



When Life Is on Empty

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, "Pain is weakness leaving the body." Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one's child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life's joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul's assertion that Jesus came and "emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross," then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God's spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●

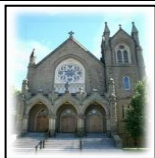
Reflect

***What emptying am I experiencing?
Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?***



**[Christ Jesus] emptied himself...
becoming obedient to death,
even death on a cross.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

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
Parish Office hours:
Monday to Thursday: 9AM–12 noon & 1–4 PM, closed Fridays

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 Website:
gsmoncton.ca
Facebook page:
facebook.com/gsmoncton
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	stvince@nbnet.nb.ca
Catechetical Coordinator	Cathy Crinnion	ccrinnion@yahoo.ca

St. Clement's Parish Staff

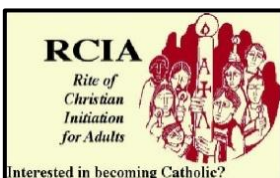
Parish Secretary	Pam Van Egmond	stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com
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St. Bernard's Sacrament of Reconciliation regular schedule
Prior to Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday: 8:30 – 9:20 AM
Saturdays: 10:00 AM; First Friday of the month: 8:00 – 9:00 AM.

St. Bernard's

Mark Your Calendar

Carmelites	2 nd Saturday of the month: 9:30 AM
Prayer Group	2 nd Saturday of month & last Saturday of month after 25 th @ 7PM
RCIA meeting dates	2 nd & 4 th Saturday each month: 10AM-12 noon beginning Sep. 27th
Baptism preparation	Sunday, October 5th @ 1:30 PM



**Do you believe? About Jesus? About the Sacraments?
About Salvation? Interested in becoming Catholic?**

Then please feel welcome to join the St. Bernard's RCIA team (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and Children) here at St. Bernard's on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 10 AM to 12 noon, beginning Saturday, September 27, 2025. If you or someone you know is thinking of becoming a member of the Catholic Church, please invite him or her to contact Darlene McGraw at 857-0425 or darlenemcgraw@rogers.com for more information on RCIA.



Welcome to new and returning families as we embark and continue in our faith journey. All families whose children are baptized and entering grade one or older, and who want to grow their relationship with Jesus, are welcome to join our parish family to learn about our faith.

Our Start date: Sunday, September 21, Tuesday, September 23, or Wednesday, September 24, 2025.

- A parent accompanies their children.
- **Sessions are bi-weekly: Level 1-2-3: Sun. or Tues._ Level 4-5-6: Sunday or Wed.**
- **Level 7: Sunday Confirmation**
- **Fee: \$30/child or \$50/more than one child.** All families **must be registered with our parish.**
- Registration forms on gsmoncton.ca ->faith formation->children catechesis->St. Bernard's faith formation registration form.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me @ 506-857-0425 or lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com.



ST. BERNARD'S BAPTISM AND BAPTISM PREPARATION INFORMATION

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 prior to Baptism.

St. Bernard's will be offering a Baptism Preparation Course on Sunday, October 5 at 1:30 PM. Registration is required prior to the course. Please contact Darlene McGraw at darlenemcgraw@rogers.com or by calling 506-857-0425.

St. Bernard's



St. Bernard's CWL – Regular Meeting: Sunday, September 28 in the church hall from 2-4 PM with Rosary at 1:30 PM. Sr. Aurea Cormier will be our guest speaker, and she will provide an update on the Housing For Life Project. For any ladies interested in finding out what CWL is about, please feel free to join us at our meeting. New members are always welcome.

CWL - 2026 Membership Dues: For returning members to St. Bernard's CWL, 2026 Membership Dues collection will begin at our Sep. 28th meeting and must be received by Dec. 31st for processing to our National Office. Dues remain at \$32.50. If paying by cheque, kindly make your cheque payable to St. Bernard's CWL. Please do not place dues in the collection basket. Should you wish to have your dues picked up, please call Donna Shaw at (506) 382-0503. Thank you.



Edna Daly Landry is turning 100!!

She has a long history with St. Bernard's parish and the CWL.
Come celebrate with family and friends on Sun., Sept. 21 between 1-4pm at Mapleton Park Rotary Lodge on Mapleton Road. Best wishes only.

Employment: We have newly arrived parishioners seeking job opportunities. One is an experienced IT professional, & the other has strong skills as an office administrator. If you or someone you know could assist them in finding work, please contact Bernardshaw & Sherly Arockiam: 506-233-8786.

