

Our Sacred Stories

Sacrifice with Hope: Body and Blood of Christ

It is truly amazing to see the sacrifices parents make for their children. They set aside their own wills for the sake of these children. Parents sacrifice their lives, their resources, their wishes, their dreams for their children. And it happens, not just for their children, but also for their grandchildren and down through the generations. There can be only one ultimate reason for such sacrifice.....love.

Instances of this same sacrificial love appear in countries all around the world. We see it in places such as Myanmar and Belarus, in Columbia and Venezuela, in Russia and Hong Kong as people risk life and freedom for the sake of their shared rights and a voice in governance. They speak for the common good with a willingness to sacrifice for one another and the common good.

In the midst of the pandemic, we are all called upon to sacrifice for the common good as well. We need to observe restrictions, limit our on our normal gatherings and accept vaccinations. These are sacrifices for the common good. The measures protect us from the virus. But, more importantly we accept them for the sake of one another and the protection of all.

On many levels, sacrifice is a part of being human. It is an expression of mutual care, concern and love. It takes us into the realization that we are more than individuals. We are always part of a community, many communities, and we live not only for ourselves, but for one another. Thus, to make sacrifices for the common good is to be human. It is to bring promise and hope to all humanity. Whatever sacrifice we make, it has a goal – it expresses love for another.

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus the Christ draws us to find meaning in the sacrifice Jesus made through the cross. Through this we recognize that it was not a one-time event, long ago. Like all sacrifice, it looks to the future and it does so, not with mourning, but with hope. The sacrifice of Jesus cross is an expression of love for all humanity.

In the Old Testament Book of Exodus we are given the story of Israel’s journey of liberation. In faith they discovered this was God’s work for them, God’s gift. They were to know they were a covenant people, a community, special to God. They were drawn together by the shared blood of sacrifice. The symbolic sacrifice was an expression of their gratitude for the love God had showered upon them (Exodus 24:3-8).

The meal that Jesus shared with his friends at Passover was a meal of gratitude for God’s love. The sacrifice it represented as the bread was broken and the wine was shared spoke of Jesus’s own sharing of not just his physical body and blood, but his whole embodied life. His life was not just for the gathered disciples, but for all humanity, brought together as the People of God in every place and every age. Mark’s Gospel describes this broad covenant with all humanity in the sharing of the cup. As he puts it: “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many” (See: Mark 14:12-16, 22-26).

Our Eucharistic celebration as a community of God’s People today and every Sunday is an expression of our gratitude to the God who loves us constantly. It is both a meal shared by a community of believing Christians and a sacrifice in which we renew our covenant relationship with God and with one another as God’s People. We are in so many ways, the new Israel, trekking as the People of God in our own deserts. Like them we have assurance of God’s continuing presence with us. May we bring love and hope to all humanity.

John Jennings



St. Gertrude

Sts. Simon & Jude

Mission Churches

St. John the Baptist Parish

105 Union St. † Woodstock, NB † E7M 2W4

(506) 328-3306 † E-Mail: sjbnb@rogers.com † Website: www.stjohnthebaptistnb.com

Facebook page : <http://www.facebook.com/st.g.church.1>

Pastor: Fr. Martin Arputham	Mass Times: St. Gertrude	Saturday 4:00 pm
Office Manager: Diane Dube		Sunday 11:00 am
Pastoral Council Chair: Stuart Kinney	<i>Reconciliation</i>	Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm
Property & Finance Chair: Marg McCallum	St. Simon & Jude	Sunday 9:00 am
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 am- 1:30 pm	<i>Reconciliation</i>	Sunday 8:15-8:45 am

