

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 4th, 2024 – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Fr. Ron Rolheiser's book "**Our One Great Act of Fidelity – Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist**" he shares some of his very personal reflections on the Eucharist in addition to offering other denominations' traditions around the Eucharist. These are some quotes from his book.

"When John wrote his Gospel, he did not include a Christmas story. In place of the birth of Jesus, he simply wrote, *The word was made flesh and it lives among us.*"

"So, on the night before his death, having exhausted what he could with the words, Jesus went beyond them. He gave us the Eucharist, his physical embrace, his kiss, a ritual within which he holds us to his heart."

"The Eucharist is meant to be God's regular nourishment for us, daily manna to keep us alive within the desert of our lives."

"...the Eucharist is meant simply to be a family meal, a community celebration, a place like our kitchen tables and living rooms, where we come together to be with each other, to share ordinary life, to celebrate special events with each other, to console and cry with each other when life is full of heartaches, and to be together simply for the sake of being together."

"These words wonderfully describe one of the central meanings of the Eucharist. We should be on our knees washing each other's feet because that is precisely what Jesus did at the first Eucharist, and he did it to teach us that the Eucharist is not a private act of devotion, meant to square our debts with God, but a call to, and a grace for, service."

"One of the deep meanings of the Eucharist is that it invites us to realize that, like Jesus, we, too, have come from God and are going back to God and that therefore all things are possible for us, including a stripping off of the outer garments that so divide us, so that we can begin to wash each other's feet across all lines of difference and division."

"*Share!* The Eucharist, as a spirituality, invites us into community and family. To live out the Eucharist in daily life is to share our everyday lives with each other."

"We can't always be clear-headed or warm-hearted; we can't always be sure that we know the exact path of God; and we won't always measure up morally and humanly to what faith asks of us. But we can be faithful in this one deep way: we can go to the Eucharist regularly."

The final chapter of the book includes the three famous sermons on the Eucharist by Saint Augustine (AD 354-430). Fr. Rolheiser notes "Saint Augustine is perhaps the most influential and important theologian in Christian history. Each of the three sermons were delivered at a Eucharist on an Easter Sunday morning and was intended for those who had been baptized the night before at the Easter Vigil and were receiving communion for just the second time. These persons, the newly baptized, would not yet ever have heard a sermon on the Eucharist, even though they had received communion the night before."

(A copy of this book is available for reading on the bookshelf in the lobby of the church.)

An Afternoon for High School Youth in our Diocese (ages 14-18) - Join Us for Fun, Faith, Fellowship and Food! "Take Up His Calling"

Date: **August 18, 2024** Time: **1:00 PM to 6:30 PM** Location: **Villa Madonna Retreat House**

Come and enjoy an afternoon filled with activities, faith, fellowship, and food. We are honored to have **Bishop Christian** celebrating Mass with us.

Don't miss this special event just for high school youth! We look forward to seeing you there. To help with food planning, email catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org or text 506-627-6465 that you are attending.

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**Visioning Youth Ministry in our Parishes – a day of prayer, discernment, and discussion about Youth Ministry – Tuesday, August 27, 9:30-4:30 at the Villa Madonna.**

Do you feel a burden of spiritual concern for high school aged youth in your parish? Do you feel a nudge from the Holy Spirit to help address the needs for evangelizing young people? Patricia Lee and Jim Anderson will be facilitating a day of reflection and discernment for anyone interested in discussing the needs and initiatives for the evangelization of young people in our parishes. This is for current and new people drawn to building youth groups in your parish. The gathering will be held at the Villa Madonna Retreat House in Rothesay, on Tuesday, August 27, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Please register by email [catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org) or by calling 506-627-6465.

**READINGS for August 4<sup>th</sup>**

1st Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15, 31a  
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:17-, 20-24  
Gospel: John 6:24-35

**Responsorial Psalm: The Lord gave them the bread of heaven.**

**Divine Mercy:** *Divine Mercy is held every Friday at 3pm at St. Ann's Church. Please call Nelson Solomon at 363-4493 for further information. All are welcome!*

**Rosary:** *Every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During Ordinary Time we will be reciting the Luminous Mysteries. Everyone is welcome!*

**Mass Intentions at St. Ann's**

Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Claudette Grexton  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> Pauline Francis  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Joan Polchies  
Aug 25<sup>th</sup> James Andrew McAllister

**READERS AT ST. ANN'S**

Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Elaine Geldart  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> Carolanne Doherty  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Betty Colligan  
Aug 25<sup>th</sup> Mike Solomon

