Corpus Christi

Fr. John MacPherson, Pastor

Fr. Michael Walsh, Associate Pastor

Fr. Raymond Odumuko, Associate Pastor

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CORPUS CHRISTI Parish BROKEN - FORGIVEN - REBORN

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

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

September 17, 2023

Contact the Parish

Digby Parish Office

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Box 190, 110 Queen St., Digby, NS B0V 1A0 902-245-2115 Pamela Cosman parishoffice_digby@corpuschristins.ca

YouTube: www.youtube.com/corpuschristins Instagram: corpuschristins

Please forward all notices for the <u>bulletin</u> to bulletin@corpuschristins.ca before 5:00 pm on Monday.

This Week's Readings

 1st Reading

 Sun, Sept 17
 Sirach 27:30 – 28:9

 Mon, Sept 18
 1 Timothy 2:1-8

 Tues, Sept 19
 1 Timothy 3:1-13

 Wed, Sept 20
 1 Timothy 3:14-16

 Thurs, Sept 21
 Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

 Fri, Sept 22
 1 Timothy 6:2-12

 Sat, Sept 23
 1 Timothy 6:13-16

Community's Email Addresses

Community S Eman 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

Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

Luke 7:1-10

Luke 7:11-17

Luke 7:31-35

Luke 8:1-3

Luke 8:4-15

Matthew 9:9-13

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?

Individual Confession Times

Kentville – every Saturday 11 am – 12 noon Windsor – 1^{st} Saturday of the month ... 9 – 10 am



Mass Times & Intentions

SATURDAY, SEPT 16

	10				
Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Daniel Bernard by Tom & Lois Porter			
Kentville	4:00 PM	Mary Ann Doucet by Doris Pasley Bruce Avery by the Avery Family			
Digby	6:00 PM	Bruce Avery by the Avery Family			
SUNDAY, SEPT 17					
Windsor	8:30 AM	Bill Gaudet by the Gnemmi Family			
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Doug Theriault by Cynthia Hamilton			
Berwick	9:00 AM	Nancy Henry by Heather Pozdnekoff			
Kentville	10:30 AM	For the Children, Youth & Catechists & Helpers beginning their new Catechetical Year			
Middleton	11:00 AM	Doug Theriault by Gordon MacDonald			
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Claire Marchildon by Ann Louise & Bobby Doucet			
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Harry teBraake by Truus Ueffing			
TUESDAY, SEPT 19	Э				
Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Sister Catherine Burke by Pat Fitzgerald			
Digby	6:30 PM	Ezinne Martha Odumuko by Pam & Family			
WEDNESDAY, SEP	т 20				
Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Brent MacKenzie & Maynard Barry by Wayne Barry			
Middleton	9:00 AM	Intentions of Ela Dramowicz & Bill MacDonald by Tom & Peggy Foley			
Tideview Terrace	10:30 AM	Betty Cosman by Carol & Pam			
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Paul Belliveau by Jerry & Joanne Belliveau			
THURSDAY, SEPT	21				
Kentville/Online	8:30 AM	Carmel Loader & Jerald Preston by Floyd & Theresea Preston			
Annapolis Royal	10:00 AM	Lea MacDonald by Donald & Barbara Theriault			
Nursing Home					
Weymouth	6:30 PM	Anne Hendrick by Marion & Greg MacDonald			
FRIDAY, SEPT 22					
Berwick	9:00 AM	Intentions of Jason Tait by St Joseph's Rosary Cenacle			
Digby	9:00 AM	Elizabeth McGrath by Pat			
SATURDAY, SEPT					
Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Mary Grant by John & Linda MacDonald			
Kentville	4:00 PM	Jean Stevenson by Dennis & Barb Nash			
Digby	6:00 PM	Charlie Woods by Anna & Danny Corbett			
SUNDAY, SEPT 24					
Windsor	8:30 AM	Fr John Palmer by Owen & Janice Stephens			
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Elaine Thimot by Mary, Carolyn, Marilyn & Cynthia			
Berwick	9:00 AM	Bob MacDonald by Sandra & Tom Jardine			
Kentville	10:30 AM	Lloyd McCue by Doris			
Middleton	11:00 AM	Intentions of Mary Crooks & Marg Jackson (L) by Carolyn Gilbert			
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Aubrey Cullen by the Rice Family			
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Mieczyslaw Hadlaw by Bogdan Hadlaw			

