



## Born Free

MIGUEL DULICK

**T**oday's gospel, the healing of the man born blind, is a terrific story that includes many details. Notice that Jesus, who has his own agenda, "so that the works of God might be made visible through him," does not even wait for the man to ask to be healed. But the man is a willing subject, allowing mud and saliva to be smeared on his eyes, agreeing to go to Siloam and wash. And, he's a quick learner. At first, all he knows is "the man called Jesus" healed him. Soon, however, he's calling Jesus "a prophet." Then, as a "division" ("schism" in the original) opens among the authorities and even in his own family, he defends Jesus' divine calling when the Pharisees mock Jesus as a "sinner." Finally, expelled from the synagogue, the man finds Jesus waiting for him with the ultimate revelation: he sees before him the Son of Man, "and he worshiped him."

Now, maybe we weren't born blind, but I venture to say a lot of us are short-sighted. Do I "see the works of God"? Starting from "the man called Jesus," do I keep going forward in faith, defending Jesus when he is mocked by people, to a deeper, fuller reality than even my own family may not understand? All the way to adoration, worship, a total handing over of my whole self to the Son of Man? Or, as Thomas would later say, when his own eyes were opened, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:28). ●



LEARN ABOUT  
THE AUTHORS  
OF OUR PARISH  
COMMUNITY

### Reflect

***This week, I will pray for my eyes to be opened to something important for me to see.***

**Welcome to The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit**

	<p><b>St. Bernard's, 43 Botsford St., Moncton, NB E1C 4W9</b>  <b>Phone: (506) 857- 0425 Email: <a href="mailto:sbhf@rogers.com">sbhf@rogers.com</a></b>  <b>Parish Office hours:</b>  <b>Monday to Friday @ 9 AM – 12 PM &amp; 1 PM – 4 PM</b></p>
	<p><b>St. Vincent's, 63 Charlotte St., Sackville, NB, E4L 2Y5</b>  <b>Phone: (506) 536-1460 Email: <a href="mailto:stvince@nbnet.nb.ca">stvince@nbnet.nb.ca</a></b>  <b>Office hours: Monday &amp; Thursday @ 10 AM - 2 PM</b></p>
	<p><b>St. Clement's, 14 Church St., Port Elgin, NB E4M 2C9</b>  <b>Phone: (506) 538-2262 Email: <a href="mailto:stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com">stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com</a></b>  <b>Office hours: call office to verify</b></p>
<p><b>The Good Shepherd Pastoral Website: <a href="http://gsmoncton.ca">gsmoncton.ca</a></b></p>	
<p><b>Facebook page: <a href="https://facebook.com/gsmmoncton">facebook.com/gsmmoncton</a></b></p>	

**The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit**

**St. Bernard's Parish Staff**

<b>Priest Administrator</b>	Fr. Damian Nwachukwu	<a href="mailto:sbhf@rogers.com">sbhf@rogers.com</a>
<b>Assistant Priest</b>	Fr. Carlos Jacinto	<a href="mailto:sbhf@rogers.com">sbhf@rogers.com</a>
<b>Pastoral Associate / Liturgy</b>		<a href="mailto:sbliturgy@gmail.com">sbliturgy@gmail.com</a>
<b>Office Administrator</b>	Genevieve Alo	<a href="mailto:sbhf@rogers.com">sbhf@rogers.com</a>
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	Linda Arsenault	<a href="mailto:bookkeepersbgsp@gmail.com">bookkeepersbgsp@gmail.com</a>
<b>Catechetical Coordinator</b>	Lorella Dunnett	<a href="mailto:Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com">Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com</a>

**St. Vincent's Parish Staff**

<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Lorraine Horyl	<a href="mailto:stvince@nbnet.nb.ca">stvince@nbnet.nb.ca</a>
<b>Catechetical Coordinator</b>	Cathy Crinnion	<a href="mailto:crrinnion@yahoo.ca">crrinnion@yahoo.ca</a>

**St. Clement's Parish Staff**

<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Pam Van Egmond	<a href="mailto:stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com">stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com</a>
-------------------------	----------------	--



**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**

<b>Carmelites</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month: 9:30 AM
<b>Prayer Group</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month & last Saturday of month after 25 <sup>th</sup> @ 7PM
<b>RCIA meeting</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month: 10 AM to 12 noon
<b>The Feast</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month @ 6PM

