 @ 4 pm (Holy Cross) - John MacDonell †
Sunday, December 7 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - Margaret Anne Bradley †
Sunday, December 7 @ 11 am (St. Rose of Lima) - For the people

The 2025-2026 Missals have arrived. Cost is \$6. There are also a few youth missals available for \$8. Place payment in an envelope marked "Missal" and put it in the collection.

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 12 noon at St. Bernard followed by Benediction then Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 1:30 pm
Friday 12 noon at St. Rose of Lima followed by Benediction then Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 1:30 pm

Confessions:

St. Bernard:

Tuesday 6:00 - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Thursday 11:30 - 11:55 am (prior to the noon Mass)
First Saturday of the month following the 9 am Mass at St. Bernard

St. Rose of Lima:

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Friday 11:30 - 11:55 am (prior to the noon Mass)

Holy Cross:

Saturday 3:30 - 3:50 pm (prior to the 4:00 pm Mass)

Parish Office:

Carla Donadoni 902-860-0475 Ext 2 office@standrebessette.net
Lynette McMullin 902-860-0475 Ext 3 businessoffice@standrebessette.net
Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Faith Formation

Maria McDonald 902-860-0475 Ext 4 maria.mcdonald@standrebessette.net
Julie Gosselin familyfaith@standrebessette.net

Communications (Bulletin): standrecommunication@gmail.com

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Website: standrebessette.net

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Phone: 902-476-8626
Email and e-transfers:
ssvdpfallriver@gmail.com



Holy Eucharist to Sick or Homebound — If you, or someone you know, are sick or elderly and cannot be present at Mass but would like to receive Holy Communion, please contact Audrey DeMone to make arrangements for a visit. Audrey can be reached at 902-860-1798.

Children's Liturgy at St. André Bessette Parish — We are moving ahead with Children's Liturgy at the Sunday morning Masses at St. Bernard and St. Rose of Lima. We are still looking for volunteers. If you enjoy working with children and are interested in being part of the team, please call the Parish Office or see Fr. Gerald after Sunday Mass.

Offering Envelopes — Envelopes for 2026 are here and are ready to be picked up. The boxes have been labeled and placed in alphabetical order by last name. If you don't currently have envelopes, there are a number of boxes that have not yet been assigned to anyone. Take one! Please fill out the box's registration slip with your full name (including middle initial) and contact information and place it in the collection. If you no longer want envelopes, don't take them! They can be reassigned to someone else. Contact the office and let Lynette know. Please remember to include your name and the donation amount on your weekly envelope to ensure the charitable tax receipt can be produced for the accurate amount. Thanks!

Looking for a Mass Card? Cards are available in all three of our Churches. They are \$10 each and are not just for our dearly departed but also for any time you wish a Mass said for a special intention. At St. Bernard, cards are available in the Sacristy. Please see Claire Guyette or Annette Lewis for assistance. At St. Rose of Lima, cards are available in the Vestry or by visiting Carla at the parish office Tuesday to Friday during office hours. For those at Holy Cross, please see Maxine Thibault.



An Invitation to a Day of Reflection — Do you know that you are the Beloved of Christ? He longs to spend time with you and as we await His Nativity. The ladies of the St. Rose of Lima CWL invite you to an afternoon of prayerful reflection of this awesome event to help prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for the birth of Our Lord. Join them this **Sunday, November 30 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm** to listen to sacred music, hear sacred scripture, and to pray the Rosary together.

The Remembrance Christmas Tree — Pope Francis once stated that: *The Christmas tree with its lights reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world, the light of the soul that drives away the darkness of animosity and makes room for forgiveness.* Gazing upon the Christmas Tree, we should be reminded through its beauty and symbolism that it embraces all of our hope in Christ and His mercy and love - and especially for our deceased loved ones, as Christ promises that more souls are released from purgatory on Christmas Day than on any other day.

The Christmas Tree

- **Evergreen nature:** Represents God's eternal love and the promise of everlasting life through Jesus.
- **Triangular shape:** Symbolizes the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- **Lights:** Symbolize Jesus as the light that shines in the darkness and enlightens the world.
- **Ornaments:** Can symbolize the gifts and graces of Christ, or the angels who announced His birth.
- **Wood:** Reminds people of the cross on which Jesus was crucified.



The St. Rose of Lima CWL is continuing its Christmas tradition to remember and pray for our deceased loved ones during the liturgical Christmas Season. Christmas ornaments with loved ones' names can be ordered and will be placed on a Christmas Tree located in the church. These dear ones will be remembered and prayed for in all of the Masses offered from the first Christmas Mass until the Epiphany Mass. After the Epiphany Mass, those who ordered an ornament can collect and take it home to place on their own Christmas Tree next year. The CWL ladies will be accepting donations for the ornaments and will be at the entrance of St. Rose of Lima church beginning **Sunday, November 30 until Sunday, December 21** to accept the names of your deceased loved ones.



