



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

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2024



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](mailto:bulletin@corpuschristins.ca) before 5:00 pm on Monday.

**This Week's Readings**

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Sun, Jan 28	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Mark 1:21-28
Mon, Jan 29	2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13	Mark 5:1-20
Tues, Jan 30	2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14, 24-25, 30 –19:3	Mark 5:21-43
Wed, Jan 31	2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17	Mark 6:1-6
Thurs, Feb 1	1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12	Mark 6:7-13
Fri, Feb 2	Malachi 3:1-4	Luke 2:22-40
Sat, Feb 3	1 Kings 3:4-13	Mark 6:30-34

**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](mailto: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.*

**Individual Confession Times**

Kentville – every Saturday .... 11 am – 12 noon  
 Windsor – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month ... 9 – 10 am  
 Berwick – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month ... 10 – 11 am  
 Middleton – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month ... 10 – 11 am  
 & after Wednesday morning Mass until 10:00 am

**Scripture Reflection and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

Take time to reflect and discuss God's Word and pray before the Blessed Sacrament ... 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, JAN 27**

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	Margaret Dempsey by Patsy Sabeau
Kentville	4:00 PM	Vern Nash by Dennis & Barb Nash
Digby	4:00 PM	Catherine Robicheau by Carolyn McClafferty

### **SUNDAY, JAN 28**

Windsor	8:30 AM	Intentions of Stan Herridge & John West by Laura Joyce
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Gerard LeFort by Knights of Columbus, Comeauville
Berwick	9:00 AM	Ernie Samms by Theresa MacMullin & Family
Kentville	10:30 AM	Emilie & Edmond Dumaresq by Floyd & Theresa Preston
Middleton	11:00 AM	Roy Landry by Mary Gillis
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Louise & Daniel Comeau by Joanne & Jerry Belliveau
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Phil Williams by Hector & Joan Pottie

### **TUESDAY, JAN 30**

Kentville	8:30 AM	Allen Hynes & Edward Hynes by Catherine Farrell
Digby	6:30 PM	Anne Hutchinson by Carolyn McClafferty

### **WEDNESDAY, JAN 31**

Kentville	8:30 AM	Intentions of Marg Jackson by Tom & Peggy Foley
Middleton	9:00 AM	Healing of Marion Hole by Carolyn Gilbert
Weymouth	4:00 PM	For the Parishioners of Corpus Christi

### **THURSDAY, FEB 1**

Kentville	8:30 AM	May Melanson & Betty Bigelow by Chet & Terry Davidson & Kathy Rogers
Weymouth	4:00 PM	For the Souls in Purgatory

### **FRIDAY, FEB 2**

Berwick	9:00 AM	Intentions of Don & Connie Boudreau & Jerry Clement by St Monica's CWL
Digby	9:00 AM	John Allison by Pat Levings

### **SATURDAY, FEB 3**

Bridgetown	4:00 PM	<b><i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i></b>
Kentville	4:00 PM	Patrick McCabe by Mari McCabe
Digby	4:00 PM	Ethel Avery by the Avery Family

### **SUNDAY, FEB 4**

Windsor	8:30 AM	Wayne Berthier by Terry & Eleanor McKiel
Annapolis Royal	9:00 AM	Douglas Theriault by Donald & Barbara Theriault & Family
Berwick	9:00 AM	<b><i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i></b>
Kentville	10:30 AM	Deceased Members of Hawley/Landry Families by Carmen & Francis Hawley
Middleton	11:00 AM	<b><i>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</i></b>
Weymouth	11:30 AM	Doug Gidney by Cathy LeBlanc
Wolfville	12:15 PM	Deceased Members of teBraake Family by John teBraake
Digby	4:00 PM	Betty Cosman by Edythe Amirault

## Ash Wednesday (Feb14) Schedule

9 am – Bridgetown	6 pm - Digby
9 am – Berwick	6:30 pm - Middleton
9 am – Kentville	6:30 pm - Kentville
10 am - Annapolis Royal	6:30 pm - Wolfville
4 pm - Weymouth	6:30 pm - Windsor

**Old Palms** - If you have old palms, can you bring them to the church by Sun, Feb 11 so they can be burnt and used for the ashes on Ash Wednesday.

