



Then Jesus said to her in reply, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”

MATTHEW 15:28

Still Redeemable?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Not once, not twice, but three times in today’s gospel, Jesus dismisses the Canaanite woman who comes to him for help. First, he refuses to speak to her. Then, he says he has come only for “the lost sheep” of Israel. Finally, he compares her to a dog. In ancient Judaism, dogs were considered unclean animals, and to call someone a dog was a harsh insult. How does it feel to hear Jesus speak to a woman in this way? We must admit that it does not sound like the Jesus we know and love.

With the trajectory of the encounter headed downhill (and picking up speed), it is hard to imagine that anything could be done at this point to change the outcome. If I were in her situation, I would have been so offended after the third dismissal that I would have simply slammed the door on the way out. But, remarkably, the story takes a 90-degree turn when the Canaanite woman enters into a verbal joust with Jesus and jolts him into taking her seriously. Very seriously. Jesus praises her for her faith.

“Faith in what?” one might ask. Perhaps faith that this relationship could still turn around. Faith that the antagonistic plotline of history between Jews and Canaanites could still change. Faith that Jesus could still be something other than a dismissive man. Faith that an ignored voice might still be worth hearing. Do we have the praiseworthy faith of the Canaanite woman? Do we still believe that troublesome interactions can yet be redeemed? ●

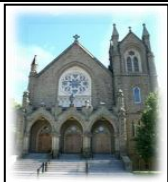


LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY

Reflect

How strong is my faith? Strong enough to be persistent?

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:

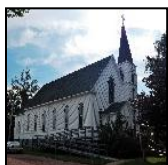
Monday to Friday @ 9 AM – 12 PM & 1 PM – 4 PM



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/gsmmoncton

The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit

St. Bernard's Parish Staff

Priest Administrator	Fr. Damian Nwachukwu	sbhf@rogers.com
Assistant Priest	Fr. Carlos Jacinto	sbhf@rogers.com
Pastoral Associate / Liturgy		sbliturgy@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Genevieve Alo	sbhf@rogers.com
Catechetical Coordinator	Lorella Dunnett	Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com
Bookkeeper	Linda Arsenault	bookkeepersbgsp@gmail.com
Building Committee	Dave Watts	
Local Parish Council	Tim Perry	
Finance Committee	Phyllis Allain	
Stewardship Committee	Glen Rollins	
Marriage Preparation	Joe D'Ettore	
Social Justice	Claudia McCloskey	

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
Baptism Preparation Course	2 nd Sundays of the month
Baptism	3 rd Sundays of the month



A religious poster for Catechism Registration. At the top center is a golden cross with radiating lines. Below it, the text "GROWING IN FAITH. LIVING IN CHRIST." is written in a small, dark font. The main title "Catechism" is in a large, dark blue serif font, and "Registration" is in a large, golden cursive font. Below the title, a dark blue banner with white text reads "IS NOW OPEN!". To the right of the text is a photograph of a golden crucifix, a lit candle, and a rosary. Below the banner, the text "Help your child grow in faith, knowledge and love of Jesus. We look forward to walking this faith journey with your family!" is written in a dark font. Below this text are three circular icons: a cross with hands, a cross with an open book, and a heart with a cross. Each icon has a label below it: "GROW IN FAITH", "KNOW GOD", and "LIVE HIS LOVE". At the bottom, there are three sections with icons and text: a globe icon for "REGISTRATION FORM IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: @ gsmoncton.ca", a laptop icon for "FORM CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE: FAITH FORMATION → CHILDREN CATECHESIS", and an envelope icon for "PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE VIA E-TRANSFER sbhf@rogers.com". Below the payment information, it says "Please include in the message field YOUR NAME AND CATECHISM REGISTRATION FEE". At the very bottom, a quote reads "Let the little children come to me." – Matthew 19:14, flanked by golden leaf motifs.

GROWING IN FAITH. LIVING IN CHRIST.

Catechism Registration

IS NOW OPEN!

Help your child grow in faith,
knowledge and love of Jesus.
We look forward to walking
this faith journey with your family!