Weekday Masses in Kentville will be Livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

St Anthony's (Berwick) Signup Sunday is upon us. Signup days will be on Sept. 10 and 17. Contact <u>berwick@corpuschristins.ca</u> if you have questions/concerns. As always, we need many hands to keep St. Anthony's church running efficiently.

Children's Catechetics (Kentville) This Sunday we begin our catechetical journey for the 2023-24 year! At 9:15 the saints' groups will begin. Please pray for the children, youth, catechists, and helpers that this year will be one of great growth in their relationship with Jesus. We are grateful for your help with the materials needed for the flooring and the decorations in the rooms. Thank you so much to the parishioners who donated religious items to use. The catechetical program is run completely by volunteers but the materials do cost money. We are asking people to donate \$20 if they can and would appreciate donations from any parishioners.

<u>St Monica's (Middleton)</u> We need volunteers to provide food and cleanup for hospitality. If you are willing to help, please see either Peggy Foley or Carolyn Gilbert.

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts (Middleton) Scriptural Rosary booklet in large print on durable glossy paper, \$1.00. Available at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass, or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.

<u>St. Patrick's Church (Digby)</u> is looking for a piano in good working condition. If you have one that you would like to donate, please get in touch with the office at 902-245-2115, on Tues, Wed or Fri 10am-1pm

<u>St Anthony's (Berwick)</u> will be opening their 25-year Time Capsule on Sunday, Sept 24.

<u>Camino Nova Scotia</u> Atlantic School of Theology (AST) is organizing an **Annapolis Valley Fall Camino** for Sun Sept 24 to Sat Sept 30 (5 days' walk). This **pilgrimage** starts out Monday morning Sept 25 from Grand Pre and ends in Annapolis Royal following the Annapolis Valley (Harvest Moon) Linear Trail. This event is open to everyone, from any background. For further information and to register for this Camino, visit Eventbrite or visit <u>https://www.astheology.ns.ca/con-ed/camino-ns/schedule.html</u>.

Library expansion – St. Joseph's (Kentville)!

For your convenience, a second library location is now available on the main level across from the office. Please feel free to browse and borrow from an assortment of adult and children's books and movies. Some religious items and books will also be available to purchase. The library **will be accessible** before and after Mass, and during office hours *(Monday, Tuesday, and Fridays from 9-1).* The original library is located on the lower level by the Adoration Chapel.

Have you signed up for <u>Flocknote</u>? If not, please do so. We use Flocknote to send out important notices, reminders, changes, cancelations etc.

Out of the Mouths of God's Kids ...

A sixth-grader in the United States stood up in class and gave this *politically correct* report on the origins of the American Thanksgiving holiday.

"The pilgrims came here seeking freedom of you know what.

"When they landed, they gave thanks to you know who.

"Because of them, we can worship each Sunday, you know where."

Upcoming Adult Faith Formation Courses

Registration is still open for these courses. To register call the Kentville Parish office 902-678-3303 or email parishoffice_kentville@corpuschristins.ca

East = Windsor, Wolfville, Kentville Central = Berwick, Middleton, Bridgetown West = Annapolis Royal, Digby, Weymouth

OCIA – Are you non-Catholic and would like to know more about the Catholic faith? Are you thinking that you might like to be more connected to the Catholic faith and be initiated into it (i.e.. Baptism, Communion, Confirmation)? Are you Catholic but feel that your understanding of the Catholic faith is rather limited? If you answered "yes" to any of the above, the **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) c**ould be for you. **In-person** sessions will be held in Windsor & Kentville and **on-line** sessions will also be offered.

