



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

5th Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023



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](https://www.instagram.com/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 7	Acts 6:1-7	John 14:1-12
Mon, May 8	Acts 14:5-18	John 14:21-26
Tues, May 9	Acts 14:19-28	John 14:27-31
Wed, May 10	Acts 15:1-6	John 15:1-8
Thurs, May 11	Acts 15:7-21	John 15:9-11
Fri, May 12	Acts 15:22-31	John 15:12-17
Sat, May 13	Acts 16:1-10	John 15:18-21

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?*

Tuesday of each week: 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 6

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Valerie Mitchell by Patsy Sabean & Family
Kentville	4:00 PM	Jack MacDougall by his Children
Digby	6:00 PM	Margaret Theriault by Marion Croft

SUNDAY, MAY 7

Windsor	8:30 AM	Fr John Palmer by Owen & Janice Stephens
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Philip Gallagher by Paul & Pam Law
Berwick	9:00 AM	Bernard Fitzgerald by his Lillian & Bernie Jr
Kentville	10:30 AM	Doris Dandurand by Doris
Middleton	11:00 AM	Intentions of Marilyn Harry (L) by Carolyn Gilbert
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Mildred Shipley by Marion & Greg MacDonald
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Healing of Pat Walker by Tom & Peggy Foley

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

Middleton	9:00 AM	Intentions of Gordon MacDonald (L) by Carolyn Gilbert
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FRIDAY, MAY 12

Berwick	9:00 AM	Intentions of Mike Rasmusson by Shirley Rasmusson
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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

No Weekday Masses, this week, for Fr. John MacPherson and Fr. Raymond Odumuko as they are on a Priest Retreat. Fr. Michael Walsh will be on retreat in June.

For now, there will be no more livestreaming of Mass from St. Joseph's (Kentville).

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*.

The Fundy Chorale presents "Thank You for the Music" on Sunday, May 7 at St Patrick's Church at 4 pm. Tickets \$15 at the door.

St. Monica's (Middleton) Catholic Women's League invites interested women to our meeting on **Monday, May 8** at 2pm in our church hall to enjoy learning, praying, and Living our Catholic Faith together. Our guest Elizabeth Llewellyn from Middleton Library will join us for conversation about libraries as a hub of learning, literacy, creativity, and accessibility for all ages, as well as a haven of hospitality and belonging where you are welcomed with a smile. Come and hear about the expanding free services and workshops and how we can encourage them.

St Joseph's (Kentville) CWL - The next CWL meeting will on Wednesday, May 10th at 6:30 pm in Fr. Jack's.

Home Visits Berwick area - If you know of anyone who would appreciate a home visit from our visitation ministry team, please leave a message on the phone at St Anthony's Church, 902-538-3194.

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 7, Sunday, Berwick Anglican Church 2 PM
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

Stage Prophets Play - 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 **Prayer Shawl Ministry group** "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.

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

Volunteers - St Joseph's Cemetery (Kentville) – 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).

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.

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.

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 High School, Horton District High 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.

The Perfect Church

If you could find the perfect church, without one fault or smear,
For goodness sakes, don't join that church, you'd spoil the atmosphere.

But since no perfect church exists where people never sin,
Let's cease looking for that church and love the one we're in!

- Author Unknown

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts: In this Marian month of May, we renew our companionship with Mary as she leads us, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, to Jesus. We have rosaries for men, women, and children, including Jerusalem wood; rosary booklets; rosary cases; one-decade rosary rings; auto rosaries; laminated Marian holy cards; and Our Lady of Mount Carmel scapulars. Come and browse at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.

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.

Baby Bottle Campaign

The **Valley Care Pregnancy Centre** is a local Christian Mission ministering throughout the Annapolis Valley. Churches from all across the Valley 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. This Pregnancy Centre offers 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**.

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.

Parishioners of Corpus Christi

*The following is a list of parishioners who work with me, from a parish perspective, in various areas
... and many of them work with you and Fr. Raymond and Fr. Michael on your local Community Life Teams.*

- Fr. John MacPherson

Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

Name	Church
Deacon Dave Hasler	St Anthony, Berwick
Jennifer Hilborn	St John, Windsor
Judy Coulombe	St Anthony, Berwick
Eileen Kelleher	St Louis, Annapolis Royal

Parish Finance & Administrative Council (PFAC)