**First Communion (Middleton)** - Prayerful congratulations to **Gabriel Clement** on his First Holy Communion on **Jan 7** at St. Monica's Church. It was heart-warming to see Gabriel receive Eucharist from his grandfather Deacon Jerry Clement. May Gabriel and his family be sustained in grace by participation in this holy sacrament, as we share with them in gratitude at the table of the Lord. Together, may we grow in faith, hope and love and be filled with the peace and light of Christ.

## Neighbours' Meal (Wolfville)

The Wolfville Area InterChurch Council (WAICC) invites you to a **Neighbours' Meal** on Thursday, **February 1<sup>st</sup>**, 5:30pm at **L'Arche**.

Eating together is one of the most ancient practices across Christian traditions. When we gather, share food, and go out nourished to meet a world in need, we taste what it means to live the whole life of faith. At the Neighbours' Meal, we'll share soup, bread & salad, and members of each WAICC organization will offer short reflections on how the simple actions of a meal mirror the Christian life as they experience it in community. No cost. All are welcome!

**Marian Prayer Hour (Middleton)** Our monthly Marian Prayer Hour will take place on **Sat, Feb 3** at 11:00 am at St. Monica's Church. All are welcomed to this peaceful time of prayer, especially for the needs of our parishioners and our loved ones, including those who are ill in body, mind or spirit; those who are recuperating; and those in need of hope and encouragement. Hosted by St. Monica's CWL.

**Breakfast Fund Raiser (Wilmot)** - A community breakfast will be held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 45 Main St. Middleton Sat, **Feb 10**, 8-10 am and the second Saturday of every month thereafter. Free Will Offering. Review: "The best eggs east of TOFINO!" ...Anon, and too many reviews of Howard's pancakes to print. All Welcome!

**St. Monica's CWL (Middleton)** extends a sincere **Thank you** for your generous contributions of Hygiene Items which were delivered to the Middleton Library. Many people find warmth from the cold and practical assistance at our local libraries where they are welcomed with a smile and called by name. In addition to lending books and providing computer access, they also provide free workshops to engage all ages and help with applications, booking appointments, submitting resumes, preparing taxes, etc. They can discreetly provide hygiene supplies to those who need these aids for their personal dignity, especially those who are hardest hit by the housing shortage. It is a meaningful way to work together as a caring community. Thank you and God bless you!



**Emergency Shelter (Middleton):** Due to a perceived need in our community, we are seeking to open an overnight shelter in the Middleton area. The immediate **need** is for male and female **volunteer shelter hosts** - 2 to 3 per night are required. The shelter will be open from 9:30 in the evening until 7:30 in the morning. If you are interested in serving in this way or would like more information, please reach out to Diane Thurber at 902-765-8783 / [dthurber184@gmail.com](mailto:dthurber184@gmail.com) or Linda Thorsen at 902-309-0684/ [thorsenlindae@gmail.com](mailto:thorsenlindae@gmail.com) or Jeff Milne 902-825-8536/ [pastorjeff.nictaux@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjeff.nictaux@gmail.com)

**Valley Connect Outreach** ... is a continuation of Street Ministry & Community Advocacy that began more than 20 years ago. It is our privilege and joy to welcome and assist people seeking help. Food, faith and friendship together form bonds and a place of refuge for many through our weekly recovery supports, life skills programs and regular meals through the Community Soup Kitchen in Kentville and the Middleton Outreach Centre.

The sense of new identity and purpose arising from this work helps liberate people to make healthy choices as part of God's family. Our passion is for spiritual renewal and that people discover an array of solid supports required to leave old negative patterns behind.

Current supports, advocacy and food programming are expanding to address the growing needs in our region . We have recently re-launched the **Inn From the Cold** emergency shelter program in **Kentville** ... will also be launching **Inn From the Cold** in **Middleton** soon (see item above).

**Valley Connect Outreach Association** provides oversight and direction for the following programs and services:

- Community Chaplaincy, Navigation & Advocacy
- Community Soup Kitchen
- Middleton Outreach Centre
- Inn From the Cold (Kentville & Middleton)

Volunteer opportunities are available with Inn From the Cold (in Kentville and Middleton) and with our charity thrift store in Kentville (The Purple Peacock).

Thank you for your support and prayers. Office contact: 902-698-9627 or [valley@connectoutreach.ca](mailto:valley@connectoutreach.ca) or to chat with Bruce Caldwell (902-385-2478).

### **Corpus Christi Catholic Books & Gifts**

**St. Monica's (Middleton):** We have affordable Catholic Bibles of approved translations, including the New Revised Standard Version; the Jerusalem Bible; the Douay-Rheims Bible; and the New American Bible. Also, tabs to make it easy to turn to the different books of the Bible. 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.

**CWL News** - The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops has asked of the Catholic Women's League Canada to support **Bill S-210: *Protecting Young Persons from Exposure to Pornography Act***. The House of Commons resumes on January 29, 2024 and this bill will come up for debate. Experts in child health indicate that the average age of first exposure to violent and degrading pornography is eleven years old, which contributes to sexual violence against women and addictive behaviors in youth. They advocate for age verification measures on pornography websites which Bill S-210 would pass into law. In its meeting with the federal government in February 2023, CWL Canada emphasized the protection of children and youth from access to pornography. Please consider signing a petition to be forwarded to our MP in support of this legislation. You may sign the petition at the entrance to the church (Middleton, Kentville & Annapolis Royal) or see Mary Crooks (St Monica's church hall), Ann Myers (St Joseph's) or Eloise Mailman (St Louis) or contact the office of your Member of Parliament, or write to your MP (no postage required). Thank you for helping to protect the development of our children to healthy youth and adults.

**Job Opportunity: Secretary (Digby)** – We are looking to fill the Secretary position at St Patrick's. The job will be a contract position for 6 months for 9 hours/week. Responsibilities will include responding to phone messages and email, getting the mail, scheduling mass intentions, cemetery record keeping, assisting Fr Raymond and other duties. For the full job description or if you are interested in applying, please contact the Kentville office.

## Unbound Course

Unbound is a safe, loving and effective model of prayer ministry which helps every person find freedom in the Father's love. Unbound helps us respond to the Good News of the Gospel and apply truth to our lives using Five Keys: Repentance and Faith, Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority and the Father's Blessing.

Our 1st of 8 weeks begins **Feb 7** on Wednesday evenings with a start time of 6:30 pm and ends March 27 and will be presented virtually (via Zoom.) Here is our opportunity to rekindle past friendships and renew our freedom found in Christ who, in and through the desire of the Father, calls us from the darkness of sin into the light. It is the Father's deepest desire that He renews His love and mercy within us in order that we might again become one with Him and experience our destiny; bringing with it life and life in its fullness.

To register call the Kentville Parish office 902-678-3303, email parishoffice\_kentville@corpuschristins.ca or online by clicking this link [Unbound](#).

## **Lent 2024 begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14**

By means of Flocknote, Corpus Christi Parish will be sending out:

- **Ascension Lenten Companion** to the **adults** of our parish. Fr. Mark Toups will give reflections of 5 to 10 minutes which will be sent on Ash Wednesday, each week of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. These reflections will help us enter more deeply into the season of Lent, help us find peace, and guide us to let God heal the hurts of our hearts.
- The **children** of our parish will receive daily emails in the **Lenten Adventure 2024**.

## **Adult Lenten Challenge 2024** - We invite you to follow one of these two:

- **Exodus** - Dr. John Bergsma will read and reflect on the 40 chapters of Exodus, one each day. This will be about 10 minutes.
- **Exile** - Dr. Scott Hahn will give 8 talks based on his new book, "Catholics in Exile: Biblical Wisdom for the Journey Home."

These presentations will help us distinguish our present surroundings from our true home. You can sign up for this challenge at [https://stpaulcenter.com/exodus?mc\\_cid=f107b86476&mc\\_eid=be07bfcdda](https://stpaulcenter.com/exodus?mc_cid=f107b86476&mc_eid=be07bfcdda)

By accepting this challenge, you will also receive free access to all the material on the St. Paul Center for free during Lent.

Caroline and Greg Brown will be leading a **small group** for those who wish to meet **online** to discuss the material presented in this Lenten Challenge 2024. It will meet on zoom on Monday evenings at 7pm starting on Feb. 19 and concluding on March 25. To sign up for this group, email the Kentville liaison at [kentville@corpuschristins.ca](mailto:kentville@corpuschristins.ca)

## Also ... you might like:

- Matthew Kelly's **Dynamic Catholic's Best Lent Ever** is a "A Historic Journey to Eucharistic Consecration." It offers a **daily video** with spiritual insight and practical ways to apply the consecration to your life. It contains three simple daily steps to prepare your heart, mind, and soul for this surrender to God. Go to the website <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html> or you can sign up at [info@dynamiccatholic.com](mailto:info@dynamiccatholic.com)

**Coffee Sunday (Kentville)** On **Sunday, Feb 4** the Carey family will be hosting Coffee Sunday after the 10:30 am Mass.

**Pancake Supper (Berwick)** Come and join us at St Anthony's on **Tues, Feb 13**, for our pancake supper from 4 - 6pm. We will be serving pancakes, ham, sausages, baked beans , tea & coffee. Free will offering, bring your family & friends.

**Pancake Breakfast (Windsor)** A hearty meal will be provided following the 8:30am Mass on **Sunday, Feb 11**. Free-will offering. Compliments of the Knights of Columbus.

### Pope Francis on Blessings

Recently the media have shared the news of Pope Francis allowing the clergy to bless same-sex couples. A Vatican document, *Fiducia Supplicans* , was released giving instruction and elaboration on the pastoral act of blessing. To help provide clarification **Archbishop Dunn** offers the following message:

#### On the Blessing of Same-sex Couples and Couples in Irregular Situations

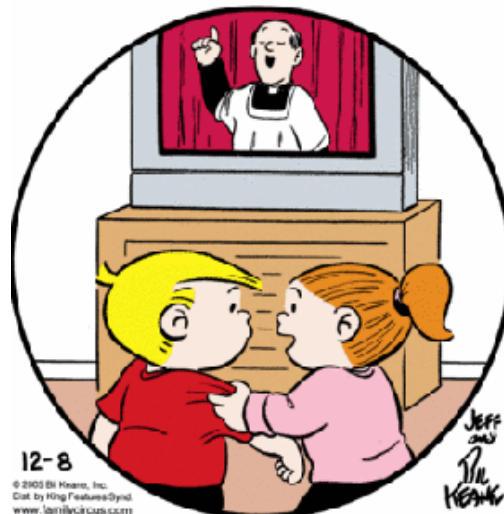
The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith issued a Declaration, approved by Pope Francis, stating that it is possible to bless same-sex couples but without any type of ritualization or offering the impression of a marriage. The doctrine regarding marriage does not change, and the blessing does not signify approval of the union. This gesture of pastoral closeness must avoid any elements that remotely resemble a marriage rite.

The document explores the theme of blessings, distinguishing between ritual and liturgical ones, and spontaneous ones more akin to signs of popular devotion. It is precisely in this second category there is now consideration of the possibility of welcoming even those who do not live according to the norms of Christian moral doctrine but humbly request to be blessed. The blessing does not officially validate their status nor change in any way the Church's perennial teaching on marriage.

The Declaration offers a pastoral understanding that those who ask for a blessing show themselves "to be in need of God's saving presence" in their lives by expressing "a petition for God's assistance, a plea to live better" (par. 21). Those who seek these blessings as acts of devotion "should not be required to have prior moral perfection" as a precondition.

To read *Fiducia Supplicans* in full, [click here](#) or visit [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

**Most Rev. William McGrattan**, Bishop of Calgary and the President of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, has also released a statement where he points out that *Fiducia Supplicans* allows pastors to bless people who freely request a blessing, seeking divine help to live in fidelity to God's will. The Declaration makes clear that such blessings must be directed to the **persons themselves** rather than their **situation** and that they must be spontaneously requested and are not ritual or liturgical actions.



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