



Fr. John MacPherson, Pastor
 Fr. Michael Walsh, Associate Pastor
 Fr. Raymond Odumuko, Associate Pastor

3rd Sunday in Advent

December 11, 2022



Kentville Parish Office
 Monday, Tuesday & Friday
 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
 Box 486, 48 Belcher St., Kentville, NS
 B4N 3X3
 902-678-3303
 Jennifer Hilborn
 parishoffice_kentville@corpuschristins.ca

Digby Parish Office
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 9:30 am – 5:00 pm
 Box 190, 110 Queen St., Digby, NS
 B0V 1A0
 902-245-2115
 Pamela Cosman
 parishoffice_digby@corpuschristins.ca

Please forward all notices for bulletin to bulletin@corpuschristins.ca before 5:00 pm on Monday.

This Week's Readings

	1st Reading	Gospel
Sun, Dec 11	Isaiah 35:1-6, 10	Matthew 11:2-11
Mon, Dec 12	Zechariah 2:14-17	Luke 1:26-38
Tues, Dec 13	Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13	Matthew 21:28-32
Wed, Dec 14	Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25	Luke 7:18-23
Thurs, Dec 15	Isaiah 54:1-10	Luke 7:24-30
Fri, Dec 16	Isaiah 56:1-3, 6-8	John 5:33-36
Sat, Dec 17	Genesis 49:2, 8-10	Matthew 1:1-17

Community's Email Addresses

St. John	windsor@corpuschristins.ca
St. Francis	wolfville@corpuschristins.ca
St. Joseph	kentville@corpuschristins.ca
St. Anthony	berwick@corpuschristins.ca
St. Alphonsus	bridgetown@corpuschristins.ca
St. Monica	middleton@corpuschristins.ca
St. Louis	annapolisroyal@corpuschristins.ca
St. Patrick	digby@corpuschristins.ca
St. Joseph	weymouth@corpuschristins.ca

Giving to Corpus Christi Parish
 There are many ways to donate to Corpus Christi Parish:

- 1- Weekly Offertory Envelopes
- 2- Cash donations
- 3- E-Transfers to finance@corpuschristins.ca, include your name and church
- 4- PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittances)
- 5- Through the mail, send to Kentville Parish Office

Corpus Christi Parish thanks you for your financial support – How else could we fulfill our mission?

Website: www.corpuschristins.ca
 FaceBook: www.facebook.com/corpuschristins

YouTube: www.youtube.com/corpuschristins
 Instagram: [corpuschristins](https://www.instagram.com/corpuschristins)



Chris Palmer
 MLA KINGS WEST

195 Cottage St., Berwick, NS
 Tel: 902-375-2554
 Toll Free: 888-701-2554
 Email: chrispalmermla@gmail.com
 Facebook: [chrispalmerkingswest](https://www.facebook.com/chrispalmerkingswest)
 Instagram: @palmerkingswest

OFFICE HOURS:
 Mon to Fri
 9am to 12pm
 1pm to 4pm



Lindsay Windsor
 Funeral Home

(902) 798-2232
 194 King Street, Windsor
www.lindsayfuneralhome.com

Ask about pre-planning.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DEC 10

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Marie Flynn by Susan & Glenn Gordon & Family
Kentville	4:00 PM	Armeline Guay by Selba Perkins
Digby	4:00 PM	Mary Harvieux by Lorraine Bell

SUNDAY, DEC 11

Windsor	8:30 AM	Susan Thynne by Terry & Eleanor McKiel
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Gary Harry by Marilyn Harry & Family
Berwick	9:00 AM	Adrian Chalker by Don & Marie Sanford
Kentville/Online	10:15 AM	Louisa Cooper by Bernie Cooper
Middleton	11:00 AM	Cor Vanderpryt by Carolyn Gilbert
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Jacky Comeau by Joanne & Jerry Belliveau
Wolfville	11:45 AM	Adeline C Long by Friends at St Francis

TUESDAY, DEC 13

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Michael Walsh by Helen Walsh
Digby	6:30 PM	For a Special Intention by Pamela

WEDNESDAY, DEC 14

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	St Joseph's CWL
Middleton	9:00 AM	Intentions of Dan & Darlene Thibodeau
Weymouth	4:00 PM	Marguerite & Gustave LeBlanc by the family

THURSDAY, DEC 15

Kentville	8:30 AM	Lloyd McCue by Barb Montford
Berwick	9:00 AM	Len Stephenson by Colleen Stephenson & John McNeil
Annapolis Royal Nursing Home	10:30 AM	Helen MacDonald by Eric & Leah Brown
Weymouth	4:00 PM	Joey Saulnier by Bucky & Medora Dalgren

