

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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Father Bill Brennan, Parish Priest Website: stkateri.ca Email: office@stkateri.ca

Mass Schedule: St. Ann's Sunday @ 9:30 am/Holy Family Saturday @ 4:30 pm and Sunday @ 11:00 am

April 19th, 2026 – Third Sunday of Easter



Earth Day 2026. This coming Wednesday, April 22nd is Earth Day. This year's theme is 'Our Power, Our Planet'. Earth Day's resource page provides many ways in which we can easily

take steps to improve our footprint and help heal and protect our shared home for which we all carry a moral and spiritual responsibility to care for and nurture, not only in this present time but for the generations to come after us.

Saint Francis of Assisi was declared the Patron Saint of Ecology in 1979 by St. John Paul II because of his lifelong devotion and special bond with nature. St. Francis lived with humility and simplicity and his teachings centered on living in harmony with nature and that all creation, all God's creatures have value.

In Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*, Care for our Common Home, he underscores not only that "St. Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we *share* our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us but also that he was particularly concerned for God's creation and for the poor and outcast. He was a mystic and a pilgrim who lived in simplicity and in wonderful harmony with God, with others, with nature and with himself."

Recently I ran across Fr. Monte's copy of *Laudato Si'* and reflected on some of the passages which he had highlighted and would like to share those with you. Fr. Monte was very much concerned about our ailing planet and the importance and urgency of becoming good stewards as a 'way of life' rooted in gratitude for God's love for the world, that several years ago he organized a talking group based on *Laudato Si'*. Many of us who took part in these sessions, still speak of the value of those discussions, discussions which hold even more value today.

"Everything is connected." "Peace, justice and the preservation of creation are three interconnected themes which cannot be separated..."

"The rich and the poor have equal dignity..."

"...the earth is essentially a shared inheritance, whose fruits are meant to benefit everyone."

"The Spirit of life dwells in every living creature and calls us into that relationship."

"The entire material universe speaks of God's love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, Water Mountains: everything is as it were, a caress of God."

"Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home."

There are many, many options available to us to create change, to make daily choices to truly live in a sustainable way. The following are but a few steps in which we can action our efforts with little exertion but perhaps more importantly builds a better model for protecting the environment:

- Shop at a local Farmer's Market
- Plant a tree
- Pick up litter on your daily walks
- Be plastic free for a day (or two or three...)
- Switch to reusable bags
- Visit a park
- Dispose of your electronics responsibly
- Grow an organic garden

'Our Power, Our Planet'.

Cookie Sunday Weekend: Next Cookie Sunday weekend is **April 25th & 26th**. In addition to cookies the Food Bank is in need of: canned pasta, canned fruit and Kraft Dinner.

We want to thank you all for your continued generosity to help support those in need. Donations can be dropped off at Holy Family Church at the Saturday Mass or Sunday Mass at both St. Ann's Church and Holy Family Church.

Any donation you can provide is most appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of our Outreach Ministry!

Pope Leo XIV prays for world peace. In the past weeks and months Pope Leo XIV has prayed for world leaders to “abandon projects of death” and calls on all people to pray for peace. Below is a link to a four-



BILIK COMMUNITY BINGO

Thank you to all the volunteers and those who supported our April 13th Bingo night – it made the night a great success. It was a wonderful night of laughter, friendship, some first-time winners and tasty snacks from the canteen! We hope to see you at the next Bingo night which is scheduled for:

Monday April 27th

**at St. Ann’s Church
in collaboration with**

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish.

Game prizes will be \$80.00 per game!!

**10 Regular Games and 2 Specials
(Jackpot and Winner Take All) Plus 50/50**

9 up – 10 games - \$15.00

3 up – 10 games - \$5.00

Specials - \$1.00 per card

**(must be purchased at the door with
regular cards)**

None will be sold on the floor.

There will be a canteen with light

**snacks and refreshments
for purchase!! Doors will**

open at 5:00 pm and

BINGO will start at 6:00

pm. CASH ONLY to

purchase cards and

Canteen!!

All funds collected will

be used to support Bilijk Elder Annual

Ste. Anne de Beaupré Trip in June 2026.

18 Years and Older only and EVERYONE

WELCOME!!



minute video,
published by the
Pope’s Worldwide
Prayer Network.
The video portrays
Pope Leo holding an
olive branch inside

the Church of San Pellegrino in Vatican City. “Today we lift up our prayer for peace in the world asking that nations renounce weapons and choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy. Disarm our hearts of hatred, resentment and indifference, so we may become instruments of reconciliation. May every kind word, every gesture of reconciliation, and every choice of dialogue be seeds of a new world,” Pope Leo words of prayer in the video.

Click on the following link to view the video: [Video of Prayer for Peace by Pope Leo XIV](#)

Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference & LEAD Registration is now open. This is a call to all high schoolers to come and explore how Jesus meets our deepest longing for meaning, joy, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at **Steubenville Atlantic in Halifax, July 10–12, 2026**, and encounter the transforming love of Christ. Youth in grade 9 through grade 12 are welcome to attend. If you are interested as a youth or a chaperone, you can learn more at <https://www.steubenville.ca> or to register click on the following link: [Steubenville Registration](#). You may also speak to Sharon Watts, Fr. Bill, or Patricia Lee, Director of Catechesis, Diocese of Saint John: 506-627-6465 or email catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org Youth who are interested in registering for the conference should speak to Fr. Bill or Sharon Watts as the Parish will assist with financing.

The new Eucharistic Minister schedule for May to August is available at the church entrance.

Rosary – Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During the Easter Season we will be praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. Everyone is welcome.



