

Our Sacred Stories
Living as Church: Context, Customs and Change

In some cities across Canada, until very recently there were city by-laws which demanded that hotels and inns provide stabling facilities for the horses of their guests. In its time, this by-law was a response to the needs of the time, a way of offering hospitality to guests. The by-law remained on the books even though virtually no guest came to the hotel on a horse.

It is a very human trait to resist change or at the very least, be uncomfortable with it. Humanly speaking, change is a challenge for us. The world develops, circumstances change and at times we do not keep up with the change. This is something of what we see Jesus working against with the Pharisees in Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The fundamental call of Jewish faith was quite simple, to love God and to love neighbour. This is the basic tradition of Judaism. As time passed and life evolved, the people of the Old Testament developed other traditions, customs and practices which adapted this basic or fundamental tradition to particular circumstances of life. In this way the many ritual laws and practices of Judaism were developed – e.g. the washing of hands, cups, pots, and bronze kettles as well as many other ritual laws.

As these laws developed they made sense. They had a connection with the core tradition as a way of expressing honour to God and respect for neighbour. But as life and circumstances changed the ritual laws continued even though the connection with the basic or core tradition was not longer evident. The ritual laws took on a life of their own and even obscured the core tradition. Meticulously saying the right words and performing the correct actions appeared as more important than the loving, communal action of the People of God.

This was the challenge faced by Jesus when he encountered the Pharisees – “You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.” The Pharisees were not bad folk. In fact they were zealous and committed followers of the Law. But in their zeal they forgot the core tradition, or at the very least obscured it. Jesus’ words and actions were a call to return to the core tradition of loving God and neighbour. The ritual laws got in the way of seeing this fundamental call. Lip service to the Law got in the way of living God’s call from the heart.

Living the core of God’s plan with the heart is what discipleship to Jesus is all about. This is who we are as Church. Being Church, living as disciples is a matter of the heart and the simple double commandment of love God and love neighbour. Here is the challenge - how we love evolves and changes over time as our world and our circumstances change. The laws, rules and rituals are simple ways of responding in particular times and are subject to change. The heart is the constant in discipleship and in being Church.

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

Reconciliation 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

Reconciliation Sunday 8:15-8:45 am

Aug 29, 2021

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday	Aug 28	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	Paul Poulin
Sunday	Aug 29	9:00 am St. Simon & Jude	Ella Sirois
Sunday	Aug 29	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Monday	Aug 30	No Mass
Tuesday	Aug 31	No Mass
Wednesday	Sept 1	9:00 am adoration 10:00 am St. Gertrude.....	Arabella Elspeth
Thursday	Sept 2	12:15 pm St. Gertrude	Lewis Stone
Friday	Sept 3	9:00 am St. Gertrude	Joe Markey
Saturday	Sept 4	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Sunday	Sept 5	9:00 am St. Simon & Jude	Theo & Germaine Francoeur
Sunday	Sept 5	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Antonio Precioso

Anyone wishing a visit from Fr. Martin please contact the office 328-3306

Please have items for Bulletin by Wednesday

Please pray for the sick: Nora Gagnon ,Bridget Keenan Wort, John Gallagher, Pat & Ed McGuire, Lori Young, Dorothy Hemsley, Margaret Bridgeo, Genevieve Price & Doug Hanson.

For those who have died: Antonio Precioso

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 – Aug 23, 2021 Winner Terri Flemming **\$236.00.** 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.

Congratulations to Josh Steeves who is being confirmed on Saturday!

Would you like to support the growth of our parish community? Would you like to support folks in reconnecting and reengaging in parish life? Are you interested in spiritual renewal?

Consider being a member of the St. John the Baptist Parish's Standing Committee on *Spiritual Revitalization*. This is a *new* committee to be chaired by Brittany Sprague. Please contact Brittany at brittsprague@outlook.com if you would like more information or are interested in becoming a member. All are welcome!

It's wonderful to see you again!

We at ***Sts. Simon and Jude Catholic*** church are happy to once again see the faces of visitors and the familiar faces of returning parishioners. As restrictions ease in NB so do the opportunities to gather together, we “Welcome You” to join us. We are a part of the Parish of St. John the Baptist and Fr. Martin Arputham is our pastor.
 Sunday Mass is celebrated at 9AM
 Need info: please contact the Parish Office at 328-3306

Confirmation Update: The Confirmation class of 2021 will be taking part in a day retreat on Saturday, Sept. 11 at the Parish Centre, St. Gertrude's. The class will be preparing for their official **Confirmation on Friday, September 17, 6:30 pm.** Photos of the Class of 2021 are posted near the main door entrance of the church. Please keep our young people in your prayers.

St. John the Baptist Liturgy Committee will meet on **Wednesday, September 1, at the Parish Centre (St. Gertrude's) beginning at 6 pm.** For safety reasons, please wear your mask when entering the PC, sanitize your hands and take your seat at a table. Masks may then be removed.

