

**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 3, 2017

First Sunday of Advent

**Saturday, December 2
4 pm Anise Blanchard**

**Sunday, December 3
9 am - 11:30 am Breakfast in H.O.P.E. Centre
10 am Myrna Mason
1-2 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Monday, December 4
7 pm Del Worden & Friends Christmas Concert**

**Tuesday, December 5
10 - 11 am Senior's Exercises
10 am Moms & Tots
1 pm Senior's Cards
7 pm Lavigne Share Group**

**Wednesday, December 6
12 noon Asied Debly
7 pm McGrath Share Group
Donovan/Dyker Share Group**

**Thursday, December 7
12 noon Genevieve Anglin
10 - 11:15 am Moms & Tots
5:30 pm Doors open for BINGO**

**Friday, December 8
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
12:10 pm Mass will celebrated at the Cathedral**

**Saturday, December 9
4 pm Roland Ducas, Sr. & Donald Ducas**

**Sunday, December 10
10 am Charles & Evelyn Arsenault
Fabien Basque
Dr. Wesley Stephen**

**Collection for "Sunday for Life" as per the
request of Bishop Harris**

**Collection of food items for Lakewood
Headstart Inc. (as per list)**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, December 3, here at St. Joseph's Church from 1 - 2 pm with Benediction and Confessions.

PARISH FINANCES

Last Week's Offerings

Offertory \$2030.
Pre-authorized Debit (weekly) \$165
Retired Priests & Seminarians \$281

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 9 & 10

Lectors

**4 pm George Quigley & Esther McQuade
10 am Jack Nielsen & Patty Davis**

Eucharistic Ministers

**4 pm Fred & Patti McGrath, Wanda Quigley
10 am Carol Hussey, Pauline Winters,
Tracie Dyker**

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, , Alberta McDow, Theresa Ryan, a Special Intention, Buddy Perry, David Branscombe, Marilyn Galbraith, Ann Whelan

**Question of the week for December 10
Second Sunday of Advent**

**Reading 1 Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Reading 11 2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel Mark 1:1-8**

Key Passage: *The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)*

Adult: *With whom could you be more patient this week, as God has been patient with you?*

Child: *Whom can you be more patient with?*

NEW 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!!

Advent/Christmas Concert in our Church

Sunday, December 17 from 2 - 4 pm
Featuring :
Treble Clef, Tracy Friars, Luan Salmon, Aiden & Natalie London & St Joseph's Parish Choir
Admission: A freewill Offering in support of the "Paint St. Joe's" Campaign

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

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

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

The all new H.O.P.E. Centre Bingo each Thursday. Doors open at 5:30 pm, Games begin at 6:50 pm.

Please come out for a great night of fun.....looking forward to seeing everyone. *The Bingo Team*

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

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. 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.

Thank you from the CWL Ladies to all who contributed to the success of last week's Poinsettia Luncheon. As usual, it was a booming success.

Various winners were:

The Christmas Carousel - June Bertrand

Santa Claus Figurine - Erin Brown

Tablecloth - Irene Bigney

Poinsettia Plants - Esther McQuade & Mona Ellis

LAKESWOOD HEADSTART INC.

The Headstart is in need of the following items for their Christmas Dinners:

canned yellow beans, macaroni, envelopes of turkey gravy, cans or bottles of juice, drinking boxes, canned icing.

CHRISTMAS MASS HOURS

Christmas Eve

St. Joseph's 4 & 8 pm

St. William's 6 pm

Christmas Day

St. Joseph's 9 am

New Year's Eve

St. Joseph's 4 pm

St. William's 6 pm

New Year's Day

St. Joseph's 10 am

The Advent Wreath, four candles on a wreath of evergreen, is shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of God.

There are three purple candles representing Hope, Love & Peace and a pink candle representing Joy.

While the Advent wreath with its four candles did bring light to churches, it was not to illuminate the interior as much as to symbolize the coming of Christ. The Advent wreath began in the time of the Protestant reformer Martin Luther. During each Sunday of the Advent season, we focus on one of the four virtues Jesus brings us. The wreath continually reminds us of whom we are called to be as followers of Jesus.

KEEP ALERT KEEP AWAKE

During the Advent Season we will be helping two non-profit organizations - A.I.D.S. SJ and Lakewood Headstart Inc. These organizations work very hard to better the lives of their clientele but sometimes they too become the needy especially during this time of year.

During the four weeks of Advent we are being invited to share our blessings with those less fortunate. There will be specific items requested for each Sunday of Advent.

