

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
December 1st, 2024 – 1st Sunday of Advent

ADVENT WEEK 1 PURPLE CANDLE OF HOPE



THE *PROPHET'S*
CANDLE REMINDS
US OF THE
PROPHETS WHO
FORETOLD THE
BIRTH OF CHRIST
(READ ISAIAH 9:6)

It is the **Advent Season**, a time of waiting. In our world today it is not hard to feel the “waits” of our daily lives - waiting for peace, waiting for justice, waiting in hope of the return of good health for friends and family, job security, reconciliations, the list can at times feel endless. In the coming weeks as we light each candle on our Advent Wreath, let us allow time for quiet reflection and prayer preparing our

hearts and minds for the coming of the light.

Prepare Your Heart, Advent Begins December 1st:

“Advent is a season of waiting. It is a high spiritual season when we prepare to birth the Christ in our lives.

In the monastery we pay special attention to the vigil services that take place each Saturday during Advent. “Vigil” means to keep awake, to be watchful. The community gathers in prayer by candlelight to anticipate the Sunday feast, to spiritually prepare for Christmas. I love that the community prays the Advent vigils by candlelight as candles are prominent symbols in the monastery’s Advent services. Candles focus our minds on the light of Christ.” (Sister Joan Chittister)

During this first week of Advent consider spending some time reflecting on “**Hope**”.

There are so many in our communities and around the world living in hopelessness. How can you or your family bring hope to the hopeless? How can we find ways each day to share hope with others? What do I hope for?

Be with me, Holy Spirit, as I journey. Help me to be hopeful as I proclaim the Good News, believing that heaven has already come near. (Word Made Flesh)

Advent Healing Mass – An Advent Healing Mass and Sacrament of Anointing for St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish will be held at St. Ann’s Church, Bilijk First Nation (Kingsclear) on **Thursday, December 12th at 2pm**. This is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe now known as National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples and has special significance for Indigenous People. We hope you can join us; all are welcome!

Christmas Mass Schedule, St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish:

December 24th: 4pm & 6pm, Holy Family Church, Christmas Eve Masses. (*Masses will be livestreamed and will be the traditional Family Bell Mass with the children.*)

December 25th 9:30am, St. Ann’s Church
December 25th 11am, Holy Family Church

January 1st – Mary, Holy Mother of God
Mass at 11am at Holy Family Church

Welcome Everyone: The African Community are joining us for a special Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, Dec 15th @ 11 am and taking part in various ministries. There will be a parish Pot-Luck gathering after Mass @ 12 noon in the Parish Hall. There will be many African dishes and any other dishes you might bring (Only if you wish). All are Welcome!

Book of Remembrance: Starting the first weekend of November the *“Book of Remembrance”* will be placed on a podium in the doorway to the Sanctuary. The book is for Parishioners to enter names of family and friends who have died over the years, and who they wish to remember during the month of November. You are encouraged to write their names in the book and the book will be placed on the Altar at the start of each Mass, during the month of November.

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 the Season of Care for Creation we will be reciting the Joyful Mysteries. Everyone is welcome!

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 171 dozen cookies for the Shelters and Foodbank. Our next Cookie Sunday weekend will be in January.

Reminder: We continue to collect items for the **Foodbank for their Christmas Hampers until the weekend of December 7th- 8th.** Items needed for the hampers include: gravy, canned vegetables, canned cranberry, stuffing, pie mixes, pancake mix and syrup. Or if you prefer you may make a monetary donation to the Foodbank for the purchase of turkeys. This year the Foodbank needs to purchase 500 turkeys. Special envelopes are available in the lobby of the church.

Your kindness and generosity are outstanding! You are truly answering the teachings of Jesus. Thank you!