Offertory Aug 21 & 22nd

	<u>St. Gertrude</u>	<u>Sts. Simon & Jude</u>	<u>St. Thomas</u>
Loose	118	25	
Envelopes	827	322	50
E-transfer		150	
PAD	<u>1,552</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>77</u>
	2497	746	127
St. Bonaventure	30	Global South	30
Poor & Needy	5	Dev & Peace	65

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	Eucharistic Ministers	Gift Bearers
04-Sep	4:00 PM	Heidi Steeves John Lenehan Vicki McLean	Veronica Steeves	Ann McEvoy	Gloria Yachyshen Stuart Kinney
05-Sep	11:00 AM	Jack Keilty Michelle Nowlan Ellen Culbert-Johnston	Sharon Tenhave Claude Dube	Doris Markey	Mike & Allison Chandra
05-Sep	9:00 AM	1st Reading +	Prayer of Faithful	2nd Reading	
		Tom		Jacqueline	

St. Gertrude – Votive candles at the entrance can now be lit during services. However, due to the Fire restrictions cannot be left burning when there is no one in the building.

Back Pack Sunday -Kids/Teachers – Bring your backpacks Sunday Sept 5th to receive a Blessing. A good way to start the school year!



BE PART OF THE 'MISSIONARY OUTREACH' TEAM:

Hi, fellow parishioners, I am Moira Bowlin, a member of the St John the Baptist Parish Pastoral Council and Chair of the 'Missionary Outreach' Standing Committee.

Missionary Outreach, as defined by Pope Francis is "...**the Church at work in God's name, stretching out to meet the needs of a wider community and as Catholics we engage in outreach whenever we answer our baptismal call by serving the needs of others.**" Within our parish community we have been blessed, over the years, in undertaking numerous missionary activities: charitable actions (clothing and food drives, emergency support through the poor and needy fund, financial support for School Breakfast Programs), promoting social justice and the common good (supporting various petitions to the Government of Canada, promoting the value of human life, care for the elderly, refugees, participation in the Chalice and other international charities), development and peace campaigns, defending the vulnerable (pro-life support vs abortion and euthanasia, Knights of Columbus support for the Special Olympics), ecumenical and interreligious dialogue and co-operation (participation in the Lenton Services, World Day of Prayer, Blue Mass, Advent Lessons and Carols, Salvation Army's Kettle Christmas Campaign, monthly Mass at the Carleton Manor and Father Martin's membership in the local Ministerial Association) and environmental stewardship.

To continue our Christian mission of caring for the vulnerable, **I would ask that you please consider volunteering (as coordinator and/or member) of this committee.** This will ensure future missionary outreach efforts are strong. My email address is '**moirabowlin@yahoo.ca**'. I would be pleased to discuss further your interest(s) and hopefully your active participation. Thank you.

TOGETHER WE SERVE.

The Catholic Health Association of New Brunswick is offering two (2) **Scholarships** in the amount of \$1000.00 each, they will be awarded to one (1) student studying in a French educational institution and one (1) student studying in an English educational institution. Students must be entering their second year of studies or later, in a post-secondary program in the field of health care. Information and application forms are available online at www.chanb.com. Applications must be **postmarked by September 30th 2021**. For further information please email catholichealth@chpchi.com.



EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

On Saturday, August 14, 2021, a powerful magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck Haiti's Tiburon Peninsula, about 150 kilometres west of the capital, Port-au-Prince. The force of the earthquake was felt across most of the country.

The damage has been enormous. By the evening of August 15, Haiti's national Civil Protection Agency had reported 1,300 dead, more than 5,700 injured, 13,600 houses destroyed and more than 30,250 families needing shelter. At that time, some 800,000 citizens were directly affected. These numbers have risen since the initial earthquake.

There is enormous need for food, water, shelter, clothing, blankets, first aid supplies, hygiene kits, vehicles and fuel as well as first aiders and medical personnel.

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's partners, the *Institute de Technologie et d'Animation (ITECA)* and *Caritas Haiti* have sprung into action and need your support.

You can help by going to Development and Peace's website at: www.devp.org and clicking on the **Please give now** to make your contribution. Thank you.

St. John the Baptist Parish Development and Peace Committee.

St. John the Baptist Parish, a Roman Catholic parish in the Saint John Diocese, is seeking a full-time Parish Manager.

The parish comprises the worship sites of St. Gertrude's, Woodstock, and Sts. Simon & Jude, Nackawic, as well as the missions of St. Thomas, Canterbury, St. Bonaventure, Lakeville and St. Joseph, Newburg.

Under the direction of the Pastor and the Parish Personnel Committee, the Parish Manager will assist in the implementation of the parish pastoral mission and in the routine administrative functions of the parish office.

Candidates for the position must be members of the Roman Catholic Church with relevant post-secondary education and work experience in a field such as social services, health care or office administration.

The position offers a competitive salary, commensurate with training and experience, as well as a health benefits plan. A full position description is available at <https://stjohnthebaptistnb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/SJB-Parish-Parish-Manager-Job-Outline-For-Posting-August-2021-1.pdf>

*Applications should be submitted, via email, to sjbnb@rogers.com with the subject line "Parish Manager Application" no later than **September 15, 2021**. Only those candidates invited to interview will be contacted.*