



## 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*

April 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy (Year A - Gospel of Matthew)

(1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2:42-47 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Gospel: John 20:19-31)

### DID YOU KNOW



#### THE EASTER LILY SYMBOLIZES

#### PURITY, HOPE, RENEWAL, AND THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

The Easter lily, scientifically known as *Lilium longiflorum*, is a trumpet-shaped flower traditionally associated with the Easter season, gracing churches and homes with its white blossoms and sweet fragrance. In Christian symbolism, the white petals represent purity, innocence, and virtue, reflecting the sinless life of Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary. The trumpet shape of the flower is also seen as a metaphor of the trumpets that announced Jesus's resurrection, reinforcing its connection to hope and spiritual rebirth.

#### Religious Significance

Easter lilies are deeply tied to the story of Jesus's resurrection. According to tradition, lilies are believed to have sprung up in the **Garden of Gethsemane** where Jesus prayed before his crucifixion, and near the tomb after his resurrection, symbolizing triumph over death and the promise of eternal life. In biblical references, lilies are mentioned in passages such as Matthew 6:28 and Luke 12:27, where they serve as a reminder of God's provision and encourage faith over worry. The flower is also associated with the Virgin Mary, often depicted in religious art during **The Annunciation**, symbolizing her purity and divine role.

#### Cultural and Historical Context

The Easter lily originates from the Ryukyu Islands in southern Japan and was introduced to England in 1819 and the United States in 1880. Its cultivation in the U.S., particularly along the Oregon California border, led to the region being called the "Easter Lily Capital of the World," producing over 95% of potted Easter lily bulbs. Beyond Christianity, the lily has appeared in Greek and Roman mythology, symbolizing immortality and renewal, and in Irish history as a symbol of hope.

#### Symbolism Beyond Religion

In addition to its religious meaning, the Easter lily represents renewal, new beginnings, and the arrival of spring, making it a broader symbol of life emerging from rest. Its pristine white color and upward reaching petals visually convey faith, spiritual awakening, and the promise of miracles. The flower is often used in Easter decorations to enhance the atmosphere of hope and spiritual rebirth, reflecting both personal and communal celebrations.

***In summary, the Easter lily is a powerful emblem of purity, hope, resurrection, and renewal, deeply rooted in Christian tradition while also carrying broader cultural and historical significance.***

### CHURCH TODAY

**The History of Salvation:** While the heart of the Easter story is Jesus's resurrection from the dead, Pope Leo said, "*the holy mystery of this night, extends across the centuries*".

In the nine Scripture passages read during the liturgy, the Pope explained, we glimpse some of the stages of this "*path of reconciliation and grace*", from God's creation of the world to the Israelites' flight from Egypt to the ministry of St. Paul.

The unifying theme of all these moments in salvation history, the Pope stressed, is that "*God responds to the hardness of sin, which divides and kills, with the power of love, which unites and restores life*".

**Love Transcends Death:** Pope Leo then reflected on Christ's Resurrection, as narrated in Matthew's Gospel.

When the two Mary's visit Jesus's tomb, an earthquake rolls away the stone blocking the entrance.

In that moment, the Pope said, what the women witnessed is "*the power of God's love, stronger than any force of evil. Humanity can kill the body, but the life of the God of love is eternal life, which transcends death and which no tomb can imprison*".

**War, Injustice, and Isolation:** In the final portion of his homily, Pope Leo reflected on the "*tombs still to be opened today*", such as "*mistrust, fear, selfishness, and resentment*", as well as "*war, injustice, and the isolation of peoples and nations*".

The Pope exhorted his listeners to not allow themselves to be "paralyzed" in the face of such challenges.

Instead, he said, we should imitate the "*commitment*" of the saints who have gone before us, so that "*the Easter gifts of harmony and peace might grow and flourish everywhere and always throughout the world*".

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pre-Authorized Donation- "I give for the vitality of my church":** We remind parishioners who have not already done so, you can enroll in the pre authorized program at any time which assists your parish church financially in their day-to-day operations. Forms are at your church and we encourage you to take advantage of this simple way of donating.

**•Catechism for Adults:** Adult classes will begin after Easter. Rite of Christian Initiation also known as RCIA/OCIA is to learn about our faith, explore becoming Catholic, and to receive sacraments like Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 506-547-4737.

**•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](http://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](mailto:churchesgoodshepherd@gmail.com)

**•Bible Class-With Father Keith:** Bible class will be on Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Holy Family Church.

**Cemetery Notices:** Please contact the Administrative Office of The Parish of Good Shepherd (506-547-4737) to arrange all burials in the cemeteries; and to complete the mandatory paperwork.

