

THE BESSETTE GAZETTE

HOLY CROSS CHURCH/ST. BERNARD
CHURCH/ ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHURCH



Mass times:

Saturday

4:00 pm - Holy Cross

4:00 pm - St. Rose of Lima (begins February 6)

Sunday

9:00 am - St. Bernard

11:00 am - St. Rose of Lima

If you wish to attend mass at St. Rose please contact Linda at 902-860-0475 or strose@eastlink.ca

If you wish to attend mass at St. Bernard please contact Claire at 902-883-2660 or stbernardsenfield@gmail.com.

Office hours:

St. Bernard's: 9 - 12:30, Tuesday to Friday.

St. Rose: 9 - 2, Tuesday to Thursday.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Holy Cross: As needed

St. Bernard: 1st Saturday of the month: 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

(location: outside of present Confessional room)

St. Rose: 2nd Saturday of the month: 9:30 am to 10:30 am. (location: room outside the bathrooms, i.e. the crying room)

Find Fr. Michael's weekly message, updates to the Mass schedule, previous and current recorded Masses and information of interest. Go to: strosefallriver.com

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Parish Life Groups will resume on Monday February 1 at 7:00 pm. These groups provide an opportunity to meet others, learn from others, and enrich your faith, through small groups. There is no pressure, and no leaving your home!! Our current focus is on saints, beginning with Saint André Bessette, our parish patron. We would love to have more parishioners involved in this endeavor, and participants from all 3 churches would be a bonus!!! To join, please register on the LIFE GROUPS link on the parish website, strosefallriver.com, and you will receive an email with the zoom link a few days before the gathering. Hope to see you there!

Live streamed Mass- a new way to connect:

Since we began recording Masses last year, we have worked hard to make improvements to our broadcast, as we strive to provide an opportunity for all parishioners to stay connected and worship together. Currently, we are looking to purchase a new camera that will enable us to dramatically improve the video quality. The camera and installation will cost approximately \$3,000. Donations of any amount would be most welcome to help cover the cost. Please consider making a contribution by providing your name and address on an envelope with "Camera Project" clearly noted. Thank you.



2021 Church envelopes may be picked up at both church offices or at mass. We need some information from each person in order to meet recent requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency in order to issue tax receipts for a charitable donation. At St. Bernard and St. Rose you will be given a box of envelopes with a form and pencil. Please fill out the form with the required information and leave it in a basket by the exit when leaving mass.

Sunday Missals (\$5) are available at the churches and offices.

With Gratitude... The family of the late Bernie Hanlon would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude for the support of the St. Rose of Lima community. Thank you for taking the time to honor his life in meaningful ways through visits, prayers, mass cards, donations, food, emails, and many phone calls. A special thank you to Deacon Dan for his support, prayers and beautiful graveside service that brought meaning and some closure to our family. God Bless!

- Eleanor and family

St Rose of Lima church requires more greeters, particularly when we return to Saturday Masses. If you would like to greet, please contact Ron Hutchins (902) 483-7353.

MEETINGS

- **The St. Rose of Lima KOC** meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the St. Rose of Lima Church. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 3. Meeting details and the Zoom link will be forwarded by email prior to February. We welcome all members to attend monthly meetings either in person or via Zoom. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the KOC, please contact Rick Karst (T: 902-456-2744 / E: rajckarst@yahoo.com) for information.
- **St. Bernard KOC**- second Tuesday of month, preceded by the Rosary.
- **St. Bernard CWL** meet the first Tuesday of month (next meeting February 2). Attendees must confirm attendance with Sarah White, 902-883-9246
st.bernardscwl@gmail.com.



