

**Our Sacred Stories**

**Remembering Who We Are: Disciples of Love and Mercy**

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. (John 13:34-35)*

Memory marks us. The people we've met, the things we've done, the experiences we've had, these all help us to recognize who we are and what our lives are about. The Gospels express the memories of the first disciples. First it was orally passed on among the early followers of Jesus. Then after a time, these communities of Christians began to write these memories – those that they felt marked them as disciples and Christians. John's Gospel is one of these recordings.

Throughout the Easter Season we hear from John. In particular we focus on the experiences the first disciples had of the Risen Jesus. After Jesus had given himself up to death on the Cross, he continued to be present among these followers. This presence was not a physical presence, but it was just as real and meaningful. It was also a presence that led them to make sense of all that Jesus had passed onto them. They became aware of what we have come to call the Paschal Mystery (the life, death, resurrection and continuing presence of Jesus). It led them to commit themselves to his mission.

The experience of the risen Jesus deeply changed the disciples. Fundamentally, they recognized that Jesus had sacrificed his life for them. Further, they came to see that his sacrifice went beyond them to all of humanity. Thus, they were on fire to proclaim this good news of his message and carry out his mission to the world.

The good news and message that the death and resurrection led them to see was that by laying down his life for them, Jesus revealed God's great love for all humanity. Jesus' resurrection and continued presence among them confirmed the disciples' awareness of the loving God revealed by Jesus while he walked and taught them. Now they knew firmly that God would never leave them, even in death.

What the disciples were now to do was share and proclaim what they had been given. The writer John speaks of a *new commandment* as the way in which the disciples will proclaim this good news of love. In another place, in a letter to fellow Christians, it is even more clearly proclaimed that God's love given to us leads to our loving one another:

*This is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sin away.... We are to love, then, because he loved us first. (1 John 4:10, 19)*

If we were looking for an expression of what this love of God looks like, we need look no further than Matthew's Gospel chapters 5-7 and Luke chapters 6-8. The beatitudes or blessings of these Gospels and the actions connected to them present a kind of epitome or summary of how we are to show God's love. It is a love that brings life to us and to our world. This was the mission of Jesus. Now it is our mission, for we are his disciples.

John Jennings  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



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](mailto:sjbnb@rogers.com) † Website: [www.stjohnthebaptistnb.ca](http://www.stjohnthebaptistnb.ca)

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

**Pastor:** Fr. Martin Arputham

**Mass Times:** St. Gertrude

Saturday 4:00 pm

**Office Manager:**

Sunday 11:00 am

**Pastoral Council Chair:** Sylvie Dempsey

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- 12:00 pm**

Reconciliation Sunday 8:15-8:45 am

**May 15, 2022**

**5th Sunday of Easter**

Saturday	May 14	4:00 pm St. Gertrude .....	Jeannie Bridgeo & DMF
Sunday	May 15	9:00 am St. Simon & Jude .....	Brenda Nason
Sunday	May 15	11:00 am St. Gertrude .....	Lois Goodine
Monday	May 16	.....	No Mass
Tuesday	May 17	.....	Rosary led by the CWL
Wednesday	May 18	.....	No Mass
Thursday	May 19	.....	No Mass
Friday	May 20	.....	No Mass
Saturday	May 21	4:00 pm St. Gertrude .....	Lewis Stone
Sunday	May 22	9:00 am St. Simon & Jude .....	Theo & Germaine Francoeur
Sunday	May 22	11:00 am St. Gertrude .....	Antony Nidhen

**Welcome Fr. John Keoughan as he celebrates Mass with us this weekend!**

**Please have items for Bulletin by Wednesday**

**Please pray for the sick:** Nora Gagnon, Pat & Ed McGuire, Margaret Bridgeo, Andy McLean, Anne Marie Voutour, Cindy Ouellette, Sarah Ann Wright, Janice Ryan, John Hallihan, Noopa Abin, Ildefonso Conrado Cortes, and Jack MacIsaac.

**For those who have died:** Fr. Monte Peters, Joe McGuire, Alice Kidney & Rose Brinkman

**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) [jkeirstead21@gmail.com](mailto:jkeirstead21@gmail.com)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Monday Bingo: Open at 6 pm.  
**50/50 – May 9, 2022 –nonwinner** Ann Saunders **\$457.00** Tickets are \$2/week available at Martin's Corner Store on Broadway or Smart Stop Ultramar in Grafton Tickets must be purchased by 6 pm Sunday.

