

CHRISTMAS SEASON: The Christmas Season celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways he manifested the presence of God among us. “Next to the yearly celebration (at Easter) of the paschal mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ’s birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season” (*General Norms for the Liturgical Year*, 32). In the Roman Catholic tradition, the Christmas Season begins with the first Mass of Christmas and concludes with the last Mass for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

DECEMBER 25 - SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD:

Today we begin the Christmas season which celebrates the birth of the Lord Jesus and the ways he manifested the presence of God among us. The word *Christmas* literally means *Christ’s Mass or the Mass of Christ*. Historically, Christmas commemorates the birth of Jesus of Nazareth to Mary, a young maiden from Galilee. Theologically, Christmas is the celebration of the Incarnation of God in Jesus the Christ – the self-revelation of God to the world in human form for the reconciliation of humanity to God. Liturgically, the Christmas season begins with “Mass During the Night” on Christmas Eve and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Jesus. **This day is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

DECEMBER 26 - FEAST OF SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR:

Stephen is the first-named among the seven deacons chosen to minister to Greek-speaking Christians in Jerusalem at the very dawn of the Christian Church. He is also the first recorded martyr of the New Testament.

DECEMBER 27 - FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST:

Also known as John the Divine, the apostle John was the son of Zebedee and the brother of James. John was a fisherman, was very close to Jesus, and is the “beloved disciple” referred to in the Gospels. He was present at the Transfiguration, the raising of Jairus’ daughter, and the Agony in the Garden. He is remembered for the fourth Gospel, the Book of Revelation, and the three Epistles which bear his name. John is believed to have died at Ephesus in extreme old age. In Christian iconography, his symbol is the eagle.

DECEMBER 28 - FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS:

This feast commemorates the ‘Holy Infants’, the male children recorded slain by King Herod in Saint Matthew’s Gospel. This incident, along with the account of the flight into Egypt, presents the ancient tradition of the early Church: Jesus as the ‘new Israel’, persecuted and forced to flee, and the ‘new Moses’, marvellously rescued from the slaughter of the Hebrew children. This feast also points to Jesus as the Messiah and foreshadows the secular opposition which Jesus will later meet, culminating in his Passion.



ST. IGNATIUS PARISH

ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH-ST. ALBAN'S ST. ANNE'S CHURCH- CONNE RIVER

Pastor: Father Tom Duffenais **Administrative Assistant:** Doug Lambert

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Office hours: Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today’s Gospel is filled with joy and hope. John the Baptist, in the womb of Elizabeth, his mother, “leaps for joy” at the imminent coming of Christ into the world; Elizabeth, “filled with the Holy Spirit” is also filled with joy and loudly proclaims a blessing upon Mary, the Mother of the Christ Child. We too are called to experience this joy and hope as we come ever closer to the celebration of the Incarnation – God’s coming to earth as one of us.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekend Liturgy: Sat. – December 21 and Sun. – December 22

St.Alban’s-Saturday-7:00p.m.St.IgnatiusChurch-----Wallace & Sarah Willcott

St.Alban’s-Sunday – 4:00p.m. St.Ignatius Church-----**Parish Family**

Conne River-Sunday-2:00p.m.St. Anne’s Church--Samuel & Florailda Collier

Weekday Masses Mon. December 23 – Fri. December 27

Mon - 11:00 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Maureen Williams & Norman West

Tues - Christmas Eve-Conne River-3:00 p.m.-- For all the deceased in the past year

Tues - Christmas Eve-St. Alban’s-8:30 p.m.-- For all the deceased in the past year

Wed - Christmas Day-St. Alban’s-10:30 a.m.-- For all the deceased in the past year

Thurs-11:00 a.m. Parish Chapel---Nora & John Howse, Jake, John, Bern, Blaise, Charmaine & Jeffrey Howse

Fri-----11:00 a.m. Parish Chapel-----Genevieve Smith

Weekend Liturgy: Sat. – December 28 and Sun. – December 29

St.Alban’s-Saturday-7:00p.m.St.IgnatiusChurch---Harold Croft & deceased family members

St.Alban’s-Sunday - 4:00 p.m. St. Ignatius Church-----**Parish Family**

Conne River-Sunday2:00p.m. St. Anne’s Church—Donald Skinner

MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES

DATE	Sacristan	Reader	Eucharistic Minister	Collectors
Dec. 21	Jean K	Pat P	Father Tom Margaret H	Finton O Gerard S
Dec. 22	Jean K	Connie W	Father Tom Genevieve T	William M Ivan O
Dec. 24 6:00 p.m.	Mary S	Edith O	Father Tom Genevieve T	Kevin O Bill D
Dec. 25 10:30 A.m.	Mary S	Lydia W	Father Tom Mary S	Logan B Nicolas C
Dec. 28	Bernie C Loretta C	Pat P	Father Tom Edith O	Finton O Gerard S
Dec. 29	Bernie C Loretta C	Cindy B	Father Tom Mary S	William M Ivan O

Weekly Parish Income

St. Ignatius Church	\$1015.00
St. Anne's Church	105.00
Donation (In Memory of Everest Barnes)	500.00
Donation (In Memory of Joclyn Crant)	500.00
Donation (From Joseph & Catherine Collier)	300.00
Advent Offering	165.00
Christmas Flowers	490.00
Funeral Stipend	200.00
Mass Stipend	91.00

Thank you for your continued support to the parish.

