



And raising his eyes toward his disciples he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours."

LUKE 6:20

## It's All about the Roots

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**here we put down our spiritual roots matters. For some, the old adage "Bloom where you are planted" may offer wisdom; however, the prophet Jeremiah reminds us that if we find ourselves planted in a lava bed or a salty and empty land, we won't do much blooming. We'll be no more than a shriveled, barren bush. So, where we plant our inner spiritual lives makes a difference.

This week's gospel may seem to sap all the joy out of life. Woe if you have money to spend, a banquet to feast on, fun and laughter to dress up your days. Woe to you, it seems to caution, because when you die, the opposite will be your lot. What's so wrong, we wonder, with having cash in our pockets, food on our tables, and a good time once in a while? Life can be downright dreary otherwise.

The answer, of course, is that there is nothing wrong with any of that—unless that's where we put down our roots. In other words, if that's what life is all about, sooner or later, we are likely to discover we have become a barren bush standing in lava waste. Jesus didn't come to suck the joy out of life but to give us a heads up on how to live a life that is full. He hoped we might avoid the lure that can become a wasteland. He hoped we might become "like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream" (Jeremiah 17:8). ●

### Reflect

***Where are your roots? Are you growing and thriving?***

*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:**

**Tuesday - Thursday: 9 AM – 12 noon & 1 – 4 PM.**

**CLOSED on Monday February 17, 2025 (Family Day) & Friday.**

**Website:** [www.stbernardschurch.ca](http://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**

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

**St. Bernard's Parish Staff**

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

**St. Vincent's Parish Staff**

<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Lorraine Horyl	
<b>Catechetical Coordinator</b>	Cathy Crinnion	

**St. Clement's Parish Staff**

<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Pam Van Egmond	
-------------------------	----------------	--

Mass times / Intentions:					
St. Bernard's					
Mon.	Feb. 17	9:30 AM	Late Ruth Duffey	Angela Kinden	
Tues.	Feb. 18	9:30 AM	Special intention	A Parishioner	
Wed.	Feb. 19	9:30 AM	Special intention	Yolande Arsenault	
Thurs.	Feb. 20	9:30 AM	For Gratitude	Claudette Belliveau	
Fri.	Feb. 21	9:30 AM	Late Patrick Powers	Hector & Cecile Caissie	
Sat.	Feb. 22	4:00 PM	For the People		
Sun.	Feb. 23	11:00 AM	Late Patricia Delahunt Thomson	St. Bernard's CWL	
St. Clement's					
Sat.	Feb. 22	4:00 PM	Peace in the world	Joanne Carroll	
St. Vincent's					
Sun.	Feb. 23	9:00 AM	For the People		

## OFFERINGS

### St. Bernard's Offerings + PADs & online – February 8 & 9, 2025

Envelopes	\$4525.45	Loose	\$868.80	Karing Kitchen	\$20	Capital Fund	\$137.90
-----------	-----------	-------	----------	----------------	------	--------------	----------

### St. Clement's offerings – February 8, 2025

Envelopes	\$330	Donation w/receipt	\$200
-----------	-------	--------------------	-------

### St. Vincent's offerings + January 2025 PADs – February 9, 2025

Envelopes	\$2405	Loose	\$80	Maintenance	\$105	Fuel	\$65
-----------	--------	-------	------	-------------	-------	------	------

***Thank you for your generous and continued support!!!***



### INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

To save on the cost of mailing out income tax receipts, your 2024 receipt will be available for pick up on Wednesday and Thursday February 19/20, 2025, during regular office hours and also both before & after mass, at the main entrance to the church at the weekend liturgies on Saturday and Sunday February 22/23, 2025. Any tax receipts that are not picked up until February 24, 2024 will

be mailed accordingly.

**Heartfelt thanks to each and every one for their generous support to the Parish.**



***Hello There!*** We are back! Join us, chat with friends, and make new ones! Come to the parish gathering, on February 16<sup>th</sup> ~noon, offered by volunteers & Knights #1310. Speak to Linda or Mike if you can lend us a helping hand sometime.



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

**Keith Guitard**, nephew of Nancy, Brian and Helene Gallie.

*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	John Glynn	Peter Quach	Jerome Escalona	Kathleen Crosby	Walter Best
Claire Struble	Rosanna Faulkner	Belinda Sarmiento	Sofio & Maria Floreta Conson	Stella Alcalen	

**St. Clement's**

McGraw Family	Sharon Cole	Olga Bateman		
---------------	-------------	--------------	--	--

**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.**

**Marriage Enrichment Retreat – Pilgrims of Hope - Last day to register: Feb. 18, 2025.**

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](mailto:atvnonno@gmail.com) / (506) 961-3526.



**COUNTDOWN FOR LENT**

**Ash Wednesday is approaching!  
Lent begins Wednesday, March 5, 2025**

Lent is a time of repentance, change of heart, and prayer.