KOC Kudos

- **St. Bernard's Knights of Columbus** have been busy despite the inability to meet in person. Some of the things we accomplished in the past year:
 - Financial assistance to the Poppy Fund, local foods banks, Period Poverty, Christmas Cheer for Seniors, the Beirut Red Cross Appeal, and to struggling individuals in the community;
 - Purchasing coats for needy ensure children in the community;
 - Strong support for Special Olympics;
 - Partnering with local basketball associations for the annual Knights of Columbus Basketball Free-Throw program;
 - Lead the monthly praying of the rosary;
 - Supporting the church by providing financial collection and bank deposit teams;
 - Providing ushering services to St. Bernard's to allow us to safely have in-person Masses;
 - Sponsoring community breakfasts in the early part of the year;
 - Purchasing an AED for the church and training our members on its use;
 - Providing gifts to children receiving their first communion;
 - Regular prayer and support for those who are struggling, sick, and infirm.

The Knights have another busy year planned for 2021. If you are interested in joining a great group of Catholic men who clearly make a real difference in this world, please contact John Steele at 902-883- 9471 / gk11625nskofc@gmail.com.

- **St. Rose Knights of Columbus** have had several successful events including:
 - Hope Cottage Donation - The Knights delivered a beef stew to Hope Cottage on December 10.
 - In addition, 129 pair of socks, 17 hats, 14 mitts, 4 shirts, 10 blankets and 4 female gift bags under our Socks for Souls program were collected. The donation was well received and thank you to all parishioners for your support.
- **Christmas Tree Sales** - successfully sold out Christmas trees in a week this year. Thank you to everyone who purchased a tree from our lot and helped with this cause.
- **Christmas Gift Card Survivor Tickets** - Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and Congratulations to our winners:
 - 1st 50% - Ray Geddes \$540 (Walmart and Sobeys gift cards)
 - 2nd 30% - Nancy Flynn \$324 (Atlantic Superstore gift card)
 - 3rd 20% - Rick Karst \$216 (Home Depot gift card)



CATECHISM CORNER

As with all things in life over the past ten months, our Catechism Program will look different this year. With public health restrictions continuing to evolve, we are adapting as well, while ensuring that families continue to receive support in the faith formation of their children. As a new amalgamated parish, we are approaching this as an opportunity to consolidate and share our talents across the parish in a family based catechetical program.

We are focusing or attention in four areas:

1. Sacrament Preparation:

First Reconciliation and First Communion preparation: IN PERSON Parent meeting Sunday, January 17, 6:00 pm at St. Rose of Lima Church. Catechist – Jocelyn MacDonald casford@hotmail.com

St. Bernard's: First Reconciliation catechist is Jennifer Rushton. First Communion catechist is Dianna Stead. Parents who have registered children for these programs will be contacted by the catechists.

Confirmation preparation for both churches will be an online program taking place by zoom on Sunday evenings, beginning Sunday, January 17. A zoom link will be sent prior to Sunday. Catechist - Sarah White smwhitey@outlook.com

2. Regular emails with activities and materials that relate to the Sunday Mass readings will be sent by Jennifer Flemming to parents of children between grade 3 and grade 7. Watch for emails from Jennifer.

3. Mass for catechism registrants will begin in February. Further information on this will be circulated later in January.

4. Youth Alpha will be offered for youth in grade 8 and grade 10 beginning in the second week of February. The exact date will be announced by the end of January. Youth Alpha contact:

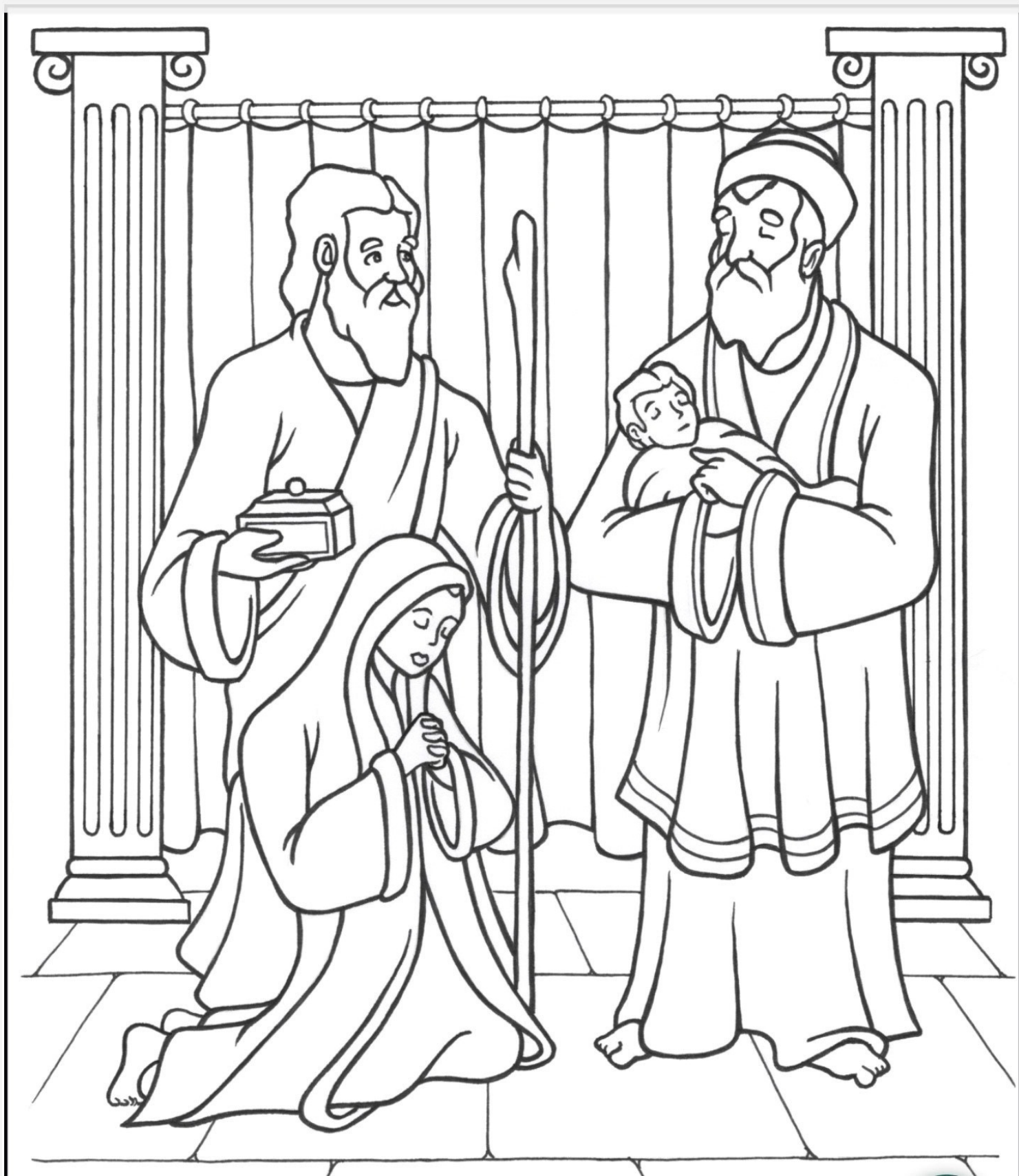
Shannon McDonald dwbmc@bellaliant.net

Thank you and we will be in touch!

~ *The Catechism team*



Colouring sheet



Holy Cross Catholic Church

Annual Pancake Supper - TAKE OUT ONLY -



Tuesday Feb 16TH, 2021

4:30-6PM

Adults \$10.

Children 5-12 yrs \$6.

**Pancakes-Sausages-Baked Beans-
Biscuits and Dessert**

TO ORDER CALL - Debbie -902-225-4379

Irene - 902- 236-2088

BEYOND THE PARISH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In my Christmas greeting to the faithful of this Archdiocese, I wrote that, due to Covid-19, we were experiencing many uncertainties and anxieties, resulting in a widespread sense of helplessness and hopelessness.

The message we needed to hear was that Jesus is still with us even during this pandemic and that God is with us in the uncertainty and anxiety of this pandemic.