 **GROW
IN FAITH**

 **KNOW
GOD**

 **LIVE
HIS LOVE**

 REGISTRATION FORM IS AVAILABLE
ON OUR WEBSITE:
@ gsmoncton.ca

 FORM CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE:
FAITH FORMATION → CHILDREN CATECHESIS

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YOUR NAME AND CATECHISM REGISTRATION FEE

"Let the little children come to me." – Matthew 19:14



WITNESSTO LOVE
A MARRIAGE MOVEMENT

Bulletin Announcement

Important Notice !!

Calling all Married Couples, Engaged Couples, couples who wish to have their current union Blessed by the Church and even those dating and contemplating Marriage in the Church in the foreseeable Future!

Starting in 2027 couples wishing to get married in the Church will be required to go through a ***new Marriage Preparation Course*** endorsed by our Archbishop.

What is Different ?

Instead of a weekend course where couples listen to a series of talks by a group of married couples on a host of topics this new course, ***“Witness to Love”***, is mentor based. Each couple will choose a Mentor Couple, or be introduced to a “Showcase Couple”, from their Parish and the two couples will journey together through this program over a series of a minimum of 4 to a maximum of 6 meetings.

The program is scheduled for 1 meeting per month for about 1 hour and is normally to be held at the Mentor couple’s home.

What is “Witness to Love” and Why the Change ?

“Witness to Love” leads the renewal of formation and support for the Sacrament of Matrimony through a approach rooted in mentoring, friendship, and virtue. What makes Witness to Love unique is that the engaged couple chooses their own mentor couple—one they admire and see as a source of faith formation. If they can’t identify a Mentor couple, they choose one from a list of Showcase couples identified through the Parish. This mentor couple gives them a concrete connection and integration into the parish. Through the sharing of the mentor couple’s own marriage journey, the engaged couple inherits a “lifeline” of support in their commitment to Jesus and His Church. As we begin to offer this new method of forming couples, we anticipate that mentors will experience a reinvigoration in their own marriages as they work alongside their mentees in growing in virtue

“Witness to Love” is being used throughout North America as well as parts of Europe with great feedback from the Local Diocese/Parish leaders, Mentor couples and, first and foremost, the couples seeking marriage in the church.

The program is extremely easy to follow and comes with all the tools and resources needed including the support of trained Co-ordinators who will assist with initial set up, review & any follow up required.

So, where do you come in ??

- **Couples looking for Marriage in the Church**

- You must communicate with the Parish with 12 months of your wedding date
- You must complete the “Witness to Love” program within 1 month of your wedding

- **Married Couples in the Parish**

- You are called to be a “Witness to Love” for these couples by being open to becoming a Mentor/Showcase Couple
- You don’t have to have a perfect marriage or be an expert on Church teachings; you just need to bring your love for each other, your love for Marriage & Family and your experience.

If you have any questions and/or if you would like to inquire about being a Mentor/Showcase couple please contact:

Joe & Deb D’Ettore – 506-588-5958 / atvnonno@gmail.com.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST – SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for a delicious **Pancake Breakfast** on **Saturday, September 12, 2026**, at the **Knights of Columbus Hall, 84 Broadway Street, Moncton**, from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Enjoy pancakes, sausage, pan fries, tea, coffee, and juice for only **\$10/adult, \$5/child (ages 6–12)**, and **free for children 5 and under**.

This breakfast is a collective effort between the **Knights of Columbus and St.**

Bernard's Parish, with all **proceeds supporting St. Bernard's Youth** as our parish continues to grow. A **50/50 draw** will also be available!

The Knights' breakfasts are always a favourite, welcoming over 300 guests, so bring your family and friends and join us for great food, fellowship, and support for our youth.

We look forward to seeing you there!



SHARE WARMTH: DONATE SHEETS & BLANKETS

Since 2016 the ***Mother Teresa Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (Moncton)*** has been visiting neighbours in need, two by two, offering listening, support and practical help. Through a partnership with Sleep Country, they deliver beds to many families — and when they can, they include donated sheets and blankets. Their supply of **clean, gently used bed sheets and blankets is very low**. Please consider donating to help a family sleep with dignity. To arrange a drop-off or donation pick-up, call **506-853-8191** or email **conference.mteresa@gmail.com**. Thank you for your generosity.