Thank you

A special thank you to Melita Barnes for her generous donation in memory of Everest Barnes.

A special thank you to Burt Willcott for his generous donation in memory of Joclyn Crant.

A special thank you to Joseph & Catherine Collier of Eastport, NL for their generous donation.

A special thank you to Rose Collier & Geneva Kearley of Milltown-Head of Bay d'Espoir, NL for their generous \$100.00 donation in memory of Edmund Collier Sr., Darrell & Edmund Collier Jr.

WELCOME TO ST. IGNATIUS PARISH: ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH AND ST. ANNE'S CHURCH:

We are happy to have you here in our parish. It is our hope that you experience the presence of Christ during our worship.

"Where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them" Matt 18:20

Condolences

The parishioners of St. Anne's Church and St. Ignatius Parish extend to the family of the late Raymond "Roy" Quann of Conne River, NL their profound sympathies. We join you in prayer for the repose of your loved one. May God bless you and console you.

Condolences

The parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish and St. Anne's Church extend to the family of the late Dominic Skinner of St. Alban's, NL their profound sympathies. We join you in prayer for the repose of your loved one. May God bless you and console you.

2025 Parish Envelopes If you used at least one parish envelope by Nov, 2024, your 2025 set of envelopes are available at the back of the church. For those who did not use envelopes in 2024 but would like to do so in 2025 there are extra unnamed boxes available at the back of the church. If you take one of those boxes for 2025, don't forget to record your name opposite the box number on the sheet provided.

PLEASE DO NOT USE THESE ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY, 2025!

2025 Living with Christ Sunday Missals

Are available at the back of church. Price is \$7.00 per missal.

Christmas Message

SOFTLY, EVER SO GENTLY HE COMES. MAY HIS SILENT COMING TOUCH YOU WITH LOVE, ENFOLD YOU IN PEACE AND FILL YOU WITH HOPE.

May your Christmas be filled with the true miracles and meaning of this Merry time. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you all through the New Year. Wishing you a season of blessings from heaven above. May your world be filled with warmth and good cheer this Holy Season, we wish you a joy-filled Christmas.

Merry Christmas to all and May God Bless You!

Martin, Lorena & Gregory Collier, Jane Morris and Frank Organ from Raymond Collier

Christmas Flowers have been donated in Loving Memory of:

Everest Barnes and deceased members of the Barnes & Collier families from Melita Barnes

Genevieve Smith and deceased family members from Gerard Smith

Deceased members of Collier & Davis families from Audrey & Bill Davis

Deceased members of Strickland & Collier families from Bert & Mary Strickland

Thomas & Georgina Barnes, Jacob Benoit and Philip Cox from Kevin & Ann Benoit

Muriel, Tom & Gerard Benoit and all deceased members of the Benoit & Farrell families from the Benoit family

Almeda & Cecil Cox and Iris & Cyril Organ from Gerard J. F. Cox

Deceased members of the Cox & Farrell families from Robert & Margaret Farrell

Deceased members of the Cox & MacDonald families and Dr. Ragaie Diebes from Mary MacDonald – Diebes

Deceased members of the Cox & Willcott families from Richard & Sandra Willcott

Ross Willcott from Anita Willcott

Joan & Ronald Kendall from Paula & Gord

Ronald & Margaret Kearley from Gord & Paula

Dulcie, Nicodemus & Beatrice McDonald from Callistus & Brittany

McDonald and mother Rita, sister Norma Sutton-Rotchford and nephew

Owen Benoit from Sadie Sutton

Mike & Donna Wheeler, Margaret, Leonard, & Benny Long & Barry Cox from Margaret Long-Wheeler

Barry Cox from Frances & Gerald Cox

Benny Long from wife Frances

Margaret, Leonard & Benny Long from Coletta & Carl

Raymond Barnes and Norman & Madonna Hull and John Hull by Phyllis Barnes

Martin, Lorena & Gregory Collier, Jane Morris and Frank Organ from Madonna Collier

Christmas Flowers have been donated in Loving Memory of:

John & Winnifred Willcott and Bob & Irene Snook from Julie Ann Willcott

Deceased members of the Organ & McDonald families from Loretta McDonald

Deceased members of the Pelly & Davis families from George & Brenda Davis

Finton & Mona Willcott from Monica Kearley

Vera & Donald Skinner, Theresa & Levi John, Brittany Ann John, Judy John, Lorraine John and Claude John from Donna, Gervaise, Bradley, Nikita & Cameron

Jacob Benoit and John & Nora Howse from Christine & Bill Howse

Elizabeth & Sandy McDonald from Marion

Kathleen & Dennis Collier, Ches & Kathy Snook, Eileen & Bill Hartery and Donald Snook from Frances, Jennifer and Lenora

Owen & Allan Collier and Cecilia & Aloysius Barnes from Matilda Collier

Deceased members of the Willcott, Drew, Collier, Ryan and Hoskins families from Margaret & Christopher Drew

Advent Folders

Advent Folders are now available on the table located near the main entrance. Also available are Advent Offering envelopes if you wish to use this option instead of the coin folders. Please fill in your Name, Donation Amount and your Offertory Envelope #. Thank You for your continued support.

Sacrament Preparation

For the **2024-2025** year, we will be offering preparations for the sacrament of Reconciliation and First Communion for anyone in Grade 2 and older. Confirmation which is offered every second year will go ahead in 2025-26.