

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

August 28th, 2022 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pope Francis has established September 1st as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home.

The day is inspired by Pope Francis' landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'*, which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth. "Listen to the voice of creation" is the theme and invitation of this year's Season of Creation. In his message for the World Day of Prayer 2022, Pope Francis calls us to use the season to "cultivate our ecological conversion" and to pray together in "the great cathedral of Creation". He warns that we are reaching "a breaking point" and must act decisively so that "we and future generations can continue to rejoice in creation's sweet song of life and hope."

How to respond to the World Day of Prayer

There are many ways to respond to Pope Francis' call to care for the gift of God's creation – why not take some time out of your day on September 1st to walk in your local park, or take a few moments to thank God for the flowers or vegetables growing in your garden?

Prayer "Praised Be"

Living God, have mercy on us,
for the times we forget that we belong to each other.
You call us to be still, to hear the whisper of our Sister
Wind, to feel the radiance of our Brother Sun,
and to be nourished by our Mother Earth.
Renew us in your healing love.
Inspire us to water the earth, and nurture one
another, so all may flourish.
Together, as one family, may we always sing your
praise. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Rachel McCarthy/CAFOD

A prayer inspired by the papal encyclical 'Laudato Si'

Books Available: We have set up tables in the Church Hall of Holy Family Church with books from the Rectory that belonged to Fr. Dolan and Fr. Monte that their families did not wish to have. You may even find a few treasured hockey books from Fr. Bill's collection!! The books are free to take and can be viewed prior to or after Masses on the weekend. There are also other spiritual items such as crucifixes, book markers, etc. that are free as well.

Food Bank School Supplies Donations will be accepted until the end of August:

We will be collecting School Supplies for the Food Bank for those families who need a little help in providing what their children require. The Food Bank has identified their list of needs to fill 250 back packs: Items include: colored pencils, math sets, dividers for binders, highlighters, calculators, post-it-notes, flash drives, inexpensive earbuds, and back packs. If you wish to bring other school supplies, they will be used as well. The school supplies drive will run for the months of July and August. Donations can be dropped off at Holy Family and St. Ann's Churches when attending Mass. Monetary donations are also accepted and donations will be added to your yearly contributions. Thank you for your support!

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.

**Even When We Can't Be There, God Still Is
By Holley Gerth**

"God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble." Psalm 46:1

I answer the phone and hear the tears in her voice. I close my eyes and wish I had wings to fly the many miles to her side. I read the hurt in the email that makes its way to my inbox. As I respond, I want to reach through the screen and put my arm on her slumped-with-discouragement shoulders. I see the status update on Facebook and whisper a prayer with the hope she'll somehow sense it.

I want to be there for the people I love. I imagine you do too. I don't like the idea of missing even a moment when they might need me. And yet I realize making this happen is impossible. How do I live with that reality? How do I know they will be okay anyway? The answer came to me through Psalm 46:1. God is an ever-present help in trouble. He is right beside her when she reads my email reply. He is with her in every event on her Facebook timeline.

There is never a time when God will not be with the people we love. They are not alone even when we can't be with them. They are not without help even when we can't be with them. They are not without help even when we can't do all we'd like to serve them. We don't have to bear the weight of believing they can't possibly make it unless we're there every second. And the same is true for us. As much as the people in our lives care for us, they can't always be there for us either. Sometimes they'll be busy. Or they may simply be unable to meet our needs. But God is always available. He is with us even when the room is empty. He's not even a phone call, email, or hug away—He's with us right now, right here, every moment of every day.

A Moment to Breathe...

Whisper a word of thanks that God is with you always. No matter where you go or what you do. He is with you.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Aug 28th Claudette Grexton
Sept 4th Father John Dolan
Sept 11th Joyce Buckley
Sept 18th Deceased Members of Kieley & Lavoie
Sept 25th Gerard Lavoie

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Aug 28th Theresa Atwin
Sept 4th Kathy Szo

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Aug 27th Andrée Fortin
Aug 28th Gerard Lavoie
Sept 3rd Deceased Members of Boyce Family
Sept 4th Louise Mason
Sept 10th Lewis Chessie
Sept 11th Graham Randall
Sept 17th Vernett Smith
Sept 18th Edmond Blanchard
Sept 24th Heidi MacLean
Sept 25th Betty Goodine

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Aug 27th Paula Ryan / Anna Mae Snider
Aug 28th Maurice Harquail / Chris Robbins
Sept 3rd Mary Estabrooks / Margie Snell
Sept 4th Linda Hubbard / Jane Buckley

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Aug 27th Colleen Hamilton / Harold DeCoursey
Aug 28th Noreen Bonnell / JoAnne
Sept 3rd Lynn Laagland / Judy Kelly
Sept 4th Bettyanne McMackin / Sharon Watts
Sept 10th Joan Sowers / Margie Snell
Sept 11th Sadie Cameron / Ewart Kenney

READINGS for August 28th

1st Reading: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29
2nd 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.

