



Strengthen hands that are feeble, make firm knees that are weak, say to the fearful of heart: Be strong, do not fear!

ISAIAH 35:3–4

Joy: A Sign of God

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Once, as I was teaching a theology course to college students in their twenties, I made an offhand comment that the purpose of life is not to be happy. They were shocked. “What’s wrong with being happy?” they protested. “Nothing,” I said, “it’s simply not the purpose of life.” “But God wants us to be happy,” they insisted. Of course, God wants us to be happy, but that’s simply not what life is about.

Happiness is something that comes in the back door while we wait at the front door. If we go looking for happiness, we never find it, but if we forget about ourselves and seek to bring joy into the lives of others, then happiness seems to find us. It comes in the back doors of life. Curiously, that seems to be the dynamic of these Advent/Christmas days. We send cards, give gifts, think of making others happy, and overlook faults. In the process, there is a sense of joy that overtakes us without our realizing it.

The prophet Isaiah proclaimed that it is God who would crown them with everlasting joy; that they would meet with joy and gladness and sorrow and mourning would flee away (Isaiah 35:10). Joy is God’s doing, not ours.

Leon Bloy, a French novelist in the nineteenth century, observed, “Joy is the most infallible sign of the presence of God.” God is love, and God is also joy. Joy is so much more than happiness. Rather it is an inner quality—peaceful, serene, and nurturing—even when life may be unsettled. ●

Reflect

***What brings you joy?
Do something to bring joy
to someone this week.***



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the poor.*

WELCOME TO THE GOOD SHEPHERD PASTORAL UNIT

St. Bernard's, 43 Botsford St., Moncton NB E1C 4W9 (506) 857-0425
St. Vincent's, 63 Charlotte St, Sackville, NB E4L 2Y5 (506) 536-1460
St. Clement's, 14 Church St, Port Elgin, NB E4M 2C9 (506) 538-2262

ST. BERNARD'S MASS TIMES / INTENTIONS - WEEK OF DEC. 12-18, 2022

| | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mon. | Dec. 12 | 9:30 AM | Late Jeff Ermen | Lowell & Roberta Brine |
| Thur. | Dec. 15 | 9:30 AM | Late Jeffrey Ermen | Harold & Carolyn O'Blenis |
| Fri. | Dec. 16 | 9:30 AM | Late Jeffrey Ermen | Friends of Yore |
| Sat. | Dec. 17 | 4:00 PM | Anniv. late Jean-Claude Fortin | Family |
| Sun. | Dec. 18 | 11:00 AM | Anniv. late Ron Struble | Claire & Sherrie |
| St. Vincent | | | Sunday @ 9 AM | |
| St. Clement | | | Saturday @ 7 PM | |

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSION

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| St. Bernard's | Saturday @ 1:00 - 1:30 PM |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|

PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Priest Moderator | Fr. Allison S. Carroll (sick leave) | |
| Administrator | Fr. Charles Broderick | charlesbroderick1@gmail.com |
| Liturgy | Darlene McGraw | darlenemcgraw@rogers.com |
| Catechetics | Lorella Dunnett | Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com |
| Social Justice | Claudia McCloskey | |
| Adult Faith | Andrew Wilson | |

STAFF

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pastoral Associate / Liturgy | Darlene McGraw | darlenemcgraw@rogers.com |
| Office support / bookkeeper | Janessa Virtudazo | sbhf@rogers.com |
| Catechetical Coordinator | Lorella Dunnett | Lorella_st.bernards@hotmail.com |
| Custodian | Michel Saulnier | |

Parish office hours: Monday - Friday: 9AM – 12 noon & 1 – 4 PM

Phone: 857-0425 Email: sbhf@rogers.com Website: www.stbernardschurch.ca



IN THE EVENT OF A STORM OR INCLEMENT WEATHER
CANCELLATIONS WILL BE NOTED ON:
ST. BERNARD'S WEBSITE: www.stbernardschurch.ca
OR BY CALLING OUR PHONE LINE @ 857-0425

OFFERINGS

DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2022 OFFERINGS RECEIVED BY MAIL & ONLINE

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Envelopes | \$ 7,325.00 | Loose | \$ 265.00 |
| Building Fund | \$ 85.00 | Capital Fund | \$ 2,497.00 |
| Karing Kitchen | \$ 135.00 | Christmas Offering | \$ 205.00 |
| Christmas Boxes | \$ 485.00 | Religious Education | \$ 15.00 |
| Christmas Flowers | \$ 445.00 | Needy Fund | \$ 215.00 |
| Needs of Can Church | \$ 5.00 | Evangelization of People | \$ 20.00 |
| All Souls | \$ 40.00 | Syrian Fund | \$ 285.00 |

Thank you for your generous and continued support!!!

In Sympathy

A time to mourn.....

Sincere sympathies to the family of:



Boyne Murphy

Husband of Patsy, father of Patrick, Duane & Joshua

And to all who mourn the loss of a loved one..



Ecclesiastes 3...

Under every season there is a time...A time to heal.

