

Fr. John MacPherson, Pastor

Fr. Michael Walsh, Associate Pastor

Fr. Raymond Odumuko, Associate Pastor

6th Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023



Contact the Parish

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 to 5:00 pm Box 190, 110 Queen St., Digby, NS B0V 1A0 902-245-2115

Pamela Cosman

parishoffice_digby@corpuschristins.ca

Website: www.corpuschristins.ca

FaceBook: www.facebook.com/corpuschristins

YouTube: www.youtube.com/corpuschristins

Instagram: corpuschristins

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

This Week's Readings

	1st Reading	Gospel
Sun, May 14	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17	John 14:15-21
Mon, May 15	Acts 16:11-15	John 15:26 – 16:4
Tues, May 16	Acts 16:22-34	John 16:5-11
Wed, May 17	Acts 17:15, 22 – 18:1	John 16:12-15
Thurs, May 18	Acts 2:44-47	Luke 12:22-31
Fri, May 19	Acts 18:9-18	John 16:20-23
Sat, May 20	Acts 18:23-28	John 16:23-28

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 Monica	middleton@corpuschristins.ca
St Alphonsus	bridgetown@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

Our parish thanks you for your financial support. How else could we fulfill our mission?

<u>Tuesday of each week</u>: Scripture Reflection on the readings for the following Sunday and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Berwick - 10:00 am Scripture reflection; 11:00 am Rosary and Exposition until Noon **Middleton** - 2:00 pm Scripture reflection; 3:00 pm Rosary and Exposition until 4:00pm



Mass Times & Intentions

SATURDAY, MAY 13		
Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Caitlin Pelly by Val Pelly
Kentville	4:00 PM	Daniel Moran by Norma MacDougall
Digby	6:00 PM	Adelia Haight by Carol, Pam & Hannah
SUNDAY, MAY 14		
Windsor	8:30 AM	Liz Pereira by Alice Pereira
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Cathy Emin by Mary & Nick McEachern
Berwick	9:00 AM	Brian & Cecil Oliver by Helen Oliver & Family
Kentville	10:30 AM	Intention for Fr Keith Billard on 25th Anniversary of his Ordination
Middleton	11:00 AM	Yeungnam by Tom & Paula Ross
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Catherine Robicheau by Marilaine LeBlanc
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Mary Pratt by Tisha Pratt
TUESDAY, MAY 16		
Kentville	8:30 AM	Maurice Harquail by Jennie Harquail
Digby	6:30 PM	Catherine Robicheau by Pat Levings
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17	7	
Kentville	8:30 AM	Parents & Deceased Family Members of Helen & Michael Walsh
Middleton	9:00 AM	Intentions of Gordon MacDonald (L) by Tom & Peggy Foley
Tideview Terrace	10:30 AM	Catherine Robicheau by Carol,Pam & Hannah
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Wayne Comeau by Cathy LeBlanc
THURSDAY, MAY 18		
Kentville	8:30 AM	In Thanksgiving by Peter & Agnes Nan
AR Nursing Home	10:30 AM	Cathy Emin by St Louis CWL
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Robinson Family from Hassett by Verna, Bertha, Evonne, Gloria & Florence
FRIDAY, MAY 19		
Berwick	9:00 AM	Intention for Fr Keith Billard (L) by Tom & Peggy Foley
Digby	9:00 AM	Catherine Robicheau by The Thru Mary Prayer Group
SATURDAY, MAY 20		
Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Mel Bateman by Peter Newton
Kentville	4:00 PM	Doris Dandurand by St Joseph's CWL
Digby	6:00 PM	Catherine Robicheau by Chuck & Margaret Mills
SUNDAY, MAY 21		
Windsor	8:30 AM	Patricia Gould-Thorpe by Terry & Eleanor McKiel
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Frank Pugh by Marilyn & Jason Harry
Berwick	9:00 AM	Graeme King by Dorothy & Girls
Kentville	10:30 AM	Moe Harquail by Doris
Middleton	11:00 AM	Roberta Gillcrist by Fred & Marion Hole
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Edward Rice by his Family
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Intentions of Rosaleen McDonald

Healing Mass (with the Anointing of the Sick)

Tuesday, May 16 – 6:30pm St. Patrick Church (Digby)

Special Envelope Collection - On May 14, there is a special collection envelope for the **Pope's Pastoral Works**. These donations are used to support charitable causes around the world, particularly toward aiding victims of war, famine and natural disasters. Please write cheques to *Corpus Christi Parish*.