FIRST COMMUNION – APRIL 26TH

First Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, April 26th during the 11am Mass at Holy Family Church. We are pleased to be celebrating this special Sacrament with our Parishioners present again. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers. (First Communion will be live-streamed via our website at stkateri.ca)

Congratulations to:

**Felicity Richard
Hadley Daley
Ivan Noble
Zimuzo Onyewuenyi
Fedora Kemdirim
Olivia Thompson
Hailey Cleveland-Young**

Summary of Support for April 11 & 12

Regular/Loose	\$ 4,485.65
PAD (wkly. average)	2,298.46
Holy Land/Good Friday	30.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery	25.00
Easter	325.00
Indigenous Reconciliation Fund	10.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,174.11

Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers is hosting a **Bridge Luncheon** on Thursday, April 23; 12 Noon; \$60 / table; St. Theresa's Church Hall; 1 William St. Proceeds go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation, and Help Lesotho in support of grass roots community organizations in sub-Saharan Africa, where **AIDS** is still a serious health issue. To reserve a table, contact Mary Waters: 506-455-0574 or shaunmary89@gmail.com

READINGS for April 19th

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22b-28
Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21
Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Apr 19th For the People
Apr 26th Arthur Solomon / Keith Jones
May 3rd For the People
May 10th Myrtle Goodine
May 17th Raymond Francis
May 24th For the People
May 31st Alden McLenaghan

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Apr 19th John Monkhouse
Apr 26th Stacey Chessie
May 3rd Elaine Geldart
May 10th Carolanne Doherty
May 17th Betty Colligan
May 24th Mike Solomon
May 31st Lawrence Cameron

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Apr 18th Dr. Shiva Kumar Sishta
Apr 19th Mildred and Joe Connors
Apr 25th Pauline Cashen
Apr 26th Ernest Stuart Dickeson
May 2nd For the People
May 3rd Marie Lawrence / Fr. Monte Peters
May 9th Raymond, Norman and David Goodine
May 10th Norah Mary Marshall
May 16th Gertrude Maynard
May 17th For the People
May 23rd Tyler Messer
May 24th Theresa Egeland
May 30th Rick Doyle
May 31st Tomasz Zdyb (STIB)

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Apr 18th Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley
Apr 19th Jane Buckley / Doreen Cormier
Maurice Harquail / Chinasa Trinitta
Apr 25th William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc
Apr 26th Patrick Burgoon / Carl Duivenvoorden
Marijke Hurkens

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

April 18th: Ron Breau and Judy Kelly
April 19th: Sadie Cameron and Dorothy Blanchard
April 25th: Leslie Carr and Colleen Hamilton
April 26th: Annie Zdyb Rinne and Verna McCloskey

Our Sacred Stories
Gathered at the Table of the Lord
(Fr. John Jennings)

There is an old saying: *Some eat to live others live to eat.* It appears to stem from the 17th century French playwright Moliere. Its sense is that some people eat because it sustains us in life. It is how we nourish our bodies. Others, love to eat as a way of experiencing many wonderful tastes of the food consumed. Perhaps however there is further reason for a meal. It is a social experience, gathering family and friends together in an effective way. It unites us and allows us to relate to one another. A meal is a community-building experience, a way of acknowledging what we share in common: our lives and our experiences, our hopes and our dreams.

Over the past few years I have met several people who have walked the Camino trail in northern Spain. This is a pilgrimage route of about 800kms, from southern France, across northern Spain to Santiago di Compostela. The route has seen pilgrims, Christian and non-Christian, for more than 1000 years. In conversations with some who have done the pilgrimage, they often note that along the way they met and shared their stories with others. Very often, this sharing of their stories takes place at the end of the day, when they sit down at a table and share their evening meal with other pilgrims.

This experience of shared stories is what we see in Luke 24:13-35. The Gospel writer relates the story of two disciples of Jesus after the crucifixion. They are on their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus. The journey is a kind of pilgrimage for them. And like all pilgrimages it will be life-changing for them, a conversion.

As they walk along the road, the disciples are talking about what has taken place in Jerusalem. Luke tells of how Jesus approaches them. As Luke puts it: "Their eyes were kept from recognizing him." So often, in these stories of the resurrection appearances, the disciples at first, do not recognize the risen one when he appears among them.

In the Emmaus story, it is obvious that the disciples are disillusioned by the events they are discussing. Then they meet a stranger on the road who asks them about what they are discussing. They relate what has taken place, with sadness. In the crucifixion their hopes had been dashed.

The stranger then recounts the prophetic stories from the scriptures, still they do not recognize him. When they are about to end their trek, the stranger seems about to continue along the road. Something about him and what he related urges them to ask that he stay with them. As they sat at the table and began their evening meal, the stranger "took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them." Then their eyes were opened." The disciples recognized the risen one in their midst at the breaking of the bread. This was the very action Jesus did with his disciples at the Last Supper, asking them to "do this in remembrance of me. (Luke 22:19)." Now, at the table as they share the meal, they recognize the risen Jesus with them. They have a conversion. The stories they shared on the road and the stories the stranger related to them from the scriptures found meaning for the disciples at the table, at the breaking of the bread. Now they see, and believe.

Every Sunday, at every Eucharist, our Christian communities come together. We carry with us what has happened around us, and in our world. We share our experiences and stories of the past week or month. Then we listen to our sacred stories from the scriptures. At the Table, we celebrate the Eucharist with each other, and we do so in remembrance of Jesus, to be with one another at the "breaking of the bread." This Eucharistic event is our own Emmaus story. It is a moment of conversion for us, a time to recognize the risen Jesus active and present among us in our own pilgrimage of life.