READINGS for December 1st

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2
Gospel: Luke 2:25-28, 34-36

Responsorial Psalm: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann’s

Dec 1st Juanita Paul
Dec 8th Lynn Dunbar
Dec 15th Randy Murphy
Dec 22nd Shane Gallagher
Dec 29th Jason MacLeod

READERS AT ST. ANN’S

Dec 1st Mike Solomon
Dec 8th Lawrence Cameron
Dec 15th John Monkhouse
Dec 22nd Stacey Chessie

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

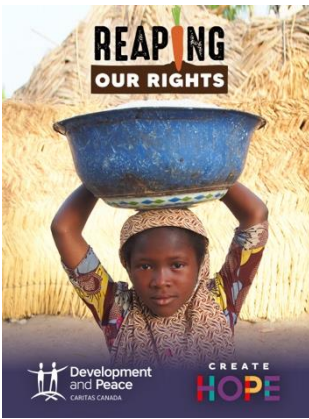
Nov 30th Sister Mary McHugh
Dec 1st Frank Gooverts
Dec 7th James Andrew McAllister
Dec 8th Carlotta Everett
Dec 14th Raymond Goodine and Brothers
Norman and David
Dec 15th Gerald Hoogendyk
Dec 21st Tyler Messer / Leona Murphy /
June Wilkins
Dec 22nd Jean Dufour & Annette Belliveau

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Nov 30th Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers
Dec 1st Patrick Burgoon / Carl Duivenvoorden
and Flora Ederaro
Dec 7th Paula Ryan/Margie Snell/Beth Wright
Dec 8th Anita & Ray Allain / Bonnie Deveau
Dec 14th Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley
Dec 15th James McGroarty, Clare & Genevieve Obi

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Nov 30th Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton
Dec 1st Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard
Dec 7th Joan Sowers / Harold DeCoursey
Dec 8th JoAnne Linton / Verna McCloskey
Dec 14th Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell
Dec 15th Sharon Watts / Bettyanne McMackin



Thank you for participating in our **Reaping Our Rights Campaign!** Thousands of Canadians **signed the action sheet** for the **Create Hope Campaign** in solidarity with the peasant farmers who feed the world and care for the Earth.

Undaunted, peasant farmers organize and

advocate for their rights. It was their courageous mobilization that led to the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP). Let us be thankful for the abundance of food we are privileged to eat provided to 70-80% of the world by peasant farmers and rural communities in the Global South.

We continue to collect signatures online across the country until **April 17, 2025**. After that, a delegation from Development and Peace — Caritas Canada will take the signatures to Ottawa to ensure that the Canadian government heeds our call for **mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation**.

Thank you for your continued commitment and mobilization! ❤️

- ✓ To **sign up** and support the campaign, visit devp.org/act.
- ✓ To **become a member** and support the mission, visit devp.org/joinus.

Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Family Church:

Christmas Sign-Up Sheets: Please see the sign-up sheets in the lobby of the Church for Eucharistic Ministers to serve at our Masses on Christmas Eve (December 24th at 4pm and 6pm) and Christmas Day Mass (December 25th at 11am). We will also have a Mass on New Year's Day at 11am at Holy Family (also part of the sign-up sheet). If you have any questions, please speak to Judy Kelly. Thank you for serving in this vital Ministry that supports our Liturgy.

Summary of your Support for Nov 23rd & 24th

Regular/Loose	\$ 4,439.25
PAD (wkly. average)	1,986.92
St. Patrick's Cemetery	25.00
Christ the King	777.00
Oromocto Food Bank	1,470.00
Missals/Little Books	181.00
TOTAL	\$ 8,879.17