ST. CLEMENT'S

Anniversary Greetings: Guy and Eileen Fournier celebrated 65 years on September 10th, 2025. We wish them blessings and pray that they continue in their married life with God's love and love for each other, family and friends

ST. VINCENT'S

PARISH QUESTIONNAIRE re: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: There has been a request for a monthly Eucharistic Adoration at St. Vincent's, an opportunity for parishioners to pray in the presence of Jesus Christ. Is there general interest in this? When would be the best time to schedule this (once per month)? **Parishioners can indicate their interest on the questionnaire in the church vestibule or by sending an email with preferred day and time to stvince@nbnet.nb.ca.**

🎵 **PARISH CHOIR – JOIN OUR PARISH CHOIR – ALL ARE WELCOME!** 🎵

St. Vincent's will be re-forming our choir this year, which we have not had since pre-Covid. This year it will be a little different, in that you are invited to bring your children with you! So ... bring your mom, your dad, your grandparents, your child or most importantly, **YOU**, to be part of our Choir family! **See you this Wednesday, September 17, at 6:30, for our first rehearsal.**

For more information or to pre-register, please reach out to **Karen Olscamp 506-536-3050 / kolscamp@live.com.**

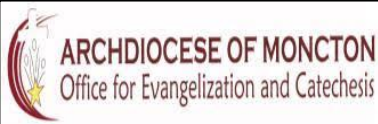
CHALICE – John Blakely reports that another deposit of \$550 was made this week to the Chalice Fund. Thank you to all the parishioners who continue to give to this very worthwhile cause! God Bless You All! (To donate, please place your contribution in the small wooden box on the left at the entry to the church) ([Chalice | Sponsor a Child](#) "Chalice is a Canadian, Catholic international child sponsorship charity. For more than 30 years, its sponsors have supported children experiencing poverty to overcome obstacles, finish school, and have a hope-filled future.")

ST. VINCENT'S

DONATIONS OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS – Thank you to all who have donated household items for the use of the Filipino newcomers in the past year. **The most recent arrivals will require housing by the end of September. They are looking for a three-bedroom house or apartment and will need a variety of household items (furniture, dishes, small appliances, blankets, etc). The last two nurses will arrive from the Philippines by the end of September.** Please be in touch with Lorraine at the Parish Office 506-536-1460 or stvince@nbnet.nb.ca if you have any items to donate.

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 (location is St. Vincent's hall):

September 14 th @ 10am	Primary group session (grades 1-3)
September 21 st @ 10am	Elementary group session (grades 4+)
September 28th	No session
October 5 th @ 10am	Primary group session (grades 1-3)
October 12 th	No session – Happy Thanksgiving!
October 19 th @ 10am	Elementary group session (grades 4+)



Office for Evangelization & Catechesis
Trevor Driesbeck - 857- 4879 or adultfaith@diocesemoncton.ca
Karen LeBlanc – 387- 4198 or youth@diocesemoncton.ca

This year's Tending the Soil, Tending the Sower catechist formation will take place on Saturday, September 20th at Immaculate Heart of Mary church from 8:30 am – 2:00 pm (brunch provided). We will be joined by Dr. Carol Kuzmochka, Director and Research Lead for the Centre for Religious Education and Catechesis (Saint Paul University), who will give an interactive presentation entitled "Where Faith and Life Meet: Perspectives and Practices for Adult Faith Education/Accompaniment that Transforms." All are invited to attend but this session would be of particular interest to anyone serving as a catechist or who works with other adults through baptismal preparation, R.C.I.A., marriage preparation, etc. Register through the diocesan website at www.diocesemoncton.ca → Pastoral Offices → Adult Faith → Formation Opportunities. You may also register by calling 857-4879 or emailing adultfaith@diocesemoncton.ca



CCCB PLENARY ASSEMBLY: This month the Canadian Bishops are scheduled to meet in Plenary session September 23-27. All are invited to pray throughout the month asking the Spirit of God to guide the Bishops in their deliberations and decisions for the people of God.

The **Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Cathedral Foundation Inc.** is pleased to announce that we now accept online donations at fondationcathedrale.ca with **zefly.com**, where 100% of your donation is applied to our mission to preserve this National Historic Site.

THANK YOU for your continued support!

In Sympathy

*A time to mourn.
Sincere sympathies 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	Claire Struble	Peter Quach	Paul Fortin	Lylla Roach
Paul Cassidy	Alma Melanson	Mark Powers		

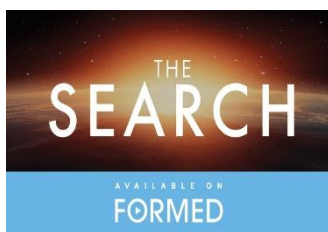
St. Clement's

McGraw Family	Garry Johnson	Pamela Gagnon	Sharon Wall	Janice Allen
Baby Oliver	John & Darlene Keough	Claudette Elliot		

St. Vincent's

Barb DeWitt	Leonard Burke	Leone Campbell	Art Chase	Vince Wood	Kathy Mattatall
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And those who have died.



