

# St. John of the Cross Catholic Cluster

## NOTRE DAME du MONT CARMEL

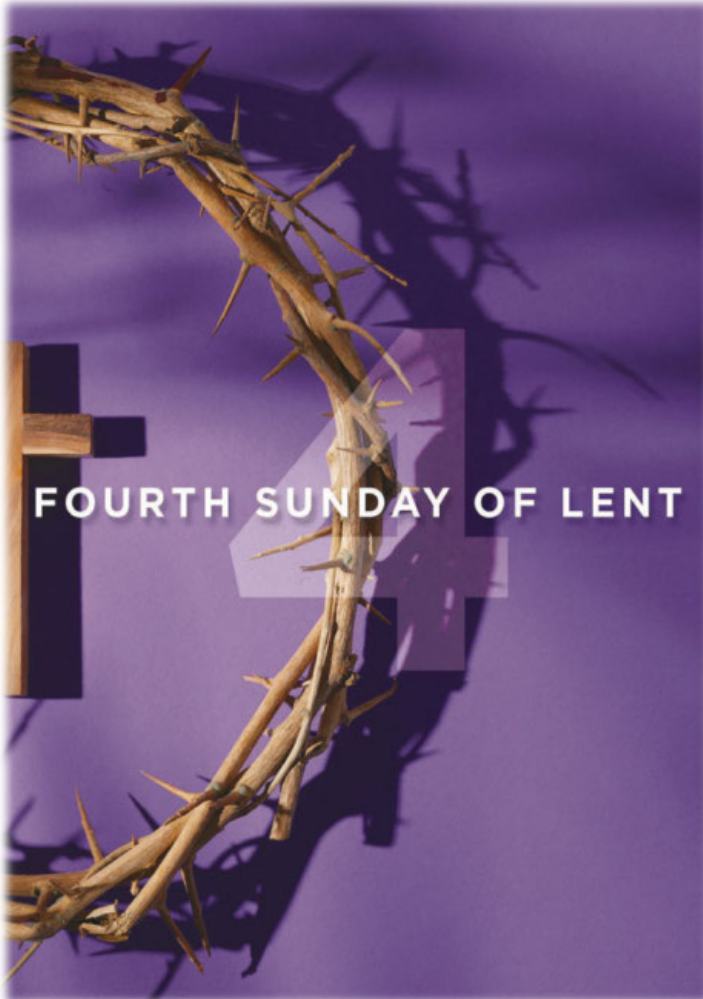
St. David  
St. Gerard-Mt. Carmel  
St. Thomas Aquinas

## OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

St. Agatha  
St. Luce  
St. Joseph (Sinclair)  
St. Michael (Summer Months)

## ST. PETER CHANEL

St. Bruno - St. Remi  
St. Joseph (Hamlin)



**MARCH 27, 2022**

### **PASTOR**

**FR. KENT OUELLETTE**

### **PAROCHIAL VICAR**

**FR. ANTONY ALEXANDER MARIA DOSS, HGN**

### **DEACONS**

**REV. MR. DONALD R. CLAVETTE**

**REV. MR. RODNEY DESCHAIINE**

### **CLUSTER 2 BUSINESS COORDINATOR**

**GREG CYR**

### **SACRAMENTAL & PASTORAL CARE**

#### **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Please call your parish office for appointment.

#### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday before 4pm Mass or by appointment.

#### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Please call your parish office at least 6 months prior to date.

#### **SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please call your parish office.

#### **FUNERALS**

Please contact the Cluster 2 business office.

#### **NEW PARISHIONERS**

If you are new to the parish or have an address or phone number change, please contact your parish office.

