



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

1st Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023



Kentville Parish Office

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
 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

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](https://www.instagram.com/corpuschristins)

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

This Week's Readings

	1st Reading	Gospel
Sun, Dec 3	Isaiah 63:16-17, 19; 64:2-7	Mark 13:33-37
Mon, Dec 4	Isaiah 2:1-5	Matthew 8:5-11
Tues, Dec 5	Isaiah 11:1-10	Luke 10:21-24
Wed, Dec 6	Isaiah 25:6-10	Matthew 15:29-37
Thurs, Dec 7	Isaiah 26:1-6	Matthew 7:21, 24-27
Fri, Dec 8	Genesis 3:9-15, 20	Luke 1:26-38
Sat, Dec 9	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26	Matthew 9:35 – 10:1, 5-8

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.

<u>Individual Confession Times</u>	
	Kentville – every Saturday 11 am – 12 noon
	Middleton – after Wednesday morning Mass until 10:00 am
	Windsor – 1 st Saturday of the month ... 9 – 10 am
	Berwick – 1 st Saturday of the month ... 10 – 11 am

Scripture Reflection and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Take time to reflect and discuss God's Word and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Held on **Tuesdays**
Berwick: 10 am to 11 am - Scripture reflection, 11 am to noon - Rosary during Exposition
Middleton: 2pm to 3pm - Scripture reflection, 3pm to 4pm - Rosary during Exposition



Mass Times & Intentions

SATURDAY, DEC 2

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Earl MacNeil by Lynn & Jon Main
Kentville	4:00 PM	Norman MacInnis by Mike & Ann MacDonald & Family
Digby	4:00 PM	Betty Cosman by Gordon & Nancy Coakley

SUNDAY, DEC 3

Windsor	8:30 AM	Intentions of Gwang Pimpasuth by Laura Joyce
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Sandra Cook by the Johnstone Family
Berwick	9:00 AM	Nora Keegan by Rita & Tony Roefs
Kentville	10:30 AM	Dana Chisholm Urquhart by her Family
Middleton	11:00 AM	For the Sick of Corpus Christi Parish by St Monica's CWL
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Edward Rice by his family
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Nancy Henry by Theresa Coffey
Digby	4:00 PM	Fred Lang by Joan Donnelly

TUESDAY, DEC 5

Kentville	8:30 AM	Living & Deceased Family Members by Peter & Agnes Nan
Annapolis Royal	10:00 AM	Sandra Cook by Paul & Pam Law
Digby	6:30 PM	Elsie McCarthy by Ron, Angie, Natasha & Jessica

WEDNESDAY, DEC 6

Kentville	8:30 AM	St Joseph's CWL
Middleton	9:00 AM	Ronald Melanson by Ann Melanson & Family
Tideview Terrace	10:00 AM	A. Violet Amero by her daughter, Dianne & Hollis
Weymouth	4:00 PM	Gary & Doug Gidney by Marion & Greg MacDonald

THURSDAY, DEC 7

Kentville	8:30 AM	Gerard Foley by Barbara Montford
Weymouth	4:00 PM	For the Parishioners of Corpus Christi

FRIDAY, DEC 8

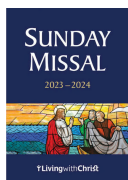
Berwick	9:00 AM	Intentions of Tom & Peggy Foley (L) by Carolyn Gilbert
Digby	9:00 AM	Mass of Thanksgiving by Chuck Mills

SATURDAY, DEC 9

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Al Martin by Patsy Sabeau
Kentville	4:00 PM	Paul Ross by Doris Pasley
Digby	4:00 PM	Laurie Avery by the Avery Family

SUNDAY, DEC 10

Windsor	8:30 AM	Dick Pereira by Alice Pereira
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Wendy James by Eric & Leah Brown
Berwick	9:00 AM	Yvette King by daughter, Anne Dearden & Family
Kentville	10:30 AM	Katalin Radvanyi by Anne & Mike White & Family
Middleton	11:00 AM	Daniel Bernard by Jean Butler
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Jenny & Melbourne Cromwell and Mildred & Frederick Tynes by the Cromwell Grandchildren
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Deceased Members of the Lombard Family by Claire & Karen Bishop



Sunday Missals 2023-2024 \$5
Daily Reflection Booklets for Advent \$2
Now Available in the Church Entrance



2024 Boxes of Collection Envelopes Boxes are now available for pickup at your church. If you donate by PAR, E-transfer, or Post-Dated Cheque, there are now boxes with just the Special Collection Envelopes that you can get.