**Ministries Schedule**

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 Anne 328-8398 know in advance or find a replacement. Thank you so much for your generous offer to serve.

Date	Time	Lector	Eucharistic	Hospitality	Gift Bearer
21-May	4:00 PM	Ron MacDonald Ides Villabeto Gloria Yachyshen	Nellie Gallagher	Marjorie Allison-Ross Gladys Dalton	Ninfa Blacquiery Neila Foster
22-May	11:00 AM	Brittany Sprague John Lenehan Michelle Nowlan	Doris Markey	Jocelyn Keirstead Patricia Paul	Claude & Diane Dube
22-May	9:00 AM	<b>1st Reading + Prayers of Faithful</b>	Sally	<b>Second Reading</b>	Tina

**Congratulations to Tatiana Enriquez who was baptized May 1<sup>st</sup>**



**NOTICE TO PARENTS:** If you have a child beginning grade 8 in September, please contact Diane Dube @ 323-8775.

**St. John the Baptist Liturgy Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, May 18**, beginning at **6 pm via Zoom**. Plans for spring and summer events and celebrations will be discussed.

**Offertory May 7/8**

	<u>St. Gertrude</u>	<u>Sts. Simon &amp; Jude</u>	<u>St. Thomas</u>
Loose	197	10	
Envelopes	1,573	356	50
Easter	20		
Candles	93	10	
PAD	1,387	222	77
E-Transfer	<u>20</u>	125	-
	3290	723	127
Papal Charities	120	Lynn Lake	-
St. Bonaventure	90	Global South	20
		St. Bonaventure Easter	20

Parishioners of St. John the Baptist who are **graduating High School** this year please contact the office at 328-3306.



**St. Josephs Newburg Cemetery Association** There will be a meeting **May 15th at 2:00 pm** at the church.

**CWL** – There will be a CWL meeting on Monday at 7:00 pm at St. Gertrude's Hall.

**GLASS RECYCLING - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**

CIEVA (Community Industries Employment Vocational Association) and Vail's Bottle Exchange, both in Woodstock, are again accepting (for the next several months) 'grocery' glass jars and bottles (jam, pickles, spaghetti sauce, instant coffee, glass ketchup bottles, olive oil, salsa, maple syrup, etc. and homemade wine bottles). Remove all lids, wires, etc. Glass may be clear, brown or green but must be bagged separately in clear bags - one for clear glass, one for coloured glass. Items **MUST** be cleaned thoroughly. NOT accepted are cookware, dishes, ceramic, window/door panes, vases, pyrex items, auto glass or unclean items. CIEVA Recycling is located at 113 Moffatt Street (open Monday - Friday, 9 am - 5 pm) and Vail's Bottle Exchange is at 522 Main Street (below St. Gertrude's Church, open Tuesday - Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm).

### ***Why is May the Month of Mary? (From the Salt and Light Media)***

The tradition of dedicating the month of May to Mary, came about in the 13th century. Some say because it was created to replace various pagan cults. The actual reason is the fact that this month is the time when spring is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to our saviour Jesus Christ.

The link between Mary and the month of May became popular among the members of the Jesuit Order — by 1700 it had a firm hold among their students at the Roman College and a short time later it was publicly celebrated in the Gesu Church in Rome. From there it spread to the rest of the Church.

The pious practice of honouring Mary during the month of May has been especially promoted by the Popes. Pius XII made frequent reference to it and in his great Encyclical *on the Sacred Liturgy Mediator Dei*. He characterized it as one of "other exercises of piety which although not strictly belonging to the Sacred Liturgy, are nevertheless of special import and dignity, and may be considered in a certain way to be an addition to the liturgical cult: they have been approved and praised over and over again by the Apostolic See and by the Bishops"

#### **CATHOLIC NEWS:**

- \* Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops ([www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca))
- \* Diocese of Saint John + New Freeman ([www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org](http://www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org))
- \* Vatican News ( [www.vaticannews.va](http://www.vaticannews.va))
- \* Catholic News Agency ([www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com))
- \* National Catholic Reporter ([www.ncronline.org](http://www.ncronline.org))
- \* The Catholic Register ([www.catholicregister.org](http://www.catholicregister.org))
- \* Our Sunday Visitor ([www.osvnews.com](http://www.osvnews.com))
- \* The Catholic Thing ([www.thecatholicthing.org](http://www.thecatholicthing.org))
- \* Catholic World Report ([www.catholicworldreport.com](http://www.catholicworldreport.com))

### **SAINTS JOACHIM AND ANNE - PARENTS OF VIRGIN MARY (from the 'Catholic News Agency')**

On July 26 the Roman Catholic Church commemorates the parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anne. The couple's faith and perseverance brought them through the sorrow of childlessness, to the joy of conceiving and raising the immaculate and sinless woman who would give birth to Christ.