WITH GRATITUDE — THANK YOU, FR. DAMIAN

With deep gratitude we thank **Fr. Damian Nwachukwu** for his loving, steady service as **Priest Administrator of The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit** these past two years. His prayerful leadership, kindness, and tireless care have strengthened our parish family and touched many hearts.

Please pray for him as he begins his new ministry at St. Augustine's on September 1, 2026.

After the 11am Mass on **Sunday, August 23, 2026**, there will be a **warm coffee & tea reception with light refreshments** in the parish hall, all parishioners are warmly invited to stop by, share a word of thanks, and wish Fr. Damian God's blessing on his new journey.

St. Clement's



CONGRATS WINNERS

The painting of St. Clement's church has been won by **Ron and Jan Cormier**.

MASS AT WESTFORD NURSING HOME

On Wednesday, **August 19th mass** will be held at **Westford Nursing Home at 1:30pm**. Everyone is welcome!

St. Vincent's

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT AND E-TRANSFER

In addition to accepting cash or cheques, St. Vincent's is now able to accept donations via **pre-authorized debit and e-transfers!** PAD (Pre-Authorized Debit) application cards are available by the donations basket at the entrance to the church. Please check with **Lorraine** at the Parish Office (506-536-1460 or stvince@nbnet.nb.ca) for further information.

CONDOLENCES

Prayerful condolences are extended to Mary Blakely and family on the recent death of her husband, John. **The funeral for John Blakely will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026, at St. Vincent's Church.** Also, prayerful condolences are extended to the family of Margaret Milton, who passed away on September 30, 2025. **May they rest in the loving arms of our God.**

MASS INTENTIONS

WE ARE IN NEED OF MASS INTENTIONS! Please contact Lorraine at the Parish Office to reserve a mass time. We ask for a donation of **\$15** for each mass intention requested.

FUND RAISING FOR A NEW ROOF

"Thank you!" to those who have very generously donated to our **Roof Replacement Fund** thus far! To date we have raised **\$4075!** The cost of a new metal roof will be **\$65,759.14.** **Our Parish has some savings to help with this expense, but will undertake some fundraising so that we will not deplete all our savings. We appreciate any and all donations ... large or small! Thank you for your generosity!**

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.

SACKVILLE FOOD BANK

Thank you to all who have donated to the Sackville Food Bank in the past year. If you are able, please donate to those in need. Suggestions include non-perishable items such as canned fruit/vegetables/meat, boxes of cereal, children's lunch items, pasta and sauces, dish detergent, soap, toilet paper, and tissues. 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.

FAITH FORMATION at St. Vincent's - contact Cathy Crinnion at ccrinnion@yahoo.ca with questions and inquiries

Faith Formation: the program for families with children in Grade 1 and older will begin in early September for 2026-27, taking place in St. Vincent's hall after Mass on Sundays. New families: please fill out registration form in the church vestibule.

September 13th at 10am for families with children in Grades 1, 2 and 3

September 20th at 10am for families with children in Grades 4+



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

Late Vernon Gaudette, uncle of Bonnie Ryan
Late Benjamin de Guzman, father of Ramil de Guzman



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

St. Bernard's

Peter Quach	Jeannette O' Brien	Jeanne Wood	Robert Flonedo	Charles Melanson	
Brenda Lee Trites	André	Bartholomew Tran	Wayne Holt	David Legacy	Alejandro Campos

St. Clement's

Eileen Fournier	Cullen Flood	Brian Robichaud	Margaret Schriver	Doug Purdy
Yannick Hardwood	Sharon Wall	Dwight Alder	Suzanne Leblanc	

St. Vincent's

Mary Blakney	Alvin Bernard	Vince Wood	Kathy Mattatall
Art Chase	Barb DeWitt	Leonard Burke	

And those who have died John Blakely and Margaret Milton

Mass times / Intentions:

