

Diocesan News

Dec. 17 – Advent Christmas concert to be held from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m at St. Joseph's Church, featuring Treble Clef, Tracy Friars, Luan Salmon, Aiden & Natalie London and St. Joseph's Church Choir. Admission: Freewill Offering.

Dec. 17 – The Menorah Lighting Ceremony to mark the sixth day of Chanukah will be outside the entrance to the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum/ Shaarei Zedek Synagogue, 91 Leinster Street, at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 18 - The monthly Mass for those living with cancer will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Anointing of the sick will be offered.

Dec. 22 - Handel's immortal oratorio, MESSIAH, is returning to Saint John 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Church. Spencer Belyea will be conducting his 70-voice Symphony Chorus with their Chamber Orchestra. Professional vocal Soloists will be Saint John's own soprano -Jessica McCormack, Contralto -Heather Flemming, Basso -Paul Bustin, with visiting Tenor -Colin Frotten. Advance ticket sale - Imperial Theatre 674-4100.

Dec. 27 - We invite the community to St. Alphonsus Parish, 22 Church Street, Hampton, at 7:00 p.m. for the annual "Christmas Time Strings" featuring the Buckley family ensemble.

Treasures of Our Faith - Discover the riches of the Catholic faith as a part of a new group holding weekly sessions at Holy Trinity, 348 Rockland Road, every Sunday, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Come learn more about our faith, and the powerful way it can impact your life. Some of the topics planned are: The Life of the Church, our Faith, the Power of Prayer, Spiritual Warfare, Discernment, Spiritual Gifts and more.

Canadian Mental Health Association of Saint John is now accepting registrations for our Winter / Spring education programs, beginning January 16th, we will be hosting ***Depression: Help Can Make a Difference***, a six-week program for individuals diagnosed with depression. For more information call 633-1705

Pre-Authorized Debit System - If anyone would like to start this system of donation, forms are available in the foyer. Please fill out and drop in collection basket in an envelope along with a VOID cheque.

If you are new to the Parish we would like to hear from you, or if you are leaving the area, please let us know.

Register Update:

Please fill out this form and put it in collection basket or give to greeter. Thank you for helping to keep our records up to date.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

New in Parish _____ email: _____ Moving out of _____

Moving within the Parish _____

Parish of St. Mark
171 Pettingill Road, Quispamsis NB, E2E 2V6
Office - 849-5111, Fax - 849-5120
website: www.stmarksparish.ca
e-mail address - stmarkschurch@nb.aibn.com
[Facebook/stmarkscc](https://www.facebook.com/stmarkscc) [Twitter@stmarkscc](https://twitter.com/stmarkscc)



MISSION STATEMENT

From three communities and beyond called into one to be Word of God. In a spirit of friendship, sharing of life and energy, faith and appreciation, we commit ourselves to accepting all who come and to be present to them, and from our gatherings open ourselves to our neighborhoods and to the wider church.

Pastor: Father Owen Burns

**Mass Times: Sat. 5 p.m.
Sun. 9 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.**

Parish Council Chair – Pat Carey

Baptism, Marriage, Catechetical Ministry - contact office.

Reconciliation - Sat. after Mass or by appointment

December 16th – 17th, 2017 – 3rd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 61 1-2a, 10-11 1 Thessalonians 5 16-24 John 1 6-8, 19-28
December 23rd– 24th, 2017 – 4th Sunday of Advent
2 Samuel 7 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Romans 16 25-27 Luke 1 26-38

3rd Sunday of Advent

‘Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances, give thanks,
for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.”

-1 Thessalonians 5 16-18

This Sunday, called Gaudete (Latin for “rejoice”) marks the halfway point of Advent. The rose candle is lit, and the second reading begins, “Rejoice, always!”. This upbeat mood can come to a full stop, however, when the requirement extends to giving thanks in all circumstances. In difficult times, we are reminded to pray “without ceasing”. We are not in it alone! The One who came to be with us at Christmas is holding us in love.

Gaudete!

