

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH  
&  
H.O.P.E. Centre News  
4347 Loch Lomond Road  
Saint John, NB E2N 1C8**

**Rev. Ralph McRae, Pastor**

**Our Vision Statement**

***A parish dedicated to the spiritual well-being of God's people through on-going family based religious education programs, a deepening of the sacramental life of the parish, and the continuing development of meaningful and life-giving liturgies. A parish that lives out this commitment through social service and ministry.***

**Office Mon - Thurs 10 am to 2 pm Closed Friday**

Phone 653-6856 Fax 653-6816

**Parish email** joewilpat@bellaliant.com

**Parish Web Site** www.stjosephsnb.com

**H.O.P.E. Centre Coordinator** Tracie Dyker Phone 653-6875 or 609-5867 email hopecentre@bellaliant.com

**H.O.P.E. Kitchen 653-6869**

**Centre & Church Custodian Jerry Adams 898-0415**

**School Programs: Preschool 653-6971 Afterschool 653-6857**

**Pastoral Council Chairperson** George Quigley Phone 696-3731 email quigleydesign@rogers.com

**H.O.P.E. Wellness Centre** Mon. Tues. Wed. 8 am to 3 pm Phone 632-5695

**December 24, 2017  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
&  
December 31, 2017  
Feast of the Holy Family**

**Saturday, December 23  
4 pm Alberta McDow**

**Sunday, December 24  
10 am Mary Sponagle**

**4 pm Fernand Despres, Tom Flaglor,  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Dunn & sons  
The McDuff & Stack Families  
George & Betty Douglas**

**8 pm Amedee & Helen Chouinard  
Joe & Myrna Mason, Terri Chouinard  
Billy & Anita Hooper, Martha Butler  
Ann Horne, Michael MacCollum  
Gordon, Muriel & Bill Kennedy**

**December 25 Christmas Day  
9 am Father Bernard Stack**

**Parish Office & H.O.P.E. Centre Office  
closed until January 2**

**Saturday, December 30  
4 pm Asied Debly**

**Sunday, December 31  
10 am Jim & Eleanor Estabrook**

**6 pm St. William's Church**

**Monday, January 1, 2018  
10 am Walter & Patricia Peters  
Father Bernard Stack**

**Wednesday, January 3  
Mass will not be celebrated**

**Thursday, January 4  
12 noon For The People**

**Friday, January 5  
12 noon Father Bill Elliott**

**Saturday, January 6  
3:30 pm The Rosary will be prayed  
4 pm Harold & Florence Sullivan &  
son Bernard**

**Sunday, January 7  
10 am Joe Mason  
1 - 2 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Food collection for Lakewood Headstart Inc.**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Sunday, December 24, at Villa Madonna Retreat House from 2 - 4 pm

Sunday, December 31 at St. Francois de Sales Church from 2:30-3:30 pm

**PARISH FINANCES**

**Last Week's Offerings**

Offertory \$2333.

Pre-authorized Debit (weekly) \$190

Just a reminder that pre-authorized debit is available. Please call the office for further information.

**NOTE:** Any contributions made by cheque ***MUST*** be made payable to St. Joseph's Church or The H.O.P.E. Centre depending on where you want the donation allocated.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2018 ARE NOW IN THE CHURCH AND ARE PLACED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER. ALSO, EMPTY BOXES ARE AVAILABLE SHOULD YOU WISH TO BE A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR AND RECEIVE AN INCOME TAX RECEIPT.

