



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

April 19, 2020

Second Sunday of Easter  
(Sunday of Divine Mercy) (A)

Acts 2:42–47

1 Pt 1:3–9

Jn 20:19–31

## I Doubt It

**S**kepticism is a characteristic of a critical mind. Some claims are just too fantastic to trust: no salve can relieve you of all pain; no investment is certain to double your money; no politician can keep all promises; no one comes back from the dead. Who of us can fault Thomas for his initial skepticism?

Thomas has been known through history as “the doubter.” However, he might be considered the patron saint of all of us. Because of his absence when Jesus stood in the midst of the community, Thomas was expected to believe on the word of others. Like Thomas, we are torn between believing because of an experience of Jesus, and believing on the word of others. We all would prefer a direct, profound experience. However, that’s not what we’re offered.

But within the community we can indirectly experience Jesus—his goodness, his unselfish service to others, his desire to bring people together in peace and harmony. The first reading provides a glimpse of such a believing community devoted to “the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Like our patron Thomas, we might be skeptical at first, but it is within a family or community of kindness and generosity that we can have our own experience of the risen Jesus.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR Reflection

- ★ *Where in your family do you experience devotion to others, forgiveness, and courage? Where do you bring these attitudes?*
- ★ *How might you strengthen the bonds of your community so that others can recognize the presence of the risen Jesus?*



*Jesus said to [Thomas],  
“Have you come to believe  
because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have  
not seen and have believed.”*

JOHN 20:29



*Alleluia, Alleluia.  
 You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
 blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.  
 Alleluia.*

**WELCOME TO THE PARISH UNIT OF:  
 St. Bernard's (Moncton), St. Vincent (Sackville)  
 & St. Clement's (Port Elgin)**

**ALL MASSES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

St. Bernard's	<del>Thurs. @ 9:30 AM</del> - Cancelled until further notice <del>4 PM Saturday &amp; 11 AM Sunday Masses</del> - Cancelled until further notice
St. Vincent	<del>9 AM Sunday Mass</del> - Cancelled until further notice
St. Clement's	<del>Every 2nd Saturday @ 7 PM</del> - Cancelled until further notice

**PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM**

Priest Moderator: Fr. Allison S. Carroll	Social Justice: Claudia McCloskey
Assistant: (part-time) Fr. Charles Broderick	Catechetics: Lorella Dunnett
Liturgy: Darlene McGraw	Adult Faith: Dr. Andrew Wilson

**STAFF**

Secretary: Darlene McGraw	Email: darlenemcgraw@rogers.com
Catechetical Coordinator: Lorella Dunnett	Email: Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com
Bookkeeper: Louise Tardif	
Custodian: Michel Saulnier	Facilities manager: Mike Murphy

**PARISH OFFICE & CHURCH CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
 PHONE MESSAGES AND EMAILS WILL BE CHECKED REGULARLY**

**ALL MASSES CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
 CANCELLED MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE RESHEDULED**

**ST. BERNARD'S PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stbernardschurch.ca](http://www.stbernardschurch.ca)**



## Parish contributions

It is a fact that parishes rely on weekly collections.

Expenses to run a church remain constant.

If you are able to, we ask that consideration be given to continuing your weekly / monthly donation during this COVID-19 crisis.

### Optional way of contributing to St. Bernard's during the COVID-19 closure:

- Online:** St. Bernard's website @ [www.stbernardschurch.ca](http://www.stbernardschurch.ca)  
(through CanadaHelps)  
Click on "Donate" and fill in accordingly.  
Methods of payment accepted: Credit card or PayPal.
- Mail:** Cheques may be mailed. Please ensure you include your name, address and envelope # if applicable.
- Or, simply put your regular weekly / monthly donations aside** until St. Bernard's re-opens and donate at that time.

**Thank you for your continued generosity!!! God Bless all at this difficult time.**

## Flowers

<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>From:</i>
<i>Connell Whitehead</i>	<i>Wife Gloria Whitehead &amp; daughter Veronica Gibbons</i>



*Ecclesiastes 3...*

*Under every season there is a time...A time to heal.  
We remember in our prayers those who are sick...*

<i>Chris Fortin</i>	<i>Bernie Cormier</i>	<i>Eugene Leger</i>	<i>Nancy Gatien</i>
<i>Rob Robichaud</i>	<i>Marjorie Moore</i>	<i>Neil Coyle</i>	<i>Dan Martin</i>
<i>Ronald Briffett</i>	<i>Ann Marie Bourgeois</i>	<i>Marilyn MacLeod</i>	<i>Erich Kopetsky</i>
<i>Roger Berube</i>	<i>Beth Purcell</i>	<i>Paul LeBlanc</i>	<i>Dianne Gallant</i>

*A time to mourn*

*Our sincere sympathies to the family of..*



***David Creaghan*** Wife of (late) Marven, sister of George (Doris) Cunningham & Mary Cunningham

*And to all who are mourning the loss of a loved one....*

OFFERINGS RECEIVED	
Envelopes	\$ 637.00 (7)
Easter	\$ 220.00 (3)
Good Friday	\$ 100.00 (2)
<b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS AND CONTINUED SUPPORT !!!</b>	



With Masses being cancelled across the country, the Daily TV Mass offers Mass each day on TV & on the internet.