 Faith Formation	<b>Sunday:</b> Year 1-2-3 @ 9:15 AM Year 4-5-6 @ 12:15 PM	<b>Tuesday:</b> Years 1-2-3 @ 6 PM	<b>Wednesday:</b> Years 4-5-6 @ 6 PM
<b>Session</b>			
#14	March 22, 2026	March 24, 2026	March 25, 2026
#15	April 12, 2026	April 14, 2026	April 15, 2026
#16	April 26, 2026	April 28, 2026	April 29, 2026

### St. Bernard's Faith Formation Schedule

#### Confirmation Preparation Schedule

<b>Session</b>	<b>Sunday: 2 PM - 3:15 PM</b>
April 12, 2026	Rehearsal – Gathering in Church
April 19, 2026	Sacrament of Confirmation Celebration at 11am

#### Holy Communion Preparation for Children Schedule

<b>Session</b>	<b>Sunday: 2 PM</b>
March 22, 2026	Hall/Church
April 26, 2026,	Hall/Church
May 10, 2026, Holy Communion	Church

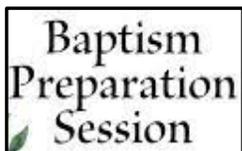


#### The Way of the Cross

The Way of the Cross will be prayed **during the holy season of Lent on Friday evenings at 6:30 PM**. All are invited and encouraged to attend. To make this prayer available to as many people as possible, we will celebrate it in the different churches

according to the following schedule:

**Immaculate Heart: Feb 20, Mar 13, Apr 03**  
**St. Augustine's: Feb 27, Mar 20**  
**St. Bernard's: Mar 06, Mar 27**



#### Baptism Preparation – March 22, 2026

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, March 22 at 1:00 PM**. Registration is required prior to the course. Please contact **Genevieve Alo** either at [sbliturgy@gmail.com](mailto:sbliturgy@gmail.com) or at the parish office at **(506) 857-0425** to register.



#### Sacrament of Baptism Schedule

The Sacrament of Baptism will be celebrated monthly on the **3rd Sunday of each month at our parish**. **Parents and godparents** are required to attend a Baptism preparation class (date/time to be arranged). To register or for more information, please email **Genevieve Alo** at [sbliturgy@gmail.com](mailto:sbliturgy@gmail.com). Please register early to ensure scheduling.



#### St. Bernard's Sacrament Celebrations

Confirmation: Sunday, April 19, 2026 @ 11am  
 Holy Communion: Sunday, May 10, 2026 @ 11am

### THE STAR FLOWERS OF SAINTE-THÉRÈSE

Lent is a time to prepare for the great feast of Easter. Through prayer, fasting, and sharing, we are invited to return to the essentials, to give first place to God again. The prayer booklet "The Star flowers of Sainte-Thérèse" is a tool to focus our prayer this year toward a renewal of our diocesan Church. Let us continue to pray that our Church continue to grow and that we may share the Good News of the risen Christ more fully with our brothers and sisters. Those who wish to commit to this daily prayer, are invited to sign a Commitment Form available at the parish.



### St. Patrick's Day

Mass will be held at **St. Bernard's Church at 12pm on Tuesday, March 17**. As in the past, collection will go to the bursary offered by the Irish Canadian Cultural Association of New Brunswick-WAK Chapter. Following the mass, **Irish Stew will be provided at the Moncton Press Club, cost \$5.00.**

### Mother's Day Tea

Inclusion Advocacy of Southeast New Brunswick will be holding a **Mother's Day Tea on Sat., May 2 from 1-3pm in St. Bernard's Parish Hall**. Sandwiches and sweets. Door prizes, 50/50 and silent auction. Proceeds go to helping those with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. For more information or tickets, call **Claudia McCloskey at 506 383 1532**.



### Donate a Yarn

We have many enthusiastic knitters creating hats, mittens, scarves, and socks for those in need. If you have unused yarn you'd like to be turned into something special for the less fortunate, please drop it off at the parish office. Thank you.

### St. Vincent's

#### THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross will be prayed each **Friday in Lent at 6:30 PM** in St. Vincent's church. All are welcome to attend.

