

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

Office: 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3 Phone (506) 444-6021

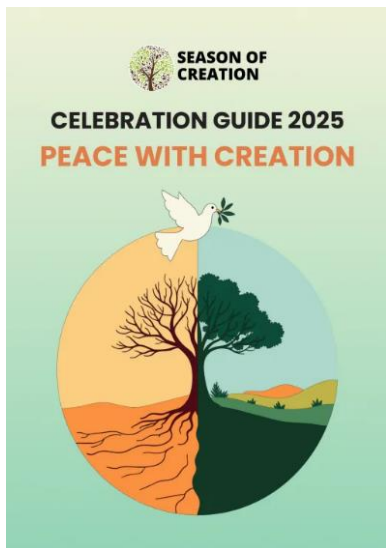
Father Bill Brennan, Parish Priest Website: stkateri.ca Email: office@stkateri.ca

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

August 31st, 2025 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Season of Creation 2025 – Let's Celebrate Together! This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of Laudato Si', Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment and climate change which emphasizes the bond between faith, the environment and social justice.

In conjunction with this anniversary, September 1st marks the beginning of the **Season of Creation** which is observed from September 1st to October 4th. It begins on World Day of Prayer for the Care Creation and ends on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron Saint of Ecology. It calls on all Christians to renew their relationship with the Creator and all of creation, with a focus on ecological healing, justice and reconciliation as we strive for peace and restoration of the earth.



The symbol for the Season of Creation 2025 is '**Garden of Peace**'. It portrays a tree in a world of two halves. On one side, the tree is barren and the landscape exploited. On the other side, the tree is lush and green, in a flourishing landscape. Above is a dove, carrying an olive branch in its beak. In the Biblical story of the flood, Noah sends the dove out to see if the flood waters are receding. This blessed messenger, as

depicted in this year's logo, eventually returns with an olive branch which came to be known as a 'sign of new peace', symbolizing hope and the beginning of a period of peace.

This year's theme "**Peace with Creation**" draws from Isaiah 32:15-16, "Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, the wilderness becomes a fruitful field...Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field." In Pope Leo's XIV address for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2025, he notes, "now is the time to follow words with deeds...By working with love and perseverance, we can sow many seeds of justice and thus contribute to the growth of peace and the renewal of hope." (excerpts from the WCC Season of Creation)

There is no denying that we are in an ecological crisis with the earth's temperature rising every year along with the depletion

of the earth's natural resources exploited by world consumption. Sadly, the damage to the environment affects the poor most of all as they live in the most vulnerable locations across the globe. As we enter into the Season of Creation this coming Monday, September 1st, we offer the following reflection and an invitation to join in the praying of the 'Care of Creation Rosary':

'Called to your Table'

You said: "Let there be, and so there was. Creation awakened. Reaching towards you, life sang your praises. Each seed, each atom replied to your calling; Each plant, each creature – knowing unmasking. You said: "Let them live", and so we did. Creation: abundant, reaping the harvest, called to your table. Each woman, each man, each daughter, each son, - praising rejoicing.

You said: "Let them share", and how we fail. Creation: unbalanced, wasting, destroying, we take from others. Keeping, withholding, we fail to notice hunger and weeping.

We say: "Let us learn", and so we must. Creation: restored. Giving and taking: to each life sufficient. Each to another, filled with your bounty each prayer, each answer. Building, remaking. (Prayer by Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD))

Care of Creation Rosary – The Joyful Mysteries. As we continue to pray the Rosary every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church, please join us during this special Season as we pray the 'Care of Creation Rosary' as a way to nourish our commitment to care for the earth.

Beyond our prayers, let's build upon this Season of Creation and make it our responsibility to become good stewards, seeking justice, reconciliation and the healing of the earth, for all.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Sunday, Sept. 7th

It's time for our Annual Parish BBQ cont.

When: Sunday, September 7th

Where: Holy Family Church

Time: Immediately following the 11 AM Mass

Join us for a free BBQ with **hot dogs, hamburgers,** and maybe even the return of the **popcorn machine!** **Fun for All Ages:**

- Games and activities for our youth
- Family registration for **Catechism (Gr. K-7)**
- Registration for **Confirmation Candidates (Grades 8-9)**

Want to help?

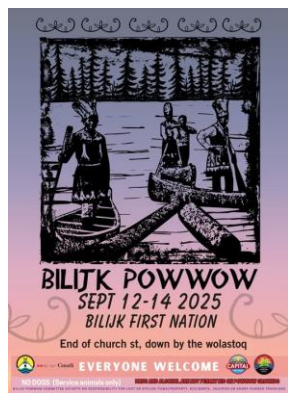
Volunteers are needed for the BBQ, youth games/activities, and clean-up. please contact **Sharon Watts** at office@stkateri.ca if you'd like to lend a hand. **Everyone is welcome.. come celebrate with us!**

UPCOMING POW WOWS:



The **39th Annual Elsipogtog First Nation Powwow (Big Cove)** is taking place **August 29th to 31st, 2025** along the beautiful Richibucto River (1072 Route 510, Lower Main River). The traditional powwow is a local

highlight of Mi'kmaq culture and celebration. Everyone is welcome!