Week 1 was for Lakewood Headstart and were asking for Gift Cards. (see list)

Week 2 Food for Lakewood Headstart. (see list)

Week 3 Monetary Donation for A.I.D.S. Saint John

Week 4 Personal Care Items for A.I.D. S. Saint John (see list)

"Jesus said 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'"

Week 2 Food Items suggestions - canned soup, fruit, vegetables & meat; kraft dinner, evaporated milk, instant rice, peanut butter, cheese spread, cereal, snack size fruit/pudding, juice boxes, granola or snack bars, pasta, spaghetti sauce, jam, tea/coffee/hot chocolate

Week 3 Monetary Donations to A.I.D.S. Saint John

Week 4 Personal Care Items - tooth paste, tooth brushes, soap & wash cloth, shampoo & conditioner, body wash, razors & shaving cream, deodorant, lotion, sanitary supplies, kleenex (small paks), toilet paper, lip balm

Gift Cards suggestions - McAllister Place, Walmart, Old Navy, Winners, Subway, Tim Hortons, Dollar Store, Movie \$\$, Giant Tiger

Tickets are on sale now for Measha Brueggergosman's only concert within our diocese this season! The Home for the Holidays concert at Saint John High School, is Friday December 15 at 7:30 PM. Tickets \$30 plus HST at Harbour Station Box Office or www.harbourstation.ca. Proceeds benefit Cathedral Restoration Project.

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 December 15.

Mass for the Respect of Human Life. Wed., Dec. 6, 7 pm, Divine Mercy Catholic School Chapel. Everyone welcome.

Evening Prayer at Carmel Chapel, 105 Burpee Ave. on Thursday, December 7, at 7 pm. All are welcomed to the sounds of song, psalm, silence and prayer. A peaceful 30-40 minute experience.

Christmas Turkey Dinner at St. Peter's, Clarendon Street, on Saturday, December 9, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Cost: Adults \$13, Youth (12 & under) \$5, Children under 3 eat free.

The 24th annual **CHRISTMAS GALA**, Saint John's Christmas Variety Show – features over 150 Adult and Children Singers and Players, plus a Finale sing-a-long. St. Mark's Church, Greendale West, Saturday, Dec. 9th, 7 pm. Advanced tickets are \$15. Tickets at the door \$20.

MAKE A JOYFUL SOUND 10: Please join us on December 10th at 2:00 pm for another enjoyable concert in Assumption Church. Entertainers will be Our Lady of the Assumption Choir, Men and Music, Carleton Choristers, Harbourview Choirs, Aussie Scot Duo, Jim Steward, Christopher Buckley. All proceeds to benefit Assumption Building Fund.

Christmas at St. Mark's (Quispamsis) - St. Mark's Music Ministry, Mark's Men and our Master of Ceremonies, Bob Doherty, invite you to join in a celebration of all things Christmas on Sunday, December 10, at 7 pm. Join us for an evening of carol singing and story telling. Admission is a free will donation, with proceeds going to support families in need at Christmas, through our Care and Concern Committee. Coffee, tea, and Christmas cookies will be served downstairs after the singing.

Merging for Revitalization

Continuing the Conversation – If we merge several communities, which “church sites” do we use? Merging Parishes to Become New
How do we do this?

Our revitalization & realignment process has an important aim. Its aim is to better use our limited resources, financial, physical and especially our human resources (lay & clergy). In doing so, our goal is to help grow as disciples of Jesus ready to share the good news to others (evangelize). One aspect of the process is to merge communities in a way that they can better use the resources for this goal.

Keeping in mind that “church” refers to the building in which the “parish” community gathers, these new “parish” community will not need all the buildings currently held by the communities that come together. The question is, how do we decide what church buildings to use, and what builds not to use? This of course generates much pain and questioning – “Why is our Church building not needed?” or “Why do we need to keep another building?”

Many factors were and will continue to be considered in determining which church and other buildings will be used and which will not. Among the factors are: the seating capacity and condition of the building, the location of the building, the potential patterns of population growth in the area, general travel patterns in the area, proximity to other parish communities, historical significance and many others. Obviously in making such decisions more than one factor plays a determining role.

During the workgroup discussions last winter and during the last few months of listening to feedback from the regional consultations, much information has been considered. Painful as it is, however, not all buildings can be retained and it is certainly not easy to make such a decision. Please feel free to submit any suggestions that might help those making the decisions.

VILLA MADONNA RETREAT HOUSE EVENTS

Call 849-5125 to reserve and/or book

Senior's Mass & Lunch

Wednesday, December 6 - Mass celebrated at 11 am by Father Ken Weir followed by Lunch \$10

Annual Christmas Luncheon & Bridge
Friday, December 8 \$20 per person

Annual Chowder/Chili Lunch & Supper as well as Artisan Craft Sale Tuesday, December 12
sittings at 11:30 am, 12:45 pm & 5:30 pm
\$10 per person

To inquire about craft tables, contact Pam Johnson at 696-5303.