St. Bernard's

Mon.	Aug 17	9:30 AM	Late John Arsenault	Family
Tues.	Aug 18	9:30 AM	Thanksgiving for Tochukwu Chikwe's Birthday	Family
Wed.	Aug 19	9:30 AM	Yvonne Fryatt	Eileen Saunders
Thurs.	Aug 20	9:30 AM	Late Dianne Baker	Sam & Donna Ermen
Fri.	Aug 21	9:30 AM	Anniv. Late Joyce Villarias-Hernaez	Genevieve Alo
Sat.	Aug 22	4:00 PM	Anniv. Late Silvio Rocca	Mom & Dad
Sun.	Aug 23	11:00 AM	For the People	

St. Clement's

Sun.	Aug 16	11:00 AM	Special Intentions	Joanne Carroll
Sun.	Aug 23	11:00 AM	Heather Murphy	Terry and Ann Murphy

St. Vincent's

Sun.	Aug 16	9:00 AM	Vince Reinsborough	Conrad Coughlin
Sun.	Aug 23	9:00 AM	Joanne Manore	Lynn Sitland

OFFERINGS

St. Bernard's Offerings: July TipTap + August 8 & 9, 2026

TipTap – July:		Candles	\$275			Donations	\$570
Reg Envs	\$2735	Loose	\$914.50	Spanish Mass	\$321	Candles	\$69.10
Syrian	\$10	Karing Kitchen	\$25	Indigenous Fund	\$50	Capital Exp.	\$265

St. Clement's Offerings: August 2, 2026

Collection	\$15	Envelopes	\$555	Donation w/ Receipt	\$165	Repairs	\$275
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St. Vincent's Offerings: August 2 & 9, 2026

Aug 2:	Reg Envs	\$1030	Loose	\$25	Maintenance	\$65		
Indigenous Fund		\$75	Roof Replacement	\$150				
Aug 9:	Reg Envs	\$1610	Loose	\$52.55	Maintenance	\$40	Roof Replacement	\$1

Thank you for your generous and continued support!!!

Dear Padre,

What does the Church teach about evolution?

In 1950, Pope Pius XII assured believers that there is no intrinsic opposition between Christianity and the theory of evolution, provided that God is affirmed as the Creator of all things and that the human soul is acknowledged a direct creation of God. (See *Humani Generis* [On the Human Person], 36.) In section 6 of his October 22, 1996, address to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Pope St. John Paul II sanctioned the acceptance of evolution theories but added that the nature of the soul and its relationship to God are beyond the realm of science. Thus, the Catholic Church maintains that while evolution explains the development of life, it is God who initiated and guided the evolutionary process, and that our providential God is ultimately responsible for creating the human soul.

Many people find Darwin's evolutionary theory (*On the Origin of Species*, 1859) hard to reconcile with their literal interpretation of the biblical account of origins in Genesis 1 and 2. But views on whether God created human beings in evolutionary stages that span millennia, or literally created human beings in an instant, can coexist for Catholics. Yet, regarding the latter view, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* discourages an overall literal interpretation of the Bible, encouraging readers instead to recognize its various literary genres. (See CCC 109–117.) Recall, too, that the Bible wasn't written for scientific information, nor was Darwinian biology written for theological revelation. ●



JULIUSKEALITS / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org** to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
August 17	August 18	August 19	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church	St. Pius X, Pope	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ez 24:15–23	Ez 28:1–10	Ez 34:1–11	Ez 36:23–28	Ez 37:1–14	Ez 43:1–7ab	Is 22:19–23
Mt 19:16–22	Mt 19:23–30	Mt 20:1–16	Mt 22:1–14	Mt 22:34–40	Mt 23:1–12	Rom 11:33–36
						Mt 16:13–20

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

[T]he pain that moves us to compassion is not the pain of a stranger; it is the pain of a member of our own Body, to whom Christ our Head commands us attend, for the good of all. In this sense, our service is identified with Christ's own suffering and, when offered in a Christian spirit, hastens the fulfillment of the Savior's prayer for the unity of all.

MESSAGE ON WORLD DAY OF THE SICK, ROME, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

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RUDIERNST / SHUTTERSTOCK