### **NOTRE DAME DU MONT CARMEL**

309 St. Thomas Street, Suite 103

Madawaska, ME 04756

Parish Office / Cluster 2 Business Office - 728-7531

[notredamedumontcarmel@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:notredamedumontcarmel@portlanddiocese.org)

Faith Formation Office - 728-7135

### **OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY**

379 Main St./PO Box 10, St. Agatha, ME 04772

Parish Office - 543-7447

[ourladyofthevalley@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:ourladyofthevalley@portlanddiocese.org)

Faith Formation Office - 543-6119

### **ST. PETER CHANEL**

174 Main St., Van Buren, ME 04785

Parish Office - 868-2718

[StPeterChanelParish@portlanddiocese.org](mailto:StPeterChanelParish@portlanddiocese.org)

**Notre Dame du Mont Carmel Mass Schedule**

<b>Saturday, March 26</b>	<b>St. Ludger</b>	<b>Thursday, March 31</b>	<b>NO MASS / St. Benjamin, Deacon</b>
4:00pm ST: (LS) Memorial Mass		<b>Friday, April 1</b>	<b>St. Hugh, Bishop of Grenoble</b>
6:00pm SG: Claire Cote by Barbara Roy		6:00pm SD: Dale Pelletier by Janice Sirois	
<b>Sunday, March 27</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>Saturday, April 2</b>	<b>St. Mary of Egypt</b>
8:30am ST: Paul Dube by Mom & Glen		4:00pm ST: (LS) Gerald 'Gerry' Cyr (1st Ann) by Wife & Family	
11:00am SD: Deceased Relatives of Grace Martin & Family		6:00pm SG: Ronald J. Cyr by Joan P. Cyr & Family	
<b>Monday, March 28</b>	<b>St. Rupert of Sczsburg</b>	<b>Sunday, April 3</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>
8:30am ST: Roger Ayotte by Jeannine Daigle		8:30am ST: Norman Chasse by Terry & Anne Blaylock	
<b>Tuesday, March 29</b>	<b>St. Ludolph, Bishop</b>	11:00am SD: Clarence & Gaetane Lagasse by Children	
6:00pm ST: (LS) Jimmy Madore by Lee St. Onge			
<b>Wednesday, March 30</b>	<b>St. John Climacus</b>		
8:30am ST: Babineau Family by Lester & Anne Ouellette			

**\*\* (LS) Livestream**

**Our Lady of the Valley Mass Schedule**

<b>Saturday, March 26</b>	<b>St. Ludger</b>	<b>Wednesday, March 30</b>	<b>NO MASS / St. John Climacus</b>
6:00pm SA: Rena Lizotte(1st Ann) by Family		<b>Thursday, March 31</b>	<b>St. Benjamin, Deacon</b>
<b>Sunday, March 27</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>	6:00pm SL: Courtney Ringuette Paradis by Lloyd & Judy Paradis	
10:30am SL: Valier Thibeault by Anne Franck		<b>Friday, April 1</b>	<b>NO MASS/St. Hugh, Bishop of Grenoble</b>
4:00pm SJ: Deceased relatives of Angela Charette		<b>Saturday, April 2</b>	<b>St. Mary of Egypt</b>
<b>Monday, March 28</b>	<b>St. Rupert of Sczsburg</b>	6:00pm SA: James Chamberland by Muriel McGlaughlin	
6:00pm SA: Marie Louise Raymond by Joel & Ginette Ouellette		<b>Sunday, April 3</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 29</b>	<b>St. Ludolph, Bishop</b>	10:30am SL: Clovis Daigle (1st Ann) by Family	
8:30am SJ: Deceased Relatives by Robert & Rita Babin		4:00pm SJ: Joseph Albee Dubois by Caron family	

**St. Peter Chanel Mass Schedule**

<b>Saturday, March 26</b>	<b>St. Ludger</b>	<b>Wednesday, March 30</b>	<b>St. John Climacus</b>
4:00pm SB/SR: Verna Gagnon (1st Ann 3/25) by Don & Family		5:00-6:00pm SB/SR: Adoration/Confession	
<b>Sunday, March 27</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>	6:00pm SB/SR: Normande Rossignol by John & Noreen Pelletier	
8:00am SJ: Darold Pelletier by his wife, Gloria & Family		<b>Thursday, March 31</b>	<b>NO MASS / St. Benjamin, Deacon</b>
9:15am SB/SR: Rosaire Boutot by his wife, Yvonne		<b>Friday, April 1</b>	<b>NO MASS/St. Hugh, Bishop of Grenoble</b>
<b>Monday, March 28</b>	<b>St. Rupert of Sczsburg</b>	5:30pm SB/SR: Stations of the Cross	
6:00pm SB/SR: All the Parishioners of SPC, NDMC & OLV by the Pastor		<b>Saturday, April 2</b>	<b>St. Mary of Egypt</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 29</b>	<b>NO MASS / St. Ludolph, Bishop</b>	4:00pm SB/SR: Dan Marquis by Steve & Marilyn Lajoie	
		<b>Sunday, April 3</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>
		8:00am SJ: Louis & Gladys Gorey by Patricia Guillerault	
		9:15am SB/SR: Sister Emelda Parent by John & Noreen Pelletier	

