



The Parish of the Good Shepherd

645 Murray Avenue, Suite 1, Bathurst, NB

Office Hours: Monday to Friday from 9am to 12 Noon and 1pm to 4pm

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Pastor: Rev. Father Keith Goldrup

Vicar: Rev. Anthony Umunna

Deacon: Mr. Christopher Kingston

Welcome To Our Parish Community – Kwe' aa'qa'tuk aqq na'kmaq aqqi'kik - Bienvenidos a Nuestra Comunidad de la Iglesia – Maligayang Pagdating sa Aming Komunidad ng Simbahan

December 13th & 14th /2025 – Third Sunday of Advent (Year A - Gospel of Matthew)

(1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a,10 2nd Reading: James 5:7-10 Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11)

CHURCH TODAY

Within 100 years of the proclamation of the *dogma of the Immaculate Conception*, the tradition of sending flowers to the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the Piazza di Spagna in Rome began with Pope Pius XII. A few years later in 1958, Pope Saint John XXIII went to Piazza di Spagna and placed a basket of white roses at the foot of the statue.

Continuing this decades-old practice started by his predecessors, Pope Leo XIV marked December 8th as the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception with a visit to the Piazza di Spagna.

A MOMENT FOR MARY

As the Holy Father arrived in the Piazza di Spagna, the choir and assembly sang a Marian hymn entitled "You rise more beautiful than the dawn". The vicar of Rome, Cardinal Baldassare Reina and the Mayor of Rome, welcomed the Pope as he arrived.

After an opening prayer, Pope Leo offered a bouquet of flowers at the base of the 39 foot tall column of the Immaculate Virgin and the choir prayed the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary in song.

Then the Pope offered a prayer dedicated to the Virgin: Hail, O Mary! Rejoice, full of grace, filled with that grace which, like a gentle light, makes radiant all those on whom the presence of God shines. The Mystery has wrapped you round from the beginning; from your mother's womb it began to accomplish great things in you, things that soon asked for your consent, that "Yes" which inspired so many other "yeses."

Immaculate one, Mother of a faithful people, your purity bathes Rome in eternal light, your path fills its streets with a fragrance sweeter than the flowers we offer you today. Many pilgrims from all over the world, O Immaculate Virgin, have walked the streets of this city throughout history and in this jubilee year. A humanity tested, at times crushed, humble as the very earth from which God shaped it and into which He does not cease to breathe His life-giving Spirit.

Look, O Mary, upon us many sons and daughters whose hope has not been extinguished: may what your Son has sown in them take root and grow, He, the living Word, who in each person asks to grow still more, to take on flesh, face, and voice. May jubilee hope blossom in Rome and in every corner of the earth, hope in the new world God is preparing, of which you, O Virgin, are like the bud and the dawn. After the holy doors, may other doors now open, doors of homes and oases of peace where dignity may flourish again, where people may learn nonviolence and the art of reconciliation.

May the kingdom of God come, the newness you longed for so deeply and to which you opened yourself completely, as a child, as a young woman, and as mother of the nascent Church. Inspire new insights in the Church that journeys in Rome and in the particular Churches which, in every context, gather up the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of our contemporaries, especially the poor and all those who suffer.

May baptism continue to bring forth men and women holy and immaculate, called to become living members of the Body of Christ, a Body that acts, consoles, reconciles, and transforms the earthly city in which the City of God is being prepared. Intercede for us, grappling with changes that seem to find us unprepared and powerless. Inspire dreams, visions, and courage, you who know better than anyone that nothing is impossible for God, and also that God does nothing alone.

Set us on our way, with the haste that once moved your steps toward your cousin Elizabeth, and with the trembling eagerness with which you became an exile and pilgrim, to be blessed, yes, but blessed among all women, first disciple of your Son, mother of God-with-us. Help us to be always a Church with and among the people, leaven in the dough of a humanity crying out for justice and hope. Immaculate one, woman of infinite beauty, watch over this city, over this humanity. Point them to Jesus, lead them to Jesus, present them to Jesus. Mother, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

Before departing the Piazza, Pope Leo spent time greeting a number of the 30,000 people gathered for the event, a number of children, elderly and the sick.