St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus “Socks for Souls” Campaign — The Knights have once again put out a box at the entrance of the church to collect new socks, hats and gloves for those in need this winter. The deadline to give is **Sunday, December 7**, as your donations and a hot meal will be brought to Hope Cottage later that week. They greatly appreciate your support!



Eric Theriault Christmas Gift Ministry for Mental Health & Addictions Program — Donations will once again be accepted for the inpatients and residents of the Nova Scotia Hospital, Abbie J. Lane, East Coast Forensic Hospital and Community Transition Program, Connections and Outpatient Services. Organizers ask that gifts be unwrapped, new (not used), and unscented. There are more male clients than female clients. Large, extra-large and plus sizes for both men and women are welcome. Suggested items: winter coats, winter boots, pyjamas, nightgowns, sweaters, housecoats, underwear, socks, jogging suits, flannel shirts, sweatshirts, t-shirts, gloves, hats, slippers, purses, candy, chocolates, makeup, toiletries, nail polish, music CDs, gift cards and certificates, new books and magazines. Thank you for bringing great cheer from the community during the holiday season.

Archdiocesan Feast Day: December 8, 2025 — Our Archdiocesan Feast Day is December 8, the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**. It is also the day that we became the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. Archbishop Dunn invites the faithful to celebrate this important date in the life of our local Church by joining him for a special 7:00 pm Mass on **Monday, December 8, 2025** at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica. A reception will follow in the hall. All are welcome!

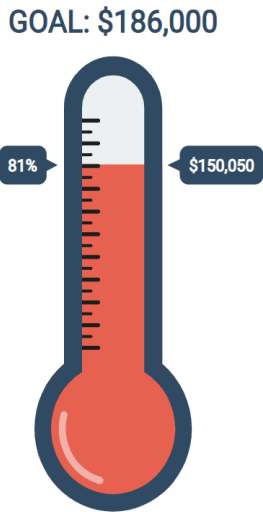


Family Faith Formation

First Reconciliation for Gr. 2 students will take place on **Saturday, December 6**, at 10 am at St. Rose of Lima Church. Please pray for our young people preparing for this sacrament.

St. Vincent de Paul Fall River Giving Tree — The Society will once again have its giving tree (formerly angel tree) in the entrance of St. Rose of Lima Church during Advent. If you would like to make a donation to a family or children this Christmas, you can remove a tag from the tree and replace it with a gift card from a box store so they can give to a family in need this Christmas. This past year, the local Society of St. Vincent de Paul has given out more than \$20,000 to more than 50 families in need in the Fall River, Enfield, Lantz to Nine Mile River Area. The Halifax St. Vincent de Paul has now completed Ozanam Place next to Hope Cottage, a 26,000 square foot building with four floors and 38 private living units to house homeless people in HRM. Thanks to all parishioners who made donations this year!

On November 27, we celebrated two milestones for two key leaders in the life of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. On November 27, 2020, **Archbishop Brian Joseph Dunn** became the second archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth. This year will mark his 5th anniversary of being the chief shepherd of our local Church. Congratulations Archbishop Dunn! The day is also significant for **Archbishop Emeritus Anthony Mancini** as he celebrates his 80th birthday. Congratulations and many birthday blessing to you Archbishop Mancini! We invite you to keep both these church leaders in your prayers as we give thanks for their leadership and witness to our local Church.



Beacon House Christmas Hampers
This year, St. Rose of Lima Church parishioners have been asked to provide **one litre sized fruit juice** for the 300+ hampers being prepared. Please leave donations in the Beacon House Bin near the washrooms.

Parish-Supported Food Banks

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.

Beacon House Top 10 Most Wanted — boxed cereal, granola bars, canned meat, canned beans, juice boxes, crackers, cookies, pasta, pasta sauce, toilet paper. Your donations are very much appreciated!

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



**Councillor
Cathy Deagle Gammon**

District 1
Waverley – Fall River – Musquodoboit Valley

902.717.2718
cathy.deaglegammon@halifax.ca

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St. Bernard Church Windows Replacement Project Update

As we continue to move closer to our fundraising goal, I'd like to provide an update. We have paid 50% of the stipulated amount of \$186,000 to Metro Windows and Doors. The company cannot complete the project in late November/early December as previously indicated. It is, however, going to install a test window in mid-December. Once the test window is installed, the bulk of the windows will be ordered and will take approximately 8-9 weeks to be produced. So we are looking at a winter/spring installation for the remaining windows. I would like to thank those who have been so supportive through your contributions toward this project. Thank you also to those who are giving of their time and talent actively soliciting much-needed funds to support this project.
...Fr. Gerald

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