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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 (No Mass on Dec. 27)
 Wednesday 6:30 pm at St. Rose of Lima (No Mass on Dec. 28)
 Thursday 9:00 am at St. Bernard followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction at until 10:30 am (Dec. 29)
 Friday 9:00 am at St. Rose of Lima followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction at 10:00 am (Dec. 30)

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)



New Year's Masses

New Year's Eve	New Year's Day
4:00 pm at St. Bernard	9:00 am at St. Bernard
6:30 pm at Holy Cross	11:00 am St. Rose of Lima
6:30 pm at Holy Cross	

Office Closures over the Holidays

Please note the two Parish Offices closed at noon on Friday, December 23, 2022 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. Phone messages will be checked periodically for emergencies.

Also note there will be no bulletin on January 1, 2023.

GOOD NEWS AND GREAT JOY TO ALL THE WORLD: TODAY IS BORN OUR SAVIOUR, CHRIST THE LORD.

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

I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry and most Blessed Christmas with your family and friends. As we gather as a Parish to celebrate the great Feast of Christmas, and next week the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, I pray that each of you individually receives the necessary graces to assist you to respond to His invitation. I also pray that we as a community of Faith called Saint André Bessette Parish may experience the unleashing of the necessary graces to move forward and build the new parish. While there are some among us may feel threatened by this new experience, we need to encourage and support each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. We do this best as we begin to realize that God has come for each one of us. There is no one individual in the parish who should feel that they are better than anyone else, or no one who should experience that they have nothing to offer in regard to building up the Body of Christ – the Church. My hope as we move forward in good and right discernment as a Community of Faith is that each of us has something to contribute to the building up of the Church, the Body of Christ. As Pastor, I have been asking for people to come forward to assist in the many areas of ministry in the Church. I am not looking for those who may feel they have all the answers to the Church and her problems, I am seeking those who have a deep love for God, a deep love for the Church, and are willing to come forward to serve. In the New Year, I pray you come forward and seek to serve in the many capacities that are so needed in our Community of Faith. Let's each of us pray for the grace necessary to respond and seek to build up our community, our parish, in the midst of this portion of the vineyard of the Lord, May the rebirth of Christ within each of us, motivate us, and give us the courage to move forward in Faith.

...Fr. Gerald

A Great Big “Thank You” — I want to extend a great big thank you to all who have been striving in these past few months to assist the Parish of Saint André Bessette to become the welcoming Parish that it is called to be.


- To the staff of Saint André Bessette – our two Offices at St. Bernard and St. Rose of Lima – to Claire Guyette and Lynette McMullin on the front line of so many calls and expressed concerns and needs, striving to answer the many questions and assist the many people who call or come to the door with concerns.
- To Maria McDonald, our Faith Formation Coordinator, assisting parents in their role as leaders of the domestic Church, and helping our catechists to offer what is necessary to come to a deeper knowledge of Christ, and personal relationship with a God who loves us so deeply that He sent His Son Jesus to save and redeem us.
- To Deacon Dan Bowden in his role in our parish – visiting the sick and shut-ins, preaching and giving of his time to help people in their relationship with the Lord.
- To those who are involved in the ministry of outreach in our parish – to the sick and homebound, to the poor and needy.
- To those who have agreed to assist in Parish Leadership Team, Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Ways and Means Committee, and Building Committee.
- To those who have been involved in the Liturgical ministries/Music ministries as well as those who organize and prepare for each Mass and so many other groups that help the Parish in its ongoing mission to serve the People of God.
- To the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Women’s League who generously support the local Church and serve the Church at large.