June 6, 2021

Body & Blood of Christ

Saturday	June 5	4:00 pm St. Gertrude.....	Irene McGuire
Sunday	June 6	9:00 am Sts. Simon & Jude	Janice Morrison
Sunday	June 6	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Monday	June 7	No Mass
Tuesday	June 8	12:15 pm St. Gertrude	Rosary Led by the CWL
Wednesday	June 9	11:15 am Adoration 12:15 St. Gertrude	Gertrude Karnes
Thursday	June 10	12:15 pm St. Gertrude.....	Veronica Kilfoil McGuire
Friday	June 11	9:00 am St. Gertrude	Alfred & Zelinda Seca
Saturday	June 12	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Sunday	June 13	9:00 am Sts. Simon & Jude	Cecile & Conrad Albert
Sunday	June 13	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Eugene & Mary Bowlin



Anyone wishing a visit from Fr. Martin please contact the office

Please have items for Bulletin by Wednesday

Please pray for the sick: Nora Gagnon , Martha Cummings Sincennes, Bridget Keenan Wort, John Gallagher, Pat & Ed McGuire, Lori Young, Emmanuel Basque, Karen Keoughan , Dorothy Hemsley, Margaret Bridgeo, Vicki Guerrera, Genevieve Price & Sophie Morrisette
Those who have died: Gordon Reinhart & Bernie MacInnis & Doris Brown

CWL- PRAYER LINE: Prayers will be said daily for two weeks by the CWL women, on request. All requests are confidential; no information is required. To have prayers said, call Jocelyn Keirstead (328-9485) jkeirstead52@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Mondays **Bingo. Door opens at 6:00 pm.**
50/50 – May 31, 2021- Nonwinner Margaret Roberts **\$262.00.** Tickets are \$2/week available at Martin's Corner Store on Broadway or bulk food store on Connell St. Tickets must be purchased by 6 pm Sunday.



COVID EMERGENCY FUND

Urgent Appeal for India

Development and Peace-Caritas Canada has pledged \$50,000 to the Caritas network to help the Indian people at this critical time. The need, however, will far exceed that sum. **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

You can help by making a donation through Development and Peace-Caritas Canada. Go to the Development and Peace website at

www.devp.org

and click on the **GIVE NOW** and you can make an online donation. The need is great. Thank you for your generosity.

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The Parish Pastoral Council will be having their next meeting on Wednesday June 9th 7:00 pm at the Parish Hall.

St. John the Baptist feast day will be celebrated June 24th with a healing mass. Details to follow.

Grad Mass at St. Gertrude's will be held next Sunday **June 13th** .

Confirmation - There is a new program for Confirmation beginning in Sept/Oct. Any student entering **grade 8** please contact the Parish Office for more information. 328-3306 or email sjbnb@rogers.com.

Faith Formation – If you have children/grandchildren k-7 please contact the office. As well if you are willing to assist. Family registration forms are available at the back of the church. Please forward to the office as soon as you can via the collection basket. Thank you!

Ministries

For St. Gertrude's, please arrive 15 minutes before scheduled Mass if you are a lector. Please arrive ½ hour before Mass if you are a Door Greeter or Screener. Please let Myrna or Ann know you are present to serve. If unable to serve, please let Myrna 328-9640 or Anne382-8398 know in advance or find a replacement. Thank you so much for your generous offer to serve during these unique pandemic times.

Date	Time	Lector	Hospitality/Door Greeter	Screener
12-Jun	4:00 PM	Barb Woodland	Marjorie Allison-Ross	Charlene Prosser
		Tom Bridgeo		
		Ron MacDonald		
13-Jun	11:00 AM	Harmony Serrano	Rudy Nadeau	Debi Rae
		Brittany Harris		
		Vicki McLean		
13-Jun	9:00 AM	1st Reading Tom	Prayers Faithful +	2nd Reading Rita
20-Jun	9:00 AM	1st Reading + Diane	Prayers Faithful	2nd Reading Pierrette

Offertory May 29/30

	St. Gertrude	Sts. Simon & Jude	St. Thomas
Loose	156	7	
Envelopes	728	461	100
PAD	1,572	249	77
E-Transfer	20		
Easter	—	—	40
	2476	717	217
		St.	
Lynn Lake	500	Lawrence/Benton	10
Dev & Peace	55	Global South	15
St. Bonaventure	90		