



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

4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas

December 24/25, 2023



Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
 Phone: 902-678-3303
 Jennifer Hilborn

PO Box 486, 48 Belcher Street
 Kentville, NS B4N 3X3
 Email: parishoffice_kentville@corpuschristins.ca
 Website: www.corpuschristins.ca

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 24	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16	Luke 1:26-38
Mon, Dec 25	Isaiah 9:1-6	Luke 2:1-14
Tues, Dec 26	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59	Matthew 10:17-22
Wed, Dec 27	1 John 1:1-4	John 20:1-8
Thurs, Dec 28	1 John 1:5—2:2	Matthew 2:13-18
Fri, Dec 29	1 John 2:3-11	Luke 2:22-35
Sat, Dec 30	1 John 2:12-17	Luke 2:36-40
Sun, Dec 31	Sirach 3:2-7, 12-14	Luke 2:22-40
Mon, Jan 1	Number 6:22-27	Luke 2:16-21
Tues, Jan 2	1 John 2:22-28	John 1:19-28
Wed, Jan 3	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 1:18-23
Thurs, Jan 4	1 John 3:7-10	John 1:35-42
Fri, Jan 5	1 John 3:11-21	John 1:43-51
Sat, Jan 6	1 John 5:5-13	Mark 1:7-11

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 23 4th Sunday of Advent

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Karon Davis by Larry & Marcia Corneal
Kentville	4:00 PM	Rosaline Moreau by her son Ryan Moreau
Digby	4:00 PM	For the deceased members of the Coakley family by Gordon & Nancy Coakley
Wolfville	6:00 PM	For the Parishioners of Corpus Christi
Middleton	7:00 PM	Elizabeth MacDonald & Joan Carey by Gordon MacDonald
Windsor	8:00 PM	Linda Strickey by the Family

SUNDAY, DEC 24 4th Sunday of Advent

Berwick	10:00 AM	Helen MacDonald by Sherry & Robert Estey
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SUNDAY, DEC 24 Christmas Eve

Annapolis Royal	4:00 PM	Douglas & Allan Theriault by Donald & Barbara Theriault
Kentville	4:00 PM	Robert Harvie by Jordan Harvie
Berwick	6:00 PM	Florence Otto by Tom & Peggy Foley
Weymouth	6:00 PM	Louise, Daniel & Jacky Comeau by Joanne & Jerry Belliveau
Windsor	6:00 PM	Guy K Smith by Mary-Alma & Family
Digby	8:00 PM	Vanessa Gennette by Rose McIntyre
Kentville	8:00 PM	Tom, Laura & Cornellis Coffey & Mike & Bridget Hann by Theresa Coffey
Middleton	8:00 PM	Deceased Family Members of Carolyn Gilbert
St Anne, Bear Riv	10:00 PM	Betty Cosman by Carolyn McClafferty

MONDAY, DEC 25 Christmas Day

Bridgetown	10:00 AM	Bill & Kathleen Comer by Grateful Family
Weymouth	10:00 AM	Donald, Norma & Kelvin Cromwell by the Family
Wolfville	10:00 AM	Living & Deceased Gordon Family Members

WEDNESDAY, DEC 27

Kentville	8:30 AM	Hormidas Fredette by Dennis & Barb Nash
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THURSDAY, DEC 28

Kentville	8:30 AM	Peggy Schrum by John & Cheryl Ferguson
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SATURDAY, DEC 30 Holy Family

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Intentions of Tom & Lois Porter by Carolyn Gilbert
Kentville	4:00 PM	Jim Shields by Taya & Bob Shields
Digby	4:00 PM	Liturgy of the Word with Communion

SUNDAY, DEC 31 Holy Fam

Windsor	8:30 AM	Roger Fecteau & Joseph Shawn Janes by Paul DuMesnil
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Berwick	9:00 AM	Elizabeth MacDonald & Mary Foley by Tom & Peggy Foley
Kentville	10:30 AM	Georgina MacDonald & Michael MacDonald by Jon & Tammy Oulton
Middleton	11:00 AM	Intentions of Lise Piggot by St Monica's CWL
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Maheendra by Kavi, Amos & Ellis
Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Intentions of Mary Crooks & Sharon Praught by Carolyn Gilbert



Mass Times & Intentions

MONDAY, JAN 1 New Year's Day, Mary, Mother of God

Berwick	9:00 AM	Dan Praught & Mary Foley by Carolyn Gilbert
Digby	11:00 AM	Elsie McCarthy by Joan Donnelly
Kentville	11:00 AM	Doreen Greene by Cathy Forster
Middleton	11:00 AM	For Peace by St Monica's CWL