Rosary at Holy Family: Every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. For further information call Judy Kelly at 478-7274 or the church office at 444-6021. All are welcome!

Offertory:**August 20th & 21st**

Regular	\$1,197.00
Loose	193.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery	30.00
School Supplies	45.00
TOTAL	<u>\$1,465.20</u>

August 13th & 14th

Regular	\$1,296.00
Loose	325.30
St. Patrick's Cemetery	30.00
School Supplies	85.00
Papal Apology Bus Trip	100.00
TOTAL	<u>\$1,836.30</u>

**OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY
DONATIONS**

1. Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD). Form at the church entrances or contact the office and one can be emailed to you.

2. Mail your envelopes to the parish. St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3.

**3. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). You may also send your weekly donations by Electronic Funds Transfer.
office@stkateri.ca**

Thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

Parish Call Out Program – STAY INFORMED! We are doing this to reach out to as many parishioners as possible to keep them informed of activities in the Church. Building a relationship is about keeping in touch. Please let us know if you or anyone you know would like to be part of our program by contacting the office at 444-6021, or email: office@stkateri.ca

Mask Update: Given the rising count of Covid numbers and the strong recommendation from Public Health that masks should be worn at all indoor events starting this weekend, July 24th, masks must be worn at all times while in church. We thank you for your cooperation.

Cookie Sunday Weekend & Food Bank Donations – Aug 27th & 28th: In addition to cookies, we will be collecting the following items for the Food Bank: Kraft Dinner, pasta and pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, Ravioli (or similar item) and snacks for kids.

Donations can be dropped off at Holy Family Church the morning of Saturday, August 27th or before Sunday Mass at both St. Ann's and Holy Family. Thank you for your support!

New Readers at Holy Family – Sign-Up Sheet - If you are new to the parish, or just have decided that you would like to be a reader this coming year, there is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Provide your name, phone number, and at which Holy Family Mass you prefer to read – Saturday at 4:30 or Sunday at 11:00. If you would like a bit of coaching before you do your first reading, please indicate that on the sheet.

Our Sacred Stories
Truth and Reconciliation: Opening Up
and Reaching Out
(Fr. John Jennings)

Eating is important, in fact essential. The obvious reason is that eating sustains the life of our bodies. There are, however other human needs that are fed by eating. Meals are points of meeting others, occasions for sharing with others. They enrich our sense of relationship with one another and offer occasions to gather, acknowledging we do not live solitary lives. Even our faith is fed with a meal.

Among our sacraments, the Eucharistic meal is the point which most fully gathers us. In it we see that as church we are a community of faith and action, sharing common needs, hopes and dreams. It may be so commonplace that we do not notice our Eucharist is where we are most recognizable as a community expressing the love and mercy of our God. It calls us to be open and welcoming to “the other”. It is also where we recognize our failures to be the face of Jesus, open to all without question or limit. This is a failure of our faith. It is what lay at the heart of Pope Francis’s visit to Canada.

Pope Francis came specifically to be among the indigenous peoples of our country. His prime intention was to offer an apology for the mistreatment of their communities, their children and families. His focus was the indigenous residential schools, established by the Canadian government in the 19th and 20th centuries and operated by various Christian churches, most often the Catholic church.

The schools were intended to provide education for these communities, but also to assimilate the children and ultimately their communities into Canadian society. Doing so, meant that the schools would remove the children from their families, place them in residences and work to erase their indigenous language and culture. This experience brought long-term harm to the children, their families and to indigenous communities across the country and it remains with them to this day. The pope’s apology was expressed with sincerity and sensitivity.

Pope Francis apologized for the church’s role in the hurts and harm to indigenous communities and families and he openly stated that this was a form of cultural genocide. He asked for forgiveness, but also recognized that reconciliation is a process of rebuilding a relationship. To do so requires a change of heart. In

this instance, for the church, it means honouring the richness of their faith, an openness to the expressions of this faith in their cultures and a readiness to see that we have much to learn from them. It means listening, opening up and reaching out.

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 place 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.

Jesus offers an example to us as disciples. His primary concern is the vulnerable ones. Their condition offers them no advantage. His openness, however is explicitly for them. It honours them and it recognizes the wonder that rests in them. This was the face Pope Francis showed with his apologies in Canada. Michael Higgins, writing of the visit in the British periodical *The Tablet* (6 Aug 22) p.27, expresses this: *Francis repeatedly calls for the recognition of the special genius of the Indigenous peoples, their harmony with Creation, the richness of their languages, which we ruthlessly suppressed, and the paramount need to move through truth to reconciliation and forgiveness.*

Passion of Saint John the Baptist



Saint John the Baptist, your penitential life ended abruptly when you spoke the truth to power. You did not flinch, vacillate, or equivocate. You were imprisoned and then killed for defending the dignity of marriage. Help us to be as courageous and plainspoken as you. Amen.