We remember in our prayers those who are sick...



| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Beth Purcell | Grant Stevenson | Judy Chiasson |
| Roger Berube | Ida Caruso | Patricia Devine |
| Lori Rigby | Catalino Virtudazo | Bill Connor |
| Terry LeBlanc | Ed Muise | Felix Pestana |

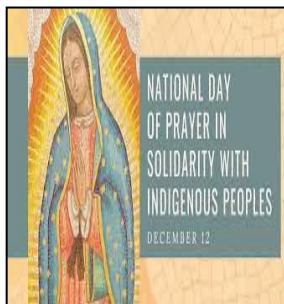
And for all who care for them.

| The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit Christmas & New Year Mass Schedule | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Saturday | December 24 | St. Bernard | 5:00 PM, 8:00 PM, & 10:00 PM |
| Sunday | December 25 | St. Clement | 9:00 AM |
| | | St. Bernard | 11:00 AM |
| | | St. Vincent | 11:00 AM |
| Saturday | December 31 | St. Bernard | 4:00 PM |
| | | St. Clement | 7:00 PM |
| Sunday | January 1 | St. Vincent | 9:00 AM |
| | | St. Bernard | 11:00 AM |



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|---|
| <p>Advent Penitential Service for The Good Shepherd Pastoral Unit</p> <p>(St. Bernard's, St. Vincent's, St. Clement's)</p> <p><u>Sunday, December 11, 2022 @ 2 PM at St. Vincent's, Sackville</u></p> <p>Confessions are also available every Saturday @ 1 PM at St. Bernard's.</p> |
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|---|--|
| <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><i>Remembering our Deceased Family & Friends with Christmas Flowers</i></p> </div>  </div> | |
| <p>Once again, this year, you are invited to make monetary donations for our Christmas floral arrangements in memory of deceased loved ones. All monies contributed will be used to purchase flowers that will decorate our church throughout the Christmas season. If you would like to donate funds for <u>Christmas flowers</u> 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 mailed to the parish office. (43 Botsford St., Moncton, NB E1C 4W9) Names will be in the Christmas bulletin.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thank you to all those who donate to this yearly project.</p> | |
| In Memory of: | |
| Donated by: | |
| Address: | |
| \$ Amount | |
| Envelope # (if applicable) | |



National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples, December 12, 2022, feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas. This annual day invites us to stand in solidarity with Indigenous peoples by joining our prayers and thoughts and taking steps to get to know each other better. Let us pray for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, especially those who live in our diocese. Following the example of Pope Francis, let us work together for healing and reconciliation.
-Archbishop Valéry Vienneau



From the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis
To contact us: Trevor-857-4879 trevord.diocese@gmail.com
Karen-387-4198 karen.diocese@gmail.com

Mondays @ The Movies

Mondays @ The Movies is a group that meets regularly to discuss faith connections in popular films. This year we will have a special series of discussions called Advent @ The Movies where we will meet weekly on Zoom. On December 12th, we will be talking about the (1982) film *E.T. the Extraterrestrial*. For more information or to register, contact Karen.

Adult Faith Commission

The next meeting of the Adult Faith Commission will take place on Wednesday, December 14th at 6:30 pm in the basement of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.



Advent Evening Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

Christians are called in baptism to be people of prayer, to pray always, praising God and pleading for the world. **We are encouraged to be more cognizant of prayer during the Advent season. Why not try gathering with the faith community for Evening Prayer?** It only takes up a half hour of your time. We follow the format for Evening Prayer that is offered in our Catholic Book of Worship. **All parishioners of our parish unit are invited and encouraged to gather for the Evening Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) on Thursday evenings at St. Bernard's Church**

December 15 & 22 @ 6:00 PM



We are nearing the end of 2022!

It is a great time to make up for any Sunday offerings that you may have missed over the year. Together as a parish community we can meet St. Bernard's financial commitments for the year. Donations can be made by cash, cheque, and preauthorized payments. **All donations for 2022 must be received prior to December 31st to be included in 2022 taxation receipts. Thank you for your continued generosity!!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--------------|
| Carmelites | 2 nd Sat. of month, 9:00 -11:00 AM | Meeting Room |
| Prayer Group | 2 nd Sat & last Sat. of each month @ 7 PM | Church Hall |
| Advent Evening Prayer | Thursdays, Dec.15 & 22 @ 6 PM | Church |
| Baptism Preparation | Monday, January 9 & 16 @ 6PM | Meeting Room |



Faith Formation

Sunday

Years 1-2-3 @ 9:15 AM: Year 4-5-6 @ 12:15 PM

Session #8-----January 8, 2023
 Session #9-----January 22, 2023
 Session #10-----February 5, 2023
 Session #11-----February 12, 2023
 Session #12-----February 26, 2023
 Session #13-----March 19, 2023
 Session #14-----April 2, 2023
 Session #15-----April 16, 2023
 Session #16-----April 30, 2023

