

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 27th, 2025 – Second Sunday of Easter



Pope Francis (1936-2025): For your reflections this week as we mourn the passing of the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis.

Pope Francis on Compassion: "We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, and spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the

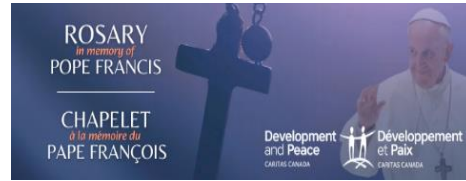
excluded and preach peace."

Pope Francis on the Marginalized: "Openness to God makes us open towards the marginalized of this world and gives us the courage to leave the confines of our own security and comfort to become bruised, hurting and dirty as we joyfully approach the suffering other in a spirit of solidarity."

Pope Francis on Refugees: "The faith we proclaim makes us see God present in all those situations where we think he is absent... He is present in the unwelcomed visitor, often unrecognizable, who walks through our cities and our neighborhoods, who travels on our buses and knocks on our doors."

Pope Francis on the Environment: "Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given to us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude."

In a recent letter from the Office of the Bishop, Bishop Riesbeck has extended an invitation to attend a **Memorial Mass for Pope Francis** at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on **Tuesday, April 29th at 7pm**. Copies of the Bishop's Letter are available in the lobby of the church.



Rosary in Memory of the Pope: Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is

organizing a special **Rosary in memory of Pope Francis** via zoom. This special Rosary will take place on **Tuesday, April 29th at 7pm (Atlantic Time)**. Sign up now to join Catholics across Canada in mourning and celebrating the Holy Father; in praying for his soul; and in reflecting on what he stood for and taught to people of goodwill around the world. Right Click the following link to sign up for this special Rosary: [Sign up for Rosary](#)

Fr. Bill's Easter Message 2025

I have often heard 'elders' among us speak the following phrases (or something like them) with a deep confidence:

"Eventually things change for the better."

"This will get better."

"Hope springs eternal."

I have believed and trusted these words because they were coming from folks who have been on life's journey a longer and sometimes a much longer time than myself and have experienced much challenge, pain, loss and even devastation. Yet they were hopeful.

For the followers of Jesus, His crucifixion and death was devastating. It left them empty, at a loss, frightened and ashamed of their lack of courage and faithfulness. It also left them desiring and hoping for things to get better and for a 'hope that springs eternal'.

This is exactly what happened. The Easter Gospel stories tell us they came to experience that the crucifixion and death of Jesus was not his end. He had Risen and came to all of them as 'The Risen Christ'. He breathed on them and spoke hope and renewal into their lives.

They were changed! They found that they had a NEW AND DEEPER courage and peace, and that Hope Sprang Eternal in them. This is what came to be known as Easter!

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Today, Jesus, the Risen Christ continues to seek us out as individuals and in communities and brings change for the better in us and through us and in others and through others. Easter has been in our lives from the time we were created. It looks like this:

Where we have been afraid, we have found courage!

When we have been apathetic, we have sought awareness and have become concerned and compassionate!

When we have been wounded we have found healing!

Where we have so often left it to others to speak out, to act and to change things, we have found ourselves passionate, concerned and involved with others in being that change for the better.

All of this we call Easter! If we reflect on it in this way, we see the great abundance of Easter grace in our world and we also see where Easter grace is needed. May we all be willing to bring it there because we have Easter – the Risen Christ in us....all of us! What amazing Good News! Alleluia!

Holy Week Thank You: A big “thank you” is extended to all those from St. Ann’s Church and Holy Family Church who helped in organizing the Holy Week and Easter Services in our Parish last week. Your help and support ensured things ran smoothly and were much appreciated. Thank you to those who arranged communications, livestreaming, our power point presentations, readers, Eucharistic Ministers and for making our church look so beautiful for the Easter Season. Also, thanks to those individuals who saw a need and jumped in to help at the time. A very special thanks to our Choir for the beautiful music provided for each service during Holy Week. Your support and dedication are appreciated.

A special “woliwon” (thank you) to Wolastoqey Fire Keepers Ray Francis and Mike Solomon from Bilijk First Nation (Kingsclear) for sharing their knowledge and spirituality of the Sacred Fire which was used to light our new Paschal Candle at the Easter Vigil.

