

Saint André Bessette Parish
Fall River - Enfield - Middle Musquodoboit
“An Incense Free Parish”

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 4:00 pm Holy Cross
Sunday 9:00 am St. Bernard
11:00 am St. Rose of Lima

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

None during July.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Bernard - First Saturday of the month 10:00 am to 11:00 am
St. Rose - Second Saturday of the month 10:00 am to 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK - please contact either parish office

COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND may resume under certain conditions.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Please contact either parish office.

July 17, 2022

Dear parishioners:

While I look forward to my new assignment there is sadness in my heart as I write my last weekly email to you. Having said this, there are a few things that remain to be done. I have forwarded the email list for my weekly emails to the Parish Communications Committee. It will be up to your new pastor, Fr. David, to determine how communications will proceed after he arrives.

The first two and a half years of Saint André Bessette Parish have been challenging as we have faced much of the time dealing with the COVID pandemic. We have addressed many issues, a significant move forward in fulfilling our mission was to hire Maria McDonald as our new Faith Formation Coordinator. She will be a wonderful addition to our staff to help the parish address faith formation going forward.

I am grateful for all the blessings I have experienced here and will pray for all of you and Fr. Gerald David as he takes up his new responsibilities.

ARRIVAL OF NEW PASTOR: Fr. Gerald David will be moving in the Enfield rectory on July 29. Please keep all the parishes and priests affected by this year's pastoral changes in your prayers.

For the months of **July and August** the parish weekend mass schedule will be as follows:

Saturday 4:00 pm Holy Cross
Sunday 9:00 am St. Bernard
Sunday 11:00 am St. Rose of Lima

Weekday masses will not be scheduled until Fr David arrives.

LIVE STREAM MASS 11:00 AM SUNDAY: The livestream mass may be found on Facebook at St. André Bessette Parish or go to our new parish website standrebessette.net. and click on the live mass link/box.

***Let us pray for one another.
Oremus pro invicem.
Prions les uns pour les autres.***

It is important for us to keep each other in prayer.

Parish Prayer List

Please pray daily for all those who have asked for prayers from our Parish family, especially the following:

Vivian Kohout	Lenny Metham	Amanda Lindsay
Linda Cannon	Pat McCarvill	Greg Lee
Dianne Coffin	David Lewis	Tony Chesal
Vida Hanrahan	Paige Ballam	Dibin Brimcombe
Joan King		

If you or someone you know wishes to be remembered in prayer please contact Anne Marie Frame at 902-883-2703, and she will add you to the list.

(Please have the permission of the person before asking to have them added to the list and remember to contact Anne Marie to remove the person from the list when the need for prayers ceases. Thank you.)

***“O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.” Psalm 30: 2***

Let us continue to pray for one another and continue to find ways to care for one another.

Fr. Michael

HOMILY 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 2022

When I realized that this would be my last weekend with you before moving I started giving some extra thought to what I would say as I wanted to make it special given this situation. The Gospel that I have been given to reflect on with you today is the account of Jesus' visit to the home of Martha and Mary.

Today we hear of two different ways of following the Lord: action and contemplation. Martha represents active discipleship; Mary represents contemplative discipleship. Which of the two is more desirable? It all depends on what calling we received. Some are called to active ministry; others are called to contemplative ministry. But Jesus gently chided Martha for being so anxious and worried about so many things. On the other hand, she approved of Mary's decision to sit down and listen to every word he spoke. Martha's active ministry lacked spiritual inputs and enlightenment. That is why she was too busy and worried about so many things. Mary's attentiveness to the words of Jesus must have given her enough light and inspiration to embark on a more fruitful and edifying ministry, devoid of worries and anxiety.

There is a classic saying in Latin: "Nemo dat quod non habet." Translation: "No one can give that which they do not have." In the task of evangelization, this is very true. How can we share the Gospel of Jesus when we ourselves have very little knowledge and insight of it? There is a need, therefore, to spend time with the Lord, listening to him, and learning from him.

Jesus warned Martha for being so busy that she had no time to listen to his teachings. On the other hand, he praised her sister, Mary, because she chose the better portion – she sat down and listened to every word that Jesus said.

In the Gospel, Jesus made Martha realize that in any kind of activity and service to God, faith is essential, so that there is no need to worry and be anxious. Therefore one has to take time to be still and listen to the Word of God with full faith and trust in His wisdom and providence.

One of the lessons Jesus gave his disciples is the importance of taking time to rest and relax. Bethany was the favourite resting place of Jesus. It is just over three kilometres east of Jerusalem. He would usually stay in the house of Martha, the sister of Mary and Lazarus, whom he raised from the dead. The fact that Jesus had a favourite resting place and set of friends illustrates that, being fully human, he is also like us. He was very busy, but he finds time to relax and enjoy the company of friends. Being busy in life is not an excuse to forgo vacations, days off or moments of relaxation. Our body also needs some rest in order to function properly and fruitfully.

One time I had a conversation with a very busy priest. He was in a parish that had two or three funerals every week, along with the other parish work. He had a retired priest living with him. He told me: “We divide things here because I am so busy. Fr. Retired prays and I do the work.”

When we are tempted to justify not having time to pray by saying, “My work is my prayer”, let us remember this: we need both. However, as we say, first things first. Jesus reminded Martha that before working, we have to pray first so that there is guidance, enlightenment, inspiration and strength from God. If you went to Dalhousie University you should know their university motto: Ora et Labora - Pray and Work. Notice the order. So, if we are made to choose: work or prayer? The answer is: work and prayer. Work alone is useless; prayer alone is incomplete. If the question is, which of the two should be first? The answer is prayer first, then work. When prayer precedes our work, we are confident that God will help us finish our work successfully and fruitfully.

So, to those of you who are active for the Lord and need to hear the call to prayer, listen to the gospel today and work on your prayer life (pun intended). To those of you who pray often and need to hear the call to deeds, listen to the gospel today, and take action.

Finally, I want to say that I hope that my time here has helped you to grow in the spiritual life in some meaningful way. If so, give thanks to the Lord. If my time here has not been helpful to you I ask you to forgive me my failings and pray for me, that I may be a faithful servant of the Lord at my new assignment in the Annapolis Valley.

Blessings upon you all. Amen.

Saint André Bessette Parish
Fall River - Enfield - Middle Musquodoboit

Rev. Michael J. Walsh, J.C.L.
Pastor

Ph: 902-883-2660 (Enfield)
or 902-860-0475 (Fall River)
Email: pastorstbroandrepairish@gmail.com

"Put yourself in God's hands; He abandons no one." St. Andre Bessette