



May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 6:1-7

1 Pt 2:4-9

Jn 14:1-12

What Is God Really Like?

That is a very profound question, asked by children and adults alike. Answers range from the image of an old man in a white robe with a beard; the all-seeing eye on the back of the dollar bill; "the big guy" up there. Such answers seem frivolous when we think about the dynamic force behind the Big Bang from which evolved everything in the billions of galaxies that we know exist. What is such a God really like?

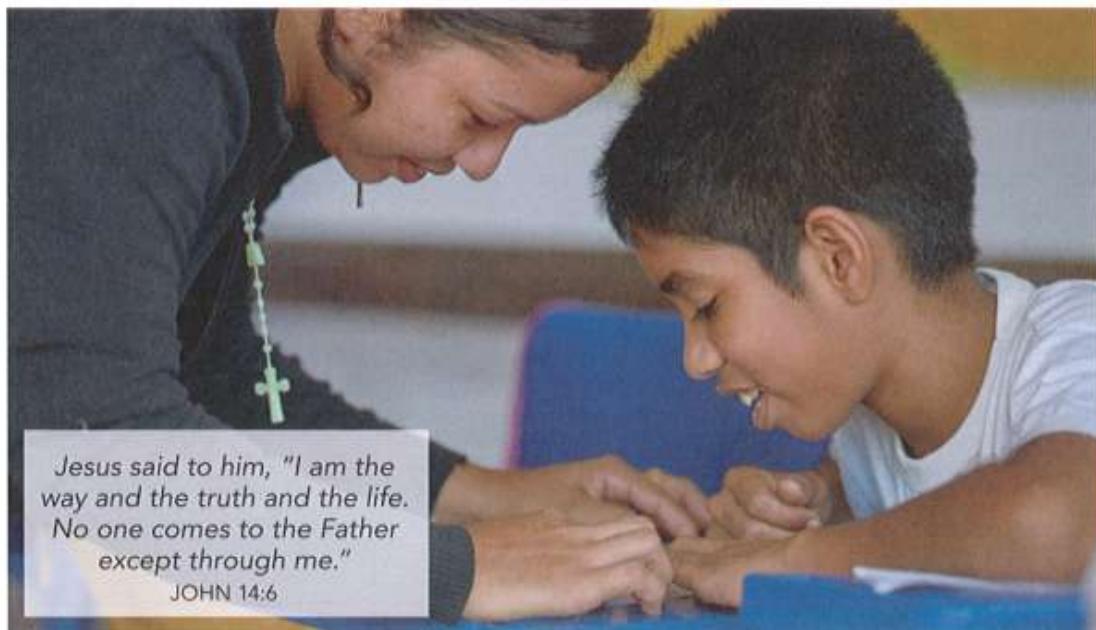
FOR Reflection

- ★ How do you think of God?
- ★ Why do you suppose you think of God in that way?

The disciples were probably not thinking of astrophysics when they asked Jesus about God. Their questions flowed from Jesus' constant reference to God as Father. That title in itself tells us something about God. It tells us that God, like a father, is the source of Jesus' being and existence.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples that he is about to return to his Father. He also assures them that they also will have a place with the Father. However, like us, they still are not sure what this Father is like. Jesus responds to their lack of understanding and suggests: "Look at me!" His life is lived for others. He is one who cares for those in need rather than walks past them, who forgives rather than condemns, who endures misunderstanding without retaliating, who tolerates the pettiness of others without being snide. Why is it so hard for us to realize that *this* is what God is really like?

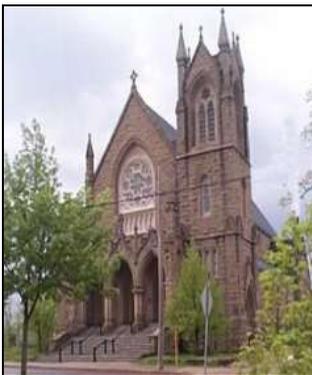
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6

PHOTO: TWANONGA/ISTOCK



*Alleluia, Alleluia.
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord,
I know my sheep, and my own know me.
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	Thurs. @ 9:30 AM - Cancelled until further notice 4 PM Saturday & 11 AM Sunday Masses - Cancelled until further notice
St. Vincent	9 AM Sunday Mass - Cancelled until further notice
St. Clement's	Every 2nd Saturday @ 7 PM - 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 RESCHEDULED**



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:

1. **Online:** St. Bernard's website @ www.stbernardschurch.ca
(through CanadaHelps)
Click on "Donate" and fill in accordingly.
Methods of payment accepted: Credit card or PayPal.
2. **Mail:** Cheques may be mailed. Please ensure you include your name, address and envelope # if applicable.
3. **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.



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



OFFERINGS

WEEKLY PRE-AUTHORIZED OFFERINGS - MAY 2 & 3, 2020

Sunday \$ 10.00 (1)

Building Fund \$ 10.00 (1)

THE 1ST OF THE MONTH PRE-AUTHORIZED OFFERINGS - MAY 1, 2020

Weekly \$ 480.00 (7)

Building Fund \$ 90.00 (3)

Syrian relief \$40.00 (2)

Capital Campaign \$ 1,325.00 (36)

OTHER OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Envelopes \$ 1,242.00 (24)

Good Friday \$ 80.00 (6)

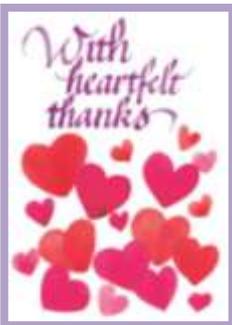
Easter \$ 95.00 (4)

Building Fund \$ 175.00 (3)

Share Lent \$ 15.00 (1)

Capital Campaign \$ 40.00 (1)

If interested in setting up pre-authorized payments:
Please contact the office by email, sbhf@rogers.com
or phone 857-0425 - leave a message and we will get back to you.



Thank you to all who have continued to contribute to St. Bernard's during the COV19 closure.

Donations have been received by mail, online, and through pre-authorized offerings. Your thoughtfulness and generosity is appreciated!

Thank you also for the kind words and messages that have accompanied these donations.

**The care for St. Bernard's is evident and touching.
God's Blessings To All.**

*A Time To Reflect
& Be Grateful*

Living through COVID-19 it would be hard to believe there is not a purpose to be found in it. While we don't believe this pandemic is from God, we can see that the noise and busyness in our lives has been turned down more than we could have ever imagined. Creating a perfect opportunity for all of us to simply slow down and to open our ears and hearts to listen to the voice of God. When restrictions are lifted...the noise and busyness will rush back in again - whether we like it or not. With all of the negativity that has surrounded us in these past week's, let us also remember to be thankful for the many blessing that we take for granted every day.

Praise and give thanks to God.

Psalm 33:22

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.



Bursaries



Due to the generosity of a parishioner **St. Bernard's Catholic Women's League is offering a \$1000 bursary** to a student graduating from High School in June 2020, who is a parishioner, and is pursuing post-secondary studies. **Mail or email your letter of application, including your future plans, to arrive no later than Friday, June 5, 2020 to:**

St. Bernard's CWL Bursary Selection Committee, 43 Botsford St., Moncton, NB, E1C 4W9 or Email to: sbhf@rogers.com

Due to the generosity of a parishioner **St. Bernard's Parish is also offering a \$1,000 bursary** to a graduate who is pursuing or enrolled in post-secondary studies.

Mail or email your letter of application to arrive no later than Friday, June 5, 2020, detailing your involvement at school, in the parish, in the community, as well as your future plans to: St. Bernard's Church, 43 Botsford St., Moncton, NB, E1C 4W9 or Email to: sbhf@rogers.com

Prayers of Intercession

For all of us, the church; called to remember that we are God's chosen people. He is always with us and for us.

We pray.

For researchers in finding effective treatments and developing a vaccine for Covid 19.

We pray.

For all mothers; in gratitude for all they are to each of us. And for all who find Mother's Day difficult.

We pray.

For the sick; for God's comfort and healing. For those who take risks to attend to the needs of others and for all who are caring for the sick.

We pray.

For all who have died. For the families who could not be with their loved ones who have died and who are unable to celebrate a funeral at this time.

We pray.

Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart. As though You have already
come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You;
never permit me to be separated from You.*

Amen



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)



From the Archdiocese of Moncton

**To view - click on one of the links below or
visit the Diocesan website at www.diomoncton.ca**

[Archbishop Vienneau's Easter message video](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xux-1pqu0a0>

Archbishop Vienneau's - "Consecration of the Archdiocese of Moncton to the Holy Virgin Mary in this Time of Pandemic":

<http://www.diomoncton.ca/en/index>

There are new items on the diocesan web site at including the recent letter from Pope Francis and also some upcoming "virtual" events.

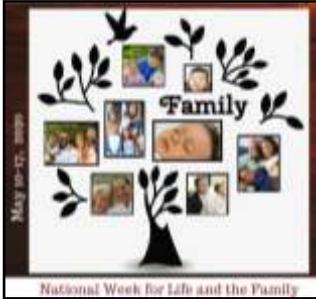
The Pope's Pastoral Works - Collection (postponed)

As per the Canadian Catholic Conference of Bishops (CCCB) the collection for the Papal Charities, which was to be on May 17th, is postponed to October 4, 2020.

Donations already made will be directed to this collection as usual.



*To all mothers...
May your days be filled with
love, peace, joy & laughter.
Happy Mother's Day!*



The National Week for Life and the Family

The Church in Canada sets aside one week during the year to celebrate the gift of family, in which life is generated and nurtured. **This year's Week for Life and the Family will be observed from May 10 to May 17, with the theme, "Children: The Crowning Glory of Marriage"**. Today there are many crises affecting marriage and family. Some people have even begun to question whether it is good to bring children into the world. In the face of such doubts, we reaffirm that children are an authentic blessing from God. The gift of a child carries with it a responsibility: the task

of passing on the light of faith. In doing so, fathers and mothers, along with their children become "the light of the world" (Mt 5:14). Our society, now more than ever, needs to see the joy of Christian families, who radiate God's love for humanity and are a sign of his loving presence for the world. (+ *Richard Gagnon, Archbishop of Winnipeg, President of CCCB*)



Canada Health Day - May 12, 2020

Canada Health Day is celebrated in health care facilities and community services across the country. This day reminds us that health and healing are essential aspects of our baptismal vocation. **We are called to take responsibility for our personal health: to prevent illness and to seek a healthy lifestyle. Good health concerns the physical, emotional, social & spiritual health of our communities, respect for God's creatures & the nurturing of the whole earth.**



Possible ways to feed the hungry...

For information on any of the following - click on the links below:

Food Depot Alimentaire (FDA) - <https://fooddepot.ca/>

ReConnect Street Intervention at:
<https://moncton.ymca.ca/en/Programs/Outreach/Reconnect?nolocation=1>

Karing Kitchen: Donations can be made through Canada Helps at: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/> donations may be mailed directly to: Karing Kitchen 75 Alma St., Moncton, NB, E1C 4Y3

Dear Padre,

Are there models I can use to help me better understand what a mother is to do or be?

A great model for mothers is the Blessed Virgin Mary. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* uses the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix when speaking of Mary (CCC 969). These titles are important in explaining Mary's special relationship to us, her children. We can also use these titles to show how mothers today can relate to their children and spouses.

Mary encourages us in our efforts to follow Christ. So it is the duty of all mothers to be a guiding presence to their children as they begin to pray and learn to follow the Lord.

As Advocate and Helper, Mary assists us by her own prayer and example. Mary prays for us, and we only have to read Scripture to understand Mary's example of listening to God. Today's mothers share the task of praying for their children and spouses. A mother's example of listening for God can teach her children the importance of seeking God's will.

As Benefactress, Mary is a patron and invites us to receive the graces that only her Son can bestow. In today's family, a mother offers a constant stream of love and encouragement to her spouse and children. She is the patron of love, a refuge from the harshness that life can bring.

As Mediatrix, Mary brings people together to be coworkers with Christ in the work of salvation. Also, a mother is a mediator, a coworker with Christ, helping her children and spouse on their journeys toward salvation. Her family is a little church where heaven and salvation are proclaimed. Happy Mother's Day!

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Be my ambassador, [Mary] says to us, giving food to the hungry, drink to those who thirst, a refuge to those in need, clothe the naked and visit the sick. Come to the aid of your neighbor, forgive whoever has offended you, console the grieving, be patient with others, and above all beseech and pray to God.

—HOMILY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016



Calendar

Monday

MAY 11
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:5–18
Jn 14:21–26

Tuesday

MAY 12
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19–28
Jn 14:27–31a

Wednesday

MAY 13
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1–6
Jn 15:1–8

Thursday

MAY 14
St. Matthias,
Apostle
Acts 1:15–17, 20–26
Jn 15:9–17

Friday

MAY 15
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:22–31
Jn 15:12–17

Saturday

MAY 16
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1–10
Jn 15:18–21

Sunday

MAY 17
Sixth Sunday
of Easter
Acts 8:5–8, 14–17
1 Pt 3:15–18
Jn 14:15–21