**Mass Intentions at Holy Family**

Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> Peter LaForest  
Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Garth Underhill  
Aug 10<sup>th</sup> Joyce Clowater  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> Dosithe Brideau  
Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Bernie McCann, Fr. Monte Peters, and Tyler Messer  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Lorna MacNeil

**READERS AT HOLY FAMILY**

Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> Roly McSorley / Mary Beth Gorey  
Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Ebuka Ezeokafor / Anuli Ezeokafor  
Aug 10<sup>th</sup> Paula Ryan / Mona LeBlanc  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> Maurice Harquail / Jane Buckley  
Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Joan Sowers / Judy Kelly  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Ray & Anita Allain

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY**

Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> Lynn Laagland / Judy Kelly  
Aug 4<sup>th</sup> Bettyanne McMackin / Sharon Watts  
Aug 10<sup>th</sup> Joan Sowers / Harold DeCoursey  
Aug 11<sup>th</sup> Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard  
Aug 17<sup>th</sup> Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton  
Aug 18<sup>th</sup> Patrick Burgoon / Ewart Kenney

**Note from Fr. Bill about Mass Intentions:** Due to an increase in requests for Mass Intentions for the same day and Mass time to celebrate special anniversaries and birth dates of deceased loved ones, you will notice at times that we have more than one Mass Intention for the same Mass. Church Law allows for this to happen and we are grateful to be able to provide this blessing as we live and celebrate all of the gifts of Christ's Resurrection that we share in through the Eucharist.



**Update on Bill C-226:**  
We are happy to share good news regarding Bill C-226, which was recently enacted into law,

promises to address the problem of environmental racism and secure environmental justice in Canada.

Last week, Governor General Mary Simon gave royal assent to Bill C-226, which addresses environmental justice and racism in Canada. Now a law, it requires the creation of a national environmental justice strategy to account for the effects of environmental racism—a systemic issue that results in Indigenous, Black and racialized communities being affected by environmental hazards more than other communities.

Environmental justice requires the consideration of how marginalized people—such as those in poverty or poor housing, workers, seasonal agricultural workers, women, and others—are also disproportionately impacted by environmental issues like unsafe drinking water, pollution, toxic wastes, climate change, lack of green spaces, workplace exposure to risks, and other risks.

**BILL C-226: A LAW IN LINE WITH OUR VIEWS:** This means that environmental justice is squarely in line with Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and the work of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada and our international partners. CST begins in the inherent dignity of every person, made in the image and likeness of God. God's intent for human beings—and indeed that of all creation—is “that they may have life and have it abundantly” (John 10:10). Environmental degradation impacts the dignity of humans and their ability to experience full and flourishing lives as God intended.

As Pope Francis stated in the encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*, “Human beings too are creatures of this world, enjoying a right to life and happiness, and endowed with unique dignity. So, we cannot fail to consider the effects on people's lives of environmental deterioration” (LS, 43).

*(Excerpt from article written by Randy Haluza-DeLay, Development and Peace Animator for Central Ontario.)* To read this article in its entirety which beautifully explains the law, its history, its relevance to the work of Development and Peace and its significance for Catholics committed to justice click on the following link: [Bill C-226: a victory for environmental justice advocacy | Development and Peace \(devp.org\)](#)

**Summary of your Support for July 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Regular/Loose</b>          | <b>\$ 4,306.70</b> |
| <b>PAD (wkly. average)</b>    | <b>1,827.69</b>    |
| <b>St. Patrick's Cemetery</b> | <b>41.00</b>       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>\$ 6,175.39</b> |

*Thank you for your continued and generous support.*

**OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY DONATIONS:**

1. *Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD). Forms are at the entrance of the churches. Return to parish office.*
2. *Mail your envelopes St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3.*
3. *Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) You may send your donations by Electronic Funds Transfer to [office@stkateri.ca](mailto:office@stkateri.ca)*

**Shelter & Foodbank Donations.** A huge **THANK YOU** to parishioners from St. Ann's Church, Holy Family Church, and Residents from Shannex for your generous donations at last weekend's Cookie Sunday! Through your donations we collected dozens of cookies and for the Shelters and Foodbank along with much needed canned goods. Your kindness and generosity are outstanding and will help in the preparation of hundreds of meals for those in need. You are truly answering the teachings of Jesus. Thank you!