Name	Church
Harold Alexander (Chair)	St. Patrick, Digby
Eric Brown	St Louis, Annapolis Royal
Leslie Sequeira	St Francis, Wolfville
Bette MacIsaac	St. Anthony, Berwick
Phil Kenny	St Francis, Wolfville
Jennifer Hilborn (Secretary)	St John, Windsor

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Name	Church
Judy Coulombe (Chair)	St Anthony, Berwick
Shannon Harbers	St Joseph, Kentville
Monika Treleaven	St Patrick, Digby
Kay Whelan	St Louis, Annapolis Royal
Caroline Brown	St Joseph, Kentville
Laura Joyce	St John, Windsor
Deacon Dave Hasler	St Anthony, Berwick
Ann Louise Doucet	St Joseph, Weymouth
Cindy Fox (Secretary)	St John, Windsor

The Ups and Downs of Faith

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

The poet, Rumi, suggests that we live with a deep secret that sometimes we know, then not, and then know again. That's a good description of faith. Faith isn't something you nail down and possess once and for all. It goes this way: Sometimes you walk on water and sometimes you sink like a stone.

The Gospels testify to this, most graphically, in the story of Peter walking on the water: Jesus asks Peter to step out of a boat and walk across the water to him. At first it works, Peter, unthinking, walks on the water, then becoming more conscious of what he is doing he sinks like a stone. We see this too in the massive fluctuations in belief that Jesus' disciples experience during the "forty days" after the resurrection. Jesus would appear to them, they would trust he was alive, then he would disappear again, and they would lose their trust and go back to the lives they'd led before they met him, fishing and the sea. The post-resurrection narratives illustrate the dynamics of faith pretty clearly: You believe it. Then you distrust. Then you believe it again. At least, so it seems on the surface.

We see another example of this in the story of Peter betraying Jesus. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus tells us that there is a secret which separates those who have faith from those who don't: *To you is given the secret of the kingdom, but to those outside everything exists in parables.* That sounds like Gnosticism, that is, the idea that there's a secret code somewhere (e.g., *The Da Vinci Code*) that some know and some don't and you are in or out depending upon whether you know it or not. But that's not what Jesus is saying here. His secret is an open one, accessible to all: the meaning of the cross. Anyone who understands this will understand the rest of what Jesus means, and vice versa. We are in or out, depending upon whether or not we can grasp and accept the meaning of Jesus' death.

But, being in or out isn't a once and for all thing. Rather, we move in and out! After Peter denied Jesus, we're told: *"he went outside"*. This is intended both literally and metaphorically. After his denial, Peter stepped outside a gate into the night to be away from the crowd, but he also stepped outside the meaning of his faith.

Our faith also bounces up and down for another reason, we misunderstand how it works: Take for example the Rich Young Man who approaches Jesus with this question: *"Good master, what must I do to possess eternal life?"* That's an interesting choice of a verb: *to possess*. Eternal life as a possession? Jesus' gentle correction of the young man's verb teaches us something vital about faith. Jesus says to him: *"Now if you wish to receive eternal life"*, meaning that faith and eternal life are not something you possess so that they can be stored and guarded like grain in a barn, money in a bank, or jewelry in a box. They can only be received, like the air we breathe. Air is free, is everywhere, and our health doesn't depend upon its presence, for it's always there, but rather upon the state of our lungs (and mood) at any given moment. Sometimes we breathe deeply and appreciatively; but, sometimes, for various reasons, we breathe badly, gasp for breath, are out of breath, or are choking for air. Like breathing, faith too has its modalities.

And so, we need to understand our faith not as a possession or as something we achieve once and for all, which can be lost only by some huge, dramatic, life-changing shift inside of us, where we move from belief to atheism. *"Faith isn't some constant state of belief,"* suggests Abraham Heschel, *"but rather a sort of faithfulness, a loyalty to the moments when we've had faith."*

And that teases out something else: To be real, faith need not be explicitly religious, but can express itself simply in faithfulness, loyalty, and trust. For example, in a powerful memoir written as she is dying of cancer, *The Bright Hour*, Nina Riggs shares her strong, but implicit, faith as she calmly faces her death. Not given to explicit religious faith, she is challenged at one point by a nurse who says to her: *"Faith, you gotta have it, and you're gonna need it!"* The comment triggers a reflection on her part about what she does or doesn't believe in. She comes to peace with the question and her own stake in it with these words: *"For me, faith involves staring into the abyss, seeing that it is dark and full of the unknown – and being okay with that."*

We need to trust the unknown, knowing that we will be okay, no matter that on a given day we might feel like we are walking on water or sinking like a stone. Faith is deeper than our feelings.