Ashes that are used to mark the beginning of Lent normally come from the palm branches that were blessed and distributed the previous Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord.



**REMINDER TO BRING IN LAST YEAR'S PALM**

A basket is set up at the main entrance of the church to receive last year's palms. It would be helpful if your palm were cut into small lengths, as that saves much time for those who will be burning them to make this year's ashes.

## St. Bernard's

*In case of  
Inclement  
Weather*



### 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](http://www.stbernardschurch.ca)**

**We have a new phone system. At this time, we are unable to change our phone message noting storm closures, and other relevant information.**


**Until this is corrected please check parish website or Facebook for cancellations,**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/gsmoncton](https://facebook.com/gsmoncton)**

**Check website before heading out.**

### Mark Your Calendar

<b>Carmelites</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month: 9:30 AM
<b>Prayer Group</b>	2nd Saturday of month & last Saturday of month after 25 <sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 PM
<b>RCIA</b>	Resumes Saturday, February 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2025: 10:00 AM to 12 noon
<b>Baptism preparation</b>	Sunday, February 16 @ 1:30 PM
<b>"Hello There"</b>	Sunday February 16 <sup>th</sup> after mass

 Faith Formation	SESSIONS	LEVEL 1-3		LEVEL 4-6	
		Sun. @ 9:30 AM	Tues. @ 6 PM	Sun. @ 12:15 PM	Wed. @ 6 PM
	12	February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	February 25 <sup>th</sup>	February 23 <sup>rd</sup>	February 26 <sup>th</sup>
	13	March 9 <sup>th</sup>	March 11 <sup>th</sup>	March 9 <sup>th</sup>	March 12 <sup>th</sup>
	14	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	March 25 <sup>th</sup>	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	March 26 <sup>th</sup>

### Confirmation Prep. In-person session

Session # 5 Sun. March 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM \_ Session # 6 Sun. April 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM \_ Session # 7<sup>th</sup> April 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.



### THE FEAST LIGHT GATHERING – FEBRUARY 23, 2025!

The **Light of Jesus Ministry** is a Filipino Catholic community committed to bringing God's love to everyone through vibrant worship, inspiring talks, and a welcoming faith family. As part of this mission, **The Feast Light** offers a smaller, intimate gathering where you can grow in faith and find encouragement for life's journey.

Join us on **Sunday, February 23, 2025, at 4:00 PM at St. Bernard's Parish Hall (43 Botsford St. Moncton)** for our first Feast Light gathering. Our topic, "**Rock bottom: Life Strategies from Life Tragedies,**" will explore how God's grace can turn struggles into stepping stones for a brighter future. Come for an uplifting time

of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. **Everyone is welcome!** Invite your family and friends and be blessed. See you there!



### THANK YOU FOR SHARING!!!

With the postal strike and so many donations being made anonymously, we have not been able to connect personally with all who have been so generous with donations of hats, mitts, scarves, socks, clothing and food for those in need. We make the rounds to shelters, schools, Moncton Headstart, the Moncton Pregnancy Center, ReConnect, St.

George's Anglican Church and the Peter McKee Food Centre to deliver the items which they are so grateful to receive. Our parish has a representative on the board of the Karing Kitchen and the funds you donate are gratefully received to provide meals to those who are hungry. Your kindness, understanding and generosity are very much appreciated.

## St. Clement's

Potluck supper after mass on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Everyone is welcome.

## 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.

**The Faith Formation schedule is as follows:**

Sun Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group (Grades 4+) session #11 – St. Vincent's hall
---------------------------------	---

Sun Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group session #12 – St. Vincent's hall
--------------------------------	---

Sun Mar 9 <sup>th</sup> @ 6pm	<i>Sacrament prep: 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation session #2</i>
-------------------------------	---

Fri Mar 14 <sup>th</sup> @ 5pm	<i>Sacrament of 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation</i>
--------------------------------	---

Sun Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group session #13 – St. Vincent's hall
---------------------------------	---

Sun Apr 6 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group session #14 – St. Vincent's hall
--------------------------------	---

Sun Apr 27 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group session #15 – St. Vincent's hall
---------------------------------	---

Sun May 4 <sup>th</sup> @ 10am	Elementary group session #16 – St. Vincent's hall
--------------------------------	---

Sun May 11 <sup>th</sup> @ 9am	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist during Mass (for preparation times, contact Cathy)</i>
--------------------------------	--

Primary group (grades 1-3) – please contact Cathy to discuss

**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](mailto:stvince@nbnet.nb.ca) to arrange for a mass intention.

**MASS CELEBRATION AT THE DREW NURSING HOME** – On Monday, February 10, 2025, Fr. Carlos began celebrating Mass once per month with the residents of the Drew Nursing Long Term Care Home in Sackville. The following dates are also scheduled for Mass: Monday, March 10; Monday, April 7; Monday, May 5; and Monday, June 2. ***Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate mass with the residents of the Drew Nursing Home.***

**2024 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS** – Tax receipts for 2024 will be available before the end of February 2025 and will be distributed at mass. If you are unable to attend mass, your receipt will be mailed to you via Canada Post.