Our plans during December for the liturgical gatherings were very uncertain, as we experienced a spike in cases. However, we continued on, and we did come together, either in person or via electronic means, to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

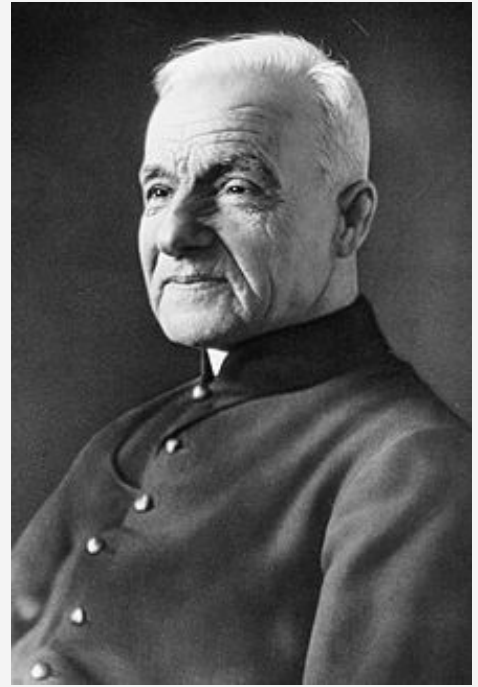
But these gatherings did not just happen. It took the dedication of many volunteers: those who contacted and registered the attendees to the masses; those who cleaned and decorated the churches; those who prepared and participated in the liturgies; those who looked after the technical parts and pieces; those who welcomed the faithful and ensured that the protocols were observed.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all these individuals who volunteered their time and talents to ensure not only a wonderful celebration of the Nativity, but one where all felt safe and secure. Thank you.

May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance and keep you safe from harm throughout the year.

Archbishop Brian Dunn

- **Pope Francis** has dedicated the year 2021 to St. Joseph. Here is the link to the Pope's prayer to St. Joseph, the patron saint of Canada:
<https://comshalom.org/en/say-the-prayer-that-for-40-years-pope-francis-has-been-saying-to-st-joseph/>
- **Interested in finding out what our Canadian Bishops have to say about the vaccine?** Check here: https://www.cccb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/2020_12_02_Letter-to-the-faithful-on-Vaccines.pdf_English.pdf



FEAST OF ST ANDRE BESSETTE- JANUARY 7

On October 17, 2010, St. André Bessette became Holy Cross' first saint when he was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI.

Alfred Bessette was born in Quebec on August 9, 1845, and he was orphaned by the time he was 12. He had to work to support himself and had little formal education, but from an early age he had a lively faith and a strong devotion to St. Joseph.

After a few years trying to find work in the United States, he returned to Quebec, where his childhood pastor encouraged him to consider a vocation to religious life. He sent Alfred to the Holy Cross Brothers with a note that said, "I am sending you a saint."

Alfred entered the Holy Cross Novitiate on December 27, 1870 and took the name André. Brother André was assigned as doorkeeper of Notre Dame College in Montreal, and he continued this assignment as a professed brother. Among his many duties, he greeted visitors and tended to their needs. Eventually many people began to experience physical healings after praying with Brother André. His reputation began to spread. So many people flocked to see him that the Congregation allowed him to see sick people at a trolley station across the street. The crowds got larger, more cures were reported, and Brother André became increasingly well-known.

Through it all Brother André remained humble, often seeming confused that people would lavish such praise on him. He knew that the real source of these miraculous cures was St. Joseph's intercession. His desire to increase devotion to St. Joseph inspired him to found a shrine to his favorite saint across the street from Notre Dame College. He saved the money he earned from giving haircuts at five cents apiece, eventually earning the \$200 he needed to construct a simple structure. This shrine opened on October 19, 1904, and in 1909,

Brother André was released from his duties as doorkeeper and assigned full-time as the caretaker of the Oratory of St. Joseph. Brother André died on January 6, 1937 at the age of 91. During the week that his body lay in state outside of St. Joseph's Oratory, it is estimated that one million people braved the bitter Montreal winter to pay their respects.

The basilica was eventually completed and remains a major pilgrimage site, attracting over two million visitors a year. The side chapels are filled with the crutches of people healed through St. André's prayers. <https://www.holycrossusa.org/article/st-andre-bessette/>

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