

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Christmas Message from Fr. Bill:* 'JOY' has been a theme that has held my attention during my reflections on the Scriptures these past days of Advent and looking forward to our Christmas Masses.

Long before Jesus was born, the people of Israel longed for a 'Messiah' to come into their midst and bring them 'Joy'. The prophet Isaiah predicted that the 'One –who- would- come' would increase the people's joy. (Isaiah 9:2-4) When Jesus began his ministry he declared that he was 'The One' and in the Gospel of John 15:11, Jesus says, "I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." The following is a short and incomplete list of what Jesus told them about joy through his words and actions:

*-joy is in the birth of children and the companioning of them with love and support throughout their lives.*

*-joy is in the choice to become friends, sisters and brothers.... even with our enemies.*

*-joy is in the sharing of our lives mutually and compassionately with the vulnerable and assuring that our economic, political relationships are equitable, fair and inclusive.*

*-joy is in noticing and being in awe of what has become ordinary and 'just a part of the scenery' around us, which mostly goes unnoticed and unappreciated. Taking from the parable of the 'mustard seed', Jesus gave us the best lesson on joy. All we need to do is reflect on one tree in our environment and notice the miracle of it beginning as a small seed growing into an amazing creation... 'This is JOY'.*

We might do well to sit reflectively and gaze on our Christmas tree (even if it is artificial) and allow it to take us outdoors to a single tree and notice what God is doing in our world billions and billions of times in the tree world....and then be led to think of this being the case with every human being. Then ponder the Christmas miracle that each of us knows the gift of 'joy' within us and we can have it more abundantly if we foster joy within us and others through following what Jesus has told us in the list above.

It might also be helpful to make you own list of where and how you have found joy during Advent and are noticing and experiencing joy these 12 days of Christmas. Right now as I write this, I can hear the joy of people gathered in the gymnasium preparing the Christmas Exchange in sponsoring 80 families. I also am recalling the joy of a gathering of our parish in this same gymnasium this past January with the Al Khleif family and other Syrian families to celebrate the gift for us all in assisting their settlement in Canada. These will definitely be on my 'joy' list.

Merry Christmas to you all and many thanks for being an instrument of God's joy and love to me and others this past year!

# December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

## † MASS INTENTIONS †

Sat	23 <sup>rd</sup>	5:00 pm	Brendon Oreto
Sun	24 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 am	Florence & Albert Maillet
		5:00 pm	Lorne & Sarah McQuade
		7:00 pm	Deceased Members of Cormier
		9:00 pm	Andrew Christie
		12:00 am	Harold & Marion Feeney
			Eileen McDonough
Mon	25 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am	Byron Thomas Ramsay
Sat	30 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 pm	Marg & Burton Bonnell
Sun	31 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 am	Noreen Moar
		11:30 am	George & Kathleen Pearce
Mon	1 <sup>st</sup>	11:00 am	Medley & Edna Crossman

**Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday's 4:00 – 4:30 pm**

## Lector & Eucharistic Minister Schedule December 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> / Dec 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>

<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Eucharistic Ministers</u>
<b>Dec 23 &amp; 24</b>	
5:00 Mary Holland	Marie Costello (H2)
Lilia Cozzarini	Penny Hutley-Dobson
	Felipe Serrano
9:00 John Denning	Heather Maillet (H2)
Marg Denning	Peter Maillet
	Sonny Grasse
	Kate Black
	Pauline Arnold
<b>Dec 30 &amp; 31</b>	
5:00 Tina Christie	Penny Hutley-Dobson (H2)
Marie Costello	Verna Shaw
	Frances Briand
9:00 Hughena Macneil	Jayne Nicki (H2)
Meg Mombourquette	David Macneil
	John Denning
	Marg Denning
	Kate Black
11:30 Mary Ryan	Jeannine Cochrane (H2)
Thelma Innes	Margaret Savidge
	Robert Michaud
	Natali Caswell
	Chris McAloon

## December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

### Offertory (operating)

Envelope	\$10,945.00
Loose	\$ 1,215.00
Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD)	\$ 1,350.00
Sub-Total	<u>\$13,510.00</u>
Budget	<u>\$ 8,888.00</u>
Variance	\$ 4,622.00
Other (Bldg Fund, Cemetery, Poor, etc)	\$ 2,217.00
Kitchen Renovation	\$ 890.00

(Operating deficit to Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 is \$25,193)