<u>Flocknote</u> – If you or someone you know is having issues with Flocknote, like not receiving our emails, bulletins, etc, please contact the Kentville office at 902-678-3303 or parishoffice_kentville@corpuschristins.ca. Often it is a quick fix on our end if you have already looked in your Junk/Spam Folders and the emails are not there.

Proposed Change in Diocesan Feast Day - The Archdiocese is in the process of seeking permission from Rome to change the patronal feast of the Archdiocese from the Feast of the Assumption (August 15) to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8). This change is recommended because August 15 is a special day for the Acadians, and they are involved in other festivities. As well December 8 is the date of the establishment of the new merged Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. The clergy have agreed with this change and this announcement is a way to consult all parishioners to see if you have any comments on this change. Please respond to Pauline (pamirault@halifaxyarmouth.org) by Monday, May 15.

Marian Prayer Hour (Middleton) All are warmly welcomed to the Marian Prayer Hour on Saturday, May 13 at 11:00 am in St. Monica's Church. In this peaceful time of prayer with Our Blessed Mother, we present ourselves, our families, our parish, and our world to her with our many needs and special intentions, that we may have the trust and strength to persevere with renewed faith, hope, love and joyful service.

Yard Sales

St. Monica's (Middleton) - Catholic Women's League invites you to our Bountiful Indoor Yard Sale on Saturday, May 20 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. You are welcomed to donate items that you no longer need and to find items that you do need! Lots of choices for men, women, and children, such as jewelry, tools & hardware, household items & home decor, linens and clothing, pictures & frames, books & puzzles, toys, small kitchen appliances & furniture, vintage & antiques, garden & plants. You may bring items to the church hall after Sunday Mass, or on Thursday, May 18 and Friday, May 19 from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Marion Hole (902-765-4435) or Mary Crooks (902-825-6495). Thank you!

St Joseph's (Kentville) will be holding a Yard Sale on **Saturday, June 3** from 9 am – 2 pm. A team will be available on May 20 from 9 am – 12 pm to accept donations in the Multi-Purpose Room. If this time is inconvenient, you can call Andrew 902-321-8109 or John 902-385-4500 and make an appointment to drop off items. Funds raised will go to Valley Connect Outreach.

The Men of St Anthony's and Friends - Concerts

Concert Dates

May 13, Saturday, Cambridge Baptist Church 7 PM May 27, Saturday, St Anthony's Church Berwick 7 PM June 11, Sunday, Waterville Baptist Church 7 PM June 25, Sunday, North Alton Church 7 Pm

Catechetics Registration – Entire Parish

May is registration month for **2023-2024 Catechetics.** The Parish will be starting an exciting new catechetical program next fall! We need to order the materials for next fall in June, so **May is registration month** for ALL ages for the coming year. You can fill out a form in your local church and place it in the offering, contact the Kentville church office 902-678-3303 or email the Kentville Liaison kentville@corpuschristins.ca

For each child, we need the following information:

Child's name and birthday Child/Youth Grade in 2023/2024

Parent(s) name(s) and address

Sacraments Received

Phone number & Email

Church Attending

Catechistic Teachers/Volunteers Needed - May is also catechist recruitment month. We need catechists from each church. We hope to offer the new catechetics course for every grade but how much we can offer depends on how many of you volunteer to be catechists and share your faith with the younger generation. We also need a second responsible ministry checked person for each classroom so if you will offer to just be present in the classes, that will be wonderful and so helpful. You will be a praying presence in the room. We will be offering training with the new materials for the catechists and have experienced teachers available to help with any questions you may have. You will be supported in this. Please contact us for an inspiring volunteer time to help spread your faith in Jesus Christ. You can leave your contact info at the Kentville office 902-678-3303 or email the Kentville Liaison kentville@corpuschristins.ca

<u>Stage Prophets Play</u> - Come see Stage Prophets 20th Anniversary Production "Jesus Christ Superstar" on June 2-4 at Acadia Arena. Tickets can be purchased from Acadia Box Office 902-542-5520 or 1-800-542-8425 or online https://acadiau.universitytickets.com

The <u>Prayer Shawl Ministry group</u> "Wrapped in Love" at St Joseph's, Kentville has been discontinued. However, there is still a need for knitted or crocheted baby blankets to be distributed at baptisms. Blankets can be left at the office.

