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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.

First Sunday of Advent – December 3, 2023

This Sunday we are assisted to reflect upon what it means to be ready for Christ's coming. Entering into Advent reminds us that Jesus will come again... he will not be born again as a baby, but rather Jesus' second coming is for our Salvation. Being ready means to be found doing and being what Jesus Christ called us to be about - to live our lives in greater conformity to His will and to His Commandments. When we are engaged in our Faith and striving to be the best possible Christians we can be, may this be our way of "keeping awake."

Advent Begins — December 3, 2023 marks the beginning of a new liturgical season in our Church that we call Advent. Getting ready, preparing the way, being alert, keeping awake; all these phrases point us to awaiting the coming Messiah. We are not waiting for Jesus to be born again as a baby. Advent prepares us and reminds us of that first coming, the tiny child who broke into the world of humanity to lead us back to God our Heavenly Father. But Advent's real purpose is to help us be ready for the second coming. As we look at our December calendar, its very easy to fill it up with all kinds of parties, shopping expeditions, etc... Let's try and make more room for the Spiritual Preparation – praying and preparing for a wonderful Christmas through the season of Advent. This can mean seeking forgiveness from someone we are at odds with, someone we may have hurt, forgiving someone who may have hurt us... we can experience God's mercy. Maybe it's been a while since you've celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation – make a good Examen of Conscience, make a resolve to bring yourself to celebrate the mercy of God. Possibly consider assisting in some of the many outreach programs, help your children to understand and see that many families need our help – taking the attention off of self – to focus on the other. Let's transform our Advent to become what it truly is meant to be – making ready for the coming of Christ, not just at Christmas, but every day of our precious lives.

Office Move — A big thank you to those who helped move office boxes/furniture to 9 Jamieson Drive – St. André Bessette Parish Office. Thank you to Claire Guyette and Lynette McMullin for making ready for the move – organizing and reorganizing. Thanks to John Steele, Nico Venture, Phil Francis, Deacon Dan, Isaac McMullin and Darcy McRae for a loan of his truck and for helping us to move. Over the next few weeks, the office will be a little busy, both with Advent and getting reorganized to accommodate all the Administration in one space.

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

Parish Office:

Lynette McMullin 902-860-0475
strose@standrebessette.net
Tuesday to Friday: 10:00 am to 2:00 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



Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Mass Schedule

This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve. Masses for the **Fourth Sunday of Advent** will be as follows:

Saturday, December 23 — 4 pm @ Holy Cross and 6 pm @ St. Rose of Lima

Sunday, December 24 — 9 am @ St. Bernard Church

Our **tentative** Masses for **Christmas 2023** will be as follows:

Sunday, December 24 — 4pm @ Holy Cross, 6 pm @ St. Bernard and 7 pm @ St. Rose of Lima

Monday, December 25 — 10 am @ St. Bernard and 11 am @ St. Rose of Lima

Newly Baptized in our Parish — Let us pray for Violet Pearl MacDonald and her parents Craig and Amanda as Violet is baptised this weekend at St. Bernard. May we embrace them with our love and prayers and welcome her joyfully into our community of faith.

Offering Envelopes — Envelopes for 2024 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. Please include your name and the donation amount on your weekly envelope to ensure the charitable tax receipt can be produced for the accurate amount. **If you no longer want envelopes, don't take them!** They can be reassigned to someone else. Contact the office and let them know. Thanks!

Christmas Flowers at St. Rose of Lima — To make our church festive for the Christmas season, please consider a monetary donation for flowers in memory of a loved one. Place your donation in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers," include your name and the name of your loved one, and place it in the Sunday collection. Make cheques payable to St. André Bessette Parish. A list of those being remembered will be displayed on the bulletin board at the entrance of the church.

Decorating St. Bernard for Christmas — Parishioners are invited to make donations of flowers, or money for flowers, in memory of loved ones.

St. Rose of Lima CWL Christmas Bazaar — Come and join in on the Christmas Fun with the ladies of the St. Rose of Lima CWL who are hosting their Christmas Bazaar at the LWF Community Centre on Saturday, December 9th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Enjoy Christmas Music and a Children's Corner. Browse and shop the delicious Christmas fare on offer at the Bake Table. Try your luck and purchase tickets at the Raffle Table to win a Basket of Preserves, Delights for the Golf Enthusiast, or Christmas Themed Goodies. Homemade turkey burgers, hot dogs and hot cider, pop, juice, water will be available to purchase. Santa Claus will also be dropping by from 12:00 to 1:00 pm, as he can't resist the Christmas merriment of the St. Rose of Lima CWL Bazaar.



