

Our Sacred Stories

Easter People – Celebrating Resurrection

Our Easter season began almost a month ago with the three days of the Triduum. On Holy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord's Supper our faith community gathered to recall Jesus and his circle of disciples coming together for the Passover meal. This Jewish festival meal is an important piece of Jewish faith tradition.

On Passover, Jewish families come together and recall the meal shared by the Israelites as they began their exodus journey. This trek through the desert was a movement out of slavery in Egypt to liberation in their own land. During that Exodus journey, with all its challenges, the Israelites not only came to their promised land, they became formed as a people of God. It was a passage from bondage to freedom, from darkness to new light.

It is no small thing that we Catholic Christians mark this same journey, from the bondage of death to the liberation of new life. Easter is central to who we are. We are Easter People. Now here we are in the midst of the Easter season. In John's Gospel there is a wonderful passage that parallels the Old Testament Book of Exodus as it describes the community of Israelites journeying from bondage to new life.

John 10:27-30 presents the disciples of Jesus as now formed into a community of friends and ready to follow him. He leads them, filled with trust and faith to new and eternal life. Our Feast of Easter acknowledges and calls us to celebrate together this Good News of God's life-giving love, for us and for all humanity.

For all Christians this season celebrates the central element of our faith, the Paschal Mystery. Not a common phrase for most of us, the Paschal Mystery refers to the whole life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is a reminder to us that our key belief as Catholic Christians is our belief that Jesus was raised from the dead. We are not about the Cross but about the resurrection to new life.

From the very beginning of the Christian church, the time of the apostles, the resurrection was the core belief. All else, as the apostle Paul expressed it, is dependent on our belief that Jesus was raised from the dead. Paul put it this way as he wrote to the Christian community in Corinth: *If there is no resurrection from the dead, Christ himself cannot have been raised, and if Christ has not been raised then our preaching is in vain and your believing it is useless.* (1 Cor.15:14-15)

Jesus' resurrection from the dead is the foundation of our faith. Our ancestors in the faith expressed this belief that Jesus is risen from the dead in many ways. The earliest symbols and images used by Christians were those that presented the resurrection of Jesus. Only much later, more than 1000 years later, did the cross portraying the suffering Jesus find its way into the Christian church's images.

We are a people of the Paschal Mystery. The central part of our Eucharist is what is called the Eucharistic prayer. It is a prayer of thanksgiving for the wonder of God's promise of life for all. The various versions of this prayer all celebrate our faith in the resurrection and its promise for all humanity. We hear words such as this: "O God, as we celebrate the remembrance of the saving passion of your Son, his wondrous Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, and as we look forward to his second coming,..." (Eucharistic Prayer III)

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.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 8, 2022

4th Sunday of Easter

Saturday	May 7	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	..... Parishioners
Sunday	May 8	9:00 am St. Simon & Jude	.... for the good health Jack MacIsaac
Sunday	May 8	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Hattie Culbert & DMF Oldenburg family
Monday	May 9	.....	No Mass
Tuesday	May 10	.....	Rosary led by the CWL
Wednesday	May 11	.....	No Mass
Thursday	May 12	.....	No Mass
Friday	May 13	.....	No Mass
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



Wishing you the
very best this
Mother's Day!

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

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

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Monday Bingo: Open at 6 pm.

50/50 – May 2, 2022 –nonwinner Joanne Meade **\$233.00** 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.

Knights of Columbus regular meeting will be **May 15th** at 7:00 pm at the Hall.

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
14-May	4:00 PM	Barb Woodland Kristine Anne Miguel Liam Miguel	Myrna Keenan	Marg & Mike McCallum	Ides Villabeto Ning Van Rhijn
15-May	11:00 AM	Jack Keilty Jocelyn Keirstead Diane Dube	Anne McElvoy	Patricia Paul Rudy Nadeau	Carol Polchies Sharon Tenhave
15-May	9:00 AM	1st Reading Dilys	Second Reading Prayers of Faithful	Pierrette	

Ministries - HELP WANTED!

St Gertrude's needs more people to help serve at the weekend Masses.

We ask you to consider sharing your gifts/talents with the other parishioners.

We are in need for all the Ministries (Lector, Eucharistic, Hospitality, Gift Bearers) but

we really need more Hospitality and Gift Bearers. If you are willing to serve, please contact

the Parish Office and leave a message with Diane at 328-3306 or email at sjbnb@rogers.com

Thanks so much.

Prayers and best wishes to Fr. Martin as he takes time off to visit his family. May God bless and protect him during his travels.



Offertory Apr 30/May 1

	St. Gertrude	Sts. Simon & Jude	St. Thomas
Loose	182	35	
Envelopes	1,170	494	50
Easter	20		
Candles		60	
PAD	1,562	222	77
E-Transfer	120	—	—
	3054	811	127
Papal Charities	110	Lynn Lake	250
St. Bonaventure	70	Global South	32
Dev & Peace	40		

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

Also, anyone who has a family member who is **graduating** this year, please contact the office at 328-3306.

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

St Simon & Jude collected 157 lbs of food for the foodbank with a dollar value of approx \$408.20.

I wanted to take a moment and thank everyone from the church that donates to the food bank. Most people don't realize that we rely so much on donations. About 80% of our food is from donations as we are a non-profit organization and we are not government funded. So food donations from your church are so very much appreciated and help to feed the approximate 400 families each month here at the food bank. So again I would like to say "Thank You" and just know that we so appreciate all that you do!

Trina Briggs, Food Services Supervisor
Valley Food Bank

CATHEDRAL RESTORATION PROJECT – Gifts to the Cathedral Restoration Project may be made in many ways, including Multi-year pledges, Securities, Bequests, Life Insurance and one time gifts. Donations may be made by cheque or email money transfer, see <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/donations> for more information. **There are envelopes placed at the back of the church.**

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER:

I thank you, Creator of us all, for my mother. I thank you that she gave me life and nurtured me all those years. She gave me my faith, helping me to know you and to know Jesus and his ways. She taught me how to love and how to sacrifice for others. She taught me that it was okay to cry and that I should always tell the truth. Bless her with the graces she needs and which you want to give her today. Help her to feel precious in your eyes today and to know that I love her. Give her strength and courage, compassion and peace. Bless her this day with your love." Amen.

This prayer was taken from prayers for and by mothers on [Creighton University's Online Ministries](#). This website and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops offer prayers for mothers struggling through a [variety of challenges](#) as well as blessings

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"

Devotion to Mary is one an important part of the Catholic identity. As our mother she is an example of a committed "Yes" to the will of God. Because of the devotion to her many people ask her for help in the most difficult moments of their life as any child does with his mothers..

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).

Knights of Columbus Silver Rose Pilgrimage - Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life. This year the Silver Rose will be in the Diocese of Saint John on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. Faithful are invited to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 7:00 pm for a Silver Rose prayer service, which will include the recitation of the diocesan rosary. The Knights are hoping for a wide congregation of the faithful to pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe.

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. If you would like more information, you can email the director Mallory at sheldrake.director@gmail.com.

CATHOLIC NEWS:

- * National Catholic Reported (www.ncronline.org)
- *Vatican News (www.vaticannews.va)
- * Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.cccb.ca)
- * Diocese of Saint John + New Freeman (www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org)
- * The Catholic Register (www.catholicregister.org)
- * Catholic Herald - UK (catholicherald.co.uk)
- * Our Sunday Visitor (www.osvnews.com)
- * The Catholic Thing (www.thecatholicthing.org)
- * Catholic Insight Magazine - Canada (www.catholicinsight.com)
- * Catholic World Report (www.catholicworldreport.com)