



Blessings of Many Shapes

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

It is always a blessed and holy occasion when parents bring their child to the parish church for baptism. They gather family and friends and proudly present their child to both God and the faith community. Somewhere in the midst of it all, they will wonder who their child will become, what their child's gifts and talents will be, and what hopes and dreams their child will have. Yet like Simeon, who blessed the Holy Family in the Temple, they will also realize that life is not always favorable to us. As Simeon foretold, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many...and you yourself a sword will pierce" (Luke 2:34-35).

Although we recognize that suffering is a part of everyone's life, and we would never wish it upon a child, we might hope that the child does not run from every suffering, for it becomes the path to wisdom and compassion—perhaps the only path. We might also wish on the child a bit of loneliness, for it teaches us to treasure friends. And amid hoping for the blessing of success, losing can also be a gift and a blessing, for it is how we learn to deal with failure and understand the important lesson that we cannot always have our own way. Failure can be the seed of humility. Fortunately, while doing our best as parents, we must allow God to decide how our children will be blessed and what will nurture their growth into the image of Jesus. We simply present them to God from whom they came. ●

Reflect

Call to mind someone you love deeply and remind yourself that God loves him or her even more.

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] took [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

LUKE 2:22



Welcome to The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit



St. Bernard's, 43 Botsford St., Moncton, NB E1C 4W9

Phone: (506) 857-0425 **Email:** sbhf@rogers.com

Office hours for next week:

Monday and Thursday: 9 AM – 12 noon & 1 – 4 PM.

Fridays: CLOSED ON TUES. AND WED. FEB. 4/5, 2025.

Website: www.stbernardschurch.ca



St. Vincent's, 63 Charlotte St., Sackville, NB, E4L 2Y5

Phone: (506) 536-1460 **Email:** stvince@nbnet.nb.ca

Office hours: Monday & Thursday @ 10 AM- 2 PM



St. Clement's, 14 Church St., Port Elgin, NB E4M 2C9

Phone: (506) 538-2262 **Email:** stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com

Office hours: call office to verify

The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit

St. Bernard's PMT

Priest Administrator	Fr. Damian Nwachukwu	sbhf@rogers.com
Assistant Priest	Fr. Carlos Jacinto	sbhf@rogers.com
Liturgy	Darlene McGraw	darlenemcgraw@rogers.com
Catechetics	Lorella Dunnett	Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com
Social Justice	Claudia McCloskey	
Adult Faith	Andrew Wilson	

St. Bernard's Parish Staff

Pastoral Associate/ liturgy	Darlene McGraw	darlenemcgraw@rogers.com
Receptionist / Bookkeeper	Giredine Aguidi	sbhf@rogers.com
Catechetical Coordinator	Lorella Dunnett	Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com

St. Vincent's Parish Staff

Parish Secretary	Lorraine Horyl	
Catechetical Coordinator	Cathy Crinnion	

St. Clement's Parish Staff

Parish Secretary	Pam Van Egmond	
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Mass times / Intentions:

St. Bernard's

Mon.	Feb. 3	9:30 AM	Late Alma Barrieau	Therese Dowd
Tues.	Feb. 4	9:30 AM	Anniv. Late Francis Perry	Family
Wed.	Feb. 5	9:30 AM	Late Jesse Fitchett	Smith Family
Thurs.	Feb. 6	9:30 AM	Special intention	Hector & Cecile Caissie
Fri.	Feb. 7	9:30 AM	Late Cornella Evers	Brian & Helene Gallie
Sat.	Feb. 8	4:00 PM	Anniv. Late Lucy & Joseph Melanson	Linda & Guy Chiasson
Sun.	Feb. 9	11:00 AM	For the People	

St. Clement's

Sat.	Feb. 8	4:00 PM	In Thanksgiving	Joanne Carroll
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St. Vincent's

Sun.	Feb. 9	9:00 AM	Yvette Long	Marie Wood
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OFFERINGS

St. Bernard's Offerings + PADs & online – January 25 & 26, 2025

Envelopes	\$5,877.70	Loose	\$940.20	Syrian Relief	\$10.00
Reconnect	\$40.00	Capital Expenditure	\$150.00	Christmas offering	\$50.00
New Year's Day	\$ 50.00	Karing Kitchen	\$9.00		

St. Clement's – January 25, 2025

Envelopes	\$215				
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St. Vincent's offerings – January 26, 2025

Envelopes	\$765	Loose	\$23.30		
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Thank you for your generous and continued support!!!