Make someone's Christmas bright by bringing non-perishable food items to the Bazaar. There will be a truck ready to collect your donations and take them to Beacon House following the festivities.

Preserves and Baked Goods for the Bazaar — Ladies and gentlemen of St. André Bessette Parish, the St. Rose of Lima CWL would welcome and appreciate any preserves or baked goods donations to sell at their Christmas Bazaar, December 9th at the LWF Community Center. The preserves can be dropped off at St. Rose of Lima Church before and after Sunday Mass until Sunday, December 3rd. The baked goods will be accepted at the LWF Community Center at 9:00 am, Saturday, December 9th. Please contact Ellen Hibberts at 902-860-0557 or Troy Marshall at 902-576-2309 with any questions.

Christmas Remembrance Tree — The St. Rose of Lima CWL is beginning a new Christmas tradition to remember and pray for our deceased loved ones during the Christmas Season. Christmas ornaments with the name of a deceased loved one can be ordered and will be placed on a Christmas Tree located in the church. These loved ones will be remembered in all of the Masses offered from the first Christmas Mass until Epiphany. After the last Mass, those who ordered an ornament can collect it and take it home to place on their own Christmas tree the following year. The CWL will be accepting donations for the ornaments. The CWL ladies will be at the entrance of the church beginning Sunday, December 3rd until Sunday, December 24th to accept the names of your loved ones.

CWL Hour of Reflection — The St. Rose of Lima CWL is hosting an Advent Reflection at St. Rose of Lima church this Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 2:00 pm. All are invited and welcome to participate.

St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Lot — The lot is moving next door to the Sobeys Gas Bar in Fall River. This is a collaboration with the Burgess Family Tree Lot. If you are purchasing a real tree, please consider them

St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus "Socks for Souls" Campaign — The Knights will once again be collecting socks and gloves for those in need this winter. Please place your donations in the designated box at the entrance of St. Rose of Lima Church by December 10, 2023.

Mass Intentions for the week of December 11 to 17, 2023

Tuesday, December 12 @ 6:30 pm (St. Bernard) - Tom Bagley †

Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:30 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - Eugene Bradley †

Thursday, December 14 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - Connie Rahey †

Friday, December 15 @ 9 am (St. Rose of Lima) - Austin McNamara

Saturday, December 16 @ 4 pm (Holy Cross) - The Sullivan Family

Sunday, December 17 @ 9 am (St. Bernard) - Joseph Young

Sunday, December 17 @ 11 am (St. Rose of Lima) - For the people

Family Faith Formation News

Grade 2 Sacrament of first Penance/Reconciliation will be held at St. Rose of Lima Church on **Saturday, December 9 @ 10:00 am**. A small reception will follow in Mitchell Hall. Please keep the students and their families in prayer as they prepare their hearts to receive this sacrament of grace.

St. Rose of Lima Family Formation Christmas Party - Sunday, December 10 @ 9:45 am in Mitchell Hall
St. Bernard Family Formation Christmas Party - Sunday, December 17 following the 9:00 am mass in the Hall
All parishioners are invited to come and share in the festivities!

St. Rose of Lima

Classes at St. Rose Sun. Dec. 3

Family Formation Christmas Party Sun. Dec. 10

Home Lesson Dec. 17

Gr. 2 Reconciliation Service Sat. Dec. 9 10am St. Rose

January Classes resume Sun. Jan. 7, 2024

St. Bernard

Classes at St. Bernard Sun. Dec. 10

Christmas Party Sun. Dec. 17

Home Lesson *anytime leading up to Christmas

January Classes resume Sun. Jan. 14, 2024

Retirement Party for Claire! — For many years, Claire Guyette has been a caring, devoted, steadfast and faithful parishioner of St. Bernard Church and now the Parish of St. André Bessette. She has also been a reliable, hardworking and dedicated member of the staff. It is from that role that she is retiring, and we want to celebrate her. We will have a party for her on **Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm at St. Bernard**. All are welcome!

St. Bernard CWL Membership Fees — Fees (\$35) for January 1 to December 31, 2024 are now being accepted. Pay by January 1 and you could win back your dues!

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