#### ONLINE BANKING OPTION

Please be advised that, in addition to being able to sign up for pre-authorized debit monthly donations (sign up cards are on the table at the entrance to the church), St. Vincent's can now offer an easy online banking option to its parishioners. If you wish to make a donation to St. Vincent's, we are now able to accept **Interac e-Transfers!** Simply go to your online banking, choose "**Send an Interac e-Transfer**" and opt to send your donation to St. Vincent's by using the church email address which is [stvince@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:stvince@nbnet.nb.ca).

#### 2025 INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

Please be advised that the 2025 Income Tax Receipts are now being distributed.

#### 2026 DONATION ENVELOPES

Please remember to pick up your boxed collection envelopes for 2026 which are located on a table on the right-hand side as you enter the church. If you do not already have boxed envelopes, please speak to Lorraine and a numbered box will be assigned to you.

#### SCENT FREE ENVIRONMENT

For the health and comfort of those with allergies, we ask that you refrain from wearing colognes or perfumes when attending mass.

#### ✠ JOIN OUR PARISH CHOIR – ALL ARE WELCOME! ✠

For info, please contact **Karen Olscamp, kolscamp@live.com**, or **506-536-3050**.

#### ROSARY

You are invited to join a group of faithful parishioners who gather to pray the Rosary in St. Vincent's chapel **every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.**

## PARISH CALENDAR

Please consult the calendar at the entrance to the church for upcoming events.

## SACKVILLE FOOD BANK

Thank you to all who have donated to the Sackville Food Bank in the past year. **As the need is great not only in Sackville, but in Dorchester as well, our contributions to the Food Bank basket will now be divided between the two communities; one week the donations will go to the Sackville Food Bank and next week the donations will go to the Dorchester Food Bank.** The donation basket is located on the right-hand side of the entrance to the church. In addition, if you have household items that you wish to donate, please consider giving them to the Second Chances Thrift Store located at 18 Lorne Street. All proceeds are forwarded to the Sackville Food Bank.

### The Faith Formation schedule is as follows (location is St. Vincent's Hall):

March 15th & 29th at 10am	Primary group session (gr. 1-3)
March 22nd at 10am	Elementary group session (grades 4+)

### Sacramental preparations:

Confirmation gatherings (plus service to others: January to April)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ March 15<sup>th</sup> &amp; March 29<sup>th</sup> (gatherings start at 6:30pm)</li><li>▪ Practice and Reconciliation on Fri Apr 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm</li><li>▪ Confirmation at Mass on April 12, 2026</li></ul>
--	--

For questions and inquiries, please contact Cathy Crinnion at [ccrinnion@yahoo.ca](mailto:crcrinnion@yahoo.ca)

## St. Clement's Day of Reflection

Join us in a day of reflection and conversation during this holy Season of Lent. **Thurs. March 26th 9:30 to 3:00 pm with a simple potluck lunch. For more information, please register at St. Clement's or by phone or email. 506 3821835 - [stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com](mailto:stclement.stbartholomew@gmail.com)**



### Office for Evangelization & Catechesis

Trevor Droesbeck - 857- 4879 or [adultfaith@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:adultfaith@diocesemoncton.ca)

Karen LeBlanc – 387- 4198 or [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca)

**LENT GOES TO THE MOVIES**, is an opportunity to discuss themes of faith, spirituality and religion in popular films as they relate to our spiritual journey through Lent. Film discussions will take place on Zoom at 10:00 am. On **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, we will discuss the film – Wild (2014) and on, we will discuss the film [The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry](#) (2023). We are pleased to have join us Dr. Andrew Wilson, who will help guide us in our discussions. Contact Karen for **March 23<sup>rd</sup>** more information at 387-4198 or [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca).

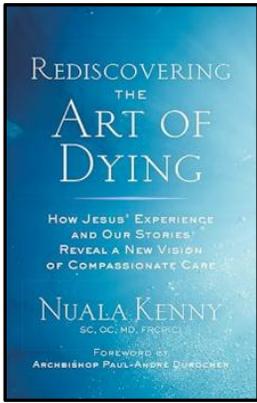
**COFFEE FOR CAREGIVERS**, is an opportunity for fellowship with others providing care for an adult spouse, family, or friend with needs. Please join us as we gather on the following dates: **March 19<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>** at Holy Family Church Hall at 2:00 pm. Contact Mike Jeffries 506-851-1271 or Karen at 506-387-4198. Everyone is welcome.