Tuesday Years 1-2-3 @ 6 PM

Wednesday Years 4-5-6 @ 6 PM

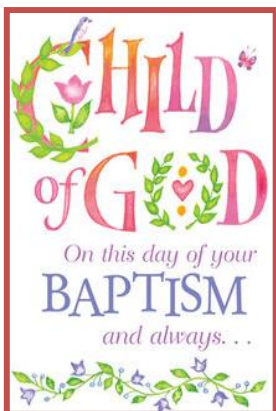
Session #7 **No session** -----December 14, 2022
 Session #8 January 10, 2023-----January 11, 2023
 Session #9 January 24, 2023-----January 25, 2023
 Session #10 February 7, 2023-----February 8, 2023
 Session #11 February 14, 2023-----February 15, 2023
 Session #12 February 28, 2023-----March 1, 2023
 Session # 13 March 21, 2023-----March 22, 2023
 Session #14 April 4, 2023-----April 5, 2023
 Session #15 April 18, 2023-----April 19, 2023
 Session #16 May 2, 2023-----May 3, 2023



Thank You

A sincere thank you for your kind words, gifts and prayers on the anniversary of my ordination. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. it is a privilege to serve you. Love and blessings to all.

Fr. Charlie



Congratulations!
 The following children were welcomed into
 St. Bernard's Parish community through the Sacrament
 of Baptism on Sunday,
 November 27, 2022:
Carter Patrick Theriault,
 child of Nancy Theriault
Dawson Machum Theriault,
 child of Chris & Courtney Theriault
 May your children and your family always know the
 peace of Jesus and the light of His love.



The Advent season is the beginning of a new year in our liturgical church life.

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered and as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation [Norms 39]. We tend to think of Advent only as the season in which we prepare for Christmas, or the First Coming of Christ, but as the General Norms point out, it is important that we also remember it as a celebration in which we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ. Properly speaking, Advent is a season that recalls the Two Comings of Christ. Advent remains a time of preparation, however, the focus is on a joyous preparation. The circle of greens with four candles (The **first candle** symbolizes **hope**, the purple color symbolizes royalty, repentance, and fasting. The **second candle** represents **faith**, it is also purple to symbolize preparation for the coming king. The **third candle** symbolizes **joy**, the color rose signifies joy. The **fourth candle** represents **peace**, it is also purple to represent the culmination of love through the Messiah. Advent is clearly identified as a season of anticipation, not of penance. **No matter what we celebrate throughout the liturgical year, it is always a part of the Paschal Mystery, the Life, Death, and Resurrection of Christ.** We are an Easter people even during this season. With the successive lighting of one, two, three and finally four candles, there is the idea of increasing light. The Advent season should be an accounting of how we have lived our lives over the past year. Have we become better disciples? Has there been a change in our hearts? If not what needs to change? Has our faith life deepened? How? What steps have we taken to work on our relationship with God, with Jesus, with our Church community? What are some of the acts of kindness or generosity that we could do that could start in Advent, but continue throughout the year?

Advent is meant to be the beginning of a new heart.
How will you change this Advent season for the long term?

Dear Padre,

I struggle with depression, and sometimes it gets really bad during the holidays. When is it morally acceptable to use antidepressant medication?

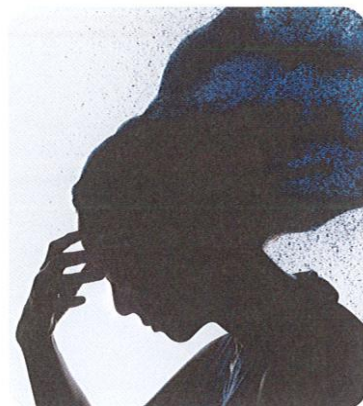
You are not alone. People who struggle with depression often find the holidays especially difficult. To answer your question, it is morally acceptable to use antidepressant medications when a medical professional judges them to be the best response to the condition of the patient. As we learn more about the causes of depression and other disorders that challenge the sense of equilibrium in people, we hope that the most reliable responses may be found and employed to restore a sense of peace to those suffering from these ailments.

Evaluation and treatment of depression must be done within the context of a person's whole life. Depression often involves a chemical imbalance in the brain, and some people respond quite well to antidepressants. For others, the best treatment might be counseling or psychotherapy. Or both medicine and therapy. As each experience of suffering is unique, so, too, must be the response.

Frequently people will be embarrassed to admit to suffering with depression or consider it a sign of weakness or inability to deal with matters in life. Such thinking is of little help in resolving the issue. People who experience depression need the love and support of family and friends to accompany them in the suffering and to assist in their healing. ●

From Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews, © 2011 Liguori Publications

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47 | December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Zep 3:1–2, 9–13 Mt 21:28–32 | December 14 <i>St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 45:6c–8, 18, 21c–25 Lk 7:18b–23 | December 15 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 54:1–10 Lk 7:24–30 | December 16 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 56:1–3a, 6–8 Jn 5:33–36 | December 17 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Gn 49:2, 8–10 Mt 1:1–17 | December 18 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> Is 7:10–14 Rom 1:1–7 Mt 1:18–24 |



SHUTTERSTOCK



CNS PHOTO: PAUL HARING

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Every yes to God gives rise to stories of salvation for us and for others. Like Mary with her own yes. In this Advent journey, God wishes to visit us and awaits our yes. Let's think: Today, what yes must I say to God?

ANGELUS, DECEMBER 8, 2016