**Dr. Michael W. Higgins** is coming to Fredericton to launch his new Book, **The Jesuit Disruptor: A Personal Portrait of Pope Francis**, published by **House of Anansi**, and give a presentation on **The Synod on Synodality**. On **Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** he will be at **Holy Family Church, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton** from **10:30 am till 1:00 pm**. This gathering will begin with a presentation on the Synod and Synodality (and Q and A) followed by the book launch and a social time with food and refreshments and book signing. Westminster Books will be present with books available. **Dr. Michael Higgins** is well known to us as an **author, English and Religious Studies Professor, former President and Vice Chancellor of St. Thomas University, journalist, documentarian, columnist with many prominent newspapers, commentator and analyst with CBC and CTV, and biographer of Henri J. M. Nouwen and Thomas Merton**. He will be attending the next Synod gathering in Rome in October, as he did the first synod gathering as a credentialed journalist on behalf of Paulist Press. **No registration or fee to attend! All are welcome!**

**Our Sacred Stories**  
**What Language Does God Speak?**  
**(Fr. John Jennings)**

A curious question indeed. But it is one that we all ask even when we do not realize it. In chapter 6 of John's Gospel we hear the story of Jesus feeding a great crowd with a few fish and some bread. After this miracle or wonder we hear Jesus in conversation with people who want him to offer another sign that he speaks and acts for God (John 6:24-35). They want another miracle. That is the language they want. Is it sometimes the language we seem to seek?

Jesus' response, however is to indicate that it is not in miracles and wonders that God speaks. Rather it is in the kind of loving care and service that he himself has shown them. He is the word that God speaks to them.

In Catholic theology there is a basic teaching that Jesus is the *sacrament of God* and that the church is the *sacrament of Jesus*. In other words, in Jesus Christ the divine has touched and taken on our humanity, that we might recognize the divine presence in the midst of Creation. God speaks in all Jesus says and does. More than this, we, the People of God, as church speak and act as the continuing presence of Jesus in our world. When we live this fundamental of faith, we recognize the divine presence in all that is around us.

How do each of us, as church, speak Jesus in our world? Pope Francis has offered some direction on this to us. Perhaps in what Francis expresses we might discover that the language that God speaks is what Jesus has shown us, the language of mercy and of love, of openness and inclusion, of awareness that the divine presence is always among us. We need to hear this language especially in moments when we are our weakest and most vulnerable.

Pope Francis focuses on those who struggle with our church and no longer find it meaningful and supportive, those who seem or sense that they are judged and rejected by our church. He does not blame the culture or harangue against "relativism", "consumerism" and other "isms" of our times. Pope Francis offer instead, a challenge to us as church – to look inward, that we might reach outward to the whole of humanity and all of creation. What is the language of God that we speak to our world? Is it compassion?

***We need a church unafraid of going forth into their night. We need a church capable of meeting them on their way. We need a church capable of entering into their conversation. We need a church able to dialogue with those disciples who having left Jerusalem behind, are wandering aimlessly, alone, with their own disappointments, disillusioned by a Christianity now considered barren, fruitless soil, incapable of generating meaning....***

***Are we still a church capable of warming hearts? A church capable of leading people back to Jerusalem? Of bringing them home? Jerusalem is where our roots are: Scripture, catechesis, sacraments, community, friendship with the Lord, Mary and the apostles... Are we still able to speak of these roots in a way that will revive a sense of wonder at their beauty?***

(Some Thoughts from Pope Francis: Who are we as church? From two addresses he made in Brazil July, 2013. He bases himself on the story of the disciples meeting the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus. [Luke 24:13-35])

**DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER** – We are pleased to announce the launch of our email diocesan newsletter! Sign up to get the latest diocesan news and events delivered directly to your inbox by visiting <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/email-newsletter-sign-up>. Want to commit your time and talent to sharing good news stories from your region? Please email [nmazerolle@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:nmazerolle@dioceseofsaintjohn.org) with any story ideas, photos, or testimonies/glory stories that you would like to have considered for submission. Please note that all content must be reflective of our diocesan mission and that photos require the consent of all parties in the photo to be submitted to our newsletter.

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SHRINE SUNDAY AT UPPER SKIFF LAKE** - Sunday, August 11, 2024. The Chapel will be open for prayer at 10:00 am, followed by an open-air Mass at 11:00 am celebrated by Bishop Christian Riesbeck, CC. There will be a picnic lunch at 12:15 (bring a bag lunch or enjoy a canteen lunch of sandwiches, sweets, hot dogs, water and soft drinks). The afternoon will begin with a rosary at 1:00 pm followed by a healing service presided by Bishop Riesbeck at 2:00 pm. All are welcome - 413 Upper Skiff Lake Road, Skiff Lake (take exit 212 at Meductic, turn on to Route 122 towards Canterbury).



**Happy New Brunswick  
Day!**