**SENIORS CONNECT** Save the date! Our next Seniors Connect will be held on **Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am at Holy Family Parish** (52 Falkland Street). Contact Karen LeBlanc at 387-4198 or email [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca). **We will be joined by a health professional to talk about aging, things that happen to us as we grow older.**

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026** is just around the corner, and the team is hard at work preparing this year's program. We would be most grateful to receive donations of the following:

- **Time:** Volunteers who can do simple cutting projects at home (we'll provide patterns).
- **Materials:** Various shades of **green Bristol board**.
- **Decor:** Any **artificial green plants** (vines, ferns, leaves, small potted faux plants)

They may be dropped off at **Immaculate Heart of Mary church**. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact **Karen at [youth@diocesemoncton.ca](mailto:youth@diocesemoncton.ca)**.



### REDISCOVERING THE ART OF DYING: A VIRTUAL BOOK STUDY

This Lent you are invited to join us in reading and discussing Sr. Nuala Kenny's book: *Rediscovering the Art of Dying: How Jesus' Experience and Our Stories Reveal a New Vision of Compassionate Care*. Then join us virtually via Zoom for three sessions to discuss the material. Sr. Nuala is a medical doctor, ethicist, professor emeritus with Dalhousie University's Faculty of Medicine and a member of the Sisters of Charity of Halifax. When she visited Moncton a few years ago, she said the goal of this book was to "bring together theological and spiritual reflection of Jesus' experience of suffering and death with patient and family experience of sickness and dying today," garnered during her many years of working in medicine. Contact **Karen at 387-4198 or youth@diocesemoncton.ca** to register for the discussion.

This discussion will be conducted in English on Zoom with simultaneous translated captions. Zoom sessions will be held on **March 17th, and March 24th beginning at 1:30 pm.**



### On Track for Justice – from father to daughter

Lives in the village of Piquiá de Baixo in Brazil began being disrupted in the 1980s, with the arrival of several polluting industries in their backyard. The villagers formed an association to defend their rights. Flavia's father started the fight, and she picked up the torch.

Last year, after a 20year struggle, 312 families affected by industrial pollution moved to the new, cleaner, safer village of Piquiá da Conquista. The support of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's partner, **Justiça nos Trilhos (JnT)**, made this relocation possible for 1,300 people.

Learn more about JnT's in our Mini-magazine and meet Flavia and her daughter Aylla by watching their testimonies at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter – Virtual Experience

7 dates (sessions) from the comfort of your home, **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm (EST) March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and May 6, 2026.** Info.: Chuck and Mary Jane (646) 642-7463 or email:

[Jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwwme.org](mailto:Jimmy.bernice.acevedo@wwwme.org)



### Easter Flowers

If you would like to donate funds for Easter Flowers in memory of a loved one you may do so by completing the information below & placing, it with your donation in a plain envelope. That envelope can be put into the collection basket at mass or dropped off at the office. Names will be in the Easter bulletin. Thank you to all those who donate to this yearly project.

Indicate parish:	St. Bernard's	St. Clement's	St. Vincent's
In Memory of:			
Donated by:			
Address:			
Envelope #			
Amount \$			

### Chrism Mass

**THE CHRISM MASS** will take place at Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption Cathedral in Moncton on Tuesday, March 31, at 2:00 p.m. The mass will be presided by Mgr Guy Desrochers. We have permission (for this occasion) to use the parking lot on Queen Street (at the corner of Lutz and Queen).



*A time to mourn...  
sincere sympathies to all who mourn the loss of a loved one.*

**Bill Conner**, husband of Shirley Conner



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

**St. Bernard's**

Peter Quach	Conrad Coughlan	Fern Conlin
Angelique Williams	Janice Gallant	Brenda Lee Trites

**St. Clement's**

Patricia Leger	McGraw Family	Sharon Wall	Lorraine Doiron	Margaret Schriver
Cullen Flood	Brian Robichaud	Yannick Hardwood	Doug Purdy	Terissa Salmon

**St. Vincent's**

Alvin Bernard	Vince Wood	Leone Campbell	Kathy Mattatall
Art Chase	Barb DeWitt	Leonard Burke	