Steubenville Atlantic Conference 2025

Teens ages 14 to 18, get ready for an unforgettable experience at Steubenville Atlantic from July 11-15, 2025 at Dalhousie University in Halifax. This powerful Catholic youth conference is a chance to grow in faith, deepen friendships, and encounter Christ in a dynamic and inspiring way. Don't miss out on life-changing talks, uplifting worship, and an amazing community of young Catholics just like you! Sign up now! For more information or to register, contact Fr. Carlos Jacinto at fathercarlosj@gmail.com.



No Scent Policy

Out of respect for those with sensitivities, please avoid wearing scented products in the Church, Parish Office & the Church Hall.

Thank you for your understanding!



*A time to mourn...
sincere sympathies to the family of:*

Edith "Dee Dee" Murphy, wife of Mike Murphy, mother of Amanda and Ashley.

And to all who mourn the loss of a loved one.



*Ecclesiastes 3
Under every season there is a time...
A time to heal...*

St. Bernard's

Patricia Devine	Gigi Pena	Sofio & Maria Floreta Conson	Belinda Sarmiento	Walter Best
Claire Struble	Denis Surette	John Glynn	Irene Cucionalon	Rheal Giffard
Peter Quach	Stella Marie Alcalen	Jerome Escalona	Kathleen Crosby	

St. Clement's

McGraw Family	Deacon Frank Quinn	Sharon Cole		
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St. Vincent's

Barb DeWitt	Leonard Burke	Deacon Frank Quinn	Leone Campbell	Art Chase
Vince Wood	Yvette Long			

As well as those who have died.



St. Bernard's Sacrament of Reconciliation regular schedule

Prior to Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday: 8:30 – 9:20 AM

Saturdays: 10:00 AM; First Friday of the month: 8:00 – 9:00 AM.

**Confessions
Cancelled**

Please note: St. Bernard's Saturday confessions cancelled:

Saturday: February 1, 2025

Marriage Enrichment Retreat – Pilgrims of Hope

Strengthen your love, deepen your faith, and grow together in Christ at our **Marriage Enrichment Retreat**. This special retreat offers a time for renewal, reflection, and practical guidance to enrich your relationship. Whether you've been married for one year or fifty, this retreat will bless your journey together.

Date: February 22, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Location: St. Bernard's Church (43 Botsford St. Moncton). **Speakers:** Mr. & Mrs. Joe and Deb D'Ettore, Deacon Frank Quinn, Fr. Carlos Jacinto

Fee: \$60 per couple. This fee will cover the costs for lunch, refreshments, and retreat materials.

Join us for a day of faith, fellowship, and inspiration.

Register now and invest in the gift of your marriage! For more information or to sign up, contact Joe and Deb D'Ettore: atvnonno@gmail.com / (506) 961-3526.

St. Bernard's

Due to maintenance, St. Bernard's parish office will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 4th / 5th, 2025 all day. Messages will be checked.



St. Bernard's Church Inclement Weather Policy

**At least 1 hour before scheduled event:
Mass cancellation & any other closures will always be noted on:**

Parish Website: www.stbernardschurch.ca

Parish Phone Message: by calling 506 857 0425 - **Facebook:** facebook.com/gsmmoncton

Call ahead or check website before heading out.

Mark Your Calendar

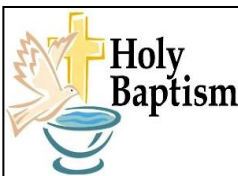
Carmelites	2 nd Sat of the month: 9:30 AM
Prayer Group	2nd Sat. of month & last Sat. of month after 25 th @ 7:00 PM
RCIA	Resumes Saturday, February 1 st and 15 th , 2025: 10:00 AM to 12 noon.
Baptism preparation	Sunday, February 16 @ 1:30 PM

	Sessions	LEVEL 1-3		LEVEL 4-6	
		Sun. @ 9:30 AM	Tues. @ 6 PM	Sun. @ 12:15 PM	Wed. @ 6 PM
	10	Feb. 2 nd	Feb 4 th	Feb. 2 nd	Feb.5 th
<i>Faith Formation</i>	11	Feb. 9 th	Feb. 11 th	Feb. 9 th	Feb. 12 th
	12	Feb. 23 rd	Feb. 25 th	Feb. 23 rd	Feb. 26 th

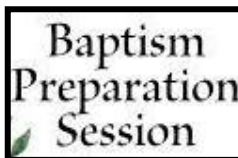
Confirmation Prep. In-person session

Session # 4 Sunday Feb. 9th at 2 PM _ Session # 5 Sun. March 9th at 2 PM

Session # 6 Sun. April 6th at 2 PM _ Session # 7th April 27th at 2 PM.