TUESDAY, JAN 2

Kentville	8:30 AM	Merle Murray by Doris Pasley
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WEDNESDAY, JAN 3

Kentville	8:30 AM	Philip Williams by Yvonne & Walter Martin
Middleton	9:00 AM	Intentions of Mary Canfield by Carolyn Gilbert

THURSDAY, JAN 4

Kentville	8:30 AM	Intentions of Lana Keddy by Mary Alexander Beaton
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FRIDAY, JAN 5

Berwick	9:00 AM	Souls in Purgatory by Helen Walsh
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SATURDAY, JAN 6

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Dan Bernard by Don & Connie Boudreau
Kentville	4:00 PM	Mary Ann Doucet by Richard & Family
Digby	4:00 PM	Karen Woods by Jacqueline & Bill Amirault

SUNDAY, JAN 7

Windsor	8:30 AM	Theresa Rennie by Patty Burgess
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Allan Theriault by Donald & Barbara Theriault
Berwick	9:00 AM	Gerald Flinn by Bill Flinn
Kentville	10:30 AM	George Pellerine by Dennis & Barb Nash
Middleton	11:00 AM	Fr David Stokes, Dan Canfield & Barbara Picot by Carolyn Gilbert
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Eleanor Gaudet by Cathy LeBlanc
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Nancy Henry by Angie Stirling

Spiritual Growth in 2024

Corpus Christi Parish recommends that you begin the **New Year, 2024**, with a plan for your spiritual growth. Below are **two wonderful opportunities** to help you grow daily in your relationship with Jesus Christ. You can use the Ascension web site on your computer or get the podcast on an app.

The Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz is an amazing journey through the Bible. Listen to Fr. Mike as he reads the Bible to you daily. Enjoy your daily homily. Learn exciting new facts about our faith. (Did you know that Judaism and Christianity are the only religions in the world that say men and women are equal?) Twenty to twenty-five minutes daily with this podcast will teach you so much and enliven your faith. Begin the New Year with the Bible in a Year and grow daily in your faith! Below is the link for the web site. You can also use an app for the podcast such as Apple podcasts.

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/>

The Catechism in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz will read the entire Catechism in a year. You will learn the essentials of the Catholic faith and see how our faith is rooted in Sacred Scripture. Understand what it means to live your Catholic faith. Transform your relationship with the church. Here is the link for the Catechism in a Year. <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

With the beginning of a new year, start a new habit of daily spiritual growth with the Bible in a Year or the Catechism in a Year. Both these podcasts start on Jan. 1, 2024. You can start either of them at any time in the year as back episodes are available as is a daily reading plan.

2023 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 2023 income tax receipts.
Thank you for your continued support.

Special Collection Envelope for December is Christmas. These donations are used for the operation of our churches and parish.

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.

Please write your name, address, and phone number on the first few envelopes in 2024 so we can update our files and ensure donations are contributed to the correct person.

Thank you Pam - Pam Cosman, our Parish Secretary at St Patrick's, Digby has retired. We want to thank her for all of her work and commitment to St Patrick's for the past 13 years and to Corpus Christi. We wish her good health and the best in her retirement!

Windsor Knights of Columbus would like to thank all of our Parishioners, their families and friends for their generous financial contributions to our recent ticket raffle. The amount of revenue collected from this project amounted to \$1700+ and it will all be used in support of our four community projects: **School supplies for needy children, Local school bursaries, Needy families at Christmas, "Coats for Kids" Program.** The four winners of our Prizes were: Landscape Painting by Pauline Sullivan – Christie Hatchard; \$100 gift certificate from Spitfire Arms – Frank Strickey; Home Gardner's Package – Carolyn Kelly; Two rounds of golf at AVGCC – Carlos DaRosa.

Christmas Hampers (Kentville) – We helped 62 families: 13 opted to receive a food basket while the other 49 chose a gift card. A word of **"thanks"** to all who donated. 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. Donations towards **Christian Concern** are very much appreciated throughout the year.

"Thank You" from the Society of St Vincent de Paul: We (St Francis of Assisi Conference, **Wolfville**) have just completed our annual Christmas Sharing Campaign, delivering gift cards and seasonal treats to over 30 families in the Wolfville/Canning area. We are once again grateful for your generosity. May God bless our benefactors and those whom we serve!

