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St. André Bessette Parish

Sunday Masses:

Saturday 4:00 pm at Holy Cross
Sunday 9:00 am at St. Bernard
11:00 am at St. Rose of Lima (Live Stream)

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday 6:30 pm at St. Bernard
Wednesday 6:30 pm at St. Rose of Lima
Thursday 12 noon at St. Bernard followed by Benediction then Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 3 pm
Friday 12 noon at St. Rose of Lima followed by Benediction then Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 3 pm

Confessions:

St. Bernard:

Tuesday 6:00 - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Thursday 11:30 - 11:55 am (prior to the noon Mass)
First Saturday of the month following the 9 am Mass

St. Rose of Lima:

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:20 pm (prior to the 6:30 pm Mass)
Friday 11:30 - 11:55 am (prior to the noon Mass)

Holy Cross:

Saturday 3:30 - 3:50 pm (prior to the 4:00 pm Mass)

Parish Office:

Troy Marshall 902-860-0475 Ext 2 office@standrebessette.net
Lynette McMullin 902-860-0475 Ext 3 businessoffice@standrebessette.net
Tuesday to Friday: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Coordinator, Faith Formation

Maria McDonald 902-860-0475 Ext 4 maria.mcdonald@standrebessette.net

Communications (Bulletin): standrecommunication@gmail.com
Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Website: standrebessette.net

St. Vincent de Paul Society
Phone: 902-476-8626
Email: ssvdpfallriver@gmail.com

WELCOMING COMMUNITIES OF FAITH AND WORSHIP

St. Bernard Church, Enfield
St. Rose of Lima Church, Fall River
Holy Cross Church, Middle Musquodoboit

Pastor
Fr. Gerald David
frgerald@standrebessette.net

Deacon
Rev. Mr. Dan Bowden
dangbowden@gmail.com

Parish Offerings:

To register with our parish Pre-Authorized Debit program, please contact Lynette at the parish office. You can also e-transfer contributions using stbernardsenfield@gmail.com. These are alternatives to the traditional collection envelopes, which of course are still available.

3rd Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2024

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 24 7 pm at St. Bernard and 7 pm at St. Rose of Lima
Wednesday, December 25 9 am at Holy Cross and 10 am at St. Rose of Lima



The third Advent candle, often called the Shepherds' candle, will be lit today signifying the joyful hope of God's people waiting for their Messiah. This Third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. It is a Latin word meaning *Rejoice!* Modeling Mary, let us rejoice in our longing and waiting in the shadows of Advent for Christ. As Mary was filled with joy because God called her to be the Mother of the Messiah, we should remember that we too are called to share our gifts and serve with anticipatory joy all of His people.

4-Day Pilgrimage to Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré and Saint Joseph's Oratory in June 2025 — The dates will be **June 4 to 7, 2025 inclusive**. Day 1 we will drive to Quebec City and stay the night. Day 2 we will visit St. Joseph's Oratory and return to Quebec City. Day 3 we will visit Sainte-Anne-de-Baupré and day 4 we will travel home to Nova Scotia.

If you are interested but have not yet signed up, please sign the list at the entrance of the three churches or call the office. If you are no longer interested in the trip, please remove your name from the list. The price for the tour will be **\$725 per person**, and this includes the bus, hotel and breakfast each morning and all taxes. We will require **\$400 each by January 24** and the remainder by **February 28** so we can make the down payments required for the trip.

Mass Intentions for the week of December 16 to 22, 2024

Tuesday, December 17 @ 6:30 pm (St. Bernard) - **Mona Maatouk †**
Wednesday, December 18 @ 6:30 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - **Nicholas Flynn †**
Thursday, December 19 @ 12:00 pm (St. Bernard) - **Pierrette Blok †**
Friday, December 20 @ 12:00 pm (St. Rose of Lima) - **John Baptiste Doucet †**
Saturday, December 21 @ 4:00 pm (Holy Cross) - **Personal Intentions †**
Sunday, December 22 @ 9:00 am (St. Bernard) - **Eddie Benere and Keith Arsenault †**
Sunday, December 22 @ 11:00 am (St. Rose of Lima) - **For the people**

Christmas Flowers — Please consider making a donation in your deceased loved ones' names to the cost of the flowers and decorations that will adorn the churches this Christmas. Names will be posted in the churches, thus marking their presence for all of the Masses from Christmas Eve until the Epiphany. To make a donation, simply place it in an envelope with your name and the name of your deceased family member or friend and drop the envelope in the collection at Sunday Mass. You may add your church envelope number to ensure that your donation will be credited for income tax purposes.



Remembrance Tree — The St. Rose of Lima CWL is **continuing** the Christmas Tradition to **remember and pray** for our deceased loved ones during the liturgical Christmas Season. Christmas ornaments with their names can be ordered and will be placed on a Christmas Tree located in the church. These dear ones will be remembered and prayed for in all of the Masses offered from the first Christmas Mass until the Epiphany Mass. After the Epiphany Mass, those who ordered an ornament can collect and take it home to place on their own Christmas Tree next year. The CWL ladies will be accepting donations for the ornaments and will be at the entrance of St. Rose of Lima church until **Sunday, December 22** to accept the names of your deceased loved ones.



