

## St. Rose of Lima Church

### THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 12th, 2017



#### Sunday, November 5th...

It's 12:45 pm Sunday afternoon; just returned to the rectory... Masses are finished. This weekend, I am not tired. Rather, I am impressed, befuddled, perhaps even shocked. I'm not sure. Why? Because this has been another first! It finally happened...it took 14 years of priestly ministry. I sit in my sunroom, drinking it in (the experience), thinking about God, the God of love, the God of surprise, the God who turns us upside down and back again, making us even better than before. I think about 'new beginning' and 'new ways of doing things'. From my spiritual connection, those words of God echo in my ear, "...trust in what I am doing...follow me..." For the very first time as a parish priest, I experienced the following in ONE WEEKEND...!

Full churches at EVERY MASS....

A powerful and prayerful energy.

Singing like I have never heard before.

A feeling of renewal.

A feeling of moving forward.

People from 3 different parishes crisscrossing from one parish to another.

New people sitting in seats originally occupied by others (remember-hospitality folks!!)

An air of excitement.

Those words from Revelation, "I am about to make all things new..." (Rev 21:5) come to the forefront. Truly this is something so new and so God-centered that we cannot go wrong. I know in my heart that if we continue to trust and to move forward that great pastoral opportunities will come to fruition!! So I sit a in the warm sun... "content" and "wound up" so much so that there will be no Sunday afternoon nap today...instead I will treasure this experience for as long as I can. Thank You Holy Spirit for your leadership and love.

Fr. David

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This week, we continue to share the information that was gathered with a “snapshot” of our diocese that was passed along to us from 2015. Please take into consideration that these statistics are two years old but give us a rough idea of where we are as a diocese. Once again, please check our website and click on the “green icon” for further information regarding revitalizing our diocese.

Fr. David

“Pursuing the vision which was captured in our Diocesan Pastoral Plan...we want our diocese to be a community of missionary disciples, an evangelizing community, which gives Jesus Christ to the world in which we live.” Bishop Robert Harris

A look at our Diocese today: please look at these numbers prayerfully and carefully.\*

2015*	Miramichi	Fredericton	Saint John	Total
Mass Attendance:	2,900	5,363	7,874	16, 137
Baptisms:	182	221	298	701
Marriages:	27	57	72	156
Funerals:	216	222	430	868

**Mass Attendance:**

Overall, there has been a **24% decline** (4,988 people) in our diocese since 2011.

<b># of Priests</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>38</b>
Mass goers Per Priest	290	488	463	425
# of Masses	31	39	57	127
Parishes and Missions	23	30	31	84
Parishes Missions In trouble	8	14	12	34
% in financial Trouble	35%	47%	39%	40%

\* These numbers are based on the yearly reports (Status Animarium 2011 and 2015) that are sent to the Bishop’s Office each year.

**4 Criteria To Drive The Plans for Revitalization.**

Our diocese is using a Four (4) point criteria in revitalizing and realigning our Diocesan future. They are **(1) Pastoral Care for Those attending; (2) Mission Territory (3) Clergy Distribution and (4) Financial Viability.** This week we will look at the first one:

**Pastoral Care of Those Attending**

Every parish in the diocese will be affected by the plans for revitalization and realignment. Plan for Masses that have at least 100-150 people attending and fill at least 75% of the Church seating capacity which will allow for 33% growth when evangelization happens and allowing for a better celebration of the Eucharist in the community.

Coordinate Mass schedules across the region, including one Sunday evening schedule for those who work weekend shifts.

Driving time to Mass should be reasonable

Allocate resources to provide transportation for the elderly and those who need assistance getting to Church, especially in the winter months.

Foster small groups ministry to grow disciples who can invite others to encounter Jesus and consider or reconsider the Catholic Faith. Use groups such as "Little Rock," "Faith Sharing Groups," "Cursillo," etc.

Coordinate Youth Ministry across the region to create the critical mass to keep young people engaged and growing in the life of the Church.

**Remembering Our Dead**

In the charity of your prayers, please remember: **Clarence Bastarache, Raymond Roy, Don Gillespie, Sr. Eva Bonokoski, Kimberley Saunders, Joseph Haggerty, Margaret "Peggy" Myers, Roy Verner, Donald Verner, Pat O'Keefe-Tracy, Dr. Frederick George**

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.

*Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Robert (Bobby) Williams*

If you wish to place a sanctuary lamp in memory of a loved one, please call the Office at 653-6850.

**Mass Intentions**

Thursday, November 16	<b>12:10 PM</b>	Deceased Members of the CWL
Saturday, November 18	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	Doreen and Charles Ferris
Sunday, November 19	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Gerard and Armenie Reid

**Stewardship for the week ending November 5th, 2017**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>2268.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>207.50</b>
<b>Pre-Authorized Debit</b>	<b>438.65</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2824.15</b>

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### Announcements

The next **K of C breakfast at Assumption Centre** will be on **November 12<sup>th</sup>**. Proceeds will support the Alzheimer's Café and a patient with MS who needs an electric wheelchair. Hours: 9 am – 1 pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 12.

**Book of Remembrance** – As always, for the month of November, we remember our dead. The Book of Remembrance is placed in the Baptismal area. Please add names of your deceased loved ones to the prayer list.

**Catechism classes** for St. Rose will be collecting items to pack into **Christmas Shoeboxes** in order to help the less fortunate. Any items to be donated can be placed into the box in the foyer of the church labeled Christmas Shoeboxes. Items needed are small toys, hygiene items and school supplies and they can be for a girl or boy ages 2-14. The children will collect the items, pack them and send them off to be delivered for Christmas. Boxes will be packed on November 13. If you have any questions send them to [stroselima.religioused@gmail.com](mailto:stroselima.religioused@gmail.com). Thank you for your support!

**Seniors' Blessing and Luncheon - November 25<sup>th</sup> after the 4:00 PM Mass.** Tickets available this weekend and next at the back of the Church.

**FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST** - Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 9:00 am. Sponsored by Saint John High School's **Club HOPE**. To be held at St. Vincent de Paul at 146 Waterloo Street. Use side door on right.

**Measha Brueggergosman Home for the Holidays at Saint John High School Auditorium Friday December 15, 2017 7:30 PM.** Cathedral Heritage Foundation presents New Brunswick's own Juno Award winning superstar at a benefit concert for the Cathedral Restoration Project. **Advance tickets \$30 available ON SALE NOW at Harbour Station Box Office 800-267-2800 or [www.harbourstation.ca](http://www.harbourstation.ca) \$35 at the door.** Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception and Les Religieuses NDSC

### *Welcome to the Church*



*Makayla Samanta Herrell-O'Neill*

*Daughter of Maureen O'Neill and Anne Marie Herrell-O'Neill*

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*Baptized November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017*