**EUCCHARIST ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS SCHEDULE**

	<b>EUCCHARIST ADORATION</b>	<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	<b>MASS</b>
ST. BRUNO/ST REMI	MONDAY 5:00 TO 6:00	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM
ST. AGATHA	MONDAY 5:00 TO 6:00	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	TUESDAY 1:00 TO 5:45	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM
ST. BRUNO/ST. REMI	WEDNESDAY 5:00 TO 6:00	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM
ST. LUCE	THURSDAY 5:00 TO 6:00	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM
ST. DAVID	FRIDAY 5:00 TO 6:00	5:00 TO 5:45	6:00PM



**Dieu Nous Attend**



# NOTRE DAME DU MONT CARMEL PARISH CORNER

St. David, St. Gerard-Mt. Carmel/Grand Isle, St. Thomas Aquinas/Madawaska

## Worship & Spirituality



### FOR OUR SICK

Quinn Soucy, Debba Levesque, Real & Kim Pelletier. FMI please call 728-7135. \*\*Please note that after 1 month on the list we will remove the name. You must call back if you want to be put back on. Thank you

### LAMP FOR THE UNBORN BURNS FOR:

**St. David** - for the Unborn by a Parishioner  
**St. Gerard** - for Brianna by Diane M. Thibeault



### ST. GERARD SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS IN APRIL

**FOR:** Raoul & Jeannette Chasse by Louise

### ST. DAVID SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS IN APRIL FOR:

Msgr Leopold Nicknair by Cecile Ouellette  
 Special Intention by Parishioner



### ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SANCTUARY LAMP BURNS IN

**APRIL FOR:** Adrien 'Bee' Pelletier by sisters-in-law Thelma & Marcie

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Tuesday, March 29th / 1pm-5:45pm**  
 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church



**INTENTION:** For those among us who do not have adequate shelter and enough to eat and for our area businesses and their workforces.

**FATIMA ROSARY:** Recited every 13th of each month at 12pm (noon) at St. Gerard Church. All are welcomed.

## MEMORIAL MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 26 - 4:00pm - St. Thomas Aquinas**

Scott B. Cyr	by Conrad & Rachele Beaulieu
Fernande Cyr	by Reginald & Rinette Guerrette
Donald Albert	by Blanche Roix
Donald Albert	by Hilda Cyr
Donald Albert	by Mom, Yolande Albert
Gloria Roussel	by Lee St. Onge
Deceased Relatives	of Nelson & Geneta Jandreau
Deceased Relatives	of Berthie & Rita Picard
Deceased Relatives	of Valier & Therese Thibeault
Robert Cyr	by Leola & family
Leola Daigle	by Lee St. Onge
Nivard & Lena Hebert	by Family
Noella Ouellette	by Lee St. Onge
Rosaire Blanchette	by Leola Gagnon
Martin Cyr & Louise Brown	by Robert & Leola Cyr
Lewis 'Joe' Hebert	by Robert & Leola Cyr

Notre Dame du Monte Carmel has an immediate opening for a

### Custodial Associate

This part time position will be responsible for maintaining sanitation in and around the parish buildings. Inquiries can be made at the cluster Business Office or by calling 728-7531



## Finance & Administration

### Notre Dame du Mont Carmel Financial Update

**Offertory:** July 1, 2021 to March 13, 2022

**Budget:** \$244,058 **Actual:** \$247,579 **Over Anticipated:** \$3,522

	Amount given	Weekly goal
St. David	\$1,225	\$1,745
St. Gerard	\$ 0	\$1,032
St. Thomas Aquinas	\$1,204	\$3,819
Weekly Totals	\$2,429	\$6,596

**WeShare Online Giving: \$682**

## Please Pray for our Military Service Members



"Lord hold our Troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.



Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need."

**If you would like to have a Service Member listed, Contact Charlie at 207-316-3382.**

## Second Collection

**March 27 - Catholic Relief Services**



## Parish Life

**DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA PRAYER LINE:** If you are in need of prayers for you or a loved one, the Daughters of Isabella can help through the Prayer Line. This is open to anyone – not only for members. To add a name to the prayer line, call **Lucy Cyr at 436-9673.**

**DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA MEETING:** Monday, April 14, rosary at 5pm, meal at 5:15pm followed by meeting. Please bring items for a baby shower. FMI call Rose at 728-6388.

## Community Events

### YOUR ST. THOMAS FOOD PANTRY IS HERE FOR YOU:

If you are struggling and need food in these difficult times, we are here for you. Applications available at Frenchville and Madawaska Town Offices. You can also pick one up when you come pick up a box. Drive by St Thomas Aquinas Church parking lot, wear mask & open trunk of your car. **Senior boxes will be available on March 28 from 8-10am 8-10am.** FMI call pantry at 728-7531.

**GRAND ISLE SENIOR LUNCHEON:** Thursday, March 31st at the Community Center. Until further notice the meals will be **TAKE OUT ONLY!! MENU:** Chicken Stew

**GRAND ISLE SPEGHETTI DINNER & MUSIC:** Sunday, April 10, 11am to 12:30pm. Tickets \$8 in advance or \$9 at the door. Tickets available from Angela 895-6949, George 227-1177 or Rita 895-2215. Eat in or take out available. **Music by Hervin & Ed.** Fund raiser sponsored by Greater Grand Isle Committee for summer events & Sunday music.



**OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY PARISH CORNER**  
St. Agatha, St. Joseph/Sinclair, St. Luce/Frenchville, St. Michael Chapel

**Worship & Spirituality**

**PRAYER LINE CONTACTS**

St. Joseph: Cecile Ouellette 543-6073

**SANCTUARY LAMP: Burns for:**

**St. Agatha:** Robert Collin by Frances & family  
**St. Luce:** Emile & Joan Belanger by daughter Judy Lavoie & family  
Deceased family members of Camille & Bea Bernier  
**St. Joseph:** Wayne Dionne by Emery & Claudette & family



**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Monday's 5:00-6:00pm with Mass at 6:00pm at St. Agatha  
Thursday's 5:00-6:00pm with Mass at 6:00pm at St. Luce



**††REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for those who have died and for their families:  
† **Philip L. Deschaine, 73**, who passed away on March 12. He was a member of St. Joseph's Parish.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**April 5 - Family Rosary - 6:30pm** at St. Agatha Church  
All are invited  
Prayers for the sick of our parish

**April 12 - Officer's meeting - 6:30pm** at the basement of the St. Agatha Church. Come in from the back of the church.  
All members are encouraged to attend

**April 28 - Member's meeting and dinner.** St. Agatha Church  
Dinner served at 5:30pm - meeting at 6:30pm  
Bring your wives, friends, possible candidates, family members

**Community Events**

**Frenchville Senior Lunch**

**When:** April 4th **Time:** 11:30am  
**Where:** Frenchville Community Center  
**Menu:** Spaghetti & Meatballs

**Finance & Administration**

**Our Lady of the Valley Financial Updates**

**Offertory:** July 1, 2021 to March 13, 2022

**Budget:** \$131,635 **Actual:** \$126,814 **Under Anticipated:** -\$4,821

	Amount Given	Weekly Goal
Weekly Totals	\$1,567	\$4,167
	This Year	Last Year
Average Collections	\$3,427	\$3,352

**WeShare Online Giving: \$290**

**Second Collection**

**March 27 - Catholic Relief Services**



**St. Rupert of Salzburg | March 28**

St. Rupert of Salzburg is also known as the "Apostle of Bavaria and Austria." Although mostly legend, it is believed that he was born sometime around 660 in Gaul, which is now part of France. It is possible that he is a descendant of the Merovingian royal line. Not much is known about the saint's early life.