**For December 30, 31 & January 1**

**Lectors**

4 pm **Bernie Desmond & Margaret Sullivan**

10 am **Peter Chouinard & Andrea Arseneau**

**January 1**

10 am **Sandra Butler & Krystal Lavigne**

**Eucharistic Ministers**

4 pm **Jim & Sandra Lane, Linda Hackett**

10 am **Patti Davis, Joe Butler, Bob Donovan**

**January 1**

10 am **Fred & Patti McGrath, Joe Butler**

***Ecclesiastes III....Under every season there is a time.....a time to heal....we remember these people in need of our prayers:***

Carol McNally, Bob Donovan, Kathleen Folkins, Fred Savoie, Mary Naves, Kiley Clements, Muriel Richard, Walter Smith, Brian Naves, Joe Duplisea, Gladys McGrath, Ian Walker, Harvey Beck, Hilma Tracey, Doug McFarlane, Mary Bishop, Gail Scott, Percy Leslie, Will James, Kathy Hackett, Danny Murray, Eileen Shaw, Jocelyn Corscadden, Michael LeCroix, Kyla, Sam Williams, Marlene Savoie, Karen Adams, Helen Savoie, Kathleen Gagnon and her family, Debbie Nolan, Gisele Kirkpatrick, Jean Morrison, John Richardson, Arthur Locke, Theresa Ryan, a Special Intention, Buddy Perry, Ann Whelan, David Branscombe, Marilyn Galbraith

***Question of the week for December 31  
Feast of the Holy Family***

***Reading 1 Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14***

***Reading 11 Colossians 3:12-21***

***Gospel Luke 2:22-40***

***Key Passage: As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. (Colossians 3:12)***

***Adult: How do your family members know that you are a compassionate person?***

***Child: What family member needs your compassion and kindness right now?***

***Question of the week for January 7  
Epiphany of the Lord***

***Reading 1 Isaiah 60:1-6***

***Reading 11 Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6***

***Gospel Matthew 2:1-12***

***Key Passage On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother.***

***Adult: When have you found the presence of Christ in an unexpected place?***

***Child: Where and in whom will you look for Jesus this week?***

### **FAITH SHARING GROUP**

This is an invitation for anyone to join a group of people sharing life and faith, valuing one another, connecting with the Church's story and reaching out in service.

Our fast paced lives leave us little time to reflect the meaning of life. Faith Groups give you a chance to slow down, recall the day or week in quiet time and listen to yourself and others. In this group, we will focus some on Outreach. Our concern, care and love of others is a measure of our love for God. Through Outreach that we share in the mission of Jesus.

When: Wednesdays from 7 - 8:30 pm

Group Guides: Bob Donovan 643-1880 & Tracie Dyker 609-5867

All are welcome!!

### **NO SCENTS IS GOOD SENSE"**

Be considerate of others. Recognize that some people may have allergies or adverse reactions to fragrances. Please reduce or eliminate your use of scented products at Mass.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

***A committee has been formed to provide Pastoral Care for the sick and elderly of the parish. Regular home visits will be made at a time of your convenience. Please call the church office or Pauline Hughes 696-7907 to arrange a visit.***

### **CWL NEWS**

***It is that time of year to collect our annual dues of \$20. If it's more convenient for you, put your money in an envelope marked "CWL Dues" and drop it in the collection basket.***

***Being a member of The Catholic Women's League of Canada adds your voice to some 82,000 women in Canada, strong in their faith, have their voice heard in government, and share the love of their community.***

***Merry Christmas and Blessings for a Happy, Holy and Prosperous 2018 from the ladies of CWL.***

### **MEN'S CLUB LOTO**

Congratulations to Chrissy McGrath the winner of the November \$1000.00 draw and Patty and Jamie Davis the winners of December's draw. Fortunately the Men's Club was able to make a donation to the H.O.P.E. Centre, from last year's proceeds, in the amount of \$4000.00. Thank you for your support in this fundraiser. There are approximately 55 numbers open if you are interested in taking part. We haven't found anyone yet who couldn't use the \$1000.00 when their name was drawn. See Rusty Kirkpatrick 672-8626 or Fred McGrath 214-5632 to take a number.

We invite the community to St. Alphonsus Parish, 22 Church Street, Hampton, on December 27th at 7 pm for the Annual "CHRISTMAS TIME STRINGS" featuring The Buckley Family Ensemble.