Holy Rosary Exhibition (Kentville) Ave Maria House of Prayer and the Knights of Columbus will be showcasing the next International Holy Rosary Exhibition on **Sat, Dec 2** and **Sun, Dec 3** after Mass at St Joseph's Church.

St. Joseph's CWL Bake & Craft Sale (Kentville) – **Sat, Dec 2** at 10am – 4 pm in the **Multi-Purpose Room**. We will be selling baked goods, preserves and crafts (knitted mittens, etc.). Anyone who would like to bake or create anything for the sale, please drop your items off on Fri, Dec 1 between 10:00 – 1:00 at the church. Proceeds towards parish activities and outreach in the community (i.e. educational bursaries in the local schools). If you have any questions, please contact Ann Myers 902-680-8957 or ann.myers@ns.sympatico.ca. All donations greatly appreciated.

Marian Prayer Hour (Middleton): As we soon celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Dec. 8th) we are mindful of the great need for transformation of our hearts towards the true peace of Christ in our lives, our families, our country, and our world. Please join us in anticipating Advent with a Marian Prayer Hour on **Sat, Dec 2** at 11:00 am at St. Monica's Church. All are warmly welcome! Hosted by St. Monica's Catholic Women's League.

Free Will Craft & Gift Table (Middleton) at St. Monica's church hall on **Sun, Dec 3** after Mass. As we begin the Advent Season, we are mindful of those who are experiencing a pregnancy in which they need support, companionship, and hope. The free will offerings from this sale will assist the Valley Care Pregnancy Centre in providing support during and following unplanned pregnancy; parenting education; maternity and baby supplies; clothing and books for children up to two years; chastity education with youth; and healing support to women and men who are grieving after abortion. Hosted by St. Monica's Catholic Women's League, contact person Mary Crooks 902-825-6495).

Name Tag Sunday (Windsor) – St John's will be having their Name Tag Sunday this **Sun, Dec 3**. Let's learn the names of our fellow parishioners.

Silent Night: A King's Christmas Concert (Kentville) The renowned Chapel Choir of the University of King's College, Halifax, under the direction of Neil Cockburn, presents a concert of Christmas choral music, mixing traditional favourites, including the much-loved Silent Night, with lesser-known gems. The programme includes carols and arrangements by Bob Chilcott, Ola Gjeilo, and John Rutter. The concert will be **Mon, Dec 11** at 7:30pm at **St Joseph's Church**.

Early Bird tickets (until Mon, Dec 4): Child/Student \$12.50; Senior \$25; Adult General \$30

Tickets online and at the door (cash or credit at the door - no debit): Student \$15; Senior \$30; Adult General \$35

St. Monica's Pot Luck Lunch (Middleton) on **Sun, Dec 17** after Mass in our church hall. In this holy season of Advent, come and enjoy fellowship together as we await in faith and joy the celebration of the birth of Christ! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Carolyn Gilbert 902-825-4460.

Hygiene Drive (Middleton) During December, the Middleton Rosa Harvey Library is collecting new hygiene items, such as toothbrushes; toothpaste; mouthwash; lotion; shampoo; soap; deodorant, clothes detergent; feminine hygiene products, etc. Items can be taken directly to the library or left with Mary Crooks in the church hall. Thank you!

In the Hospital or Home Bound? If you know of someone (a family member or friend) who is in the hospital or at home and would like Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Sick, or simply a visit, please contact the church office.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday Dec 23 4 pm Bridgetown
4 pm Digby
4 pm Kentville
6 pm Wolfville
7 pm Middleton
8 pm Windsor

Sunday Dec 24 10 am Berwick

Sunday Dec 24 **Christmas Eve**
4 pm Annapolis Royal
4 pm Kentville
6 pm Berwick
6 pm Weymouth
6 pm Windsor
8 pm Digby
8 pm Kentville
8 pm Middleton