St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus "Socks for Souls" Campaign

The Knights will once again be putting out a box at the entrance of the church to collect new socks, hats and gloves for those in need this winter. Last year they collected 375 pairs of socks, 26 pairs of gloves and 13 hats. They are, with your help, hoping to increase those totals this year! Your donations will be brought to Hope Cottage, along with a hot stew supper.

St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Lot

The Knights are again set up with the Burgess Family Tree Lot (across the road from the Sobey's Gas Bar/Needs).



Knights of Columbus 2025 Calendars — Cash calendars will be available at the entrances of St. Rose of Lima and St. Bernard after Sunday Mass. Cost is \$20, and gives you a chance to win multiple draws.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — In addition to the regularly-scheduled times for Reconciliation, the following will be offered as well:

- **Tuesday, December 17** following the 6:30 pm Mass 7 - 8 pm (St. Bernard)
- **Wednesday, December 18** following 6:30 pm Mass 7 - 8 pm (St. Rose of Lima)
- **Thursday, December 19** following the 12 noon Mass: 12:30 - 1:15 pm (St. Bernard)
- **Friday, December 20** following the 12 noon Mass 12:30 - 1:30pm (St. Rose of Lima)

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Angel Tree — From now until December 22, you will see a St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Angel Tree at the entrance of St. Rose of Lima Church. Please take a tag, buy the item and return it the following week. Your donations will help those less fortunate in our local community.

New Catholic School Opening in HRM — The Archdiocese is pleased to announce the opening of Frassati Academy, an independent, Catholic elementary school, in September 2025 for the 25/26 school year. Frassati Academy will support children in dynamically living their Catholic faith while also providing academic excellence. This newly-founded school will be located at the Campbell Centre of the St. Agnes site of Good Shepherd Parish in Halifax. The school takes Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati as its patron. Frassati was a good-humoured Italian youth who was an avid athlete as well as a devotee of both the Eucharist and Our Lady. In the midst of a prestigious and affluent upbringing, the school's patron remained humble and was deeply committed to a life of charity in service of those in need. He died at the age of 24 of polio, likely contracted from those he aided. Frassati will be canonized in 2025, the centenary of his death.

You are invited to prayerfully consider making a year-end, tax-deductible donation to Frassati Academy or becoming an ongoing benefactor. All donations are processed and receipted by the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. For more information on this initiative, visit www.frassatiacademy.ca. You may also send an email to info@frassatiacademy.ca.

Thank you for your prayers and support!



John A. MacDonald
MLA Hants East

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Constituency Assistant: Jena Fraser
mlahantseast@gmail.com

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ASAP THIS ADVENT

Ever wonder about the abbreviation ASAP? Generally we think of ASAP as causing even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

There's work to do, deadlines to meet,
You've got no time to spare.
But as you hurry and scurry -
Always Say a Prayer

In the midst of family chaos,
"Quality time" is rare.
Do your best; let God do the rest -
Always Say a Prayer

It may seem like your worries
are more than you can bear.
Slow down and take a breather -
Always Say a Prayer

God knows how stressful life is;
He wants to ease our cares.
And He'll respond to all your needs -
Always Say a Prayer

2024/2025 Family Formation Program

December 15 Home Lesson St. Rose of Lima
December 15 Family Christmas Party (p-Confirmation Class *Service Hours) St. Bernard @ 10:00 am

CHRISTMAS BREAK: DECEMBER 20, 2024 - JANUARY 2, 2025

Congratulations to the students who made their **First Penance** at St. Bernard Church last Saturday, December 7: **Henry Hayes — Henderson Mann — Everett MacInnes**

Elias Murphy will soon follow.

It was a beautiful morning and the students did an amazing job! Thank you to the parents for your continued support and for modeling our Catholic Faith for your children.

2025 is a Jubilee Year! — To celebrate this significant year in the life of our Church, the Holy Father calls us to be pilgrims of hope for he wrote: "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." The Jubilee begins on December 24, 2024, with the official Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica, and runs to January 6, 2026, the Feast Day of Epiphany, with the Closing of the Holy Door.



The Pope has asked bishops around the world to open the Jubilee in their diocese on December 29, 2024. In light of this, Archbishop Dunn invites the faithful to join in the opening of the Jubilee Year in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth at one of the following Masses:
Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica at 10:30am, Celebrant: Archbishop Emeritus Anthony Mancini
Saint Ambrose Co-Cathedral at 11:00am, Celebrant: Fr. Henry Smolenaars
All are welcome!

Beacon House Christmas Hamper Program — St. Rose of Lima Church contributed over **175** cartons of juice for the Beacon House Christmas Hamper Program. Thank you for your generosity! The additional food staples and monetary donations that parishioners have been providing are also very much appreciated, as the number of people accessing the Food Bank continues to climb. Beacon House could not exist without the food, monetary, and volunteer support of "neighbours helping neighbours." May God bless and reward your kindness.

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