Bilijk Annual PowWow – September 12th-14th, Bilijk PowWow Grounds, along the Wolastoq, 729 church Street, Bilijk (Kingslear) First Nation. Everyone is welcome! More information to come.

READINGS for August 31st

First Reading: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Responsorial Psalm: In your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Aug 31st Claudette Grexton
Sept 7th James Andrew McAllister
Sept 14th Jean Murphy

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Aug 31st John Monkhouse
Sept 7th Stacey Chessie

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Aug 30th Judy Kelly / Mona LeBlanc
Aug 31st Victoria Olopade / Oma Okoye
Sept 6th Joan Sowers/Paula Ryan
Sept 7th Flora Ederaro/Jane Buckley

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Aug 30th Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell
Aug 31st Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon
Sept 6th Rita Maxwell/Harold DeCoursey
Sept. 7th Joanne Linton/Annie Zdyb-Rinne

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Aug 30th Shelley Cameron / Patricia Okoye
Aug 31st Laura Gaul & Family
Sept 6th Marjorie Steeves
Sept 7th For the People
Sept 13th Charlotte Southwell
Sept 14th Anthony & Claudia Bourque and DFM
Armand & Edna Dube and DFM
Edmond Blanchard

Sign-Up for New 2025-26 Readers at Holy

Family – In the entryway, you will see a sign-up sheet for new Readers at Holy Family, for the period September 2025 to June 2026. If you were a Reader in 2024-2025 or if you were a Reader this past summer, there is no need to sign-up. You will be contacted by phone to ask if you still want to be a Reader for the coming year.

Everyone is welcome to attend the **Twilight Retreat**,

hosted by St. Theresa's CWL, on Monday, September 8th, in the church hall, 45 Royal Road. First session begins at 4:30 pm, followed by a pot luck, second session and closing prayer at 8 pm. Presenter is Father David Fulton. Topic: 'Doors to the Sacred'.

Summary of Support for August 23rd & 24th

Regular/Loose	\$ 3,372.64
PAD (wkly. average)	2,314.62
School Supplies	1,770.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery	45.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,502.26

OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY DONATIONS:

1. *Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD). Forms are at the entrance of the churches. Return to parish office.*
2. *Mail: St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3.*
3. *Electronic Funds Transfer to office@stkateri.ca*

Rosary - Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 1030 at Holy Family. During Ordinary Time we will be reciting the Luminous Mysteries. All are welcome to attend.

The Saint John Diocesan Council for Development and Peace will hold its Fall Campaign Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Holy Family Church, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton, and beginning at 10 am to 2 pm. Adah Ogbe, our D&P Maritime Regional Animator, will present the workshop on the Fall Campaign, Turn Debt into Hope. If you cannot attend in person, you can join the meeting virtually, via Zoom.

The link to REGISTER for the meeting is below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail with the meeting link. Here is the registration link to join the meeting virtually.

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/s_x8LisUTY_Szn4NmCusIYA

Film Screening: Permission

You are invited to a special screening of the film *Permission*: Fr. Bob Bedard's Vision for the Church, on September 14th, 2025, at 3pm (doors open at 2pm) at the Villa Madonna Retreat House. On this 40th anniversary year of their founding on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, come discover the heart of Fr. Bob Bedard the founder of the Companions of the Cross and a major figure of renewal in the Canadian church. See why so many in the church continue to find inspiration in his vision of a church explosively alive. See poster in the lobby of the church.

For more information, please contact:
info@immaculateconception.ca.

<https://form.jotform.com/252294613131046>



Urgent Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB) recently issues

a statement by the Permanent Council on the crisis in Gaza including a recent statement from Pope Leo XIV, "...with profound concern, that the "dire humanitarian situation in Gaza" and the "barbarism of war" causing it must be ended immediately." He has advocated for the provision of humanitarian aid to the stricken civilian population as well as the release of hostages and detainees on both sides. The Holy Father has appealed to the international community "to observe humanitarian law and to respect the obligation to protect civilians, as well as the prohibition of collective punishment, the indiscriminate use of force and the forced displacement of the population" in Gaza. He has reiterated his call for a ceasefire and a resolution that will bring lasting peace. Please click on the following link to read the entire statement from the CCCC: **[Statement by the CCCC](#)**

"They will hammer their swords into ploughshares and their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, no longer will they learn how to make war."