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**

Knights of Columbus Keep Christ in Christmas

Drawing Contest 2024 – Parishioners in Kindergarten through Grade 8 are invited to participate in the Keep Christ in Christmas Drawing Contest. All submissions must be on paper no larger than 11" x 17". Drawings must be drawn free hand. The theme of the contest is: "Keep Christ in Christmas". Drawings will be judged in five categories: Kindergarten, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-4, Grades 5-6 and Grades 7-8. Prizes will be awarded for each group at the local level and the first place winner from each group will be entered for competition at the Provincial level. Local level prizes: 1st Place: \$ 25.00, 2nd Place: \$ 20.00, 3rd Place: \$ 15.00. Provincial level prizes: 1st Place: \$ 75.00, 2nd Place: \$ 50.00, 3rd Place: \$ 25.00. All entries become the property of the New Brunswick Knights of Columbus. The following information must be printed on the back of each drawing: Name of Participant, Age of Participant, School Grade, Name(s) of Parent or Guardian, Telephone Number for Parent or Guardian and Name of Parish. Entries must be received by Sunday, December 29th, 2024. Drawings can be left in the box in the entrances of Holy Family Church or St. Ann's Church. For more information, parents can contact Vic Badeau at 506-440-2840.

"In preparation for the commemoration of the birth of Christ, we are called to make his path straight level every mountains and fill all valleys in our hearts. The Fredericton Region will therefore, hold an Advent/Christmas Regional Reconciliation Service and Confessions at St. Francis of Assisi, Lincoln at 3.00 pm on Sunday, December 15 2024. There will be many priests available for Confessions. We all are invited."

Our Sacred Stories

Advent: Trusting with Hope in a Loving God (Fr. John Jennings)

Listening or watching the news today, we can easily be disappointed with our world and find ourselves depressed with our future. Whether it is with climate and global warming, an economy in which prices keep rising beyond the capacity of many in our population or political and social unrest which in areas around the globe results war, our world seems determined to destroy itself. It is easy to lose hope in humanity. It might appear that we have lost our way.

Getting lost is a common human experience. How often have we reached a turn in the road and had to make a choice on which turn to take. We might end up where we did not plan to go. That might not be good. On the other hand, it can be very good. It might offer us something new, a discovery. Life is full of such moments of discovery, times that are new beginnings.

Advent is always a new beginning, a move into a future yet unknown. Our Scripture stories start again, but in a new year. We go back to how our Christian story began but in the setting of a new personal story and a different community story. Again, we are called to anticipate our future with Christian hope. We hold to our faith in a God who loves us enough to come and share life with us.

The readings of this First Sunday of Advent reveal the difficulty of choices and changes. In the Old Testament reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (Jer.33:14-16), Israel is waiting for God's action in their lives. God has promised never to desert them and to be with them even if they are in exile and bondage. The prophet utters words of encouragement. Though the future cannot be known, he calls on God's people with words of hope. Like the dry branches in the desert or for us like the leafless trees as we enter winter, life will come again. What seems lifeless contains the seeds of new life and so we wait with hope.

This Sunday, in Luke's Gospel, we hear Jesus issuing an exhortation to his disciples. He calls them to remain in hope for the growing of God's reign among them.

It may seem that all they had around them was ending and they may look "with fear and foreboding" at what is happening. As discouraging and threatening as an unknown future may be for us, we cannot stay where we are. We must decide to move forward in hope, for we are God's People and our God is with us always, bringing the promise of new life.

As disciples of Jesus, our role in all of this is to live as a faith-filled community of hope. Especially in a world facing many challenges, we are to be the voice of hope to all. By both word and action, our call is to build the kingdom, marked by justice and peace, compassion and care, healing and love. This is the foundation for a new world – God's Kingdom.

Are we a church, a community of hope-filled faith? Can we move forward into an unknown future with hope and trust? Do our lives and actions reveal our trust in a loving God?

The Little Blue Book – for Advent and Christmas Season. Reflections on the Infancy Narratives According to Matthew Available in the church entrances. Suggested donation \$2.00 each. Please drop your donation in the basket provided.

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast:
Sunday, December 8th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 10.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 30.00. Proceeds from the December breakfast will be going to Fredericton Community Kitchens. Everyone welcome.

Grandmother Helping Grandmothers Wreath Sale

Thank you to all the parishioners who placed orders this year. As a reminder, your wreaths will be available for **pickup** on Saturday, November 30th, Holy Family Church foyer, between 10 am and 12 noon. \$15.00. Cash or cheque written to: Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers, Fredericton. Contact: Mary Dickinson mary.bergin@gmail.com