## ECROLOGY

Dec 23	Rebecca Hazel Carten	1994
	Brendon Layden Oreto	1998
Dec 24	Artemas Knee	2004
	Violet Evelyn Adams	2008
	Andrew Michael Christie	2011
Dec 25	Eva Powers Cyr	2000
Dec 26	Donald Arthur Hashey	1996
	Roger Joseph McKay	2001
	Helen Evelyn Hughes	2004
Dec 27	Alonzo J Cormier	1971
	Joseph Felix Caissie	1989
	Richard John Arseneau	1996
	Michael Arthur MacAfee	2005
Dec 28	Mary McGraw	1973
	Helen Hind Ramey	1984
	Delcina Francois Hanies	1990
	James Layton Sullivan	1992
	Robert Hugh B McLaughlin	2014
Dec 29	Charles Owen Downing	1970
	George M White	1978
	Cecil Perley Elliott	1990
	Sunvie Catherine Kelly	1994
	F Tracey Carten	1997
	Caroline Frances Graham	2002
	George Henry Tracey	2006
	Sarah Marie Adams	2013
Dec 30	Raymond J Burgoyne	1986
	Marie Doris Perry	2002
	Lloyd Douglas Burke	2005
	Hanora Kathleen Hurley	2006
Dec 31	Vance William Walker	1971
	John Morris Boyd	1975
	F John Flanagan	1977
	George Lorne Grant	1998
	Helen Mary Kenny	2003
	Lillian Helen McIvor	2003
	Giovanni Persello	2008

Sanctuary Lamp  
*In Loving Memory of*  
*Clair, Lillian & O'Neill O'Hanley*

## Readings for December 24<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
2nd Reading	Romans 16:25-27
Gospel	Luke 1:26-38

***Our Lady of Fatima (Marysville) Octave Christmas***  
***Mass will be every day at 11 am.***  
***(Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)***

# Christmas Mass Schedule

**Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – 5 pm**  
**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – 9am**

**Christmas Eve 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 9:00 pm & 12:00 am**

**Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day 10:00 am**

**Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup> 5pm**

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> 9 am & 11:30 am**

**New Year's Day Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 11:00**

## **Diocesan Catechist Retreat Who Am I Called to Be?**

January 26-28th, 2018, Friday 8 pm – Sunday 1:00 pm,  
Villa Madonna Retreat House Cost: \$175 (Includes accommodations & all meals). Retreat Facilitator - Fr. Owen Burns. To Register, please fill out registration form and forward to your Regional Catechetical Coordinator on or before January 19. Registration forms are available online <https://www.facebook.com/diocesesjreelform/> or from your parish coordinator. Saint John: Mary Alice: Tel: 653-6829 e-mail: [sjreled@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:sjreled@dioceseofsaintjohn.org) Fax: 653-6904.

## **2018 Offertory Envelopes are ready to pick up at the Regent Street entrance of the church.**

**Please write your name and address on your first envelope offered.**

## **Note from Fr. Bill regarding weekend Masses:**

Please take note that we now have three weekend Masses instead of four as follows:  
beginning this weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, **Saturday @ 5:00 pm, Sunday @ 9:00am and 11:30am. There will be NO 7:00 pm Mass.** The reason for this change is due to the new Mass schedule at St. Thomas University which now has Mass on Sunday evening @ 7:00pm. On the main floor of Holy Cross House on Montgomery Street.

**Note from Fr. Bill:** During this time of restructuring and revitalizing in our Diocese, we are being invited to pray with the Sunday Gospel each week by using the method of 'Lectio Divina'. We had an information and practice session with this method of prayer this past Wednesday with 30 people attending. There are pamphlets describing what Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) is and the steps to follow when praying it as an individual or in a small group. These pamphlets are available on the Adult Faith Formation Bulletin Board in the Parish Center. It is easy to follow. Pick one up and give it a try. If you would like to join a group to pray this once or twice a week, just leave your name at the Parish Office (444-6001).

**Kitchen Renovation:** The Kitchen Renovation is complete! Feel free to drop by and take a look at our beautiful new kitchen. At our last Annual Parish Meeting (April 2017) we let you know that the kitchen would be renovated at a cost of \$55K plus tax. In order to adhere to building codes and food safety policies this renovation required a complete upgrading to our kitchen structure including electrical, plumbing, counter tops, cabinets and flooring. The cost will actually be \$101 K with tax included. At that Parish Meeting, we were asked by some of those in attendance to put out an invitation to parishioners requesting donations towards this project. Given that we have not approached parishioners for over 6 years for assistance with any of the many projects we have done at the cost of \$814K, it seems timely that we make this request once again. We have relied heavily on our investments to fund all of the projects we have undertaken. We are now looking to fund some of our new projects, including this kitchen renovation, through new funding from whatever you are able to contribute. With the bulletin several weekends ago, Fr. Bill included a letter to parishioners detailing all of the capital projects we have done in the past 6 years with an envelope attached for donations as one possible way to contribute to this kitchen project. That letter and envelopes are available at the entrances to the church and at the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

As you and I celebrate Christmas with loved ones, it is a pleasure for me to wish you and yours God's choicest blessings. As a faith community, we remember at Christmas the birth of God's priceless gift to us, his Beloved Son Jesus, born of Mary, the Christ, God-with-us, the Saviour of humankind.

This year has been a milestone year in the history of our diocese. Throughout 2017 we have embraced the grace of belonging to our diocesan church. I hope that this has been a year of blessing for you.

In the last week of January the proposed plan to realign and revitalize our diocesan church will be made known. The Steering Committee representing the three regions of our diocese is continuing to review the Report given to me at the end of June in preparation for its final recommendation. Sub-committees are being put in place to assist with the implementation. Needless to say, this is a major project. I ask for your continued prayers so that the decisions made are what the Lord wants for us.

As Church, our purpose is mission, discipleship and evangelization. We want our parishes to be vibrant faith communities. Thank you for your continued support of this project, for being women and men of faith whose privilege it is to radiate Christ to the world in which we live.

As I celebrate Christmas Mass, you will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely, ✠ Robert Harris, Bishop of Saint John



## CHRISTMAS EVE LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### CHRISTMAS EVE (Dec 24<sup>th</sup>)

5:00 Patricia Kelly      Marg Denning (H2)  
Cassidy LaFrance      John Denning  
Kate Black  
Felipe Serrano  
Sarah Serrano  
Bill Woods  
Kevin Roherty

7:00 Bob Scott      Marie Costello (H2)  
Chris McAloon  
Verna Shaw  
David Macneil  
Hughena Macneil  
Karen Morris  
Emily Morris

9:00 Curry Smith      Sonny Grasse (H2)  
Spencer Smith      Krista Casey-Smith  
Jayne Nicki  
Claire Leach  
Pauline Arnold

12:00 Thelma Innes      Mary McMahon (H2)  
Ella Allen      Gerry Keenan  
Marlita Chase  
Doreen Cormier

### CHRISTMAS DAY (Dec 25<sup>th</sup>)

10:00 Sue Kettela      Carole Dilworth (H2)  
Nancy MacAfee      Ramon Martilliano Jr.  
Doreen Cormier

## NEW YEAR'S DAY LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### NEW YEAR'S DAY (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>)

11:00 Bob Scott      Pauline Arnold (H2)  
Esther Archibald      Claire Leach  
Ramon Martilliano Jr.  
Doreen Cormier

### THANK YOU!!

The Christmas Exchange has been an opportunity for so many of us to journey together with 80+ families throughout our Advent Season. Thank you for the great generosity of time, resources and friendship that you have provided.



### Bishop's Funeral Home



540 Woodstock Road      Phone: (506) 458-1885  
Fredericton, NB E3B-2J3      Fax: (506) 459-3823  
email: bishops@nb.aibn.com      www.bishopsfuneralhome.com

Privileged to have served  
the families of St. Dunstan's  
for more than a century.

**McAdam's**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
& CREMATORIUM

160 York St.  
Fredericton  
458-9170  
McAdamsFH.com

108 Winnebago St.  
Oromocto  
357-5100  
OromoctoFH.com



**GenInk**  
Re-Manufactured Printer Toner & Ink

Laser Toner & Ink Cartridges Refill and Recycle

**FREE DELIVERY FOR BUSINESS**  
**100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE**  
**MORE SAVINGS ON YOUR PRINTING**

(506) 451-1896 | 924 Prospect St., Fredericton E3B2T9  
[www.genink.ca](http://www.genink.ca) E: [geninktoner@gmail.com](mailto:geninktoner@gmail.com)

### Please Support Liberty Lane's Kenny House Capital Campaign

Liberty Lane is a safe housing and outreach centre for women and their children trying to restart their lives free from the threat of abuse.

To donate or to learn about  
Liberty Lane's Kenny House, go to  
[libertylane.ca](http://libertylane.ca) or call  
451-2120.



100% of all money raised goes to  
Liberty Lane.  
This ad paid for by an independent donor.

**Pastoral Care Visits at Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital:** Please note if you or your family and loved ones are admitted to the Chalmers Hospital, and would like a visit from pastoral care, it is important that you advise the clerk at ADMITTING of your Roman Catholic faith. If you do not indicate your faith the computer system will automatically register you as not having any Faith and the Pastoral Care Team will not visit. This is the new Horizon Health Network SOP in Horizon Health.