Knights of Columbus Council 11201 Bingo every other Friday night in the Bradley Lake Community Centre at 248 Bradley Lake Road. Doors open at 6 pm. Early Bird Games at 6:45 pm \$500 Pot of Gold/Jackpot Games/Cookie Jar and Specials. The next game night is January 12.

## **HOPE CENTRE NEWS**

### **SENIORS EXERCISE PROGRAM**

Each Tuesday from 10 - 11 am.

### **SENIORS CARDS**

Each Tuesday at 1 pm. Come and socialize and play 45's....enjoy the day!!

### **YOGA**

#### **FREE INTRODUCTION TO YOGA FOR ALL**

Have you ever tried yoga? Do you have any questions? We would like to welcome all who would like to give yoga a try. As well as the experienced yogies that would like to try a little bit more of an intense yoga. On January 8 we are going to have an FREE OPEN HOUSE from 7 - 8 pm with 2 styles of yoga: 1) beginner and 2) more intense.

Starting January 8 - Mondays from 7 - 8 pm \$40 for 6 weeks. Register at 653-6875 or 609-5867 (Tracie). All welcome!!

### **MOMS & TOTS**

Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 10 to 11:15  
Come and have some adult time while you're enjoying watching your children play. Snacks provided for the little ones and of course coffee is on for YOU! (come in the main doors of the H.O.P.E. Centre, take the elevator down to the basement or the stairs to the left)

### **BINGO**

Bingo each Thursday. Doors open at 5:30 pm, Games begin at 6:50 pm. Please come out for a great night of fun.....

### **Foot Care Clinics**

Last Wednesdays of each month 9 am - 12 noon  
Cost \$40 - \*Provided by nurses trained in Advance & Diabetic foot care \*Receipts provided for income tax purposes \*Most Health Insurance plans cover foot care services \*Registered providers for Medavie Blue Cross & Veterans  
To book an appointment call 847-0254

**SOUTHEAST JAM SESSION** - This is a Open Mic session for all who want to come to sing, dance or just to enjoy and tap your toes to good ole country music. We will have this every 2nd Sunday afternoon, starting....

JANUARY 14, 2018 from 2 - 4 pm.

Admission is \$5 per person

free tea/coffee, cookies; 50/50 Draw & Door Prize

## ***Revitalization & Realignment - Continuing the Conversation***

### ***Why Are We Doing This?***

In any project it helps periodically to reflect on why we are doing this. There are many factors that have brought us to this point – declining population, aging communities, movement of people from one area to another, shortages of priests, the need to carry out ministry and pastoral care in new ways, financial considerations to name a few. But one, a new vision of the Catholic Church has been expressed by Pope Francis.

Pope Francis expressed this new vision in 2013 shortly after he became pope. In his exhortation to all Catholics, The Joy of the Gospel Pope Francis called on all Christians, including Catholics to a “renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ”. As he put it: “Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.” In this he was quoting his predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI. It is this encounter with a person, Jesus Christ that energizes us as disciples to become missionaries of Good News to our world.

In The Joy of the Gospel Pope Francis expressed this vision this way: “I dream of a ‘missionary option’, that is a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than her self-preservation.” (27) In short the Church, the whole Church, universal and local must become about mission, not maintenance.

Pope Francis has expressed a new vision of how we are to be Church in the midst of the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This vision calls for each and every person, laity and clergy to carry the Good News to the whole world. At the local level it will mean communities that are revitalized and active, that gather many different generations, children, seniors, youths and middle age. Being Catholic will mean more than going to Mass on Sunday. It will mean we will all be missionary disciples of Jesus ready to share what we have received. In doing so, we become the face of God to our world.

Why are we doing this? Why are working for revitalization & realignment? Because we aspire and hope to grow stronger as the Church we are called to be – communities of missionary disciples able to share the full joy of the Gospel.