Unbound - On-line (Zoom) sessions Wednesdays from Sept 13 to Nov 1, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Horizons of Hope – The program can help parishioners, caregivers, and family members facing a serious and/or terminal illness to learn more about palliative care. Through each of the four modules, the learning and discussion address themes such as *understanding the dying process, discernment, and decision-making at the end of life, accompaniment, and the importance of building Compassionate Communities.*

Group	Location	Times	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4
East	St. Francis, Wolfville	6:30- 8:30pm	Oct. 10,	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	Oct. 31
			Tuesdays			
Centre	St. Monica Middleton	6:30- 8:30pm	Sept. 28,	Oct. 05	Oct. 12	Oct. 19
			Thursdays			
West	St. Patrick, Digby	6:30- 8:30pm	Sept. 18,	Sept. 25	Oct. 02	Oct. 09
			Mondays			

<u>ChristLife</u> – ChristLife helps to develop an attitude of the heart that moves us to open to share the Good News we have experienced anytime and anywhere. This Fall we will be offering the Sharing Christ program. This will be a 7-week course that focuses on personal or friendship evangelization, sharing our relationship with Jesus in our daily encounters with people. The course helps to develop an attitude of the heart that moves us to be open to share the Good News we have experienced anytime and anywhere. Each session will consist of: Prayer, Video Training, Fellowship and Small Groups. The final session takes place in a retreat setting. In-person sessions in the East and Central areas of the parish to start early October.



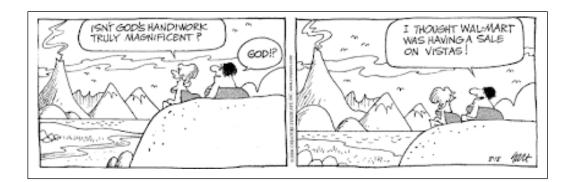
The Navajo Rug

by Fr. Richard Rohr o.f.m.

In a Navajo rug there is always an imperfection woven into the corner. And interestingly enough, it's where "*the Spirit moves in and out of the rug.*" The pattern is perfect and then there's one part of it that clearly looks like a mistake. The Semitic mind, the Eastern mind (which, by the way, Jesus would have been closer to) understands perfection in precisely that way.

Perfection is not the elimination of imperfection. That's our Western either/or, need-to-control thinking. Perfection, rather, is the ability to incorporate imperfection! There's no other way to live: You either incorporate imperfection, or you fall into denial. That's how the Spirit moves in or out of our lives.

from Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the 12 Steps



Work and Prayer

by Fr. Richard Rohr o.f.m.

By temperament, we are all inclined to be either do-ers or be-ers. This tends to determine the kind of religion we gravitate toward. Some people immediately want to move into a kind of over-passivity that we used to call quietism: *"Well, the Lord will do it,"* they say. Others take their own hard work and professionalism far too seriously. The balance is otherwise: Pray as if it all depends on God; work as if it all depends on you. That saying has been attributed to at least 25 saints. I don't know who initially said it, but it doesn't surprise me that it's attributed to so many holy people. Although the converse is maybe even more true: Pray as if it all depends on you and work as if it all depends on God!

You have to be mistrustful of any language when it's too much on one side or the other. You can't just endlessly wait, you finally also have to do. And then in the doing, the Lord either opens or closes doors; things either happen or they don't. You must be ready to go back to prayer. And if you act before prayerful surrender, the action will be filled with self, manipulation and frenzy.

Contemplation and action are equally important in the balanced life. I don't know which comes first; they are two steps in the one essential dance.

from Letting Go: A Spirituality of Subtraction

Humour???

The pastor talked on and on, saying, "I'm not speaking to this group, I'm talking for future generations." A voice from the back of the room shouted, "And if you don't stop talking, they'll soon be here."

A man was being interviewed for a job. The interviewer stressed that the job required a person who paid close attention to detail.

"It's important that the person who takes this job be methodical," the interviewer said.

"Well, I guess this job isn't for me," the applicant replied. "I've been a Presbyterian all my life and I'm not about to become a Methodist now."