We do know that Rupert was first appointed as Bishop of Worms in present-day Germany and despite many good works there, the pagan population eventually beat him and forced him from the city. Rupert retired to Rome for a time until Duke Theodo of Bavaria asked him to come to help establish the Church more firmly in Bavaria. Rupert agreed and brought with him a group of priests. Rupert traveled the region, effecting conversions, miracles, healing. Eventually Rupert chose to settle at Juvavum an old Roman city mostly in ruins. He renamed the city Salzburg or "Salt Castle," and established there a great cathedral and monastery under the Rule of St. Benedict. His niece became abbess of the Benedictine convent he founded nearby. Rupert was the first bishop of Salzburg, serving also as abbot of the monastery.

St. Rupert is usually portrayed carrying a vessel of salt, as he helped establish the salt mining industry for which he named the city. It is said that Rupert died on Easter Sunday though sources disagree on the year, which could have been around 710 or possibly as late as 718.

*St. Rupert of Salzburg, Pray for us!!*

**ST. JOSEPH FOOD PANTRY IN SINCLAIR**

**Serving St. Agatha, Sinclair and Cross Lake**

If you are in need of food in these difficult times, we are here for you. If you are a senior you may qualify for a senior box and food box every month.

Food is given every **first Tuesday** of every month also senior box and this is a drive thru pick up, just open trunk and we will load the box of food for you. Pick up time is 1-3pm.

Please wear a mask!

FMI call Cecile Ouellette @ 543-6073 or 543-5057  
Monday thru Friday from 1-4pm

Application will be completed over the phone due to COVID-19

# ST. PETER CHANEL PARISH CORNER

St. Bruno-St. Remi Church/Van Buren, St. Joseph Church/Hamlin & Borderview Nursing Home

## ST. BRUNO-ST. REMI CHURCH SPONSORS

### BREAD & WINE SPONSOR / IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Cormier & Madore Families by Bea & Family

### SANCTUARY LAMP SPONSOR / IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Raymond Lajoie (Birthday) by Bob, Carol & Family

### Bread & Wine & Sanctuary Lamp Sponsors:

There are currently available dates for the 2022 new year for Bread & Wine (\$25) and Sanctuary Lamp (\$15) sponsors. Please consider coming into or calling the office to reserve your dates to memorialize a family member while helping to defer Parish costs.

**Thank you for your consideration. God Bless.**

## St. Peter Chanel Outreach Committee News

### Food Pantry:

Thank you to our community for working with us through the winter! At this time we are looking for some heavy duty shelving, either on wheels or to be adapted. Will refurbish if necessary. Keep the boxes coming. Still near 200 families served each month. Thanks to ACAP for totes to use this month.

**Next Curbside Distribution Thurs, Mar 31, 1-3 pm.**

We are on call the rest of the month.

**On call for extras and emergencies: Nancy 868-5324,**

**Norm 498-9570, Bob 868-5623, Harvey 868-5679**

Please do NOT HESITATE to call when you have or see a need.

### People Helping People Thrift Store:

**Note New Hours on Tuesday**

**HOURS:** Tuesday 12-3:30pm & Wed-Friday 12-4pm.

**Clothing is \$8/bag** unless specially marked. **NOTE NEW PRICE**

**DROP OFF OF CLOTHING SHOULD BE DONE ONLY DURING STORE**

**HOURS. PLEASE. Thank You!!**

The Ladies of the People helping People thrift shop would like to invite the community to come in to see the new collection of all occasion dresses for first communion, Easter, mother of the bride, bridesmaids, gala/formal, pageant & proms. There is also a small size wedding dress (ask for private viewing). **SPECIAL** on Nurses uniforms buy 2 pieces & get 2 free.

Come check out our men's 3-piece suits.

**A sincere thanks to the community for all your donations and support... we could not do this without you!**

**Matt 25:40 "Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."**

## SECOND COLLECTIONS / MARCH

26/27 CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

**Mass Scheduling:** Anyone coming into the office to schedule a Mass needs to know that the Mass request will be booked immediately but not scheduled unless it is a 1st Anniversary Mass. The dates that Masses are scheduled will be listed in the bulletin weekly. Thanks for your understanding in this. God Bless.