**For your information:** We advise all Cemetery Donation cheques **should not be made payable to the Parish of the Good Shepherd** as there is no such bank account; every church has their own account in the church's name. However, when a church closes, the account still exists as before but must be renamed according to CRA regulations for registered charities. Cheques for donations to Saint Joseph Cemetery are to be made payable to St. Gabriel Nash Creek, while cheques for Our Lady of the Visitation Cemetery are to be made payable to St. Gabriel Benjamin River.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Jeunesses Musicales Dalhousie:** Welcome you to the last concert of their 35<sup>th</sup> season on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. The recital takes place at Dalhousie LER Community Theatre. Admission is by JMC season pass or \$20.00 at the door with free entry for students. For information, call Claudette Theriault at 506-684-3965.

**Musique Saint Joachim:** Present to you JoyRide, a duo that will take you on a thrilling and multi-instrumental adventure blending Jazz, Latin music, Klezmer, Celtic, Blues and much more! The concert is Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at Saint Joachim Church in Bertrand. Tickets at the door are \$25. The concert is free for children and students.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

- ✠ Brenda Murray (Bob & Debbie Anglehart) **STA**
- ✠ Tracy Lea Fiola **STA**
- ✠ Shirley Thibodeau (Carol O'Neil) **HF**
- ✠ Helen Hachey (Anne Marie Doucet) (John & Johanne Robbins) (Carol O'Neil) (Norma Doucet) **HF**
- ✠ Philippe Pitre (Anne Marie Doucet) **HF**

## RECOMMENDED TO YOUR PRAYERS

- ✠ Please pray for **Helen Hachey** of Bathurst who passed away on March 29<sup>th</sup> at the age of 84. A Funeral Mass was held at Holy Family Church.
- ✠ Please pray for **Jeffery Noel Murray** of Atholville who passed away on March 19<sup>th</sup> at the age of 55. A Chapel Service was held at Maher's Funeral Home.
- ✠ Please pray for **Philippe Pitre** of Bathurst who passed away on March 7<sup>th</sup> at the age of 55. A Chapel Service was held at Elhattons Funeral Home.

## PRIVATE MASSES IN MARCH BY FATHER KEITH

- ✠ Rose Boulay (Diane & Mike Chiasson) **SJE**
- ✠ John & Isabel Guitard (Jacqueline & Chantal) **SJE**
- ✠ John Bosco Furlotte (Sophie Furlotte) **SG**
- ✠ Gerry Theriault (Sophie Furlotte) **SG**
- ✠ Norman Mallais (Lana & Andre Comeau) **SJE**
- ✠ Heather Deardon (Joan Guitard) **SJE**
- ✠ Edmond & Yvonne Nicolle (Adeline Adams) **SA**
- ✠ Debbie Clark (Michael Guitard) **SA**

## DID YOU KNOW - THIS IS HOLY GROUND

To the human eye, a single drop of wine seems insignificant. Easy to miss. Easy to dismiss. But on the altar, there is no such thing as "just a drop". In the Catholic faith, even the smallest drop of the Precious Blood carries a weight that should make heaven and earth tremble.

The Church teaches that Christ is fully present, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, in every drop of the consecrated wine. Not partially. Not symbolically. Fully. This means that a single drop contains the same Christ who hung on the Cross, rose from the tomb, and reigns in glory. Size does not reduce presence. Quantity does not limit divinity.

This belief flows directly from Calvary. Christ did not shed His Blood casually. Every drop was poured out for our redemption. Scripture tells us we were bought at a price, not by gold or silver, but by the precious Blood of Christ. If God values every drop of His Son's Blood, the Church does not treat any of it as disposable or ordinary.

That is why the priest handles the chalice with such care. Why the purificator is used reverently. Why spills are treated with solemn attention. These actions are not fear-driven; they are faith-driven. They proclaim a truth the world has forgotten: God does not measure holiness by convenience.

There is also a lesson for the soul. If even a drop of Christ's blood matters, then no act of love, no sacrifice, no suffering offered to God is ever wasted. Nothing given in faith is too small. Nothing poured out in love is ignored.

The altar teaches us what the world denies: the smallest things can carry infinite value when they belong to God.

Now you know. When you see the Church protect even a drop of the Precious Blood, do you realize how much your own life matters to the God who shed it?



**SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL**  
123 Saint Andrew Street, Bathurst, NB

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Thank You Jesus.

**St. Brother Andre Candle:** Jean Noreen Cormier (*Family*).

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Hour:** The Holy Sacrament will be exposed every Thursday after the English 12:00-noon Mass. Adoration will also be after the 9:00 am French Mass on the first Friday of each month.