While we are always seeking many to assist in the so many different areas of ministry in our Church, thank you to those who have faithfully served throughout these past months and years – in particular through Covid. As you move forward as Saint André Bessette Parish, may the Lord continue to instill and foster a sense of call to serve and assist as the Church in the Community we live in. May 2023 be a year that many more come forward to assist in building up the Body of Christ (the Church) in our area. ...Fr. Gerald

Feast of Mary, the Mother of God — December 31, 2022/January 1, 2023 will be the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. As the Church celebrates Mary, we begin also a new calendar year. So many propose to make resolutions during this time, things they resolve to keep as something important. An invitation that I propose to each of you as you strive to grow in your commitment to the Lord is to resolve to make time for the Him, the time necessary to enter into prayer and to discern God’s will for you. What is God asking of you? This question must be placed within the context of what is needed most in your life at this time, that which will help you to grow as a person of faith, as a member of a family, as a member of the Church. What change needs to take place in your life so that Christ can be made known? I pray for each and every one of you, that the Lord may bless your year with prosperity — in the lived expression of the Gospel and in the deeds of charity that need to happen so that further good can be done. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! ...Fr. Gerald

Liturgical and Christmas Decorating — As a Parish, we thank all who were involved in decorating and preparing our three Churches for the celebrations of Advent and Christmas. There is always a need for those who want to share and experience preparing the Church each Sunday as well as for the seasons of the Church year. Your contribution and talent are much appreciated!! ...Fr. Gerald

Funeral Service for Larry McDonald – There will be a funeral service for Larry McDonald on Friday, December 30, 2022 at 11:00 am at St. Rose of Lima Church. There will still be Mass at 9:00 am Friday morning, with 30 minutes of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction.



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Classes resume in January:

St. Rose of Lima
P-8
January 8 and 22
9:45 to 10:45 am

St. Bernard
P-8
January 15 and 30
10:00 to 11:00 am

Confirmation Class
January 8
6:30 to 8:00 pm

Live-Streaming Mass – We have had the capacity to live-stream our Sunday Masses/funerals from St. Rose of Lima Church. It is with great appreciation that we recognize Jack and Harry Brown, who have consistently been available to assist us in this endeavor. Also thank you to Don MacKenzie, who has also assisted when Jack and Harry were not available. From the beginning of Covid, where the Churches were closed or limited in the number who could have in attendance, to now, we offer this service to those who are not able to gather with us each Sunday. Connecting those who are sick, shut it or the homebound, as well as those who are from away and cannot be in attendance at a loved ones funeral, this has been a particularly important service of outreach in our community. We are always seeking others who may assist with this area – especially those with some technological expertise!
...Fr. Gerald

New Year’s Eve and Day — Mass times for December 31 and January 1 will be as our regular weekend Mass schedule. There is an opportunity for those who wish to attend on New Year’s Eve to go to St. Bernard in Enfield at 4:00 pm and Holy Cross in Middle Musquodoboit at 6:30 pm. Mass will be celebrated on New Year’s Day at 9:00 am at St. Bernard in Enfield and 11:00 am St. Rose of Lima in Fall River.

Holy Days of Obligation — The Solemn Feast of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas) and the Solemn Feast of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year’s) are the two days in Canada that are Holy Days of Obligation. This year, they fall on a Sunday. As you may know, Sunday throughout the year is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics. In the years when the Feast of Christmas and Mary, The Holy Mother of God are throughout the week, they are days when we as Catholics are obliged in addition to Sunday throughout the year to attend Mass. This is a teaching that seems to have been forgotten and especially after the pandemic, when our Archbishop reinstated the Sunday obligation for Mass.
...Fr. Gerald

Offering Envelopes — Envelopes for 2023 are here and are ready to be picked up. Those who had 2022 envelopes have been assigned the same number. 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.** To register with our parish Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) program, please contact Claire at the St. Bernard office. You may also make direct deposit e-transfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com.

Knights of Columbus Lottery Calendars — Only \$20 each. This is a major fundraiser for the Knights. Proceeds go to KoC charitable causes. There are 354 daily draws of \$50, 8 monthly draws of \$150, draws for \$200 in March, \$250 in June, \$300 in September, and \$2,500 in November. All numbers drawn are re-entered, so you can win more than once. Winners will be contacted and paid at the end of each month. Maximum of 6000 calendars sold. Contact any Knight or call Joe at 902-997-1983 for details.



St. Bernard CWL Membership Fees — Payment for January 1 to December 31, 2023 fees are now being accepted. The cost is \$35.00. Pay by January 1 and you could win back your money. Our next regular CWL meeting will be Tuesday, January 3, 2023 in St. Bernard church basement following the 6:30 pm Mass. New members welcome! NO SCENTS PLEASE. Contact Maureen Tidgwell @ 902-860-0656.



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