## Finance & Administration

### St. Peter Chanel Parish Financial Updates

**Offertory:** July 1, 2021 to March 13, 2022

**Budget:**\$99,615 **Actual:**\$101,007 **Over Anticipated:**\$1,392

Amt. Given \$325

Weekly Goal \$2,692

This year \$2,730

Last year \$2,708

**WeShare: Online Giving: \$87**



## Bulletin Memorials In Loving Memory of:



Marquis & Cyr Families by Ray & Judy Marquis	Love you Aunt Mildred by your Nephew	Gilman Grandmason by his Family
Madore & Rossignol Families by Carlene & Sheila	Claudette Rossignol by Joan & Richard	Patrick Thibodeau by Yolande & Family
Tardif, Parent & Young Families by Ron & June & Family	Simone Vaillancourt by her Family & Friends	Gerald Morrow by Diane, Dan, Megan & Tiffany
Darold Pelletier by his wife, Gloria & Family	Antoine Levesque by his wife, Irene	Lajoie & Marquis Families by Mike & Marie Lajoie
Deceased Members of The Class of 1949 by The Class of 1949	St. Pierre & Marquis Families by Paul & Helen St. Pierre	Edmond & Bella Pelletier & boys, David & Darold by Chris & Terry Berube
Kim & Bobbie Pelletier by John & Leslie Beaulieu	Deceased Members of the Chamberland Family by Lorance Chamberland	Leonhard Adam by Ella & Sharon
Martin & Deveau Families by Ron & Della Martin	John Lajoie by Ron & Della Martin	Betty Paradis by her Family
Cyr & Gagnon Families by Joyce & Phil	Joseph Sytulek Love, his wife, Eileen & sons Jeffrey & Gary	Gilman Grandmason by Esther, Rachel, Edna, Karen & Boy

### Come To The Well Woman's Group

**When:** Monday Evenings @ 6:30

immediately following the 6 pm Mass

**Where:** Meeting Room downstairs at St Peter Chanel Parish

### Cup of Joe Men's Group

**When:** Saturday morning from 7:15—8:30 a.m.

**Where:** Meeting room in the Parish Hall  
All are welcome!!

### PARISH NEEDS / IN LOVING MEMORY:

Rudolph St. Pierre

Philip Ouellette

by Gisele St. Pierre & Family

by Ron & May Ouellette

### Columbiette Spaghetti Fundraiser

Sunday, April 3 at the Van Buren KC Hall from 11:00am to 2:00pm

**Cost:** Adult \$8.00 / Kids under ten \$5.00

**Advance tickets call:** Georgette 868-4046 or Sandra 385-9651

**Raffles:** Wreath Creation by Georgette and 1/2 & 1/2 drawing

**Proceeds to support:** St. Peter Chanel Parish Churches for Fuel Exp.

**Thank you:** Van Buren Shurfine, P&E & all other contributors

**Chairpersons:** Reno & Joyce Michaud

### 50/50 KC Weekly Drawing

(drop off at KC mailbox or mail: 284 Main St, VB)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\$26=13wks, \$52=26wks, \$104=52wks**

# ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS CATHOLIC CLUSTER / DIOCESAN CORNER

## Pastor's Corner



Peering into the Old Testament can give us insights into what God expects of those who repent. One such example is from the Book of the Prophet Hosea. Of particular interest is the first part of Hosea 14:3 where it says, "Take with you words, and return to the Lord." These words should give us a starting point for a better understand of the "Parable of the Forgiving Father." We all know that this parable is more commonly known as the "Parable of the Prodigal Son" but without the forgiving Father the ending would be very different. In context, the people of Hosea's time would have heard the message very differently than we hear it today. For a people of the temple, those who worshipped and sacrificed in the temple, understanding that the sacrifice was so important, they would have understood the words they had to bring should be very wisely selected. In Hosea you can read that the prophet gives the people words to say. Properly chosen words meant that they could expect God, being who He is and wanting mercy over sacrifice, would again accept their sacrifice and accept them. Jesus shows that the Prodigal Son also understands this as his devises his way back to his father. He says: "I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him," then he takes the words and returns to his father. This is no coincidence. There is much more to it than just the words. There is the reality of conversion that goes well beyond and deeper than the words. "Forgive me father for I have sinned. It has been..." What is the reality of conversion beyond these words for you?