**Catechism Class:** Class will be on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family Church at 2:00 pm.

**Heating Collection:** The next heating collection will be the weekend of April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**HOLY FAMILY**  
430 St. Peter Ave. Bathurst, NB

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Margaret Lavigne (*Cletus & Cathie Boucher*).

**Catechism Class:** Class will be on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at Holy Family Church at 2:00 pm.

**Special Thank You:** Special thanks to all the parishioners who supported our Easter fundraiser to raise money for decorations and flowers. Your support is very much appreciated. Also, a big thank you to all the volunteers who spent endless hours preparing and decorating the church for Easter.

**50/50 Draw:** Next Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> is the 50/50 draw. Tickets are 3 for \$5.00 and 9 for \$10.00. Tickets are sold prior to mass and the draw is immediately after mass. Thank you for your financial support.

**Knights of Columbus-Spring Yard Sale: Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon.** If you are spring cleaning or downsizing, we will gladly accept items you no longer use or want. We are especially looking for small tables, chairs and dressers but please **NO large appliances, heavy furniture (i.e. sofa's), big tube TV's, clothing or footwear.** *Items may be dropped off at the church on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.* Pick up will be on Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and can be arranged by calling Allie Power #506-546-4827 or Charles Sweet #506-252-2224.

**Holy Family CWL:** Regular meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> in the church basement at 2:00 pm with the executive meeting at 1:30 pm. Please bring a non perishable food item for the Volunteer Centre. All ladies of the parish are invited to attend the meeting to learn about what we do.

**ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**  
43 Andrew St. Campbellton, NB

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Tracy Lea Fiola.

**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:** Upcoming Yard Sale dates are as follows: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, May 30<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ST. JOHN BOSCO**  
470 Victoria St. Dalhousie NB

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Jim Ross (*Family*).

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

**St. John Bosco - Catechism Class:** Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm at the St. John Bosco church hall. Students will be advised of the upcoming class date at each class. Cost is \$20.00. Registration is online at [goodshepherdp parish.faith](http://goodshepherdp parish.faith). Contact is Deacon Chris at 506-686-1676.

**St. John Bosco-CWL:** We will be collecting donations and supplies in support of *Maison Notre-Dame House* which provides a secure shelter for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. They are always in need of diapers, baby items, feminine hygiene products, underwear, wipes, shampoo, hair brushes, body wash, toothbrushes and toothpaste. A box will be set up at the back of the church to accept donations and supplies. Receipts will be issued for cash donations of \$10.00 or more. Thank you for all your kindness and generosity.

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

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Special Intention (*A Parishioner*).

**Card Play:** Card play on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in the church hall of St. John the Evangelist Church in Belledune. All are welcome.

**ST. GABRIEL THE ARCHANGEL**  
4118 Main Street, Belledune NB

**Sanctuary Lamp:** Ethel & Harry Boudreau (*Opal Lundy-Boudreau*).

**Sanctuary Lamps:** Anyone wishing to light a Sanctuary Candle "In Memory of" or for a special prayer intention can do so by completing the white donation envelope. Record your name, who the candle is for along with the date and your phone number.

**Special Thanks:** Our parish was blessed again this year to celebrate Holy Week and Easter. Thank you to those who gave donations for the flowers. Also a special thank you to the choir, readers, servers, gift bearers, those who participated in washing of the feet and to all who helped set up each mass and our special priests, Father Anthony and Father Gerry along with Deacon Chris and Michael Arsenaault. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated; please let us know if you would like to take part as we always need more volunteers.

**DEVELOPMENT & PEACE**

**Invitation to become a monthly donor. Double your impact by becoming a monthly donor by May 24/2026!**

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada offers you a simple, effective way to support its mission throughout the year: **becoming a Share Year-Round monthly donor.**

As a Share Year-Round donor, you support the pursuit of social justice and human dignity throughout the year and forge bonds of solidarity across borders. What's more, you automatically become a member of our movement, joining a community of over **13,000 committed people** who share your values.

Sign up as a monthly donor (or increase your monthly donation if you are already one) **before May 24, 2026** and your annual contributions (or increase thereof) will be matched dollar for dollar!

So why not double your impact today by turning your one-off donation into a monthly gift at [devp.org/shareyearround?](http://devp.org/shareyearround?)