FRIDAY, DEC 16

Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Frank Roefs by Martina Smolenaars
Digby	9:00 AM	For the health of Andrea McCracken by Pamela

SATURDAY, DEC 17

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Marg Grant by Betty & Laurence Ritcey
Kentville	4:00 PM	Maynard Barry by Wayne Barry
Digby	4:00 PM	Arcade Comeau by Bill & Jacqueline Amirault

SUNDAY, DEC 18

Windsor	8:30 AM	Dr Camille DuMesnil by Paul DuMesnil
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Leah Theriault by Mary Gilbert
Berwick	9:00 AM	Bernard Fitzgerald by the Grandchildren
Kentville/Online	10:15 AM	Paul Dill by Pat Crossman
Middleton	11:00 AM	Helen MacDonald by Fred & Marion Hole
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Richard, Alfreda & Ian Cromwell by the Family
Wolfville	11:45 AM	Dominic Doiron by Mary Merlin

Advent Reconciliation

Tuesday, Dec. 13	4-6 pm in Windsor & Digby
Wednesday, Dec. 14	4-7 pm in Kentville
Thursday, Dec. 15	5-7 pm in Middleton

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Mass

4 pm – Digby, Berwick, Kentville
6 pm – Annapolis Royal, Middleton, Wolfville
8 pm – Bridgetown, Windsor
8:30 pm – Weymouth
10 pm – Kentville

Christmas Day Mass

10 am – Weymouth, Middleton, Kentville

Flowers for Christmas: If you wish to help fund the cost of flowers for our church, please drop your donation in the collection basket, or drop off your donation at the office. E-transfer is also available, please mark everything “Christmas Flowers”.

2022 Donations: Just a reminder that all donations to our parish must be received by the office or in collection basket by December 31 in order for them to be included in the 2022 income tax receipts. Thank you for your continued support.

St John’s Church, Windsor - The Giving Tree

If you choose an ornament, please return the present, gift wrapped, by this Sunday, Dec 11, with the ornament taped to the top. Thank you in advance for brightening someone’s Christmas!

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts - St Monica

Christmas Affordable Gifts that are easy to mail: Keep Christ in Christmas magnets for car, fridge, or home are reusable (\$5.00) and the proceeds support the charitable work of our Knights of Columbus.

Religious calendars show feast days (\$5.75) and remind the receiver of your caring prayers all year. The Men of St. Anthony & Friends have two inspirational CD’s (\$10.00 each) that bring the joy of music all year round at home or in the car.

Let us give our children the best gift of growing to know Jesus better each Advent-Christmas season. We have affordable reading books, coloring books, and activity books, under \$5.00, and filled with the good news of faith, hope, love, peace and joy in Christ.

Available at **St. Monica’s church hall** after Sunday Mass or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.



Prepare Him Room

an evening of Advent music

Corpus Christi parishioners & friends are invited to join us for a prayerful, joyful evening of Advent music. You are welcome for some or all.

Thank you K of C for turkey soup supper!
Your freewill for Christian Concern is so appreciated. Needs are great.

Mass 4pm. Meal 5pm. Music 6pm.
SATURDAY, Dec. 10th
St. Joe's, Kentville

Jesus' Dysfunctional Ancestry

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

The full story of how Jesus Christ came to be born includes elements that we do not easily imagine when we sing our Christmas hymns. Jesus' family tree and bloodline were far from perfect and this, according to the renowned biblical scholar, Raymond Brown, needs to be kept in mind whenever we are tempted to believe in Jesus, but want to reject the church because of its imperfections, scandals, and bad history. Jesus may have been immaculately conceived. However, as the gospels make clear, there is much in his origins that is as jolting as any contemporary church scandal.

For example, in giving us the origins of Jesus, the gospels point to as many sinners, liars, and schemers in his genetic and historical lineage as they do to saints, honest people, and men and women of faith.

We see, for example, in Jesus' genealogy a number of men who didn't exactly incarnate the love, justice, and purity of Jesus. Abraham unfairly banished Ishmael and his mother, Hagar, rationalizing that God favors some people over others; Jacob, by scheming and dishonesty, stole his brother Esau's birthright; and David, to whom Jesus explicitly connects himself, committed adultery and then had the husband of his mistress murdered to cover up an unwanted pregnancy in order to marry her.

Moreover, the women mentioned in Jesus background don't fare much better. It is interesting to note, as Raymond Brown does, which women don't get mentioned in reference to Jesus' origins. The gospels don't mention Sarah, Rebekah, or Rachel, all of whom were regarded as holy women. Whom do they mention?