Announced Masses

Tues.	Dec. 19 7:00 p.m.	Bob Brittain
Wed.	Dec. 20 9:00 a.m.	Barbara Weir
Thurs.	Dec. 21 7:00 p.m.	Evelyn Webber
Fri.	Dec. 22 9:00 a.m.	John Fullerton
Sat.	Dec. 23 5:00 p.m.	Blaid & Frank Daley
Sun.	Dec. 24 9:00 a.m.	For Parishioners
	11:15 a.m.	Walter McLean
Christmas Eve	4:00 p.m.	Zoltan Nevelos
	7:00 p.m.	Normand Renaud
	10:00 p.m.	For Parishioners
Mon.	Dec. 25 11:15 a.m.	Mary Nancy Felix

Scheduled Events — Dec. 17th –18th

Date	Event	Time	Location
Sun. Dec.17	Decorating the church	12:15a.m.	Church
Mon.Dec.18	Consoling the Heart of Jesus	7:30 p.m.	Room#1
	Adult Music Practice	7:00 p.m.	Church
	Rosary	7:00 p.m.	Chapel

Thank you

The Peru Committee has received a note from Sr. Rosemary Ryan of the Sisters of Mercy acknowledging receipt of \$2300 raised by our recent book sale. To the parishioners of St. Mark's, Sister Ryan says "Many thanks for your very generous donation to our Misericordia Mission Fund. It will go a long way to help alleviate some of the suffering of our sisters and brothers in Peru .This year was particularly difficult for them with the rains, floods and mudslides. Yet the people are so resilient and faith-filled, always willing to start again. Every dollar of your money goes to Peru as we have no overhead or administration charges."

Baptism – The following babies were welcomed into the Faith Community through the sacrament of baptism:
Michael William Thomas Ring and Christopher Nolan Saunders

As a result of the Christmas show that was held at St. Mark's December 10th, we raised \$626.85 for our Care and Concern ministry to distribute to needy families. Thank you to all who attended the show!

Religious Formation - 849-5111

Coordinator – Wendy Ellis 849-8162
Email: stmarksreled@bellaliant.com

Dec. 17– No sessions
Jan. 14 – Sessions resume

NEEDED Urgently:

Catechists are still needed:
Grade 6 – 2 catechists

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(Individual Confession)

Thursday, December 21st 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 22nd 9:30 a.m.



2018 Sunday Envelopes

Please pick up your 2018 Sunday envelopes as soon as possible to save the church hundreds of dollars in postage. All envelopes are on the table on the Pettingill Road side. After Dec. 17th please drop by the office to pick up your box of envelopes.



– To prepare the church for our Christmas celebration. Volunteers are asked to help on December 17 at 12:15 p.m. Pizza will be served after decorating at 1:00 p.m.

Memorial Donation for Flowers

The Art and Environment Committee are asking for donations of poinsettias for our Christmas Celebrations. A card may accompany the item with the donor's name, or in memory of loved one.

They may be brought to the church by December 20th. If you prefer to make a money donation, Art and Environment will purchase your poinsettia for you.



Required Weekly	\$ 5,555.00
Sunday Collection, December 10 th	\$ 4,057.50

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sunday, Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 25th

Christmas Day

11:15 a.m.

***NEW YEAR'S AND
FEAST OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD***

Sunday, Dec. 31st – 5:00 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 1st – New Year's Day

11:15 a.m.



Ministry sign up sheets for Christmas and New Year's Masses are in the foyer. Please consider signing up for the Mass you will be attending.

Christmas Families

Anyone that still has groceries, turkeys, toys or clothing to drop off, may do so by Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 p.m. or at the latest Tuesday, December 19th.

Turkey Donations for Christmas Families

Care and Concern Ministry are looking for donations of turkeys to provide to our Christmas families. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer.

Diocesan Catechist Retreat Who Am I Called to Be? January 26-28th, 2018, Friday 8:00 p.m. – Sunday 1:00 p.m. To be held at the Villa Madonna Retreat House Cost: \$175 (Includes accommodations & all meals). Retreat Facilitator - Fr. Owen Burns. Registration forms are available online <https://www.facebook.com/diocesesjreleform/> or from your parish coordinator. Saint John: Mary Alice: Tel: 653-6829 e-mail: sjreled@dioceseofsaintjohn.org registrations can be faxed to 653-6904.

Complimentary Salt & Light magazines are available at all entrances.