With my prayers,

*Fr. Kent*

### St. John Valley Senior College



#### Spruce Budworm with Neil Thompson:

Tuesday, March 29 at 7:00pm at UMFK  
Armory Room 119, Fort Kent. FMI call 728-3371

The Aleutian Islands with Dave Hobbins: Tuesday,  
April 5, at 7:00pm. LIVE ZOOM. FMI call 728-3371.



**Local Knights of Columbus  
to Sponsor Pilgrim Icon  
Prayer Service  
in Honor of St. Joseph**



The prayer service,  
flowing from the Year of St. Joseph declared by Pope Francis in 2021,  
and inspired by his apostolic letter "Patris Corde"  
is sponsored by all K of C Councils and Assemblies in District 1  
We will pray for his intercession in preserving,  
cultivating and passing on the Catholic faith to future generations.

**Sponsored by Council #1635 & Assembly #0349**

**St. Bruno: Sunday, March 27 at 9:15am Mass**

"Turn in prayer to St. Joseph, give thanks to God for the gift of  
fatherly example, and ask St. Joseph to be a father to us as we  
seek to grow in our own imitation for St. Joseph's quiet strength,  
integrity and fidelity.

## ST. THOMAS GIFT SHOP

*St. Thomas Aquinas Church Basement*

**HOURS: Mon. - Thurs. 9am - 3pm & Friday 10am - 3pm  
or by appt., Call 728-4346/316-8062 Lee**

**You can do nothing today to make God love you an ounce more. And you  
can do nothing today to make God love you an iota less."**

**BOOKLET: JUST RECEIVED A NEW SUPPLY: "MY LENTEN  
PRAYER BOOK -** Features the Gospels for each Lenten weekday  
(which are the same each year) in their entirety, where possible,  
followed by a brief reflection and prayers. \$5.25

**BRACELETS: JUST RECEIVED FOR LENT: CROWN OF THORNS  
BRACELET** reverses to the prayer, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
have mercy on me, a sinner. \$2.25 (VS103)

**GREETING CARDS: BAPTISM:** Son/Daughter, Grandson/  
Granddaughter, Great Grandson/Great Granddaughter, Godchild, Boy  
& Girl.

**CRUCIFIX: JUST RECEIVED: 13" ROUNDED EDGE SICK CALL  
CRUCIFIX** Walnut Finish Cross with Gold-Plated Inner Cross - 5"  
Antique Gold Finish Corpus - Gift Boxed - Beautiful Gift for Anyone!  
\$99.95

**NEW: KEY RING W/CLIP:** Can also be used for a zipper pull - St.  
Michael/Guardian Angel Medal with metal tag which reads: "I am a  
Catholic, in case of emergency please call a priest". Only \$2.00  
(G4232)

**NIGHTLIGHTS: MARY** (Light Blue) with CHILD - Beautiful in any  
room. \$29.95 (#1361)

**STATUE: 4" ST. JOSEPH W/CHILD** Bellavista Statue - \$19.98

**DVD: "NO TURNING BACK OR EXTREME MERCY II"** Both the  
conversion story of Fr. Donald Calloway. He will take you from giggles  
to tears as he recounts how God called him to a drastic life change!! A  
wonderful time to be spent in Lent!! \$16.95

**BOOKS: " Our Lady, Undoer of Knots"**

When we become entangled in problems and perplexities, Our Lady,  
Undoer of Knots, by the grace of God, stands patiently waiting to get to  
work on our behalf. Moved by divine love, she never ceases to serve  
her beloved children by bringing our intentions before the throne of the  
Merciful Father. \$3.99

**KIDS: Stories of the Saints" for Children**

With the charm of a skilled storyteller, Joyce Denham weaves tales from  
the lives of 14 Christian saints: Mary – John the Baptist – Peter – Mary  
Magdalene – Stephen – Paul.....plus 8 others. Read to or with your  
child and teach them about our saints!!!

**THE BEST THING YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR CHILD IS READ  
ALoud TO HIM/HER!**

## PUBLIC ROSARY GROUP

*(America Needs Fatima)*

We meet every **Wednesday & Friday at 3:00pm** at the  
**St. Thomas Church for the winter months & at Joan  
Ouellette's house at 11 Green Point Road.** We begin with  
Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by the Rosary. Pray for pandemic  
situation and for the restoration of our country facing evil forces  
that is prevalent right now.