**And those who have died:**

**Mass times / Intentions:**

**St. Bernard's**

Mon.	Mar 16	9:30 AM	For the People	
Tues.	Mar 17	9:30 AM	Late Rey Hubley	Wife & Daughters
Wed.	Mar 18	9:30 AM	Late Bill Conner	Shirley Conner
Thurs.	Mar 19	9:30 AM	Deceased Family Members	Conrad Coughlan
Fri.	Mar 20	9:30 AM	Special Intentions for Gloria Nowlan	Gloria Nowlan
Sat.	Mar 21	4:00 PM	Anniv. Late Donald Wood	Jeanne Wood & Family
Sun.	Mar 22	11:00 AM	Anniv. Late Zella O'Dell	Richard & Donna Shaw

**St. Clement's**

Sun.	Mar 15	11:00 AM	Harvey Niles	Jan Legere
Sun.	Mar 15	9:00 AM	Ralph & Mary Byron	Claudia McCloskey
Sun.	Mar 22	9:00 AM	Late Irene LeClair	Mary Jean Lowerison

**OFFERINGS**

**St. Bernard's Offerings: Mar 08, 2026**

Reg Env	\$3327	Loose	\$949.30	Syrian Fund	\$330	Ash Wed	\$50	Cap Exp	\$285
ReConnect	\$10	NY's Day	\$20	Lent	\$35	Good Fri	\$55	Karing Kitchen	\$35

**St. Clement's Offerings: Mar 08, 2026**

Envelopes	\$300	Heating	\$150	Donation w/ Receipt	\$20	Collection	\$5
-----------	-------	---------	-------	---------------------	------	------------	-----

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

# Dear Padre,

***I am left-handed. Why doesn't the church allow the sign of the cross to be made left-handed?***

A Catholic who is unable to make the sign of the cross with the right hand is certainly permitted to do so with the left. There is no rule against it. When Pope Saint John Paul II injured his right arm, he used his left hand to impart his blessing.

The sign of the cross is a sacramental, one of the symbols that identifies you as a Roman Catholic. Just like all such symbolic gestures, there is an expected uniformity. To use a secular example, at a University of Texas football game, fans of the Longhorns give the “hook-em horns” sign. You wouldn't give the “thumbs-up” sign instead. It would be confusing.

It's true that at one time, the left hand was associated with evil. Jesus sends the goats to sit at his left and the sheep to his right. (See Matthew 25:33.) And, throughout the Scriptures, we read that Jesus sits at the right hand of God. (See Mark 16:19.) The word “sinister” is from the Latin *sinister*, meaning “left.”

Left-handedness is no longer associated with evil. If you wish to make the sign of the cross with your left hand, you may. But do consider why you are doing it. Most left-handed people have no trouble using their right hand for many simple tasks. If your purpose is a bit rebellious, maybe realize that signifying unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ is more important. ●



ALFONSO / CATHOLIC

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / 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*.



MARCO JACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***Dear brothers and sisters, let us trustfully bring our ailments before Jesus, and also those of our loved ones; let us bring the pain of those who feel lost and without a way out. Let us cry out for them too, and we will be certain that the Lord will hear us.***

GENERAL AUDIENCE, ROME, JUNE 11, 2025

#### Monday

**MARCH 16**

*Lenten Weekday*

Is 65:17-21

Jn 4:43-54

#### Tuesday

**MARCH 17**

*Lenten Weekday*

Ez 47:1-9, 12

Jn 5:1-16

#### Wednesday

**MARCH 18**

*Lenten Weekday*

Is 49:8-15

Jn 5:17-30

#### Thursday

**MARCH 19**

*St. Joseph, Spouse*

*of the Blessed*

*Virgin Mary*

2 Sm 7:4-5a,

12-14a, 16

Rom 4:13, 16-18,

22

Mt 1:16, 18-21,

24a or Lk 2:41-

51a

#### Friday

**MARCH 20**

*Lenten Weekday*

Wis 2:1a, 12-22

Jn 7:1-2, 10,

25-30

#### Saturday

**MARCH 21**

*Lenten Weekday*

Jer 11:18-20

Jn 7:40-53

#### Sunday

**MARCH 22**

*Fifth Sunday*

*of Lent*

Ez 37:12-14

Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45 or

11:3-7, 17, 20-27,

33b-45