They mention Tamar, a Canaanite woman, someone outside the Jewish faith, who seduces her father-in-law, Judah, so that she can have a child. They mention Rahab, also a Canaanite woman, and an outsider, who is in fact a prostitute. Next, they mention Ruth, a Moabite woman who is also outside the official religion of the time. Then they mention Bathsheba, a Hittite woman, an outsider who commits adultery with David and then schemes to make sure one of her own offspring inherits the throne.

All of these women found themselves in a situation of marriage or pregnancy that was either strange or scandalous, yet each was an important divine instrument in preserving the religious heritage that gave us Jesus. It is no accident that the gospels link these women to Mary, Jesus' mother, since she too found herself in a ritually taboo pregnancy and in a marital situation that was peculiar.

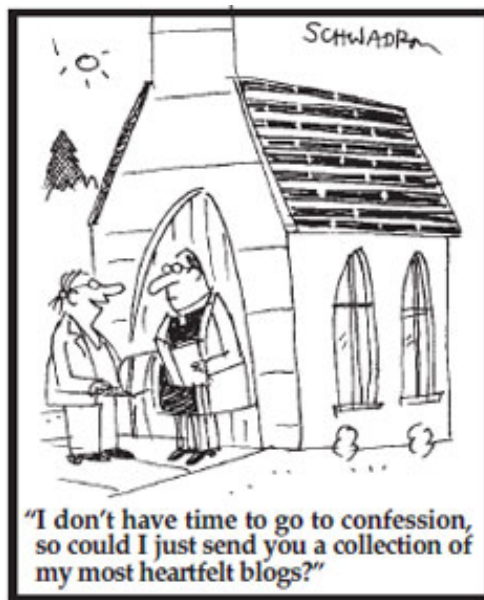
Further still, beyond these less-than-saintly characters in Jesus' lineage, we see as well that some of the institutions that shaped the Jewish faith were also less than saintly. Institutionalized religion back then suffered from many of the same problems it has today, including the corrupt use of power. Indeed, Israel itself (perhaps justifying the deed by referring to what Jacob had done to Esau) seized the land of Canaan from those who had a prior claim to it, claiming ownership by divine privilege.

Finally, and not insignificantly, we see too that the lineage that gave us Jesus built itself up not just on the great and the talented, but equally on the poor and insignificant. In the list of names that makes up the ancestors of Jesus, we see some that are famous but also others who can make no claim to specialness or significance. Jesus' human blood, scripture tells us, was produced equally by the great and the small, the talented and the talentless.

What's to be learned for all of this? Perhaps Raymond Brown captures it best. What all this tells us, he says, is that God writes straight with crooked lines, that we shouldn't accept an overly idealized Christ, and that our own lives, even if they are marked by weakness and insignificance, are important too in continuing the story of the incarnation.

As Brown puts it: "The God who wrote the beginnings with crooked lines also writes the sequence with crooked lines, and some of those lines are our own lives and witness. A God who did not hesitate to use the scheming as well as the noble, the impure as well as the pure, men to whom the world harkened and women upon whom the world frowned – this God continues to work through the same *mélange*. If it is a challenge to recognize in the last part of Matthew's genealogy that totally unknown people were part of the story of Jesus Christ, it may be a greater challenge to recognize that the unknown characters of today are an essential part of the sequence."

Christianity isn't just for the pure, the talented, the good, the humble, and the honest. The story of Jesus Christ was also written and keeps being written by the impure, by sinners, by calculating schemers, by the proud, by the dishonest, and by those without worldly talents. Nobody is so bad, so insignificant, so devoid of talent, or so outside the circle of faith, that he or she is outside the story of Christ.



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Refugee Committee Meeting

Monday, Dec. 12th at 7pm St. Joseph's Church (Kentville)
New members welcome
For more information, call the Parish Office (902-678-3303)
or Ann Marsters (902-670-3222)

Empty Shoes

Nothing seems quite as poignant as a lost shoe – especially the small shoe a child. There it is sitting forlorn in the street, a silent tribute to unfulfilled promise, to seemingly wasteful waste, to misguided humanity. When you see the lost shoe of a child, you long to reunite it with its owner. You want to fill the shoe again.

How different the feeling when you see the empty shoes of children put out at homes on St. Nicholas Eve! These are the empty shoes to, but shoes of hope, expectation, loving anticipation, and family warmth.

It is easy to fill these shoes with treats and gifts. Oh, how much harder it is to fill those lost shoes on the street! But we must try. We must not close our hearts to the lost ones of the world. We must seek them out, to help them, to pray with them and suffer with them.

James E. Adams