Monday Dec 25 **Christmas Day**
10 am Bridgetown
10 am Weymouth
10 am Wolfville

Wed, Dec 27 8:30 am Kentville

Thurs, Dec 28 8:30 am Kentville

Saturday Dec 30 **Holy Family**
4 pm Bridgetown
4 pm Digby (LOW)
4 pm Kentville

Sunday Dec 31 **Holy Family**
8:30 am Windsor
9 am Annapolis Royal (LOW)
9 am Berwick
10:30 am Kentville
11 am Middleton
11:30 am Weymouth (LOW)
12:15 pm Wolfville
4 pm Bridgetown

Monday Jan 1 **New Year's Day - Mary, Mother of God**
9 am Berwick
11 am Kentville
11 am Digby
11 am Middleton

Advent Reconciliation Schedule

<p>St John (Windsor) Sat, Dec 2 9-10 am</p> <p>St Joseph (Kentville) Sat, Dec 2, 9, 16, 23 11 am – 12 pm</p> <p>St Anthony (Berwick): Sat, Dec 2 10-11 am Fri Dec 15 after 9 am Mass with Fr. John & Fr. Michael</p> <p>St Monica (Middleton) Sat, Dec 9 10 am to noon</p> <p>St Alphonsus (Bridgetown): after 4 pm Mass Sat, Dec 9 & 16</p> <p>St Louis (Annapolis Royal): Tues, Dec 5 10 am Mass, 10:30-11:30 am Adoration, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation</p> <p>St Patrick (Digby): Tues, Dec 12 4:00-6:15 pm with Fr. Raymond & Fr. Michael, 6:30 pm Mass</p> <p>St Joseph (Weymouth) Wed Dec 13 4 pm Mass, 4:30-5:30 pm Reconciliation</p>	<p>Tues, Dec 12 5-7 pm</p> <p>Wed, Dec 6 5-7 pm with Fr. John & Fr. Michael</p> <p>Sat, Dec 16 10 am to Noon</p> <p>Wed, Dec 6, 13, 20 after 9 am Mass until 10am</p>
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Refugee Committee Requests (Kentville) We are expecting a family of 9 people to arrive in the future. Our application to bring them to Canada has been accepted by the Canadian government. They have a place to live but will need many things. If you have any of the following to donate, please call Ann Marsters at 902-582-3409. The items needed are: beds, dining table, chairs, fridge, stove, couch. (in reasonable condition)

St John's Giving Tree (Windsor) - will make an appearance on **Dec 3** (1st Sunday of Advent). The ornaments represent gifts for families in need. If you pick an ornament, please return the present, gift wrapped, by **Sun, Dec 17**, with the ornament taped to the gift. Also non-perishable food donations will be accepted for the Giving Tree Families. Thank you in advance for brightening someone's Christmas.

Society of St Vincent de Paul (Wolfville/Canning) Conference - Christmas Sharing Campaign

The St Francis Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SSVP) Christmas Campaign is once again asking for financial donations which will be used to purchase store **gift cards** for the **children and families** in the Wolfville/Canning area whom we have served this past year. If you wish to donate to this campaign, please do so before **Dec 3**. As in previous years, cheques may be made out to *Corpus Christi Parish* with a note in the memo line stating: SSVP St Francis Christmas and dropped in any Sunday collection box or mailed directly to St Francis of Assisi Church: 118 Main St, Wolfville, NS, B4P 1B7. We also would happily add any baking supplies and seasonal treats/stocking stuffers that people may wish to drop off at St Francis during November. Questions? Call Annmarie Mentink 902-542-7366 or Margaret Burton 902-698- 0492.

Angel Tree for St Anthony's Church (Berwick) - Unwrapped gifts to be returned with the Angel tag no later than **Dec 10**. Wrapping Party will be held Dec 17. Contact information, please call Mary Stevenson 902-538-9265 or Paula Hasler 902-681-1601.

Christmas Hampers (Kentville) - Registration for Christmas Hampers has begun. St. Joseph's (Kentville) is once again sponsoring 60 families. If you would like to offer a **donation**, any amount will be gratefully accepted. Surplus funds are deposited into the **Christian Concern** account which offers assistance throughout the year for food vouchers, pharmaceuticals, rent, oil, electricity, travel to medical appointments etc.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 6297 (Middleton) – SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS DINNER

Approx. **23.6 % of families in Kings County and 33.7% in Annapolis County** live in poverty. Many low-income families have scarce resources to cover even the most basic essentials. These members of our community don't even have the funds to provide a Christmas dinner for their families.