Isaiah 2:4

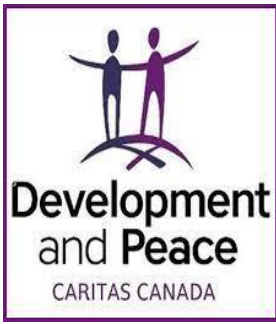
Prayer for Peace: *God of peace, bearer of hope, we seek your help for the peoples of the Middle East. Quiet the clamour of war and guide us towards peace.*

Where there is hatred and division sow seeds of calm and openness. Where there is destruction help us to rebuild. Where children are crying bring an end to tears.

Shelter your peoples and protect them. Guide them and keep them from harm. Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear and breathe whispers of hope. Amen.

Linda Jones/CAFOD Meanwhile, Caritas Jerusalem, with Caritas Internationalis, all our Members worldwide and the whole humanitarian community is ready to respond to the horrific humanitarian conditions in Gaza immediately and at scale as soon as safe access is granted. We proved during the ceasefire we could do this and we must be allowed to do it again.

You can make a difference. Click on the following link to make a donation - **[GIVE NOW](#)**



Development and Peace Fall Workshop: The Saint John Diocesan Council for Development and Peace will hold its **Fall Campaign Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Holy Family Church**, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton, and beginning at 10 am to 2 pm. Adah Ogbe, our D&P Maritime Regional Animator, will present the

workshop on the Fall Campaign, *Turn Debt into Hope*. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

If you cannot attend in person, you can join the meeting virtually, via Zoom.

The link to REGISTER for the meeting is below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail with the meeting link. Click link to register via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/s_x8LisUTYSzn4NmCusiYA

I hope you will be able to join us, either in person or virtually. Everyone is invited to attend. We are looking for new members. If you questions or are interested in the work of this Council, please speak to Judy Kelly.

Our Sacred Stories
Conversion and Openness to All
A Community of Mercy
(Fr. John Jennings)

We live in a world marked by a host of disruptions – violence and war, inequalities and poverty, injustice and threats. One of the results of these conditions is the movements of peoples they choose to migrate to escape these conditions. Perhaps more accurately, they choose to leave their homelands for the sake of their children and families. This migration poses challenges to those countries to which they move. Immigration makes demands on the host country to which they come. Are we open to those who come to be among us? Are we communities of mercy and support?

Of all the characteristics of Jesus that appear in the Gospels perhaps none loom so large as his openness, his compassion and his readiness to show mercy. Jesus is constantly giving life to others, especially those who are most in need. In doing so, Jesus lives the mission given to him – to bring the reign of God to reality in our world. Jesus presents the human face of God's love and mercy to all humanity, in every place and time.

To be a disciple of Jesus is to take up that same mission in the world in which we live. To be a disciple of Jesus is to reveal the face of God's love and mercy in the immediate world of our own experience. When we live with love, compassion, and mercy in the ordinary

relationships and experiences of our lives, we are living our mission – to reveal the presence and reality of God moving among us. Ours is a call to transform our world bit by bit into the dream that God has for all humanity.

Luke's Gospel account (Luke 14:1, 7-14) presents a story of Jesus accepting a dinner invitation from a leader of the Pharisees. He notes how people seem to be focused on the seating arrangement of the guests and encourages them not seek the highest places at table. However, the real indication of Jesus and his mission comes when he advises his host (and us) "invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind," a challenge to offer openness to all.

Throughout the Gospels, we see that the primary concern of Jesus is for the vulnerable ones, those whose condition gives them no advantage. He has an openness to those who need the support of those around them. There are so many stories of his openness, so many actions that welcomed and healed and forgave without measure. He is the model of God for us. Above all else in the Gospel we see Jesus as the one who reaches out to the lepers, the wounded, the hurting, the outcasts and the excluded. As his disciples, this is our mission too.

When we speak of mercy in the light of the Gospel, it is not pity, but the compassion, the openness and the love that marks our God. As church, we are challenged to a conversion based on such openness and love. Our Church seeks a new Pentecost, a conversion or better, a transformation as church. There are no outsiders in this Church, all are welcome.

As an experience of Pentecost, the Spirit calls for a conversion to mercy, real mercy that brings pardon and healing and openness to those who have for so long been excluded and marginalized. As disciples we are called to be a welcoming community. Such a Christian community is not just hospitable. It has vision and is ready to liberate and to open the door to the exiles, the outcasts, refugees of both our church and our world. What an opportunity and what a challenge! Truly the face of God, the presence of Jesus in our world.

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfasts will resume in September. The next breakfast will be on Sunday, September 14th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 10.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 30.00. Proceeds will be used to support the Law Enforcement Run for Special Olympics. Everyone welcome.