Lastly, a special thank you to the Pastoral Team Judy, Barb and Fr. Bill and for their guidance and leadership to assure a prayerful and meaningful Lent and Easter Triduum that helped us connect deeply with Jesus’ life, death and resurrection as it unfolds in our lives.

Warmest Easter Blessings to you all!

Cookie Sunday Weekend: It’s Cookie Sunday Weekend April 26th & 27th. In addition to cookies, the Food Bank is in need of Kraft Dinner and canned corn. 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!



Monthly Indigenous Rosary:

This monthly gathering meets virtually to pray the Rosary in 5 Indigenous languages spoken across Turtle Island. “The Holy Rosary is a prayer that is common to all Catholics in this land and has been prayed for generations in every Indigenous language. This gathering is an opportunity to

pray as one with the intention that all who live in this land, Indigenous and non-Indigenous may experience healing and reconciliation on a renewed journey of justice and peace for our children.” (Intention courtesy of Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle).

The next Rosary date is scheduled for **Saturday, April 26th, 2025, at 1:30pm Atlantic time.** New participants can [click here to register](#) and receive the Zoom link. Registration is required only once. Zoom links will be sent the day before and the morning of the event. The upcoming Rosary events will take place on the 4th Saturday of the month through June 2025.

Summary of your Support for April 18 to 21/25

Regular/Loose	\$ 4,220.95
PAD (wkly. average)	2,164.62
St Patrick’s Cemetery	15.00
Development & Peace	290.00
Easter	3,221.00
Holy Land	2,286.75
Poor & Needy Fund	75.00
Missals/Little Books	145.75
TOTAL	\$ 12,419.07

READINGS for April 27th

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

Second Reading: Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Apr 27th Keith Jones
May 4th For the People
May 11th Myrtle Goodine
May 18th For the People
May 25th The McKerrral Family

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Apr 27th Elaine Geldart
May 4th Carolann Doherty
May 11th Betty Colligan
May 18th Mike Solomon
May 25th Lawrence Cameron

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Apr 26th For the People
Apr 27th Eileen Ryan
May 3rd Fr. Monte Peters / Mike MacIntosh
May 4th Arthur McDonough
May 10th Raymond Goodine
May 11th For the People
May 17th Arneta Crowley
May 18th Walter Randall
May 24th Connie Levesque
May 25th For the People

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Apr 26th William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc
Apr 27th Chinyese Alozie / Norma Downing
Debbie Landau
May 3rd Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers
May 4th Noreen Bonnell / Euka Ezeokafor /
Maureen Hawthorne
May 10th Paul Ryan / Margie Snell / Beth Wright
May 11th Jane Buckley / Maurice Harquail /
Chinasa Trinitta

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Apr 26th Judy Kelly / Colleen Hamilton
Apr 27th JoAnne Linton / Verna McCloskey
May 3rd Judy Kelly / Harold DeCourcey
May 4th JoAnne Linton / Verna McCloskey
May 10th Wanda Cairns / Leslie Carr
May 11th Sharon Watts / Bettyanne McMackin

Rosary - Join us every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During the Easter Season we will be reciting the Glorious Mysteries.



Jubilee of Hope for Teenagers and Canonization of Carlo Acutis An Invitation to Youth!

Did you know that the church around the world will be celebrating teenagers April 25th to 27th as part of the Jubilee of Hope 2025? This is a time for the church to celebrate young people and their faith. A time to honor, pray for and give a blessing to the young people of our church. During this jubilee celebration the first millennial Saint, Carlo Acutis, will be canonized on Sunday, April 27th.

All youth 12 to 18 are invited to come and celebrate! Join youth from around Fredericton for an evening of celebration and fellowship. Sunday, April 27th from 5:30 to 8:30 pm at St. Theresa's Church. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm, followed by activities and ending with Adoration and praise and worship. Be sure to invite a friend! Help us plan by letting us know if you can attend by emailing Sharon Watts, Religious Education Coordinator for Holy Family Church at mooseville4@gmail.com

Holy Family - Eucharistic Minister Schedules for May to August are available at the church entrance.

Little White Books for Easter available at church entrance, suggested donation \$2.00 each. Please drop donation in basket provided.