**JOURNEY TOWARDS  
A SYNODAL CHURCH**

**Did You Know**

**To evangelize is "the essential mission of the Church. Synodality and mission are intimately linked: mission illuminates synodality and synodality spurs to mission.**




**FINANCIAL INFORMATION – THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

<u>April 4th &amp; April 5th</u>	<b>Holy Family</b>	<b>Sacred Heart Cathedral</b>	<b>Saint Gabriel the Archangel</b>	<b>Saint John the Evangelist</b>	<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>Saint John Bosco</b>	<b>Saint Thomas Aquinas</b>	<b>Saint Anthony</b>
<b>Collection</b>	667.00	3193.85	200.00	No Mass		285.00	No Mass	No Mass
<b>Easter</b>	1352.00	815.00	410.00			615.00		
<b>Good Friday Ash Wednesday</b>	510.00	550.00 10.00	345.00			300.00		
<b>Easter Flowers/Palm</b>	50.00/	/38.00	20.00/					
<b>Pope's Pastoral Wk.</b>		10.00						
<b>Initial Offering</b>	5.00	5.00						
<b>Dev. &amp; Peace</b>	20.00	70.00	35.00			40.00		
<b>Fundraising</b>		8000.00 (Chase the Ace)						
<b>Dues/Donation</b>	40.00/40.00	20.00/				20.00/		
<b>Memorial</b>	90.00							
<b>Candles</b>	91.25	307.70				20.00		
<b>Living Christ/Missal</b>		32.45	5.00					

**MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS (APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> – APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>)**

<b>Holy Family</b>	<b>Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am</b> + Adelard Gionet ( <i>Thelma &amp; Family</i> )	<b>Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am</b> + Ben Murphy ( <i>Marion &amp; Bryon McLean</i> )
<b>Sacred Heart Cathedral</b>	<b>Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm</b> + Georgette Assaff ( <i>Anthony Jabora Scott &amp; Johanna Lee MacMullin</i> )	<b>Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am</b> + Claudia Roy - Prayers for illness ( <i>Roger &amp; Patricia Roy</i> ) + Théofile Doucet ( <i>Ralph &amp; Manuel</i> )
<b>Weekly Masses</b>	<b>Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00-noon</b> + Thanksgiving-Favor received in Honor of The Blessed Virgin Mary ( <i>Joyce Godin</i> )	<b>Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00-noon</b> + André Boutin ( <i>Dan Neville</i> )
	<b>Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am (French)</b> + Bill Little ( <i>Family</i> )	<b>Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am (French)</b> + For All Parishioners ( <i>The Pastor</i> )
	<b>Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm</b> + Kent Branch ( <i>Debbie &amp; Family</i> )	<b>Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am</b> + Theresa Boucher (9 <sup>th</sup> Ann.) ( <i>Nancy Boucher &amp; Family</i> ) + Bill & Marie Little ( <i>Marie Roy</i> )
<b>St. Gabriel the Archangel</b>	<b>Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm</b> + Darrell & Jamie Guitard ( <i>Neil &amp; Family</i> )	<b>Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm</b> + For All Parishioners ( <i>The Pastor</i> )
<b>St. John the Evangelist</b>	<b>Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm</b> + Michel Guitard ( <i>Jacqueline &amp; Chantal</i> )	<b>Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm</b> + Jimmy Grennan ( <i>Margaret &amp; Barry</i> )
<b>St. John Bosco</b>	<b>Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am</b> + Claude Chiasson ( <i>Gerard Benoit</i> ) <b>Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am</b> + Olive Phillip ( <i>Krista, Gerry &amp; Spencer Smith</i> )	<b>Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am</b> + Alice George ( <i>Brenda &amp; Everte Martin</i> ) <b>Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 am</b> + Warren Barristo ( <i>Karen Barristo</i> )
<b>St. Thomas Aquinas</b>	<b>Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am</b> + Ralph Babin - 7 <sup>th</sup> Ann. ( <i>Joan &amp; Family</i> )	<b>Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am</b> + Donald Redstone ( <i>Claudette Redstone</i> )

<b>Pope's Prayer Intention April /2026</b>	<b>Weekly Readings April 13<sup>th</sup> – April 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Quote of the Week</b>
<p><i>For Priests in crisis:</i></p> <p>Let us Pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.</p> <p align="center"><b>AMEN</b></p>	<p><b>Monday</b> – Easter Weekday • Acts 4:23-31 / John 3:1-8</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> – Easter Weekday • Acts 4:32-37 / John 3:7b-15</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b> – Easter Weekday • Acts 5:17-26 / John 3:16-21</p> <p><b>Thursday</b> – Easter Weekday • Acts 5:27-33 / John 3:31-36</p> <p><b>Friday</b> – St. Kateri Tekakwitha • Acts 5:34-42 / John 6:1-15</p> <p><b>Saturday</b> – Easter Weekday • Acts 6:1-7 / Mark 6:16-21</p>	 <p><b>Easter says you can put truth in a grave, but it won't stay there.</b></p>