

**St. Rose of Lima Church**  
**January 7, 2018**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**



**Pastor:**

**Father David Martin**

**Masses:**

**Thursday: 12:10 PM Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM**

**Confession:**

**Saturday at 3:00 PM**

**Baptisms:**

**Please call the Office 653-6850 for arrangements.**

**Blessings of the New Year!!**

This is the homily I gave at St. Rose, January 1, 2018 for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

“Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart....” Luke 2:19.

It's official... it's 2018. It will take us awhile to get used to writing that date...those 4 little number on letters, forms and check books. It's a new year: 365 days are before us. There's a new calendar to fill with birthdays, celebrations, errands and all the mundane details of our lives. Who knows what joys and blessings; what lessons and challenges and of course sorrows this new year may bring!

However, on this first day of 2018, we can learn from Mary's example of reflection while remembering the blessings and challenges of this past year. As we name our hopes for this new year, we might ponder the things we want to change — not about others, but about ourselves.

May this year be a time when we put aside old grudges, try to understand a different point of view, listen to someone we disagree with, forgive someone, laugh more, sing a new song, and share God's love in word and deed. It's a new year... a new beginning...and I know that God will bless us this day and this new year!

### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS THANK YOU !!!!**

This weekend we celebrate the Epiphany, the Visitation of the Magi which concludes the Christmas Season. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all of you who remembered me with your prayers, cards with touching sentiments, beautiful gifts, and food, during these sacred seasons. As well, I would also like to thank you for your generosity to our faith communities this Advent, Christmas and including the past year; not only in monetary support, but also in your gift of service, sharing your God-given talents to help build up our communities of faith. A special thank you to those who helped prepare for Advent and Christmas Season. As you can see we have a lot to be thankful for...God continues to truly bless us. Thank you...

- to those who brought forth the light during our Advent Liturgies
- to our Religious Education Coordinators, Teachers and Classes for the great work that is being accomplished with our Youth Faith Formation. As well, to the classes for taking part in the liturgies.
- to those on our Liturgy Committee who prepared our churches and celebrated the Evening Prayer during Advent.
- to those who keep our sign at St. Matthew's up-to-date... even in the worse weather.
- to our Maintenance Committee at St. Augustine's and those at St. Matthew's and St. Rose who continue to meet and address the various needs.
- to those who cleaned our churches, shoveling, moving chairs and other 'odd jobs' necessary for our buildings.
- to those who did a beautiful job in decorating our worship spaces (and taking down). As always, many wonderful comments received...Well done!
- to those who made monetary donations in memory of a loved one, for Christmas decorations.
- to our youth who participated at the Christmas Masses, especially our readers and choirs.
- to our various music ministry's for enhancing our celebrations by leading us in beautiful song!
- To Father Mike LeBlanc for taking on the various Masses at Christmas Eve, allowing us to provide 8 options for Mass times.
- to our Knights for putting up our outdoor manger scene; for addressing the particular needs in our community; who sponsored the Christmas Party for the youth of St. Matthews and St. Augustine's and for your ongoing assistance given to all three parishes-Thank You!
- for those of you who offered 'generous response' to our need of gifts for Lonewater Farm; ongoing food items for soup preparations and other items donated to AIDS Saint John and St. Vincent de Paul Society. As well as those who generously donated to our "Mitten Tree" and offered food and monetary donations for those in need...showing us how to be "the light of Christ to others."
- to our Sacristans, Readers, Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Counters and those who open the church, clean, turned up (and down) the heat, and keep our entrances 'sanded, salted and clear'.
- to our Secretaries Bernice Martin and Marijke Blok, for their practical and pastoral hard work in making our parishes "welcoming" and "FUN"!

- to anyone or ministry I may have inadvertently failed to mention and those of you who have contributed “silently” in any way toward making this a truly blessed and joyful Christmas celebration, I thank you. These “gifts from the heart” are great signs of the love you have for your faith community. On a personal level, they are signs of affirmation, love and support for me. Many wonderful compliments were made regarding our warmth, hospitality and the beautiful liturgies. Well done to all of you! Finally, I would like to wish you and those you love every good blessing for 2018 and always!!!

Father David

### **WEATHER AND CANCELLATION OF MASSES AND MEETINGS**

For the past number of years I have found ‘system’ that works for those who may be inquiring about daily Mass or different Meetings scheduled for days that have inclement weather conditions...and it is this... **IF SCHOOL IS CANCELED...ALL PARISH ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING MASSES) ARE CANCELED AND WILL BE RE-BOOKED. SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT!** Masses and meetings can be re-scheduled... a life cannot.

### **Announcements**

**1)** If you would be willing to help **count the collection** on Saturday or Sunday, please call the Rectory at 653-6850.

**2) Knights of Columbus #8094** – Looking for ways to give back? Become a member of one of the most active councils in New Brunswick! See what the excitement is all about! Contact Bob at 653-0625.

Merry Christmas!

**3)** The Knights of Columbus Council 8094 will hold their monthly meeting on January 8 at 7:00 PM in the Monsignor Osborne Family Centre.

**4) Alter Servers** - Training provided!

**5) Liturgy Committee** - if you are interested in becoming involved with the Liturgy Committee, please let Father David know or call the Office at 653-6850.

**6) Sunday Exposition/Adoration: January 7** at St. Joseph's Church, Loch Lomond, 1-2 Benediction & Confession. **January 14** at St. Rose of Lima Parish from 1 - 2 pm. **January 21** at Villa Madonna from 2:00 - 4:00.

**7) Knights of Columbus (Council #6770) Breakfast**, Assumption Center, Chapel Street, on Sunday, January 14, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Adults \$7/Children \$3. Come and enjoy a good breakfast with your friends.

**8) Catechism Classes** resume this week!

**9) Confirmation Class** – this Wednesday at 6:30 in the Rectory. Call Marijke at 672-0294 for more information.

**10) Card Party - Holy Trinity** hosts an Auction 45's Card Party every Monday beginning at 1 pm in the Family Center, 11 Canon Street. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is \$3.

**11 )New Ideas?**

*In the charity of your prayers, please remember: Katherine Coughlan, Joan Heenan, Marjorie O'Toole, Catherine White, Thelma Madge Trites, Bill McGuire, Sandra Davis, Alfonso Mitchell, Alvin Woodman. Charles Keating*

*Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.*

*Sanctuary Lamp*

*Week beginning December 31<sup>st</sup> - in memory of Gail Melanson*

*Week beginning January 7 - in memory of Medor Arsenault*

**Mass Intentions**

Thursday, January 11	<b>12:10 PM</b>	<b>The Cummings Family</b>
Saturday, January 13	<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>Joseph Taylor</b>
Sunday, January 14	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Gerry LeBlanc</b>

**Stewardship for the weeks ending December 24th and December 31<sup>st</sup> , and New Year's**

<b>Envelopes Sunday Dec. 24 and Dec. 31</b>	<b>4979.00</b>
<b>Loose Sundays Dec. 24 and Dec. 31</b>	<b>478.95</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>877.30 (two weeks)</b>
<b>Christmas</b>	<b>7357.75</b>
<b>New Year's</b>	<b>1268.00</b>
<b>Initial</b>	<b>398.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14, 481.70</b>