DID YOU KNOW HISTORY OF THE COLOR ROSE

The blessing of the Golden Rose by the Pope is a solemn ceremony that occurs on Laetare Sunday, the 4th Sunday of Lent. During this event, the Pope blesses the rose with incense and holy water, placing it on a table with lighted candles. The ceremony includes a prayer that reflects the joy and gladness of the Church, asking God to bless and sanctify the rose as a sign of spiritual joy. The rose is then placed on the altar at the foot of the cross and carried in procession before the pope to the sacristy, where it is carefully put away until it is bestowed upon a worthy person. This tradition has been a source of spiritual joy and reverence for many years, symbolizing the hope and joy of the Christian life. The Pope would wear rose vestments as a break in the penitential season, which eventually was added to the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

How rose became a liturgical color:

The expression in color of this sentiment of *joyous hope* during the penitential journey corresponds to a *brightening or tempering* of the somber purple so as to approach to the color of the rose. The precise shade is not necessarily of a single grade. Purple as a composite color is produced by the combination of red and blue. The deeper and stronger the blue in the mixture the more somber and dark will be the purple, whereas *the more the clear red* predominates in the combination all the brighter and festive will be the purple. It is the predominance of red, therefore, that lends its characteristic to the symbolism of the special color used on the two Sundays of Advent and Lent on which we chant "Gaudete" and "Laetare." However, the red used can't dominate, otherwise it will remind us too much of martyrdom. But the red predominates in the purple and must not make it too closely resemble the red used on feasts of martyrs, for *it does not indicate bloody martyrdom* or sacrifice but *joy*. Hence the tint to be chosen is a *light pale rose red*, since *white is the the symbolic color of joy* in the liturgy.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



All the faithful are invited to attend the celebration of the closing of the Jubilee Year, which will be presided by our Bishop Msgr. Michel Proulx, o. praem on **Sunday, December 28th at 2:00 pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bathurst.** All are welcome!

Special Advent Mass celebrations in The Parish of Good Shepherd:

- **St. Gabriel the Archangel** – Monday, December 15th at 11:00 am Healing Mass.
- **St. John Bosco** – Tuesday, December 16th at 11:00 am Healing Mass.
- **Sacred Heart Cathedral** – Tuesday, December 16th - 12-noon mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession.
- **Sacred Heart Cathedral** – Tuesday, December 23rd - 12-noon mass with Anointing of the Sick Sacrament.
- **St. Thomas Aquinas** – Wednesday, December 17th – 6:00 pm Healing Mass with Confession available after mass.

Healing Mass is a special mass where we receive sacrament of the anointing of the sick providing spiritual and physical healing with the forgiveness of sins. Grace to strengthen the soul and peace and courage to help overcome life's difficulties in sickness and old age.

2025 Christmas and New Year's Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve – Wednesday – December 24th

- 4:00 pm - St. Thomas Aquinas – Campbellton
- 4:00 pm - Sacred Heart Cathedral – Bathurst
- 4:00 pm - St. Gabriel the Archangel – Belledune
- 6:00 pm - St. John Bosco – Dalhousie
- 6:00 pm - Holy Family – Bathurst

Christmas Day – Thursday – December 25th

- 10:30 am - St. John the Evangelist – Belledune
- 11:00 am - Holy Family – Bathurst

New Year's Eve - Wednesday – December 31st

- 4:00 pm - St. Thomas Aquinas – Campbellton
- 4:00 pm - Sacred Heart Cathedral – Bathurst
- 6:00 pm - St. John the Evangelist – Belledune
- 6:00 pm - St. John Bosco – Dalhousie

New Year's Day – Thursday – January 1st

- 11:00 am - St. Gabriel the Archangel – Belledune
- 11:00 am - Holy Family – Bathurst

Diocesan Invitation for the 2025 Jubilee Advent:

In these days as we are entering a time of vigil, a time of waiting which is Advent, let the Lord teach us Himself the path, as the prophet Isaiah invites us to do, from the First Sunday of Advent. "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord!" Let Him teach us his ways, and we will go by His paths. It is good for us to adopt the attitude of vigilance of Jesus himself to his Father in heaven. Prayer occupies a central place in His life. He was nourished by the psalms from an early age, praying them in the synagogue, during his pilgrimages to Jerusalem and with his disciples. To pray the Psalms today is to engage with the official prayer of the Church: The Liturgy of the Hour, also called the Divine Office, Prayer of the Present Time or Breviary. The daily life of the Church is spread throughout the day. She is the source of spiritual and apostolic life for everyone. Four occasions are offered to us for a Celebration of Advent Vespers. They will take place in the Christian communities in our Diocese and will be presided over by our Bishop, Mgr. Michel Proulx O. Praem. Come and share this experience of a Church in prayer. Join us on each Sunday of Advent at 3:00 pm at the following Churches throughout the season of Advent:

December 14th at St. Isidore's Church in Saint Isidore (French)
December 21st at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bathurst (French)

• **Influenza (Flu) & Covid Season:** Parish churches are asked to ensure hand sanitizer and masks are available for all parishioners. We ask everyone who is not feeling well with flu-like symptoms such as cold, cough, or fever to stay home until you are better. This way we can help to prevent spreading this very contagious virus.

• **Winter Weather Mass Cancellation:** Due to winter weather, Mass cancellations can happen without much notice. Parishioners are asked to consider before heading out to mass that road conditions may be hazardous and sidewalks and church driveways not yet cleared. Please know who to contact in your parish in case mass is cancelled. Thank you and be safe.

• **Donation Envelope Boxes for use in 2026:** When picking up your envelopes for 2026, please ensure your name is on the box as some numbers may have changed. By **completing and returning the information card** found in the front of each box with your name, address and phone number, we will verify and update our files to ensure all your information is up to date. For those who have pre-authorized donations, a separate income tax receipt will be issued.

• **Catechism Class:** Our next class at **Holy Family Church in Bathurst** will be on Sunday, December 14th at 2:00 pm.

• **Bible Class- Gospel of St. Matthew:** Friday, December 19th at 10:00 am at Holy Family Church. This will be the last class until after the holidays.

• **Baptisms 2026:** Parents who wish to have their child baptized can complete and submit the online registration form and complete the baptism preparation course; both are found on our webpage at goodshepherdparish.faith.

• **Weddings 2026:** Couples who wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage should contact the Parish Office before making any other arrangements at **506-547-4737**. Please note that only the couple themselves can book their wedding date and make the necessary arrangements.

• **Bulletin Announcements:** Announcements for the upcoming weekly bulletin must be received by Wednesday at 11:00 am by email at churchesgoodshepherd@gmail.com

• **Cemetery Notices:** Contact the Administrative Office of The Parish of the Good Shepherd at 506-547-4737 to arrange all burials in the cemeteries allowing us to complete the mandatory paperwork.

RECOMMENDED TO YOUR PRAYERS

May the Lord console their families and lead them safely home

† Please pray for **Josef Kiss** who passed away on November 20th at the age of 89. A Graveside Service was held at St. Thomas Aquinas Cemetery.

IN LOVING MEMORY

✚ **Andrew & Jean Gallant** (Suzanne & Peter Gallant) **SA -Cemetery**

✚ **Maurice LeBlanc** (Donald & Nancy Arseneault) **STA**

✚ **Roger LeBlanc** (Donald & Nancy Arseneault) **STA**

✚ **Pearl Guitard** (Theresa McDonnell) **SG**

✚ **Jane Duivenvoorden & Pearl Guitard & Loretta Firlotte** (Jean Eudes & Joan Parent) **SJE**

✚ **Benoit L'Heureux** (John & Johanne Robbins) **HF**

✚ **Daniel O'Neil** (Carol, Colleen & John) **HF**

✚ **Deceased Family Members** (Steve & Jeannine White) **HF**

SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL
123 Saint Andrew Street, Bathurst, NB

Sanctuary Lamp: Special Intentions (*A Parishioners*).

St. Brother Andre Candle: Prayers Answered (*Claudette*).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: The Holy Sacrament will be exposed every Thursday, after the English 12:00-noon Mass and on the first Friday of each month after the French Weekday Mass.

Heating Collection: Week-end of December 20th & 21st.

Knights of Columbus: December's meeting is Monday, December 15th at 11:00 am. Dues should be paid for 2026. The Knights have purchased a new Lectionary for Sundays and Solemnities - Ambo edition at Sacred Heart Cathedral. As well we have donated to the Cancer Support at the George Dumont hospital in Moncton, the Bathurst Volunteer Center, Spirit of Christmas and the Anglican Church Clothing Initiative.

Sacred Heart Cathedral Collection Envelopes: The 2026 envelopes will be available at this weekend's mass. It is very important that the first envelope is filled in with complete donor information for our accounting and tax purposes.

HOLY FAMILY
430 St. Peter Ave. Bathurst, NB

Sanctuary Lamp: Roger & Lil Lavigne (*Daughter, Cathie Boucher*).

Christmas Flowers: Donations in memory of a loved one can be placed in the collection in an envelope marked "Christmas flowers". Along with your donation please include your name, envelope number and the name of your loved one. A card with the name of your loved one will be displayed with the flowers. Thank you.

Christmas Concert: Dear Volunteers and Parishioners, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your dedication and support in making our Christmas concert a success. To the volunteers who gave their time, energy and talents, your efforts were invaluable and deeply appreciated. To all the parishioners who attended, your presence made the evening truly special. Working together as a team to achieve this shared goal has proven once again how much we can accomplish when united. May this spirit of collaboration and joy continue to bless our parish.

Darlene Labonville/Management Committee Chair.

Christmas Concert 50/50 Draw: Congratulations to Susie Roy, winner of the 50/50 draw held at the Christmas Concert in the amount of \$645.00.

Christmas Decoration Fundraiser: We will be selling Christmas balls for our Memory tree at the cost of \$5.00 each. The name of your loved one will be written on a Christmas ball and you can take it home with you once the Christmas season is finished. The money raised will be used to purchase additional Christmas decorations for the Church.

December 50/50 Draw: Will be next Sunday, December 21st. Tickets are 3 for \$5.00 and 9 for \$10.00. The draw will be immediately after mass. Thank you for your king support.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS
43 Andrew St. Campbellton, NB

The House of Agape Prayer Group: Our prayer group held every Tuesday at 10:00 am in the church basement. For more information call Mike at 506-753-5805.

Yard Sale: Please note we will not be accepting yard sale donations from Dec/14th until Jan/6th in order to give us time to reorganize as we are overloaded with merchandise that must be sorted and/or cleaned.

ST. ANTHONY
14000 Route 17 Glen Levit, NB

Sanctuary Lamp: Roselle Guitard (*Family*).

Mass Book: St. Anthony's mass book is now open and in need of masses.

ST. JOHN BOSCO
470 Victoria St. Dalhousie NB

Weekday Mass: Morning mass every Tuesday at 9:30 am. Holy Hour at 6:00 pm with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction held every last Thursday (Jan 29th) of the month.

Visits and Communion for the Sick & Shut-Ins: Please call Deacon Chris at 506-684-2810 to make arrangements.

Christmas Flowers: Parishioners are invited to share in the cost of Christmas Flowers. You may do this in memory of your loved ones by putting your donation in an envelope with written particulars and drop it in the Sunday collection. Thank You.

Food Drive: Once again, throughout Advent, we will collect non-perishable food items as well as cash donations and gift cards for the local food bank. Thank you so much for your continued generosity!

December 50/50 Draw: Our December draw will be Sunday, December 14th after the 9:00 am Mass. There will be no coffee party. Thank you to all who participate in our fundraiser.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
2601 Main Street, Belledune, NB

Sanctuary Lamp: Charlie & Eileen O'Neil (*Margaret & Barry Legacy*).

Advent Food Drive: We invite all parishioners to bring a non-perishable food item to church during Advent for our local food bank.

Christmas Flowers: Anyone wishing to make a donation towards Christmas Flowers in memory of a loved one can do so by placing your donation in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers. Record your name and name of who is being remembered and give your donation to Georgette Boulay by December 14th.

Card Play: Card play will resume in January/2026.

ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL
4118 Main St. Belledune NB

Christmas Flowers: Anyone wishing to make a donation towards Christmas Flowers in memory of a loved one can do so by placing your donation in an envelope marked Christmas Flowers. Record your name and name of who is being remembered and place in the collection basket.

Christmas Church Decorating: We will be decorating our Church for Christmas on **Sunday, December 21st at 10:00 am**. Appreciate anyone who can spare the time to help.

St. Gabriel's CWL: Thank you to St. John the Evangelist CWL for inviting us for Christmas Supper. From the beautiful supper catered to by Dony LaPointe, to Christmas carols with Grace and Gene it was certainly a wonderful time together to reflect on all our blessings.

Blessing the Advent Wreath at Home

*Prayer for Third Week
for Advent Candle Lighting*



Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
AMEN

FINANCIAL INFORMATION – THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

<u>December 6th</u> & <u>December 7th</u>	Holy Family	Sacred Heart Cathedral <i>Nov/30&Dec/7</i>	Saint Gabriel the Archangel	Saint John the Evangelist	Cemetery	Saint John Bosco	Saint Thomas Aquinas	Saint Anthony
Collection	2517.30	1971.40/2141.70	402.75	500.00		833.25	1231.15	185.00
Evan. Nations/Pastoral		10.00/60.00						
Christmas	100.00	15.00						
Christmas Flowers	130.00							
Fundraising	14320.00 (Christmas Concert) 645.00 (50/50 draw)					50.00 (Food Bank)		
Dues/Donations	20.00							
Cemetery/Memorial	100.00/45.00	65.00	/10.00	/30.00		/10.00	/20.00	3166.00
Heating	200.00	50.00/66.05	40.00	20.00			/25.00	
Candles	130.25	295.45/269.55	32.40	16.00		127.00		
Living Christ/Missal		87.15/64.70	/35.00			/5.00	/15.00	

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS (DECEMBER 13 TH- DECEMBER 21ST)

Holy Family	Sunday, December 14th at 11:00 am + Evelyn Kennah (<i>Nancy & Barbara Brown</i>)	Sunday, December 21st at 11:00 am + Doug Kyle (<i>Vi Kyle & Family</i>)
Sacred Heart Cathedral	Saturday, December 13th at 4:00 pm + Gordon Pitre (<i>Jeannine, Jason, Jamie & Todd</i>) + Leona White (<i>Ralph & Emmanuel</i>) + Louis & John Martin (<i>Judy, Paul Martin & Family</i>) + Stan & Regina Vienneau (<i>Daughter, Claudette</i>)	Sunday, December 14th at 9:00 + Donald Hudon (<i>Lois & Girls</i>) + Stephen C. Smith (<i>Wife, Rose-Marie Smith</i>) + Léonard Bennett (<i>Daughter, Rose-Marie Smith</i>) + Timmy Garrett (<i>Anna & Joe Garrett</i>)
Weekly Masses	Tuesday, December 16th at 12:00-Noon (English) + Deceased Family Members (<i>Stuart & Theresa</i>) Wednesday, December 17th at 9:00 am (French) + For All Parishioners (<i>The Pastor</i>)	Thursday, December 18th at 12:00-Noon (English) + Irene Vienneau (<i>Louis, Denise & Family</i>) Friday, December 19th at 9:00 am (French) + Jean Noreen Cormier (<i>Family</i>)
	Saturday, December 20th at 4:00 pm + Norman Lavigne (<i>Jean, Eleanor & Patti-Jo</i>) + Jean Caissie (<i>Claudette & Darlene</i>) + Doucet & Lavigne Family (<i>Claudette & Darlene</i>)	Sunday, December 21st at 9:00 am + Deceased Parents (<i>Ralph McGrath</i>) + Gerard Boucher (<i>17th Ann</i>) (<i>Nancy & Family</i>) + Deceased & Living Members of Holy Family & Sacred Heart Cathedral CWL (<i>Mary Cormier</i>)
St. Gabriel the Archangel	Saturday, December 13th 4:00 pm + For All Parishioners (<i>The Pastor</i>)	Saturday, December 20th at 4:00 pm + Gordon Pitre (<i>Wife, Jeannette & Girls</i>)
St. John the Evangelist	Saturday, December 13th at 6:00 pm + Emily Winton (<i>Her Nephew's</i>)	Saturday, December 20th 6:00 pm + Jeanne Guitard (<i>Bertha Guitard</i>)
St. John Bosco	Sunday, December 14th at 9:00 am + Mom & Dad (<i>Debbie, Susie, Peggy</i>) Tuesday, December 16th at 9:30 am + Alice George (<i>Friend</i>)	Sunday, December 21st at 9:00 am + Keith Guitard (<i>Mom, Joan</i>) Tuesday, December 23rd at 9:30 am + Rena Rackley (<i>Gerard Doucet</i>)
St. Thomas Aquinas	Sunday, December 14th at 11:00 am + Armand & Rose Dion (<i>Claudette Redstone</i>)	Sunday, December 21st at 11:00 am + Reginald Murphy (<i>Willis & The Girls</i>)
St. Anthony	Sunday, December 14th at 1:30 pm + George Adams (<i>Adeline Adams</i>)	Sunday, December 21st at 1:30 pm + Jan Guitard (<i>Mike & Family</i>)

<p>Pope's Prayer Intention December/2025</p> <hr/> <p><i>For Christians in areas of conflict</i></p> <p>Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliaiton and hope.</p> <p align="center">Amen</p>	<p>Weekly Readings December 15th – December 20th</p> <p>Monday – Advent Weekday • Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a / Matthew 21:23-27</p> <p>Tuesday – Advent Weekday • Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13 / Matthew 21:28-32</p> <p>Wednesday – Advent Weekday • Genesis 49:2, 8-10 / Matthew 1:1-17</p> <p>Thursday – Advent Weekday • Jeremiah 23:5-8 / Matthew 1:18-24</p> <p>Friday – Advent Weekday • Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a / Luke 1:5-25</p> <p>Saturday – Advent Weekday • Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10d / Luke 1:26-38</p>	<p>Quote of the Week</p> <p>“This Christmas, you have a decision to make. It’s not about toys or gifts or what you’re going to have under the tree. It’s a decision about God’s grace. What are you going to do with the goodness of God that he bestowed on you this past year, and that you look forward to in the year that is to come?”</p> 
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