<u>Volunteers - St Joseph's Cemetery (Kentville)</u> — The cemetery located next to St. Joseph's needs some TLC. We are looking for volunteers to assist the Knights of Columbus in grass cutting, whipper-snipping, raking and general clean up. If you can assist, please leave a message at the church office, or call Andrew Vinters (902-321-8109) or John Boulter (902-385-4500).

St Anthony's Needs You! To keep the lawns and gardens looking up to standard please join our team! Just sign up for whatever you can give. There's all the equipment available and in good working order. Contact George Floris at 902-538-9135

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts: In this Marian month of May, we celebrate the fruitfulness of women in prayer and service, in family and church, and in vocations of single life, religious and consecrated life, matrimony and widowhood, guided by our companionship with Our Mother Mary. We have books, rosaries and gifts to nourish and thank the women and mothers who nurture us in faith, hope and love. Come and browse at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.

Student Bursary

St John's (Windsor) Knights of Columbus is offering a \$500 **Student Bursary** to a student who is normally a resident of the area and is a member of St John's Catholic Church Community. The student must be graduating in the current year from either Avon View Hight School, Horton District Hight School or Kings Edgehill School. Applications are available at the back of the church or by sending an email request to keith.aucoin@ns.sympatico.ca Deadline is May 20th.

Baby Bottle Campaign

The Valley Care Pregnancy Centre (Kentville) & the Tri-County Pregnancy Care Centre (Yarmouth) are local Christian Missions ministering throughout the Annapolis Valley and Yarmouth area. Churches partner together to share the grace and truth of Jesus with young women and men facing life and death decisions. This mission is active in ministering to needy women and men facing crisis pregnancies, struggling with parenting and bringing healing to those suffering deep regret after an abortion. These Pregnancy Centres offer ongoing support, counselling, material aid, love, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone who needs help. It is the goal of this mission to save lives, see hearts turn to faith in Jesus and be connected to the local church.

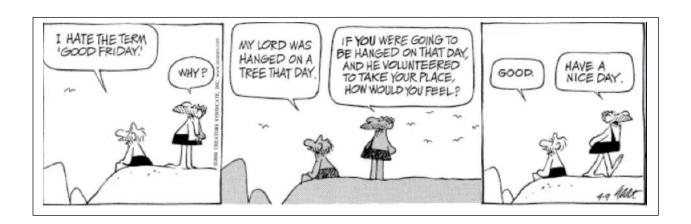
This **Baby Bottle Campaign** is one way we can all work together to pray, raise awareness in the community and supply practical support for these Moms, Dads and Babies in need. It's really simple. On Mother's Day, **May 14**, just take a baby bottle home, pray for this mission and over the next few weeks put a donation of cash or cheque in the bottle and **return it to church** on Father's Day, **Sunday, June 18**. Please write cheques to *Valley Care Pregnancy Centre or Tri-County Pregnancy Centre*.

It's a simple and effective way to make a powerful impact for the Gospel here in our own backyard. Together, we can make a big difference. By this time next year, a baby will be born who would not have existed if it were not for your support. Thank you.

Women's Breakfast - You are invited to the Mary, Queen of Peace, Magnificat Women's Breakfast on May 27 from 9 am to noon at St Agnes Church, Mumford Road, Halifax. Hot (catered) breakfast, prayer, praise and worship, and a testimony given by guest speaker, Angele Nicholson. Price \$20. Pre-registration is required via email magnificathalifax@gmail.com or call Maria Thibault at 902-860-3304. Check out our Facebook – Volunteers and Friends of Magnificat-Halifax- "Mary Queen of Peace Chapter". Hope to see you there.

<u>International Exhibition of the Blessed Virgin Mary</u> - The Knights of Columbus – Bishop Gallagher Council 6297 and the Ave Maria Virtual House of Prayer are very happy to present the International Exhibition of the Blessed Virgin Mary on **Sunday, May 28** following the regular 11 am Mass at **St. Monica's,** Middleton. The Exhibition is set up in the Hall. You are all invited to come into the Hall and encounter the Spiritual Beauty of the Holy Rosary International Exhibition and experience the Promises of Heaven. Freewill offering barbecue to follow, weather permitting.