Looking for More? Join a Small Group with The Search
Have you ever asked yourself: What's the meaning of my life? Why am I here? Where am I going?

Chris Stefanick's acclaimed series The Search tackles life's biggest questions in a way that is engaging, thought-provoking, and deeply Catholic. Through stunning visuals and powerful stories, it invites us to see how our restless hearts

find their true home in God.

This Fall, our parish will gather in small groups to journey through The Search. It's a chance to grow in faith, build friendships, and rediscover the joy of following Jesus together.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect, be inspired, and deepen your faith.

Groups begin mid-October. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church.

Come and see... because the answers you're searching for might change your life forever.

For inquiries, please contact Tiffany Good at 506-863-3427 or goodtiffany@hotmail.com.



We would like to remind everyone that if you receive suspicious emails or text messages claiming to be Fr. Damian, Fr. Carlos, or any of our parishes staff members, please be cautious and bring this to our attention.

4th Annual Empowered Men's Catholic Conference: Sat., Oct. 18: St. Thomas More Church, 15 Caledonia Rd., Dartmouth, NS. Join keynote speakers Fr. James Mallon and Fr. Isaac Longworth for the 4th Annual Empowered Men's Conference — a full day of faith, fellowship, and formation for Catholic men. Events like this are essential for spiritual renewal, helping men grow in their faith, discover their mission in Christ, and strengthen their roles in family and community life. For full details, please see the flyer or visit: empoweredccfm.ca.

Mass times / Intentions:				
St. Bernard's				
Mon.	Sep. 15	9:30 AM	Late Mildred LeBlanc	Marie Beek
Tues.	Sep. 16	9:30 AM	Special intention	Laurel Cliff
Wed.	Sep. 17	9:30 AM	Late Gordon Fraser	George & Sophie Murphy
Thurs.	Sep. 18	9:30 AM	Special intention	Rose Ward
Fri.	Sep. 19	9:30 AM	Anniv. Late Ethel Devereux Arsenault	Gene Devereux
Sat.	Sep. 20	4:00 PM	Anniv. Late Inez Kervin	Heather
Sun.	Sep. 21	11:00 AM	For The People	
St. Clement's				
Sun.	Sep. 21	11:00 AM	Guy and Eileen Fournier anniversary	Jeanne Allen
St. Vincent's				
Sun.	Sep. 21	9:00 AM	Thanksgiving for Ariane Saldua's 39th birthday	Jane Cabaluna

OFFERINGS

**St. Bernard's Offerings + PADs & online for last 3 weeks
will be noted on September 21st bulletin.**

St. Clement's offerings – September 7, 2025

Envelopes	\$385	In memory of Lionel Kenny	\$50	Donations w/receipt	\$120
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St. Vincent's offerings – August 31 & September 7, 2025

PADs Aug.1 ➡	Envelopes	\$1195	Maintenance	\$35	
Aug. 31 ➡	Envelopes	\$1285	Loose		\$90.95
Sept. 7 ➡	Envelopes	\$1170	Loose	\$30.10	Maint. \$165
					Needs Ca. Church \$25

Thank you for your generous and continued support!!!



Knights of Columbus, Moncton Council 1310's next breakfast: October 5th:

Come join us for our Sunday Morning Breakfast and enjoy an awesome meal for a great price while supporting local charities! Our breakfast menu includes: Scrambled or boiled eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Pan Fries, Pancakes, Baked Beans, Toast, Coffee, Tea and Juice. Time: 8:30 AM until 12:30 PM, cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children. We hope to see you there!!!



Regnum Christi - 2025 Women's Conference: Sent Forth as Apostles of Hope.

Sat., Oct. 4, 9AM to 3 PM. Hosted at: Knights of Columbus Hall, 84 Broadway St., Moncton. Kathleen Murphy, from Nova Scotia, consecrated herself in 1994 and now serves as territorial director for the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi in North America, after years in youth and leadership ministry. \$75 includes materials, snacks, and lunch. Please register by Sep. 15th. For more information and registration: rcmaritimes@gmail.com.

Dear Padre,

A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life "as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus' death was payment for our sins doesn't mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. "It is love 'to the end' (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ's sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus' death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice "that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices," when "the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself," and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father "in reparation for our disobedience" (CCC 614). Christ "bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ's death has meaning in eternal life's triumph over sin. ●



NANCY WIECHER / CNS

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
September 15	September 16	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21
<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<i>Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul Chông Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
1 Tm 2:1-8 Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35	1 Tm 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17	1 Tm 3:14-16 Lk 7:31-35	1 Tm 4:12-16 Lk 7:36-50	1 Tm 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3	1 Tm 6:13-16 Lk 8:4-15	Am 8:4-7 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

I chose to take the name Leo XIV...mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical *Rerum Novarum* addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of [its] social teaching in response to...new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.

**ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS,
ROME, MAY 10, 2025**