**Vision TV:**

**Sunday:** 9AM, **Monday-Friday:** 9AM & 1PM, **Saturday:** 9AM & 10:30AM & 11:30PM

**Internet:**

www.dailytvmass.com www.youtube.com/dailytvmass



Join Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick  
on this walk with Jesus on the Way of The Cross.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6YqGa7pl2w>



During the COVID-19 pandemic,

Living with Christ is offering free prayer resources and downloads of the daily Mass texts.

Just go to [livingwithchrist.ca](http://livingwithchrist.ca) to view the free resources.





### 2020 New Brunswick Low-Income Seniors' Benefit

To assist low-income seniors in NB, the government offers an annual benefit to qualifying applicants.

**Important:** Due to the state of emergency announced on March 19 as a result of COVID-19, and to support physical distancing measures, eligible applicants are strongly encouraged to apply online. Application form will not be available at Service NB Centres but individuals may apply online, or print the application, complete it and mail it to Finance and Treasury Board, Revenue Administration Division, PO Box 1900, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5G4.

**Application deadline is Dec. 31, 2020.**

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for the \$400 benefit, a person must have been a resident of NB on Dec. 31, 2019, and have received one of the following federal benefits under the *Old Age Security Act*: Guaranteed Income Supplement (65 years or older), Allowance for Survivor Program (between 60 and 64 years old) and or Allowance Program (between 60 and 64 years old)

**Please note:** Persons in receipt of a Federal allowance who are under the age of 60 do not qualify for this benefit. Where both spouses receive the GIS and reside in the same household, only one \$400.00 benefit will be granted. However, where spouses live separately (for example, one residing in a nursing home), both will be eligible for the benefit.

**More information about the program, and on how to apply, is available from Finance and Treasury Board, Revenue Administration Division, at 1-800-669-7070.**

If you do not currently receive the GIS or one of the other federal benefits and would like more information, please contact the federal Department of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada at: 1-800-277-9914 for service in English, or 1-800-277-9915 for service in French.



### Listening & Prayer

Are you in need of prayer?

Are you going through a difficult time?

You can confide in the prayers of the Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Coeur Sisters

Phone: 388-1701 or 1-800-561-3995

Monday to Friday: 9:30 - 11:30 AM & 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Wednesdays only: 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Man says... Show me  
and I'll trust you.

God says... Trust me  
and I'll show you.

Psalm 126:6

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
& do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5*





### Home Energy Assistance Program:

The Home Energy Assistance Program provides a \$100 benefit designed to help low-income families cope with high energy prices. The program will provide a payment of \$100 to families with incomes up to, and including \$30,000. To be eligible, applicants must:

1. Maintain a principal place of residence within New Brunswick at the time of application (either a house, an apartment, or a living unit that is a self-contained domestic establishment with its own access and contains a kitchen, bathroom and sleeping facilities);
2. Have had a total family income (applicant and spouse or common-law partner) of \$30,000 or less in 2018.
3. Be a resident of NB as of Dec. 31, 2018 and have filed a 2018 NB Income Tax Return.
4. Provide a copy of an electricity bill for your home dated after Nov. 1, 2019. If electricity costs are included in your rent, provide the name and telephone number of your landlord at the time of application.

Finance and Treasury Board will process the applications and issue the benefit to qualifying applicants. In special circumstances where the total family income for 2018 was over \$30,000 and the expected total family income will be \$30,000 or less for 2019 (example: loss of employment or other reasons), an applicant may still be eligible for the benefit.

**Application forms are available online at [www.snb.ca](http://www.snb.ca) or by calling the department of Finance at 1-800-669-7070.** When submitting applications, applicants must provide information on their total family income, and a copy of a recent electricity bill (dated after Nov. 1, 2019). Only one benefit per household (address) will be provided. To access the application for the 2020 benefit, click [here](#).

Deadline to apply for the 2020 benefit is June 30, 2020.

**For more information on this program**, please contact Finance and Treasury Board, Revenue and Taxation Division at 1-800-669-7070.



**For fifty days**, the people of God reflect on the meaning of Jesus' resurrection and of their sharing in it through baptism: dying to sin and living for God. For seven weeks we celebrate the presence of Jesus among us. We celebrate his ascension, and pray to him, seated in glory with the Father. As we prepare for Pentecost, we ask him to fill us with the grace and power of his Spirit.