First Communion will be celebrated next Sunday, May 4th 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: Jayden Buckley, Brianna D'Souza, Eli Dyker, Maria Dyker, Emmanuel Ederaro, Laila Gass, Emmett McCallum, Alexander Nijland, Christine Nsirim, Martins Nsirim and Kate Ross.

Our Sacred Stories
Resurrection: The Fire in Our Hearts
(Fr. John Jennings)

Just remember in the winter, far beneath the bitter snow, lies the seed that with the sun's love, in the spring becomes the rose.

This is the last stanza of the song "The Rose" sung by Bette Midler in the 1979 movie of the same name. The movie recounts the life of singer Janis Joplin who died tragically at the age of 27. In so many ways, this song captures the core of Joplin's life and what energized her.

Ron Rolheiser in "Holy Longing" cites Joplin along with Princess Diana and Mother Theresa as examples of persons who had the fire of great energy within them. Each of them handled this fire differently. In Joplin's case unfortunately, the fire was not controlled or channeled. But that is not to deny that Janis Joplin like the other two was filled with "fire".

For Rolheiser, this fire is what burns in our hearts as life-giving love. It is what drives our desires in life and forms what we would call our spirituality. As such it is part of God's gift to us all. It rests in the heart of every human being whether we recognize it or not.

In so many ways this little piece of Joplin's music helps us to understand our Easter experience as disciples of Jesus the Christ. The many challenges that we face in our world and personally as well can create a discouraging malaise for us. This darkness or coldness of our lives is indeed like a winter for us. We can see that we are affected by a world that's marked by violence and injustice, a world where the most vulnerable and helpless suffer and the strong even unwittingly, dominate.

In such a world, the Easter event, provides us with a window of hope. The wonder of what we have come to speak of as the Paschal Mystery is our hope. In our tradition "Mystery" always refers to some truth of our faith that is so great that we can never exhaust what it means. Such truths of faith are so life-giving and so connected to our loving relationship with God that they are foundational to our hope for both our world and ourselves.

Easter is all about the Paschal Mystery, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus with the ultimate gift of God's spirit to dwelling in our midst. For Christians, it is the resurrection of Jesus that ignites the fire in our hearts and drives our faith and life. The disciples who were filled with fear after the crucifixion, discovered this fire in the time that followed. It drove them to a new vision and energized them to head out with what they saw as Good News for life.

In the Sundays after Easter, we see this again and again. In readings from John and from Luke the fearful, confused and dismayed women and men among Jesus's disciples see their lives turned around. At first filled with doubts that Thomas expresses this Sunday (John 20:19-31) and marked by the disbelief that appears in all of them in the stories of John and Luke, they discover a new spirit among them. This fire of the spirit will lead them out into the world as new light in the darkness.

For them and for us the resurrection was not simply a single event in the life of Jesus. It is the core of our Christian faith. Our God is a life-giving God whose love drives us. The wonder or miracle of Jesus's resurrection was not a one-time event or only for Jesus. It is a miracle for us all and for our world. As wounded and broken as we and our world may be, we are also raised up. Resurrection happens, in every expression of God's love in our world, in all humanity and all creation. Through the Paschal Mystery, every single human being has this seed of new life planted within us. May the risen life that we hold in our hearts be the fire that brings hope and life to our world in every place and time.

" O CANADA EH" NIGHT - Knights of Columbus Council 1942 sponsored fundraiser for N.B. Right to Life vision to open HOPE HOUSE MATERNITY HOME for pregnant women in need. Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Knights Hall on Regent Street. Doors open at 5:30 and dinner served at 6 p.m. Menu: Chicken Fricot Soup, Hearty Vegetable Soup, Rolls, pie, tea, coffee, juice. \$7.50 per person. We need people to donate food items. Silent auction for items including home baked goods. Tickets must be pre-purchased: E transfer-bgreen067@gmail .com or payment at NBRL office. *****Following dinner we will have Karaoke entertainment*****

Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers Jewelry Sale Fundraiser; Saturday, May 10, 9am-4pm; Wilmot United Church. (cash or cheque) Proceeds go to grassroots organizations in Sub-saharan Africa. **Thank you** so much to those who contributed jewelry over the last number of months.

Divine Mercy Sunday with exposition will be held on April 27th at St. Dunstan's of St. Mary Magdalene Parish, commencing at 2:45 pm. All are welcome. The novena of divine mercy to be said on your time starts on Good Friday leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday.