

4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

March 27, 2022



## Mass Times

### Windsor

Sunday 11:45 am

### Wolfville

Sunday 10 am

### Kentville

Saturday 4 pm

Sunday 8:30 &  
11:45 am

### Berwick

Sunday 8:30am

### Middleton

Sunday 10 am

### Bridgetown

Sunday 8:30 am

### Annapolis Royal

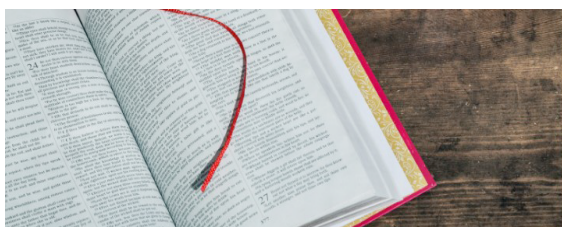
Sunday 9 am

### Digby

Saturday 4 pm

### Weymouth

Sunday 11:30 am



## This Week's Readings

### 1st Reading

Sun, Mar 27

JOSHUA 5.9a, 10-2

Mon, Mar 28

ISAIAH 65.17-21

Tues, Mar 29

EZEKIEL 47.1-9, 12

Wed, Mar 30

ISAIAH 49.8-15

Thurs, Mar 31

EXODUS 32.7-14

Fri, Apr 1

WISDOM 2.1a, 12 -22

Sat, Apr 2

JEREMIAH 11.18-20

### Gospel

LUKE 15.1-3,11-32

JOHN 4.43-54

JOHN 5.1-16

JOHN 5.16-30

JOHN 5.18, 31-47

JOHN 7.1-2, 10, 25-30

JOHN 7.40-53

[www.corpuschristins.ca](http://www.corpuschristins.ca)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/corpuschristins](http://www.youtube.com/corpuschristins)



Facebook: [www.facebook.com/corpuschristins](http://www.facebook.com/corpuschristins)

Instagram: @corpuschristins



**The Kentville Parish Office is open – Monday, Tuesday  
& Friday from 9 am – 1 pm**

**Box 486**

**48 Belcher St.**

**Kentville, NS**

**B4N 3X3**

**902-678-3303**

**Jennifer Hilborn**

[parishoffice\\_kentville@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:parishoffice_kentville@corpuschristins.ca)

**The Digby Parish office is open Tuesday, Wednesday,  
and Thursday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm**

**Box 190**

**110 Queen St.**

**Digby, NS**

**B0V 1A0**

**902-245-2115**

**Pamela Cosman**

[parishoffice\\_digby@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:parishoffice_digby@corpuschristins.ca)

**Good Samaritan:** The parable of the Good Samaritan is Jesus' answer to the question, "Who is my neighbour?" Is there someone you see frequently but don't think of as your neighbour? Try to identify someone like this and be the Good Samaritan to them this coming week. What can you do to help someone today?



Thank you for your donations to Corpus Christi.

Your Parish Administrative Team, that includes many volunteers, manages the counting of collections each week, making bank deposits, doing the bookkeeping, issuing annual tax receipts, and many other aspects of Parish Giving.

You can donate through:

- Weekly offering envelopes
- Cash donations in the collection basket at Mass
- E-transfers directly to Corpus Christi's bank account: [finance@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:finance@corpuschristins.ca)
- PAR - pre-authorized remittances from your bank account to Corpus Christi's bank account
- Mailing a cheque to the Kentville Office



### Reconciliation for Lent

**Middleton** - Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm

**Digby** – Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am (in the church) & Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 pm

**Berwick** - Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> - 6:30pm (Mass at 6 pm)

**Annapolis Royal** – Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> – 10:30 am

**Kentville** - Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm

**Weymouth** – Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm  
& Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am

**Windsor** - Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> - 7pm  
(Stations of the Cross at 6:30 pm)

**Community Lunches** - On Wednesdays at 11:30 am The Knights of Columbus Community Kitchen at Corpus Christi St. Monica's, Middleton and on Fridays at 11:30 am St. Pat's Community Kitchen, Digby both continue Free Take Out Meals. "The Knights of Columbus Bishop Gallagher Council 6297 are looking for volunteers who will prepare soup and sandwiches and provide cookies for the Take Out Community Kitchen between 11am to 12pm on Wednesdays of each week at St. Monica's Church, Middleton. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Roger Lirette at 902-824-3467 or 902-765-3086 or email at [tlirette@storm.ca](mailto:tlirette@storm.ca)



# Mass Intentions

## **SATURDAY, MAR 26**

Digby	6:00 PM	Vanessa Gennette by Angela O'Neil & Family
Kentville	4:00 PM	All Corpus Christi Parishioners

## **SUNDAY, MAR 27**

Bridgetown	8:30 AM	Catherine Brown from the Brown Family
Berwick	8:30 AM	Joseph Marchaud by John McNeil & Colleen Stephenson
Kentville	8:30 AM	<i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i>
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Perley Kelly by Eric & Leah Brown
Middleton	10:00 AM	Abin Joseph by Carolyn Gilbert
Wolfville	10:00 AM	Anthony Ueffing by Truus Ueffing
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Nesly Valbrun by Cathy LeBlanc
Kentville/Online	11:45 AM	Nancy Pemberton by the Lombard Family
Windsor	11:45 AM	Marguerite Robichaud by Terry & Eleanor McKiel

## **MONDAY, MAR 28**

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Michael "Mick" Yorke by Tom & Peggy Foley
------------------	---------	---

## **TUESDAY, MAR 29**

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Joe Smolenaars by Tina Smolenaars
Digby	6:30 PM	Anne Hutchinson by Pat Levings

## **WEDNESDAY, MAR 30**

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	John Gaudet by Doris Gaudet
Middleton	3:15 PM	Bernard Quinn by Carolyn Gilbert
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Anita Germaine by Marion & Greg MacDonald

## **THURSDAY, MAR 31**

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Catherine Sorensen by Mari McCabe
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Paul Belliveau by Bucky & Medora Dahlgren
Berwick	6:30 PM	Brian Oliver by Russell & Carolyn Turner

## **FRIDAY, APR 1**

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Souls in Purgatory by Helen Walsh
Digby	9:00 AM	Kelly Mackintosh by Carolyn McClafferty

## **SATURDAY, APR 2**

Digby	6:00 PM	John Allison by Angela O'Neil
Kentville	4:00 PM	George Pellerine by Dennis & Barb Nash

## **SUNDAY, APR 3**

Bridgetown	8:30 AM	<i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i>
Berwick	8:30 AM	Graeme King by Joe & Bobbi McGrath
Kentville	8:30 AM	All Corpus Christi Parishioners
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	For the Intentions of Cynthia Gilbert by Marilyn Harry
Middleton	10:00 AM	Arthur McKenzie by Peggy Foley
Wolfville	10:00 AM	Ted Ueffing by Truus Ueffing
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Daniel LeBlanc and his grandfather, Paul Theriault by Alvina & Micheal LeBlanc
Kentville/online	11:45 AM	Lorraine Pottie by Hector & Joan Pottie
Windsor	11:45 AM	Jackie Pothier by Joe & Ann Troke

# Trying Not To Make God Look Bad

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

For fifteen years, I taught a course entitled *The Theology of God*. The students in that course were predominately seminarians preparing for ministry, along with a number of lay students who were preparing to serve as ministers in various capacities in their churches. I would always teach what the curriculum called for: the key biblical revelations about the nature of God and God's actions in history, some salient perspectives from the Patristics on God's nature and actions, the historical development of the dogmatic definitions about God, plus some speculative notions on the trinity, ranging from Saint Augustine to Karl Rahner to Catherine Lacugna. But my overriding emphasis, like a leit motif, was always this. I would tell the students: *whatever else you do in your pastoral practice and preaching, try not to make God look stupid!*

Nothing is as important in our teaching, preaching, and pastoral activities as is the notion we convey of the God who underwrites it all. Every homily we preach, every catechetical or sacramental teaching we give, and every pastoral practice we engage in reflects the God who undergirds it. If our teaching is narrow and petty, we make God look narrow and petty. If our pastoral practice lacks understanding and compassion, we make God lack understanding and compassion. If we are legalistic, we make God legalistic. If we are tribal, nationalistic, or racist, we make God tribal, nationalistic, and racist. If we do things that befuddle common sense, we make God the enemy of common sense. Crassly stated, when we do stupid things in our ministry, we make God look stupid.

In all of our preaching, teaching, and pastoral practice we need to work at rescuing God from arbitrariness, narrowness, legalism, rigidity, racism, tribalism, nationalism, and everything that's narrow, legalistic, and petty that, through us, gets associated with God. Anything we do in the name of God reflects God.

It's no accident that atheism, anti-clericalism, and most of the negativity leveled against the church and religion today can always point to some bad theology or church practice on which to base itself. Atheism is always a parasite, feeding off bad religion. So too is most of the negativity towards the churches which is prevalent today. Anti-church attitudes feed on bad religion and thus we who preach, teach, and minister in the name of God need to scrutinize ourselves in the light of those criticisms.

As well, we need the honesty to admit that we have seriously hurt many persons by the rigidity of some of our pastoral practices that do not reflect a God of understanding, compassion, and intelligence, but instead suggest that God is arbitrary, legalistic, and not very intelligent.

I say this in sympathy. It's not easy to reflect God adequately, but we must try, try to reflect better the God that Jesus incarnated. What are the marks of that God?

**First, that God has no favorites.** No one person, race, gender, or nation is more favored than others by that God. All are privileged. That God is also clear that it's not only those who profess God and religion explicitly who are persons of faith, but also those, irrespective of their explicit faith or church practice, who do the will of God on earth.

**Next, that God is scandalously understanding and compassionate, especially towards the weak and towards sinners.** That God is willing to sit down with sinners without first asking them to clean up their lives. Moreover, that God asks us to be compassionate in the same way to both sinners and saints and to love them both equally. That God does not have preferential love for the virtuous.

**In addition, that God is critical of those who, whatever their sincerity, try to block access to him.** That God is never defensive, but surrenders himself to death rather than defend himself, never meets hatred with hatred, and dies loving and forgiving those who are killing him.

**Finally, and centrally, that God is first of all good news for the poor.** Any preaching in God's name that isn't good news for the poor is not the gospel.

Those are the attributes of the God who Jesus incarnated and we need to keep that God in mind in all of our preaching, teaching, and pastoral practices, even as we are sensitive to proper boundaries and the demands of orthodox teaching.

Complex pastoral questions will always be with us and this is not suggesting that these issues be resolved simplistically. The truth sets us free and the demands of discipleship are, by Jesus own admission, harsh. However, with that being admitted, the compassion, mercy, and intelligence of God need always still to be reflected in every pastoral action we do. Otherwise, God looks arbitrary, tribal, cruel, and antithetical to love. Christianity, as Marilynne Robinson says, is too great a narrative to be underwritten by any lesser tale and that should forbid especially its being subordinated to narrowness, legalism, lack of compassion, and lack of common sense.



## In Solidarity with the Delegation to Rome

In December a delegation to the Vatican of residential school survivors, Indigenous elders, knowledge keepers, Indigenous youth, and a group of Canadian bishops was supposed to travel to Rome to meet with Pope Francis. As a result of the pandemic, this trip was postponed.

Recently it was announced that this trip will happen next week: March 28 to April 1, 2022.

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCC) facilitated working groups to develop education, reflection, and prayer materials for use during this time. These materials are found on the [CCC website here](#). Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle (OLGC) has developed a prayer card and invites dioceses, parishes, other organizations, and individuals to download the prayer for their use and/or for printing; it can be found on the OLGC [website here](#). Let us pray that Our Lady of Guadalupe intercede with her Son to shower abundant graces among and between us for the conversion and healing of hearts, as we continue our journey of truth and reconciliation.

As the delegation makes their journey, Indigenous communities across this land will light Sacred Fires. In Indigenous spirituality, Sacred Fires start a ceremony or sacred event. This spiritual practice is a means to make individuals feel open, grounded, and connected with people on the Earth and those who have moved on. On March 28, 2022, as the encounter in Rome begins, in solidarity with the Indigenous Fire Keepers keeping the Sacred Fire in our region and across this land, all are invited to light a fire or a candle and to pray.

Let us pray for this important moment for our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

For more information on the delegation go to: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca)

**Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts: "Life is Messy" by Matthew Kelly is his honest exploration of our most difficult experiences of loss and hardship, betrayal and confusion in our lives, and how our faith helps us to endure, grow, and emerge from these desert times of wilderness. \$5.00 Available at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass, Wednesday Adoration, or Friday Way of the Cross, or contact Mary Crooks at 902-825-6495.**

"Breaking Open the Word" continues at St. Anthony's, Berwick on Tuesdays at 10:00 am. This will be followed by Adoration and the Rosary at 11:00 am.



### *Flowers For Easter*

Anyone wishing to contribute to the purchase of flowers for Easter, please place your donation in the collection basket indicated on the envelope.

**Dinner Theatre:** St. Anthony in Berwick is hoping to stage a pre Christmas production and is looking for people with a love of acting. Depending on the response this could be a small one day event or a weekend dinner theatre, like we had before Covid. If you are interested, please call Gisela Currie at 902 847 1739 or send an email to [the.curries@eastlink.ca](mailto:the.curries@eastlink.ca). Please indicate if we could cast you in any part or only a small one.

### Stations of the Cross

St. John's, Fridays at 6:30 pm  
St. Anthony's, Fridays at 6:30 pm  
St. Joseph's, Kentville, Fridays at 6:30 pm  
St. Monica's, Fridays at 2:00 pm  
St. Alphonsus, Wednesdays at 4:00 pm  
St. Louis', Fridays at 3:15pm  
St. Patrick's, Friday's at 7:00 pm  
St. Joseph's, Weymouth, Friday's at 6:30 pm

**First Saturday Marian Devotion at St. Monica's Church on April 2 at 11:00 am. The Catholic Women's League welcomes all parishioners to join us in praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary for those who are facing illness or hardship, followed by Mary's Way of the Cross for the light of Christ in the Ukraine, Russia and all the world.**

**Way of the Cross at St. Monica's at 2:00 pm on Fridays during Lent. The Catholic Women's League invites all parishioners to join us in praying that the peace of Christ may reign in the Ukraine and Russia, the suffering be eased, the refugees find safety, and all who labour for justice, mercy, and compassion be strengthened.**



## Children and Youth

**Little Church:** Would you like to support faith formation for our littlest disciples? Volunteers are needed at Saint Joseph's (Kentville) and Saint John's (Windsor) once or twice a month. Little Church takes place during the Liturgy of the Word and provides an introduction to the Liturgy through gospel readings, prayers of the faithful and more. For more information please contact Jennifer Moore, [familylifeandyouth@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:familylifeandyouth@corpuschristins.ca) or 902 799 1250

### Feed the Teens:



Thank you to everyone who has already generously supported our Confirmation group with snacks and treats. We are excited to welcome our teens back to in person gatherings and need your support in stocking our cupboards. Snacks and treats may be dropped off at Saint Joseph's (Kentville). Also, an envelope (marked, 'Feed the Teens') may be dropped in any collection basket or e-transferred to: [finance@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:finance@corpuschristins.ca). Thank you!

**Confirmation Candidates** and leaders made 70 Easter cards for seniors in a local nursing home and the children participating in **The Journey** and **Living Lent** programs have been busy doing 'Good Deeds' all as part of the Samaritan Lenten project.

### What are you doing July 8 - 10, 2022?

Come to Steubenville with us! We are looking for high school teens, young adults (peer leaders) and adults (chaperones) from across the parish to join us for this exciting summer conference! For more information please contact Jennifer Moore, [familylifeandyouth@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:familylifeandyouth@corpuschristins.ca) or 902 799 1250



**Knights of Columbus will resume in person meetings on the first Wednesday of each month in the Multi-Purpose Room at Corpus Christi, St. Joseph's, Kentville at 7 pm.**



### Did you know ?

**Mardi Gras** - Lent is immediately preceded by a celebration that has no mention on the calendar of the church year. The tradition of Mardi Gras (French: "fat Tuesday") began as a pre-lenten day feasting and carnival (Latin: *carnelevarium*, "removal of meat"). It was a "last fling" in preparation for the severe fasting and abstinence which began the next day on Ash Wednesday. This popular tradition probably had a practical purpose. Foods forbidden by the Church's severe lenten discipline were the ones needing refrigeration. Since controlled refrigeration was unheard of until the 19th century, it made sense to eat what would otherwise spoil during the 6 weeks of Lent and to help other families do the same with a party atmosphere.

Familiar features associated with carnivals were already popular by the 14th century. They reflected pre-Christian revelry and masquerading associated with ancient pagan observance of Spring and New Year festivals celebrated at the spring or vernal equinox.

Because Church discipline forbade this kind of revelry during Lent, it was natural that it be substituted by a pre-Lenten party-time.



The Kings Kikima Grannies will be holding a Spring Sale of Jewellery, Jewellery Art, Plants and more, Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> in Wolfville Lions Hall from 9 am-2 pm. We continue to support Grandmothers in Kikima, Kenya who are now raising their grandchildren whose parents were lost to HIV/Aids. Thank You for supporting our project.

*Mass Time Change: New time at St. Joseph's, Weymouth, Thursdays at 6:30 pm and at St. Patrick's, Digby, Saturdays at 6:00 pm.*

**Volunteer needed:** St. Patrick's Church in Digby is looking for someone to take over the responsibility of the Cemeteries in Marshalltown, Digby and Digby Neck. Please contact the office for details (902-245-2115).