The Sacrament of Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, making us sons & daughters of God & members of the Body of Christ. On Sunday, January 26, 2025, **Henry Torralba**, child of Jun Harvey & Sarah Jane, was welcomed into the Roman Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. God bless him & his family in their lifetime journey of faith.
Congratulations!!!



Baptism and Baptism Preparation

The arrival of a new member of the family is a time of great excitement and joy. As you welcome your new child into your family, you also begin to plan and provide the best for them. Like you, Jesus Christ wants the best for your child, as well. One of the first steps in introducing your child to God and to your faith is through baptism. Asking to have your child baptized shows that you recognize the importance of God in your life, and that you want your child to be a child of God and to be a member of a Christian community. In preparation for baptism, our archdiocese requires that parents attend a baptismal preparation course. ***St. Bernard's will be offering a Baptism Preparation Course on Sunday, February 16 at 1:30 PM. Registration is required prior to the course.*** Please contact Darlene McGraw either at darlenemcgraw@rogers.com or at the parish office at **(506) 857-0425** to register.

St. Vincent's

FAITH FORMATION at St. Vincent's- In-person catechism sessions take place on Sunday mornings following Mass. For any participant or volunteer inquiries for this program, including sacramental preparations, please contact Cathy Crinnion at ccrinnion@yahoo.ca or 536-4470. For parishioners who are past Confirmation, no previous experience is necessary for you to share your time with our Faith Formation families, as a helper or as a catechist!

The Faith Formation schedule is as follows:

February 9th @ 10am	Elementary group – St. Vincent's hall
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February 23 rd @ 10am	Elementary group – St. Vincent's hall
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Primary group (grades 1-3) – please contact Cathy to discuss	
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STORM CANCELLATIONS – Please note that if mass is cancelled for any reason, but mainly winter storms this time of year, a mass email will be sent out to all parishioners who have shared their email with the Parish Office. We realize there are some parishioners who do not have access to email, so we ask that if mass is cancelled, please call any parishioners you know who do not have email to alert them to the cancellation.

MASS INTENTIONS – ***We are in need of mass intentions for this year!*** As mass cannot be celebrated without a mass intention, please contact Lorraine at the Parish Office 506-536-1460 stvince@nbnet.nb.ca to arrange for a mass intention.

MASS CELEBRATION AT THE DREW NURSING HOME – Fr. Carlos will celebrate Mass with the residents of the Drew Nursing Long Term Care Home in Sackville once per month, beginning on Monday, February 10, 2025. The following dates are also scheduled for Mass: Monday, March 3; Monday, April 7; Monday, May 5; and Monday, June 2.

DONATIONS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS – ***Thank you, thank you, thank you! These two words cannot be said often enough! Many many people from the Amherst, Sackville, Dieppe, Moncton, and Riverview areas have been so very generous with donations of household goods and warm outdoor clothing for our friends from the Philippines.***

As we received a large gift of household furniture this week, we are currently putting a pause on accepting donations for the time being. However, if you have a kitchen table and chairs and/or like-new bedding for twin, double, or queen size mattresses, please be in touch with Lorraine at the Parish Office 506-536-1460 or stvince@nbnet.nb.ca.

SACKVILLE FOOD BANK – With the rising cost of groceries, many local families are struggling to put nutritious food on the table. If you are able, please contribute non-perishable food items to our local Food Bank. Also needed are items such as toilet paper, tissues, paper towel, face soap, and dish and laundry detergent. The donation basket is located on the right-hand side of the entrance of the church.

SENIORS CONNECT - Welcome to Seniors Connect, a safe space for seniors to gather, socialize, learn about, and discuss issues related to aging in New Brunswick. Our next gathering will take place on **Thursday February 20th at 10:30 am** at the Holy Family Church Hall, 52 Falkland St. Moncton. *Our theme for that day will help us learn how to move through the process of downsizing your stuff and letting it go.* Questions? Contact Karen LeBlanc at 387-4198 or email youth@diocesemoncton.ca.

“CELEBRATING SUNDAY” LITURGICAL FORMATION – Liturgist Catherine Ecker will be offering a three-part Zoom series on the celebration of Sunday liturgy. Each session will take place via Zoom on **February 5th, 19th, and 26th at 7:00 pm** and run until 9:00 pm. These sessions will be appropriate for any involved in liturgical ministries or anyone who would like to know more about how and why we celebrate. Contact Karen at 387-4198 or youth@diocesemoncton.ca to register.

“ROADMAP TO INITIATION” R.C.I.A. FORMATION – Catherine Ecker will also be offering a three-part series entitled “Roadmap to Initiation,” designed for those who are involved in parish R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) teams. These sessions will also take place via Zoom on **March 10th, 17th, and 24th at 7:00 pm** to 9:00 pm. Contact Karen at 387-4198 or youth@diocesemoncton.ca to register.

Gospel Study Group February 6th and 7th:

Weekly in person or zoom, Thursdays at St. Lawrence O’Toole 6:00pm followed by adoration at 7:00pm AND Fridays at St. Augustine’s 11:00am, followed by Mass at 12:00noon and adoration. For information contact Charlie Farrell at 857-4223 or charlie.farrell@qasmoncton.com.
For 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time click on the following links and read:

St. Gregory the Great

<https://frted.wordpress.com/2017/09/23/st-gregory-the-great-renouncing-desires-to-inherit-the-kingdom/>

Saint Ambrose

http://petralamb7.blogspot.com/2016/06/lessons-7-9-from-divine-office-of_12.html?m=1



Knights of Columbus Council 1310 Monthly Breakfast - 84 Broadway Street, Moncton February 2nd from 8:30AM - 12:30 PM. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children. Menu includes: bacon, ham, sausage, eggs, pan fries, baked beans, pancakes, toast, tea, coffee and juice. All are welcome!



Riverview Winter Carnival’s Ladies Society Chicken Luncheon

Saturday, February 8th, (Storm date Feb 9th, 2025) from **11-1 pm** at the **Dan Bohan. Centre**. Tickets must be reserved, call Pam @ (506 386-5451) to reserve yours.

Tickets are \$10.00 each. The ladies are serving up their delicious **Chicken a la King served on a tea biscuit with a side of coleslaw and cranberry sauce.** Dessert will be a scrumptious serving of gingerbread drizzled with caramel sauce and topped off with whipped topping.

Dear Padre,

What happened to Candlemas? When I was a child, there was one day when everyone brought candles to church to have them blessed. At the end of Mass, the priest would bless everyone's throats with the candles.

Candlemas is another name for our celebration of the Presentation of the Lord: the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the Temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses (Luke 2:22-38). We remember how the elderly believers Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as their longed-for Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle, Simeon proclaimed Christ to be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel" (Luke 2:32).

Mass on this day often begins with the blessing and lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry into the church. The name Candlemas springs from this ritual blessing.

The day after the feast of the Presentation is the memorial celebration of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr. According to tradition, St. Blaise was instrumental in healing a person who was choking. The Church remembers this encounter and celebrates the intervention of the Spirit of God through the blessing of throats, using the blessed candles from the feast of the Presentation. It is a wonderful and very practical spiritual practice that is much appreciated and anticipated each year. ●



SCOTT BELL/ISTOCK/GETTY IMAGES

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
February 3	February 4	February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9
Weekday	Weekday	St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs	Weekday	Weekday	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Heb 11:32-40	Heb 12:1-4	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24	Heb 13:1-8	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8
Mk 5:1-20	Mk 5:21-43	Mk 6:1-6	Mk 6:7-13	Mk 6:14-29	Mk 6:30-34	1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11 Lk 5:1-11



DANIEL BAREZ / CNA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Like Simeon, let us also pick up this child, the God of newness and surprises.... Let us be restless, let us be moved by the Spirit, like Simeon and Anna.... If, like them, we live in expectation, we will embrace Jesus, who is the light and hope of life.

HOMILY, ROME, FEBRUARY 2, 2024