**DONATIONS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS** – Thank you to all who have donated household items for the use of the Filipino newcomers in the past year. As we very recently received a large gift of household furniture, 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](mailto: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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca).

**LENT GOES TO THE MOVIES** - Our Mondays @ The Movies film discussion group will meet four times over Lent to discuss Lenten themes in popular films. **February 24<sup>th</sup> – *On the Waterfront*; March 10<sup>th</sup> – *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*; March 24<sup>th</sup> – *A River Runs Through it*; April 7<sup>th</sup>– *Thelma and Louise*.** All discussions take place on Zoom at 2:00 pm. Please contact Karen at 387-4198 or [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca) to register. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion.

**“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 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> (please note change of dates) 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](mailto: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 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**. Contact Karen at 387-4198 or [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca) to register.

**STEBENVILLE ATLANTIC** - Youth Conference will take place this year from July 11th-13th at Dalhousie University in Halifax. Steubenville offers teens a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ that ignites their faith, strengthens their prayer life, and empowers them to live out their mission long after the conference ends. Youth from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade will be exposed to opportunities for worship, adoration, and reconciliation, while enjoying fellowship with hundreds of other Catholic teens from across Canada. For more information, contact Justin Mury at [jgmury@gmail.com](mailto:jgmury@gmail.com) or register at [www.steubenville.ca](http://www.steubenville.ca).

#### **PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE**

**May 16 – 26, 2025: with Hector Caissie and 2 accompanying priests, Fr. Carlos & Fr. Legendre.** Cost of \$3770 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) **INFO:** Hector Caissie at [hectorcaissie@gmail.com](mailto:hectorcaissie@gmail.com) or 506-857-2295.

#### **PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL AND SPAIN**

**May 19 – 28, 2025: Pilgrimage to Portugal and Spain, with visits to Lisbon, Avila, Toledo, Madrid, Zaragoza Montserrat and Barcelona.** Cost of CAD 4,730.00 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from Fredericton/Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and professional guides. (Single room supplement - CAD 510.00) **INFO:** Marie Desjardins at [mariedesjardins1949@gmail.com](mailto:mariedesjardins1949@gmail.com) or 207-868-5027.

# Dear Padre,

*I have always been an “every Sunday” Catholic. My problem is that holy Communion doesn’t feel that special. I believe that it’s the Body and Blood of Christ, but receiving feels “routine.” Sometimes I’m even distracted while receiving. Help?*



PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

Do you remember the story of the transfiguration of Jesus? (See Luke 9:28–36.) Jesus took his three special disciples, Peter, James, and John, up on the mountain, and while Jesus was praying, what did they do? They fell asleep! In the very presence of Jesus, their Lord and Master.

Human beings cannot maintain feelings of awe and ecstasy for long periods of time. We would be exhausted. Feelings don’t always reflect the specialness of the moment. That is why good habits are so important. Feelings may elude us, but we can fall back on the habit of Sunday Mass. Just as two contented, long-married people don’t feel like they did on their honeymoon, they still quietly enjoy the habit of each other’s company.

Lent is coming soon. You might consider shaking up your routine a little. Attend one weekday Mass. Prepare for Sunday Mass by reading the Scriptures for that Sunday and praying the entrance antiphon or the psalm. If you don’t already, consider volunteering as a choir member, lector, or extraordinary minister of holy Communion. Meanwhile, continue to receive holy Communion, giving thanks that it is readily available, and perhaps offer a prayer for communities where Communion every Sunday is not possible. ●

*The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org*

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



STUDIO ROMANTIC / SHUTTERSTOCK

### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Jesus says [his people] are blessed because they are poor. In what sense? In the sense that Jesus’ disciples do not find their joy in money, power, or other material goods; but in the gifts they receive every day from God: life, creation, brothers and sisters, and so on. These are gifts of life.*

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 13, 2022

#### Monday

February 17

Weekday

Gn 4:1–15, 25

Mk 8:11–13

#### Tuesday

February 18

Weekday

Gn 6:5–8; 7:1–5, 10

Mk 8:14–21

#### Wednesday

February 19

Weekday

Gn 8:6–13, 20–22

Mk 8:22–26

#### Thursday

February 20

Weekday

Gn 9:1–13

Mk 8:27–33

#### Friday

February 21

Weekday

Gn 11:1–9

Mk 8:34–9:1

#### Saturday

February 22

*The Chair of Saint*

*Peter the Apostle*

1 Pt 5:1–4

Mt 16:13–19

#### Sunday

February 23

*Seventh Sunday*

*in Ordinary Time*

1 Sm 26:2, 7–9,

12–13, 22–23

1 Cor 15:45–49

Lk 6:27–38