Last year the Knights of Columbus - Council 6297 provided over 200 Christmas meals for needy families in the Kingston, Greenwood, and Middleton schools. On Dec 13 of this year, we expect that we will serve over 350 meals to needy families and First Responders.

As you can imagine that number of meals requires a lot of turkey (approx. 33 x 15 lbs.). Council 6297 will have the manpower to prepare, assemble and deliver the meals but we are asking you to help us and your communities by donating a turkey if you can. In addition, we will accept cash donations or grocery store gift cards so we can purchase some turkeys. We would **need the turkeys by Dec 8** if you can help us out.

Your compassion enriches their lives in more ways than you'll ever know. We are so grateful for your support. Grand Knight Roger Lirette is the Chairperson for our Christmas Dinner campaign for those less fortunate families of Greenwood, Middleton, and surrounding areas that rely on service organizations to get them over the Christmas season with many different donations and services. Please contact Roger Lirette for questions or donations at 902-824-3467.

Advent Resources

On last Sunday you received the first of five parts of **Rejoice!** Corpus Christi Parish is offering this series to help you during Advent. Each of the next 4 Sundays you will receive another episode. The videos in these are between 9 and 12 minutes in length. We hope you enjoy them.

For people who have enjoyed Matthew Kelly's "**Best Advent Ever**," you can sign up to receive the daily emails at this site: https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html?utm_source=marketingcloud&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=best+advent+ever&utm_content=2+111423+BAE+book+ecom+footer

Holy Heroes is being sent to the children in the parish who are registered for it.

There are also booklets - **Advent Daily Reflections** - available at each church.

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts

St. Monica's (Middleton): We have affordable children's books that are easy to mail, such as *Advent and Christmas Traditions* (\$3.95), which is beautifully illustrated and describes many of our Catholic symbols, such as the Advent Wreath, the Jesse Tree, the Christmas Manger, and the Christmas Tree. Christmas Coloring Books help children engage in the story of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (\$3.50). Christmas Board Books (\$2.00) are durable for use by little hands. We also have affordable religious boxed Christmas cards. *Keep Christ in Christmas* magnets to place on your car or in your home can be used for many years and express the true meaning of Christmas (\$5.00). Available at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.

St. Joseph's (Kentville): We now have Advent Candles from L'Arche Applewicks store available along with a growing variety of children & adult books & gifts to purchase ... or books to sign out. The "Library/Bookstore" is open during office hours (Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday 9am-1pm) or after Mass.

A Culture of Amazement

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

In the Gospels, we see several instances where Jesus does or says something that catches people by surprise. The evangelists then tell us: "*And they were amazed.*" Almost immediately, Jesus says: "*Don't be amazed!*"

What is this "*amazement*" that Jesus has a deep suspicion of?

We are amazed (in the biblical sense) when we simply let energy flow through as a wire conducts an electrical current, when we simply take in the energy of the group around us or the energy that spontaneously arises within us and, without holding, carrying, or transforming it in any way, act on it and let it flow through us. That's good at rock concerts and football games, but it's also the root of selfishness, bigotry, short-sightedness, group think, mob mentality, gang rapes, and crucifixions. Ultimately, it's the opposite of compassion.

Compassion begins with what the Gospels call "pondering". To ponder, in the biblical sense, is to resist having energy simply flow through you and instead hold, carry, and transform it so as to not give it back in kind. When I'm amazed (as opposed to pondering) I give back in kind: If someone comes up to me and says: "*I like you!*" my spontaneous response will be: "*And I like you too!*" Conversely, if someone comes up to me and says, "*I hate you!*" my response will also be in kind: "*And I hate you!*" When I react in this way, I simply let energy flow through me, like a conduit. This is what Jesus calls the virtue of the scribes and pharisees: "*What virtue is there in loving those who love you? Can you love those who hate you?*" Virtue requires the transformation of energy.

We live in a culture of amazement. Sometimes this is wonderful, when we all get caught up in an energy that draws us together in community and celebration, as when our football team wins the national championship, or we have all seen and enjoyed the same movie or television series. Mostly though amazement fuels mindlessness, narrowness, and suffocating group.

When Mary stood helplessly under the cross, she was silent. If she had she spoken that day, hers would have been words of amazement. Instead, she held, carried, and transformed a great tension into full compassion.

Salt and Light by Jonny Hawkins



"I'm testing the power of prayer by not studying at all for my history test."

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