Creating and Holding Space For Our Brokenness

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

Some years ago I went on a weekend retreat given by a woman who made no secret about the fact that not being able to have children constituted a deep wound in her life. So she offered retreats on the pain of being unable to have children. Being a celibate and not having my own children, I went on one of these retreats, the only man to venture there. The rest of the participants were women, mostly in their 40s and 50s, who had not borne children of their own.

Our leader, using scripture, biography, poetry, and psychology, examined the issue of barrenness from many points of view. The retreat came to a head on Saturday evening with a ritual in chapel in which various participants went up a huge cross and spoke out their pain for Jesus and everyone else to hear. That was followed by us watching, together, the British movie, *Secrets and Lies*, within which one woman's heartache at being unable to conceive a child is powerfully highlighted. Afterwards there was a lot of honest sharing of feelings – and lots and lots of tears! But after that painful sharing of pain and the over-generous tears which accompanied it, the entire atmosphere changed, as if some dark storm had just done its thing but left us still intact. There was relief, and plenty of laughter and lightheartedness. A storm had indeed passed us over and we were safe.

All pain can be borne if it can be shared. Art Schopenhauer is credited with saying that, but, irrespective of who said it first, it captures what happened at that retreat. A deep pain was made easier to bear not because it was taken away but because it was shared, and shared in a "sacramental" way. Yes, there are sacraments that don't take place in a church, but still have sacramental power. And we need more of these.

For example, Rachel Held Evans writes: "Often I hear from readers who have left their churches because they had no songs for them to sing after the miscarriage, the shooting, the earthquake, the divorce, the diagnosis, the attack, the bankruptcy. The American tendency toward triumphalism, of optimism rooted in success, money, and privilege, will infect and sap of substance any faith community that has lost its capacity for holding space for those in grief."

She's right. Our churches aren't creating enough space for holding grief. In essence: In the everyday, practical spirituality of community, prayer, liturgy, and Eucharist within our churches we don't lean sufficiently on the fact that Christ is both a dying and a rising reality. We generally don't take the dying part of Christ as seriously as we should. What are the consequences?

Among other things, it means that we don't create enough communal, ritual celebrations in our churches within which people can feel free to own and express their brokenness and grief communally and in a "sacramental" way. Granted our churches do have funeral rites, sacraments of the sick, reconciliation services, special prayer services after a tragedy within a community, and other rituals and gatherings that are powerful spaces for holding grief and brokenness. However (with the exception of the sacrament of reconciliation which though is generally a private, one-to-one ritual) these are generally tied to a special, singular circumstance such as a death, a serious sickness, or an episodic tragedy within a community. What we lack are regular ecclesially- based, communal rituals, analogous to an *Alcoholics Anonymous* meetings, around which people can come, share their brokenness, and experience a grace that can only come from community.

We need various kinds of "sacramental" celebrations in our churches within which, to use Rachel Held Evans' terminology, we can create and hold space for those who are grieving a broken heart, a miscarriage, an abortion, a dire medical diagnosis, a bankruptcy, the loss of a job, a divorce, a forced retirement, a rejection in love, the death of a cherished dream, the movement into assisted living, the adjustment to an empty nest within a marriage, barrenness, and frustrations of every kind.

What will these rituals look like? Mostly they don't exist yet so it is up to us to invent them. Charles Taylor suggests that the religious struggle today is not so much a struggle of faith but a struggle of the imagination. Nobody has ever lived in this kind of world before. We need some new rituals. We're pioneers in new territory, and pioneers have to improvise. Admittedly, pain and brokenness have always been with us, but past generations had communal ways of creating space for holding grief. Families, communities, and churches then had less of a struggle with the kind individualism that today leaves us mostly alone to deal with our brokenness. Today there's no longer a sufficient communal and ecclesial structure to help us accept that, here in this life, we live *"mourning and weeping in a valley of tears."*

We need to imagine some new, sacramental rituals within which to help hold our grief.