**The strong recommendation for wearing masks has been  
removed. Those wishing to continue wearing a mask are  
welcome to do so!!**



## March 27, 2022 4th Sunday of Lent

God's love story reveals itself in our stories, experiences, and aspirations. We are all prodigal sons and daughters. There are many times in our lives when we would "sell our souls" in order to pursue our passions. We pursued what we wanted without regard for others or God. We have sowed our oats, thrown ourselves into careless pleasures, spent what we know we ought to have saved, turned our backs on those we love and abused gifts we have been given. We even hit bottom and realized the silliness and self-destruction of it all. We needed to come home. We knew we erred and needed a gentle presence to show us God's unconditional love. This wayward journey home changed us.

As much as we need to be welcomed, we are also the one who needs to do the welcoming and mercy giving. Those we love need our guidance, but they don't always take it. We know that what they are doing is off the mark, self-destructive and wrong. We have to let them go and let it happen, even though they might get hurt. As we wait and hope, they choose to make their way back to us. They don't need us to judge them. They have done enough of that to themselves. We immediately embrace them and are just happy they're home. God uses us to help heal them. Knowing how much we craved understanding and forgiveness ourselves, we can now freely give it away. God uses what he has taught us to teach others.

We are also the entitled ones. At least we "think" we are entitled. After all, we work hard for what we have. We cannot get our heads around the idea that someone can get something that I really deserve! If I do what I'm supposed to do, I ought to be rewarded for that, right? If I do something wrong, I ought to pay the consequences. This is justice, isn't it? This is not God's justice. God is all about love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. God's justice is love freely given without merit. We carry the stories of the prodigal son, the unconditional forgiving father, and the entitled angry brother with us. When we make friends with all three, humbly telling those stories to others makes us Christ's ambassadors.

### The Face on God's Brochure

When a church is raising funds for a new building or a diocese is launching a stewardship appeal, there is usually someone — or several someone's — who serves as the face of the campaign. Maybe it's a married couple, or a family, or a group of folks who have been particularly active in the community and can speak to the worthiness of whatever endeavor is being undertaken.

Oftentimes, for better or worse, we fill that role for God. We are the face on the front of His promotional brochure. If we call ourselves Christians, that means that people will meet Christ through us. That's what being an Everyday Steward is — a steward, everyday; someone who conducts his Master's business when the Master is not seen.

It can be intimidating because we have so much baggage and no capabilities of our own. But then we remember that we are offered reconciliation through Christ — that "the old things have passed away, (and) new things have come" (2 Corinthians 5:17). We remember that we are the prodigal sons, and the fattened calf has been slaughtered on our behalf.

But it's a role that requires commitment. The story of the prodigal son is only compelling and only means something because the son, presumably, embraced his reconciliation to his father. He didn't go on to abandon him again.

So let us think to ourselves each day, "Whoever I encounter will meet Christ's ambassador. I was dead and have come to life again. How can I speak to the worthiness of that reconciliation? How can I make others desire it?"

## Vicar General and Chancellor

### Question:

I have seen the title of Vicar General and Chancellor used in our Catholic newspaper. Who are they and what do they do?

### Answer:

A bishop is in charge of a diocese and appoints people to help with its administration. Two of those positions are the Vicar General and the Chancellor. Both play a role in the life of a diocese, despite the many jokes priests may tell at their expense! A chancellor is the archivist of a diocese, charged with task of keeping the records of the diocese. Often a bishop may add other responsibilities and the chancellor may end up being like the executive director of the diocesan office. The chancellor does not need to be a priest.

The vicar general is a priest, appointed by the bishop and acts in the name of the bishop in administering the diocese. He has an advanced degree in canon law or theology. He also has executive authority within the diocese. This means that he is involved in the day-to-day pastoral and temporal administration of the diocese. Canon law does not allow a bishop to appoint a relative to the position, nor the priest in charge of the sacrament of penance. In both cases, the purpose of the law is to avoid conflicts of interest.

## Children's Corner



Name three good things God has given you.  
Say "thank you" to God for those gifts in  
a prayer.

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