May 17– 27, 2024: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje where Our Lady has been appearing daily for 42 years. Cost of \$3570 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) Info: Hector Caissie at 506-857-2295 or hectorcaissie@gmail.com

Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts

St. Monica's (Middleton): The Incarnation of Christ, the Word made flesh, is entrusted to the protection and virtue of St. Joseph. In his humanness, humility, and courage, he is responsive to the grace and call of the Holy Spirit. He is the patron saint of the universal church and of Canada. He speaks to the hearts of all - men and women, teens, and children. Like Mary, he leads us to Jesus and strengthens us. The book *Consecration to St. Joseph* by Fr. Donald H. Calloway enriches our relationship with Joseph and includes a 33-day at-home retreat. (\$21.95). We also have quality framed picture of Joseph and Jesus; small durable statues ideal for children (\$5.00); medals and laminated prayer cards. Available at St. Monica's church hall after Sunday Mass or call Mary Crooks 902-825-6495.

St. Joseph's (Kentville): We have 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.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday Dec 23	4 pm Bridgetown 4 pm Digby 4 pm Kentville 6 pm Wolfville 7 pm Middleton 8 pm Windsor	Wed, Dec 27	8:30 am Kentville
Sunday Dec 24	10 am Berwick	Thurs, Dec 28	8:30 am Kentville
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 10 pm St Anne's, Bear River	Saturday Dec 30	Holy Family 4 pm Bridgetown 4 pm Digby (LOW) 4 pm Kentville
Monday Dec 25	Christmas Day 10 am Bridgetown 10 am Weymouth 10 am Wolfville	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

Formed

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1. Go to the website <https://formed.org> and click on **Sign Up**.
2. A 'Create a New Account' page will appear. Under 'Find your Parish', enter **Corpus Christi 48 Belcher St Kentville NS**, and select the first entry, then click on **Next** button.
3. Enter your Name and email address as indicated and click on **Sign Up** button.
4. The website will then automatically take you to the main website (<https://watch.formed.org/browse>) where you can start searching the available programs and start watching.
5. To get back into website after logging out, go to <https://formed.org> and click on **Sign In**. You will need to enter your email address and click **Next**. You will then get an email with a link. Click on the **Sign in now** button and it will bring you back to the main website where you can start watching again.

Used Stamps: St. Monica's CWL (Middleton) is pleased to receive used stamps which we send to **Development & Peace** for its fundraising. Throughout the year, you may place used stamps in the brown box in the entrance to St. Monica's Church or give them to Mary Crooks. Please take care not to cut the edge of the stamps. *Thanks very much!*

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!*



12-26
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JEFF
AND
BILL
KEANE

“Daddy! Somebody left a gift for you here under the mistletoe!”



12-18
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BILL
AND
JEFF
KEANE

“How ’bout you just give me your cell phone number? Then I’ll text you if I think of anything else.”

No Room In the Inn

by Fr. Ron Rolheiser o.m.i.

The Gospels tell us Jesus was born in a stable, outside the city because there was no room for them in the inn.

We have always vilified the innkeeper who turned Mary and Joseph away, and the lesson we took from this was that we should not be so busy and preoccupied that there’s no room for the divine to be born in our lives.

While that’s an important challenge, biblical scholars suggest there’s a deeper lesson in the fact that Jesus was born outside the city because there was no room for him in the inn.

The real point the Gospels are making is not so much the seeming callousness of an innkeeper, but rather the fact that Jesus was born outside of a city, outside of what’s comfortable, outside of glamour and fame, outside of being recognized by the rich and the powerful, outside of notice by the everyday world. Jesus was born in anonymity, poor, outside of all notice, except by faith and God.

Thomas Merton once commented on this: Into this world, this demented inn, in which there is absolutely no room for Him at all, Christ has come uninvited. But because He cannot be at home in it, because He is out of place in it, and yet must be in it, His place is with those others for whom there is no room. His place is with those who do not belong, who are rejected by power because they are regarded as weak, those who are discredited, who are denied status as persons, who are tortured, bombed, and exterminated. With those for whom there is no room, Christ is present in the world. He is mysteriously present in those for whom there seems to be nothing but the world at its worst.

Mary gave birth to the Christ in a barn outside the city because there was no room in the inn. That is an important teaching on how we need to assess what ultimately shapes life. In essence, it tells us that it’s not necessarily those who seemingly preside at the center of things (the powerful, the rich, and the famous) who will have time measured by their lives.

What’s deepest, most meaningful, and most important in life is often born in anonymity, unnoticed by the powerful, tenderly swaddled in faith, outside the city.

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