The New Testament contains no specific information about the lives of the Virgin Mary's parents, but other documents outside of the Biblical canon do provide some details. Although these writings are not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, they outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about Joachim, Anne and their daughter.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves to rigorous prayer and fasting, in isolation from one another and from society. They regarded their inability to conceive a child as a surpassing misfortune, and a sign of shame among the tribes of Israel.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah. An angel revealed this to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honor their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth; and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' ... And he brought her to the chief priests; and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be forever.'"

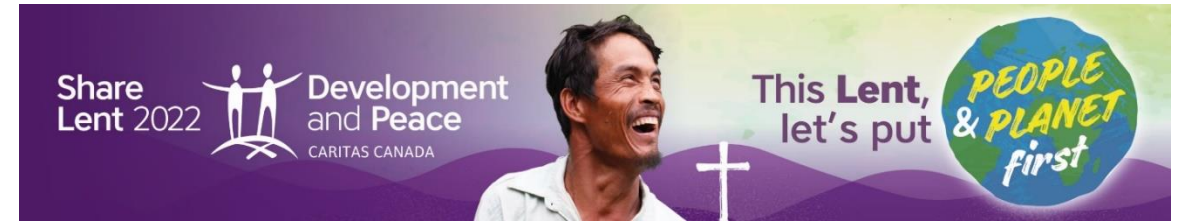
The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.

St. Joachim and St. Anne have been a part of the Church's liturgical calendar for many centuries. Devotion to their memory is particularly strong in the Eastern Catholic churches, where their intercession is invoked by the priest at the end of each Divine Liturgy. The Eastern churches, however, celebrate Sts. Joachim and Anne on a different date, Sept. 9.

**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLECTION FOR CATHEDRAL RESTORATION:** As the mother church the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is important not only for its heritage value in the city but also for the ongoing missionary outreach and evangelization that takes place in one of the poorest areas of the diocese. To aid in our Cathedral restoration effort, an annual collection will be taken up in the parishes on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), this year on June 19, 2022. Envelopes will be available in your parishes for this collection, and Bishop Riesbeck is asking people to prayerfully consider a generous personal donation. To support parishes in their evangelization efforts, 10% of every dollar raised will be used to establish a diocesan endowment fund to serve youth, seniors, religious education, and leadership formation needs in the parishes of the diocese. Your ongoing support is deeply valued as we restore not only a building, but hearts and souls to Jesus.

**MARCH FOR LIFE** is May 26, 2022 from 11:30 am – 1:00 pm at the New Brunswick Legislature. It is being hosted and sponsored by the Knights of Columbus NB State council. Join us as we celebrate the gift of life with Bishop Christian Riesbeck, CC. and guest speaker Marsha Boyd-Mitchell of Christian Action Federation of New Brunswick. As this event is outside, you're welcome to bring a lawn chair. Prior to the event, a Pro-life Mass will be held at St. Dunstan's Church (120 Regent St.) at 10:00 am. Refreshments to follow the day's events at the Monsignor Boyd Family Center. Everyone is welcome!

**CAMP SHELDRAKE** is a Catholic overnight summer camp located in Bartibog NB. We are happy to say we are OPEN for the Summer 2022 season. Our registration is up and we look forward to welcoming campers both new and old to camp! You can find the registration forms at [campsheldrake.com](http://campsheldrake.com). If you would like more information, you can email the director Mallory at [sheldrake.director@gmail.com](mailto:sheldrake.director@gmail.com).



## Development and Peace – Share Year Round Giving

**Program,** We are deeply grateful for all donations, monthly donations make the biggest difference. **Become a *Share Year-Round* donor,** your contribution becomes sustained and predictable and allows us to have lower administrative costs. That means more money can be more reliably invested in our partners. **Between now and Pentecost, June 5, 2022, new donors and current donors who increase their donation amounts will have their donation matched through a fund supported by religious faith communities.** Your \$20 monthly donation will become \$40.

***To enroll in the program please visit our website at <https://www.devp.org/en/>***

### **DONATE TO HELP UKRAINE---DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE**

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