The seven weeks from Easter to Pentecost are celebrated as one great Feast Day. St. Athanasius called them "the great Sunday." Christians sing the "Alleluia" during these days in their rejoicing. (GNLY, no.22)



By ancient tradition, the Old Testament is not read during the Easter Season. Accordingly, when readings are chosen from the Commons, the First Reading is chosen from the selections given from the Easter Season. When there are three readings, the first is taken from the Acts of the Apostles or Revelation, the second from the Epistles. (Letters - i.e., James, I and II Peter, I, II, and III John, and Jude)



## Earth Day - Wednesday, April 22 – and Every Day



WE MUST CARE FOR THE EARTH  
SO THAT IT MAY CONTINUE  
AS GOD WILLED,  
TO BE A SOURCE OF LIFE FOR  
THE ENTIRE HUMAN FAMILY.  
HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development...Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can

**claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded. (Laudato Si' 13 - Encyclical letter of Pope Francis - On Care For Our Common Home)**

Earth Day was celebrated for the first time, in the Canada, on April 22, 1970.

Today, more than a billion people in 193 countries now participate in Earth Day each year.

Over the years, Earth Day has become the world's largest environmental movement.

It is a time for education and activism about the environment.

The United Nations tells us we have a decade to take action before irreversible damage destroys critical ecosystems, & adds to the burdens of our most vulnerable brothers and sisters. We can all change our habits for a brighter future.

During COVID-19 use this solitary time to reassess current habits and develop new ones that are better for our planet.

Think about a way that we can celebrate Earth Day while still respecting social distancing. (go for a walk, clean up yard, plant something, use less energy, etc.)

*We can all make a difference. Let's take care of God's creation.*



**Emails have been sent to persons saying that the sender was Fr Allison S. Carroll - This is how the email appeared:**

From: **Fr Allison S. Carroll** <pastorasspastorass@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, 8 Apr 2020 at 19:15

Subject: Peace be unto you (your name)

Hello, how are you doing?

I need a favor from you, email me as soon as you get this message.

God Bless You. Peace. Fr. Allison S. Carroll pastor

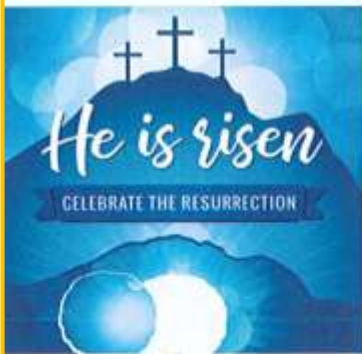
**If you should receive such an email do not respond to it.**

**It is not from Fr. Carroll.**

# Dear Padre,

**A friend of mine always makes such a big deal of the time after Easter. What is this Easter season all about?**

**T**hese days and weeks after Easter are indeed significant. We Christians are an Easter people. The resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. Without the belief that Christ conquered death and our hope that we will share in that same victory over the grave, our faith is pointless. We celebrate with great fanfare that we are a redeemed people in Jesus Christ.



Every year our forty-day Lenten preparation of fasting and penance leads us to the feasting and joy of the fifty days of Easter. This unbelievable news that the risen Christ is in our midst draws us into a festival that cannot be contained in a single day. "The fifty days from Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one 'great Sunday'" (*The Roman Missal*, "Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and Calendar," 22).

Part of the challenge of Easter is learning again how to celebrate a fifty-day feast. Most Catholics do not think of Easter as an extended feast. We tend to see Easter, the ascension, and Pentecost as three separate, independent feast days, each with its own themes. The truth of the matter is that they are all part and parcel of the other, intertwined and borne of the same glorious fact of Christ's resurrection. This is a perfect time to remind ourselves of that joyous and significant connection.

—Fr. Joseph Ring  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

## WORD FROM *Pope Francis*



*To us also, on this Sunday, which St. John Paul II wished to dedicate to divine mercy, the Lord shows us, through the Gospel, his wounds. They are wounds of mercy.... Jesus invites us to behold these wounds, to touch them as Thomas did, to heal our lack of belief. Above all, he invites us to enter into the mystery of these wounds, which is the mystery of his merciful love.*

—HOMILY, APRIL 12, 2015

## Calendar

### Monday

APRIL 20

Easter Weekday

Acts 4:23–31

Jn 3:1–8

### Tuesday

APRIL 21

Easter Weekday

Acts 4:32–37

Jn 3:7b–15

### Wednesday

APRIL 22

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:17–26

Jn 3:16–21

### Thursday

APRIL 23

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:27–33

Jn 3:31–36

### Friday

APRIL 24

Easter Weekday

Acts 5:34–42

Jn 6:1–15

### Saturday

APRIL 25

St. Mark,

Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5b–14

Mk 16:15–20

### Sunday

APRIL 26

Third Sunday

of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22–33

1 Pt 1:17–21

Lk 24:13–35