Annapolis Valley Honour Choir is excited to welcome singers entering Grades 3-12 for next year! Musical Meet & Greets (friendly placement interviews) for all three choirs are happening May 25-June 7 in locations across the valley. The AVHC is a nationally recognized choral organization known for its excellence in education and capacity for community building. The choir offers fun, engaging rehearsals and workshops, a complete music literacy program, leaders programs, performances and engagements, community outreach, and cultural exchange opportunities. Accessible and inclusive, singers are welcomed into a safe space to be themselves, build their confidence and find their unique voice! Come Sing With Us! Find out more about the AVHC programs and how to join at www.avhc.ca/avhcsing!



Fear of God As Wisdom

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

Why don't we preach hellfire anymore? That's a question asked frequently today by a lot of sincere religious people who worry that too many churches and too many priests and ministers have gone soft on sin and are overgenerous in speaking about God's mercy. The belief here is that more people would come to church and more people would obey the commandments, particularly the sixth one, if we preached the raw truth about mortal sin, God's wrath, and the danger of going to hell when we die. The truth will set you free, these folks assert, and the truth is that there is real sin and that there are real and eternal consequences for sin. The gate to heaven is narrow and the road to hell is wide. So why aren't we preaching more about the dangers of hellfire?

What's valid in this kind of reasoning is that preaching about mortal sin and hellfire can be effective. Threats work. I grew up subjected to this kind of preaching and readily admit that it had a real effect on my behavior. But that effect was ambivalent: On the positive side it left me scared enough before God and life itself to never stray very far morally or religiously. On the negative side, it also left me religiously and emotionally crippled in some deep ways. Simply stated, it's hard to be intimate friends with a God who frightens you and it's not good religiously or otherwise to be overly timid and afraid before life's great energies. Fear of divine punishment and fear of hellfire, admittedly, can be effective as a motivator.

So why not preach fear? Because it's wrong, pure and simple. Brainwashing and physical intimidation are also effective, but fear is not the proper fuel for love. You don't enter a love relationship because you feel afraid or threatened. You enter a love relationship because you feel drawn there by love.

More importantly, preaching divine threat dishonors the God in whom we believe. The God whom Jesus incarnates and reveals is not a God who puts sincere, good-hearted people into hell against their will, on the basis of some human or moral lapse which in our moral or religious categories we deem to be a mortal sin. For example, I still hear this threat being preached sometimes in our churches: If you miss going to church on Sunday it's a mortal sin and should you do that and die without confessing it you will go to hell.

What kind of God would underwrite this kind of a belief? What kind of God would not give sincere people a second-chance, a third one, and seventy-seven times seven more chances if they remain sincere? What kind of God would say to a person in hell: "Sorry, but you knew the rules! You're repentant now, but it's too late. You had your chance!"

A healthy theology of God demands that we stop teaching that hell can be a nasty surprise waiting for an essentially good person. The God we believe in as Christians is infinite understanding, infinite compassion, and infinite forgiveness. God's love surpasses our own and if we, in our better moments, can see the goodness of a human heart despite its lapses and weaknesses, how much more so will God do this. We've nothing to fear from God.

Or, have we? Doesn't scripture tell us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom? How does that square with not being afraid of God?

There are different kinds of fear, some healthy and others not. When scripture tells us that the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, the kind fear it is talking about is not contingent upon feeling threatened or feeling anxious about being punished. That's the kind of fear we feel before tyrants and bullies. There is however a healthy fear that's innate within the dynamics of love itself. This kind of fear is essentially proper reverence, that is, when we genuinely love someone we will fear being selfish, boorish, and disrespectful in that relationship. We will fear violating the sacred space within which intimacy occurs. Metaphorically we will sense we're standing on holy ground and that we'd best have our shoes off before that sacred fire.

Scripture also tells us that when God appears in our lives, generally the first words we will hear are: "Don't be afraid!" That's because God is not a judgmental tyrant but a loving, creative, joy-filled energy and person. As Leon Bloy reminds us, joy is the most infallible indication of God's presence.

The famous psychiatrist, Fritz Perls, was once asked by a young fundamentalist: "Have you been saved?' His answer: "Saved? Hell no! I'm still trying to figure out how to be spent!" We honor God not by living in fear lest we offend him, but in spending the wonderful energy that God gives us to help life flourish. God is not a law to be obeyed, but a joyous energy within which to generatively spend ourselves.







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9am - 6pm Sacurday 9am - 5pm 9am - 9pm Sunday 12pm - 5pm





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